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Four city candidates file treasurer reports

By Mike Steely
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The election of five new members to the Knoxville City Council is 10 months away but already the race to replace the term-limited council members is underway.

Chris Davis, Assistant Administrator of Elections, told The Focus Tuesday that three potential candidates have filed appointments of treasurer reports.

Davis said that a treasurer must be named when candidates file a nominating petition and they can pick up the form February 17th and must file it by May 18th at noon.

The sitting council members who cannot seek reelection include Nick Pavlis, Duane Grieve, Brenda Palmer, Nick Della Volpe and Daniel Brown.

David Gillette has filed a treasurer report to seek the

seat 6th District to replace Daniel Brown. He named Barry Evans, Jr. as his treasurer.

Lauren Rider seeks the post now held by Nick Della Volpe in the 4th District. She has named Allison Rosenberg as treasurer. Former Tennessee State Representative Harry Tindell has also announced his candidacy for Della Volpe's 4th District seat on City Council and has named

Fred (Robbie) Arrington as treasurer.

David Williams has filed a treasurer report for the 2nd District seat now held by Duane Grieve and has named Harry Boss as his treasurer.

The other two seats are for Brenda Palmer's 3rd District seat and Nick Pavlis' 1st District position.

The primary election for city council is August 28th.

The two top candidates in each district race move on to the November 7th general election. City elections are non-partisan contests but both political parties often support those candidates within their party although the party affiliation does not appear on the ballot.

Davis said that in the primary election only the voters in a district may vote for candidates in that

district but in the general election all the city voters may vote an all five district races and the top candidates in each district getting the largest number of votes wins the seat.

Gillette and Tindell are Democrats, Williams is a Republican. Rider did not list a party affiliation on her treasurer report.

Na Na Na Na Lay Lay Goodbye



PHOTO BY LEXIE GILLIAND

Fulton High's Lay Lay Manning races to the basket as Haylee Luttrell of Webb School gives chase in the Lady Falcons' 49-24 victory last week at Jody Wright Arena. The Fulton junior scored 12 points to help Fulton defeat the perennial Division II-A state power. Story on Page C1.

City Council

Self-served beer coming to Knoxville, maybe

By Mike Steely
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Knoxville's beer law states that beer must be served by an owner or employee of a restaurant or tavern. A new business that's coming to Old City wants a license for something a bit different.

Pour Tap Room, with locations in other cities including Asheville, North Carolina, offers its customers an opportunity to taste about 50 different craft beers. The idea is that the beer is poured by the customer who is charged by the ounce.

The trendy concept seems to be catching on but the Knoxville Beer Board and City Council are wrestling with how to handle the customers pouring their own beer.

Tuesday's city council meeting saw a back and forth discussion between those who want to "clarify" the current ordinance and those who want the ordinance amended to permit the serving of beer for the customer by the customer.

Beer Board Chair and Council member Brenda Palmer requested an ordinance to amend the city code to reinforce the requirement that beer business employees serve the beer. The ordinance already states that but Palmer and City Law Director Charles Swanson pushed for amending the code and dealing with the self-service later.

Councilman George Wallace objected, saying he

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Hardin Valley parents express interest in new school

By Pete Gawda

"We are coming here to listen to you," Interim Superintendent Buzz Thomas told the concerned citizens gathered Tuesday night at Hardin Valley Elementary School. The gathering was the fourth of six meetings scheduled to gather public comment to help formulate zones for new middle schools at Gibbs and Hardin Valley.

This meeting was focused on the new Hardin Valley Middle School which is scheduled to open in the fall of 2018. Because of interest in the topic, extra chairs had to be brought out and some people stood in the back of the room.

Thomas said that Knoxville

cannot be the best school district in the south if growth can't be controlled. While the new Gibbs schools is being built to be more conveniently located in its district, Hardin Valley is being built to accommodate anticipated new growth.

The new Hardin Valley Middle School is designed to accommodate 1200 students. It will have 170,000 square feet, 64 regular classrooms and 6 or 7 classrooms to accommodate special needs students.

Russ Oaks, chief operating officer for the school district, said that in planning for the new school population forecasts from the Metropolitan Planning Commission were used.

Rezoning is a complicated

process with several factors to be considered according to Oaks. He said that it was the goal of the school system to have schools at 80% to 90% capacity. In discussing geographical boundaries, he said that interstate highways might as well be rivers because they can only be crossed at certain places. Traffic patterns and driving safety help determine zone lines.

One of the goals in rezoning is, as much as possible, to keep a group of students together as they progress from elementary school to middle school and on to high school. However, Oaks said that presents a challenge with 50 plus elementary schools, 14, soon to be 16, middle schools and 13 high schools.

The middle schools that could possibly be affected by the new Hardin Valley Middle School include Farragut, West Valley, Bearden, Karns and Cedar Bluff. Oaks said that the Farragut and Karns zones might change significantly.

One question that school officials hope these public meetings will help settle is whether to open up the new schools a grade at a time or open all grades at once. By a show of hands the group Tuesday night was divided with a significant number favoring each alternative.

Oaks explained that Knox County schools have a liberal policy concerning grandfathering, which means that, in spite of changing zone boundaries, a

student can finish their studies at their present school. In response to a question Oaks replied that transportation is not provided to grandfathered students. Oaks explained that grandfathering is optional and does not have to be used if parents would rather their students change schools.

In response to another question about cuts in funding when zoning lines are moved, Oaks said that teaching positions follow the students.

Thomas said the school system hoped to appoint a principal for the new school this spring in order to have a leader to begin to build a sense of community around the new school.

A round of applause erupted

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County Commission

Contract over boat rentals at The Cove questioned

By Mike Steely
steelym@knoxfocus.com

The Knox County Commission will consider more than 44 items when they meet today—everything from honoring citizens to a rezoning request for a 60-acre housing development on Millstone Lane. But much of the meeting may center on a recommendation by Parks and Recreation to give a 10-year lease to River Sports Outfitters for outfitter services at The Cove at Concord Park.

During the work session Tuesday several commissioners had questions for Senior Parks Director Doug Bataille, one asking why the new contract would be for ten years as the current one by that company is only for five years.

When asked by Commissioner John Schoonmaker how much revenue the county receives from the agreement, which includes rental of kayaks, canoes and paddle boards, Bataille said the revenue is about 5% of the estimated \$100,000 generated there. He also said that three proposals were submitted for the new contract and two were seriously considered.

Commissioner Carson Dailey asked for the current contract so it could be compared with the proposed new one and Commissioner Charles Busler asked if the county was liable for injuries there. Bataille said that while the company would be liable, so would the county.

Bataille was asked by Commissioner Hugh Nystrom why ten years instead of five

and Bataille said that Parks and Recreation is asking for more capital improvements at The Cove rental site. He said that River Sports was chosen because it is "more financially stable" than the second bidder, Uncle Lem's Outfitters.

Kevin Hill of Uncle Lem's Outfitters told The Focus that he will appear at today's commission meeting and address the issue.

Schoonmaker then moved to pass the issue along to the regular meeting without a recommendation.

In other action the work session voted to postpone a discussion about improvements to the Roseberry Creek Watershed to deal with E.Coli there. Apparently failures in household septic tanks and pollution by cattle have prompted partial funding from the state, at \$144,000 with a county match of \$96,005.

Also postponed, for 60 days was a contract for green waste recycling.

The commission voted to approve a construction contract with Jones Brothers, Inc., for \$5.6 million for the Karns Connector Phase 2 Roadway Improvement Project.

After a couple months of debate the commission voted to renew a contract with John K. Chesney for the Carter Convenience Center at \$2,000 a month. Some commissioners had earlier suggested that the county either buy the property or find another location. The agreement gives the county a six-month out if another location is found.

The Basics Involved in the Foreclosure Process

A foreclosure is what occurs when a homeowner stops making their monthly mortgage payments on their residence. When a bank provides a loan to someone to purchase a home, they require that the homeowner sign documentation allowing the bank to take the house if the mortgage payments are not made.

Typically, once a homeowner misses three payments and becomes 90 days late on their mortgage payments, they will receive a letter from the



By Jedidiah McKeehan
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bank stating that if they do not get their payments caught up within 30 days, that foreclosure proceedings will begin.

If the homeowner still has not caught up their payments

within 30 days, then the bank will contact an attorney about beginning official foreclosure proceedings.

The foreclosure statute provides that the foreclosure sale cannot take place until at least 20 days after the foreclosure is first advertised in a local newspaper and it will take some time for an attorney to get

a title search done, and then contact a newspaper about listing the property for sale.

During all this time, the homeowner may be trying to get together funds to get caught up on their payments, attempting to obtain a loan modification, or sell the house themselves. At a bare minimum though, a homeowner is usually looking at 90 days + 30 days + 20 days before a foreclosure sale will take place. Then, if the homeowner does not voluntarily leave after the sale, the bank may have to evict the homeowner by filing a detainer warrant and then a writ of possession to have the homeowner removed from

the property.

If a homeowner desires to keep the property, the bank is typically receptive to working out some kind of payment arrangement as a bank does not want to be in the business of owning houses, but instead in the business of loaning individuals money.

Jedidiah McKeehan is an attorney practicing in Knoxville and surrounding counties. He works in many areas, including criminal, personal injury, landlord-tenant, probate, and estate planning. Visit attorney-knoxville.com for more information about this legal issue and other legal issues.

Committee works to select new Superintendent

By Pete Gawda

On March 23, if all goes according to plan, residents of Knox County should know who their new Superintendent of Education will be.

At their meeting on Tuesday morning the Superintendent Search Committee made plans to process the 26 applications that had been received by the January 13 deadline.

Committee chair Amber Rountree said she was really pleased to see so many people with the heart of a servant leader. She noted that the committee had saved money by keeping the search in-house

rather than by hiring an outside search firm.

The committee decided to use a nationwide testing firm to administer a battery of psychological tests to the finalists. The cost of testing will be a little over \$600 per applicant.

The committee agreed to meet again on January 31. By that time the committee members will have had a chance to review the applications. Each committee member will present their top five candidates. From the candidates submitted by each committee member the entire committee will decide upon five candidates

to be presented to the Board of Education at their February 1 meeting.

At that February meeting members of the Board of Education will have the opportunity to add additional applicants to the short list of five.

Immediately after the board meeting, the finalists will be notified and, in the following days, will undergo video interviews and a battery of psychological tests.

On February 14 the Superintendent Search Committee is scheduled to reconvene and review the video interviews and the psychological test reports. On February 21 the committee will narrow

the list of applicants to two who will be presented to the board at their February 29 meeting.

On March 20, during the day, the entire board will interview each of the top two applicants separately. Then that evening the public will meet the applicants separately at two different public meetings to be held at different times.

On March 23 the board will elect the next superintendent.

It should be noted that all the above dates are tentative, pending receipt of psychological tests results.

Self-served beer coming to Knoxville, maybe

Cont. from page 1

didn't see the purpose of that, and urged the council to wait until a new ordinance dealing with self-service comes before council. City Council Attorney Rob Frost said that "self-service is not an agent or employee of a permit holder."

Councilman Marshall Stair said that he didn't understand the rush to clarify an existing code that already prohibits self-service. He added that customers may buy pitchers or bottles of beer and then pour it into a glass, much the same as the proposed new business.

"I'm not saying we shouldn't allow this new business model," Swanson said. "As it presently exists they can't do it."

Joel McLead, owner of Pour Tap Room, said that the concept is "not an open tap" and requires the customer to renew after each tasting and has more

controls in place than a standard restaurant or bar. McLead said he deliberately chose the Old City and had consulted with the beer board and thought the concept was legal.

He said that there would be 68 drinks on tap including 50 local draft beers, several hard cider and ale options, and several wines on tap. He noted that if his employees would have to go to the tap to pour beer for customers, he'd have to have two extra employees manning the taps.

He asked if it would be odd to guard the beer taps while customers could help themselves to the wine, which is apparently legal under state law.

Councilman Daniel Brown said the city should look to Asheville to see how the concept is working there.

McLead said the new business might be ready as early as February 28 but certainly by April 1.

"I haven't heard anyone argue this group should not be allowed," Stair said. Palmer countered that while Pour Tap Room may be well-run and organized there would be few controls over other businesses wanting the same if self-serve beer were permitted.

"Things can change, other people may not be as responsible as Pour Tap," Palmer said.

"I don't want them to walk out of here thinking we've turned them away," Councilman Nick Pavlis said of Pour Tap.

Wallace proposed postponing the decision for four weeks and the vote was 8-1 with Councilman Mark Campen voting "No."

Councilman Duane Grieve said the four weeks should give the Law Department time to "work hard" and come up with a solution.

In other action the city

council voted to postpone a request by Attorney Arthur Seymour, Jr., to increase the size of a ground sign along Alcoa Highway from 6 to 40 feet. The council also denied an appeal by Richard R. Caldwell on a Board of Zoning Appeal approval of setback for an attached housing development along Sutherland Avenue.

The Knoxville Botanical Gardens were granted funds to renovate and repair a building there to house the Indoor Farmer's Market and Community Kitchen. The council agreed to fund a contract with Southern Contractors for the Old City Streetscapes project and give \$25,000 to the McClung Museum to purchase a prehistoric Native American statue.

Fred D. (Tony) Thompson, Jr., was hired as the city's lobbyist in Nashville for \$55,000 a year.

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Publisher's Position

Alexander Shines in Committee Hearings



By Steve Hunley, Publisher
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Lamar Alexander deserves to be PRAISED.

If anyone doubts the efficacy of institutional knowledge, Senator Alexander's performance more than amply demonstrated just what a useful tool institutional memory can be. Democratic senators grouched they were only given five minutes each to question DeVos, with Alexander and the top Democrat on the committee, Senator Patty Murray of Washington, allowed an additional five minutes each. Alexander reminded his colleagues he was following the very same process used by the committee in holding hearings on Barack Obama's nominees for Secretary of Education, Arne Duncan and John King. "I'm trying to be fair," Alexander explained. "We're not going to treat a Republican nominee differently than we are going to treat a Democratic nominee."

Not surprisingly, Democrats, who talk incessantly

about fairness, ultimately cared little about fairness and ignored how they had done things while occupying the majority in the Senate. Despite repeated attempts by Democrat senators, Alexander, with Tennessee tenacity, held his ground and refused to budge.

Of course the thunder from the disgruntled left was to be expected. Democrats have complained DeVos never sent her own children to public schools; neither did Barack and Michelle Obama. In fact, most of those senators and congressmen with school age children probably don't send their children to public schools if they reside in the nation's Capitol. Of course those public officials who support the left's vision of public education are always excused when they opt not to send their own children to public schools. Neither fair nor honest, but the truth and hypocrisy.

The Democrats snarl

that DeVos spent millions of her own dollars to provide alternatives to failing public schools. Remember, the mantra of the left and the teachers' union is there are no bad teachers and there are no failing schools, only failing communities. Therein lies the problem. For decades unions have formed one of the most powerful constituencies inside the Democratic Party and the teachers' union has fought any and every effort to hold them more accountable. The unionists squall there is only one way to fix failing schools: raise taxes and spend more money. That has traditionally been their only fix for education throughout the ages and spending on schools has more than doubled over a short period of time while preparation rates remain abysmal.

Senate Democrats and the teachers' union are deeply opposed to Betsy DeVos's nomination precisely because of her

commitment to lift children out of poverty and failing schools to provide them with an opportunity to do better. The unionists never fail to wrap themselves in the protective cloak of the children, attributing their motives as being in the best interest of the kids. There's not a child in America who pays union dues.

Lamar Alexander is pretty well immune to attack from serious people on his record on education. Few people have had as varied and as impressive a resume as Alexander, who has served twice as governor of Tennessee, President of the University of Tennessee, and Secretary of Education. Alexander may also well have been the governor who presided over the biggest change in education in our state's history. Alexander crafted the "Better Schools" program, which included the designation of "Master Teachers", as well as the "Career Ladder." Alexander's

program increased educational opportunities in math, science and computer skills in Tennessee's classrooms. Tens of thousands of teachers have benefitted from the increased pay and supplements made possible through Alexander's reforms, yet the greatest opposition to Alexander's education program came from the teachers' union. Lamar Alexander did more for public education in Tennessee than any teachers' union member, dead or alive.

In the end, the fight over Betsy DeVos's nomination hasn't a thing to do with qualifications; it's about her support for alternatives like charter schools and vouchers, at least with the Democrats and certainly the unionists.

Lamar Alexander stood his ground and every Tennessean ought to be mighty proud of him; I know that I am.



PHOTO BY PETE GAWDA

Buzz Thomas, Interim Superintendent for Knox County Schools, speaks during Tuesday night's rezoning meeting at Hardin Valley Elementary School.

Hardin Valley parents express interest in new school

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when one person commented that they wanted their children to stay in Hardin Valley and not go to Karns.

Another person recently bought a house expressly so their children could go to school at Hardin Valley.

Thomas said one of the goals of rezoning is to keep families together and move as few people as possible.

He wants a school system that is family friendly and neighborhood focused.

Thomas said the rezoning should have no effect on the curriculum at Faragut.

One parent stated that Karns is over capacity and the buses are crowded and unsafe. Oaks replied that the Hardin Valley school should cause enrollment at Karns to decrease.

2nd District School Board Member Jennifer Owen Meets With Parents Concerned About School Rezoning



PHOTO BY PETE GAWDA

A large number of parents attended Thursday night's Shannondale Elementary School PTO meeting and Fun Night to express concerns about school rezoning. A small group remained after the meeting to talk about school rezoning with 2nd District School Board member Jennifer Owen

By Pete Gawda

A PTO meeting Thursday night at Shannondale Elementary School once again demonstrated the parental interest in the pending school rezoning issue. About 50 parents, many with their children, crowded into the library.

Megan O'Dell, Shannondale's principal, welcomed them to what she called one of the largest ever PTO meetings. She said several parents had come into her office and expressed concern about the rezoning. O'Dell said her office will have no say in the rezoning and encouraged parents to come to the rezoning meeting at Holston Middle

School next Tuesday night to express their concerns. By a show of hands a large number of those present planned to attend that meeting.

Comments from concerned parents revealed rumors concerning the pending rezoning. One rumor is that the new zone boundary would go down Broadway. The Shannondale community feels connected with Fountain City and their children participate in Fountain City sports. Such a boundary would sever their connection with Fountain City.

One parent expressed concern that rezoning would affect property values. Some parents bought property

based on its location in the Shannondale school district.

Another rumor was also expressed that in order to fill the new Gibbs Middle School, students would have to be drawn from the Shannondale area. Parents were concerned with keeping their children in the Shannondale community. They expressed a desire for their students to stay together through middle school and high school.

After the PTO meeting, Knox County Board of Education member Jennifer Owen was present to explain to a small group of parents that there is no rezoning planned at this time. She

explained the criteria that may be used to draw zoning lines and answer ed questions from individual parents. She explained that school zone lines cannot be drawn straight and uniform because of a number of factors including such things as transportation, and geographical and manmade boundaries.

These factors are already known by school officials, Owen said. She stressed that what school officials want is to hear is what parents have to say about rezoning. She said school officials want to find out what the parents want and what their concerns are.

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Teacher evaluation system causes controversy

By Pete Gawda

After reading the glowing reports put out by the Tennessee Department of Education (DoE) on the teacher evaluation system and then hearing some local education officials and teachers describe the negative aspects of the system, one wonders if both groups are referring to the same system. Unfortunately, they are.

How did this evaluation system come into being?

In July of 2011 the state instituted a statewide comprehensive teacher evaluation system by unanimously adopting the Tennessee Education Acceleration Model (TEAM) which is currently being used by Knox County Schools. At that time, three alternative models were also approved; Project Coach in Hamilton County, Teacher Effectiveness Measure (TEM) in Memphis and Teacher Instructional Growth for Effectiveness and Results (Tiger) then used in 12 mostly municipal school systems statewide. For the next four school years the state sought feedback and adjusted the system each year. Currently 132 school districts in the state use the TEAM model, one uses TEM and nine use TIGER.

How does TEAM work?

The TEAM model requires classroom observation of teachers by a trained observer. There is a long checklist of statements that the observer is supposed to evaluate the teacher against. The conclusion of the observer's

findings results in a numerical score ranging from 1, significantly below expectation, to 5, significantly above expectation.

What are these scores used for?

The only thing state law requires that the scores be used for is to determine tenure. Any other use is up to the discretion of local school districts.

Can the system be changed?

The system allows for some flexibility for individual school districts to modify the evaluation system to meet their needs. At the end of the 2013-14 school year 70 of the state's 142 school districts had instituted some form of flexibility. By the end of the 2014-15 school year the number had increased.

There is a process by which these flexible changes are adopted. The school district must submit a detailed description of a proposed pilot program. If the pilot program is approved by the state, it is instituted by the school district. Then the results of this pilot program are reviewed by the state and the alternate program is either approved or disapproved.

Glowing reports

The report by DoE at the end of the 2014-2015 school year reported that 63 percent of teachers statewide stated that the evaluation process leads to improvements in student learning and 81 percent of the state's

teachers reported that evaluation helps them identify areas where they can improve. A whopping 95 percent of the state's teachers reported that their performance had improved over the past year.

Some local education officials disagree with those figures.

School board member Tony Norman, a retired teacher, claims it is absurd to rate teachers on a numerical system from 1 to 5. He is not against using supporting documentation, he is just against labeling teachers with a number. He said the ACT, which he feels is the best measure of student achievement, has been either flat or going down in recent years. He attributes this trend to the current evaluation system.

His fellow school board member Jennifer Owen said that 100 teachers could be interviewed and they would all have different stories to tell about why the system does not work. She has 23 years experience as a school band director and music teacher. She said it looks like a simple checklist but each evaluator sees it differently and two different evaluators would rate the same teacher differently.

One of the biggest flaws Owen sees in the system is that people not qualified to teach a certain subject evaluate a teacher on teaching that particular subject. Owen said a Spanish teacher was told not to speak Spanish in the classroom because the evaluator did not speak Spanish.

She said another problem is that school districts use TEAM as a punitive device rather than using it for teacher improvement. She said there is very little in the

TEAM model to help teachers grow.

The same sentiments were echoed by Lauren Hopson, a teacher with 14 years experience in elementary grades and currently president of the Knox County Education Association. She said the present system is time consuming for administrators. She said it was difficult to find an administrator because they are always tied up with evaluations. She feels a proper evaluation does not need all the paperwork required by TEAM. The previous system, in which principals informally observed classroom teachers, was much better, according to Hopson.

Hopson discounted the glowing percentages cited by the state. While admitting some improvement was achieved by TEAM, she does not feel the small amount of improvement was worth the cost in frustration to teachers. She attributes the loss of many good teachers to the frustrations caused by TEAM.

The interim superintendent weighs in

However not everyone has such negative opinions about the TEAM model. Interim superintendent Buzz Thomas has mixed feelings. Thomas concedes that while the TEAM model has a lot of great components, some things about it are not fair. He thinks most teachers support the system but think it can be improved. One of the faults he sees is the practice of evaluating one teacher by the achievements of students in another teacher's class. While

Thomas thinks observation is important, it should be balanced by some hard objective data like test scores.

Thomas said the TEAM model is similar to a teacher evaluation system voluntarily used about ten years ago in some Knox County Schools.

Thomas said that local and statewide teachers have improved due to the TEAM model. "We are seeing a lot of improvement," he asserted.

However, he does feel the criticism that the TEAM model causes stress to teachers is justified. He believes TEAM has taken a toll on teachers.

He also conceded that TEAM can be used in a punitive fashion. As in any evaluation system, Thomas thinks it boils down to who is doing the evaluating. He agreed that in some cases it has been used improperly.

A better system may be in the works

Thomas thinks evaluations are necessary and important to the teaching profession and he wants a system that is both reflective and fair. Therefore a 15 member teacher advisory committee is working on a system that is more reflective of good teaching practices to submit to the state for approval.

"We can improve and move forward," Thomas stressed. In a few months he is looking forward to unveiling the committee's work and presenting either an improved TEAM model or a better alternative to the state for approval.

Silver Springs has changed

Silver Springs, Florida, is about eight hours south of Knoxville and a long day's drive. There're lots of places to stop to eat or stretch along the way. Once you get through the nightmare known as Atlanta traffic the drive becomes pretty routine.

If you haven't been to Silver Springs in the past few years, or if you've never been, the former tourist attraction and amusement park has changed. Five years ago the state of Florida took over and the former amusement park rides are

now closed. The best part of the park remains and is well worth the \$8 bucks per car or \$5 per motorcycle admission to get into the natural wonder.

We visited recently and found the crystal-clear springs that bubble up from the earth there were as active as ever, the wildlife and plants still doing very well and even the alligators seemed to enjoy the warm Florida sun. Back home in Knoxville the temperature was in the teens with light snow but, after an initial day of cold, northern Florida bounced back to the

70s. Silver Springs is on Highway 40 just east of Ocala. It seems the two towns run together now as Ocala spreads out with a growing senior citizen population. The park is now divided into two sections with the traditional park to the north and a new equestrian center and camping to the south.

We discovered that years ago during segregation there was a separate location just downstream called "Paradise Park" which was for African Americans only that offered much of the same attractions and was operated by the same company that owned Silver Springs.

If you're a movie or television buff you may want to walk through the park to

the Sea Hunt shed where that long-running show was filmed. The springs were also featured in many movies including "Creature from the Black Lagoon" and various James Bond underwater shots.

There's also hiking, bike and horse trails, a museum and gift shop, picnic pavilions and wildlife just about everywhere you look. There's no fishing allowed in the park but you can rent a canoe or kayak and paddle out beyond park limits to fish. The south end of the park features RV camping, camping cabins that sleep up to 6 people, and horse trails for those people who bring their horses.

Silver Springs was named a National Landmark in 1971 and is one of the largest freshwater



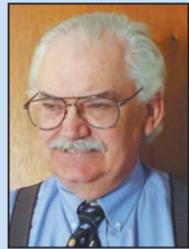
Silver Springs, Florida, is now part of the State Park system there but still offers rides in glass bottom boats for views of the springs and former movie locations. (Photo by Mike Steely)

springs in the nation. Twin Oaks Mansion in the park is available for weddings, banquets and meetings.

There are lots of places to stay while in the area including motels, campgrounds, retreats, and bed

and breakfast homes. You can get information on line at www.silversprings.com. The state park is open every day from 8 a.m. until 5:30 p.m.

A Day Away



By Mike Steely

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Our Neighborhoods

Oldest Knox County Baptist Church?

By Mike Steely
steelym@knoxfocus.com

Just off Emory Road in Corryton stands a grand country church and, just behind that house of worship, is a small log structure that might be the oldest Baptist church in Knox County. Little Flat Creek Baptist Church, at 9132 West Emory road, is an active community church with Rev. Jerry Baltimore as pastor.

Originally founded in 1797 the Little Flat Creek Baptist Church was one of seven original churches to form the Holston Baptist Association in 1786. In 1802 the church sent Robert Newport, Eli Skaggs and George Hallmark to meet at Beaver Creek and organize the Tennessee Baptist Association.

In later years Peter Graves represented the church in that association. The historic church is now a member of the Knoxville Association of Baptist Churches. Next to the building is the church's current cemetery.

The pastor told The Focus that the original site of the log church was off Grave's Lane and the congregation holds Sun Rise Services there every Easter. There's an older graveyard near the original site and Rev. Baltimore said a tree there has totally grown around one of the old tombstones.

He said there's a letter from members of a black family who were slaves and members of the first church about the early history. He added that the Old Walnut Grove Academy was associated with the original church.

The original church was formed with Jim Parker as Moderator and George Hallmark as Clerk. Jerrell Willingham and John Higgins were



PHOTO BY MIKE STEELY

Rebuilt with some of the original logs the Little Flat Creek Baptist Church may be the oldest such church in Knox County.

appointed Deacons and ordained soon after. The log building was located on a Joseph Baird land grant near where the present railroad crosses Emory Road at Graves Lane. The pews were lots slit in halves and pegs inserted as legs. The original building had portholes in the logs to repel Indian attacks. A cemetery was created nearby and contains the graves of the Gibbs and Skaggs family.

John Parker was the first pastor and was followed by Robert Frito, who served there for 39 years.

The log church was used until 1857 when a wooden church was built at the current location.

In 1962 the current church was constructed to seat 300 people. Other churches in the area have been organized by members from the Little Flat Creek Church including Corryton Baptist Church.

The logs from the original church were in a barn or corn crib on the Sam Harrell property and his family donated them to the church to be moved about a mile to the current church property. Each log was measured and numbered. Some logs measured more than 32-feet long. The church members found similar logs and the church was reconstructed at its present site. The old building has a

sliding latch lock on the sturdy door and inside is a dirt floor with pews. Various church members, neighbors and friends help to reconstruct the log building and in August 1996 it was completed and dedicated, with more than 300 people attending. Twenty-nine churches were represented at the ceremony.

More information about the original Little Flat Creek Baptist Church can be found on Facebook or by emailing Rev. Jerry Baltimore at rgwejb@comcast.net. The church telephone number is 865-688-7950.

Reflections from Jimmy Duncan

Zane Daniel

Flying to Knoxville on Air Force One several years ago, I told President George W. Bush that when I was



By U.S. Rep.
John Duncan, Jr.

in law school, there was a popular saying that the A students made the professors, the B students made the judges, while the C students made the money.

When I said the part about C students, President Bush laughed and said, "Or they become President."

I have thought about that saying many times over the years because of my late law partner, Zane Daniel.

Zane was one of the greatest trial lawyers this state ever produced. Juries fell in love with him.

Yet he once told me they had to bring his grade point average out about twenty decimals to get him to a 2.0 to get out of undergraduate school. He said, "I could not even get in to law school today."

What a loss that would have been. Back in the seventies, I told people that watching Zane try a case was like watching Hank Aaron play baseball or listening to Elvis Presley sing.

Once when I was a Criminal Court Judge (since I was a

Continue on page 4

Knox Hotline going to Internal Auditor

By Mike Steely
steelym@knoxfocus.com

Knox County Human Resources Director Mark Jones reported to the Audit Committee Wednesday that the county's hotline should be placed under the Internal Auditor rather than in his department.

Jones told the committee that there have been no recent calls to the hotline, which was established to give citizens and county employees a way to report misconduct by county

officials, employees, etc. He said that after the last Audit Committee meeting, he sent out an email to all employees and printed information about the hotline in the new employee manual.

Audit Chairman David Shields said that the Internal Auditor's office has submitted a draft proposal about how it would administer the hotline. Commissioner John Schoonmaker told the committee moving the duties is a "great opportunity to shift it to

a more appropriate area."

Deputy Law Director David Buuck said the charter will need to be amended to shift the duties. Commissioner Hugh Nystrom motioned to have the Law Department draft a resolution to move the service so the full county commission could approve it. Buuck said he will work with Jones and Internal Auditor Andrea Addis on the change.

Addis said she will assign her senior auditor, Susan Johnson, to oversee the Hotline reports.

Addis said that Johnson would be more independent in those duties because Addis and another employee, Brook Webb, in the office have husbands employed by the county.

The Audit Committee also heard from Finance Director Chris Caldwell who said the county is doing well and revenue is a little ahead of expectations. Caldwell credited an increase in Hotel and Motel Occupancy Taxes to efforts by Visit Knoxville.

External Auditor Larry Elmore

reported the audit went "very well this year" and that no significant or unusual actions were found. He said that an inquiry into the Sheriff's Department purchasing bulletproof vests without a bid found no purposeful violations.

Interim School System Financial Director Gary Spenser also reported to the Audit Committee.

Addis gave an update on an audit of various county departments that have Emergency

Continue on page 2

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Losing another piece of the past

I checked my Facebook page the other day to see what was going on in the world. As usual, plenty of posts discussed the brilliance or ignorance of the president-elect. A passel of rec-



By Joe Rector
joerector@comcast.net

ipes showed up as well. Of course, birthdays were listed for all my friends who survived another trip around the sun. The most upsetting post appeared on Sunday evening. It announced that one of my childhood friends had passed.

Ray Claiborne was an amazing boy. He was wiry and strong even at ten years of age. Ray played on our neighborhood ball team. He filled in at first base, the position I always wanted to play, but where I couldn't stop a hard-hit ground ball or stretch to snag a high throw, Ray managed to play the position with agility and confidence. He could hit the ball as well, and most of the time he would wind up on second base by stretching a single

into a double that was capped off with a slide into the second.

Ray's most amazing talent was his ability to run. He not only ran; the boy cruised at speeds about which most of us

only dreamed. Ray would take off, and within a couple of strides, he was zipping down the field or road. Much older boys challenged him to races, and Ray silently accepted. When the contest ended, he trotted back to the start line after having smoked his competitor. Sometimes the other runner would demand another race; at other times, a different person would be waiting to test Ray. He always accepted all the demands for races, and he defeated all comers. No, he never bragged or said a mean word. Ray let his legs do his talking.

In high school, Ray ran on the track team. He and three others set the school record in the 440, now known as the 400. They blew passed other school teams and notched victories. A couple of team members played other sports, but Ray didn't. I never knew if he wasn't interested or if he had work to do at home that kept him from joining playing other sports. Still, his running abilities were grander and more developed than those of most other athletes who had chosen one or more sports.

I lost touch with Ray after high school. I went to school out of town, and I think Ray stayed in Knoxville to help his family operate their fleet of school buses. For some

reason, I want to say that he took up smoking, something that surprised me greatly. The rest of us were never quality athletes; most of us were average at best. We smoked because it was the cool thing to do. Why Ray would pick up a habit that might jeopardize his running always puzzled me.

Ray Claiborne isn't the first boy from that neighborhood ball team to have passed. Over the years, several have gone before him. Tommy Robinson died in a car accident as he traveled to pick up his date for the junior-senior prom. Pat Wright passed several years ago. He became a carpenter and always was as laid back as any person I'd ever known. Steve Turpin died not long ago after a battle with cancer.

Each year, more of the childhood friends that I had end their times on this earth. I know that we are reaching the age where death comes much more often to folks of our generation. The problem is understanding that. You see, in my mind's eyes, I see these senior citizens as the young boys who they were so many years ago. Their passings leave me sad and more than a bit unsettled. No, I am not afraid of death, but neither am I in a hurry for it to arrive. With each death of an old friend, my history shrinks a bit. My past world loses another piece.

Ray Claiborne was one of those boys who made my childhood good. I appreciate his talents and the memories he created for me. I'm sure that now Ray is in a better place where illness no longer smothers him. I hope to see him some day and watch him run like the wind.

Ancient Oak saved in South Knoxville

By Mike Steely
steelym@knoxfocus.com

The growing area of Governor John Sevier Highway in South Knoxville will be getting a 94-lot subdivision called Cherokee Landing along Coatney Road and the developer, Perry Smith, has agreed to save a huge oak tree there.

Sam Rotenberry, a Coatney Road resident, said the tree could be 350 years old. The White Oak tree may be the 3rd oldest in the state and Rotenberry told the Metropolitan Planning Commission recently that the state forestry division said that operating heavy equipment within 70 feet of the tree could harm the roots and kill the tree.

The oak sits in the corner of the 25.59-acre vacant land.

Engineer Gary Novell, speaking for the development, said the tree doesn't meet the requirements to be historic but said a buffer around the tree would be provided. MPC member Elizabeth Eason recommended a buffer of at least 60 feet from the trunk of the tree and member Art Clancy said that a tree expert should be consulted about the buffer.

The concept plan for Cherokee Landing was approved with the stipulation the tree be preserved. The subdivision site will sit next to South-Doyle

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East Tennessee snow by Ralphine Major

Be Still...

Be still and know that I am God . . ." (Psalms 46:10, KJV). It is among my favorite Bible verses. I see it printed on pens, cups, and cards. This comforting verse always comes to mind when I see



By Ralphine Major
ralphine3@yahoo.com

single snowflakes falling to the ground and blanketing the earth. Their collective effect can often grind our hurried pace to a much

slower one, if not a complete halt.

The first snowfall of this season caused me to turn back through the pages of my mind to a couple of years ago. As I stood in knee-deep snow, I marveled at how quickly the glistening crystals turned Mother Earth into a winter wonderland. In the distance, I could see House Mountain

with snow-capped trees reaching skyward. There was silence all around. Occasionally, I heard the chirping of a beautiful red cardinal as it sat on a barren tree branch. Then, the silence returned. I wanted to capture the beauty of that moment. It was peaceful and serene. Time, it seemed, had stopped---if only for a little while. The words of the psalmist returned: "Be still and know that I am God . . ."

Knox Hotline going to Internal Auditor

Continued from page 1

Defibrillators and noted that each office had different programs and six different models. Susan Johnson said that there should be one person assigned to review monthly reports on the defibrillators. Shields suggested that having one vendor for the machines and one brand might be a better idea.

Addis said she may add

another person to her staff in next year's budget and that she's likely to hire someone with some information technology experience.

Foster Arnett, Knox County Clerk, reported that only one motel is currently delinquent in paying the Hotel-Motel tax. He said that, so far, the county has received \$4.7 million from the

occupancy tax and expects about \$7 million by the end of the fiscal year.

County Commission Chairman Dave Wright noted that there may be more state legislation coming this year to generate revenue from Bed and Breakfast and Airbnb homes. He said that homes rented out to visitors should pay the tax.

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Ray Blanton PART FIVE

Pages from the Past



By Ray Hill
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Ray Blanton had achieved his long sought after goal of winning statewide office in Tennessee with his victory in the 1974 general election. Blanton had defeated Republican Lamar Alexander decisively in winning the governorship.

Ray Blanton had always campaigned as a populist, putting together a coalition that encompassed traditional Democratic voting blocs. Blanton's election stalled the momentum of Tennessee Republicans, who had won a sweeping victory in the 1972 elections. Not only had the Democrats managed to win back the governor's office in 1974, but had brought down two GOP congressmen, LaMar Baker in the Third District and Dan Kuykendall in Memphis.

Despite his populist rhetoric and talk of honesty and political morals, Ray Blanton would preside over perhaps the most corrupt regime in Tennessee history. Blanton himself would rule in a largely autocratic fashion.

Throughout his tenure as governor, Blanton's drinking would escalate and he did little to hide his fondness for women other than his wife. Governor Blanton did have some solid successes as Tennessee's chief executive. It was Ray Blanton who created the Department of Tourism and the governor made an effort to encourage investment in Tennessee by foreign companies and corporations, providing Tennesseans with jobs. Blanton's Department of Tourism was the first such department of its kind in the entire country.

Governor Blanton traveled the world at least three times and while his critics questioned his lavish expenditures, no one could deny the avid interest of Japanese, German and British companies interested in investing in Tennessee. Governor Blanton even managed to entice the United Nations General Assembly to Nashville for a day. Blanton's first world trip resulted in a \$10 million investment by the German firm Mahle, Inc. in a manufacturing facility in Morristown, Tennessee.

The governor, working with Tennessee's legislature, helped to modernize Tennessee's retirement system, making it one of the most fiscally sound in the country. Governor Blanton provided tax relief for Tennessee's senior citizens and promoted programs beneficial to blacks as well as promoting programs for the equality of women.

Under Blanton, unemployment in Tennessee dropped from 9.6% to 5.6%. More than 64,000 new jobs came to Tennessee. There were 1,100 new or expanded plants, which represented some \$2 billion in capital investment in Tennessee. Tennessee's farm exports climbed to 52 under Governor Blanton's administration. Blanton's

new Department of Tourism was also paying dividends; by 1977 Tennessee welcomed 5.5 million new tourists in the state.

Blanton was a night owl, oftentimes not going to bed before 3:00 a.m. and working the telephone until he fell asleep. The governor's aides found the perfect time to approach Blanton was sometime after 10:00 p.m.

Ever partisan, Ray Blanton would look at his dog, Saki, and ask, "Do you want to be dead or be a Republican?" The dog would instantly play dead.

Tennessee's Constitution was modernized as well and Ray Blanton became the first governor eligible to seek a second four-year term. Blanton would fritter away that opportunity before his first term had concluded.

Governor Blanton presided in office as an old-time Democrat, making no effort whatever to hide the importance of his patronage committee, which existed in every county in Tennessee. Democrats were eager to put out Republicans hired by the administration of Winfield Dunn. The contrast between the former governor and his successor would become more deeply etched in the minds of thousands of Tennesseans as Blanton presided over state government. The courtly and gentlemanly Dunn, scrupulously honest, was the antithesis of Ray Blanton. Modishly and well dressed, Blanton was frequently coarse, vulgar, petulant, and imperious.

Democrats improved their electoral success, carrying Tennessee for presidential candidate Jimmy Carter and defeating Senator Bill Brock in 1976. In fact, Tennessee was Carter's second best state in the country after his own native Georgia.

Governor Blanton could still show the folksy side of his nature, besting country music singer Lynn Anderson (I Never Promised You A Rose Garden) in a milking contest. Blanton also kept another country music star, Faron Young, from being extradited to Oklahoma to face charges in the Sooner State. Ray Blanton led a crowd in a rousing rendition of Gimme That Old-Time Religion while attending a Governor's Conference on Aging.

Yet there was the unpleasant side of Ray Blanton that came out as time passed. The governor had racked up a \$300 telephone bill from Tokyo to a woman in Washington, D. C. Married and the father of three children, the governor adamantly refused to answer questions about the nature of his relationship with that particular woman. Later, Blanton and several aides reimbursed the State of Tennessee \$21,000 for personal telephone calls, rentals for limousine service, and liquor bills.

When one reporter pressed Blanton, the governor snarled, "Do you want a



FROM THE AUTHOR'S PERSONAL COLLECTION.

Governor Ray Blanton with June Carter Cash, Johnny Cash and Dick Clark at the American Music Awards ceremony in 1977.

eunuch or some third-generation scion of a rich family who doesn't understand the problems of the poor?"

Blanton's relations with the news media, never especially good, continued to deteriorate throughout his time as governor. When Blanton bought three radio stations, he pointedly said his radio stations would only report "good news." Governor Blanton began refusing to answer questions at his press conferences that he considered to be negative. The governor insisted he would reply to "positive questions."

The governor had a fondness for scotch and would amuse his visitors to the governor's mansion by lining up inmate trustees and demanding they tell his guests precisely what crime they had committed.

The pardon and clemency scandals were hardly the first to plague Ray Blanton's administration. Real Estate Commissioner Don Harding had been driven from office and was later convicted on two counts of extortion. General Services Commissioner Charles Bell and G. B. McCarter left office following a scandal involving surplus cars. McCarter later pleaded guilty to two counts of embezzlement. Transportation Commissioner Eddie Shaw was indicted, although later acquitted. Shaw promptly gifted every juror in his case with a country ham.

The Memphis Commercial Appeal declared Ray Blanton was the "hillbilly Nixon."

Through it all, Blanton remained defiant.

Blanton said, "Ladies and gentlemen, I'm just like the plowshare that my grandfather taught me to sharpen with the forge and a hammer. The more you hit, the harder you beat, the harder I get... Now, I can stand the beat."

Blanton managed to hold his considerable temper when he was hit in the face by a University of Tennessee student in Chattanooga with a lemon meringue pie. Photos of the governor, his face dripping with meringue, appeared in most every Tennessee newspaper.

By 1977, rumors were circulating there were problems with the Blanton administration. Those rumors seemed to have some fact in basis when the governor suddenly fired Marie Ragghianti, who Blanton had appointed to serve as the Chair of Tennessee's

Board of Pardons and Paroles. Reporters immediately began digging and discovered the cause of Ragghianti's abrupt firing was her refusal to release select prisoners. As it turned out, members of Governor Blanton's administration had been bribed to release many of those same prisoners.

Ragghianti hired Nashville attorney Fred Thompson, who had served as Senator Howard Baker's counsel during the famed Watergate Hearings. Marie Ragghinait won a settlement from the State of Tennessee and a later best-selling book by author Peter Maas detailed much of her story.

By 1978, it was readily apparent even to Ray Blanton he could not win a second term as governor. Jake Butcher won the Democratic nomination while Lamar Alexander was making his second bid to become Tennessee's governor. Four years previously, Alexander's candidacy had been crippled by the Watergate scandal; in 1978 Lamar Alexander was aided by the growing scandal surrounding Ray Blanton. Despite being outspent by Jake Butcher, Alexander won a solid victory.

As Blanton's time in office grew short, the governor stubbornly persisted with his self-destructive behavior. By December of 1978, the FBI was teeming all over the Nashville Capitol and three Blanton administration officials were arrested, including T. Edward Sisk, Counsel to the Governor. Ray Blanton was called to testify to a grand jury just before Christmas and the governor stoutly denied any personal wrongdoing.

More rumors circulated that Governor Blanton was planning to pardon even more prisoners, a notion that galvanized the FBI, U.S. Attorney Hal Hardin, and much of the leadership of Tennessee's General Assembly.

Governor Blanton was preparing to sign the pardon papers of Roger Humphreys, who was the son of a patronage chieftain in East Tennessee. Roger Humphreys was also a double murderer, having shot his wife and her lover with a two shot derringer --- eighteen times. As Blanton sat at his desk, pen poised over the papers, the governor looked up and told Tennessee Secretary of State Gentry Crowell, "This

takes guts."

"Yeah, well, some people have more guts than brains," Crowell snapped back.

Tennesseans horrified and disgusted by Blanton's actions were amused when the radio airwaves were flooded with a parody song, Pardon me, Ray, sung to the tune of the Chattanooga Choo Choo. A Nashville television weatherman, Brian Christie, recorded the song, which became an immediate hit just after Blanton was driven out of office three days before his term of office was set to expire.

Fearful Blanton would either commute or pardon other criminals, Speaker of the House Ned Ray McWherter and Lieutenant Governor John Wilder agreed to the early swearing-in of governor-elect Lamar Alexander.

"It could be called a ceremonial impeachment," John Wilder mused. Robert Lillard, Special Counsel to the governor, was stopped by aides to Alexander when he tried to enter Ray Blanton's office toting a sheaf of clemency papers. Lillard was a former judge who had been acquitted of similar pay-for-clemency charges during a previous administration.

Blanton snarled he had left the governor's office "poor" and was cornered by the news media as he left his newly purchased Nashville home, which was across the street from country music star Webb Pierce's own home. Blanton complained he was upset at having been barred from his own office and was especially angry at not having been able to retrieve the desk and chair he had brought back from Washington, D. C. as a member of Congress. The former governor snapped his early ouster was nothing less than a "clandestine activity."

Powerful Democrats in Nashville noted the change in Blanton's demeanor and character during his term of office as governor.

"Ray used to be humble, meek," Lieutenant Governor John Wilder remembered. "He was in tune with people. He never wanted to master. Somehow, somewhere, as governor that changed."

Gentry Crowell seemed to have trouble stringing words together to describe the former governor, so profound was his dismay. "Arrogant," Crowell growled. "Stubborn...stupid."

Although never convicted of selling pardons and profiting personally, Ray Blanton's legal troubles were just beginning. In 1981, Blanton found himself in court and was convicted of conspiracy charges, mail fraud and extortion for selling liquor licenses. Ray Blanton was sentenced to twenty-two months in a federal prison. Blanton was convicted of a scheme of forcing the liquor store owners to turn over 30% of the profits.

After getting out of prison, Ray Blanton fought fiercely to piece together his tattered reputation. Eventually, nine of the charges against him were overturned by a federal court.

Nor had Ray Blanton entirely given up his political ambitions. When Congressman Ed Jones retired in 1988, the former governor entered the Democratic primary to succeed him. On May 21, 1988, Ray Blanton officially declared his candidacy for Congress. Just a few weeks later, Blanton married Karen Flint in Washington, D. C., at the Democratic Club. The tuxedo clad former governor gave a thumbs up when asked how the wedding went. Blanton would give no other comment to waiting reporters. The former governor and his wife, Betty, had been divorced since 1987 and he had known Ms. Flint since she had worked for the Appalachian Regional Commission in the 1970s.

Ray Blanton's congressional campaign never really got off the ground. The eventual winner, State Representative John Tanner, won the Democratic nomination with better than 66% of the vote. Blanton won just over 10% of the ballots cast and spent the last years of his life working as a salesman at a Ford dealership in Henderson, Tennessee.

The former governor began to seriously ail and entered Jackson-Madison County Hospital to await a liver transplant. It was while waiting for the liver transplant that Ray Blanton died on November 22, 1996.

Ray Blanton's remains were carried to the Shiloh Church and he was buried there; eventually, an impressive obelisk would be placed on the site of his burial. Blanton was sixty-six years old.

Former governor Ray Blanton never managed to clear his name and his legacy remains a trail of corruption.

Ancient Oak saved in South Knoxville

Cont. from page 2

High School and the planners are requiring sidewalks along Coatney Road with a suggested sidewalk to the school. The development is expected, when populated, to add an additional 35 school-age students.

In other news, converting residential structures for business use got some action in the recent planning meeting, one request being denied and the other approved.

The request of Daniel and Kelli Jobe to rezone a house on Forestal Drive, east of Tazewell Pike, from R-2 Residential to C-3 commercial was turned down despite a well-organized presentation by Mrs. Jobe. The home, at 105 Forestal, has been empty for about seven years and has been being used as a storage facility.

The Jobes, who operate a beauty shop with a boutique on Old Broadway, want to move the boutique to the Forestal dwelling.

"We need more space," she said.

The planning staff recommended denial of the request. MPC staffer Dan Kelly said that if the boutique was established in the former home and "didn't make it, then anything could go in there."

The Jobes said that the requested dwelling is surrounded by commercial zoning but the request was denied.

In another request, a house was approved to be rezoned for a business. Peter Hall asked that a Sutherland Avenue address, northeast of North Forest Park Blvd, be rezoned from R-3 to C-1 Commercial. Hall told the

MPC that his family had once owned the apartments next door and had bought the property to use as a parking lot. He requested that the lot and home there be zoned for commercial to permit the operation of a gift shop and office.

Pond Gap Neighborhood President David Williams asked the planner to delay a decision for 30 days and Bearden Council member Jim Bletner agreed with Williams on postponing a discussion.

Hall asked that it be considered during the meeting and the rezoning was eventually approved, but only after some confusion about whether the Bearden Village Opportunity Plan might apply to the location.

Williams, who has butted heads with the Bearden Council, said he'd prefer to

pull his organization out of the Bearden Plan, "We're chartered; they are not."

The staff asked Hall if he would work with both the Bearden and Pond Gap groups on the request and Hill said he "hesitates to have to have approval" from those groups. He said he is happy to have the groups comment but shouldn't be held "to standards no one else has to."

MPC Executive Director Gerald Green said that while the Bearden Plan was adopted 15 years ago the plan "was not codified."

The motion to delay for 30 days failed in a split vote and the zoning request passed. The rezoning approval now goes to city council for a decision.

Zane Daniel

Cont. from page 1

B student), Zane was representing a man in my court who was charged with armed robbery of \$2,500 from the Open Kitchen Restaurant on Broadway in Knoxville.

Three eyewitnesses testified with great certainty that the defendant was the robber.

Zane's opening line of his closing argument was a classic. He said, "Ladies and gentlemen of the jury, all in the world the state has in this case is eyewitness identification," as if that was the worst kind.

But he went on to point

out that one witness said the defendant wore a jacket; one said he did not. One said he had a moustache; one said he did not. One said he wore a hat; one said he did not.

Zane pointed out all the discrepancies from all the key witnesses, and the jury found the defendant not guilty.

In fact, during the seven and a half years I was a judge, Zane tried six jury trials in my court. All six juries returned verdicts of not guilty.

Not long after I began practicing with him, Zane was representing a fifteen-

year-old motorcycle rider who was hit by a car. The boy lost the lower part of one of his legs.

The damages were serious, but the case for the liability of the driver was so weak that the lawyer for the insurance company would not offer anything to settle. Zane had tried to get \$45,000.

Zane's last witness was the boy's mother who had been driving a little ways behind her son and had seen the accident.

She testified that she saw her son knocked down into a field and ran down to him and saw his legs splayed

out in the wrong direction.

Zane asked her what Mr. Blank, the driver, said to her as she bent down over her injured son. She said, "He asked if we had insurance to fix his car."

After the jury went out, the insurance lawyer came out and offered Zane \$75,000 to settle. Zane turned it down.

I said, "Gosh, Zane, yesterday you were willing to settle for \$45,000, now you are turning down \$75,000."

I was thinking about the \$25,000 dollar fee which in the 1970s was really big money.

Rotary Club elects officers

At a recent meeting, the Rotary Club of Knoxville elected its 2017-18 board of directors, to be led by President Edwin A. Anderson of Cannon & Anderson Attorneys. The board begins its term on July 1.

James L. Decker, chief executive director of Medic Regional Blood Center, is president-elect and membership director. Katherine Sergeant, personnel director with the Knoxville-Knox County Community Action Committee, is vice president and International Service director.

William T. MacGrath, senior vice president and financial advisor with Pinnacle Financial Partners, is secretary.

Jennifer Sepaniak, chief financial officer for Schaad Companies, is treasurer and chair of the Financial & Audit Committee.

Outgoing president Allen Pannell, director of Business Analytics for Lincoln Memorial University, will serve as the representative of past presidents.

David E. Baumgartner, president of the Bluemont Group LLC, is Recruiting director.

Neil Coleman, a dermatopathologist/Laboratory Director at Dermatopathology Partners PC, is Local Service director.

Rachel A. Ford, executive director of the Knoxville Symphony Orchestra, is Education director.

Dennis R. McClane of Woolf, McClane, Bright, Allen & Carpenter PLLC is Member Retention director.

Brent A. Midyett, vice president of DFA/@home audio-video, is Communication director.

Mary Ann Mulhern, a trust officer with BB&T, is Club Service director.

Zane looked at me and said, "Sometimes you just need to roll the dice." The jury came back with a \$300,000 judgment, all collectible.

While Zane won far more than he lost, one time the jury in a rear-end accident case came back with a verdict for the defendant. When we walked out of the courthouse, Zane said to me, "Any lawyer who says he has never lost a case has never tried one either."

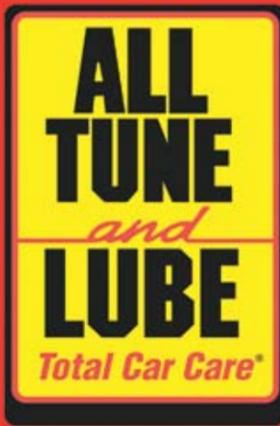
Zane won far more than he lost, however, and his services were in great demand. Once Zane and

I were riding an elevator with Knoxville lawyer Herb Moncier.

Herb said, "Zane, all of your clients come here with mud on their boots, wearing bibbed overalls."

Zane replied, "Yes, Herb, but they come up here with those bibs just stuffed full of money."

In the bland homogenized world we live in today, there are not many really colorful characters, and certainly hardly any like Zane Daniel, one of the best friends I ever had, and one of Tennessee's greatest lawyers.



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Defensive-minded Fulton girls are at their best playing 'ugly'

By Steve Williams

Fulton's girls basketball team turned its defense loose in a 49-24 win over perennial Division II-A state power Webb School at Jody Wright Arena on Jan. 17.

"Except for a couple of bad stretches, I thought we played hard," said John Fisher, who is in his 10th season as the Lady Falcons' head coach.

"Defensively, we moved and bumped people and did everything like they're taught to do and controlled the glass pretty well. We gave up some offensive boards, but I'm pleased with the effort."

The win lifted Fulton to 14-3. Webb, which has captured five state crowns and finished state runner-up four times since 2007, dropped to 12-8.

KeKe McKinney, a 6-2 senior post and University of Kentucky signee, led the Lady Falcons with 16 points, while junior Lay Lay Manning chipped in 12 points.

Webb couldn't produce a double-figure scorer. Junior shooting guard Haylee Luttrell tallied eight points and sophomore point guard Casey Collier six, including the Lady Spartans' only 3-point basket.

Fulton coaches said a big emphasis was for its 2-3 zone defense to get out on Webb's shooters and also keep them out of the lane.

McKinney and teammates got off to a slow start, as Webb jumped out to a 6-1 lead.

"That's us," said Coach Fisher. "We play sloppy. If it ain't ugly, we ain't playing well."

After taking its early lead, Webb hit a dry spell with missed shots and turnovers.

McKinney didn't score until the last minute of first quarter when she made two freethrows. The Lady Falcons inbounded the ball with 8.9 seconds remaining in the opening quarter and McKinney's bank shot gave them a 14-6 advantage.

McKinney came on strong and her final stat line included 14 rebounds, three assists, four blocks and three steals.

"Just being in the middle of our 2-3 zone, I think KeKe's size and length just cause teams trouble," said Fisher. "She's a strong player and there's a lot of contact when you're the biggest kid on the floor."

After Fulton led 20-11 at halftime, McKinney made a hustle play in the third quarter, intercepting the ball and feeding Manning. Lay Lay missed her shot, but KeKe followed to put it in for a 28-13 command.

Manning made an old fashion 3 at 3:16 to increase the lead to 31-13. McKinney's rebound basket made it 38-18 after three quarters.

KeKe scored the first six points of the fourth quarter as Fulton's lead swelled to 26 points. Her night was over with 1:22 remaining.

Fisher's teams have won three region titles in a row but lost at the buzzer to Grainger last season in the Sub-State.

The Lady Falcons advanced to the state tournament in McKinney's freshman season (2013-14) but bowed to Elizabethton in the Class AA title game.

As far as his team's potential this season, Fisher said, "We can

Continued on page 2



PHOTO BY KEN LAY

Members of the First Baptist Academy-Powell wrestling team at a recent practice. The Eagles represent the county's newest high school wrestling program. They compete as a Freshman/JV team in their first year. Teammates and members include assistant coach Eli Bishop, Derek Harrison, Eric Armstrong, Nick Hutchison and head coach Josh Neely.

FBA has county's newest wrestling program

By Ken Lay

Knox County has a new wrestling program. First Baptist Academy-Powell began competing in the sport this season and the Eagles are a Freshman/JV Team but Coach Josh Neely has some lofty expectations for the program's future.

The program may be new but the coach is no stranger to high school athletics and he's also a familiar face in the Powell Community. Josh Neely once played football and wrestled for the Powell Panthers before graduating from the school in 2015.

The 20-year old Neely is attending Roane State Community College and he's the son of longtime Powell assistant football coach and wrestling coach Larry Neely.

The wrestling team's season will conclude at the end of the month when they compete in the Freshman/JV Tournament at Northview Academy.

Neely said the first year of the program has been a successful one.

"I think, first and foremost, it's got to be fun and these guys really enjoy

wrestling," said Neely, who played football and wrestled at Powell High School for four years. "They really seem to love it."

"They come in here and they work hard every day and that just shows how much they enjoy the sport and how much they want to get better at it."

The Eagles practice in a gym that's in a converted warehouse behind Vaughn Pharmacy.

Numbers are small at First Baptist Academy this season as the team is comprised of Eric Armstrong (a freshman who wrestles in the 160-pound weight division); Derek Harrison (a sophomore 182-pounder) and sophomore Nick Hutchison, who also competes in the 160-pound class. Two of the grapplers are newcomers to the sport and Hutchison is the nephew of Jimmy Parton, the one-time Panthers head coach, who currently serves as an assistant to Larry Neely at Powell High.

Josh said that First Baptist Academy has its youth wrestling program in place and that's he's

hopeful that those athletes will pursue the sport in high school. He says that he must sell the sport by appealing to the athlete's desire to participate and compete.

Wrestling is intense and extremely demanding. But unlike other high school sports, wrestlers are not relegated to sitting on the bench.

"In wrestling, you can always find a match for somebody," Josh said. "Even if it's an exhibition match, it's a match."

"Wrestling is for everybody."

Although he coaches wrestling alongside high school chum and former teammate Eli Bishop, Josh said that football has been a bigger part of his life than wrestling. But like most wrestlers, he has a passion for that sport as well.

He hopes to pursue a coaching position in either sport and may look to coach college wrestling or high school, college and professional football.

"I'll go where God leads me," Josh said.

For now, he's at First

Baptist, where he attends church. He's grateful that headmaster Matt Mercer (who is also the school's boys basketball coach) has given him the opportunity.

Josh will use a long-term gauge to measure the program's success.

"My biggest thing is keeping these guys in the sport," he said.

The young coach has had plenty of help from his father and one-time Halls wrestling legend and longtime coach Chris Vandergriff. Vandergriff and the elder Neely were teammates with the Red Devils. Vandergriff has always been Knoxville's biggest wrestling ambassador. He's been retired from coaching for several years. But he's always lending a hand.

"They've both helped me," Josh said. "Coach V has really helped me. He and my dad were teammates."

"Dad has given me pointers on how to make a schedule. We've practiced at Powell and he's given us a mat."



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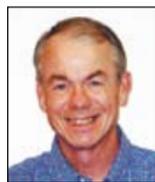
There's hope on the horizon for Lady Vols basketball

The once-great Tennessee women's basketball program has been sinking the past season and a half. Every now and then we hear a gurgle. But last week she made a splash.

The 71-69 come-from-behind win over No. 6 ranked Notre Dame at fired up Thompson-Boling Arena again showed us the Lady Vols are capable of great things from time to time.

This time it happened on a fitting night as it was a "We Back Pat" game, bringing attention to the Pat Summitt Foundation and that organization's fight against Alzheimer's disease in honor of the legendary UT coach who died last June after a five-year battle with the disease.

Inconsistency, however, has plagued the Lady Vols this season, much like it did most of last year until they finished with a flurry



By Steve Williams

to reach the NCAA tournament's Elite Eight.

But it's not just poor shooting and turnovers that have brought down the Lady Vols. Their effort and their heart and even their pride in the storied program have been publicly criticized at times. And while former old rival UConn recently won its 91st game in a row, what used to be automatic wins in the SEC for Tennessee have ceased one by one.

In fact, four nights prior to upsetting the Fighting Irish, Tennessee lost at Ole Miss 67-62, bringing an end to a 28-game win streak over the Lady Rebels that began in 1996.

Last February, the Lady Vols dropped out of The Associated Press' Top 25 poll for the first time in 31 years after Mississippi State beat them for the first time ever and Alabama snapped a 42-game losing

streak that stretched back to 1984.

In that loss to the Crimson Tide, Tennessee hit 26 percent from the field, was zero for 11 behind the 3-point arc and missed all 12 of its field goal attempts in the second quarter.

Poor shooting also was a problem against Notre Dame until Tennessee caught fire late in the third period and rallied back from a 62-48 deficit.

Diamond DeShields dominated the opening 94 seconds of the final period with her skill and speed. Her personal power surge, which produced eight points and included a laser pass inside, would have made WNBA owners drool. The outburst left DeShields a little winded but cut the gap to two.

"When she puts her mind to it, she can do just about anything," said UT Coach Holly Warlick after the game.

"She's incredibly talented," added Muffet McGraw,

Notre Dame coach.

Schaquilla Nunn came off the bench to give Tennessee a big lift with two baskets inside. UT grabbed a 69-67 lead on Meme Jackson's 3-pointer with 1:05 to go. After Notre Dame tied it, Tennessee gained possession with 34.6 seconds left. The Lady Vols worked the 30-second shot clock down and Jamie Nared, coming off a high post screen, hit the game-winning jumper with 10.3 on the clock.

With only three team fouls, Coach Warlick had three fouls to waste and wisely used them to trim the remaining time to 4.2. The Irish hurried to get off a 3-point shot but missed the mark.

Warlick was tickled with the win and was among many who felt Summitt contributed to it. Summitt's honorary seat on the Tennessee bench this season, put there by Holly, Pat's former player and longtime assistant, drew even more attention.

"We talked about her spirit, we talked about her resilience and we talked about her fight," said Warlick. "To win tonight on this night is a blessing to honor Pat the way we did, and to play like a Lady Vol team should play - together, hard and with heart."

Three nights later, however, another SEC team ended a losing streak against the Lady Vols as homestanding Auburn stormed back for a 79-61 win after trailing 25-8 at the end of the first quarter. The Lady Tigers had lost nine in a row in the series since 2010.

"I was in disbelief," said Warlick on her post-game radio show. "We got comfortable and then we stopped playing defense."

Tennessee, which got a career-high 26 points and 11 rebounds from 6-6 post Mercedes Russell, played an almost flawless first quarter, but committed 21 of its 22 turnovers over the last three periods. Auburn finished with a 33-14

advantage in points off turnovers, which was pretty much the difference.

The Lady Vols' pattern of inconsistency isn't likely to change this season. With a bench of only nine players, Warlick is limited in what she can do about it. That should change next season, with the nation's top ranked recruiting class headed to Knoxville.

That super group includes 6-foot guard Evina Westbrook of South Salem, Ore.; 5-7 point guard Anastasia Hayes of Murfreesboro Riverdale; 6-2 wing Rennia Davis of Jacksonville Ribault; and 6-4 center Kasiyahna Kushkituah of St. Francis in Alpharetta, Ga.

Westbrook is the nation's No. 2 ranked player in the espnW HoopGurlz Top 100. Hayes is No. 9, Davis No. 12 and Kushkituah No. 55.

So don't jump overboard just yet. This foursome plus returnees from this season's squad could make the Lady Vols' program great once again.

Catholic's No. 1 objective is finishing No. 1

By Steve Williams

Knoxville Catholic has been ranked No. 1 among the state's Class AA boys high school basketball teams in The Associated Press' first two polls of the season the past two weeks and the Fighting Irish appreciate it. But more importantly, they want to be in that position at the end of season.

"It's nice for our program, the fact the boys work hard and you're able to get some appreciation," said veteran



head coach Mike Hutchens before a practice session last Thursday afternoon, "but as soon as I saw it in the paper, I told the boys, 'It's not what you're ranked

in January, it's what you're ranked in March."

Catholic is 14-1, with its only loss coming at Chattanooga McCallie, the state's top ranked Division II-AA team, before Christmas.

As for his players' feelings about the No. 1 ranking, Hutchens said, "They are kind of brushing it aside and they understand our job is to get done what we've got to get done at the end of the year."

The Irishmen's No. 1 ranking is expected to be

seriously tested in a pair of tough District 4-AA games this Tuesday night at Alcoa and Friday night at neighborhood rival Christian Academy of Knoxville.

The No. 1 ranking is like having a target on your back, says Hutchens, who is in his 28th season as head coach at Catholic.

"These will be tough games on the road," he added. "We beat Alcoa by five points when we played them the first time at our place, and that was the

closest margin of victory we've had."

The Catholic coach wasn't surprised by the No. 1 ranking when it first came out, but he really didn't expect it this early in the season.

"We felt like we were going to have a good ball club because we've got everybody back but one kid," said Hutchens. "And we won 22 games last year and lost a tough one in the region semis to Fulton in the last 40 seconds. So our goal is we want to get past

that semifinal.

"We've come up short the last two years against Fulton basically in the last minute."

Even though it lost 72-58 at McCallie, Catholic may have made a favorable impression on AP voters in that game.

"McCallie went to the championship game of the Arby's Classic during the holidays," said Hutchens.

"When we played them it was a five-point game

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Tennessee's Search for an Athletics Director Continues

By Alex Norman

Vols fans frustration at the current state of its athletic program reached such a high point last week that incredibly, the University of Tennessee actually said something publicly about the search for a new Athletics Director.

This is incredible because since Dave Hart announced that he would be retiring *cough he's really being fired cough* as Tennessee's Athletics Director, UT has remained silent on the subject. For over 150 days, there have been no updates of any kind on exactly when they'd get around to hiring Hart's replacement or interviewing potential candidates.

This makes Derek Dooley's legendary 38 days in hiding following the 2011 loss to Kentucky look like open access.

A quick peak at social media or a short listen to sports talk radio shows the angst. And it isn't just because the football team underachieved. Across the board in the Fall semester Tennessee struggled in women's soccer, men's and women's cross country, and women's volleyball, placing them 113th in the Learfield Directors' Cup Rankings, and last amongst the 14 SEC schools.

This ties Tennessee with Loyola of Chicago and Saint Francis of Pennsylvania, among others.

Things don't look much better in the spring semester with men's and women's basketball struggling, and the only people that have confidence in baseball improving are the players' parents.

Folks, Tennessee is a softball school. Never forget it. Save us, Ralph and Karen Weekly!

And while the slump continues Tennessee has done all they could to avoid any public comment. Heck, I'm assuming that Dave Hart has been in the witness production program because we haven't heard from him since August. Those paychecks are still getting cashed, however. And that's a shame because

for all of Hart's faults, he is very good on a podium and could have helped lesson the fears and apprehension of Vols fans.

But finally, Tennessee sent up a smoke signal.

Last week they took to their own version of Pravda, the weekly "Vol Calls" radio program, and a statement was read to a hungry Big Orange nation, with confirmation of the schedule for Beverly Davenport.

"Dr. Davenport arrives on Feb. 15 to begin serving as UT Knoxville's chancellor. She has said that filling the AD position is one of her top priorities. The athletic director serves as a member of the chancellor's cabinet. Dr. Davenport

has emphasized the importance of finding the best person for this key role. The university is in the midst of a procurement process to hire a search firm to assist with the search. Once that process concludes, UT will release information about the firm that is selected. At that time, the campus will also announce the members of the search committee and provide a tentative schedule for the search process. We hope to announce these details soon. From there the search committee and the firm will begin working together to begin the national search. Dave Hart continues to serve as the Athletic Director for the UT Knoxville campus. His retirement date is June 30, 2017."

My first reaction was a vigorous shaking of my head. The second reaction was laughter. After all this time, Tennessee is just now getting in the process of hiring a search firm? And why the heck is a search firm needed in the first

place! Search firms helped you get Derek Dooley as a football coach, Dave Hart as Athletics Director and Donnie Tyndall as basketball coach.

Tennessee would be better served taking the thousands of dollars (your dollars as fans, remember that) earmarked for the search committee and setting it on fire.

What is so hard about calling Phillip Fulmer and David Blackburn, bringing them in for interviews, and then picking the one you think would be the best fit? Heck, I'm sure their contact information is still in your system.

It's time to stop delaying things and to have someone step up and make a decision.

Instead, the rare statement from UT asks for patience.

That is something that has not been lacking from Tennessee fans.

Leadership from UT has been.

Defensive-minded Fulton girls are at their best playing 'ugly'

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guard you. If we keep developing offensively, I think the sky is the limit."

Fulton made seven 3-point shots and stopped West 59-15 for win No. 15 Thursday night.

The Lady Falcons' losses

have come against No. 7 ranked Gatlinburg-Pittman, No. 6 ranked McMinn Central and Science Hill, a Class AAA team. They'll get a chance to avenge their loss to G-P when the Lady Highlanders visit Friday.

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Sheely's OT shot gives Falcons tourney-like win over Webb

By Steve Williams

It's only January. February Frenzy and March Madness are still a good ways off, but both Fulton senior point guard Markese Sheely and veteran head coach Jody Wright felt their Jan. 17 game against Webb School had a tournament feel to it.

"We had a lot of fun playing in this game tonight," said Sheely, who made the winning shot in overtime as the Falcons edged visiting Webb School 68-65. "It felt like a big game. It kind of felt like a region semifinal game."

Coach Wright said the opponents, Ricky Norris' Spartans, were what made it feel like a tournament game to him.

"Webb is such a well-coached team," said Wright, who guided Fulton to the Class AA state title last season in Murfreesboro. "They're athletic and they do so many things well."

"It had a tournament feel to it in that they made you pay for mistakes. That usually happens in the tournament when you're up against a really good team. If we missed a rotation or had a bad close-out, they made us pay."

The hard-earned victory lifted Fulton, which is ranked No. 3 in the state, to 12-2. Webb fell to 8-9.

Sheely led the Falcons with 26 points, including four 3-point shots. Post J'Coryan Anderson added

10 points, senior Donovan Filer and Edward Lacy eight each and Trey Davis seven.

Fulton made eight 3-point shots, but Sheely's game-winner from the left corner took top prize. It erased the one-point lead Webb took with 41 seconds remaining.

"I got a good look at it," said Sheely.

"Markese had a good night," added Coach Wright. "He has been shooting the ball well lately. And he is the guy we wanted to let 'er rip there late."

Webb got 28 points from Chase Ridenour, 25 from Myles Rasnick and nine from Emory Lanier.

The contest featured a big run by each team in regulation play.

Fulton fell behind 14-5 before slicing the deficit to 14-12 at the end of first quarter. Josh Berry's 3-point corner shot gave the Falcons a 17-14 lead and capped a 12-point run.

Fulton expanded its advantage to 28-17 and was ahead 33-23 when Webb went on a 16-point run that resulted in a 39-33 advantage in the third period.

The Spartans led by one (44-43) after three stops and the game stayed close the rest of the way.

Rasnick sank two clutch free throws with 15.9 seconds left to tie game at 56-all and Sheely missed a shot at the buzzer, sending

the game into overtime.

With three seconds to go, Webb had the ball side front court, but Ridenour missed a potential-tying 3-point shot.

Wright felt the key to the win was "our ability to get stops in the last couple of minutes."

Two senior post players for Fulton - Cumeucus Cates and Chaton Mobley - have been sidelined with injuries, but Cates may be returning to action this week and Mobley, who had knee surgery after being injured late in the football season, may be able to begin practice.

"Right now we've got to get some guys back healthy," said Wright. "We've got a lot of young guys that we're playing."

"There's a lot out there left for this bunch in terms of improvement and learning how to compete every day in practice. I don't think this team has even come close to reaching its potential. I think they have a chance to be good if they get some things figured out."

Fulton notched its 13th win by defeating West 66-53 Thursday. The Falcons' two losses came against Cleveland in a doubleheader at Johnson City in mid-December and at Maryville in the finals of its holiday tournament.



PHOTO BY LEXIE GILLAND

Webb School's Chase Ridenour works for a shot against Donovan Filer of Fulton in a Jan. 17 high school clash at Jody Wright Arena. Ridenour scored a game-high 28 points, but the Falcons pulled out a 68-65 overtime win.

Gibbs duo among grapplers breaking barriers

By Ken Lay

For years, wrestling has been regarded as the roughest and toughest sport sanctioned by the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association and it has always been reserved largely for boys.

Well that's just not the case anymore. Girls have now taken up the sport and girls wrestling has grown by leaps and bounds recently.

Many area schools have welcomed female wrestlers. Halls, Gibbs, Hardin Valley, Academy, Karns and Farragut have girls on their 2016-17 rosters and Bearden has, it seems, enough female grapplers to nearly field a full team.

Area female wrestlers also competed in a tournament of their own at Halls High School early last week. The Halls JV/Freshman/Girls Tournament was contested on Monday, Jan. 16.

Gibbs had a region champion last year in Cailey Griffin. She won the region title as a junior last season and took fourth at the State Tournament as a first-year wrestler.

Griffin is back on the mat in 2016-17 and she now has a teammate and that didn't happen by accident.

"I've always enjoyed competing. I played soccer for 11 years," Griffin said. "Last year was the first year that I took off from soccer and I did it to wrestle."

"I've always enjoyed a challenge." Griffin now finds her athletic challenge on the mat in a gym and she loves the sport.

"It's a one-on-one sport," she said. "But you also have a team there to support you. Our team at Gibbs is a family and it's a great family."

"When you lose, you're devastated but you learn from it."

Girls have competed in high school wrestling for more than two decades. But when the sport first came on the scene, girls competed against the boys in California.

That too has changed. Any girls who wrestles against boys is ineligible to wrestle in the girls state tournament at the end

of the season in Tennessee.

"Some girls do wrestle guys but if you wrestle against guys, then you're [disqualified] from the [girls] State Tournament and you have to wrestle in the State Tournament against the guys," said Griffin, who first became interested in the sport while watching her brother Connor, a sophomore who is also in the Eagles wrestling program.

In the short time that Griffin has wrestled, she's seen growth.

"Last year when I would go to a tournament, there might be one other girl," she recalled. "Now you go to a tournament and there'll be four or five girls in a bracket."

Griffin, who competes in the 148-pound weight division for Gibbs, has done her part to grow high school girls wrestling.

"I've enjoyed the sport so much that I tried to recruit some girls to come out for the team," she said.

She was able to get Kimberly Garcia, a junior 167-pounder, to join.

"I was only able to get Kim to come out but man, she's going to be great," Griffin said.

Like Griffin, Garcia is no stranger to sports and she also developed a passion for the sport while watching her brother compete. Her older brother, Brandon, wrestled at Fulton. She has a younger brother (Michael) who is on Halls Middle School's team.

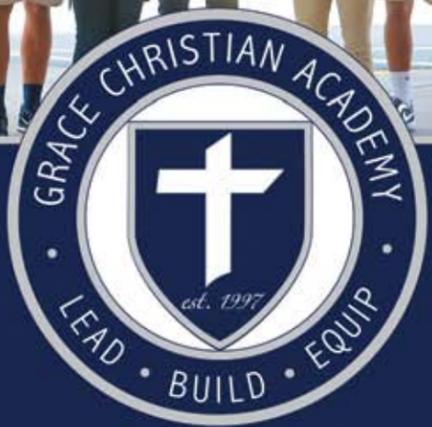
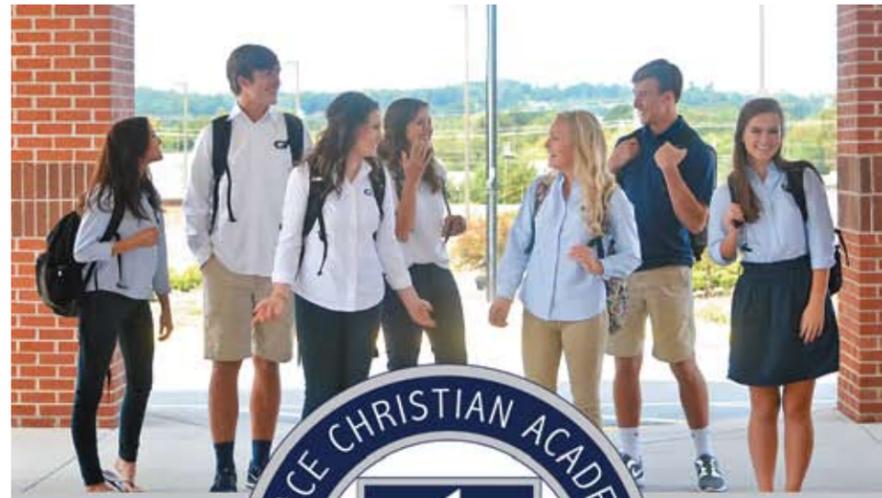
Kimberly also enjoys the individual completion.

"It's different from most other sports," said Garcia. "The competition is different and the thing that appeals to me is the feeling that you feel when you win."

Gibbs coach Tim Pitman has a strong passion for the sport and he's built one of Knox County's elite programs. He's happy to see girls taking up the sport that he loves.

"I'm proud of all of my kids and I'm really proud of these girls," Pitman said. "Cailey is great. Kim is great and I really wish I had more [girls]."

"I will coach anybody who wants to come out here and wrestle."



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Gibbs has short morning against rival Patriots 60-18

By Ken Lay

Gibbs High School's wrestling team answered an early-morning wakeup call Wednesday morning to renew its grappling rivalry with Union County.

And the Eagles recorded an easy victory in front of its student body. The Eagles routed an undermanned Patriots squad 60-18.

Gibbs and Union County have had a longstanding rivalry dating back to when they were district rivals several years ago. The two schools also took similar paths to wrestling prominence in the early 2000's. Recently, the Eagles have become a powerhouse and this season, the Patriots have struggled.

But Gibbs coach Tim Pittman said that the rivalry hasn't lost much of its luster. "It's always fun to wrestle them," Pittman said. "Back when we were a small school we had a rivalry with them. Now, we're still kind of crosstown rivals.

"They're struggling this year because they've had some people quit and as a coach, I feel like I have to keep my kids out here and in the program."

Gibbs is winning and everybody loves a winner.

"Everybody is really getting behind our program," Pittman said. "As a school and coaches, we all support each other.

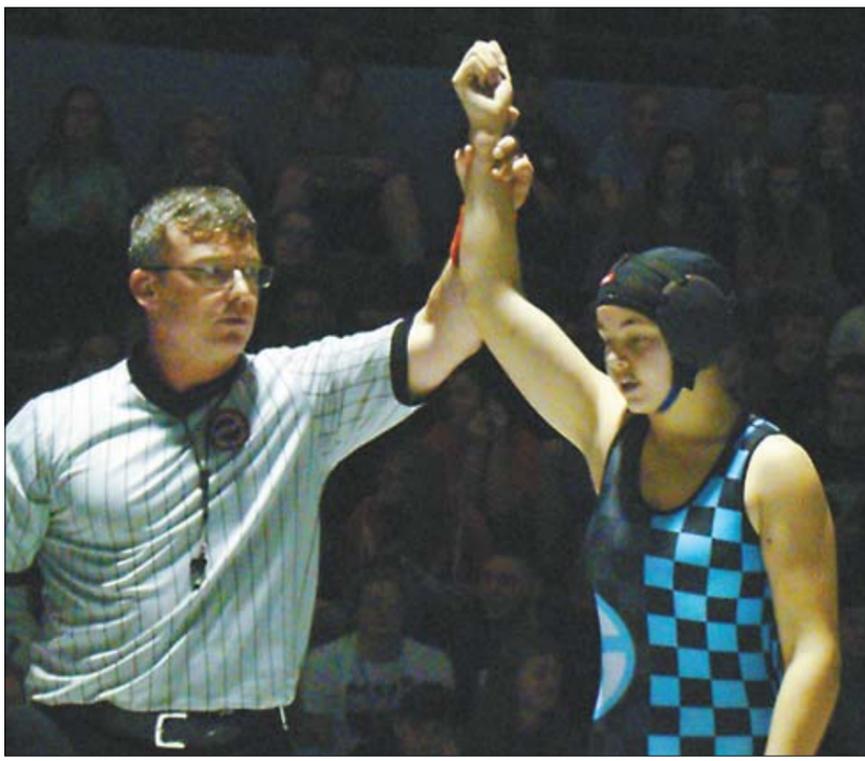
Union County took a 12-0 lead Wednesday morning Dalton Traun pinned George Gillman in 5 minutes, 14 seconds to win the 120-pound bout. At 126, UCHS's Chloe Bowman won by forfeit.

The Eagles got on the board in the 132-pound match when Landon Adzima pinned Tyler Moyers in 4:08 to make the team score 12-6.

Mathew Maxwell (138 pounds), Christian Cook (145), Tim Buangula, Noel Leyva (160), Michael Myers (170) and Noah Colorusso (220) all picked up forfeit wins for the host Eagles. The teams double forfeited at 113 and Union County 106-pounder Tyler Spencer won via forfeit.

Elijah Lawson (195) won by fall for the Eagles. Gibbs 182-pounder H.T. Fortner, Tennessee's top-ranked 182-pound wrestler, pinned Robert Charrette in 4:43.

In the 285-pound division, the Eagles picked up a win from Tyson Hefner, who pinned Bradley Acuff in 57 seconds.



PHOTOS BY KEN LAY.

Top: Gibbs wrestler Cailey Griffin celebrates an exhibition victory over Union County's Chloe Bowman Wednesday morning in Corryton. Griffin won a region title last season and is one of two girls in the Eagles powerhouse wrestling program. This year, she was joined on the team by Kimberly Garcia.

Above: Gibbs High wrestler George Gillman tangles with Union County's Dalton Traun in a Wednesday morning match at Gibbs. Traun won the bout but the Eagles prevailed in the match 60-18.

Catholic's No. 1 objective is finishing No. 1

Continued from page 2

with five minutes to go and then our big Brock Jancek fouled out. That hurt us inside and McCallie is huge. They have several kids 6-6 and 6-5, including a 6-6 guard, and one 6-7 player. We had to foul and they made some free throws at the end."

Defense is Catholic's strength.

"We're only giving up 46 points per game," said Hutchens. "We've only had 60 broken on us I think twice the whole year. Defense doesn't have an off night."

By the way, Catholic plays man-to-man. "We've played a zone 30 seconds this season," pointed out Hutchens.

Catholic also has good shooters.

"We have shot the ball really well this year, in fact, 54.4 percent," said Hutchens. "Our inside game has been really strong with 6-7 junior Brock Jancek. He's averaging 15 points and six rebounds.

"Jack Sompayrac, our junior shooting guard, is averaging 15 points per game and he's shooting 50 percent for the year from 3-point range (51 of 102).

"We have an outstanding point guard in senior Luke Smith. In fact, at Game 15, he's already at 108 assists. His assist/turnover ratio is 5 to 1. That's as good as it gets."

The team's starting lineup also includes 6-2 junior forward Tony Scott III and 6-1 senior guard Chase Kuercshen, who was a standout on the school's football team this past fall.

Key reserves include Dawson Anderson, a 6-4 senior forward and shot blocker, and junior guard Jackson Rowan, who is hitting 40 percent from 3-point land.

As a team, Catholic is averaging only 9.9 turnovers per outing.

Considering all these stats, it's no wonder the Irishmen are ranked No. 1.

But more importantly, they know the real challenge is ending up there.

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The Doctor is in

a weekly column by
Dr. Jim Ferguson

Uh-Oh

You know you're in trouble when you wake up in the middle of the night and say to yourself, "I'm going to be sick." I'm not talking about over indulgence and a spinning bed after a New Year's celebration. I learned a new word for such debauchery. Crapulous comes from Latin and Greek for drunkenness and hangover. Some words are so descriptive.

My thoughts of "Uh-Oh" quickly shifted to wishful thinking. "Maybe if I lie here quietly the nausea will pass." Unfortunately, it frequently doesn't, and then it's a race to the bathroom, and the undignified decision of which way to face the loo. With my recent GIs (gastrointestinal affliction) I resorted to the sitting position with a trash can on my lap. This is preferable to mopping the floor, and seems more acceptable than the kneeling position and staring into a toilet bowl. I've

discovered that trash can stains and odors don't help settle a stomach. In college we called hanging onto the toilet bowl, "driving the bus."

Holidays are a time of friends, parties and togetherness. People crisscross the country in cramped airplanes breathing miasmatic air and sharing germs from East to West Coasts. And there's considerable trust and risk involving party food, shaking hands and politely hugging folks with Holiday bonhomie. Europeans greet each other with kisses on the cheeks. I'm not sure that's wise during the influenza season or with a stomach bug in the community.

Americans eat out more than they used to, and despite stringent guidelines for food care, food poisoning is always a possibility. Actually, I'm surprised this doesn't happen more often than it does. You're probably safer

preparing your own food, but this does not protect you against a tainted onion such as caused big problems for patrons some years ago in the O'Charley's restaurant chain.

My grandson Oakley loves chocolate milk which we prepare by adding a little chocolate syrup to his milk. Children trust their parents and grandparents so it never occurred to the little guy to question the snack we'd given him. We knew something was wrong when Oakley told us there was "too much chocolate in this milk." It was then we discovered that the milk was curdled! Our error was rewarded with Oakley vomiting on the floor.

Our gut is designed to reject noxious or tainted foods and infectious agents such as viruses and bacteria. It may not be a pleasant experience to see chocolate milk coming back up, but the gut is designed to purge itself when necessary. Similar evacuations are the modus operandi of our southern reaches as well.

The stomach produces up to two quarts of hydrochloric acid each twenty-four hours. The acid aids in digestion by breaking down protein bonds and suppresses bacterial overgrowth. I'm amazed that this potent acid doesn't damage the stomach. Prostaglandins regulate

blood flow and physiology in the stomach, suppressing acid production and maintaining the protective alkaline mucous layer which neutralizes surface acid. Remember, NSAIDs (non steroid anti-inflammatory drugs) like aspirin, Motrin and Aleve inhibit prostaglandin production and are associated with peptic ulcer disease.

I think you appreciate good health more when it returns after an illness. One of my axioms is "misery makes one thankful for its passage." As the "GI bug" struck one after the other in our family (despite quarantine efforts) I waited and hoped I would escape its misery. I didn't. I'm sure I got it caring for my sick granddaughter, and I told my similarly afflicted daughter that this is the price of love. Unfortunately, there's not a vaccine for the usual infectious GI bugs like there is to prevent influenza. There is a vaccination for kids to prevent the particularly tasty GI Rotavirus. There are also vaccines for cholera and bacterial dysentery (salmonella). However, for adults not traveling to third world countries it's best to just be careful what you eat and who you kiss on the cheek.

Perhaps it's good to occasionally be humbled. Brother Paul argued we should be "thankful in all things." Philosophically

that may be true, but watching supper come back up and out your nose tests the notion of thankfulness. Paul goes on to say suffering brings perseverance, builds character and produces hope (Romans 5). I don't think he was referring to vomiting and diarrhea.

Though I'm less of an optimist than my angelic wife Becky, I spend most of my time in the sphere of thankfulness. Unfortunately, this dissipates like all energy systems of the universe - a process known as entropy. Spirituality dissipates unless it is nurtured and fed with "daily bread." Hans and Frans from SNL would say you've got to "pump it up!"

Adversity and illness often takes me to the other "T," trust. There's an old hymn that goes, "trust and obey, for there's no other way to be happy, in Jesus you must trust and obey." Admittedly, it is difficult, but sages down through the ages and across cultures have come to the same conclusion. Trust in a greater power than man, his science or his wisdom of the moment is integral to happiness.

As I pen this essay we are approaching the January 20 inauguration, and I am sickened by the reaction of certain Democrats and liberal-progressives. There is a term called the "ugly American." An

example is an American in a French bistro who demands a cheeseburger and for the serenading violinist to play Rocky Top. Apparently, some of these disrespectful Americans have come home. While a recent poll found that 57% of Democrats wanted Trump to succeed, there are those who so cling to their ideology, power and position that they would subvert the Constitution, the orderly transfer of power and drown us all in their own misery. We have seen the utter hypocrisy and depravity of those who label themselves as "tolerant," yet savaged singer Jennifer Holliday. These deplorables then turned on Nicole Kidman who dared to say she believed in democracy, the Constitution and we should support the election process.

I recently wrote an essay focusing on Micah 6:8. Read it. The current politic challenges me with justice versus mercy. Perhaps the Bard said it best in The Merchant of Venice: "Earthly power doth then show likest God's when mercy seasons justice." Maybe I'll get there in the weeks to come, but the "deplorables" in Hollywood, Congress and CNN threaten to take all the Christian out of me.

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

Celebrating Train Your Dog Month

January is National Train Your Dog Month. We hope you included dog training as part of your New Years Resolution. The importance of basic training and socialization is essential to enjoying your dog in more places. A strong training foundation starts with the dog owner understanding proper dog etiquette and becoming an active participant in training their dog. Nothing is more rewarding than enjoying the company of a well-behaved dog in a social setting. Good manners and proper dog etiquette opens a whole new world for you and your dog to enjoy together.

The American Humane Association estimates approximately 1.2 million dogs are euthanized



By Howard Baker, RN BSN

yearly and about 10% are related to behavior issues. These statistics are staggering and emphasize the importance of having a well-behaved dog. No one likes being in the company of an ill-behaved dog. However, a dog with good manners and proper

etiquette can be the life of a party—especially if Fido has a few entertaining tricks to perform.

Hobo the Wonder Dog was abused, frightened, and despondent when he was rescued. With love, patience, and a professional dog trainer Hobo thrives. Hobo exemplifies the spirit and value of professional dog training. Hiring a professional can be a daunting task; here are a few tips to help select a trainer best

suited for you and your dog.

Background: What experience, certifications, and education does the trainer have qualifying them to train your dog. Does the trainer belong to a professional association, and if not, why? Trainers may have a specialty such as behavior, obedience, tricks, or agility. Trainers with a specialty and passion in the area of your goals will deliver better results. Request references and call them.

Methods: Trainers may use different methodologies such as punishing bad behavior while others use positive reinforcement and rewards for good behavior. Hobo the Wonder Dog only trains with positive reinforcement and rewards for good behavior methods.

References: I say again request references and call them.

Hobo's trainer came highly recommended by another dog trainer because of their background, personality, method of training and experience with dogs having special needs. I stress the importance of references because they can attest to the trainer's promptness, professionalism, results, manners and methods. This is where you dig in and ask the questions you may not want to ask the prospect.

Our celebration of National Train Your Dog Month is a celebration of Hobo's life. We believe wholeheartedly in the skills, heart, experience, education and the person who helped bring Hobo back to life. You can see the transformation on Hobo the Wonder Dog's YouTube channel video titled "The First Five Months." If you will spend fifteen minutes three or four times



a week and incorporate training into everyday life and outings; before you know it—you'll be Celebrating Train Your Dog Month every month.

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My trials with knee surgery

By Pat Winger

Knee replacement surgery isn't what it used to be. Take it from one who has just survived it. Although the surgical procedure went very well, the follow up to the surgery did not. Much of my misery could easily have been avoided if I had known in advance about the short cuts in patient care

resulting from something known as "Medicare Bundling."

A little over a year ago, Medicare - in its effort to save money - decided to reimburse providers of knee and hip replacement services with one, lump sum rather than reimbursing each provider separately - known as

"fee-for-service." This is when the scramble for a larger part of the pie began, according to my research. Thus, hospitals and surgeons have begun putting together "special orthopedic units" to care for post-surgical patients in an attempt to make up for the lessened reimbursement for their services. The

scramble has also extended to rehab centers. Although Medicare will still pay for up to 20 days in a rehab facility post knee or hip replacement surgery, the centers are now incentivized to discharge these patients in as little as 7 to 10 days. The less time the patient stays at the rehab center, the more of the overall lump sum payment by Medicare they receive.

Currently, UT Hospital has what it calls the "Advanced Orthopedic Unit," while a similar unit was recently described to be in the works at Tennova, Turkey Creek. There may be such units springing up in other hospitals in the region as well. My stay in one turned out to be a miserable experience, so beware when planning for a knee or hip replacement.

What can go wrong in two days? This is the length of time a knee replacement patient is currently hospitalized post-surgery. In my case, there was almost no care by a nurse, while I did see a helper, occasionally, who took vital signs. When I did need assistance on the second day, no one came. When I became physically ill, and my condition was observed, my discharge was dramatically placed in motion so as not to violate the unit's 2-day maximum stay rule. I'm certain that patients aren't usually discharged just as illness symptoms surface two days post-surgery. However, apparently, "Medicare Bundling" has replaced quality patient care as to importance in such situations.

I was very sick upon arrival at the rehab center, and they couldn't have been

more kind and helpful. However, I lost one full day of necessary physical therapy. The next day, I was evaluated and told that I would be discharged on my 7th day there. I had not had one PT session at that point. On the day of my discharge, I had only experienced 4 hours total of physical therapy. My doctor's post-op plan and orders were completely ignored, and I was sent home to stay alone 10 days post-surgery, since the orders for Home Health services didn't transfer to the rehab center as I had been assured they would be. The follow up physical therapy was placed on hold for another two weeks, placing an optimum recovery at risk.

If I ever need another replacement surgery, you can take it to the bank that I will plan much differently. First, I will contact the Patient Advocate's office at my hospital of choice. Since there would be no one to stay with me post-surgery 24/7, an Advocate would need to be on my speed dial. I have learned that these "special units" are counting on a family member or friend to stay with each patient. This person is expected to look after the patient, allowing the Unit to staff with fewer nurses. In the absence of such a person, there is no one to help, and the patients are expected to do the best they can under the circumstances - bathe, dress, etc. If problems arise, such as residual blurred vision or help needed with an insulin pump or ostomy appliance, there is no one available to help - or at least, that was my experience. In the handbook

given to each patient before surgery, this lack of staff isn't mentioned, but patients are told it is "healthy" for them to do all of these things themselves. Yet, I noticed that on my itemized bill, all that I did myself, with great difficulty, was listed as Occupational Therapy, and Medicare was charged handsomely for it.

What else would I do differently? I would research the possibility of being placed on a regular, surgical floor post-surgery rather than in a special orthopedic unit. On a regular floor, the chances would be greater of appropriate staffing. As patients, we definitely have rights, but we must stand up for them when our health, safety, and welfare are at risk. Also, I doubt that there would be a hard and fast 2-Day rule which would allow time to treat the unexpected before discharge. If my surgeon will not cooperate with my requests, I will find another surgeon and/or facility. There are many good ones in our area. Also, I will speak with my assigned Case Manager before entering the hospital. Making sure that he/she knows my wishes and carries them out as all parties will have agreed. In my case, I never saw or spoke with a hospital Case Manager, nor did I receive a follow up phone call. I believed what I was told in the Patient Handbook and the pre-surgery required class. Never again! Those of us with weak support systems must take charge, plan, and advocate for ourselves for the best possible outcome.



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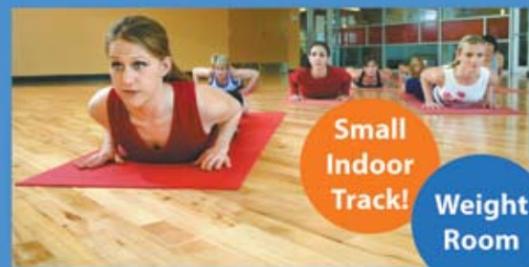
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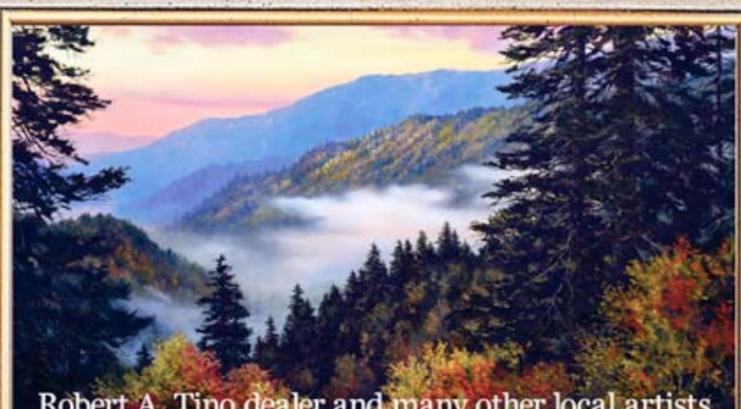
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Focus on Seniors: Falls Prevention Presentation to be at Blount County Public Library

There are preventive measures that can help guard against falls, and three proven exercise programs for seniors will be introduced during the "Falls Prevention" program at the Blount County Public Library on Wednesday, January 25, at 11 a.m.

The program, part of the Focus on Seniors series, is co-sponsored by the library and by the Blount County Office on Aging. Class schedules will be distributed and enrollment forms will be available.

Presenters include Jim Norton, Arthritis Foundation certified instructor for "Walk with Ease;" Beth La Fontaine, Community Health Coordinator for The University of Tennessee Medical Center and trainer with the "Matter of Balance" program; and Joani

Shaver, Office on Aging Director, who will talk about "Staying Active and Independent for Life" (S.A.I.L.). Following is an overview of the three fall prevention programs:

1. Walk with Ease is an evidence-based program provided through the Arthritis Foundation designed to reduce pain and improve overall health.

2. A Matter of Balance (MOB) is designed to reduce the fear of falling and to increase activity levels among older adults. Participants learn to set realistic goals to increase activity, change their environment to reduce fall risk factors, and learn simple exercises to increase strength and balance.

3. Staying Active and Independent for Life (S.A.I.L.) is a fitness exercise class

designed to build strength and balance. It meets 2-3 times per week for 1 hour. There are up to 20 participants in each class and the exercises can be done sitting or standing at a person's own pace. The class includes aerobics, balance exercises, strength training with hand weights or wrist and ankle weights, along with stretching exercises. Classes are led by a certified fitness instructor who attended the 2-day S.A.I.L. Instructor Training Program.

About Joani Shaver: Shaver is Director of the Blount County Office on Aging. A Certified Information & Referral Specialist for Aging Issues, Shaver has worked with elderly populations in several areas of the country. She holds a Bachelor's degree

in Community Service from Michigan State University and has worked in non-profit and higher education organizations all of her career. Under her direction, the Senior Miles (SMiles) transportation for elderly program has been implemented in Blount County.

Shaver can be reached at the Blount County Community Action Agency at 865-983-8411 or by email at jshaver@blountcaa.org. The Community Action Agency website is <http://www.blountcaa.org/>

The Office on Aging also publishes the Senior Services Directory which is available at no cost from the library, the Community Action Agency, Blount Memorial Hospital and the Senior Center at Everett. Open to the public, this program is hosted by



Barnum Bailey Circus has announced it is going out of business at the end of this year. Older Knoxvilleians may remember this scene when the circus visited Knoxville in the 1930's and set up the "Big Top" at the old airfield off Sutherland Avenue and Mann Street. The old airfield, the forerunner of McGhee Tyson Airport, is recognized today with a banner in the Pond Gap neighborhood. (Photo courtesy of Trevor L. Dunlap)

the Blount County Public Library, located at 508 N. Cusick Street, Maryville, where services are an example of your tax dollars at work for you.

For further information about library programs or services, call the library at 982-0981 or visit the Web

site at www.blountlibrary.org. To sign up to receive a monthly calendar by email, go to the library's Home Page and type your email address in the box at the top right that says "Email for library news."

Democrats talk strategy

By Mike Steely
steelym@knoxfocus.com

"Folks are fed up. We're on the right side of history. We're at a crossroads," Mary Mancini told about 200 activists and party officials recently during a strategy meeting of the Knox County Democratic Party at the Communications Workers of America headquarters.

The Tennessee Democratic Chairperson has been touring the state meeting with party members to develop how the

state party can help the local Democrats and candidates in local elections. She's urging local party members to contact and interact with other progressive organizations and not be shy about being recognized as Democrats.

Speaking of progressives locally she asked the party members "not to be more like Republicans" because Mancini believes, "Our values are the majority values of most of the people in the state."

Cont. on page 6



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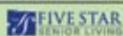
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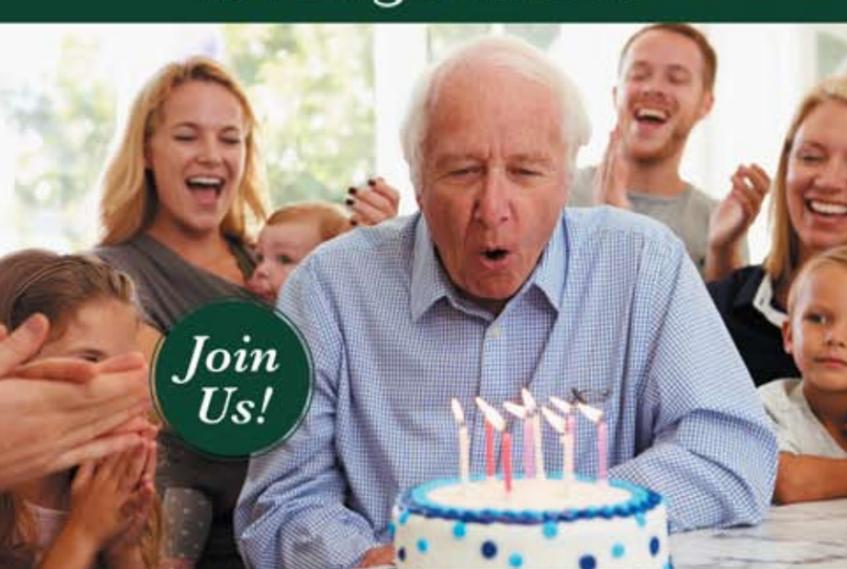
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LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

THIS LETTER IS FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

NAMES OF INTERESTED PARTIES: Heirs of Sharon B. Monett, Deceased Home Federal Bank of Tennessee Arrow Financial Services, LLC

Notice is hereby given that by virtue of authority vested in the undersigned, Investor's Trust Company, Trustee, by that certain Trust Deed executed to Investor's Trust Company, Trustee, by Sharon B. Monett, Unmarried, dated October 28, 2005, and recorded as Instrument No. 200511010039486, in the Register's Office for Knox County, Tennessee, the undersigned will, at about 11:00 o'clock A.M. on February 7, 2017, at the front door of the City & County Building, Main Avenue Level, nearest Main Assembly Room, Knoxville, Knox County, Tennessee, offer for sale, and sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash in hand, and in bar of all homestead rights, the statutory right of redemption and the equity of redemption, which are waived in said Trust Deed property conveyed by said Trust Deed, which is described as follows:

TRACT I: SITUATED in District Nine (9), (formerly Threel), of Knox County, Tennessee and within the 25th Ward of the City of Knoxville, Tennessee, and being known as Lot 4 of the Varner Addition, as shown by the survey of Lack & Blakely, Engineers, Knoxville, Tennessee, dated April 1, 1939, and being more fully described as follows:

BEGINNING at an iron pin in the East side of Maryville Pike (formerly Goode Avenue), said beginning point being distant 152 feet Southerly from the Southeast corner of Flenikens Avenue and Maryville Pike; thence from said beginning point with the Eastern line of Maryville Pike in a Southerly direction, 52 feet to an iron pin; thence with the South line of the property of the first parties in a Southeasterly direction, 201 feet to an iron pin; thence North 22 deg. 30 min. East 84 feet to an iron pin; thence in a Westerly direction, 196.3 feet to the place of BEGINNING.

TRACT II: SITUATED in District Nine (9) (formerly Threel) of Knox County, Tennessee, and within the 25th Ward of the City of Knoxville, Tennessee, fronting 52 feet on the East side of Goode Avenue, and being more fully described as follows:

BEGINNING at an iron pin in the East line of Goode Avenue at the end of a concrete wall, said beginning point being distant 100 feet Southerly from the Southeast corner of Flenikens Avenue and Goode Avenue; thence from said beginning point, South 74 deg. 53 min. East 199 feet to an iron pin; thence South 22 deg. 30 min. West 96 feet to an iron pin, corner to property sold to Hyder, February 11, 1955; thence with the line of said property in a Northwesterly direction, 196.3 feet to an iron pin in the East line of Goode Avenue; thence with said line a Northerly direction, 52 feet to the place of BEGINNING. The same being referred to as Lot 3, in the Varner Addition, as shown by map prepared by Lack and Blakely, Engineers, dated April 1, 1939. (Goode Avenue referred to above is now known as Maryville Pike.)

BEING the same property conveyed to Sharon B. Monett, Unmarried, by Eunice J. Davis, Unmarried, by Warranty Deed dated October 25, 2005, and recorded as Instrument No. 200511010039485, in the Register's Office for Knox County, Tennessee. Sharon B. Monett died intestate in Knox County, Tennessee, on or about August 4, 2016, and title to the above described property passed to the surviving heirs at law of Sharon B. Monett.

The street address of the above described property is believed to be 284 Maryville Pike, Knoxville, Tennessee 37920; Control No. 10SPC-014, but such address is not part of the legal description of the property sold herein and in the event of any discrepancy, the legal description herein shall control.

In the event the high bidder at the foreclosure sale should fail to comply with the submitted bid, the Trustee shall have the option of accepting the next highest bid in which the bidder is able to comply, or re-advertise and sell at a second sale.

The right is reserved to adjourn the day of the sale to another day certain without further publication, upon announcement at the time set forth above.

Said sale will be made subject to superior unpaid liens, claims and taxes, if any.

Said sale is being made upon the request of Home Federal Bank of Tennessee, (the owner and holder of the indebtedness secured by said Trust Deed due to the failure of said makers to comply with all provisions of said Trust Deed.

THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

INVESTOR'S TRUST COMPANY, SUBSTITUTION TRUSTEE By: _____

M. JOYCE CANNON, ASSISTANT SECRETARY

Published this: January 16, 2017; January 23, 2017; January 30, 2017.

Monett Sharon 1-5-7 Nts GDSjpb/Monett Sharon 1-5-17 Nts

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE'S SALE

Sale on public auction will be on February 8, 2017 at or about 10:00AM local time, at the North door, Knox County Courthouse, Knoxville, Tennessee, conducted by the Substitute Trustee as identified and set forth herein below, pursuant to Deed of Trust executed by ROY M MCFARLAND AND VIRGINIA R MCFARLAND, to AMERICAN TITLE COMPANY, Trustee, on June 15, 2006, as Instrument No. 200606260108469 in the real property records of Knox County Register's Office, Tennessee.

Owner of Debt: U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee for Residential Asset Securities Corporation, Home Equity Mortgage Asset-Backed Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2006-KS7

The following real estate located in Knox County, Tennessee, will be sold to the highest call bidder subject to all unpaid taxes, prior liens and encumbrances of record:

SITUATED IN DISTRICT EIGHT (8) OF KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE, AND WITHOUT THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE, AND BEING MORE FULLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

BEGINNING ON AN IRON PIN ON THE NORTH RIGHT OF WAY OF FAIRVIEW ROAD ADJOINING THE E. B. RENFRO PROPERTY AND IS APPROXIMATELY 790.0 FEET FROM THE CENTER OF RIDGEVIEW ROAD; THENCE WITH THE PROPERTY LINE OF E. B. RENFRO, NORTH 19 DEG. 21 MIN. EAST, 224.50 FEET TO AN IRON PIN ADJOINING THE HARLEY BERRY PROPERTY; THENCE WITH THE HARLEY BERRY PROPERTY LINE, NORTH 65 DEG. 18 MIN. WEST, 124.91 FEET TO AN IRON PIN ADJOINING THE EMIT MCFARLAND PROPERTY; THENCE WITH THE SAID MCFARLAND PROPERTY LINE, SOUTH 17 DEG. 41 MIN. WEST, 226.78 FEET TO AN IRON PIN IN THE NORTH RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF FAIRVIEW ROAD; THENCE WITH THE NORTH

LINE OF FAIRVIEW ROAD RIGHT OF WAY, SOUTH 65 DEG. 11 MIN. EAST, 117.76 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, CONTAINING 0.628 ACRES, MORE OR LESS.

BEING THE SAME PROPERTY CONVEYED TO ROY M. MCFARLAND AND WIFE, VIRGINIA R. MCFARLAND FROM EMIT MCFARLAND AND WIFE, IVA J. MCFARLAND, BY DEED DATED 6/28/66 AND RECORDED 6/28/66 IN BOOK 1350, PAGE 537, IN THE REGISTER'S OFFICE FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE.

Tax ID: 021 122 Current Owner(s) of Property: ROY M MCFARLAND AND VIRGINIA R MCFARLAND

The street address of the above described property is believed to be 6822 Fairview Road, Corryton, TN 37721, but such address is not part of the legal description of the property sold herein and in the event of any discrepancy, the legal description referenced herein shall control.

SALE IS SUBJECT TO OCCUPANT(S) RIGHTS IN POSSESSION.

THE RIGHT IS RESERVED TO ADJOURN THE DAY OF THE SALE TO ANOTHER DAY, TIME AND PLACE CERTAIN WITHOUT FURTHER PUBLICATION, UPON ANNOUNCEMENT AT THE TIME AND PLACE FOR THE SALE SET FORTH ABOVE. THE TRUSTEE/SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE RESERVES THE RIGHT TO RESCIND THE SALE. IF THE SALE IS SET ASIDE FOR ANY REASON, THE PURCHASER AT THE SALE SHALL BE ENTITLED ONLY TO A RETURN OF THE DEPOSIT PAID. THE PURCHASER SHALL HAVE NO FURTHER RECOURSE AGAINST THE GRANTOR, THE GRANTEE, OR THE TRUSTEE.

OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES: MERS THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

If applicable, the notice requirements of T.C.A. 35-5-117 have been met.

All right of equity of redemption, statutory and otherwise, and homestead are expressly waived in said Deed of Trust, and the title is believed to be good, but the undersigned will sell and convey only as Substitute Trustee.

If the U.S. Department of Treasury/IRS, the State of Tennessee Department of Revenue, or the State of Tennessee Department of Labor or Workforce Development are listed as Interested Parties in the advertisement, then the Notice of this foreclosure is being given to them and the Sale will be subject to the applicable governmental entities' right to redeem the property as required by 26 U.S.C. 7425 and T.C.A. 567-1-1433.

This property is being sold with the express reservation that the sale is subject to confirmation by the lender or trustee. This sale may be rescinded at any time. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagor or the Mortgagor's attorney. MWZM File No. 16-002424-670

MACKIE WOLF ZIENTZ & MANN, P. C., Substitute Trustees PREMIER BUILDING, SUITE 404 5217 MARYLAND WAY BRENTWOOD, TENNESSEE 37027 PHONE: (615) 238-3630 EMAIL: TNSALES@MWZMLAW.COM

COURT NOTICES

NOTICE OF ABANDONED MINERAL INTEREST

IN RE: SWORN COMPLAINT BY GAINES S. PITTENGER, JOHN W. PITTENGER AND HOME FEDERAL BANK, CO-TRUSTEES OF THE PATSY H. PITTENGER REVOCABLE TRUST U/A/D MAY 17, 2012, PLAINTIFF

CASE NO. 192666-2 IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE

NOTICE TO: Asarco, Incorporated, its successors and assigns and all those otherwise claiming title to mineral interest in real property known as 0 Mascot Road, Mascot, Tennessee 37806 identified by Knox County, Property Assessor as Parcel No. 042-19502, Defendant.

Please take notice that based upon Sworn Complaint, Asarco, Inc., reserved a mineral interest in property described and recorded on December 1, 1971 in Warranty Book 1468, at page 667 in the Register's Office for Knox County, Tennessee and unless an answer or statement of claim in the proceedings is made by defendant in sixty (60) days, plaintiff shall demand the mineral interests to be declared to be abandoned. This notice will be published by the Clerk and Master in the Knoxville Focus for three (3) consecutive weeks.

This 6th day of JANUARY, 2017. CLERK AND MASTER

Kevin A. Dean Attorney-at-Law Frantz, McConnell & Seymour, LLP P.O. Box 39 Knoxville, Tennessee 37901 865-546-9321

CERTIFIED RETURN RECEIPT NOTICE OF ABANDONED MINERAL INTEREST

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Estate of JEANNE R. MCELROY Docket number 78441-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 11TH DAY OF JANUARY 2017, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of JEANNE R. MCELROY who died DECEMBER 12, 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 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 11TH DAY OF JANUARY 2017 Estate of JEANNE R. MCELROY

RONNIE D. MOORE; EXECUTOR 12024 BROADWOOD DR. KNOXVILLE, TN 37934

Published: 1/16/2017 & 1/23/2017

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Estate of HETHEL BIRCHFIELD Docket number 78076-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 11TH

DAY OF JANUARY 2017, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of HETHEL BIRCHFIELD who died AUGUST 25, 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 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 11TH DAY OF JANUARY 2017 Estate of HETHEL BIRCHFIELD

JEFFREY R. BIRCHFIELD; EXECUTOR 296 ROME RD. LANSING, TN 37770 MARK E. BROWN; ATTORNEY-AT-LAW 9724 KINGSTON PIKE, STE 505 KNOXVILLE, TN 37922

Published: 1/16/2017 & 1/23/2017

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Estate of VIVIAN REBECCA BOWMAN Docket number 78377-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 10TH DAY OF JANUARY 2017, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of VIVIAN REBECCA BOWMAN who died NOVEMBER 17, 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 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 10TH DAY OF JANUARY 2017 Estate of VIVIAN REBECCA BOWMAN

VIVIAN N. BOWMAN; EXECUTOR PO BOX 77 HEISKELL, TN 37754

Published: 1/16/2017 & 1/23/2017

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Estate of CAROL GREENE TESSIER Docket number 78450-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 9TH DAY OF JANUARY 2017, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of CAROL GREENE TESSIER who died NOVEMBER 10, 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 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 9TH DAY OF JANUARY 2017 Estate of CAROL GREENE TESSIER

ANDREW B. TESSIER; EXECUTOR 2305 BELCARD DR. KNOXVILLE, TN 37918 ROBERT W. WEISMUELLER, JR.; ATTORNEY-AT-LAW 4611 OLD BROADWAY KNOXVILLE, TN 37918

Published: 1/16/2017 & 1/23/2017

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Estate of LILLIE MAE NICHOLS Docket number 78456-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 9TH DAY OF JANUARY 2017, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of LILLIE MAE NICHOLS who died DECEMBER 15, 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 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 9TH DAY OF JANUARY 2017 Estate of LILLIE MAE NICHOLS

SUSAN ELAINE BRYANT; EXECUTRIX 109 E. BRUSHY VALLEY RD. POWELL, TN 37849 J. NOLAN SHARBEL; ATTORNEY-AT-LAW 9111 CROSS PARK DR. BLDG D, STE 200 KNOXVILLE, TN 37923

Published: 1/16/2017 & 1/23/2017

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Estate of MEREDITH ALFRED KOONTZ Docket number 78439-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 3RD DAY OF JANUARY 2017, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of MEREDITH ALFRED KOONTZ who died NOVEMBER 25, 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 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 3RD DAY OF JANUARY 2017 Estate of MEREDITH ALFRED KOONTZ

ANGEL CHAUVIN; CO-ADMINISTRATRIX 3104 N. Broadway, C23 Knoxville, tn 37917 LINDA HEADRICK; CO-ADMINISTRATRIX 2306 SYLVANIA AVE. KNOXVILLE, TN 37920 ROBERT W. GODWIN; ATTORNEY-AT-LAW 4611 OLD BROADWAY, KNOXVILLE, TN 37918

Published: 1/16/2017 & 1/23/2017

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 3RD DAY OF JANUARY 2017 Estate of MEREDITH ALFRED KOONTZ

ANGEL CHAUVIN; CO-ADMINISTRATRIX 3104 N. Broadway, C23 Knoxville, tn 37917 LINDA HEADRICK; CO-ADMINISTRATRIX 2306 SYLVANIA AVE. KNOXVILLE, TN 37920 ROBERT W. GODWIN; ATTORNEY-AT-LAW 4611 OLD BROADWAY, KNOXVILLE, TN 37918

Published: 1/16/2017 & 1/23/2017

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Estate of NORMAN KENNETH RIDDLE Docket number 78386-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 30TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2016, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of NORMAN KENNETH RIDDLE who died NOVEMBER 19, 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 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 30TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2016 Estate of NORMAN KENNETH RIDDLE

SUSAN RIDDLE; CO-EXECUTRIX 53 CRIGHTON AVE. ELGIN, IL 60123 EVELYN SLAGLE; CO-EXECUTRIX 10426 COBB LANE, MASCOT, TN 37806

Published: 1/16/2017 & 1/23/2017

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Estate of ARLENE ELVA SHAW Docket number 78256-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 28TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2016, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of ARLENE ELVA SHAW who died OCTOBER 13, 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 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 28TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2016 Estate of ARLENE ELVA SHAW

LINDA K SHAW; EXECUTRIX 704 FARRAGUT COMMONS DR. KNOXVILLE, TN 37934-1657

Published: 1/16/2017 & 1/23/2017

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Estate of FRANK T. CORUM AKA FRANCIS THORNTON CORUM Docket number 77932-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 30TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2016, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of FRANK T. CORUM AKA FRANCIS THORNTON CORUM who died JUNE 10, 2106, 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 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 30TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2016 Estate of FRANK T. CORUM AKA FRANCIS THORNTON CORUM

DAVID WHARTON; ADMINISTRATOR 202 HIDDEN FOREST COURT, JONESBOROUGH, TN 37659

Published: 1/16/2017 & 1/23/2017

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Estate of GEORGE THOMAS POE Docket number 78408-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 28TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2016, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of GEORGE THOMAS POE who died OCTOBER 25, 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 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 28TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2016 Estate of GEORGE THOMAS POE

LESLIE DEAN POE; ADMINISTRATOR 912 IRWIN RD. POWELL TN 37849 ROGER D. HYMAN; ATTORNEY-AT-LAW PO BOX 26072 KNOXVILLE TN 37912-9672

Published: 1/16/2017 & 1/23/2017

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 28TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2016 Estate of GEORGE THOMAS POE

LESLIE DEAN POE; ADMINISTRATOR 912 IRWIN RD. POWELL TN 37849 ROGER D. HYMAN; ATTORNEY-AT-LAW PO BOX 26072 KNOXVILLE TN 37912-9672

Published: 1/16/2017 & 1/23/2017

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Estate of KATHERINE ILA POE Docket number 78409-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 28TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2016, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of KATHERINE ILA POE who died NOVEMBER 12, 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.

LEGAL AND PUBLIC NOTICES

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NON-RESIDENT NOTICE

TO: HEIRS OF MARY WANDA ALEXANDER - MR. CHARLES WARD, MR. KYLE RUNION, MR. WILLIAM L. RUNION AND MR. KYLE DAVID ALEXANDER

IN RE: THOMAS ALEXANDER AND JEREMY ALEXANDER VS HEIRS OF MARY WANDA ALEXANDER

NO: 192731-1

IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE

In this Cause, it appearing from the Complaint filed, which is sworn to, that the defendant HEIRS OF MARY WANDA ALEXANDER - MR. CHARLES WARD, MR. KYLE RUNION, MR. WILLIAM L. RUNION AND MR. KYLE DAVID ALEXANDER, non-residents 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 HEIRS OF MARY WANDA ALEXANDER - MR. CHARLES WARD, MR. KYLE RUNION, MR. WILLIAM L. RUNION AND MR. KYLE DAVID ALEXANDER, it is ordered that said defendant, HEIRS OF MARY WANDA ALEXANDER - MR. CHARLES WARD, MR. KYLE RUNION, MR. WILLIAM L. RUNION AND MR. KYLE DAVID ALEXANDER, file an answer with the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knoxville, Tennessee and with GLEN KYLE, an Attorney whose address is 4931 HOMBERG DRIVE, KNOXVILLE, TN 37919, within thirty (30) days of the last date of publication or a judgement by default will be taken against you and the cause will be set for hearing Ex-parte as to you before Chancellor John F. Weaver in the Knox County Chancery Court, Division I, at 400 W. Main St. Knoxville, Tennessee 37902. This notice will be published in a The Knoxville Focus Newspaper for four (4) weeks.

This 15TH day of December, 2016 .

Clerk & Master

MISC. NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE 92

Knox County will receive bids for the following items & services:
 Bid 2490, Facility Recycling Services; due 02-15-17;
 RFO 2492, Employee Psychological Services

for Knox County Sheriff's Office, due 02-15-17;
 Bid 2493, Patrol Watercraft, due 02-16-17;
 Bid 2497, Water Treatment Chemicals, due 02-15-17

For additional information call 865-215-5777, stop by the Procurement 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.

NOTICE OF AUCTION

The owners and/or lienholders of the following vehicles are hereby notified of their rights to pay all charges and reclaim said vehicles being held at the storage lot of Floyd's Wrecker Service Inc. Failure to reclaim these vehicles will be deemed a waiver of all rights and titles along with consent to dispose of said vehicles at public auction held on Thursday February 16th, 2017 10:00AM, at 135 Hawthorne Ave. Knoxville, TN 37920.

- 1996 MERCURY 1MELM62W4TH612955
- 1995 FORD 1FTEX15Y0SKA46828
- 2000 FORD 1FTYR14V6YPB95500
- 2003 INFINITY JNKC5V1E33M015514
- 2010 CHEVROLET 3GNBABB87AS629477
- 1997 OLDSMOBILE 1G3HN52K3V4863570
- 2007 CHEVROLET 1G1ZT58F17F174387
- 2002 FORD 1FAPF55U2A129904
- 1992 JEEP 1J4FT5857NL132712
- 2005 CADILLAC 1G6DP567650158674
- 2006 MITSUBISHI 4A3AB36F46E015427
- 2006 GMC 1GDHG31U831901743
- 2000 CHEVROLET 1GCCS19W4YK298539
- 1990 FORD 1FTCR10T6LUB49576
- 1995 FORD 3FASP15J8SR136607
- 1995 HONDA JHMCDC5637SC003347
- 1997 JEEP 1J4G278Y4VC50736
- 2003 JEEP 1J4FA69S83P375168
- 2005 TOYOTA JTDKB20U057016750
- 1999 MITSUBISHI JA3AY26AXU049796
- 1997 HONDA JHLRD1848C019560
- 1999 FORD 1FTRX18W8XNA93784
- 1995 FORD 1FTDU15XSLB19759
- 2002 KIA KNDJB723425140704
- 2002 CHRYSLER 3C8FY68B02T308947
- 2004 PONTIAC 1G2NW1E34M700262
- 2000 FORD 1FTYR10C1YTB25284
- 2003 CADILLAC 1G6KY549S3U273006
- 1997 ACURA JH4UA3644VCO11310
- 1991 CHEVROLET 1GCCS14R1M2297358
- 2004 CHRYSLER 2C8GPE4L6R589691
- 2001 DODGE 3B7HC13Y31M295353
- 1995 FORD 1FMDU34X9S0843163
- 2002 FORD 2FMZ51462B21194
- 2004 FORD 1FTYR10D54PB17667
- 1989 FORD 1FTEF14N4KB24908
- 1998 HONDA 1HGCG5542WAD74865
- 1996 HONDA 1HGCD5536TA169294

- 1999 HONDA 1HGCG3246XA004621
- 2004 HONDA JHMES96674S005432
- 1998 ISUZU 4S2CM58W7W4319490
- 2006 KIA KNAFE121965255228
- 2007 KIA KNAFE122175430047
- 1985 LINCOLN 1LNBP96F8FY18177
- 2004 NISSAN 3N1CB51D94L468178
- 1999 NISSAN 3N1BB41D1XL004179
- 1997 NISSAN JN1CA21DXVT870340
- 2003 NISSAN 1NRBL11D3C228767
- 2009 TOYOTA JTLKE50E891083854
- 2001 TOYOTA 4T1BG22K11U864981
- 1992 TOYOTA 4T1SK11E4NU017818

NOTICE OF AUCTION

The following described vehicles impounded/ repaired/towed will be sold at public and/or private auction in compliance with the Tennessee Public Acts 1967, Chapter 240, house Bill 379. The sale will be held at Jim's Garage & Wrecker Service Vehicle Impoundment Lot located at 5906 Waldon Street, Knoxville, TN 37919. These vehicles have been checked through the files of the Commissioner of Revenue, Title Section, Division of Motor Vehicles, Department of Revenue, State of Tennessee. In appropriate cases, the vehicles have been checked in other states, and the owners and/or lienholders have been notified by certified mail. In those instances where no vehicle identification/serial number or license number was available, this Public Notice in the newspaper will comply with the law. The failure of the owner/lienholder to exercise their rights to reclaim any vehicle listed below not bearing a VIN/serial number shall be deemed a waiver of all rights and title and authorization to sell said vehicle.

- 00 TOYOTA AVALON 4T1BF28B9YU107654
- 99 MERCEDES S420-WDBGA43G6XA412048
- 08 FORD FUSION-3FAHP08129R209043
- 04 HUNDAI ELANTRA-KMH0M46D74U721396
- 00 NISSAN MAXIMA-JN1CA31D4Y528442
- 03 MAZDA MPV-JM3LW28A330355857
- 05 NISSAN SENTRA-3N1CB51D35L558427
- 06 Pontiac Torrent-2CKDL63F166113461
- 84 CHEVY MAILBU-1G1165GL4E5105962
- 01 NISSAN XTERRA-5N1ED28T91C548983
- 03 JAGUAR SAJADA24C83LF55994
- 93 CHEVY 1GCEK14K4P2244547
- 09 FORD FOCUS-1FAHP35N29W194650
- 01 GMC YUKON-1GKEK63U21J224324
- 86 CHEVY ASTRO-1G8DM15Z0GB246767
- 93 HONDA ACCORD-1HGCR7283PA018131
- 99 PLYMOUTH VOYAGER
- 2P46P2436XR413708;
- 01 FORD ESCAPE-1FMYU011X1KB73833
- 00 HONDA CIVIC-1HGEM1164L009209
- 02 JEEP-1J4FA39S32P731393

Agape Café

St. Paul UMC Fountain City, 4014 Garden Drive, is offering Agape Cafe' fellowship every fourth Wednesday.

Get more information by calling 865-687-2952 or by visiting the church website at stpaulfntcity.org.

Caring for All Creation - a choral concert

Choirs from four Knoxville churches will perform on Sunday, February 12 at 4 p.m. at Messiah Lutheran Church, 6900 Kingston Pike. The concert is open to the public without charge. The four choirs are from Messiah Lutheran Church, Church of the Savior, Clinton Chapel AME Zion Church, and St. Mark Church.

The Caring for All Creation choral celebration is being offered to the community by faith group partners of Tennessee Interfaith Power & Light, an interfaith response to the challenges of climate change. The choirs will present songs that celebrate the majesty of God's creation - the earth and all living beings.

The concert will also include two selections that all the choirs and audience

will sing together, under the direction of Alexandra Engle, music director of Church of the Savior.

"God blesses us every day with the beauty of the earth and a life to enjoy this beauty and serve as stewards of this great gift," said Ms. Engle. "With such wondrous blessings, how can we keep from singing?"

For more information, contact Tennessee Interfaith Power & Light at tennesseeipl@gmail.com.

Fellowship Baptist Church

STEPPIN' OUT BLESSED presents "God Knows I'm A Woman" Ladies Conference and Brunch, February 4 at 10:30 a.m., Fellowship Baptist Church, Jessie Lane, Knoxville, TN 37920. No registration fee. Call 865-684-6055 to RSVP.

Gardening classes at Seymour Farmers Market

Seymour Farmers Market will again be sponsoring a series of free gardening classes this year. These classes are fun and informative for both the novice and experienced gardener. Classes are held in the Seymour branch library's community room, 137 West Macon Lane;

all classes are on Thursday evenings from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Please contact Marjie Richardson at 865-453-0130 if you have questions.

The schedule for this year's classes is: January 26. Planning a garden: what to plant, where and when. What's new for 2017? Free planting timetables for this year will be available.

February 2. It's soil, not dirt. This ever popular presentation by TN agricultural extension agent, Alan Bruhin, will discuss the makeup of soil, and importance of different components. Soil test kits will be available.

March 2. Improving your soil and supporting your plants. Organic matter to add nutrients and "fiber" to your soil—how to compost and other strategies. Mulching and other methods to conserve moisture. Wire cage building to keep the critters out of your salad patch. Staking methods for tomatoes and pole beans.

April 6. Heirloom crops. Local herb and plant grower, Crystal Wilson will speak about heirlooms for this area, with special focus on tomato varieties.

Democrats talk strategy

Cont. from page 3

"We need a paradigm shift. We need to go out into schools with bullying problems, Rotary Clubs, and progressive pastors. We need an outreach to the community," she said. Mancini also said that county parties have been "left out to fend for themselves" and promised state

party help.

Some of the local suggestions were a "Rapid Response Team" to help in campaigns, candidate training and recruitment, raising voter involvement among African Americans and Bernie Sanders supporters and even a suggestion that the Knoxville Democratic Headquarters

be moved possibly to Kingston Pike.

Breakout sessions saw people assemble in groups and discuss various topics.

One of the phrases that came from the strategy session was using "People Power" as a slogan.

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