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Halls celebrates changes to outdoor classroom

By Ken Lay

The Halls High School jazz band played some standards while the school and Halls Community had a celebration in the school's outdoor classroom.

There were games for the kids, ice cream and barbecue as Halls High had its annual celebration in the outdoor classroom Tuesday night.

The evening concluded with a pie-eating contest that included County Commissioners Bob Thomas and Ed Brantley. Knox County Mayor Tim Burchett also made an appearance at the event.

The Halls High outdoor classroom is one of nine in Knox County and was conceived in 2003. It was a joint effort of Hallsdale-Powell Utility District, the school system, Tennessee Water Research Commission and Knox County Storm Water and a steering committee comprised of Halls High School teachers and students.

The classroom now has two amphitheatres. The second was constructed by Cameron Greer. Greer is a student at Halls and developed the second amphitheatre as his Eagle Scout project.

Burchett commended the Halls

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PHOTOS BY DAN ANDREWS.

Participants compete in a pie-eating contest at a party celebrating the Halls High School outdoor classroom Tuesday night. Work began on Wednesday to make the area more accessible to disabled students. Knox County Commissioner Bob Thomas greets a constituent at a party celebrating the Halls High outdoor classroom Tuesday night.

U.S. News and World Report Releases High School Rankings

By Sally Absher
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The U.S. News and World Report released the 2016 U.S. News Best High Schools ranking and four top performing Knox County High Schools made the list.

L&N STEM Academy—with a College Readiness Index (CRI) value of 61.9—ranked number 6 state-wide and number 341 nationally, earning a gold medal. (An explanation of the methodology used, including CRI and medal designation, is provided below)

Earning silver medals were: Faragut High School, ranked number 13 state-wide and number 1483 nationally; Hardin Valley Academy, ranked number 18 state-wide and number 1744 nationally; and Bearden High School, ranked number 23 state-wide and number 2066 nationally.

A total of 27 Tennessee schools received medals: six were awarded gold medals and 21 earned silver medals.

Delving into the article (available at <http://www.usnews.com/education/best-high-schools>), several interesting facts emerge. As noted above, Bearden High School was ranked the #23 high school in the state. But last fall Bearden learned that their TVAAS ranking +dropped from a perfect "5" to the lowest possible score, a "1."

This caused undue stress to teachers and students alike, and resulted in the September 2015 resignation of several highly regarded and respected BHS teachers. When will we stop using the flawed TVAAS evaluation model?

Also interestingly, at #23, Bearden comes in right behind Maryville High School (#22) and ahead of Alcoa (recognized nationally but unranked) and Oak Ridge, which didn't even make the Recognized Nationally list this year. Maryville, Alcoa, and Oak Ridge are often held up as districts where the taxpayers care enough to adequately fund the school s. Apparently money only buys so much.

How were the rankings determined? U.S. News & World Report teamed with North Carolina-based RTI International, a global nonprofit social science research firm (that sounds scary) to produce the 2016 Best High Schools rankings.

The U.S. News comprehensive rankings methodology is based on 2 key principles—that a great high school must serve all of its students, not just those who are college bound, well; and that it must be able to produce measurable academic outcomes to show it is successfully educating its student body across a range of performance indicators.

U.S. News reports a four-step process was used to determine the 2016 Best High Schools.

Step 1 determined whether each

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Smokers for Food Trucks?

By Mike Steely
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The final Mobile Food Truck ordinance is on Tuesday's agenda of the Knoxville City Council and it may or may not include allowing "smokers" on the traveling units. The barbecue smokers tended to be the sticking point in adopting planning commission recommendations, along with the distance the trucks can operate from residential housing. Opposition has come from members of Community Forum.

In a related agenda item the electrical codes pertaining to mobile food units may be discussed in a request for Plan Review and Building Inspections. The new code

requirements would be on first reading and, if passed, would reappear on the next council agenda.

The council will also look at authorizing the payment of in lieu of taxes for Collegiate Development Group, LLC for property located at 1830 Cumberland Avenue and approving an "air rights easement" to connect buildings at 1830 Cumberland Avenue.

The mayor may be authorized to add \$36,000 to a contract with Foundation Systems Engineering for the Will Skelton Greenway Project and adding \$79,046 to the Hill Avenue Viaduct Repair Project for McKinnon Construction Company.

Additional parking might be added

between Blackstock Avenue and Southern Railway if the council approves an agreement with the state. The extra parking would benefit the Sansom Sports Complex.

Knoxville's One Year Plan, prepared by the planning commission, may be discussed on first reading.

Councilman George Wallace is asking the council to approve Deossie Dingus as a KAT Advisory Board member and Mayor Madeline Rogero is asking the council to confirm Lisa Hood Skinner's appointment to the Animal Control Board.

The City Council meets Tuesday at 7 p.m. in the Main Assembly Room of the City-County Building.

No State Funding for Safety Center

By Mike Steely
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"I spoke to the (county) mayor's office and there will be no statewide participation," said Randy Nichols. The statement caught most members of Safety Center Committee by surprise and sent a chill through the members.

Nichols, special advisor to the Sheriff, accompanied the sheriff and others to Nashville recently to talk with Governor Haslam's administration and came back hopeful that the state would kick in some funding and help create a local or regional center for the treatment of mentally ill and substance abusers and ease housing at the Knox

County Detention Center.

For months community activists, county commissioners and the sheriff's office have been working on the framework of a treatment facility that would divert people who were arrested for minor offenses and found to be mentally ill or addicted. Hopes were high when County Mayor Tim Burchett set aside \$1 million for the effort. The city, however, has been hesitating to allocate funding, waiting to hear how much the state might contribute. There has also been talk of involving the surrounding counties in the funding.

"The state promised when they closed Lakeshore they would give money," said

Commissioner Jeff Ownby.

"That's disturbing news," said Commissioner Mike Brown. Later in the meeting Brown said the county needs to "step up and carry our own weight."

"We're right back to where we were. The next meeting we need a bottom line number," said committee member Vivian Shipe, who was speaking of acquiring an estimate of cost, whether to build or find a facility to house the unit.

"This is not the end, we're going to be on-going and we'll figure out a way," Nichols said.

Andy Black, who was appointed to get comments from other committee members about what they want in a proposed center,

said the state's reply is "discouraging" and added, "We're not going to quit, there's enough positive energy around this."

Chairman Brown said the committee would revisit the effort in May when a request for proposal is authorized locally. He said the county should be looking to see what facilities might be available and how much money might be spent on the project.

Financial Director Chris Caldwell told the full commission later in the afternoon that the county learned of the decision the previous week and the broken promise from the governor's office would have

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Bits of News About Local Education

By Sally Absher
sallyabsher@knoxfocus.com

McIntyre to Head Center for Educational Leadership

KCS Superintendent Dr. Jim McIntyre, who will be stepping down from his \$227,256 position in July, has been hired to head the Center for Educational Leadership at the University of Tennessee. He will begin his new job on August 1, with a three year contract and an annual salary of \$180,000.

According to UT's Tennessee Today, the center is an office of the College of Education, Health and Human Sciences, and provides leadership development for the next generation of school leaders.

"Established in June 2010, the Center for Educational Leadership provides rigorous training for aspiring school leaders in a way that bridges the gap between theory and practice."

There is that word "rigorous" again.

A key component of the Center is the Leadership Academy, which provides an intensive 15-month postgraduate degree program in educational administration for a select group of fellows. For the past six years McIntyre taught classes and played "an integral

role in the selection and placement of Leadership Academy fellows."

Last Sunday on "Inside Tennessee," loyal McIntyre supporter Don Bosch suggested that Buzz Thomas should become the permanent superintendent. A comment on KnoxViews referred to Thomas as "Darth McIntyre's young apprentice," adding, "This is perfect. A failed Superintendent with almost no teaching experience mentoring a new Superintendent with no teaching experience. Only in Knoxville."

Farragut High Remembers Taylor Corum

The Farragut Men's Soccer Team dedicated their home game vs. Cookeville to Taylor Corum last Friday.

The Farragut High school senior was killed in a car crash on John Sevier Highway on Saturday April 16. Farragut Principal Stephanie Thompson described Corum as an exceptional student, deeply loved by teachers and fellow students.

Corum had been accepted to the University of Tennessee, but was still exploring opportunities at Wake Forest and Belmont. In addition to her academic achievements, she was a volunteer at East



PHOTO BY DAN ANDREWS.

Five school bus drivers were awarded last week in the first monthly Knox County Bus Driver Safety Awards.

Tennessee Children's Hospital and tutored special needs students at her high school.

Maynard Elementary School's "Read for Cuts" Program

Maynard Elementary School recently partnered with Gams Barbershop to develop a "Read for Cuts" program. The program is designed to reward the young men at Maynard Elementary who make academic gains in reading with a free haircut.

Teachers at Maynard select one student each month and put their name in for a school-wide drawing. If selected, Gams Barbershop owner Mr. Gary

Gamble provides the student with a Success in Reading certificate and a free haircut. The first recipient of the program is Javian Winton

As an added bonus, Maynard Elementary has provided books to the barbershop for students to read while getting their hair cut. Maynard Elementary early literacy coach Myisha Dorsey said, "This has been such a blessing to our school and I wanted to share it with you!"

Five KCS Bus Drivers Receive Safety Awards

Last Wednesday five bus drivers received the first monthly Knox County Bus Driver Safety Awards.

Those honored include:

- Regina Patterson, Pond Gap Elementary, driving for 12 years;
- Ricky Denton, Spring Hill Elementary, driving for 2 years;
- Esther McGinnis, Sunnyview and Chilhowee Elementary and Carter Middle and High School, driving for 34 years;
- David Ray, Cedar Bluff Elementary, driving for 2 years, and
- Rhonda Galyon, Sequoyah Elementary and West High, driving for 14 years.

Commissioner Bob Thomas reports that each month, five drivers will be honored and will receive a Certificate from Knox County Schools along with a \$100 check from Ted Russell Ford. The drivers

selected have been graded with high standards by the Knox County School System, the Sheriff's department, and school staff. Thanks also to Ted Russell Ford and WIVK 107.7 for making it all possible.

While we support this initiative and extend our congratulations to the five drivers who received the awards this month, we hope this doesn't take away from resolving the problems that have led to an embarrassing string of school bus wrecks, DUI, and other scandals involving those entrusted with transporting our precious children to and from school each day.

Reminder - Anonymous Text-A-Tip

As reports of school bullying, violence, and threats continue in Knox County schools, readers are reminded they can anonymously report potential violence, drugs, bullying, or other sensitive issues to security and law enforcement.

Text to: 274637 (spells CRIMES)

Type in keyword: knox-schools

Type a space

Type your tip

Download the free mobile app by searching "TipSubmit Mobile"

No State Funding for Safety Center

Continued from page 1 — committed \$1 million total for three years of operation.

"Everything in that process was positive," he said of the initial request to the state but that the money does not appear in Haslam's budget request.

"You'll hear more on mental health from the mayor," Caldwell said. The finance director said he learned of the denial of funds "from a friend in Nashville" and the county got the bad news "on the 10th of April."

The committee apparently didn't learn of the lack of state funding until their meeting last Monday.

Shipe lambasted the state's broken promise and added, "We've got to take care of these people."

"I am certainly disappointed that Nashville decided not to

help fund the Behavioral Health Urgent Care Clinic this year," Knox County Mayor Tim Burchett told The Focus Wednesday.

"One of our top priorities is working to help ensure treatment, rather than incarceration, for those suffering from mental illness and addiction," he said.

"This clinic would do that, while also helping to alleviate jail overcrowding. I will continue to work with Sheriff Jones, the county commission and others to address this problem in our community," Mayor Burchett said.

Knoxville's participation may be coming. Mayor Madeline Rogero will recommend to the City Council as to the city's participation, The Focus learned Tuesday.

Eric Vreeland, Knoxville Communications Manager, replied that the "next step in the process will be for Knox County to issue a Request for Proposals."

"It's premature to discuss cost until the RFP process is concluded and there are specific proposals on the table," Vreeland said. Mayor Rogero may or may not mention the city's involvement in her proposed budget address Wednesday in the "State of the City" speech at Zoo Knoxville.

E-911 Board moves toward joining Valley System

By Mike Steely
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Following some discussion, the Knox County-Knoxville E-911 Board voted Wednesday morning to move closer to joining a regional communication system and preparing a memorandum of understanding that would include buying digital radios from Motorola.

During the same meeting the board voted to accept an agreement with Director Bob Coker, agreeing to pay the resigning director three months of salary and benefits. Coker sat silently at the board table until the motion passed and then left the table without comment when his interim replacement, Allen Bull, the system's technical service manager, was chosen.

Over the last couple of years the E-911 board has wrestled with approving a bidder for a new digital radio system and twice voted on companies other than Motorola as the supplier. More recently they began considering joining the regional emergency communication system, the Tennessee Valley

Regional Communications System, which coordinates response in 12 counties.

The use of digital radios by the Knoxville Fire Department for each fireman was questioned by Captain Mark Wilbanks who cited incidents where firemen around the nation have died when using the radios because of the difference in the current and digital radios. Wilbanks said the fire department was the dissenting vote on the working group and urged the board not to rush into a decision. Pat Rollins, assistant manager of TVRCS, told the board that the city fire department can operate outside the regional system.

The main question the board has is about the costs — of joining the group and of purchasing Motorola digital equipment. Sheriff J.J. Jones moved successfully to have the working group look at the Valley System and Motorola and Mayor Madeline Rogero asked Motorola if they would hold to their previous bid.

Motorola's Randy Johnson said the company would if the board decides by the end of

June. He also said that if it looks as if the board is actively working on the matter he might extend a \$5 million savings offer beyond that date.

Another issue being discussed by the board is whether the county E-911 system can become a "master site" meaning the local system would become its own communication zone and yet communicate with the regional system. Without an agreement with the Valley System to permit a master site in Knox County the agreement could fail.

Mayor Rogero also moved to secure an independent engineer with communications experience to oversee the preparation of the process. The idea of bidding out that position was discussed and the board voted to simply have the County Finance Department hire someone because of the impending deadline by Motorola.

The next meeting of the E-911 board is June 15th, two weeks before the Motorola deadline.

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Deadline for submissions is Thursday by noon.

Articles, announcements, photo attachments and cutlines may be submitted by e-mail to staff@knoxfocus.com.

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Publisher's Position Threats in Schools Are Serious



**By Steve Hunley,
Publisher**
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Recently, there has been a rash of threats in our schools. It seems like every passing day, someone has threatened to blow up a particular school or there is some other threat of serious violence. Superintendent Jim McIntyre simply murmurs some vague reference to having "conversations" with parents and students. My own guess is McIntyre is simply holding his breath and keeping his fingers crossed until school lets out in a few weeks.

When you have a few spare moments, Google "school threats" and then click "news." If your reaction is anything like my own, you'll be stunned and

horrified. You'll see stories about bomb threats made by robo-calls. Twenty-two schools in Massachusetts were under bomb threat; some thirty-two schools in New Jersey were under bomb threat. A third of students either stayed at home or were kept home by concerned parents in Iowa because of a persistent rumor someone would be shot at a middle school. Four students were arrested by law enforcement agencies after threats were made at a rural Ohio high school. The list, unfortunately, is almost endless.

These are not merely childish pranks and shouldn't be treated that way, nor is merely having "conversations" with parents and students either practical or an actual solution. Is there really any higher priority for a school system than the safety of our children? It is expected by the public, if not taken for granted.

One aspect of our society that is truly unfortunate is our tendency to pay very little attention to much of anything until something tragic occurs, then

everybody and their neighbor is standing around angrily demanding to know why something wasn't done to prevent it in the first place. Prevention never works well after the fact. Those same angry people who never paid much attention in the first place are suddenly bubbling with possible solutions that could have prevented the tragedy.

Were superintendent Jim McIntyre anything even close to resembling a leader, he would ask the Board of Education to implement a policy about students making threats. Supposedly, Knox County has a "zero tolerance" policy about fighting and violence. Threatening violence needs to be taken very seriously. The superintendent and Board of Education need a policy that takes such threats seriously and parents and students should be apprised there are serious consequences for anyone foolish or mean enough to make such threats. Frankly, there's really only one "conversation" we ought to be having with parents and

students on this subject: if your child makes threats involving mayhem and serious violence to others, it's going to hit the fan and your child will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law. The idea of McIntyre's "conversations" with parents and students is evidently to allow Mom and Dad to talk with their kids to better ascertain just who made the threats. It doesn't seem particularly effective to me, especially when nobody much takes it seriously. Frequently, the kids themselves have some idea of who is making the threats and in this day of social media, texts, and the like, word gets around. The reality is kids are more likely to talk to friends than parents about such things. Parents who think their children act with their friends exactly as they do when their parents are present aren't bright enough to raise a kitten, much less a child.

I don't think it is too draconian to announce to parents and the student body at a school where there has been a bomb threat ALL extracurricular activities

--- ballgames of every variety, cheerleading practice, sporting events, fieldtrips --- are all cancelled for the next three days until the culprit/s have been caught. Once any culprit has been caught and adjudged to be guilty, that individual ought to be separated from his or her friends, school, and family by spending a certain amount of time in the juvenile detention facility. If the person making the threat is already eighteen, then he or she can spend a little time at the penal farm.

Our country has seen more than enough terrible violence perpetrated by students against other students. School systems have to prioritize safety and even then we need not relax under the illusion and presumption our children are perfectly safe. Ours is supposed to be a country of laws and there are penalties and punishments for not obeying the law. There should be no exemptions of any kind for making violent threats against fellow students, teachers, and administrators. Nobody is too special

or too disabled; folks need to know gender, race, religion nor point of view does not protect someone from threatening to seriously injure or kill others in our school system. The notion of sitting a kid down and having yet another conversation about proposing to maim or kill someone is no solution to protect anybody. Once youngsters see there are serious consequences and penalties, it might save lives. It will certainly get the attention of both parents and students alike. Sheriff Jimmy "J. J." Jones has said each incident costs tens of thousands of taxpayer dollars and resources.

Each threat costs the taxpayers money unnecessarily, disrupts classes and causes anxiety on the part of the community. We may have to wait for McIntyre to collect his check and leave this summer, but eventually, hopefully, the school system will have a leader who believes in action rather than yet another stream of meaningless dialogue that passes for doing something real.

Fool Me Twice, Shame on Me

On April 15, the Tennessean proclaimed "Tennessee phases out Common Core" Well, not really. It's more lies and deception.

First they told us that these were "more rigorous" standards.

It is interesting that rigor is defined as

a: (1) harsh inflexibility in opinion, temper, or judgment, (2) the quality of being unyielding or inflexible, (3) severity of life

b: an act or instance of strictness, severity, or cruelty.

Fact: the standards were neither tested nor proven more effective than existing standards. Fact: there is no evidence that the standards are internationally benchmarked despite repeated claims to the contrary. Fact, five members of the validation committee refused to sign off on the standards.

This includes education standards subject matter experts Dr. James Milgram (math) and Dr. Sandra Stotsky (English). Milgram claimed that "The special interest sources were focused on making the math standards as non-challenging as possible... The Core Mathematics standards are written to reflect very low expectations."

Stotsky said, "Common Core's "college readiness standards for ELA and reading are simply empty skill sets... 'College readiness' may be at about the grade 7 level"

In fact, Jason Zimba,



By Sally Absher
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one of the creators of Common Core, admitted, "Common Core defines 'college readiness' as ready for a non-selective community college, not a four-year university."

Yet, despite mounting evidence of the shortcomings of Common Core, Zimba, together with the National Governor's Association (via Achieve Inc.) and the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO), who hold the copyright to Common Core, forged ahead. Microsoft's Bill Gates and the multinational Pearson Corporation bought the support of the National Chamber of Commerce, PTA, and state legislators.

Common Core is one of the four pillars of the Race to the Top initiative, in which states competed for grant money. (The other pillars are annual high stakes student assessments, punitive teacher evaluations, and data mining, the collection of student academic, demographic, attitudinal, and behavioral data).

One of the key elements of the Common Core copyright, as adopted by 45 states, was that states cannot make changes to the standards.

So, in yet another attempt to put lipstick on a pig, state legislatures have been engaged in the fine art of "rebranding" common core.

Resulting in propaganda as reported in the Tennessean, which claims, "Tennessee is the latest state to

phase out Common Core, joining Indiana, Oklahoma and South Carolina. At least there is an element of truth, as it continues, "Like its predecessors, Tennessee's English and math standards have a new name, but still have roots in Common Core."

Last year, state lawmakers, who saw the standards as federal overreach, pushed to repeal them. Instead, Gov. Bill Haslam authorized a review of the state's English and math standards. The state developed a more rigorous (there's that word again) review process to assess the standards, including two online public reviews, educator review and legislative input. What they did not include was input from actual educational standards experts.

Instead, we got a "set of new, Tennessee specific standards brought to us by the Standards Recommendations Committee, whose members were appointed by the Governor, Lt. Governor, and the Speaker of the House and confirmed by the General Assembly. And the qualifications of this committee were...what?"

Karen Bracken, founder of Tennessee Against Common Core, said in response to the story, "What we got was Common Core with a few tweaks and a new name. And the proof of this is forthcoming folks. Governor Haslam and all Governors knew last year the Every Student Success Act was going to be passed and they were also told that Common Core (renamed college and career ready standards) was to

become federal law."

"The tweaking of the standards was nothing more than the Delphi Technique used to make these people think they had a role in changing the standards. The script was already written. Do you really think Tennessee is going to face losing money by moving away from Common Core when ESSA now mandates it and our standards will have to be approved by the US Department of Education?"

"We are being lied to and deceived once again. Sad thing is most parents are all too happy to go back to sleep and believe this lie. BUT there are those of us that will not be deceived and are prepared to prove we were again deceived...This is our fight to stop Common Core all over again."

Add to this a scathing review of Common Core by the Brookings Institution in its annual major report on Education. It finds that American children are receiving objectively worse academic instruction because of Common Core, citing the increase in nonfiction their teachers are assigning, and in a nationwide decline in students taking algebra in eighth grade as factors.

Further, it finds that there is no evidence that Common Core has "made much of a difference during a six-year period of stagnant NAEP [National Assessment of Educational Progress] scores." NAEP is the nation's highest-quality set of large-scale tests, used widely by researchers as benchmarks for American kids' abilities over time.

U.S. News and World Report Releases High School Rankings

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school's students are performing better than statistically expected for students in that state (based on math and reading results for all students on the state's high school proficiency tests). The percentage of economically disadvantaged students was factored in to identify schools performing much better than statistical expectations.

Step 2 assessed whether the disadvantaged students were outperforming disadvantaged students in the state, again selecting those schools performing better than the state average.

Step 3 (new for 2016) high schools that make it past the first two steps of the methodology were required to meet or exceed a national standard high school graduation rate to be considered top-performing schools and to be ranked at a national level. The graduation threshold was set at 68 percent, based on the 2015 Every Student Succeeds Act. The national average graduation rate was 82 percent in 2013-2014.

Step 4 judged schools

nationally on college readiness performance using Advanced Placement (AP) or International Baccalaureate (IB) test data as the benchmark for success. The College Readiness Index was computed based on the school's AP or IB participation rate - the number of 12th grade students in the 2013-2014 academic year who took at least one AP or IB test before or during senior year divided by the number of 12th graders, and how well the students did on the tests.

The maximum CRI value is 100, meaning every 12th grade student took and passed at least one AP or IB test before or during senior year. Only schools with CRI values above 20.17 - the statistical midpoint - received gold or silver medals.

Gold Medals were awarded to schools with the highest CRI values, numerically ranked from 1 to 500. Silver medals were high schools ranked from 501 to 2,673. Bronze medals were awarded to an additional 3,545 high schools that passed the first three steps.

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Halls celebrates changes to outdoor classroom

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Community for coming together to create the classroom, which began to get another facelift Wednesday; one that will make it accessible to disabled students.

"This is a political thing where I could take all the credit," Burchett said. "But [Knox County Watershed Coordinator] Roy Arthur does all the heavy lifting and he deserves the credit. He's a good man.

"This is great for the people of the Halls Community. They don't expect a lot and they don't ask for a lot. They just come together and they make it happen."

Arthur called the classroom "a wonderful facility."

He also noted that all the materials and labor to make the classroom accessible to handicapped students was donated.

"All the materials were donated and the labor was donated for the new project and it will be finished in two weeks," Arthur said.

The classroom is located in a former residential area that was in a heavy flood zone. The houses were sold

and Knox County Schools purchased the land with a FEMA grant.

Halls High School biology and ecology teacher Kerrie Conley said that all students benefit from the outdoor classroom.

"Our English classes come out here and they go to the amphitheatre and do readings," she said. "Our photography classes come out here. The Ag classes identify trees and our ecology classes do things out here."

Like Burchett, Conley said that the outdoor classroom was developed by a team effort.

"This was a team effort and this is our yearly celebration," she said. "This year, we were celebrating the project to make the classroom ADA accessible and this is also a celebration for the creation of our second amphitheatre."

"Then and Now" is the theme of the 16th Annual Vestival, South Knoxville Arts and Heritage Festival, sponsored by Candoro Arts & Heritage Center, which will be held Saturday, May 7, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. on the grounds of Knoxville's Historic Candoro Marble Building off Martin Mill Pike in the historic neighborhood of Vestal. A Friday evening May 6th (6 to 9 p.m.) reception serves as the official kickoff event prior to Vestival 2016. Visitors will be delighted by the birthday theme featuring balloons and birthday cake to collaborate with the 225th Birthday of Knoxville, Tennessee. The Friday night May 6th reception features historic images of Knoxville from the local and much-beloved Thompson Photo Collection paired with nowadays scenes captured by photojournalist Saul Young.

"Vestival began as a way to celebrate the rich heritage of marble artisans and sculptors who lived in Vestal and worked nearby at the Candoro Marble Company. This festival has a direct impact on Knoxville because it brings people together in an artistic way. Artists and musicians have always been drawn to the Vestal area of Knoxville. Everyone who attends gets a sense of the "Vestal Spirit" legacy of the former marble workers and cultural renewal currently in motion. This year, we are also celebrating Knoxville's 225th Birthday," explained Chairwoman Sharon Davis.

Every Spring, visitors flock to this wildly

imaginative festival. "From acrobats and belly dancers to local cuisine ranging from Egyptian to Vietnamese, this festival is a full assault on the senses," said Davis.

There are two stages of local musicians all day, children's activities, an old-timey cake walk. Mothers love the traditional Mothers' Day brunch from 11

a.m. to 12, provided by South Knoxville farmers and Three Rivers Market.

The Friday evening reception and all day Saturday Vestival takes place rain or shine. Admission is by donation; a \$5-\$10 per person/family donation is requested to help support the programs of Candoro Arts & Heritage Center.

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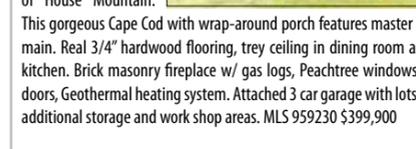
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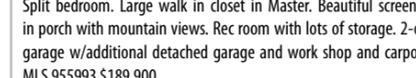


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National Register of Historic Places

A Church, A Mill, A Community Center

By Mike Steely
 steelym@knoxfocus.com

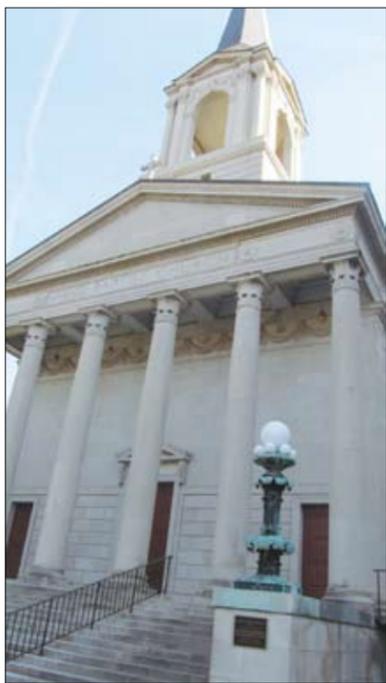
Knox County has many, many places on the National Register of Historic Places, everything from the Airport Filling Station on Clinton Highway to Nicholas Gibbs house just off Emory Road.

Places that can receive the national recognition can be historic fire stations, neighborhoods, homes, buildings, gardens and even cemeteries. Three of the so-designated places are featured this week that you may or may not know much about. Each is unique.

The First Baptist Church

The First Baptist Church began when brothers, John and James Moses, moved here from New Hampshire and found there was no Baptist church. With the help of the American Baptist Home Mission Society and members of the rural Baptist Churches they founded the city church.

Soon after opening back in 1844 the Baptist Church began a Sunday School where slaves and free alike were taught to read and were baptized. A church was built and



PHOTOS BY MIKE STEELY.

The First Baptist Church is Baroque Classic, a blend of English Renaissance and Romanesque designs. The interior sanctuary is monumental in scale, is octagonal and made of marble with sweet gum paneling.

opened on Gay Street. That church paused operation during the Civil War and it was used as a hospital. In 1887 the church was moved to a new building.

The congregation that began almost twenty years before the Civil War continues yet today in the form of the First Baptist Church. The current church building, built in 1924, is on Main Street in the block just west of the City-County Building and the historic old Knox County Courthouse. The current church was designed by Dougherty and Gardner and built by the Worsham Brothers.

Carol Strickland is historian of the church and Nancy Silver wrote a book about the early

days of the church. You can contact the church on Facebook or call (865) 546-9661. Strickland told The Focus that the church celebrated its 150th anniversary in 1993 and has added a new building across Hill Street which is reached through an enclosed overpass. She said that following the Civil War the African American members moved out and formed their own church.

The Riverdale Mill

The Riverdale Mill, also known as the Kennedy Pickle Mill, is on Wayland Road and was built sometime between 1830 and 1860. Located at 2929 Wayland Road at Thorngrove Pike the old mill represents early industry in East Tennessee and may be one of the oldest mills in the region.

Surviving from settlement times the mill also features a mill dam, built about 1916, that replaced a much earlier flume that fed the wheel.



The Christenberry Clubhouse is the site of many organization and community meetings. Built in 1939 the historic building features a meeting room and kitchen.

The Christenberry Clubhouse

The small building behind Christenberry Elementary School was built in 1939 by the Knoxville architectural firm of Barber and McMurray.

The historic house is a vital part of the Oakwood-Lincoln Park Neighborhood and used for various occasions.

The Clubhouse is part of the Christenberry Community Center, at 931

Oglewood Avenue, one of the city's largest such facilities.

The Center features a large dance studio, full-sized gymnasium, arts and crafts room, a kitchen and a fully-equipped weight room.

In addition to the interior features, the recreation center also has an outdoor playground. The facility is adjacent to a major ballfield complex, featuring four baseball/softball fields, restrooms and a playground.

Hello Beautiful Boutique opens on Emory Road



Hello Beautiful offers a wide selection of boutique carries curvy sizes. Haley Arroyo invites you to come by the new store at 113 E Emory Road. Photo courtesy of Haley Arroyo.

By Mike Steely
 steelym@knoxfocus.com

"We carry the best in basic boutique fashion and specialize in brands like Intro, UMGE, Jodifl and Pol," said Hello Beautiful Boutique's Haley Arroyo. Haley and her mother Heather opened the new fashion shop at 113 E Emory Road in early April and offer daily specials. The shop is open Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. until 8 p.m. and on Wednesdays from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m.

Why the name "Hello Beautiful?"

"I came up with it, it catches people's eye, and everyone is beautiful," Haley told The Focus.

"We order directly from a large wholesaler and right now everything is priced from \$5 to about \$45," she said.

"We are one of the few shops to carry curvy sizes but we cater to all sizes," she said.

Haley runs the store and explains that aside from a wide selection of styles and sizes of fashion the shop also offers handbags, wristlets, hats, jewelry, sunglasses, headbands and even temporary tattoos.

"Enve Salon has been a big help and our biggest supporter since we opened," Haley said.

She's a recent Pellissippi Student and a graduate of Knoxville

Catholic High School. The shop is easily found—it's on Emory about half-a-mile from Interstate 75 near the corner of Central and Heiskell Road.

There is also a Facebook page "Hello Beautiful Boutique" and it's on Instagram at @helloworldbeautifulboutiqueknox.

While most people physically shop at the store, Haley said there is growing interest in people ordering on the internet. Hello Beautiful accepts most major credit and debit cards as well as checks and cash. They offer a 10% discount on cash purchases.

You can also call Hello Beautiful at (865)947-9022.



PENDING 1ST RIGHT OF REFUSAL Enjoy tranquil views of the River in this Gorgeous gated Community were The Builder, Carl Perry, has moved in his "Custom Craftsman Cottage" just long enough to put all the fine finishing touches anyone could ask for! Including Custom Plantation Shutters, An Upper end low profile SS Frig! Home offers 2,100 sq ft, 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, Master on main, high ceilings throughout, upper end amenities and appliances, walk in tile shower, garden tub, hg walk in closets, granite counter tops, hardwood floors, tile floors, tray ceilings, trex deck, and much more! It's loaded! 2012 Serene Cove Way MLS 954066 \$289,900

PENDING This is a rare find in Halls! Home is tucked away at the end of the road on large level lot, 2 acres, this ranch home has updates that include



Beautiful huge Master Suite and Bath! Lots of potential and room to grow. 3906 Monroe MLS 961345 \$129,900



57.62 ACRES of Beautiful Countryside! Partially clear level, and wooded! There is a beautiful creek that flows all along the Hay Meadow. Perfect property to build your dream home, farming, horses, cattle, or whatever your Heart desires! Charming quite country living, yet close to many conveniences. Corryton/Luttrell MLS 950709 \$120,000



NICE BASEMENT RANCH home offers huge yard, lots of parking, and storage. Large living room opens to dining area that flows into a large screened back porch with beautiful views! One car garage, full walk out basement with wood burning fireplace. Upstairs living room with beautiful log fire place. Great layout in house makes home feel very roomy! 4439 Buffat Mill Rd MLS 961558 \$89,900



THE "WOW FACTOR" describes this Home inside and out! Brick/Stone exterior, one level, low maintenance, 3 zone irrigation, stamped drive and walk, covered front and back porch, lots of curb appeal. The welcoming entryway showcases hardwood floors, arched doorways, stack stone fireplace, vaulted ceiling, and formal dining. Eat in gourmet kitchen offers island and lots of upper end cabinetry. 3BR, office, 2 BA and laundry on main level. The bonus is just as beautifully finished as rest of home and located over top the over-sized 2 car side entry garage. Upper end amenities include hardwood, tile, Corian solid surface counter tops, SS appliances! 5517 Meadow Wells Drive MLS 959757 \$264,900



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Yearly Physical

Today, I visited the doctor for my annual physical. It's funny how things have changed. In my younger life, I rarely had a physical, and when I did, the entire thing consisted of checking my heart beat, determining my hearing by holding a watch up to my ears, weighing on a scale, and peeing in a cup. The whole thing lasted no more than 10 minutes. Boy! Things sure have changed.

The first part of physicals these days is spent with a nurse. She checked pulse, weight, and blood pressure. Then Linda and I had an interesting talk about my medications. I nodded with the naming of every one of them. Then I asked her to make sure the doctor wrote a new prescription for Flonase and Nexium.

I'd name the rest of the pills if I could spell them. All I know is that each morning and again each night I swallow a fistful of pills and capsules. When a couple of them run in short supply, I become nervous. The last thing I need is a case of acid reflux or a bout of restless leg syndrome.

Doctor Catherine Mathes is my doctor. She took care of my mother for several years, and I swear by her. She's a no-nonsense doctor who takes excellent care of her patients. She came into the room and sat down at the computer. The doctor reviewed my record while catching up on my condition at present. I told her I was worn out, and she surmised that being so was, in part, the result of getting older. Then she asked me how I felt, what physical problems I had experienced, and whether any things had changed unexpectedly. All answers were "no."

An EKG was in order this year, so I lay upon the table as Linda attached a handful of wires to my chest. It occurred to me that those leads resembled the spark plug wires and distributor in my old Pathfinder. The car is 30 years old but still manages to chug along; I do the same. When I was young, those sticky things didn't bother me a bit. Now, they are painfully removed along with a small crop of gray hair. How'd that stuff get there and turn so gray?

A few deep breaths, a couple of thumps on my abdomen, and new prescriptions led to the end of my exam. I managed to escape the prostate exam this year, and I said a quick, silent prayer. For some reason, I felt better; maybe the fact that no serious "Hmm's" were uttered let me know that I was good to go.

Dr. Mathes escorted me to a waiting room, and before long, a man came in with a small clear cup with a lid. Yep, it was time to pee in that cup, open a small metal door, and place it on the shelf. Some people have difficulty performing this act; maybe it's a form of panic. The only times I've experienced problems are when large lines of men at events are waiting for me to finish.

Soon, I was off to the lab where three vials of blood were drawn. Then I was sent to x-ray for a picture of my chest. Even though I've been a reformed smoker for 13 years, the doctor wants a yearly check of my lungs. I always get a bit nervous about the results, especially since both parents and my older brother died of cancer after years of smoking.

Finally, I walked to the last procedure of the exam. A nice young woman looked at the paper I handed her and then announced that I owed a \$35 co-pay. I thanked the clerk and walked out the door. Thankful for a good report and feeling healthy, I decided to take the stairs instead of the elevator. By the time I reached the ground floor, my legs were weak and muscles were burning. That was all right with me. My mind focused on finding something to eat since I'd been ordered to fast the following night.

The next visit is a year away. The goal is to do a better job of living a healthy life, something I plan to start as soon as I pick up an order of biscuit and gravy from Hardees.



By Joe Rector
joerector@comcast.net

Regas project questioned

By Mike Steely
steelym@knoxfocus.com

A proposal for Tax Increment Financing from the county ran into several questions as Jeff Petre of Conversion Properties requested the deal last week during the Knox County Commission's work session.

Petre is planning a development in the former Regas Restaurant parking lot just off Gay Street that would house 101 residential apartments and retail stores with

a parking garage for residents beneath the facility. The request would allow a TIF loan of \$4.9 million over 20 years.

Petre said the current parking lot is only producing \$1,815 in taxes each year and the development would bring \$45,000 in new taxes annually.

While most of the county commissioners applauded the project as improving Downtown Knoxville, several had questions. Commissioners Randy

Smith, Sam McKenzie, Charles Busler, and Brad Anders quizzed Petre about the project.

McKenzie said that while the proposal would "transform the block" he has hesitations about granting the tax break as too many developers are seeking initial tax relief and need to "take the risk" without the tax incentives.

"I'm risking everything I have on this project," Petre replied, saying that the TIF would allow him to get equity

on the project.

"We can't do it without the incentive," he said.

McKenzie said that TIFs were created to improve public use of a project.

"I don't like the way this is progressing," the commissioner said.

Anders asked why the tax break is set up for 20 years and questioned what public improvements are being planned.

"This is a long time for a

Continue on page 4

Madeline Rogero stays busy

By Mike Steely
steelym@knoxfocus.com

Knoxville's Mayor Madeline Rogero is a busy person, jumping from this event to that event. Wednesday at noon she'll deliver her annual "State of the City Address" and this past week she was at more than 12 events to either speak or open an event.

This Wednesday's "State of the City" speech will be at Zoo Knoxville at noon with community and civic leaders attending to hear her plans. Parking will be in the zoo parking lot as well as at the Chilhowee Park and Exposition Center where buses will be shuttling people to the zoo.

The public that wishes to attend should call the City's 311 Call Center and RSVP.

This week's schedule for the busy mayor doesn't appear to be as crammed as last week although she does have a City Council meeting on Tuesday at 7 p.m.

Last week the hectic schedule began Monday with a Board Personnel Committee Meeting. Tuesday she was at the Girl's Talk Annual Building Futures Breakfast and Wednesday she was at the E-911 Board Meeting. She also met with the American Cancer Society leaders in her office and proclaimed the month "Colon Cancer Awareness Month."

But her Wednesday wasn't over. She attended the Volunteer Ministry Center's Carry the Torch luncheon, announced a new community youth initiative at Overcoming Believers Church and held a press conference to officially rename Leinard Lane to Joan Cronan Way.

Cronan was director of athletics and vice chancellor at UT, the former president of the National Association of College Women's Athletics Administration, and past president of the Tennessee Sports Hall of Fame.

On Thursday Mayor Rogero began the day early at 6 a.m. with a live National Public Radio interview as part of that network's "The View From Here" series, speaking about Knoxville's needs and priorities heading into the 2016 National Election.

Then she met with the Development Corporation of



PHOTO BY MIKE STEELY.

Mayor Madeline Rogero presented a proclamation to Lt. Cmdr. Jeremy Farmer, Commander of the Knoxville Navy Reserve Center, during Navy Week ceremonies on Market Square earlier this month. The mayor spoke of the many Navy members from our area including Admiral David Farragut who commanded the Navy during the Civil War. The Navy Band from the Great Lakes Naval Station performed during the ceremony.

Knox County at the Knoxville Chamber at 7:30 a.m. At 10 a.m. Thursday she was at McGhee Tyson Airport for a press conference announcing the new National Park Service exhibit.

Friday she was at the Police Department's awards luncheon at the Foundry to help announce the Officer of the Year, Employee of the Year and Explorer of the Year for 2015.

Saturday she spoke at the Rossini Festival International Street Fair on the Opera Stage at Krutch Park.

Saturday she gave the opening remarks at the Interfaith Earth Day celebration at the Tennessee Valley Unitarian Universalist Church.

On Sunday she apparently rested.

Visiting the Barter Theater

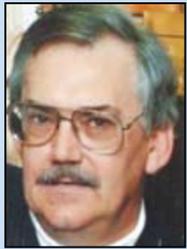
Small towns do not usually boast professional theaters but Abingdon, Virginia, just northeast of Bristol and a few blocks from Interstate 81, is the excep-

tion. Only about three hours from Knoxville, the Barter Theatre there is worth a destination or a side trip.

The theater was founded during the depression when a local actor, Robert Porterfield, returned to Southwest Virginia and brought a unique idea: bartering produce from local farms and gardens for admission to a play. Thus the name "Barter."

The idea caught on and the theater became

A Day Away



By Mike Steely

quite popular. Originally the theater was located above the jail and noises from the holding cells and animals that farmers brought in for admission occasionally

disrupted performances. The jail also housed dogs suspected of having rabies but eventually became dressing rooms for the actors.

The Barter Theatre dates from 1933 and its building also housed the Fire Department. Until 1994 a fire alarm was atop the building and would go off loudly day or night. When Porterfield learned that a theater in New York City was scheduled for demolition he and a crew spent a weekend removing furnishings and equipment including a lighting system.

Every year the Barter salutes its heritage by



PHOTO BY MIKE STEELY.

The Barter Theater sits in the center of Abingdon, Virginia, a city that has become a center for antique shops. The theater draws more than 160,000 visitors each year.

accepting donations to a local food bank as the price for admission. Annually the Barter gets more than 160,000 visitors. A former Methodist Church, built in 1829, has been added to the Barter and is now the Barter II Stage. The smaller venue is favored by actors who perform only a few feet from the audience.

The acting careers of many noted performers began at the Barter including people like Gregory

Peck, Patricia Neal, Ernest Borgnine, Larry Linville, Ned Beatty, and Hume Cronyn.

The recent "Big Fish" presentation was a hit there and will be followed by "Classic Nashville Road Show" that begins April 28th and runs through May 21st. Barter II is presenting "My Imaginary Pirate" which runs through April 30th.

Ticket prices vary depending on the production and where you sit, but will probably run about \$35 for general seating. You can buy tickets online at www.bartertheatre.com or call the theatre at (276) 628-3991.

While you're in the area you might also want to visit Bristol's Birthplace of Country Music Museum and also visit Tennessee Ernie Ford's childhood home.



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Virginia's Gentleman: Senator A. Willis Robertson

Pages from the Past



By Ray Hill
rayhill865@gmail.com

Willis Robertson has been gone for almost forty-five years, but for decades he was an important figure in Congress and a member of perhaps the most genteel political machine in the country. Today, if he is remembered at all, it is because he was the father of televangelist Pat Robertson.

Absalom Willis Robertson was born May 27, 1887 in Martinsburg, West Virginia. His father, Franklin Pierce Robertson, was named for the fourteenth president of the United States. Robertson himself was named for the third son of King David, the wayward Absalom, whom the Bible refers to as the most handsome man in all of Israel. It was Absalom who led a rebellion against his father, although he was reputedly the king's favorite son. Absalom had his half brother murdered for having raped their sister. Fearing his father's wrath, Absalom fled to the house of his grandfather, Talmi, the King of Geshur. It was three years before Absalom was forgiven by his father and he returned to Jerusalem.

Absalom betrayed his father's trust and incited a rebellion that left King David largely bereft of support. It was the father's turn to flee after Absalom had declared himself king. Following a great battle fought in the Wood of Ephraim, Absalom's army was destroyed by forces loyal to King David. Fleeing, Absalom caught his luxuriant locks in the branches of a tree and found himself trapped. Joab, King David's commander of the host, was told of Absalom's predicament and killed him. Despite all that he had done, David gave his famous lament, "O my son Absalom, my son, my son Absalom! Would God I had died for thee."

Willis Robertson shorted his own name and only used his first initial.

Robertson earned a law degree and was elected to the Virginia State Senate in 1915, where he served for six years. Following his exit from the State Senate, Willis Robertson became the attorney for Rockbridge County.

The young attorney was nominated to run for Congress in 1932 and came into office with Franklin D. Roosevelt. Willis Robertson was reelected each succeeding election through 1946. Most of Virginia's congressmen had to be content to serve in the House of Representatives, as both of Virginia's Senate seats were occupied by two veterans of the Old Dominion state's politics. Claude A. Swanson had been a congressman, governor and only vacated his seat in the U. S. Senate when FDR appointed him to serve as Secretary of the Navy. Swanson's place was taken by former governor Harry F. Byrd, who founded

and maintained the machine that would come to dominate Virginia's politics for decades.

Virginia's other seat in the Senate was held by Carter Glass, whom Franklin Roosevelt had referred to as an "unreconstructed rebel." Glass had been a congressman and Secretary of the Treasury under President Woodrow Wilson. The peppery Glass showed no signs of ever retiring.

Congressman Robertson, along with Nevada Senator Key Pittman, were the prime sponsors of an act which created a tax that still exists today and still provides most of the funding for wildlife areas in the United States.

Although the Democrats held complete sway in Virginia, the Byrd machine was very conservative in nature and philosophy. Few important posts were filled by the voters without Harry Byrd's express approval. Only one man managed to get elected governor without Byrd's blessing, James H. Price. Governor Price was an ardent supporter of Franklin Roosevelt and the New Deal, while neither Harry F. Byrd nor Carter Glass could stomach much of FDR's progressive legislation. Willis Robertson was conservative enough to become an important member of the Byrd machine.

Robertson was ambitious and rumors would float around every election that the congressman might be interested in running for governor. He never received the support of Senator Harry F. Byrd for higher office.

Like most Virginia Democrats, Willis Robertson was highly skeptical of many of the Roosevelt administration's proposals in Congress. Congressman Robertson voted against social security legislation, work relief and routinely opposed any bill designed to benefit organized labor. While Robertson was almost certainly a disappointment to Roosevelt on domestic matters, the congressman was strongly in favor of FDR's foreign policy. Congressman Robertson stoutly backed preparedness legislation, providing loans to Great Britain, and endorsed the idea of the United Nations.

Carter Glass was reelected to the United States Senate in 1942, but it soon became apparent the eighty-four year old senator was seriously ill. In fact, Glass never returned to the Senate. Eventually even newspapers otherwise supportive of the Byrd machine called for Glass to resign as the senator was clearly incapacitated. Glass's second wife refused to consider the possibility despite the fact Senator Glass had not been seen on Capitol Hill in years.

Allen Drury, then a young reporter, wrote in his diary, "...from the guarded suite...



FROM THE AUTHOR'S PERSONAL COLLECTION.

Autographed photo of Virginia Senator A. Willis Robertson, circa 1955.

through whose doors no outsider has passed in many months to see what lies within, has come the usual answer. Mrs. Glass has replied for the Senator. The suggestion will not be considered."

The speculation and calls for Glass's resignation ended on May 28, 1946 when the senator died. Willis Robertson very much wanted the senatorial nomination to succeed Carter Glass and he hoped for Harry F. Byrd's support. Byrd was worried about the possible candidacies of Congressman Howard Smith and former governor Colgate Darden. Frustrated, Willis Robertson went ahead and announced his own candidacy while Byrd declared he would remain neutral.

Yet Willis Robertson's initial determination began to fade and he dithered and appeared highly indecisive. Robertson, profoundly worried the Democratic state convention would draft former governor Darden, announced he was withdrawing from the senatorial contest. Darden had already stated he was not a candidate and Robertson once again declared he would seek the Democratic nomination only to withdraw a second time in August of 1946. Robertson feared he would not be able to win a majority of the delegates in the convention. His exasperated campaign manager admonished him that few things in politics were a certainty and to "keep calm!"

When Virginia's Democrats assembled for their convention, it looked like Willis Robertson's worst fears were more than valid. Former governor Darden led throughout the first ballot, followed by Congressman Howard Smith. Robertson did not even run third, but fourth. Darden changed the entire complexion of the convention when he made it perfectly clear he was not a candidate and withdrew his candidacy with a finality that made an impression upon the delegates. Robertson finally won the Democratic nomination on the third ballot.

Congressman Robertson won the special election to

fill the remaining two years of the late Carter Glass's term of office easily, beating Republican Robert H. Woods with almost 70% of the vote.

Robertson's relationship with Harry Byrd was quite friendly, but hardly perfect or without stress. Both had come to the Virginia State Senate at the same time and both headed to Washington, D. C. the same year. Senator Robertson certainly agreed with Byrd about civil rights, but they differed on issues of foreign policy. They also began to differ about politics in Virginia. Robertson was never fully accepted by Byrd's innermost circle, a fact the senator likely realized and may well have spurred his bid for occasional independence.

Byrd was a wealthy apple grower and his attendance in the Senate could be sporadic, while Willis Robertson had one of the best attendance records of all senators. Unlike Byrd, Robertson diligently studied pending legislation and was recognized for his expertise in several fields, including foreign trade, taxes and tariffs.

Robertson had crushed his primary opponent to win a full six-year term in 1948 and openly supported Democratic presidential nominee Adlai Stevenson in 1952, while Harry Byrd began his typical "golden silence" in presidential elections until his death. The GOP candidate, Dwight Eisenhower, carried Virginia, as well as Tennessee, Florida, and Texas. It was the first time a Republican had breached the previously impenetrable walls of the formerly solid Democratic Southland.

Even on the issue of civil rights, the two senators began to have differences. Byrd's machine initiated a policy of massive resistance to the integration of Virginia's public schools, which Senator Robertson gave only token support. The policy collapsed completely in 1960 following a series of rulings by courts. Robertson had serious concerns about the Byrd machine closing public schools instead of integrating them.

Byrd and Robertson continued to disagree about

American foreign policy. Robertson had supported the Marshall Plan and the Truman Doctrine to contain Communism. Byrd, always obsessed by expenditures, voted against both. When Southern Democrats bolted the party in 1948 to back South Carolina Governor J. Strom Thurmond for president against Truman, Willis Robertson was aghast. He refused to even consider the notion of supporting the "Dixiecrats". Robertson believed the States Rights party would threaten support for Democrats in the South in general and Virginia in particular.

Byrd chose John S. Battle to run for governor of Virginia in 1949 and Senator Robertson was less than enthused in his support. Senator Robertson's own reelection campaigns frequently coincided with national president election and he was irritated by Harry Byrd's refusal to endorse the Democratic nominee. Byrd had not endorsed Harry Truman in 1948 nor had he supported John F. Kennedy in 1960. Harry Byrd likely had not personally voted for a Democratic candidate for president since FDR in 1936. Willis Robertson had been running for reelection in both 1948 and 1960 and felt his colleague's "golden silences" were helping to undermine Virginia Democrats. Byrd endorsed no candidate for president precisely because he felt the Democratic nominees were too liberal, but felt should he endorse a Republican candidate, it might well lead to a rise of Republicanism in Virginia. Senator Robertson's refusal to knuckle under and quiet down annoyed many Byrd stalwarts, not the least of whom was Harry F. Byrd, Jr. The younger Byrd chided Senator Robertson publicly in an editorial in his newspaper, the Winchester Evening Star, accusing Virginia's junior senator of having supported Adlai Stevenson to protect his own personal political interests. Much to the surprise of both Senator Byrd and his son, there was a considerable negative reaction to the editorial critical of Willis Robertson. Harry F. Byrd, Jr.

quickly found himself backpeddling. Relations between Virginia two United States senators had begun to chill. Personally, A. Willis Robertson was tall, handsome, and as he aged, looked very much like the type of man who would be cast to play a United States senator. Although he was very conservative with his own money, Robertson was always quite well dressed. Courty and highly loquacious, Robertson was well liked by his colleagues and his constituents. Willis Robertson also liked to sing and was part of a congressional quartet that performed for veterans who were confined to hospitals. Senator Robertson was also a very religious man and frequently led the regular Senate prayer breakfasts each week. In spite of Virginia having voted for Richard Nixon over John F. Kennedy, Robertson won his own reelection campaign with more than 80% of the vote. It was his last great political victory. Although seventy-nine years old in 1966, Willis Robertson announced he would seek another six-year term in the Senate. Ever cautious politically, he had offended the most powerful Democrat in the country two years earlier: Lyndon B. Johnson. Robertson had shied away from the "Southern Special" train of Lady Bird Johnson when she was campaigning through Virginia in 1964 for her husband. LBJ never forgot the slight and some say it was the president who helped to recruit Willis Robertson's challenger inside the 1966 Democratic primary, William B. Spong. Not quite forty-six years old as the primary campaign got under way, Spong immediately set out to portray Senator Robertson as ancient and out of touch. Spong employed the campaign slogan of "A Man for Today," which, of course, implied that Willis Robertson was a man of yesterday. Bill Spong campaigned relentlessly and at a pace the elderly incumbent could not keep up with, criticizing the senator for having opposed legislation to prevent water pollution, support education, and develop urban mass transit. Spong beat home the theme that things were changing in Virginia and Willis Robertson had not changed at all. Chairman of the Senate's banking committee, Senator Robertson had ample campaign funds and broad support throughout financial institutions. During the primary it was not unusual to walk into a bank and find all of the tellers adorned with Robertson campaign buttons in their lapels. Still, Willis Robertson lost by 611 votes out of more than four hundred thousand cast. Harry F. Byrd was dead, Willis Robertson was defeated and a Republican resurgence was soon to wash over Virginia. While there were still important vestiges of the Byrd machine, it was a new era in the Old Dominion State. Gentlemanly to the last, Robertson resigned his seat early so Spong could enter the Senate with a small advantage in seniority. He retired and died on November 1, 1971 at eighty-four.



Rosie's World

Limitless

There's a TV show called Limitless on just now but I'm not afraid to bet it is not limitless. It will be on a while, then fade away as all TV shows are prone to do.

Air is limitless, the sun is limitless, rain is limitless, wind is limitless, the sky is the limit and love can be limitless if it is sincere. God's love is limitless as is testified in our daily living.

Can you imagine a world with no air, no sunshine, no rain, no wind? No, there wouldn't be a world without those limitless things.

In my little book of Daily Psalms and Prayers is this thought: "The queens and kings of earth borrow their majesty from God's hand. No mortal, with all this might, can cause even a blade of grass to grow, and yet the grandeur of the

mountains on which the meadows flourish is the result of mere few words spoken by God." That is limitless.

"Joyful, joyful, we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love;

Hearts unfold like flowers before thee, Opening to the sun above.

Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, Drive the dark of doubt away;

Giver of immortal gladness, Fill us with the light of day."

This beautiful hymn was written by Henry van Dyke, an author and clergyman from Pennsylvania. He also wrote "Time is too slow for those who wait, too swift for those who fear, too long for those who grieve, too short for those who rejoice, but for those who love, time is eternity. Use what talents you possess;

the woods would be very silent if no birds sang there except those that sang best."

We are fortunate to have a limitless supply of wondrous thoughts from prolific writers such as those who gave us their thoughts down through the years. Our thanks should be limitless!

Thought for the day: Things money can't buy:

1. Manners
2. Morals
3. Respect
4. Character
5. Common sense
6. Trust
7. Patience
8. Class
9. Integrity
10. Love

Send comments to rosemerrie@att.net. Thank you.

Caring, Concerned, Committed

By Ralphine Major

"She has cared for her family members unceasingly. She is concerned for the spiritual and physical welfare of those in need. She is committed to assisting others and sharing Christ with everyone she meets." Yvonne Piercy, Director of Women's Missionary Union (WMU) at Wallace Memorial Baptist Church, recently described Jeannette Thomas in the above statements. For years, Jeannette has been the driving force behind the church's many mission trips to help those in need in the rural region of Appalachia. Though she has helped in mission work overseas in places like Costa Rica and Bolivia and in Knox County Association and state WMU leadership, it is her mission trips nearer home that I hear about the most.

Though Jeannette has been a member of Wallace since 1956, Wallace Memorial Director of Mission Ministries Sandy Bolton was living in Nashville when she first met Jeannette. "Jeannette came to lead a conference for the Nashville Baptist Association," Sandy said. "It has been a joy to serve alongside such a committed, dedicated lady who puts everyone else first," she added.

I was surprised to learn that Jeannette trained in the Army as a cadet nurse at Bethesda Hospital in Cincinnati, Ohio, and served in WWII at Fort Thomas. It is no wonder that those who know her are so deeply inspired by the energetic homemaker who turned 91 last month. "Jeannette is a role model for all mission leaders and an



Picture of Jeannette Thomas doing what she does best---leading a mission trip to Appalachia. Photo courtesy of David and Melba Hill.

example that there is no age limit to serving our Lord," Sandy added. "Jesus truly shines through her, and I am blessed to call her my friend!"

Life has not been easy for this mission-minded lady. Her only children, three daughters, all died from Huntington's disease. "It is a deterioration of the central nervous system," Jeannette told me. "The disease, which is hereditary, attacks the brain and affects motor skills. Its victims usually live normal lives until their fifties or sixties," she added. It claimed her husband in 1986.

I was impressed with Jeannette's upbeat attitude and her sweet spirit. "What I've done, I have done for the Lord," she said. It is no wonder the 91-year-old inspires so many. We all should strive to duplicate Jeannette's care, her concern, and her commitment!

Regas project questioned

Continued from page 2

relatively small TIF," Anders said, adding that new sidewalks there may not be enough. Dawn Michelle Foster, director of the City's Redevelopment Office, responded and said that the "structured parking" in the planned building would relieve parking stress there and that installing underground utilities would also contribute to public improvements.

Commissioner Mike Brown asked where the public would be parking if the garage would be only for residents there.

Petre said that the public will have plenty of parking for the block including parking beneath the interstate bridge and along the street. He said the underground garage that is being planned would contribute to public safety and the perception of a crime problem there. The apartment and retail complex will be located near North Broadway which is known to be a gathering point for homeless Knoxville residents.

"KARM is part of our neighborhood," Petre said.

The request from Petre now goes on the agenda for tonight's regular meeting of the commission without a recommendation from the work session.

In other discussions Anders brought up the lack of a commission or county representative on the KCDC board and asked the law department to look into it. He said most of the KCDC board members live inside the city and when the county turned over its public housing to that body, a promise was made to include a county member.

Finance Director Chris Caldwell told the commission that the state is reducing the Hall Tax on interest and dividends from 6% to 5% with an eventual goal of dropping the tax altogether. He said the state hopes to make up the money with an increase in the gasoline tax but the reduction and eventual loss of the Hall Tax revenue would affect the county.

He also said the county will begin losing the revenue generated when the city annexed parts of the county many years ago. Since then those annexed homes have been paying a partial property tax to Knox County and that funding will be disappearing.

Commissioner Brown asked Caldwell about an estimate of revenue the county will receive as a result of the recent Air Show and the Finance Director said he won't know until June, when April figures are released by the state.

Religion vs. Relationship

"Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. Many will say to me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name and in your name drive out demons and in your name perform many miracles? Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!'" (Matthew 7:21-23).

As a preacher of God's Word, this Scripture is rather sobering (not that I've driven out any demons lately or performed any miracles). In fact, it should cause every follower of Jesus to examine their life and determine if they are doing the will of God. But keep in mind, Jesus is not trying to scare us with these words. He is trying to help us. So where do you begin? The apostle Paul had some good advice: "Examine yourselves to see whether you are in the faith; test yourselves. Do you not realize that Christ Jesus is in you—unless, of course, you fail the test?" (2 Cor. 13:5).

Is Christ Jesus in you? If you think you are going to heaven because you're a good person and you believed in God at some point in the past, that's not good enough. Many people claim to believe in God, but they live their lives no differently from someone who doesn't claim Christ as Lord. The real test to determine if you are saved is if you have an active,

obedient, living faith. Salvation is not a onetime event; it is on ongoing reality.

The religious leaders of Jesus' day did or said all the right stuff, but their hearts were far from God. They had religion, but no relationship (Matthew 23:13-33). Jesus tries to jar them awake with some hard-hitting language as He speaks seven woes to them. The result – a couple of days later they hand Jesus over to be crucified (Matthew 26:1-2). They failed the test.

It is easy to get caught up "going through the motions" of religion. We perform our good works before others and we look the part. But our salvation is not based on our "good works." Our salvation is by grace through faith (Eph. 2:8). And once we have been saved, our salvation will be evidenced by all the good works we do (Eph. 2:10). Again, a living faith will be lived out.

Jesus concluded His great sermon on the mount with these words: "Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash" (Matthew 7:24-27). The wise will put Jesus' words into their life and be transformed by them.



By Mark Brackney, Minister of the Arlington Church of Christ

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Speedy Sohm is a 'special player' says Gibbs softball coach

By Steve Williams

Carol Mitchell is a very successful and highly respected high school softball coach, and when she comments on a player, people take notice. They know it's not just hyperbole. She doesn't throw around adjectives left and right.

So when the Gibbs coach called Leah Sohm "a special player" recently, it spoke volumes.

Sohm is the Lady Eagles' junior shortstop and the team's leadoff batter for the second straight year.

In a low-scoring game against Powell on April 13, one longtime fan of the Gibbs program said, "If Leah gets on base, she'll score."

Like it was automatic. With her speed, it almost is.

Sohm has scored 40 out of the 63 times she has been on base this season.

Batting out of the left side of the batter's box, she also has a .491 OBP

(on base percentage).

How fast is she?

"She's pretty fast," laughs Coach Mitchell. "Really fast. I'm glad she's on my team."

Leah also has stolen 22 bases in 23 attempts. When she gets to first base, there's a very good chance she'll be on second base very soon.

"She's just an athlete - I mean an all-around athlete," said Mitchell. "And when you put an athlete out on the field, you just let them play and she instinctively can do things that a lot of just average players can't do."

"She's a special player for us and we're just fortunate that we've got her."

Is shortstop a natural position for her?

"Leah can probably play any position," replied Mitchell. "She doesn't pitch, but she thinks she can ... just goofing off, she'll try to pitch."

"But she can probably play anywhere on the



Gibbs shortstop Leah Sohm turns to communicate with outfielders during the Lady Eagles' 4-0 win over Halls on April 14.

field."

Even catcher too?

"She's a very good catcher," Mitchell answered confidently.

What about her quickness?

"Those are things you

can't coach - the speed and the quickness, the athletic ability."

Gibbs swept a doubleheader at Oak Ridge 12-0 and 15-3 Thursday to improve to 24-7-1 and 12-1 in District 3-AAA. The Lady

"I feel like I can help the team most by being a leader."

Gibbs shortstop Leah Sohm

PHOTO BY STEVE WILLIAMS

Eagles have a key game coming up at rival Halls Tuesday at 5:30.

"I feel like I can help the team most by being a leader," stated Sohm via e-mail Friday. "When we have ups and downs, I try

keeping a positive attitude and staying mentally tough. I try to reflect Christ in everything that I do.

"I am pleased with the team because we are finally

Cont. on page 2

Carter High Drumline Takes Second



Carter High School Indoor Drumline finishes a great season taking 2nd place in the 2016 Carolina Indoor Performance Association Championships at Western Carolina University on April 3, 2016. Carter has consistently been a top performer, finishing in the top 3 for each of the last four years.

Local wrestlers honored by area coaches

By Ken Lay

Gibbs High School's wrestling team dethroned rival Halls and ended the Red Devils' string of Region 2-AAA Dual Meet Championships.

The Eagles, who also made a deep run in the State Duals, had four athletes named to the all-Knoxville Interscholastic League by the area wrestling coaches.

Matthew Maxwell (132 pounds), Angel Leyva (145

pounds), Hunter Fortner (182 pounds) and Jonathan Davis (285 pounds) were all selected to the squad.

Hardin Valley Academy won its first District 4-AAA Dual Meet Championship and the Hawks were represented on the team by 138-pounder Ian McNitt and Charles "Chap" Chappell. HVA also had a girl make the team as Kenya-Lee Sloan was honored.

The Red Devils lead all

schools with four selections including Tolliver Justice (113 pounds), Chris Nielsen (126), Sirrel Robinson (152) and Colton McMahan (160).

Bearden had three wrestlers receive all-county honors. Kyle Burns (120 pounds), Max Grayson (170) and Jacob Gerken (195) were all named to the team.

Webb 106-pounder Carter Coughlin also made the squad.

HVA's Cornelius named KIL Sophomore of the Year

By Ken Lay

Abbey Cornelius emerged as a force for the Hardin Valley Academy girls basketball team last season.

She led a young but experienced Lady Hawks squad to the Region 2-AAA Tournament for the first time in

four years and was recently named Knoxville Interscholastic League Sophomore of the Year by the county's girls basketball coaches.

South-Doyle's Karen Donehew was named Player of the Year and Webb School of Knoxville's Shelley

Collier claimed Coach of the Year after guiding the Lady Spartans to another appearance in the Division II-A State Tournament Championship Game.

Bearden, which won District 4-AAA for the second consecutive season, had a

pair of seniors receive all-KIL First Team honors in Chanler Geer and Anajae Stephney. Joining them on the first team were Donehew, Fulton's Keke McKinney and Webb's Micah Sheetz.

Second-team selections

included Farragut senior Miranda Burt, Cornelius, Bearden's Trinity Lee, Christian Academy of Knoxville's Taylor Dodson and Grace Christian Academy's Calynne Pridemore.

Lady Admirals freshman guard Morgan Carbaugh

was a third-team selection, along with Fulton's

Lay Lay Manning, South-

Doyle center Kaci Mitchell,

Webb's Evey Satterfield and Powell's Haley Schubert.

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Flatford leads the way in boys' prep track and field

By Steve Williams

Derek Flatford has clearly established himself as one of the top track and field high school athletes in the Knoxville area this spring.

The Anderson County senior owns the best performances in three events – the 110 and 300-meter hurdles and the long jump. His 38.53 time in the 300 hurdles and 22-11.25 mark in the long jump also rank No. 1 in the state in the TSSAA's Division I, according to Tennessee Runner Mile Split Outdoor Rankings through April 21.

Flatford placed seventh in the Class AAA state decathlon last year.

With the annual KIL meet coming up May 2 and 4 at Hardin Valley Academy, Catholic's Johnathan Chavez ranks as the boys' top distance runner in both the 1600 and 3200, while HVA's Kenton Bachmann has posted the best 800 time.

In the sprints, Colt Trieschmann of Grace Christian Academy (100 dash), Kashiff Warren of Austin-East (200) and Alec Connolly of Catholic (400) are the pacesetters.

Halls' Cole Patterson has the state's overall top mark (60-1) in the shot put and also leads the Knoxville area in the discus event.

Other field event leaders include Zack Dobson of Fulton in the triple jump and Bearden's Jacob Sobota in the pole vault. Three high jumpers – Jaylen Foster of L&N STEM Academy, Catholic's Jake Poczobut and freshman Shawn Stacy of Bearden – share the top mark of 6-2.

Foster also has the top marks in the triple

jump and long jump in District 2 A-AA.

Tennessee School for the Deaf's Gashaw Duhamel has posted the top times in the 1600 and 3200 runs in District 3 A-AA.

Catholic's Amari Rodgers has the top times in the 100 (11.2) and 200 (23.19) in District 4 A-AA but suffered a torn shoulder labrum in a 7-on-7 football tournament and is scheduled to undergo surgery in May. The Clemson football commitment is expected to miss part of his senior football season.

KNOXVILLE AREA BOYS TRACK AND FIELD LEADERS

(The top times and marks by Knoxville area high school male athletes in track and field, according to Tennessee Runner Mile Split Outdoor Rankings as of April 21.)

100: Colt Trieschmann (GCA sr.) 10.98
200: Kashiff Warren (Austin-East jr.) 22.17 (09)
400: Alec Connolly (Catholic sr.) 50.58
800: Kenton Bachmann (HVA so.) 1:56.31
1600: Johnathan Chavez (Catholic sr.) 4:21.63
3200: Johnathan Chavez (Catholic sr.) 9:41.77
110 hurdles: Derek Flatford (Anderson Co. sr.) 14.69
300 hurdles: Derek Flatford (Anderson Co. sr.) 38.53

4x100 relay: Austin-East 42.66
4x200 relay: Austin-East 1:31.47
4x400 relay: Hardin Valley Academy 3:28.73
4x800 relay: Maryville 8:11.09

Triple jump: Zack Dobson (Fulton jr.) 43-10.75
Long jump: Derek Flatford (Anderson Co. sr.) 22-11.25
Pole vault: Jacob Sobota (Bearden jr.) 14-0
Discus: Cole Patterson (Halls sr.) 161-11
Shot put: Cole Patterson (Halls sr.) 60-1
High jump: Jaylen Foster (L&N STEM Acad. jr.), Jake Poczobut (Catholic sr.), Shawn Stacy (Bearden fr.) 6-2 each

Halls shot putter shares something in common with Babe and Kobe

By Steve Williams

Babe Ruth made 60 one of the great numbers in sports when he hit that many home runs in 1927. And just recently, Kobe Bryant's farewell NBA performance was made even grander when he scored 60 points.

The number 60 is special for high school shot putters, too, says Halls senior Cole Patterson, who tossed the shot 60 feet, 1 inch for the state's best throw this season during the East Tennessee Track and Field Jamboree at Farragut on March 5.

"Sixty feet is a long way for a high schooler," said Patterson. "It kind of distinguishes you into the elite class of shot putters in the country."

Patterson is still trying to duplicate or better his personal record. He was disappointed in his performance after a meet at Halls last week when he threw 59-5 on his first attempt and

then scratched on his other three throws.

"I didn't like it," said the 6-2, 290-pounder. "I came in expecting to throw about five or six feet farther. I didn't do so hot and had trouble staying in the circle."

"I just got to throw more and be more consistent in practice, make myself stay in the circle. That's about all you can do in this sport."

Even though Patterson didn't put the 12-pound ball as far as he wanted, he out threw his closest challenger by almost 20 feet. Patterson, who had been a two-way tackle for the Red Devils in football but didn't play last fall so he could focus on track, also has the top throw in the discus event (161-11) in the Knoxville area.

He started competing in the shot put when he was 11 years old and in the sixth grade at Halls Middle School.

"My dad threw the shot

put in high school and college and he showed me how to do it," said Cole.

His father, Ryan Patterson, went to high school in Oklahoma and also played football at UT.

"He's the only one (coach) I work with," added Cole, who threw 57-1.5 and placed third in the state last year.

What goes into the making of a great shot putter?

"People think it's all about how much weight you can lift and who's the biggest and the tallest, and it's really not," answered Patterson. "Best shot putters are probably better ballerinas than most Broadway actresses. It's all about footwork and technique. That's the most important thing in being a good shot putter and discus thrower."

"Well, size does matter," added Cole. "It helps to be big."

In short, Patterson likes calling it a combination of



PHOTO BY STEVE WILLIAMS

Cole Patterson cranks up in the shot put event during a meet at Halls last week. Patterson has the state's top mark -- 60 feet, 1 inch -- this season and an eye on a state championship.

strength and finesse.

Patterson signed April 13 with Liberty University, a NCAA Division 1 member in Lynchburg, Va., and said he

may take up the hammer event in college in addition to the shot put. He said he will probably major in pre-

For now, his first goal is to again throw 60-1 and then win a state championship.

Speedy Sohm is a 'special player' says Gibbs softball coach

Cont. from page 1

coming together as one and doing our jobs. For me, I am pleased with learning how to be mentally tough throughout the game.

"My goal is to always do my best for the team and always give all the glory to God because without Him I wouldn't be able to play the game. The team goals

are to win it all ... district, region, sub-state, and state!"

Statistically, Sohm leads the team with a .456 batting average (47 for 103). Her offensive numbers include five doubles and 15 RBI. Defensively, her fielding percentage is .913, with 10 errors in 115 total chances. She has helped

turn four double plays.

Even though she's only a junior, Coach Mitchell said Sohm already is getting looks from colleges.

"And that's a goal of hers that she's had since she was younger. She's just trying to add to her repertoire of things that she can do so that she looks good to college coaches, because

where she stands out here, they may be looking across the region at other players that also stand out there.

"So what can she do that makes herself the one that they choose over some of the other ones?"

"Playing college softball is a goal of hers and hopefully we can make that come true."

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Vol Network's Bob Kesling, Bert Bertelkamp host golf tournament for Helen Ross McNabb Center

The Bob Kesling and Bert Bertelkamp Golf Tournament presented by Regal Entertainment Group will be held on Monday, May 23 at Holston Hills Country Club in Knoxville.

The annual golf tournament raises money for the Helen Ross McNabb Center, which provides access to care for individuals and families in East Tennessee facing mental illness, addiction and social challenges. The golf tournament is a Helen Ross McNabb Center tradition, lasting more than 20 years.

"Bob and I are thrilled to host the golf tournament again and continue to raise support for the Helen Ross McNabb Center. The Center is near and dear to my heart, as it provides needed care to people who are underserved in our community," said Bert Bertelkamp.

Registration for the tournament will begin at 7:00 a.m. and players can begin practicing before the first round shotgyn begins at 8:30 a.m. Each team consists of four players and will play one of two flights of golf offered that day. The foursomes will also meet and have their picture taken with the Voices of the Vols. Prizes will be awarded for the low gross team, low net team, closest to the pin and longest drive for each flight.

The Bob Kesling and Bert Bertelkamp Golf Tournament is sponsored by Pilot Flying J; Lakewood Capital Group; Hiller Plumbing, Heating, Cooling and Electrical; and RTC General Contractors. To become a friend of the Bob Kesling and Bert Bertelkamp Golf Tournament, contact Beth Farrow at beth.farrow@mcnabb.org, (865) 329-9030.

The Helen Ross McNabb Center is a premier not for profit provider of behavioral health services in East Tennessee. Since 1948, the Center has provided quality and compassionate care to children, adults and families experiencing mental illness, addiction and social challenges. For more information, visit www.mcnabbcenter.org or call 865-637-9711.

Lady Hawks work overtime for signature road win

By Ken Lay

A little overtime netted a historic victory for the Hardin Valley Academy softball team Thursday night at Farragut High School's Bel-lamy Field.

It took eight innings but the Lady Hawks, who made the Class AAA State Tournament for the first time in 2015, finally picked up a road win over the Lady Admirals when a 7-4 victory.

It was an unlikely hero who put Hardin Valley (16-10 overall, 7-5 in District 4-AAA) in the top of the eighth inning Thursday. Catcher Jayden Blosser usually doesn't hit in HVA's lineup, but she batted in Farragut and drove in the go-ahead run when she singled home Leslie Beecham with one out.

"I knew that my teammates needed me and I was going to end my hitting slump," said Blosser, who was pinch hit for in the sixth. "They needed me and I was able to step up in that situation."

The Lady Hawks later got some insurance from a steady force in their batting order when senior first



PHOTO BY DAN ANDREWS.

The Hardin Valley softball team awaits Kaleigh Wynne after the senior first baseman clubbed a grand slam in HVA's 7-4 eight-inning victory over rival Farragut Thursday night.

baseman Kaleigh Wynne belted a grand slam home run to seemingly put the game out of reach.

But it turned out that the Hawks would need Wynne's long ball because the Lady Admirals (16-12, 8-3) didn't go quietly in the bottom of the frame.

Farragut scored two runs in its half of the eighth when designated player Morgan Stapleton had a two-run double before Lady Hawks reliever Mikaela Chavis

recorded the final two outs of the contest, leaving the potential winning run stranded on first base.

The Lady Hawks took an early lead with a clutch two-out rally in the top of the first. Chavis scored the game's first run when shortstop Jodie Parham singled.

Parham, who went 3-for-4 and drove in two runs, gave Hardin Valley a 2-0 lead when she singled Wynne home with one out in the top of the third.

The Lady Admirals pulled to within 2-1 in the third when Mary Claire Coyne's hit plated center fielder Andrea Sarhatt.

Farragut tied things in the fourth when an Emma Geron grounded out. Pitcher Callie Moore scored on the play. Moore singled and stole second. She advanced to third on a single by Delaney Weller before coming home with the tying run.

Farragut coach David Moore said his team had

its chances.

"She [Blosser] got a big hit," he said. "But we had our chances."

"We missed our opportunities in the seventh."

In the seventh, Niki Slone drew a leadoff walk. She was the last hitter that Hardin Valley starting pitcher Emalee McCord faced. Chavis entered and recorded two outs before intentionally walking Coyne. Lexee Lamoree then lifted a deep fly ball to center before

Chavis extinguished the threat by inducing a ground-out from Kelsie Tuggle.

McCord, a freshman, and Chavis have been pressed into pitching service since Wynne's (the team's ace hurler) suffered a broken finger on her pitching hand.

McCord sparkled although she got a no-decision. She struck out eight and walked one while scattering eight hits and surrendering two runs before giving way to Chavis.

"Every time Emalee and Michaela pitch, we see improvement," HVA coach Whitney Hickam-Cruze said. "We've struggled a little bit to find that fighting mentality."

"We found it today but we've got to keep improving."

Parham said that the road win against the Lady Admirals was huge for Hardin Valley's program.

"The coaches kept telling us that we'd never beaten Farragut in Farragut," Parham said. "Today, we came together."

"I think we're at our best when we play for each other."

The good, the bad and the ugly of Tennessee basketball

Tennessee basketball, in a roundabout way, took a couple of gut shots when former head coach Donnie Tyndall was placed on a 10-year show-cause by the NCAA



By Steve Williams

and Tyler Summitt stunned us with his announcement of having an inappropriate relationship and stepping down as head women's coach at Louisiana Tech.

Thank goodness for UT basketball alums like Josh Richardson and Tamika Catchings. Recent news by those two has helped offset the bad and the ugly.

The hard-working Richardson has had a great rookie season with the Miami Heat and I'm pulling for him in the ongoing NBA playoffs.

It's still an almost unbelievable story how far and fast Josh has come in his basketball career. Early on at UT, if you remember, he was known more for his defensive play. Nothing

wrong with that, but Richardson became more than just a defender before he left Tennessee and he has continued to improve his offensive game since turning pro.

Tamika, who is heading into her final season with the Indiana Fever in the WNBA, has long been one of my all-time favorite Lady Vols and has become a splendid ambassador for the university. She also has a new book out on her life - "Catch a Star: Shining through Adversity to Become a Champion" - and was in Knoxville recently for a book signing.

One other positive note for Tennessee basketball came with Jordan Bowden signing with the Vols. I believe the former Carter High standout will become an exciting player who UT fans will enjoy watching. He's a 6-5 wing guard who can also play

above the rim and excel in transition.

Bowden had a dream to play Division 1 basketball. And when he didn't receive the type of offer he was looking for coming out of Carter, he made the decision to play an extra year of prep ball at 22 Feet Academy in Greenville, S.C. His game took off even more and he attracted interest from such basketball schools as Marquette, Providence, Cincinnati and Utah.

I was tickled to see Tennessee and Coach Rick Barnes make Jordan's dream come true.

I believe Tennessee basketball is in good hands with Barnes and Holly Warlick as its head coaches.

Despite a below .500 season, the Vols always played hard and I will miss the all-around play of Armani Moore. Losing Kevin Punter's scoring and leadership because of injury hurt the Vols down the stretch, but the team didn't quit.

Barnes seemed to get the most out of his players. He has impressed me as a coach who can develop talent and I think in time he will bring in some of the nation's top prospects as well.

Despite the Lady Vols' campaign going south during the regular season, I have to hand it to Coach

Warlick for staying positive when it would have been easy to throw in the towel. As a result, her team made a good run in the tournament and was impressive in wins over Arizona State and Ohio State to reach the Elite Eight. Diamond DeShields and Mercedes Russell really sparkled as the team came together.

For a moment there, the door appeared to be wide open for the Lady Vols to play UConn in the finals. I would have liked to have seen it, but it was probably just as well that it didn't happen. Geno's team was just too good this year.

Maybe next season.

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NCUA



It was Orange vs White at Tennessee's annual spring scrimmage on Saturday, April 16 at Neyland Stadium.

Spring Football is Done... What's Next for Tennessee?

By Alex Norman

On Saturday, April 16th, Tennessee concluded spring practice with the annual Orange & White Game. The Orange defeated the White 70-63 with a scoring system even the brightest minds at M.I.T. could not master.

Many of the announced crowd of more than 67,000 left Neyland Stadium already thinking about the season opener on September 3rd against Appalachian State.

For the Vols? There's a lot of work to be done before then.

"The next three months are going to be extremely, extremely critical in the development of this football team," said Tennessee head coach Butch

Jones. "We have to get stronger. We have to work on our football endurance. We have to get in football condition. We have to continue to elevate our play at every single position, develop depth, and then we'll have our recruiting class coming in here too. So, the competition should be ramped up even that much more."

Spring practice was a challenge for Jones and the rest of the coaching staff. More than 20 players missed the Orange & White Game due to injury.

"In years past, we would have had to cancel the spring game," said Jones. "A lot of those were pre-existing injuries from the fall, and we held individuals out that maybe could have possibly played, but

we didn't want to risk anything. Yeah, we're not an older, veteran group, but you never assume anything. That's why the leadership... that's why the captains, all are really important. This football team has been pretty focused all spring."

This upcoming season will be one of the most highly anticipated in Tennessee football history. After nearly a decade in the abyss, the Vols appear ready to win the SEC East, and earn a trip to Atlanta in the SEC championship game. That would put the Vols in position to advance to the College Football Playoff.

Yes, times have certainly changed on Rocky Top.

"It's been fun to see it all grow. I came in as

soon as Coach (Butch) Jones got here," said Tennessee senior linebacker Jalen Reeves-Maybin. I was an early-enrollee. Just to see us take that climb from the bottom of the SEC to where we are now and have the expectations placed on us now... it's been a fun process. I want to take us as high as we can go."

"We have our own expectations and how we expect to play every time we step on the field," said Tennessee senior quarterback Josh Dobbs. "We understand we have a lot of talent on this team. The goal for us is to take it day-by-day, focus on the process. Embrace the grind, especially during the summer to get ready for fall camp. We

understand every time we step on the field, we're working to win. That's our mindset entering the fall."

"We're focused on the process more than the end goals. We can't just talk about winning the title because that doesn't happen if... we don't have a great transition into our summer program," said Tennessee sophomore defensive tackle Kahlil McKenzie. "It goes from the summer program, training camp to having a great season. We have to take it game by game and phase by phase. We have to have a great summer, great camp, and all of the rest will take care of itself."

"We don't concern ourselves with hype and expectations," said Jones.

"I mean, that's what you want, that's why you come to Tennessee, but it's focusing on the process of being a football player and a better football team every single day. The minute you get caught up and worried about that, you're going down the wrong path. You always have goals, but really, quite simply it's to be the best that you can possibly be. It's getting the most out of your talents. It's us as coaches getting the most of our players."

The Vols have built depth. They return as many as 18 starters.

For lack of a better cliché... the time is now.

See you in September...

Local boys hoopsters receive all-KIL honors

By Ken Lay

Fulton High School's boys basketball team won a Class AA State Championship recently and the Falcons were rewarded handsomely when the all-KIL honors were announced recently.

Fulton's Jody Wright was named Coach of the Year while point guard Kentel Williams received first-team honors from the county's coaches. Falcons center Joe Kimber was named to the second team while Trey Davis a third-team selection.

Webb School of Knoxville's Chase Ridenour finished as the most decorated player of the 2015-16 season. He was a first-team selection. He was also Player of the Year in Knox County and was named Sophomore of the Year.

Other first-team selections included Grace Christian Academy's Connor Arnold, Catholic's Luke Smith and South Doyle's

Miles Thomas.

Bearden's Quez Fair received second-team honors along with Nick Rogers, the Farragut junior guard, who was District 4-AAA Player of the Year. Christian Academy of Knoxville's Hunter Reynolds and Taylor Everett of Karns were also named to the second team.

Third team honors went to Central's Matt Randolph, Austin-East's Ka Juan Hale, Powell's Conley Hamilton, Carter's Adam Hurd and Farragut's Luke Janney.

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The Doctor is in
 a weekly column by
Dr. Jim Ferguson

Dogma

Sometimes people say things and it finally resonates with you. Becky and I are soul mates, but we just process information differently. Sometimes we don't hear what the other says. Paul once said we all have "gifts differing." This week I finally understood that that dogma is the zeitgeist of our modern era.

I don't fancy myself as thick headed, but sometimes illogic can confuse a logical person. Anecdotal, Mr. Spock, the quintessential logical "person" of Star Trek, was often flummoxed by Dr. McCoy and other humans who sometimes operated by feelings and were driven by emotion rather than logic.

A video now circulating on YouTube from the Family Policy Institute of Washington is jaw dropping. This socially conservative organization went to the University of Washington to interview students in a man-on-the-

street style. The interviewer was a young white male who asked students what they thought when he challenged them with the notion that he identified himself as an Asian woman and considered himself six foot five inches tall, though he is actually five foot nine inches. I was stunned to hear the students respond by saying if he felt like a tall Asian woman, so be it. Sure, the video was politically engineered. However, I was stunned to see that observational reality has become eclipsed by politically correct emotional relativism. (Maybe my "inner self," as a black woman, can now finally come out of the closet.)

You should watch the video yourself and make your own opinion. They're even talking about it on our local talk radio. The video is entitled "College Kids Say the Darndest Things." However, as I consider which bathroom I am to

use in the future, Sex Week at the University of Tennessee each spring and the ridiculous brouhaha over the Diversity Department at UT, I think logic has left the building and our country. The students in this video were either incapable of using their senses of observation or were unwilling to buck the bullies of political correctness and act rationally. At the end of the video the interviewer asks, if university students have such trouble with silly questions, how can they be expected to sift through complex issues and make rational decisions? My disturbing conclusion is that the Age of Reason has been replaced by the "age of feeling."

I was similarly gob-smacked to read that Bill Nye the Science Guy has recommended prosecution and jail time for deniers of man-made global warming. I've read that Mr. Nye graduated with a degree in engineering, but he apparently forgot that science isn't based on dogma. Perhaps he's never heard of Galileo who was forced to recount his scientific discoveries because they conflicted with the politically correct, dogmatic views of the intolerant church.

Nye became a celebrity by answering science questions on his children's show. I've previously questioned the expertise of

celebrities who pontificate on issues outside their profession. Apparently, Nye's celebrity status has overruled any logic or notion of the scientific method. I cringe to think what Nye has taught kids over the years. However, Nye is not alone with his intolerance and dogma. Sixteen state attorneys general are preparing to investigate and prosecute global warming deniers. Apparently, tyranny is not limited to Washington.

Lately, I've been wondering if things are worse or whether I'm just more aware of wars all over the world, corruption in government and gang killings in Chicago which have apparently moved to Knoxville. A fellow church member recently told me he thought everything in our country was just great. I disagreed with him. In my study of history there have always been injustice and tyranny, and I'm sure I'm biased to our present situation. Unfortunately, it seems every generation must learn the same lessons over and over again. I'll admit I was naive and a liberal when I was young, but the lessons of history and life have convinced me otherwise. And understandably we are more aware of the mayhem as a result of the internet and 24 hour cable news. But it seems some just bury their

heads in the sand like an ostrich.

Yet despite our problems, there remains wonder and majesty for those who seek to find it. Lately, I've been meditating on Psalm 8. You should read this 3000 year old reflection. Aristotle championed the notion of causality, logically arguing that something cannot come from nothing. Some scientists dogmatically reject something they can't observe or prove, and now posit our universe budded out from some other reality and is just one of many multiverses. Their logic breaks down when they demand proof of something beyond our reality. Their hubris prevents them from seeing the hand of a Creator and Creative force in the genesis of all we can ever know.

I went into Internal Medicine because I'm a contemplative type rather than a surgeon. Late one night I was stewing over the diagnosis of a sick patient with abdominal pain. After reviewing the situation and tests with a surgical colleague, he quipped, "Ferguson, quit analyzing; nothing heals like cold steel. Your answer is just a few inches away inside that fellow's abdominal wall." This time he was right and my patient was cured by removing his inflamed appendix.

In the absence of an emergency, thoughtful management of patients prevents rash decisions. Internists are specialists in adult medical diseases like diabetes. As I considered my career direction I felt Family Practitioners were spread too thinly, and sub-specialists, like cardiologists, knew more and more about fewer topics. Obviously, if you knew you were having a heart attack, a cardiologist is a better option. But what if you don't know the cause of your exertional left jaw pain?

Humans stand astride the Creation just as internists do the medical spectrum. Confused? Hang with me! The Cosmos extends 13.5 billion light years; that's 1024 meters or 10 followed by 24 zeros. Folks, that's huge! At the other extreme atoms and the quantum world are unimaginably small (~10-24 meters).

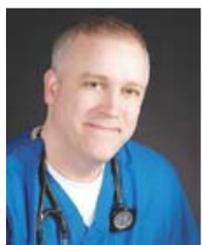
The psalmist said we are "fearfully and wonderfully made." We are imbued with reason to contemplate our origin and purpose, and even the extremes of reality and God. As far as we know, humans may be unique in all of Creation. I'm not so sure, but then I'm not blinded by dogma.

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

Hobo the Wonder Dog

Hobo the Wonder Dog embarks on an adventure of travel and exploration to some of our local pet-friendly destinations. As we begin planning our summer vacations, we decided to explore great hiking, shopping, and dining close to home. We live in an amazing area of the country and this summer Hobo and I want to spend less time traveling and more time experiencing the great outdoors close to home. We hope through our travels we will inspire and encourage you to live more with your dog.

Before we begin, I want to formally introduce you to Hobo the Wonder Dog and how



By Howard Baker, RN BSN

he changed our lives. When Hobo was a puppy he was set out in a neighborhood to fend for himself and as puppies do he was often getting into trouble. Some people were kind to a stray puppy,

others not so much, and some were even cruel. Bee and Terry Graham named the puppy Hobo because he often carried a ball and a blanket they had given him everywhere he went. Those mean and cruel soon taught Hobo to fear and be skittish of people. Tension between neighbors grew, tempers flared and some lashed out at Hobo; for his safety he was picked up by the Sevier County Humane

Society. When Hobo arrived at the shelter he was so fearful he was deemed unadoptable and would be euthanized. Bee Graham mentioned Hobo to me in a passing conversation and I adopted him sight unseen. Hobo was taken to a veterinarian, then to Certified Dog Trainer Kayla Daniels where he lived for eight weeks. You can see his transformation on YouTube by searching Hobo's first five months.

Today Hobo the Wonder Dog travels with me wherever he is allowed to go; he still is skittish of some people and situations, but we continue to take things slowly and challenge him. His world has opened into new experiences with purpose. When we rescued Hobo we were not looking for a dog, the timing was wrong, and we had a million-

and-one reasons not to save him. Because of Hobo, my life has changed focus. I cannot imagine life without Hobo and he has caused me to see animal rescue in a different way. If you don't have a four-legged hiking partner please consider adopting a dog from your local shelter.

Hobo and I are setting out on a summer of travel and exploration of the National Parks in our area. I am committed to bring you accurate information on dog friendly trails, shops, and dining. Each article will be packed with tips on health and safety to ensure you are prepared for the area of travel. Most important, we will encourage you to live healthier and longer with your dog. Hobo and I look forward to seeing you on the trails of life.

Community asked to help prevent mosquito-borne illness

Knox County Mayor Tim Burchett, the Knox County Health Department (KCHD) and the East Tennessee Regional Health Office (ETRO) of the Tennessee Department of Health are urging residents and business owners to do their part to prevent mosquito-borne illness.

"Our efforts in Knox County will complement and support ongoing work in every county of the state to reduce or eliminate disease-carrying mosquitoes," said Knox County Mayor Tim Burchett. "We owe it to our neighbors, particularly the very young, senior

citizens and those with weakened immune systems, to do our part around our homes and businesses, and to be more deliberate in our personal 'fight the bite' efforts."

Tennessee is home to many types of mosquitoes, including Aedes aegypti and Aedes albopictus, which are capable of transmitting several serious diseases. At this time, mosquitoes in Tennessee are not transmitting Zika virus disease, which has been associated with birth defects. Mosquitoes here, however, are

Cont. on page 3

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LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

Help prevent mosquito-borne illness

Cont. from page 1
known carriers of other diseases seen each year in Tennessee, including West Nile virus and La Crosse encephalitis. They can also carry dengue fever, yellow fever and Chikungunya virus although not currently in Tennessee.

“Mosquito season has started in Tennessee, presenting potential health problems for residents who could be bitten by disease-carrying mosquitoes,” said KCHD Director Dr. Martha Buchanan. “To prevent mosquito breeding spots, we urge residents and business owners to discard or tip over items that can unintentionally hold water. A mosquito can lay her eggs in something as small as a plastic coke bottle top, so tossing these types of items into the trash could help prevent you or someone else from suffering a mosquito bite.”

“Most mosquitoes rarely travel much farther than the length of two football fields, a little more than 200 yards from where they are born. Eliminating breeding grounds can reduce our chances of suffering a mosquito bite, which is not just an itchy irritation, but may cause the spread of potentially serious mosquito-borne diseases,” said ETRO Regional Director Janet Ridley.

“While there’s reason for concern and a need to prevent mosquito breeding places, there’s good news for all of us: Mosquito bites are entirely preventable,” said Tennessee Department of Health Commissioner John Dreyzehner, MD, MPH. “Prevention starts with wearing long, loose and light clothing; treating exposed skin with safe and effective repellents; and using clothing treated with permethrin in risk areas. Now, more than ever, we all need to ‘fight the bite.’”

Officials recommends the following:

- Apply repellants to skin often; these can include lotions, liquids or sprays. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends the use of repellants which contain DEET, Picaridin, oil of lemon eucalyptus or para-menthane 3, 8-diol and IR3535. The duration of protection varies by repellant; read labels on products to determine when reapplications are necessary for optimal protection. To learn more about insect repellants, visit <http://cfpub.epa.gov/oppref/insect/>.
 - Wear long, loose and light-colored shirts and pants and wear socks. Tucking shirts in pants and tucking pants into socks will help form a barrier. Wear closed shoes or boots instead of sandals.
 - Treat clothing with permethrin or purchase pre-treated permethrin clothing.
 - Avoid perfumes, colognes and products with fragrances that might attract mosquitoes.
- To prevent mosquitoes from breeding in larger water-holding devices, including bird baths or garden pools, use larvicides such as mosquito torpedoes or mosquito dunks. If used properly, larvicides will not harm birds or animals.

will be set for hearing Ex-Parte as to you before Chancellor Clarence E. Pridemore, Jr. at the Knox County Chancery Court, Division II, 400 Main Street, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902. This Notice will be published in The Knoxville Focus newspaper for four (4) consecutive weeks.
This the 13th day of April, 2016.

S/ HOWARD G. HOGAN
Clerk and Master

NON-RESIDENT NOTICE

TO: DOUGLAS JOHNSON AS TRUSTEE
IN RE: WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A. AS TRUSTEE ON BEHALF OF THE HOLDERS OF THE HARBORVIEW MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST MORTGAGE LOAN VS DOUGLAS JOHNSON AS TRUSTEE
NO. 187087-3
IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE

In this Cause, it appearing from the Complaint filed, which is sworn to, that the Defendant, DOUGLAS JOHNSON TRUSTEE, a non-resident of the State of Tennessee, or whose whereabouts cannot be ascertained upon diligent search and inquiry, so that the ordinary process of law cannot be served upon DOUGLAS JOHNSON TRUSTEE, it is ordered that said Defendant, DOUGLAS JOHNSON TRUSTEE, file an Answer with the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court at Knoxville, Tennessee and with Joshua R. Hopkins, an Attorney whose address is 3740 Davinci Court, Suite 150, Peachtree Corners, Georgia 30092, within thirty (30) days of the last date of publication or a judgment by default will be taken against you and the cause will be set for hearing Ex-Parte as to you before Chancellor Mike Moyers at the Knox County Chancery Court, Division III, 400 Main Street, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902. This notice will be published in The Knoxville Focus newspaper for four (4) consecutive weeks.

This 30th day of March, 2016

S/Howard G. Hogan
Clerk and Master

To be published 4/04/2016, 4/11/2016, 4/18/2016 and 4/25/2016

NON-RESIDENT NOTICE

TO: LAWRENCE M. DAY TRUSTEE
IN RE: WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A. AS TRUSTEE ON BEHALF OF THE HOLDERS OF THE HARBORVIEW MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST MORTGAGE LOAN VS LAWRENCE M. DAY TRUSTEE
NO. 187087-3
IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE

In this Cause, it appearing from the Complaint filed, which is sworn to, that the Defendant, LAWRENCE M. DAY TRUSTEE, a non-resident of the State of Tennessee, or whose whereabouts cannot be ascertained upon diligent search and inquiry, so that the ordinary process of law cannot be served upon LAWRENCE M. DAY TRUSTEE, it is ordered that said Defendant, LAWRENCE M. DAY TRUSTEE, file an Answer with the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court at Knoxville, Tennessee and with Joshua R. Hopkins, an Attorney whose address is 3740 Davinci Court, Suite 150, Peachtree Corners, Georgia 30092, within thirty (30) days of the last date of publication or a judgment by default will be taken against you and the cause will be set for hearing Ex-Parte as to you before Chancellor Mike Moyers at the Knox County Chancery Court, Division III, 400 Main Street, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902. This notice will be published in The Knoxville Focus newspaper for four (4) consecutive weeks.

This 30th day of March, 2016

S/Howard G. Hogan
Clerk and Master

To be published 4/04/2016, 4/11/2016, 4/18/2016 and 4/25/2016

MISC. NOTICES

LEGAL SECTION 94

Knox County will receive bids for the following items & services:
Bid 2349, Demolition and Asbestos Abatement Services, due 5/17/16;
Bid 2378, Milk and Milk Products for Knox County Schools, due 5/17/16;
Bid 2380, Bread for Knox County Schools, due 5/18/16;
RFP 2379, Occupational/Physical Therapy Services, due 5/18/16;
RFP 2381, Speech-Language Therapy Services, due 5/18/16

For additional information call 865-215-5777, stop by the Purchasing Division, 1000 North Central St., Suite 100, Knoxville, TN 37917, or visit our website: www.knoxcounty.org/purchasing. To bid on Knox County surplus items, go to www.govdeals.com.

PUBLIC NOTICE:

Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization
Technical Committee Meeting, May 10, 2016

The Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) Technical Committee will meet on **Tuesday, May 10th at 9 a.m.** in the Small Assembly Room of the City/City Building, 400 Main Street, Knoxville, TN. Visit www.knoxtrans.org/meeting for preliminary and final Agendas and contact the TPO if you would like a copy of the final Agenda. If you need assistance or accommodation for a disability please notify the TPO three business days in advance of the meeting and we will be glad to work with you in obliging any reasonable request.
865-215-2694 or dori.caron@knoxtrans.org.

NON-RESIDENT NOTICE

To: JAYME CLEMONS
In Re: 2108 JEFFERSON AVENUE, KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE
Docket No. 191358-2

IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE
JAYME CLEMONS, a Petition for Partition and Sale of Real Property bearing Docket No. 191358-2 has been filed against you in Knox County Chancery Court and involving the interest you may have in certain real property at 2108 Jefferson Avenue in Knox County, Tennessee as an heir at law of James R. Hurt, Sr. It appearing from the Petition, the Oath attached to such Petitioner, and the Affidavit of the Petitioner, in which it is sworn that Jayme Clemons may no longer be a resident of the State of Tennessee, or whose whereabouts cannot be ascertained upon diligent search and inquiry, but that his last known whereabouts were Knox County, Tennessee upon information and belief, so that ordinary process of law cannot be served upon him, it is ORDERED that Jayme Clemons file a response under oath with the Knox County Chancery Court and with H. Stephen Gillman, Petitioner's attorney, whose address is P.O. Box 870, Knoxville, Tennessee 37901 (Telephone number: 865-522-4191), within thirty (30) days of the last date of publication or a judgment by default will be taken against you and the cause set for hearing ex parte before a Chancellor of the Knox County Chancery Court, 400 Main Street, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902. This Notice will be published in the Knoxville Focus for four (4) consecutive weeks.
Enter this 1st day of April, 2016.

IS/ CHANCELLOR APPROVED FOR ENTRY:
H. STEPHEN GILLMAN
Pryor, Priest, Harber, Floyd & Coffey
Two Centre Square, Suite 600
625 Gay Street, PO Box 870
Knoxville, Tennessee 37901
To be published: 4/11/2016, 4/18/2016, 4/25/2016 and 5/2/2016

NON-RESIDENT NOTICE

To: SHAWN LOWERY
In Re: 2108 JEFFERSON AVENUE, KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE
Docket No. 191358-2

IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE
SHAWN LOWERY, a Petition for Partition and Sale of Real Property bearing Docket No. 191358-2 has been filed against you in Knox County Chancery Court and involving the interest you may have in certain real property at 2108 Jefferson Avenue in Knox County, Tennessee as an heir at law of James R. Hurt, Sr. It appearing from the Petition, the Oath attached to such Petitioner, and the Affidavit of the Petitioner, in which it is sworn that Shawn Lowery may no longer be a resident of the State of Tennessee, or whose whereabouts cannot be ascertained upon diligent search and inquiry, but that his last known whereabouts were Knox County, Tennessee upon information and belief, so that ordinary process of law cannot be served upon him, it is ORDERED that Shawn Lowery file a response under oath with the Knox County Chancery Court and with H. Stephen Gillman, Petitioner's attorney, whose address is P.O. Box 870, Knoxville, Tennessee 37901 (Telephone number: 865-522-4191), within thirty (30) days of the last date of publication or a judgment by default will be taken against you and the cause set for hearing ex parte before a Chancellor of the Knox County Chancery Court, 400 Main Street, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902. This Notice will be published in the Knoxville Focus for four (4) consecutive weeks.
Enter this 1st day of April, 2016.

IS/ CHANCELLOR APPROVED FOR ENTRY:
H. STEPHEN GILLMAN
Pryor, Priest, Harber, Floyd & Coffey
Two Centre Square, Suite 600
625 Gay Street, PO Box 870
Knoxville, Tennessee 37901
To be published: 4/11/2016, 4/18/2016, 4/25/2016 and 5/2/2016

NON-RESIDENT NOTICE

To: HEIRS AT LAW TO EDWARD HURT
In Re: 2108 JEFFERSON AVENUE, KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE
Docket No. 191358-2

IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE
HEIRS AT LAW TO EDWARD HURT, a Petition for Partition and Sale of Real Property bearing Docket No. 191358-2 has been filed against you in Knox County Chancery Court and involving the interest you may have in certain real property at 2108 Jefferson Avenue in Knox County, Tennessee as an heir at law of James R. Hurt, Sr. It appearing from the Petition, the Oath attached to such Petitioner, and the Affidavit of the Petitioner, in which it is sworn that their identity and whereabouts of such heirs at law of Edward Hurt cannot be ascertained upon diligent search and inquiry, but that the whereabouts of Edward Hurt at the time of his death were in Knox County, Tennessee upon information and belief, so that ordinary process of law cannot be served upon him, it is ORDERED that any heirs at law of Edward Hurt file a response under oath with the Knox County Chancery Court and with H. Stephen Gillman, Petitioner's attorney, whose address is P.O. Box 870, Knoxville, Tennessee 37901 (Telephone number: 865-522-4191), within thirty (30) days of the last date of publication or a judgment by default will be taken against you and the cause set for hearing ex parte before a Chancellor of the Knox County Chancery Court, 400 Main Street, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902. This Notice will be published in the Knoxville Focus for four (4) consecutive weeks.
Enter this 1st day of April, 2016.

IS/ CHANCELLOR APPROVED FOR ENTRY:
H. STEPHEN GILLMAN
Pryor, Priest, Harber, Floyd & Coffey
Two Centre Square, Suite 600
625 Gay Street, PO Box 870
Knoxville, Tennessee 37901

NON-RESIDENT NOTICE

To: DAVID NATHANIEL GOLDSTON
IN RE: SARAH JANE LANGMAN vs. DAVID NATHANIEL GOLDSTON
NO. 191397-2

IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE
In this Cause, it appearing from the Complaint filed, which is sworn to, that the Defendant DAVID NATHANIEL GOLDSTON, a non-resident of the State of Tennessee, or whose whereabouts cannot be ascertained upon diligent search and inquiry, so that the ordinary process of law cannot be served upon DAVID NATHANIEL GOLDSTON, it is Ordered that said Defendant DAVID NATHANIEL GOLDSTON file an Answer with the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court at Knoxville, Tennessee and with Jerry R. Givens, an Attorney whose address is 4706 Papermill Drive, Knoxville, TN 37909 within thirty (30) days of the last date of publication or a judgment by default will be taken against you and the cause

if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1) (A); or

(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death
This the 8th day of April, 2016
Estate of JAMES WILLIAM ROSE
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
KALEB WILLIAM ROSE, Administrator
8120 Emory Rd
Corryton, TN 37721
RUFUS W. BEAMER, JR.
Attorney at Law
707 Market St
Knoxville, TN 37902
PUBLISH: 4/25/2016 and 5/02/2016

ORDER OF PUBLICATION

IN THE JUVENILE COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE

CURTIS AND MARANDA BOWNESS, Petitioner
v.
KATRINA DAWN GHESQUIRE, Respondent

IN THE MATTER OF: HOPE MARIE BUCKNER DOB: 1/8/14 A CHILD UNDER EIGHTEEN (18) YEARS OF AGE

Docket No. _____
It appearing to the Court from the sworn allegations of the Petition to Terminate Parental Rights and the Affidavit of Diligent Search in this cause that the whereabouts of the Respondent are unknown and cannot be ascertained by diligent search so that ordinary process of law cannot be served upon her, it is, therefore, ORDERED that Respondent be served by publication of the following notice for four (4) consecutive weeks in The Knoxville Focus, a newspaper of general circulation published in Knox County, Tennessee.
It is further ORDERED that if the Respondent does not enter an appearance or otherwise answer the petition, further personal service or service by further publication shall be dispensed with and service of any future notices, motions, orders or other legal documents in this matter may be made upon the Respondent by filing the same with the Clerk of the Juvenile Court of Knox County, Tennessee.

NOTICE
Curtis and Maranda Bowness have filed a petition against you seeking to terminate forever your parental rights to Hope Marie Buckner. It appears that ordinary process of law cannot be served upon you because your whereabouts are unknown. You are hereby ORDERED to file an Answer to the Petition for Termination of Parental Rights with the Clerk of the Juvenile Court of Knox County, Tennessee, 3323 Division Street, Knoxville, Tennessee 37919, and to serve a copy of that Answer upon Heidi Wegrin, Attorney for Curtis and Maranda Bowness, 5731 Lyons View Pike, Suite 211, Knoxville, Tennessee 37919, within thirty (30) days of the last date of publication of this notice, which will be May 16, 2016, and/or appear for trial on July 12, 2016, at 9:00 AM, at Knox County Juvenile Court. If you fail to do so, a judgment will be taken against you pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. 36-1-117(n), Rule 55 of the Tenn. R. of Civ. P., and Rules 1 and 39 of the Tenn. R. of Juv. P. for the relief demanded in the petition. You may view and obtain a copy of the petition and any other subsequently filed legal documents in the Juvenile Court Clerk's Office at 3323 Division Street, Knoxville, Tennessee 37919.
ENTER this 21st day of April, 2016.
HONORABLE TIMOTHY IRWIN, JUDGE
Honorable Timothy Irwin, Judge
PREPARED BY:
Heidi Wegrin, BPR #017171
5731 Lyons View Pike Suite 211
Knoxville, TN 37919

NON-RESIDENT NOTICE

TO: LISA MENNO
IN RE: U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION v. LISA MENNO
NO. 190689-2

IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE
In this Cause, it appearing from the Complaint filed, which is sworn to, that the Defendant, LISA MENNO, a non-resident of the State of Tennessee, or whose whereabouts cannot be ascertained upon diligent search and inquiry, so that the ordinary process of law cannot be served upon LISA MENNO, it is Ordered that said Defendant, LISA MENNO, file an Answer with the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court in Knoxville, Tennessee and with Jessica D. Binkley, an attorney whose address is 1800 Hayes Street, Nashville, TN 37203 within thirty (30) days of the last date of publication or a judgment by default will be taken against you and the cause will be set for hearing Ex-Parte as to you before Chancellor Clarence E. Pridemore, Jr. at the Knox County Chancery Court, Division II, 400 Main Street, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902. This notice will be published in The Knoxville Focus newspaper for four (4) consecutive weeks.
This 15th day of April, 2016.
S/ HOWARD G. HOGAN
Clerk and Master
To be published: 4/25/2016, 5/2/2016, 5/9/2016 and 5/16/2016

NON-RESIDENT NOTICE

To: JOHN DAVID JAMISON
IN RE: ANDREA TENNILLE JAMISON
v. JOHN DAVID JAMISON
NO. 191340-2

IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE
In this Cause, it appearing from the Complaint filed, which is sworn to, that the Defendant JOHN DAVID JAMISON, a non-resident of the State of Tennessee, or whose whereabouts cannot be ascertained upon diligent search and inquiry, so that the ordinary process of law cannot be served upon JOHN DAVID JAMISON, it is Ordered that said Defendant JOHN DAVID JAMISON file an Answer with the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court at Knoxville, Tennessee and with Danny C. Garland, II, an Attorney whose address is 507 S. Gay Street, Suite 500, Knoxville, TN 37902 within thirty (30) days of the last date of publication or a judgment by default will be taken against you and the cause will be set for hearing Ex-Parte as to you before Chancellor Clarence E. Pridemore, Jr. at the Knox County Chancery Court, Division II, 400 Main Street, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902. This Notice will be published in The Knoxville Focus newspaper for four (4) consecutive weeks.
This 31st day of March, 2016.
S/ HOWARD G. HOGAN
Clerk and Master
To be published 4/11/2016, 4/18/2016, 4/25/2016 and 5/2/2016

(2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred.
(1) (A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of this first publication; or (B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1) (A); or

(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death
This the 7th day of April, 2016
Estate of BILLIE KITE EVANS
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
CHERYL E. SIGLOW, Executrix
3425 Ironwood Road
Knoxville, TN 37921
PUBLISH: 4/25/2016 & 5/2/2016

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Estate of BRENDA KAYE COFFEY
Docket Number 77537-1
Notice is hereby given that on the 13th day of April, 2016, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of BRENDA KAYE COFFEY, who died Dec 15, 2015, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred.

(1) (A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of this first publication; or (B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1) (A); or

(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death
This the 13th day of April, 2016
Estate of BRENDA KAYE COFFEY
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
WILLIS COFFEY, Administrator
2955 Howell Rd
Mascott, TN 37806
PUBLISH: 4/25/2016 and 5/02/2016

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Estate of GEORGIA L. WRIGHT
Docket Number 77530-3
Notice is hereby given that on the 12th day of April, 2016, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of GEORGIA L. WRIGHT, who died Feb 29, 2016, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred.

(1) (A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of this first publication; or (B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1) (A); or

(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death
This the 12th day of April, 2016
Estate of GEORGIA L. WRIGHT
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
DAVE C. WRIGHT, Executor
6930 Boruff Rd
Corryton, TN 37721
PUBLISH: 4/25/2016 and 5/02/2016

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Estate of GERALDINE WRIGHT McKELVEY
Docket Number 77561-1
Notice is hereby given that on the 19th day of April, 2016, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of GERALDINE WRIGHT McKELVEY, who died Mar 7, 2016, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred.

(1) (A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of this first publication; or (B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1) (A); or

(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death
This the 19th day of April, 2016
Estate of GERALDINE WRIGHT McKELVEY
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
CAROLYN L. EVERETTE, Executrix
7312 Roberts Rd
Corryton, TN 37721
PUBLISH: 4/25/2016 and 5/02/2016

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Estate of JAMES WILLIAM ROSE
Docket Number 77321-1
Notice is hereby given that on the 8th day of April, 2016, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of JAMES WILLIAM ROSE, who died Aug 22, 2016, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred.

(1) (A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of this first publication; or (B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors

COURT NOTICES

NON-RESIDENT NOTICE

TO: ALVIN JEROME WATSON
IN RE: JULIE ANNETTE SCOTT
v. ALVIN JEROME WATSON
NO. 191214-2
IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE

In this Cause, it appearing from the Complaint filed, which is sworn to, that the Defendant, ALVIN JEROME WATSON, a non-resident of the State of Tennessee, or whose whereabouts cannot be ascertained upon diligent search and inquiry, so that the ordinary process of law cannot be served upon ALVIN JEROME WATSON, it is Ordered that said Defendant, ALVIN JEROME WATSON, file an Answer with the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court in Knoxville, Tennessee and with W. Brian Starnes, an Attorney whose address is 9041 Executive Park Drive #106, Knoxville, TN 37923 within thirty (30) days of the last date of publication or a judgment by default will be taken against you and the cause will be set for hearing Ex-Parte as to you before Chancellor Clarence E. Pridemore, Jr. at the Knox County Chancery Court, Division II, 400 Main Street, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902. This notice will be published in The Knoxville Focus newspaper for four (4) consecutive weeks.
This 15th day of April, 2016.

S/ HOWARD G. HOGAN
Clerk and Master

To be published: 4/25/2016, 5/2/2016, 5/9/2016 and 5/16/2016

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Estate of ANGELINA MARIE WILLIAMSEN
Docket Number 77465-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 14th day of April, 2016, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of ANGELINA MARIE WILLIAMSEN, who died Feb 23, 2016, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred.

(1) (A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of this first publication; or (B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1) (A); or

(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death
This the 14th day of April, 2016
Estate of ANGELINA MARIE WILLIAMSEN
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
DONNA ZARRELLI, Co-Executor
1289 - 81st St
Brooklyn, NY 11228

MICHAEL WILLIAMSEN, Co-Executor
1631 Westop Trail
Knoxville, TN 37923
PHILIP J. BRUCE
Attorney at Law
212 S Peters Rd, Ste 101
Knoxville, TN 37923

PUBLISH: 4/25/2016 and 5/02/2016

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Estate of ANN R. DEWINE
Docket Number 77545-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 14th day of April, 2016, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of ANN R. DEWINE, who died Feb 21, 2016, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred.

(1) (A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of this first publication; or (B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1) (A); or

(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death
This the 14th day of April, 2016
Estate of ANN R. DEWINE
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
DEBRA A. DEWINE, Executrix
4906 Monte Vista Rd
Knoxville, TN 37914

PUBLISH: 4/25/2016 & 5/2/2016

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Estate of BILLIE KITE EVANS
Docket Number 77514-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 7th day of April, 2016, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of BILLIE KITE EVANS, who died Feb 24, 2016, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred.

(1) (A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of this first publication; or (B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors

Smoky Mountain Vittles, Fiddles and Fun Seafood in the Smokies

Harpoon Harry's is one of the most refined and prettiest restaurants Pigeon Forge has to offer. This spacious Steak, Seafood and Sushi Bar restaurant, which seats 650 people,



By Rose Davidson

used to be a very confusing looking Asian fusion restaurant. There has been a lot of money and care put into remodeling and creating a theme. It shows, it works, and it's beautiful. It's worth it to simply stop by for a beverage and enjoy the wood carvings. Whole logs were installed, and then a local artist used a chain saw to carve them in-house.

The owners are hands-on and personable. Employees are friendly and quick to remember your name and favorite beverage. (Notable employees: Manager Mike, Jen, Carolina, Shelby, Phil) There are two bars-one very large bar inside the main section of the restaurant that sports colored lighting under each bottle, slowly changing colors constantly. It's a bit mesmerizing! The other smaller bar is in a section of the restaurant where on a nice day, the roll-up garage doors are opened for fresh air. Open or not, this is where one can enjoy a view of Pigeon Forge and the lovely Pigeon River.

Two friends joined me on my first evening there. A glass of Malbec was a nice start to what turned out to be a more than satisfying experience.

Cheryl suggested the edamame appetizer. I'm not usually a fan of edamame, but this was different than any other edamame I've had before. It was crisp and perfectly seasoned. I couldn't resist a cup of

clam chowder which did not skimp on clams, nor potatoes. It was rich in flavor due to their using more broth than most restaurants, who typically have a heavy hand with the milk or cream. Gigi ordered the Parm Crusted Grouper. Wow! It was a generous serving of succulence, and I would strongly suggest everyone try it at some point.

Cheryl loves sushi and ordered White Tuna sushi and a Seaside Salad, which is dinner-sized and topped with a hearty portion of seafood. She does not make a trip to Harpoon Harry's without ordering at least one order of the White Tuna! The presentation is so stunning. The last time we were there, they made her sushi in the shape of roses, rather than leaving it flat.

I opted for the Fried Jumbo Shrimp. I certainly wasn't disappointed. A dozen shrimp were plated, which means I ate half of them the next night. I reheated them in a hot oven and they were just as crispy as the previous night. They are served with french fries, however they accommodated me and allowed me to substitute a side of Cavatappi pasta with butter instead. Simple but tasty.

Our subsequent visits to Harpoon Harry's have been just as satisfying: Lobster Roll, Grilled Shrimp, Peel and Eat Shrimp, Blackened Shrimp. In addition to her

favorite White Tuna Sushi, Cheryl tried the pasta with shrimp and creamy garlic Parmesan sauce called Shrimp Cavatappi. The Applewood Smoked Pork Chop arrived with perfect grill lines and was very moist. The Red Mashed Potatoes were acceptable but a bit chewy. I'd suggest using good ol' russet potatoes if you're going to mash. The accompanying vegetable medley of tri-color carrots and red peppers were not very good and I believe



The smaller bar at Pigeon Forge's Harpoon Harry's offers great views of the Smokies and Pigeon Forge, especially when the garage doors are opened on nice days.

were frozen. My recommendation is to ask them for the fresh broccoli, fresh asparagus, or get a side salad instead if you're craving something from the veggie kingdom. There are some crab and linguica buckets that sound like a must-try, as well as the King Crab legs. I have a feeling I won't be disappointed!

For those who are vegetarian, there are various salads and pastas that can be altered for you and a BBQ Tofu.

Be sure to top off the evening with dessert. Two favorites are the Deep Fried Cheesecake and Key Lime Pie.

If you're seeking entertainment as well, be there on a Friday. We were entertained by a young woman and man singing along with their acoustic guitars. The

decibel level was good. We could listen to the music but still talk. As a musician myself, I find it to be a very pleasant ambiance. The restaurant, located at 112 Community Center Drive, is easy to get to and is right down the street from the fabulous Grand Majestic Dinner Theatre, making it the perfect place for pre-show drinks or after-show coffee and dessert! Check out their site: <http://harpoonharryscrabhouse.com/>

Editor's Note: Please welcome Rose Davidson to The Focus for bimonthly columns on area eats and treats! Check out her Facebook page at www.facebook.com/smokymountainvittlesfiddlesandfun/.



Cheryl's favorite: White Tuna Sushi.

CLASSIFIEDS

NEIGHBORHOOD SALES

FOUNTAIN CITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH RUMMAGE SALE ~ SATURDAY (4/30) 8:30AM TILL 2PM. RAIN OR SHINE. \$3.00 BROWN BAG-A-BARGAIN BEGINS AT NOON

FLEA MARKET
Bake Sale, Breakfast & Lunch
UMW Annual Fundraiser
SAT, APRIL 30th
8 am - 2 pm
CENTRAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
201 E THIRD AVE
KNOXVILLE, TN 37917

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