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## Recode work session raises more questions

By Mike Steely  
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As Knoxville's Recode effort moves into its fifth draft several neighborhood leaders and some city council members are continuing to question the necessity of changing all the zoning regulations. The two-year effort to revise 50-year-old rules regarding residential property saw a long council work session Wednesday evening with even more questions being presented.

Requested by Mayor Madeline Rogero and the 2017 city council, the task fell to the planning commission

staff and an outside consultant group to rewrite the zoning regulations, create new categories and redraw the zoning map. After some 80 public meetings and more than 60,000 hits on the Recode Knoxville website Knoxville-Knox County Planning Director Gerald Green and Peter Ahrens, Knoxville's Plans Review and Inspections Director, gave a brief review of the progress.

Vice Mayor Finbarr Saunders chaired the work session and it became obvious that the 5th revision may not be the final document. The main concerns

from council members and several citizens center on allowing duplexes in some neighborhoods, accessory buildings being allowed in all residential zones, parking availability, increased density in neighborhoods and lot sizes.

Green explained all the new residential zoning categories, from RN-1 to RN-7, range from single family residential to apartments. He said that under the proposed changes accessory dwellings would be permitted in all residential zones as long as the owner occupies one of the homes on

**Continue on page 2**



Gerald Green and Peter Ahrens basically negotiated with city council members and citizens Wednesday as they worked on the fifth draft of the Recode proposal. Photo by Mike Steely.

## Commission again talks of creating a county growth plan

By Mike Steely  
steelym@knoxfocus.com

While the city of Knoxville is looking to revise its aging zoning regulations to create more mixed-use and secondary dwellings on residential sites the Knox County Commission appears to be moving to do exactly the opposite. For a couple of years some commissioners have discussed pulling away from the current restrictive planning and opening up more land for development.

The commission recently voted to ask the state and local state representatives to look into pulling Knox County from the state-required Urban Growth Plan. That plan may end or "sunset" in 2020 but the legislature may renew it, requiring the county to again work with Knoxville and Farragut to create and oversee the local version.

Last week's work session saw the commission talk about funding the updates of the County Growth and General Plans. The agenda item had a blank space for the amount of funding. Chairman Hugh Nystrom called on Knoxville-Knox County Planning Director Gerald Green to speak on the idea.

Green told the commission that developing a separate county growth plan, with or without the state required

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## Roger Kane suddenly resigns as the Education Liaison

By Mike Steely  
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The morning after Roger Kane spoke about his efforts as Mayor Glenn Jacob's liaison for county education, the former state representative resigned the post.

The Knoxville Focus has contacted Kane for a statement and he replied "I have to refer you to Rob Link in the Mayor's office. Sorry." What happened and why Kane resigned may come to light soon.

Kane's address before the commission Tuesday evening about visiting public and private schools in the county emphasized the county must do something to up student's reading levels. He described

his coordination with the board of education as a "good relationship."

In his presentation before the commission's work session Kane mentioned working with public and private schools and said he's trying to take education in Knox County "in a different direction." He said he had been working with Johnson University to have their students become teachers' aides in schools.

The former state representative has been a supporter of vouchers to allow parents to use taxpayer funds for private school education. Two board of education members told The Focus that Kane "was not a good fit" in the position.



## HIGH AND MIGHTY

CAK junior Hannah Carroll (4) battles insides against University School of Jackson Friday night in the Division II-A state quarterfinal game at Christian Academy of Knoxville. The Lady Warriors pulled out a 62-59 overtime win and will advance to the state semifinal round Friday in Nashville. Please see game story on CAK and other high school basketball tournament coverage in Sports & Recreation, Section C. Photo By Katrina Wiens / K. Wiens Photography

## Joint Education Committee examines proposed budget

By Ken Lay

The Knox County Joint Education Committee got its first look at the proposed Knox County Schools budget for the 2020 fiscal year last week.

The committee, comprised of members of the Knox County Board of Education and Knox County Commissioners, met Wednesday afternoon at the Andrew Johnson Building and Knox County Schools Budget Director Joe Snyder presented a possible budget for next year.

Snyder outlined the expenditures

in a Budget 101 presentation, where he discussed where KCS received its funding, how those funds are allocated and the budgetary outlook for next school year.

In his presentation, Snyder highlighted areas such as categories of revenue, revenue history by category, the revenue allocation process, budgeted expenditures by category, teacher compensation and text book purchases.

The budget director broke down expenditures for the current 2019 fiscal budget into seven categories

including: salaries and wages (which is 63.7 percent of the current budget); Payroll and taxes (17.6 percent); contracted services (6.5 percent); supplies and materials (5.0 percent); other uses (3.7 percent); debt services and capital leases (3.2 percent) and capital outlays (0.1 percent).

Snyder also broke down how the school district is funded. The local funds come from sales tax and property tax.

He said that the school district

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# How a judge can decide a case regardless of what the jury does

Say there is a car wreck case that goes to trial. For almost all car wreck cases, there is a jury of 12 individuals who sit and listen to the witnesses testify and hear all of the evidence presented as part of the case.



**By Jedidiah McKeehan**  
attorneyknoxville@gmail.com

After both sides have presented all of their evidence, the jurors are put in a conference room and asked to come

Say the jury awards the plaintiff \$50,000.00. Then the jury's decision will be announced to the judge

to a decision on whether the plaintiff (the person suing) is entitled to any money from the defendant (the person being sued), and if they believe they are entitled to any money, the jury decides how much money the plaintiff is entitled to receive.

and the parties, and then the jurors will be dismissed from jury duty and are able to return to their normal lives. In many cases, that will be the end of the discussion about the judgment awarded. However, that is not always the case.

Tennessee Code Annotated sections 20-10-101 and 20-10-102 allow the judge to change the amount of the verdict if the judge believes that the jury came up with the wrong amount as the verdict they reached. For example, if the judge believes that the jury

should have awarded the plaintiff \$100,00 instead of \$50,000, the judge can recommend an additur (an addition to the verdict amount).

Similarly, if the judge believes that the jury should have only awarded the plaintiff \$20,000 instead of \$50,000, the judge can recommend a remittitur (a subtraction to the verdict amount).

The judge can only make this as a suggestion to the parties, not an order. The party who would be worse off by the judge's

recommendation has two options. They can either accept the judge's recommendation, or they can allow a new trial to take place. So, for example, if the judge recommends an additur to \$100,000 from the initial \$50,000 verdict, the defendant and his attorney can either accept \$100,000 as the new verdict amount, or they can allow the plaintiff to have a new trial to try the whole case all over again and take another shot at getting a better outcome.

Seems crazy that a judge would throw out what a

jury would decide, but this does happen occasionally where a judge believes that the jury simply came to the wrong conclusion and steps in to try to correct what has occurred.

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

# How our area counties got their names

**By Mike Steely**  
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Most people think that Union County, just north of Knoxville, was named for the strong support there of preserving the national union prior to the Civil War. Actually the county was named for its creation from the union of portions of Grainger, Claiborne, Campbell, Anderson and Knox counties.

Maynardville there was named for East Tennessee politician and strong Lincoln supporter Horace Maynard, who is buried in Old Grey Cemetery in Knoxville.

How our adjoining counties got their names can be interesting and confusing. Knoxville was named for Gen. Henry Knox, George Washington's Secretary of War.

Obviously Sevier County got its name from John Sevier and his family. The state's first governor is also honored there with the county seat, Sevierville.

Blount County was named for William Blount, the Southwest Territorial Governor and later Tennessee's Senator. The man is also honored with Blountville, in Sullivan County.

Grainger County's origin is a bit different. The county's name comes from William Blount's wife, Mary Grainger Blount. Rutledge, the county seat, was named for General George Rutledge, a popular Sullivan County figure.

Loudon County was named in honor of historic Fort Loudoun with a bit of spelling change. The fort was the first English fort on the west side of the Appalachian Mountains and eventually abandoned to attacking Cherokee Indians. The county seat, Loudon, also carries the name.

Claiborne County is named for William C. C. Claiborne, a member of the first Tennessee Supreme Court and the state's first congressman. The county seat, Tazewell, was named for U. S. Senator Henry Tazewell of Virginia.

Greene County got its name from Major General Nathaniel Greene of the Continental Army. Greeneville shares the name.

Local settler and landowner Hezekiah Hamblen was honored in the naming of Hamblen County. Morristown, the county seat there, was named for Gideon Morris, an early settler and militia soldier.

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# Joint Education Committee examines proposed budget

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also gets funding from Tennessee's Basic Education Program. KCS also gets federal funding from grants and the IDEA.

The proposed budget for 2020 includes a proposed four percent raise for teachers. The educators would receive the proposed raise in addition to their annual step increases.

The budget, which will be voted on by the school board on April, 20, also includes a proposed \$4 million for new social studies text books.

Snyder said that these proposals are necessary for KCS Superintendent Bob Thomas to implement his strategic plan to eliminate learning disparities and creating a positive learning culture.

"In order to eliminate learning disparities, you have to pay your teachers

and you have to have new text books," Snyder said.

Teacher compensation was also discussed in regards to comparisons to other districts throughout the state. Salaries and benefit packages were examined.

KCS Human Resources Director Scott Bolton said "A salary can land you a teacher; it's the benefits that keep them here."

The next Knoxville Joint Education Committee Meeting will be held on April 17.

Knox County Commissioner Larson Jay said that the committee will further examine the proposed budget, which will be voted upon on April 20.

Jay also proposed a discussion topic for the June 26 meeting. He said that the committee will examine staffing efficiency.

He brought up efficiency

several times Wednesday as he compared the school district to private sector business.

Jay, the new Knoxville County Commissioner, asked if there was any evidence that linked spending to student achievement, including ACT scores.

Thomas responded to that as best he could.

"Our ACT scores are down but every student didn't always take the ACT," Thomas said.

The changing role of teachers was also discussed.

It was County Commissioner Michele Carringer, who addressed that.

"Today, the teacher has to be a nurse or a mommy or a daddy because homes have changed," she said. "We have more at-risk kids."

"The teachers that I had didn't have to do those things."

# Recode work session raises more questions

**Cont. from page 1**

the property.

One of the suggestions from the council was to change the proposal to create two categories of home occupations and require additional parking for added structures on a lot.

Councilman Andrew Roberto asked about affordable housing and Green responded that the state mandates that but the Recode proposal deals with "a variety of housing options."

Another idea, to notify

all Knoxville homeowners of proposed changes. Each council member was handed a possible "Notice to Knoxville Property Owners" that could be sent out to notify property owners about a final Recode vote. If that notice goes out prior to the final vote it states that under Recode property to be rezoned would be able to keep its current use, even if the property is sold.

Councilman George Wallace asked for a comparison on accessory dwellings' current regulations and Recode proposals. He said the new ordinance, if adopted, should "tighten it down" and not allow accessory dwellings in every

residential area.

Roberto said that an additional structure on a residential lot would "change the character of a neighborhood." He questioned parking at those properties and said off street parking should be required.

Councilwoman Stephanie Welch said that accessory dwellings reflect a "shift of society" and said that the extra homes would be used for "caretakers and adult children."

"It's something our society needs," she said.

Citizens speaking on the Recode changes said that accessory structures should be located in denser populated areas of

Knoxville. Green replied that, under the current proposal, those extra houses could be located in any residential area but would be subject to review prior to construction.

"One size fits all doesn't work," Roberto said.

Councilwoman Lauren Rider cautioned against more alley closures noting that those alleys may be needed for entry into lots with accessory dwellings.

One citizen asked what would happen when a property with a home and accessory dwelling is sold. Green said as long as one of the structures is owner-occupied there would be no problem and noted that the city would not know if the extra home was rented

but may know if a neighbor complains.

Wallace questioned allowing duplexes in two residential zones and Rider suggested requiring off-street parking at new duplex housing.

Green said the Recode effort is a compromise between density and preserving neighborhoods.

Councilwoman Seema Singh-Perez cautioned about regulating home offices, saying she doesn't want to take away someone making a living while working at home.

Welch suggested including the Recode Stakeholder Advisory Committee in the final draft and also extending that group's involvement for the first two years

after adoption.

Council attorney Rob Frost suggested, at the next Recode work session, taking a straw poll of council feelings on various topics before a vote.

Citizens complained about the decreased sizes of some residential lots and asked why the zoning regulations must be changed.

David Hamilton, president of the Norwood Neighborhood Association, said, "My neighborhood is concerned." He added "all the changes are to increase the tax revenue. You've wasted our time."

Cindy Johnson of West Hills said she hates to "see us throw out all the wisdom over the past 60 years." She said that mixed-use and home office categories need to be clarified.

"Don't urbanize our whole city!" she exclaimed.

The final draft is expected on March 15th and Green said he is taking "a sense of the council" feelings, taking notes and making revisions, in preparation for that proposal.

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# Publisher's Position Fake news is real



By Steve Hunley, Publisher  
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For the last two years, the mainstream media

has been pushing the story the President of the United States was a Russian agent, elected by Russian interests while at the same time they have paid less attention to high ranking officials in the Justice Department, the CIA and the FBI who were clearly engaged in nothing less than an attempt to overthrow the government. These same officials have been proven to have repeatedly lied under oath, misled or misinformed, which is a very generous term, other federal officials, including

Congress, tried to influence the outcome of an election, as well as undo the result of that election.

Of course we have seen some of these folks attempt to wrap their actions in the flag. James Comey points to a "higher duty" while Andrew McCabe says "the threat" to the country was too great. Of course the bottom line is the American people had elected a president of whom neither Comey nor McCabe approved. That was the problem. Comey had no legal right to make the

announcement Hillary Clinton would not be prosecuted and no authority to determine that. The fact a disgusting dossier authored by a discredited former British spy would be circulated throughout the media and high government circles is bad enough, but it was also used as the basis for falsely securing a FISA warrant, which was the beginning of this entire mess. The fact the dossier was paid for as opposition research by the Clinton campaign has been glossed over time and again by the media. There is not

a shred of evidence of the supposed Russian collusion between Donald Trump and the Putin regime precisely because it never happened and was a lie from the start.

The actor Jussie Smollett's apparent hoax in faking a hate crime --- Smollett is a gay African-American man --- evidently was to serve two purposes; one to increase his pay on his television show, but perhaps more importantly, to blame supporters of President Trump for having committed a hate crime. Smollett's intended victims were

those who wear MAGA hats and the President. From all the available evidence --- and Chief Eddie Johnson of the Chicago Police Department seemed pretty thorough --- Smollett's hoax was entirely premeditated. Naturally, Smollett's defense may well have something to do with mental issues or drug addiction and have no doubt he will avoid prison time, but his faking a hate crime, which was well thought out is heinous. It does not bode well either for the future or the country.

## Nashville Watch

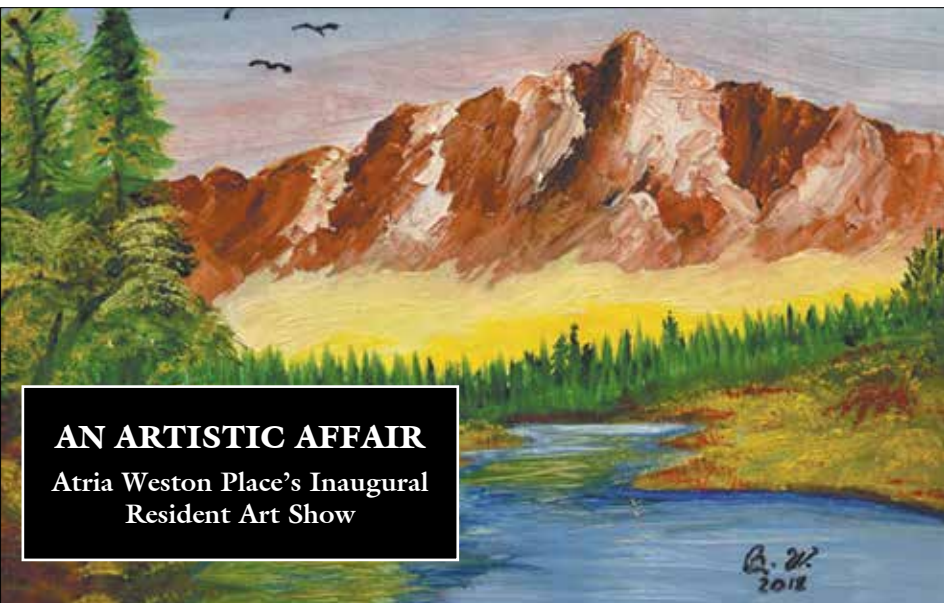
By Focus Staff

Governor Bill Lee will make his first State of the State address to the Tennessee General Assembly on March 4. The governor has also announced he wants to eliminate the special amusement tax on gyms, fitness centers and health clubs. That same tax has generated about \$10 million annually for the State of Tennessee. "Unfortunately, we've discouraged Tennesseans from investing in their health and wellness by taxing their efforts," the governor said. "The skyrocketing costs of health care and Tennessee's high rates of obesity and diabetes means we simply cannot afford to discourage healthy habits."

It is virtually impossible to dispute Governor Lee's point, as Tennessee ranks a woeful 40th in a natural survey for physical activity and 35th for obesity.

It is estimated that illnesses related to high blood pressure, diabetes, and cardiovascular disease cost more than \$5.3 billion annually in Tennessee. Governor Bill Lee said he "looks forward to" working with the legislature in "modernizing" Tennessee's tax code and prioritizing "the wellness of Tennesseans."

The governor has also announced he is proposing \$30 million for school security officers. There are approximately 500 schools in Tennessee that have no security officers. The governor's proposal would provide grants to hire security officers for those schools. Governor Lee also warned school systems need to do all they can to identify "students who are in need of intervention." "Security is paramount," Lee said, "but we must also double down on efforts to identify harmful situations before they arise."



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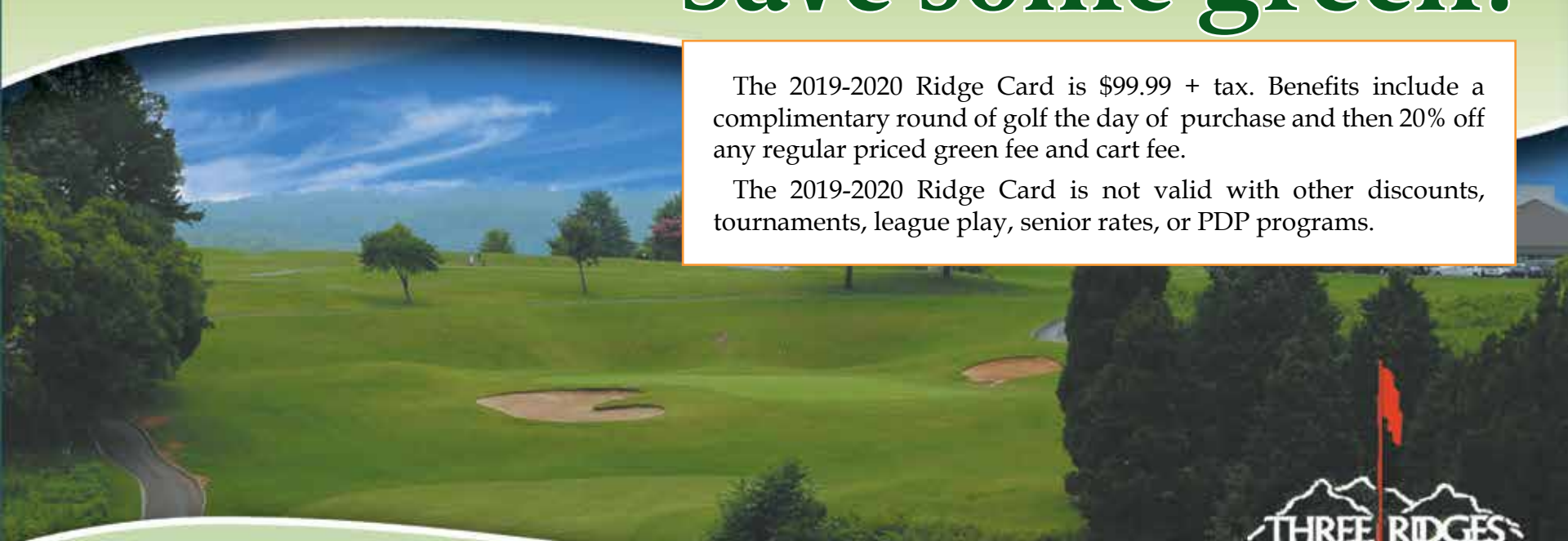
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# City may fund affordable housing at Pond Gap

By Mike Steely  
steelym@knoxfocus.com

The Knoxville City Council is being asked to give \$440,000 to a company planning to build 15 affordable housing units along Hollywood Drive in Pond Gap. The eventual apartment development, planned by ECG Pond Gap, would have 102 units at 903 and 909 Hollywood Drive.

The Pond Gap Neighborhood Association has opposed the apartments for more than a year and Hollywood Drive residents point to an increase in traffic. The apartments would be located above the historic little body of water beside the busy street where early stock drivers stopped to water their animals.

The neighbors are also in dispute with the city over the repair of a retaining wall along the route which they claim the city built and should repair.

"That's the first I've heard of this," said David Williams, president of the Pond Gap Neighborhood Association when The Focus called him.

"I'm mad as hell about this. That development is going to mess up the pond. Residents there have no sidewalks to go one way and the other way is not handicapped accessible. Apartments should be privately developed, not government funded," he said.

ECG also has plans for a 44-unit affordable housing development in South Knoxville and the council may vote to award \$1.3 million in affordable rental development funds for that project. The apartments would be built at 121 E. Young High Pike and will be known as Young High Flats. The neighborhood groups in that area have been supportive of the idea.

The Department of Engineering is

asking the council to grant air right-of-way to Fort Sanders Regional Medical Center and allow an overhead connector above Laurel Avenue to be built to connect two hospital buildings.

After passing a temporary ban on electric scooters in the city, the council is being asked by the Office of Business Support to approve a pilot program with Zagster, Inc. and VeoRide for six months to permit those motorized scooter rentals on a trial basis.

In other business the council will vote on a zoning change from Agricultural to Commercial for a Westland Drive property, move the oversight of codes enforcement to Plans and Review and Building Inspections, and finalize a rezoning on Cedar Lane from C-1 Commercial to C-3.

Fifty-three properties in the Fort Sanders neighborhood may be changed from Mixed Use to Mixed Use Special District. Property on North Central Street and West Quincy may be changed from commercial to industrial.

A Whittle Springs property may be rezoned from Office to Planned Residential.

A resolution to use two trucks in cooperation with the sheriff's department, to transport jail inmates on city work details, is also on the agenda. That program got some resistance two weeks ago.

The contract with USIC Locating Services may be increased by \$87,000 for work in locating underground utilities as part of the city's street lighting system.

The Knoxville City Council will discuss these agenda items and more tomorrow night, February 26, at 6 p.m. in the main assembly room of the City-County Building.



The Washington County Courthouse is in Jonesborough, Tennessee's oldest town. The county was one of our state's first counties and was named in honor of President George Washington.

## How our area counties got their names

Continued from page 2

Jefferson County was named for then Secretary of State and future President Thomas Jefferson. While Jefferson City carries the same name it isn't the county seat, Dandridge is. Named for Martha Dandridge Washington, George Washington's wife, the town has the honor of claiming to be the second oldest town in the state.

Campbell County is named for Virginia's Arthur Campbell, a Southwest Virginia settler, militia leader, and supporter of the Lost State of Franklin. Jacksboro, the county seat, gets its name from Andrew Jackson and was originally called "Jacksboro." Another theory was the town was named for Patrick Jack, a Fort Loudoun soldier who settled in the area.

Anderson County got its name from Judge Joseph Anderson, a Tennessee senator and comptroller of the U. S. Treasury. The county seat, Clinton, was originally named Burrville, for Aaron Burr the one-term vice president under President

Jefferson. Burr was caught in a political scandal and the town was renamed for George Clinton, an opponent of Burr.

Roane County got its name from Tennessee's second governor, Archibald Roane. Kingston, the county seat, was named for Major Robert King, a soldier at Fort Southwest Point, the nearby early fort that predates the town.

Washington County was named for George Washington and is one of the first counties in the state. Jonesboro, or Jonesborough, is the county seat and is named to honor North Carolina legislator Willie Jones, who promoted settlement in what was to become Tennessee. Jonesborough is the oldest town in the state and was, for a few years, capitol of the Lost State of Franklin.

Two East Tennessee counties were not named for patriots, politician or individuals. Unicoi County was named after a Cherokee word meaning white or fog-like. Cumberland County is named for the Cumberland Mountains.

## Commission again talks of creating a county growth plan

Cont. from page 1

Urban Growth Plan, could cost about \$350,000 and would require an outside consultant. The plan, which could take a couple of years to complete, would have to be bid out and then have public input before being presented to the commission for adoption.

"We have committed to redo our growth plan," Nystrom said, "Let's look at the funding needed."

Commissioner Charles Busler said the state is looking to extend the Urban Growth Plan for another 20 years and said, "I'm for going ahead and making a plan if it sunsets."

The 20-year-old state law requires the county and the two cities to create the local plan but since its inception the three jurisdictions have not worked together to update it. Builders and developers in the county are frustrated with current requirements for lot sizes, the number of dwellings per acre, and a continual push for sidewalks in subdivisions.

The commission recently requested that Knoxville and Farragut be contacted to see if they are interested in re-establishing the Urban Growth Plan.

Commissioner Randy Smith asked Green if the county must conform to the Urban Growth Plan and the Planning Director answered "Yes." Smith said he was worried about spending money to develop a separate plan and then having to do it again if the state-required plan passes.

"That's in limbo," Commissioner John Schoonmaker said of the renewal of the state-required plan.

A letter requesting the exemption of Knox County from such a plan was being drafted by Chairman Nystrom but Bryan Harr, chief of staff for Mayor Glenn Jacobs, said a letter to state legislators would be the duty of the county mayor. He said the mayor, not the commission, had jurisdiction over the growth plan and only the mayor has jurisdiction over the city of Knoxville and the

town of Farragut.

Nystrom then responded that his letter will be addressed to the county mayor.

In other work session news, the commission heard from the two new appointees of Mayor Jacobs. Darrius Upton spoke on his efforts as Diversity Development Manager and former state Representative Roger Kane spoke about his efforts as Education Liaison.

A \$250,000 contribution to the sheriff's office by Securus Technologies, Inc., was approved for use at the sheriff's office of corrections division. Sheriff Tom Spangler told the meeting that the funds were paid by the firm because the firm was not able to properly manage the program. He also spoke on a three-year grant from the state to fund an Offender Re-entry Program which he said allows the department to work with prisoners being release before they re-enter society.

Knox County Health

Department Director Dr. Martha Buchanan told the work session that a \$60,000 grant from the Appalachia High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area allows the creation of a position in the health department to help in developing a strategy to deal with the Opioid Problem. The funding was approved.

The commission also approved \$5,000 from the same organization for the Regional Forensic center to purchase software to help track overdose cases in drug-related deaths.

Passed along to the commission's regular meeting today were several items including a second and final reading on lot area requirements for motels, hotels and transient mobile home parks, a presentation of the Emergency Services Study, a discussion on Cultural Diversity Training for school personnel, and a change in the wording of the codes to replace "disability" with "absence" on the Merit System Council.



PHOTO BY MIKE STEELY

Sheriff Tom Spangler told the Knox County Commission's work session Tuesday that \$250,000 was paid by Securus because the firm wasn't able to properly manage its program at the jail. He also addressed the funding of the Offender Re-Entry Program.

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# Diversity Business Expo scheduled for March

When: 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.  
 Thursday, March 14, 2019  
 Where: Overcoming Believers Church, 211 Harriet Tubman St.  
 Who: City of Knoxville, East Tennessee Purchasing Association, Knoxville's Community Development Corporation, Knox County, University of Tennessee, Metropolitan Knoxville Airport Authority, Blount County,

Knoxville Utilities Board, Knoxville/Knox County Public Building Authority, participating agency departments  
 The Diversity Business Expo will provide the opportunity for minority-owned, women-owned, service-disabled veterans-owned and small businesses—collectively known as Diversity Business Enterprise or DBEs—to meet directly with decision makers

from eight different agencies who purchase goods and services ranging from \$100 to \$5,000.  
 "This event is for DBE business owners who want to promote their goods and services to local government agencies, as well as those department-level buyers who want to do business with small, locally owned businesses," says Pamela Cotham, Assistant Purchasing Agent for

the City's Small Business and Diversity Outreach Office. This office works with all City departments to increase the amount of business the city does with DBEs.  
 The expo will also include representatives of agencies that provide resources to diversity businesses, including Small Business Administration and the State of Tennessee GoDBE, Knoxville Urban League, SCORE,

the Tennessee Small Business Development Center, Knoxville Chamber of Commerce and the Knoxville Entrepreneur Center.  
 The expo is free, and participants are encouraged to register online at <https://bizexpo.questionpro.com>. If you have questions, contact Diane Woods at 865-215-5760 or via email at [DiversityBusiness@knoxville.tn.gov](mailto:DiversityBusiness@knoxville.tn.gov).

## MARSHALL STAIR OPENS CAMPAIGN HEADQUARTERS



PHOTO BY MIKE STEELY

Councilman Marshall Stair, right, opened his mayoral campaign office Thursday. Stair told a crowd of supporters that he favors a diverse community, controlled growth, and supports the Police Advisory Committee keeping its subpoena powers. Stair, a two term council member and attorney, faces a growing field of opponents in the race for Knoxville Mayor. The campaign office is located at 900 East Hill Avenue.

## TONIGHT: Public Invited to Black History Month Presentation at the Bijou

### 'The Heat of a Red Summer: 100 Years Later' commemorates Knoxville's Race Riots of 1919

Join Knox County Public Library and the Beck Cultural Exchange Center to observe the centennial of the 1919 Knoxville Race Riots at 6:30 p.m. on Feb. 25 at the Bijou Theatre. The Heat of a Red Summer: 100 Years Later will feature the Knoxville Opera Gospel Choir performing jazz, rhythm and soul, and negro spirituals; ballet, West African drum and dance, and drama from

the Austin-East Magnet High School performing arts department; and a performance of the award-winning theatrical piece "The Cure" from students of Morristown West High School. Local historian and civil rights activist Robert Booker will be on site to sign copies of his newly released book The Heat of a Red Summer. The event is free and open to the public.  
 In 1919, Knoxville exploded in a firestorm of racial hatred and violence when a black man was accused of murdering a white woman. Knoxville prided itself as an accepting, harmonious

**Continue on page 4**

# What you don't know about Sam Houston

By Mike Steely  
[steelym@knoxfocus.com](mailto:steelym@knoxfocus.com)

Sam Houston was asked once what had been the most meaningful event in his life. The elderly man, former president of the Republic of Texas, former governor of the state of Texas, and a patriot leader in the war with Mexico, said that it was teaching school children in Blount County, Tennessee.

Houston was not a Tennessee native but moved here as a young boy with his family to a then very rural part of our neighboring county where he basically grew up among Cherokee leaders. Joy Montgomery and her father, Dr. Robin Montgomery, presented a lecture at the East Tennessee History

Museum recently and Joy said that being raised in East Tennessee "molded him" into the leader he was to become.

Most Tennesseans and Texans know a bit about Houston, who eventually served as governor for both states, but there's a lot most don't know about the man. The Montgomery pair covered much of it in their new book "Sam Houston's Quest."

Joy Montgomery explained that they knew about Sam Houston in Texas but little about his days in Tennessee. She said she and her father both attended Sam Houston University and make annual visits to his grave in Huntsville, Texas, but a trip to the Houston statue dedication

in Maryville turned into a venture to explore various places in our region, like Hiwassee Island. She said they had so much fun in their Tennessee outings that they took East Tennessee historians and officials to Texas to learn about Houston's life there.

She said that following his term as a school master Houston worked in a store near Fort Southwest Point, now Kingston. He became acquainted with the Cherokee Rogers brothers and Chief John Jolley, who had a village on Hiwassee Island south of the current Decatur, Tn. Houston lived with the tribe and learned the language. His association with the Cherokee tribe, which eventually adopted him, lasted his whole life



"I had a greater feeling of dignity and self-satisfaction than from any honor or office that I have since held," Sam Houston said of his time teaching students in the little Blount County school house. He was 18 and working to pay off a debt. The Sam Houston Schoolhouse is open to the public and now on the National Register of Historic Places.

and he tried to locate land for them to occupy in Texas and Mexico.

While still in Tennessee, he became acquainted

with Rev. Gideon Blackburn and Isaac Anderson, founder of Maryville College. He volunteered and became a soldier in the War of 1812

and then became a sub-agent under Col. Jonathan Return Meigs.

Several of Houston's

**Continue on page 2**

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# What you don't know about Sam Houston

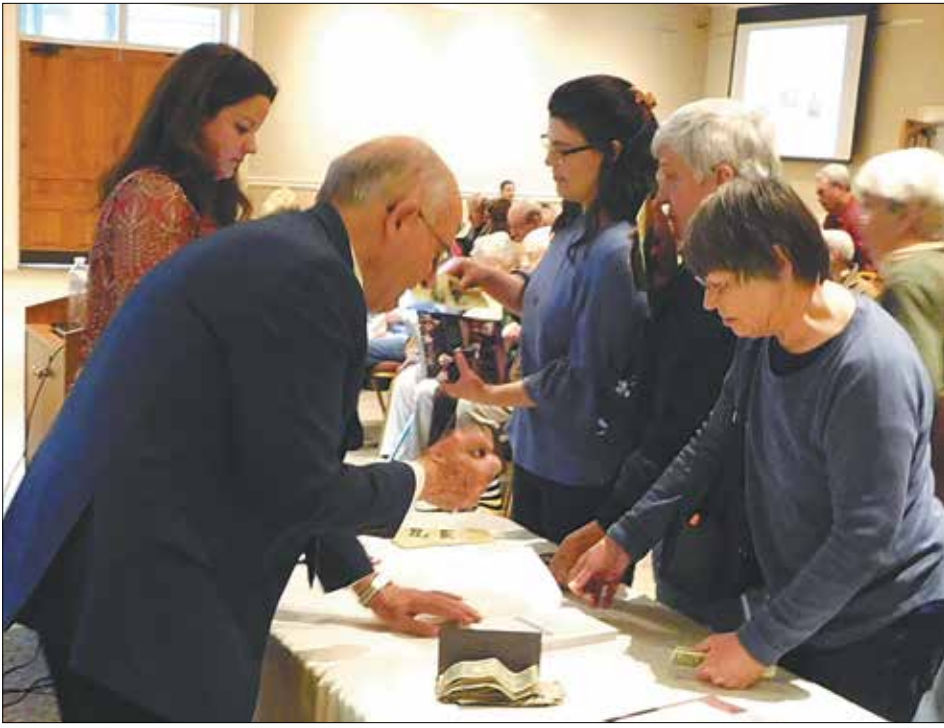


PHOTO BY MIKE STEELY

Texas Dr. Robin Montgomery and daughter, Joy, sign copies of their book "Sam Houston's Quest" during a presentation about the man who served as governor of two states. Joy detailed much of his youth in Tennessee before a large Brown Bag Lunch at the East Tennessee History Museum.

**Cont. from page 1**

Cherokee tribe members were removed early and moved out west. Those "Old Settlers" were helped by Houston who made sure they had blankets, guns and other supplies.

Elected to Congress from Tennessee, Houston went to Washington, D.C., and appeared there in Cherokee tribal clothing. That wasn't received very well and, according to Joy Montgomery, Congress cut the funds to Indian sub-agents in half as a result.

Houston passed the bar exam and opened a law office in Lebanon, Tn. He became a commander of the Tennessee Militia and served in the Tennessee House before being elected state governor.

Houston's personal life

was not as successful as his public life. He married Eliza Allen, much younger than him, but that marriage ended after 11 months. It was rumored that the young wife was discussed during his delirium while being treated for wounds received in the War of 1812, where he was shot by an arrow in the thigh and wounded twice by gunfire. The divorced couple, according to Joy Montgomery, never spoke ill of each other. His relationship with his Cherokee wife apparently was off and on until he left for Texas. There, in the later years of his life, he married Margret Moffette Lea and the couple had eight children.

Sites in our area connected to Houston include the Houston Schoolhouse in Blount County, a historic

marker where Sam's parents settled, the statue in Maryville at the Municipal Building, Southwest Point, Hiwassee Island, Hiwassee Garrison Cemetery and Agency Creek in Meigs County.

The Sam Houston Schoolhouse State Historic Site is a single-room log cabin-style school built in 1794. It is open to the public and the state historic site is operated under an agreement with the Tennessee Historic Commission. It was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1972. You can get more information about the restored schoolhouse by calling (865) 983-1550 or you may find the historic site online at [www.samhoustonhistoricschoolhouse.org](http://www.samhoustonhistoricschoolhouse.org).

## Emerson Lee Mynatt

(1933 - 2019)

As seniors, they sat across from each other in a classroom at Halls High School. The year was 1951. His name was Emerson Mynatt; hers, Juanita Torbett. Emerson introduced the girl to his older cousin, Ralph Omer Major. The cousin and the girl married and became our parents. Emerson married Cecil Welch, another Halls classmate. Our father

By **Ralphine Major**  
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was an only son with three sisters, and Emerson was an only child. Emerson was like the brother Ralph never had.

After Ralph's death, Emerson would call us frequently. "How are you all doing?" he would ask when we answered the phone. We usually talked about politics and elections or University of Tennessee sports. I miss his calls. Emerson passed away January 10, 2019, just as the new year was beginning. Focus readers may remember reading about him in "Another Generation of Mynatt Brothers" (6-24-13 and 7-1-13), "A Birthday Celebration" for his 80th birthday (12-2-13), and "65 Years for the Mynatts" (9-19-16).

Emerson was a veteran of the United States Navy. Later, he worked for the United States Postal Service for 36 years. Since his death, we have learned that he was a great supervisor. In retirement, he was an expert woodworker and gardener. As friends filed into the back of the funeral home, a light moment was provided when a phone rang a short tune of Rocky Top. It seemed fitting since we were there to pay tribute to a devoted Tennessee fan who once had an awesome orange and white collection. Funerals give pause to



Picture of Emerson Lee Mynatt, courtesy of the Mynatt family.

reflect on life and the life after. The service was one of the best I have heard to share about Emerson's life and briefly present the plan of salvation. Emerson was a Christian, and he certainly would have been proud.

It was cold and rainy on the day of his burial. Taps rang out across the hillside as we heard a member of the East Tennessee Honor Guard tell how skilled the Navy veteran had to be to perform the duties of a blimp navigator. As a final tribute, the flag which had draped his coffin was folded and presented to this veteran's family. What a great legacy he leaves behind in his loving family: his wife of 67 years, Cecil; children: Carol (Arthur) Fortner, Dwight Emerson "Butch" (Pam) Mynatt, Dr. Randall Lee Mynatt, and Gwen "Gina" (Brad) Bingham; grandchildren: April, Laura, Grant, Tyler, Caroline, Jesika, and Blake; and great-grandchildren: Macie, Cooper, and Levi Emerson.

## Youthful mistakes haunt forever

The world is a cold place. Well, this globe and nature aren't necessarily that way; neither cares one whit about humanity. However, it's we who are supposed to be the masters of all other species who are so hardened. That's proved itself once again recently.

Now, to begin with, let me assure everyone who might even briefly glance at this piece that I am not a racist. I believe in equal rights for all people. I recognize that for too much of our nation's history that black people have been treated unfairly. I also understand that the solution to the immigration problem is not separating children from their families or building a wall.

With all that said, I've heard enough of the shock and disgust about the actions of Virginia governor Ralph Northam. His appearance in a photo where one individual is clad in a KKK uniform and the other's face is painted black has swamped the news. The man first apologized for being one of those persons in the photo, but a day later, he denied he was even in the picture. The main problem is that he can't get his story straight. Perhaps that speaks about his ability to lead the state.

What I take exception to



By **Joe Rector**  
[joerector@comcast.net](mailto:joerector@comcast.net)

in this whole situation is the lack of understanding by people. Was painting his face black a dumb mistake? DUH! Of course, it was. However, the incident occurred 35 years ago. The man was 25 years old. Additionally, he was in medical school, a college boy.

None of those things makes his painting his face black all right. However, they all go together to explain why he did what is now a disgraceful thing: the man was a young, stupid, goofy, college kid. Those who have spent any time on a college campus have witnessed plenty of moronic acts by students.

I remember during my years in college that "streaking" found its fame. Drunk guys stripped and ran across the main quad during evening hours. I seem to recall that UT students ran buck-naked down Cumberland Avenue.

I also recall hordes of male students marching to the girls' dormitories. They stood in the parking lot and chanted for females to throw out their windows and bras. Some more brazen males attempted to sneak into dorms and steal those items.

I don't know Northam's intentions, but I suspect they were more the result of

stupidity than evil. Is that a reason to damn the man 35 years later? If so, then each of us should tremble with fear that our youthful indiscretions and poor choices will at some point be held against us.

Folks, do you think this man, or any other person, who has ambitions to serve in an elected office would ever knowingly pull such a stunt? An even more important question is: are we to be held accountable for the bone-headed things that we do as teens or young adults? Heaven forbid if that happens.

None of us, regardless of color, is without fault. I remember something in the good book that says, "judge not, lest ye be judged." I also recall the line, "Let ye who is without sin cast the first stone." Our hyper-sensitive world today has become intolerant of any mistakes.

I don't know much about the governor of Virginia. He might be the worst governor in the state's history. However, he shouldn't be forced to resign for a stupid act from 35 years ago. If he is run out of office, then every person should be ready to suffer the harshest consequences of his or her misdeeds from during their youth.

We have lost our way. We are too sensitive. I'm not prejudiced against any group of people, but I don't believe a person's youthful mistakes should haunt him forever.



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# The Last Years of Lawrence D. Tyson

Part Two

## Pages from the Past



By Ray Hill  
rayhill865@gmail.com

Lawrence Davis Tyson, Tennessee's junior United States senator, was a wealthy former general, industrialist and newspaper publisher. Tyson and his wife, the former Bettie McGhee, lived in a beautiful home in Knoxville. Senator Tyson, tall, with a full head of white hair and neatly trimmed moustache, was especially interested in matters relating to the military and veterans. Both of Tennessee's senators were involved in a desperate effort to save the life of Bennett J. Doty. Doty had been a veteran of the First World War, enlisting when he was only seventeen, and was facing death by firing squad after having served in the French Foreign Legion. The American soldier of fortune was serving in the Legion under the alias of "Gilbert Clare" and had been cited for bravery during fighting against the Druz tribesmen in Syria. Doty was the son of a Memphis attorney and was accused of having led a mutiny and firing upon French soldiers. Tried and convicted, the mutineers were sentenced to death. Once alerted by Doty's family in Tennessee, senators Kenneth D. McKellar and L. D. Tyson did all they could to save the life of Bennett Doty. Senator Tyson personally visited the French Embassy in Washington on Doty's behalf. Senator McKellar worked feverishly with the State Department to spare Doty's life. McKellar convinced Secretary of State Frank Kellogg to dispatch a telegram to the French government on Doty's behalf. Kellogg promptly contacted the American ambassador in Paris, former Ohio governor Myron Herrick, instructing him to intercede with the French government to save the life of Bennett Doty.

When visiting the French Embassy, Senator Tyson spoke with the counselor, who agreed to cable Paris and give the young American every consideration. McKellar and Tyson used every means possible to save Doty's life. The senators noted Doty's "erratic" behavior was likely the result of trauma from having been under intense artillery fire during the World War. McKellar and Tyson insisted execution of the boy was too harsh a punishment for a situation that was, at best, quite confused. Tyson was especially concerned as Doty had served in the regiment he had commanded during the First World War. Bennett Doty was accused of desertion and legal experts

noted American citizens who enter foreign military service and take an oath of allegiance forfeit all rights to the protection of the United States government. The fine points of the law did not stop either Senator Tyson or Senator McKellar from pressing hard to spare the boy's life. It was due to the pressure from Tennessee's U. S. senators that the American Consul in Damascus sought to make certain Doty had legal counsel. There was still hope for Bennett Doty due to the fact any execution required the consent of the President of France.

Young Bennett Doty had been working in New Orleans, unloading boats laden with fruit when he had first heard of a war raging in Morocco. Enlisting in the French Foreign Legion, the Tennesseean had arrived too late in Morocco to fight, but was sent to Syria to help quell a rebellion there. Doty was awarded the Croix de Guerre, but apparently deserted along with two Englishmen. Captured by French authorities, Doty was spared the death penalty largely through the efforts of senators McKellar and Tyson, who managed to fan the flames of public opinion, as well as push the American government for intervention on Doty's behalf. Neither Tyson nor McKellar were able to keep Doty out of prison and he served for a time in a military prison in Albertville, high in the Alps. Bennett Doty, only twenty-six years old in 1927, was pardoned by the French government after serving two years and nine months of a sentence that had originally been eight years. Doty insisted he had deserted because he had been homesick.

Doty may have also become disillusioned when he allegedly encountered an especially brutal sergeant in the Foreign Legion. The Memphis Commercial Appeal had taken up Doty's cause and the editor of the newspaper admitted, "Doty committed the two gravest offenses which any soldier of any nation can. He not only deserted but led a 'rebellion' as the French term mutiny." The editor of the Commercial Appeal acknowledged Doty having "fired upon the troops who were sent to capture him and five companions is almost unforgivable in the eyes of military law."

Apparently, Bennett Doty had always been a handful, as he had been the leader of the "Evergreen Gang" in Memphis as a youngster. The Evergreen Gang was "the terror of other lads of their age." In a letter written to acquaintances in



FROM THE AUTHOR'S PERSONAL COLLECTION.

Tennessee's U. S. Senators, Lawrence D. Tyson (left) and Kenneth D. McKellar (right), circa 1927.

Paris, Doty said, "I cannot stand being idle. After the World War I went home, but I found life too dull and so I joined the French Foreign Legion." Doty related he finally got to Syria and he revealed that there had been "plenty of action" initially and he readily confessed he had been "happy with the work" and especially enjoyed being associated with "men from all corners of world", all of whom "loved adventure and loved to fight." Once peace had been restored, Bennett Doty became bored and suddenly decided "the heat of the desert" became "unendurable." Doty had readily answered when asked why a young American would travel half way around the world to kill rebellious tribesmen, simply, "Love of adventure."

Doty wrote that "in a weak moment" he and two Germans and an Englishman "quit camp." Doty said the hardest thing he had to bear was the stigma attached to him as a deserter. "I never had been a quitter before," Doty declared. "I never shall be a quitter again." Bennett Doty closed the letter, saying he did not wish to be released from the French Foreign Legion, but rather wished to serve out the remaining four years of his enlistment agreement. Prophetically, Doty wrote, "I am much happier with the Legion than I could ever be at home, with peace and inaction."

Eventually, Bennett Doty returned to Memphis and denied he was to have been executed. The young soldier of fortune evidently made an attempt to settle down and when his parents moved to Biloxi, Mississippi, Bennett moved as well, attended Tulane and earned a law degree. Doty began the practice of law in Biloxi, but apparently it was not exciting enough to suit him. Without a word to his parents, Bennett Doty simply disappeared. Friends said they saw him in New York and Doty said he was leaving for Spain to fight with the Abraham

Lincoln brigade against General Francisco Franco in support of the loyalist government. At some point in his checkered career, Bennett Doty worked as a reporter for the Nashville Tennessean. Doty also wrote a book about his experiences in the French Foreign Legion bearing the colorful title, Legion of the Damned.

By 1946, neither of Bennett Doty's parents had heard anything from their son and his whereabouts remained a mystery. Doty's restless spirit and thirst for adventure had gotten the better of him.

Decades later, it was discovered Bennett Doty died in a hospital near Gandesa, Spain on April 4, 1938. Doty died from "chest wounds" following Loyalist troops having been routed by General Franco's forces. Bennett Doty's love of adventure had finally brought an end to his young life. Sadly, neither of Doty's parents lived long enough to discover what had become of their son.

For better or worse, Senator L. D. Tyson never lived to see young Bennett Doty squander the opportunity he had been given for a second chance at life. Senator Kenneth McKellar lived much longer and won a sixth term in the U. S. Senate in 1946 and it is interesting to speculate whether the case of Bennett Doty ever crossed his mind.

The Bennett Doty affair was but one of many instances where Tennessee's senators attempted to help a fellow Tennessean. Senator L. D. Tyson resumed his comfortable life and tended to his duties in the Senate. While in Knoxville, Senator Tyson predicted there would be a third-party effort once again in the 1928 presidential election, just as there had been in 1924. Senator Robert LaFollette of Wisconsin had run on the "Progressive" party label in 1924 against President Calvin Coolidge and the Democratic nominee, John W. Davis. Tyson believed

until farmers were given some relief, the farm states would be fertile ground for more than crops. Senator Tyson thought farm relief would remain a "sore spot" until Congress addressed the issue by placing the farming industry on a parity with other important industries. Tyson also evaluated the leading possibilities for the Democratic presidential nomination in 1928. Tyson thought William G. McAdoo, Joe Robinson, Alfred E. Smith, and James A. Reed were the most likely contenders. Robinson was the Democratic leader in the United States Senate and Tyson thought the senator from Arkansas had been a good leader. The General readily acknowledged there had been some criticism of Robinson by some who charged the Arkansan had shown a lack of leadership, an accusation Tyson dismissed. The Tennessean said he had carefully considered Robinson's methods and decided Robinson's style was much more effective than mere "partisan wrangling." Tyson admitted Senator James A. Reed of Missouri had views on liquor and foreign policy that would not make Southern delegates to the national convention happy. Reed, from Kansas City, was unabashedly "wet" in his views on alcohol and had been a virulent critic of Woodrow Wilson's League of Nations. Yet Reed was one of the most able debaters in Congress and a powerful orator. It was Senator Tyson's opinion Jim Reed was the best orator in the Senate and noted the galleries never failed to fill with anxious people when it became known the senator from Missouri intended to speak on the Senate floor. Tyson accurately predicted the biggest question facing Democrats in the 1928 election would be that of prohibition. "The wets kept the question constantly before the Senate," Tyson said, "and there is no denying that the wets

are greatly encouraged, but I think that the great strength of the wets is in the Eastern and Northern states and if the question ever comes to a showdown before the whole people the Eighteenth amendment will be sustained." New York governor Alfred E. Smith was the champion of the wets and a Catholic. Republicans in the U. S. Senate stirred an investigation of how senators were elected in the South, pointing out the poll tax kept the vote low. Tennessee was one of the examples used, noting the population of the Volunteer State was 2,408,846 persons with 1,208,219 of them eligible to vote. In 1924, which was a presidential election year and normally brought out more people to vote, Lawrence D. Tyson had been elected to the United States Senate by winning 147,871 votes; his Republican opponent, Judge Hugh Lindsay, had gotten 109,859 votes, with an independent candidate winning 247 votes. Senator Kenneth D. McKellar had done even better in the non-presidential election year of 1922. McKellar had won 151,523 votes to only 71,200 for his GOP opponent. It would be decades later before Tennessee eliminated the poll tax.

During the summer of 1926, the senator's office released the name of his nominee to the West Point military academy. Tyson was especially interested in such things being a graduate of West Point himself. Tyson's nominee was Neil Allison Wright, the grandson of Judge W. W. Allison of Chattanooga. The boy's mother had been the director of the women's campaign committee during the 1924 senatorial election. The alternates selected by Tyson had all been recommended by a number of leading Tennessee citizens.

Senator L. D. Tyson's remaining years in the Senate would demonstrate he had learned quite a bit about Tennessee politics.

# You can't get there from here

## A Day Away



By Mike Steely



Located near the Bull Run Steam Plant the home built by David Hall went up in 1790 and stands yet today. Hall was a Revolutionary War soldier, a veteran of the Battle of Kings Mountain, and was awarded 428 acres for his service.

We're fortunate that our area has several original structures built by early settlers. We've got places like the Nicholas Gibbs homestead, Blount Mansion, the Swan Pond home of the Ramsey family, and many more. Within the Knoxville area there are also some still standing or restored small cabins of settlers worth a visit.

Two nearby historic homes are both on the same road but, as the saying goes, you can't get there from here.

Between Solway and Claxton just inside Anderson County are two homes worth a visit. Both the homes are on Old Edgemoor Lane. Old Edgemoor Road once ran across what is now Melton Hill Lake and on the other side of the lake is the David Hall cabin. In order to visit both old homes you have

to backtrack and get back on "new" Edgemoor Road, which is also Sate Highway 170, and cross the lake.

The J.B. Jones House was built about 1920 and was taken and used by the Army during the Manhattan Project and the creation of Oak Ridge. The homestead is now owned by the Anderson County School System and used for various events. It's near the Haw Ridge Park.

Haw Ridge Park has 28 miles of hiking, biking, running and even Nordic skiing trails. It has a Life Development Center that hosts reunions, camping, picnicking, etc.

David Hall's cabin dates back to 1700. Hall was one of the original founders of Anderson County and his home is at 830 Old Edgemoor Lane just off Highway 170 near

Claxton and the Bull Run Steam Plant. Hall was a Revolutionary War soldier and a veteran of the Battle of Kings Mountain. For his service as a soldier and spy he was allotted 428 acres. After he married Obedience the Halls had eleven children. His brother, Samuel, settled in Claxton and later moved out west.

Hall built and operated an inn and tavern there and created a peach and apple orchard. During the Civil War the homestead was used by the Confederate Army.

The easiest way to visit either house is to take Clinton Highway to Claxton and turn left on Highway 170. Both houses are south of Highway 170.

You can get more information on Anderson County sites of interest online at [www.adventureanderson.com](http://www.adventureanderson.com).

## TONIGHT: Public Invited to Black History Month Presentation at the Bijou

Cont. from page 1

community that had sympathized with the North during the Civil War; there had never been a lynching and black residents could hold public office and serve as police officers. This outward geniality was shaken as veterans returned home from World War I to face a recession and job shortages. Tension between black citizens and working-class whites reached a fevered pitch.

When Mrs. Bertie Lindsey was murdered in her home in August 1919, police arrested prominent mixed-race businessman Maurice Mays, despite a glaring lack of evidence. An angry white mob stormed the jail where they erroneously believed Mays was being kept and then turned their attack to downtown Knoxville. Black business owners violently defended their livelihoods from the looting rioters and the National Guard was brought in to try to quell the assault. After two days of chaos, the death toll was reportedly in the dozens.

While downplayed by many community leaders,

the 1919 Knoxville Race Riots had a profound effect on the black community and prompted hundreds of black families to move out of the city permanently.

Beck President Reneé Kesler says, "The summer of 1919 is critically important. The NAACP was formed in Knoxville in early August of that year with James G. Beck, the

center's namesake, as the first Secretary; the race riots occurred at the end of that month and just a few weeks later women, African American included, would go to the polls and vote for the first time in Knoxville. History must never be left alone, we must wrestle with it until all are set free and until this world is a better place to live."

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## A warrior for Christ

I received a Daily Devotional book for Christmas, written by Billy Graham. He shared his thoughts with everyone who reads this book and I want to share with you what he had written for February 25th, which is the day the Focus will be circulated in this area.

A FORMULA FOR PEACE: "God has a plan for peace, and it is found in His son, whom the Bible calls the "Prince of Peace" (Isaiah 9:6). But we have rejected God's plan. Wars still ravage the world--and

our lives.

"Why? Jesus said the problem is within us. "Out of our heart.... proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lewdness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness." (Mark 7:21-22). What a list! Our real war is a rebellion against God--and it brings unending misery.

"But God longs to see this rebellion cease. That is why Christ came. By His death He provided the way for us to be reconciled to God. And when we have peace with God, we have peace in our hearts--and peace with each other.

"This happens as we repent and receive Christ. The war is over, for God extends a peace treaty to all who come to Christ"

These are strong and

courageous words coming from Mr. Graham's heart. They mean much to all those who read them, for Billy Graham was a warrior for God. The word "war" is in the word warrior but the dictionary describes "warrior" as one who fights in a war or battle. Billy has done that most of his life, to bring God's peace to his followers. It is sad that thousands of people in the world today cannot enjoy this peace that God gives us. Let us pray for them, especially those who are in control of our countries throughout the world.

Thought for the day: still believe in AMAZING GRACE, that there's POWER IN THE BLOOD, that HE WALKS WITH ME AND TALKS WITH ME, that BECAUSE HE LIVES, I CAN FACE TOMORROW, all because of THE OLD RUGGED CROSS.

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## New softball complex being planned for Central High School

By Mike Steely  
steelym@knoxfocus.com

Phil Hatcher said he was surprised and delighted that a future softball complex at Central High School will be named for his daughter, Sammi Hatcher Chaffin. Sammi Hatcher was an all-state softball player at Central and at Carson Newman College.

Mr. Hatcher was speaking before the Fountain City Business and Professional Association recently and introduced Aaron Miller, an area architect, who detailed plans to convert a

former baseball practice field into a multi-function softball complex to be named in honor of Sammi.

Miller told the meeting that the softball field complex will include bleachers, bullpens, dugouts, a press box and concession stands. The Knoxville Central High School Athletics Foundation began about 10 years ago and the Sammi Hatcher Softball Complex will be that alumni group's second project.

The first was the Tommy Schumpert hitting facility designed as a covered batting practice

building.

Miller, a Central High School graduate, said that Phase One of the softball facility is in the planning and design stage currently and then he will be "getting the blessing of Central High School and the Board of Education." He added that the first step is to get the infield designed and completed so it can be used for practice. That includes some demolition, field layout, a backstop, etc.

Fundraising has begun for Phase One. Phase Two will include installing bleachers, utilities,

fencing, bullpens, dugouts, and the press box overlooking the field.

"We are in the design stage right now and setting a preliminary budget," he said.

The Foundation is seeking community input from students, parents, past players, alumni and friends.

Contributions can be mailed to CHS Athletics Foundation C/O Wes Thomas, Treasurer, 601 Lampwick Lane, Knoxville, Tn. 37912.

Sammi Hatcher is Central's most highly decorated softball player. She played softball for

Central from 1986 until 1989 and was on the Carson Newman team from 1990 until 1993. She was named two-time All-American and is a member of the South Atlantic Conference Hall of Fame and the Carson Newman Athletics Hall of Fame. The Greater Knoxville Sports Hall of Fame has also inducted her as a member.

After graduation from Carson Newman she was assistant softball coach for 15 years teaching at middle school, high school and college levels.

## Brock leads CAK girls to Division II-A's Final Four

By Steve Williams

Claire Brock literally dribbled circles around University School of Jackson defenders with the TSSAA Division II-A state quarterfinal basketball game on the line Friday night.

Finally, a frustrated Lady Bruin grabbed the talented Christian Academy of Knoxville guard to put her on the free throw line with 20.4 seconds left in overtime and CAK clinging to a one-point lead.

Brock hadn't missed a foul shot all night, but USJ had to risk falling behind by three to get the ball back for a chance to tie.

Claire indeed sank both ends of the 1 and 1 to make it a three-point game. The Lady Bruins called timeout to set up a play for a tying shot, but a pass to Sarah Beth Blauss was muffed and went out of bounds.

USJ quickly fouled CAK's Ellie Fussell with 9.3 on the clock and Ellie missed the front end of the bonus situation. The Lady Bruins, with one last breath, hurried down court but couldn't get off a shot.

The horn sounded. CAK had won 62-59. The sound system piped in "Celebration" by Kool & The Gang. Students poured on to the floor and engulfed the Lady Warriors.

Soon, a ladder was brought out and Abby Williams, in her first season as head coach, began the cutting of the net.

"This is the last time I will ever play on this home court," said Brock. "And so to be able to go out with a win that sends us to the state tournament and to do it in this environment and in such an exciting way, it's something I will never forget."

The 5-8 Brock, an Emory University signee, led Christian Academy



PHOTO BY KATRINA WIENS / K. WIENS PHOTOGRAPHY

*The thrill of victory can be seen on the faces of the CAK Lady Warriors after their 62-59 overtime win over University School of Jackson in the Division II-A state quarterfinal game Friday night at Christian Academy of Knoxville.*

with 31 points, but she said it took a team effort to win the game. Fussell contributed 14 points, including three treys. Kennedy Smith added eight points – all in the second half. Hannah Carroll chipped in seven.

As a team, CAK connected on 17 of 20 free throws and made seven 3-point shots, including five after intermission. The visitors from West Tennessee were accurate on 13 of 15 foul shots and hit two 3-pointers. USJ committed 15 turnovers, CAK 11.

Emily Jones, a 6-1 junior forward, tallied a game-high 20 points for USJ. Julie Wagner, a 6-3 sophomore, scored 16 in the first half but shot and made only one basket the rest of the way. Claire

Lewis added 12 points.

The Lady Bruins had the upper hand most of the game and twice built eight-point leads, only to see CAK reel them back in. Coach Williams attributed her team's comebacks to its "composure."

USJ led by three (40-37) going into the fourth period. Fussell's 3-pointer from the top of the circle gave CAK a 51-49 advantage with 45 seconds to go. Two clutch free throws by Jones with 18.9 on the clock, however, tied the score and Brock missed a layup in the closing seconds, sending the contest into OT.

Brock fired in a 3-point shot from the left of the circle to give the Lady Warriors a 54-51 lead with 2:39 left in the extra period.

Jones tied it (56-56) with an old fashion three-point play.

A jumper in the lane by Caroline Myers, followed by a defensive rebound by Carroll and two foul shots by Brock had CAK on top 60-56 with 1:03 remaining.

A 3-pointer by Jones cut the gap to one with 45 seconds to go. That's when Brock was determined not to give the ball up and dribbled circles around the USJ defense. And the Lady Bruins (25-7) never caught up.

"They made the plays late and we had critical turnovers," said USJ Coach Tony Shutes. He also said his point guard, Olivia Jones, picking up her fourth foul early in third period hurt his team.

**Continued on page 4**

## Prep tourney play gets hotter with regional action

By Steve Williams

The second level of high school basketball tournament time is underway with regional play this week.

And teams that are still alive are simply focusing on the old sports adage: Survive and Advance.

The Region 2-AAA tourney is being held this week at Oak Ridge with the girls' semifinals tonight and the boys' semifinals Tuesday night. Winners of those games will move on to the region championship games and automatically have berths in the state sectionals.

Gatlinburg-Pittman is hosting this year's Region 2-AA tournament with Fulton and A-E expected to square off again in the boys' finals.

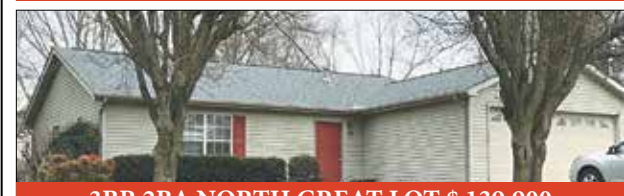
Knox County had three boys teams capture district titles last week: Carter (3-AA), Fulton (4-AA) and Bearden (4-AAA) in Division I, while Webb School took top honors in the Division II-A East Region.

**Cont. on page 2**

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# HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT TIME

## Karns earns silver with District 3-AAA tourney run

By Steve Williams

Karns made a Cinderella-type run through the District 3-AAA basketball tournament but couldn't wrap up the title.

The sixth-seeded Beavers, coming in with a 10-15 record, posted wins over Campbell County, No. 3 seed Anderson County and No. 2 seed Central before seeing a nine-point lead over top-seeded Oak Ridge slip away down the stretch in the finals Wednesday night at Karns.

The Wildcats' full-court press produced several turnovers as they rallied for a 75-65 victory in the final 5 minutes, 31 seconds. Poor free throw shooting also was costly for Karns.

"Their press was effective," said veteran Karns Coach Lee Henson. "The experience of their guards was the key. They're used to it and they've been in this lime-light. They got after us and we got a little excited and threw the ball around."

Playing four games in the tournament was taxing, added Henson.

"You could tell at the end, we were spent," he said. "It's not an excuse. We got beat, but that's part of it. Of course, Oak Ridge has been here many times and they are a good team."



PHOTO BY LUTHER SIMMONS

**A lively crowd at Karns gets into the action as the Beavers and Wildcats battle for the District 3-AAA crown.**

Senior guard Marcus Smith scored a career high 41 points, including 26 in the final period, to lead the comeback. Teammate JaVonte Thomas added 15 points.

Karns was led by Mark Vance, who was tough to handle inside and scored 21 points. Teahzawon Hodge-Harper chipped in 17 and Caleb Keeter 14.

The Beavers (13-16) were scheduled to host Maryville in the Region 2-AAA quarterfinals Saturday, while Oak Ridge (24-5) was to entertain West.

Karns led 60-51 when Vance recorded an old fashion three-point play and OR's Herbert Booker fouled out. Sixteen seconds later, with 5:15 on the clock, Oak Ridge Coach Aaron Green directed his team to press.

"We didn't really have a choice," said Green. "Karns played a heck of a game. We didn't play great and they had a lot to do with that. Our press obviously turned the tempo. Smith finally decided to play there in the last six or seven minutes. His 26 points in the

fourth quarter is unheard of."

The rattled Beavers were outscored 24-5 over the last five minutes.

Karns committed 18 turnovers in the game, while Oak Ridge had eight.

Vance said "their lateral quickness" is what makes the Wildcats' press effective. "It was really how we executed against it. We had a lot of turnovers that we shouldn't have. We weren't moving the ball well."

Seventy-four free throws were

attempted, but neither team shot well from the line - Karns making 18 of 34 and Oak Ridge 23 of 40. Hodge-Harper connected on only six of his 19 attempts.

Coach Green complimented Karns' tourney run. "They are always tough here on their home floor. I've got a lot of respect for Coach Henson. That was a tough one to lose, but I'm proud of our players. They didn't quit. They kept battling. We found a way to win the game."

**CENTRAL FALLS:** The 1-2 punch of Evan Winchester (22 points) and Jackson Garner (21) led No. 5 seed Clinton past Central 67-59 in the consolation game. The Bobcats got 17 from Tevon Summers and 14 from Sean Oglesby.

The Dragons (19-14) were to have played at Knoxville Catholic in the Region 2-AAA quarterfinals, while Central (16-12) faced District 4 champion Bearden.

**ALL-TOURNEY:** Oak Ridge - Marcus Smith (MVP) and JaVonte Thomas. Karns - Mark Vance, Tre Hawkins and Tee Hodge-Harper. Clinton - Evan Winchester and Jackson Garner. Central - Sean Oglesby and Tevon Summers. Powell - Desmond Billingsley. Anderson County - Logan Berry.

## No sweat! Last-second shot lifts Fulton to District 4-AA title

By Steve Williams

Both coaches agreed. It was a classic Austin-East versus Fulton basketball battle.

This time it was for the District 4-AA tournament championship and less than a second away from going into overtime.

But Fulton sophomore Tommy Sweat's short rebound jumper from inside the lane beat the buzzer and gave the Falcons a 61-59 win and the title Feb. 19 at Alcoa.

"I've never made a bigger bucket in my life," said Tommy in the hallway outside Fulton's dressing room, taking into consideration the stage and importance of the contest. "But credit to my teammates. We played a heck of a game. I'm just glad we got the win."

After a split in two regular season meetings, Fulton now holds a 2-1 edge over its rival. Round 4 could very well come in the Region 2-AA finals this week.

Fulton (22-4) and A-E (21-4) were to have hosted Pigeon Forge and Gibbs, respectively, in Saturday's first-round region games.

"It was an old Austin-East and Fulton basketball game and it came down to the very end," said A-E Coach Marcus Stanton. "The kid (Sweat) hustled



PHOTO BY STEVE WILLIAMS

**An intense Jody Wright talks to his his Fulton team during a timeout in last week's exciting District 4-AA title game against rival A-E. The Falcons pulled out a 61-59 win**

and got the shot off. It was a good shot.

"Our kids played hard and theirs' did. It was just a tough battle. God willing, we'll get to be in this position again to finish off what we started."

Fulton Coach Jody Wright called it a "typical" Fulton vs. A-E game. "Hard fought," he said. "Both teams left it all out there. We were fortunate to make a play there at the end. That's the kind of game you would expect a district championship game to be."

"He (Coach Stanton) has got to be proud of his team tonight. I thought they played extremely well."

Tourney MVP Trey Davis led Fulton with 24 points.

Deshawn Page battled inside for 16. Edward Lacy fired in 12.

Austin-East got 12 points from KaJaun Bullard and 10 each from Jaiohn Foster, Dereke Upton and Ronny Pierson.

Strong work inside led by Bullard staked the Roadrunners to a 10-2 lead midway through the first period. But an old fashion 3-point play by Davis and Lacy's 3-pointer from the right of the circle pulled the Falcons into a 14-all tie by the end of the period.

Connor Haskell's 3-point shot at the top of the circle gave Fulton a 24-20 lead in the second period. Fulton ended the first half strong as Page scored on a put back and a layup plus one to make it 31-25.

The Falcons' advantage swelled to eight (39-31), but Pierson tallied eight straight points, including a pair of 3-pointers, to tie the game at 39-all and Bullard closed out the third period with two blocks.

After Davis made a long 3-pointer to open the final period, Page was hit with a technical foul. He made up for it with back-to-back old fashion three-point plays to restore Fulton's eight-point advantage (48-40). A-E responded with seven straight points to pull within one (48-47) and two

foul shots by Foster knotted the score at 51 with 3:06 to go.

The two teams traded baskets down the stretch.

A little over six seconds remained as the Falcons came down court looking for the winning shot.

"I saw Trey D and I knew he wasn't going to pass it," chuckled Sweat, recalling the closing seconds. "I knew he was going to try to take it all the way. He put it up and Page tipped it."

The ball ended up in Sweat's hands. "I glanced at the clock," he remembered. "I knew there was little to no time, so I went ahead and got up in the air and I just flipped it up there, and luckily it got on the rim and went in."

**ALL-TOURNEY:** Fulton - Edward Lacy, Deshawn Page, Tommy Sweat and Trey Davis (MVP). Austin-East - Dereke Upton, KaJaun Bullard and Jaiohn Foster. Alcoa - Garrett Rogers and Isaiah Cox. Scott High - Trey Marrow and Kaden Babb.

**CORRECTION:** The point totals in an article published on Feb. 18 for the Bearden-Farragut game were incorrect.

Bearden's Zneyah McLaughlin scored 18 points and Shekinah McLaughlin scored 13 in the Lady Bulldogs' 62-53 victory over the Lady Admirals on Monday, Feb. 11.

## Defense helps Lady Admirals nab third place in district tournament

By Ken Lay

MARYVILLE --- Coach Jason Mayfield was a bit concerned early last week when his team played for the consolation championship of the District 4-AAA Tournament.

But he couldn't have scripted things any better as his Farragut Lady Admirals used a fast start to run past William Blount 61-41 to claim third place in the district tournament on Monday, Feb. 18 at William Blount High School's Marvin L. Boring Memorial Gymnasium.

Farragut (25-7) lost a heartbreaker the last time it was on the hardwood, having come up on the wrong end of a 48-47 decision to rival Bearden in the semifinals on Saturday, Feb. 16 and that was what had Mayfield a little apprehensive.

"I didn't know how we would respond after Saturday," Mayfield said.

As it turned out, the coach didn't have anything to worry about as Farragut had one of its best defensive showings of the season.

And William Blount's shooting certainly didn't hamper the Lady Admirals' cause as Farragut darted to an early 18-0 lead and never really relinquished control of the game, which wasn't much of a contest.

"When you come out and get ahead 18-0, it's good but it was the way that we scored those points," Mayfield said. "We generated those points from our defense. That's what we've been working on in practice."

While the Lady Admirals all but stifled the Lady Governors (18-13) out of the gate, Farragut got scoring from all over the floor throughout the game, especially early as Macy Barnes, Ace Strickland, Morgan Carbaugh, Brooke Christian, Claire Wyatt and Keeleigh Rogers all found their way into the scoring column in the opening frame.

Strickland, a freshman, scored six of her 11 points in the first quarter. Carbaugh, who had nine points in the game, scored four in the first quarter. Barnes and Rogers each made 3-pointers in the period. Christian also scored three early points to help Farragut build a 21-4 lead by first quarter's end.

The Lady Admirals kept the Lady Governors off the scoreboard for nearly seven minutes out of the chute.

William Blount finally broke its scoring drought when Alyssa Walker converted a transition layup after making a steal with 11 minutes, 4 seconds left in the opening frame.

Farragut never lost command and Rogers, who scored a 3-pointer to open the game, said that the Lady Admirals were motivated to beat the Lady Governors, after losing in the semifinals to the Lady Bulldogs.

"That loss to Bearden really hurt all of us," Rogers said. "We wanted to come in here and play good defense and we really wanted to do everything right."

The Lady Admirals did get it right against William Blount on its home court.

Christian paced Farragut's balanced scoring attack with 14 points. Strickland and Barnes scored 11 each. Rogers finished with five and Wyatt finished with four for the Lady Admirals, who led 31-12 at halftime.



PHOTO BY STEVE WILLIAMS

**Tommy Sweat (right) and Deshawn Page receive congratulations after receiving awards following Fulton's 61-59 win over Austin-East in the District 4-AA finals. A buzzer beater by Sweat gave the Falcons their winning margin.**

**HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS NOTEBOOK**

# Kredich, West swimmer, wins two events in TISCA state meet

By Steve Williams

Knoxville West High senior and Duke signee Coleman Kredich was in the spotlight at the recent TISCA State High School Swimming and Diving Championships as he was a double winner in the 100-yard freestyle event and 50 free.

Coleman was timed in 44.44 seconds in the 100 and 20.22 in the 50 at the Tracy Caulkins Aquatic Center in Nashville Feb. 8-9.

In other boys' highlight performances by Knox County entries, Webb School's Jack Hamilton finished third in the 200 IM, while Harper Houk of Hardin Valley Academy was fifth.

Hamilton added a fifth place showing in the 100 breaststroke.

Several local female entries had Top 5 showings.

HVA placed third in the girls' 400 relay with junior Rachel Aycock, sophomore Mary Kate Darby, junior Kylie Cutcher and senior Emily Aycock making up the foursome.

Emily Aycock also took fourth in the 200 free, while Rachel Aycock took fourth in the 500 free.

Lauren Hurt, Bearden

junior, placed third in the 200 IM, while Webb's Emma Martin came in fourth. Hurt also was third in the 500 free.

Carter junior Annie Rimmer was fourth in both the 100 butterfly and the 100 free.

Rylee Orr of Halls placed fifth in the girls' 1-meter diving.

**RENFREE HONORED:** Knoxville Catholic student-athlete Jake Renfree was recently named the Gatorade Boys Cross Country Runner of the Year in Tennessee.

Gatorade recognizes the nation's most elite high school student-athletes not only for outstanding athletic excellence, but also high standards of academic achievement and exemplary character. Renfree, a Notre Dame signee, has maintained a weighted 4.33 GPA in the classroom.

The 6-3, 155-pound senior finished second at the Foot Locker National Cross Country Championships this past season with a time of 15:19.5 to earn first team All-American status.

Other accolades and accomplishments he has had in February include Jake being the boys' 800

champion at the Music City High School Indoor Invitational Feb.2.

On Feb. 6, he was named the National High School Coaches Association Cross Country Runner of the Year.

Jake also ran in the 112th Millrose Games in New York Feb. 9, placing second in the New Balance Invitational Junior Boys Mile, with a personal best time of 4:09.

**PRIDE IN PRESS:** The two presses Oak Ridge ran late in its District 3-AAA title win at Karns were called "44 and 43" said Coach Aaron Green. "I can't give my secrets away, but that was the calls."

Guard Marcus Smith said "transition buckets" were the difference in the game. In five minutes, the Wildcats went from being nine points behind to 10 points ahead.

"Basically, we've just got to guard 94 feet," said Smith. "We take a lot of pride in it."

**JOINING TMSAA:** Marion Quinn, Athletics Specialist for Knox County Schools, said KCS middle school basketball programs joining the TMSAA this year benefitted from the change as far as rules are concerned and also received



Former UT basketball point guard and current Wayne County, Ky., head coach Rodney Woods (center) came to Cumberland Gap High School in January to play a game against Clinton and take part in a 40-year reunion of the 1979 Powell Valley High boys basketball team, which he guided to Class A runner-up honors in the TSSAA state tournament. Standing by Woods is the popular Freddy Fagan (left), a longtime Clinton High fan, and John Williams, the Dragons' public address announcer.

additional insurance.

Knox County middle school teams now have the same rules as those teams outside Knox County, which will help when they play each other, said Quinn.

"Now all schools have the same rules," said Quinn. "That unified us playing by same rules."

**NOT FORGOTTEN:** The 1979 Powell Valley boys' basketball team celebrated the 40-year anniversary of

its TSSAA Class A state run-

ner-up season in January. Former UT point guard Rodney Woods was the head coach of that Claiborne County team, which was closed several years ago and replaced by Cumberland Gap High School.

Woods, who has been a high school basketball coach for many years, came to the ceremony Jan. 12 and brought his Wayne County, Ky., team to play a game against Clinton

at Cumberland Gap High. Woods' team defeated the Dragons 92-66.

Woods was familiar with the Clinton program, having coached against the Dragons often over the years when they were directed by the late Don Lockard, whose son Chris is now Clinton's head coach.

Woods' Powell Valley team was 34-2 in 1979 and led by Barry Kincaid, who averaged 25 points per game.

# Area wrestlers medal at State Tournament

By Ken Lay

FRANKLIN --- Several are high school wrestlers came home with medals from the State Championships recently.

A total of 24 athletes placed at the three-day event, which concluded Saturday, Feb. 16 at the Williamson County Ag Expo Center.

Christian Academy of Knoxville's Gavin Cagle was the area's lone state champion. He won the 160-pound bracket in the Division II Meet. He was one of three Warriors to place at the Midstate.

In the 106-pound weight class, Keyveon Roller finished second. At 126, Nathan Harris posted a fifth-place finish.

Grace Christian Academy also had three medalists in Franklin. Nic Bass (170 pounds) and Campbell Brown (182) each claimed fifth place in their respective weight division.

Rams 120-pounder Ben Beaver finished sixth in his weight class.

Webb School of Knoxville also had a pair of placers. Zack Tieng (145 pounds) came in third and Brik Boruff (220) posted a fifth-place finish.

In Class A/AA: Gibbs High School had a total of six medalists.

Isaiah Brooks (170 pounds) posted a runner-up finish in the 170-pound weight class. Michael Myers (195) came in third while John Pittman (126

pounds), George Gillman (138), Joel Griffin (220) and Garrison Albino (285) each posted fourth-place finishes in their respective weight classes.

Fulton had two grapplers place in Franklin. Elijah Davis (160 pounds) and Josh Gardner (170) each took fourth place for the Falcons.

In Class AAA: Tyler McKeefery of Farragut, a senior and four-time region champion, picked up the first state medal of his career. McKeefery, who recently signed with Ottawa University in Kansas, finished fifth in the 120-pound weight class.

Hardin Valley Academy junior Josh Pietarila posted a second consecutive runner-up finish on the state's grand stage. He

was second in the 160-pound weight class.

Bearden's Matheson Meade finished third in the 145-pound weight class.

**In the girls state tournament:** Gibbs had four medalists. Kayla Sullivan (103 pounds) finished sixth. Kaylee Hayes (125) finished fourth. Laney Howard (132) took fifth and Alex Tate (190) came in sixth.

Farragut's Hailey Stevenson, a senior closed out her high school career by posting a sixth-place finish in the 119-pound weight class.

Stevenson, who was Farragut's female wrestler also medaled at state as a junior last season.

## Prep tourney play gets hotter with

## regional action

Cont. from page 1

Carter topped Gatlinburg-Pittman 84-74, Fulton nipped Austin-East on a last-second shot, highly-regarded Bearden blasted Catholic 82-49 and Webb pounded Chattanooga Christian 76-51 in the finals.

The Spartans were scheduled to host Harding Academy in a state quarterfinal game Saturday night.

On the girls' side, Christian Academy of Knoxville was the big winner as it won the Division II-A East Region and prevailed in the state quarterfinals Friday night to earn a berth in this week's state tourney in Nashville.



The award is based on Attitude, Careacter, Grades, Community Service and Performance as a Person.

**GIRLS BASKETBALL**

(Weeks 7 and 8 Honorees)

- Austin-East - Trinity Turner
- Bearden - Jah'niya Bussell
- Berean Christian - Olivia Gibson
- CAK - Caroline Meyers
- Carter - Jaci Neal
- Catholic - Grace Despard
- Central - Lexi Pendergrass
- Concord Christian - Kylie Phillips
- Farragut - Claire Wyatt
- First Baptist Academy - Kelsey Hollifield

- Fulton - Ranaisha Gates
- Gibbs - Olivia Self
- Grace Christian - Gentry McReynolds
- Halls - Brook Cox
- Hardin Valley - Avery Laughtery
- Karns - Kylee Scarbrough
- Powell - Taylor Rodgers
- Seymour - Haley Osbourne
- South-Doyle - Isabella McAnally
- TSD - Julia Carico
- The King's Academy - Sydney Bane
- Webb - Emma Marion
- West - Messiah Middlebrook
- Johnson University - Kayla Keele
- UT Lady Vols - Mimi Collins

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PHOTO BY KATRINA WIENS / K. WIENS PHOTOGRAPHY

CAK Coach Abby Williams starts the traditional cutting down the net Friday night after her Lady Warriors defeated University School of Jackson 62-59 to advance to this week's Division II-A state semifinals in Nashville.

## Brock leads CAK girls to Division II-A's Final Four

**Cont. from page 1**

The USJ coach was impressed with Brock. "She's a tough player," he said. "From the scouting report, we knew we had to try to make her work and we did. She's just a good player. But they had other players to step up."

Christian Academy (25-5) will play in its first Final Four in six years when the state semifinals are played Friday at Lipcomb University's Allen Arena in Nashville. Its opponent will be Northpoint Christian (26-7), a 49-31 winner over CPA. Tipoff time will be 12 noon

(CST). Providence Christian Academy (20-7) will play Harding Academy (28-2) in the other semifinal game at 3:15. Providence rolled past Webb School 46-25 in quarterfinal action. Harding eliminated Clarksville Academy 53-49.

The state championship game will be Saturday at 4:30 (CST).

**EAST REGION:** CAK defeated Webb 55-53 in this season's Division II-A East Region title game on Feb. 16.

## Maryville responds to pep talk in comeback victory

**By Ken Lay**

MARYVILLE --- Entering last week's District 4-AAA Championship Game, the Bearden High School girls basketball team hadn't lost in the 2019 calendar year.

Early, it looked as though the Lady Bulldogs would see their streak continue as they had an eight-point lead at halftime.

But a tongue lashing changed all that as Maryville coach Scott West blasted his team at the break.

"I don't think you want to know what I said at halftime," West said after his Lady Rebels notched a 63-51 victory on Monday, Feb. 18 at William Blount High School's Marvin L. Boring Memorial Gymnasium. "It was a little come to Jesus speech."

That speech ignited the Lady Rebels, which trailed 30-17 with two minutes remaining in the second quarter.

West, who was visibly angry on the Maryville sideline throughout the first 16 minutes of the contest, saw his team show a few signs of life in the waning moments of the first half.

The Lady Rebels (28-2) forced the Lady Bulldogs (26-3) into four turnovers and converted the Bearden miscues into points. Maryville closed the half on a 7-2 run to pull to within 32-24 by halftime.

Still, West was upset. But his team, which trailed 18-13 after the opening frame, would respond to his not-so pleasant halftime pep talk.

"It wasn't in a nice tone and that's been uncharacteristic for me this year," West said.

Pleasant or not, the Lady Rebels got the message and quickly turned things around. They outscored Bearden 18-7 in the third quarter to take a 42-39 lead by third quarter's end.

Maryville took control of the game over the final eight minutes as the Lady Bulldogs went cold.

"The shots just weren't going in and we didn't do the things that we usually do defensively," Bearden coach Justin Underwood said.

The Lady Bulldogs, who made 12-of-13 free throws before halftime, missed the front end of three one-and-one chances from the line in the fourth quarter.

They also struggled from the floor, making just four field goals after the break.

"We missed free throws and we were like 3-for-18 in the paint and that's not going to win you a championship, especially against a good team like Maryville," Underwood said. "This is the first time that we've lost since Dec. 14.

"Now, we just have to get ready for the region tournament and hopefully get ready for a big postseason

run."

Maryville beat the Lady Bulldogs 55-48 before Christmas. Their only other regular-season loss came at the hands of William Blount, which finished fourth in the tournament. The Lady Governors also advanced to the Region 2-AAA Tournament along with the Lady Rebels, Lady Bulldogs and Farragut.

Tytiara Spikes scored 14 points to lead Bearden, but made just four free throws after halftime.

Jakhya Davis and Zneyah McLaughlin scored 12 points each.

Danae Fritz scored a game-high 16 points for Maryville and kept the Lady Rebels within striking range in the first half. She was named the tournament MVP.

Lindsey Taylor and Courtney Carruthers scored 11 points each and Jazz Ervin added nine for Maryville off the bench.

## Thanks to Pete, I got the scoop on state's first 3-point shot makers

Hospitality rooms are enjoyable to visit during high school basketball tournament time when districts and regions are played.



**By Steve Williams**

Such rooms are usually located in a classroom close to the gym and staffed by faculty members or volunteers. Of course, there are a lot of good things to eat and drink, plus good conversation.

Coaches and representatives of competing schools spend time in the hospitality room when their team is not playing, and media covering the tournament also are welcome.

Referees who are working the tourney also sometimes come by if the coast is clear. By that, I mean it can be an awkward situation if refs and coaches are in the same room after a heated and controversial contest. Usually, food and drink is brought to the officials' dressing room.

On my visit to Alcoa High last week to cover the Austin-East and Fulton boys game, I stopped in the hospitality room for a pregame snack. Sitting directly across from me at the dining table was Pete Stout, who I've known for years as an assistant football coach at Fulton. I learned more about Pete that night.

"Well, I was part of a sports moment that will never be matched," he said, after finishing a plate of barbecue ribs.

What's that I asked, as any inquiring sports reporter would.

"When I was the head girls' basketball coach at Horace Maynard High School, one of my players was the first in the state to make a 3-point shot," revealed Stout. "Katina Burchfield did it in 1986 or '87. And Horace Maynard's Chris Washam was the first boy to do it after our game."

Last Friday I emailed the TSSAA state office to seek any historical information it might have on the 3-point shot.

Assistant Executive Director Matthew Gillespie replied, stating Tennessee added the 3-point shot when the National Federation of High Schools adopted it in the 1987-88 school year.

"We would not have a record of who made the first baskets," emailed Gillespie. "I'm sure there were numerous games going on the same night, but we don't have any record of who actually made the first 3-point basket."

Gillespie obviously had not heard Stout's story and what he told me.

Stout said Ron Green, a sports-minded teacher at the high school in Maynardville in 1987, came up with the idea to start Horace Maynard's games early the first day the 3-point shot would be used in TSSAA play.

So that's what the school did. The girls' game started at 11 a.m., with the boys' game following, recalled Stout.

"I wanted Sandra Bull to shoot it," said Stout. "She was a senior. But the ball rotated around." And Burchfield, a freshman, got the chance, instead, to make history.

"They stopped the game and gave her the ball and it was put in the trophy case," said Stout.

Gary Chandler was the boys' head coach at the time, added Stout, who coached the girls' team some 20 years.

Horace Maynard became a middle school in 1997 when the new Union County High School opened.

Stout, a 1976 Knoxville Central High grad, also has another claim to fame he shared with me. He played on the UT basketball team as a walk-on for two years. The first season, he was a member of the team that included the famous duo of Ernie and Bernie. Howard Wood, another great Vol player, was a teammate of his the second season.

Stout said he and two others were selected from a tryout of 100 for the walk-on spots.

Stout was a 6-5, 200-pounder when he played for Coach Conrad Majors at Central. Tennessee Coach Ray Mears was recruiting Bearden star Bert Bertlekamp during that time and watched Bert play Central one night.

"Bert scored 22 points in that game and I scored 24," recalled Stout.

The two of them later became teammates at UT and friends.

"Remember the Vol Classic they always used to have," asked Stout. "In 1977, Tennessee lost to Utah in the finals and the players received a watch for coming in second place. As a walk-on player, I didn't get one. But Bert gave me his at the end of the season and I've still got it."

He showed it to me, too. It's still in the original box it came in.

Before last week, I had only known Pete Stout as an assistant football coach on the Fulton staff, a position he has held since 2005. Last fall, I did hear about Pete's wife, Donna, becoming Fulton's new cheerleader coach and their daughter, Emily, being on the cheerleading squad. I'd say that was a big reason why he was at Fulton's basketball game.

I'm glad he was, too. Thanks to our conversation in the hospitality room, I now know a lot more about Pete. I even got a scoop on the beginning of the 3-point shot in TSSAA prep basketball.

## Bike Rack Grant Program Available

I Bike KNX, a program of the Knoxville Regional Transportation Organization, is encouraging local businesses and agencies to take advantage of its Bicycle Rack Grant Program. As more people are using their bikes every day for commuting, shopping, socializing, and recreation, there is also a demand for more parking.

The grant provides bike parking for any business or agency at just 20 percent of the actual cost, which typically ends up meaning the business pays approximately \$20 for one rack. One rack holds two bicycles and is simple to install into concrete. Racks are available in a variety of colors at

no extra cost. There are other types of racks available for locations that only have asphalt available.

The introduction of Pace, Knoxville's bike share, has increased the number of bikes being used in the city since the program started last year. Pace bikes can be left at any public rack, as well as at Pace stations. Because of this increase in people riding bicycles, racks are filling up faster and users are looking for more places to park. People are more likely to bike if they are confident that they will find convenient and secure parking at their destinations.

Providing bike parking also gives a

more orderly appearance to buildings and prevents bicyclists from locking their bikes to trees, benches, and railings. If a bike rack appears insecure or is in the wrong location, bicyclists are less likely to use it.

The grant program has resulted in more than 700 bicycle racks being installed since 2004. Any private business, public agency, or non-profit organization located in Knox, Anderson, Blount, Loudon, or Sevier County is eligible for this program.

To apply for this grant, or to report a location that needs a rack, please contact Craig Luebke at [craig.luebke@knoxplanning.org](mailto:craig.luebke@knoxplanning.org) or 865-215-3825.



**The Doctor is in**

a weekly column by  
**Dr. Jim Ferguson**

**The End of the World**

Recently, I promised you a surprise, something different. And if the technological wonders of iPhones and the internet work as planned, these contrivances will enable me to send this essay to you from the bottom of the world.

When I was sick several years ago, I wasn't sure I would ever travel again. And since I've traveled all my life, I thought, perhaps it's enough to have stood on five continents and traipsed across Europe a dozen times. However, I had one more bucket-list trip in me. This time, I will be only 500 miles from the sixth continent, Antarctica, but that is close enough for me.

I'm the instigator of adventures in my family, and I thought I had lost my wanderlust. However, I wanted to see Patagonia and the Argentinian pampas. And since I was blessed with more

days, I decided to get off the sidelines and get back in the travel game. Sometimes you have to push the horizons of life or they will shrink around you.

I've done self-driving trips in Spain, Ireland, Slovakia and all over Guatemala, but at sixty-eight years old, Becky and I decided it best to see "the end of the world" with day trips from a cruise ship. Cruising is a great way travel. I may need to amend one of my Fergisms, "Get on a plane, rent a car and you can see the world," and include ships for the "seasoned" citizen.

I have to admit that I was uncharacteristically apprehensive as we boarded a 767 jetliner for the red-eye flight to Santiago, Chile. I asked myself, Why am I going to the bottom of the world? After all, everything I love is on or near our small farm in Knoxville, except my other daughter

and her family who live in Portland, Oregon. But I was already committed, and so, Bon voyage!

Since our ship will travel around Cape Horn, through the Beagle Channel and the Magellan Strait, I'm reading "Over the Edge of the World" by Laurence Bergreen which chronicles the first circumnavigation of the earth. Little was known of the world in the Age of Discovery when Magellan sailed west from Spain in 1519. Exploring was dangerous. Three years after leaving Spain and sailing 60,000 miles, only one of Magellan's five ships and eighteen crew out of two hundred and sixty made it back to Spain. Magellan himself was killed in a battle with natives in the Pacific.

I've been on many cruises, but never with such a cosmopolitan group as on this "voyage of discovery." South America has a strong Spanish influence since the conquests of the 1600s. It also has a significant German footprint because of 19th and 20th centuries immigration. Announcements on our ship are given in English, Spanish and then German. Travel allows you to experience different cultures, and challenges your notions of the way things

should be done.

After crossing the Atlantic Ocean in his search for the Spice Islands of the Indian Ocean, Magellan sailed south along the eastern coast of South America searching for a passage to the Pacific Ocean. He would never find the short cut he sought and was forced ever southward into colder climates toward what sailors of that era feared was the end of the world.

Becky and I chose to sail south along the western coast of South America from Santiago Chile because I wanted to be out of Knoxville in late February and this matched the ship's itinerary. It is a bit ironic that I choose a South American summer during Knoxville's winter because as we sailed farther south it became colder and sea rougher just as Magellan discovered. Finally, he found the passage he sought, but at the tip of South America rather than closer to the equator. The passage was later given his name, but it would be fifty years before the next expedition by Sir Francis Drake would traverse Magellan's passage. Charles Darwin, on the HMS Beagle, in route to the Galapagos Island where he postulated evolution theory, also went

through the Magellan Strait.

The area of Patagonia is beautiful, but desolate by civilized standards. The name derives from the Spanish word for a dog with big paws. Magellan encountered a group of large Indians in the distant south who also had large feet and hence the name of this rugged landscape with temperate rain forests, New Zealand-like fjords, snow-capped mountains, volcanoes and glaciers.

Magellan and his crew were hardy men. I would not have survived the harsh conditions of a mariner's life with hard labor, little protection from extremes of temperature and poor nutrition. On cruise ships you have far better accommodations than sixteenth century royalty and far better food. The challenge on a cruise ship is not to overeat. The marginal provisions in Magellan's ships were in constant danger of being ruined by sea water in leaky ships or ruined by weasels and rats. As a result, voyaging near coastlines was a necessity, allowing mariners to replenish water and food supplies as well as affording ships protective harbor during storms.

Scurvy was a scourge of

ancient mariners. Perhaps three dozen of Magellan's crew died of scurvy which is associated with bleeding gums, loss of teeth and weakening of bones and tendons. It was thought that miasmatic or foul air was the cause of the terrible condition which we now know is due to a deficiency of Vitamin C. Ascorbic acid promotes healthy connective tissue which binds our sinews together.

Vasco da Gama learned from Arab traders that eating oranges would cure scurvy. In the 18th century, a Scottish surgeon demonstrated that limes could treat the disease and later it became mandatory that crewmen of the British Royal Navy get a daily dose of lemon or lime juice to prevent the dreaded disease of mariners. As a result they became known as "limeys."

Hopefully, you found this bit of nostalgia, history, medicine and travelogue entertaining and will return next week as our journey continues around Cape Horn's Tierra de Fuego, across the southern ocean to the Falkland Islands, and then the Argentinean pampas and Uruguay. I even promise a bit of medicine!

You may email Dr. Ferguson at [fergusonj@knoxfocus.com](mailto:fergusonj@knoxfocus.com)

# Dealing with success

Over the last few weeks I have been looking at the life of Joseph and lessons we can gain from his life. Last week, I talked about dealing with discouragement, something none of us are exempt from. Today, our topic is dealing with success. While none of us look forward to times of discouragement, I think most of us would be more than happy to deal with



By Mark Brackney, Minister of the Arlington Church of Christ

success. "Bring it on, it's about time, I have arrived, finally I have hit the jackpot." We don't think of success as something we need to overcome or deal with. But success can actually cause problems for your life. It can keep you from God's dream for your life. Let's first define success, because there are many definitions. For many people, success is defined as being able to do whatever you want because you have reached a certain level of status due to meeting your life goals.

When thinking of an example of success from the Bible, the example of the rich younger ruler in

Luke 18 comes to mind. He is successful by anyone's definition: rich and powerful. Jesus told him to sell everything and he walked away sad. Why was he sad? It was too much money, too much power to give up in order to follow Jesus. So, his definition of success got in the way of his relationship with Jesus. You need the right definition of success for your life.

Let's take a look at how Joseph dealt with sudden success in his life. By way of recap, Joseph was sold by his brothers at age seventeen into slavery. He becomes a slave in foreign land - home of Potiphar. His wife makes unwanted advances at Joseph and he

ends up in prison for something he didn't do. While there he meets two high-ranking officials of Pharaoh. He interprets the dreams of the cup bearer and baker. He tells the cup bearer to remember him in three days when he is restored to his position (Gen. 40:23), but he is forgotten about. It was two additional years before he was remembered (Genesis 41:1). Now Joseph might have done better during this time if someone would have told him: "Hey bro, in just two years you are going to be remembered and it is going to be awesome. You are going to go from the prison to the palace. You will be second

over all of Egypt, one of the most powerful nations in the world. Just hang in there. As long as you know there is going to be an ending, you can endure something." But Joseph didn't know. Joseph holds on to his faith even though others have let him down.

Pharaoh has two disturbing dreams. He calls on his wise men and magicians together, but none can interpret the dream. The cup bearer who is present then remembers about Joseph and his gift of dream interpretation (Gen. 41:9-14). Everything then changes for Joseph. Joseph knows what the dreams mean and could have used this moment

to leverage his situation, but he doesn't do that. He served faithfully by taking advantage of opportunities and leaving the rest to God. It is because of God's goodness and grace that Joseph is used (Gen. 41:16). Joseph knew that God was at work. When you are humble as a leader and say "I can't", it creates space for God to demonstrate his power. Joseph did not feel entitled for this new position. He was thankful. He was going to stay faithful to God through the good and bad. Success for Joseph was defined as faithfulness to God. This should be the definition of success for our lives as well.



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# Tennessee Stage Company Announces Auditions For SHAKESPEARE ON THE SQUARE

The Tennessee Stage Company will hold auditions for the 2019 Shakespeare on the Square season on Sunday, March 3, from 1:00 - 5:00 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church, 620 State Street.

Auditionees are requested to prepare two contrasting monologues, at least one classical, of no more than one minute each. Please bring two copies of a resume and a standard theatrical headshot. All auditions are by appointment only.

For appointments please contact the Tennessee Stage Company by calling (865) 546-4280 or by e-mail at TennesseeStage@comcast.net.

The two shows to be performed this summer are "A Midsummer Night's Dream" and "The Comedy Of Errors." They will run from July 11 - August 11. Rehearsals will begin towards the end of May.

For more information contact Tennessee Stage Company at 546-4280 or look at the web site at TennesseeStage.com.



Morning Pointe of Knoxville resident Mary Ferguson (age 92) delivers a hot meal to local senior Vivian Fizz.

## Morning Pointe Residents Deliver Mobile Meals

Morning Pointe of Knoxville residents braved the cold weather to deliver hot meals as part of the Mobile Meals Program. Twice a month, residents of the assisted living community provide meals to

seniors in the Knoxville area.

"We always look forward to serving the greater community and meeting new seniors!" says Pat Anderson, the Life Enrichment Director at Morning Pointe of Knoxville.

The residents of Morning Pointe of Knoxville are always up to something! To follow their adventures, visit the Morning Pointe of Knoxville homepage at [www.morningpointe.com](http://www.morningpointe.com).

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CAC Beardsley Community Farm Egg Hunt

CAC Beardsley Community Farm is hosting its 2nd annual Community Egg Hunt on April 7th, 2019. All skilled egg hunters ages 2 to 10 are invited to participate in CAC Beardsley Community Farm's 2019 Egg Hunt on April 7th from 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.! The rain date is April 14.

The event is FREE and suggested donations of \$5 per child will be accepted. Don't forget your egg baskets.

The Easter Bunny will be here to take photos with children. Bring your own camera or phones!

This year's Egg Hunt includes over 4,000 eggs containing candy hidden across three locations. Each location is specific to age groups either 2-4,

5-7 or 8-10.

Each age group will begin their hunt at 1:30 p.m. in different zones. There will be a concession stand at the event and DJ Sterling will provide musical entertainment. More details to be announced soon.

The rain date is April 14. The Egg Hunt will take place on the farm on 1741 Reynolds St, which is located in Malcolm Martin Park.

For more information, visit [beardsleyfarm.org](http://beardsleyfarm.org) or email us at [beardsleyfarm@gmail.com](mailto:beardsleyfarm@gmail.com)

### Inskip Baptist Church 100th Anniversary Celebration

Inskip Baptist will be celebrating its 100th Anniversary on Sunday, June 9, 2019. All members past or present are encouraged to attend. Worship starts at

10:45 a.m. with lunch following the service. There will be an additional service following lunch.

All are welcome to come celebrate the 100th Anniversary.

Inskip Baptist Church is located at 4810 Rowan Road, Knoxville, TN 37912.

### Knoxville Writers Guild Presents: Laura Mansfield: The Power of Authenticity in Storytelling

When: Thursday, March 7, 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Where: Central United Methodist Church, 201 3rd Ave, Knoxville, TN 37917

Laura Mansfield will talk about self-expression through transformative memoir. It's not about finding your voice, it's about owning it. Bring a story to share, an anecdote, a memory that defines you,

even if you don't know why.

Formerly a professor of advertising and public relations at UT, Mansfield has a flair for storytelling which informs her work as a public relations manager for an advertising agency recognized by Fast Company as one of the World's Most Innovative Companies. Learn more at [www.geezestories.com](http://www.geezestories.com).

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