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January 13, 2020

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TVA Towers back before commission

By Mike Steely
Senior Writer
steelym@knoxfocus.com

Knox County Mayor Glenn Jacobs has called a special meeting of the Knox County Commission for today at 5 p.m. to speak on the negotiations between the county and TVA toward the lease of the TVA East Tower for use by the Knox County School Board Administration.

The University of Tennessee has voiced some interest in using the top floors of the building and Jacobs, like Mayor Tim Burchett

before him, has been pushing for school board and commission approval of the deal.

The commission seems reluctant and has suggested, instead, a feasibility study of the Knoxville Center Mall and its surrounding area for use as county offices. Jacobs may report on the agreement details and possibly make a statement about the state attorney general's opinion on the matter.

No votes are to be taken at tonight's meeting.

Commission meets again next

week on Tuesday and Jacobs has two items on the agenda deferred from December regarding the TVA East Tower and school office move. The first regards a "term easement" agreement with TVA along with a permanent easement for the TVA Summer Place Complex and the Fritts Parking Lot term agreement. Following the possible vote on the TVA Tower agreement is a resolution approving the sale of the Andrew Johnson Building to BNA Associates. Should the TVA Tower agreement fail, the sale of the AJ Building

would disappear or fail as well.

Other items on the agenda for the January 21 work session meeting include adoption of the Greenway Corridor Study which would align corridors in Beaver Creek, Northshore Drive, and portions of John Sevier and Chapman Highway.

A tax break for The Courtland Group LLC may also be discussed for property along East Fifth Avenue and North Central Street.

Vehicle repair and service shops in the CN-Commercial Neighborhood is also on the agenda for

discussion as well as Sidewalk Construction Standards in new commercial and residential developments with more than five lots.

The commission could also discuss adding a new section to the county codes to create a Planned Development approval process.

Approval of a school auditor, Pugh CPA, is on the agenda at a cost of \$113,722 for the current year, which began July 1, 2019. Why the agreement is postdated is a question that may be asked by commissioners.

ONE TO REMEMBER!



PHOTO BY JOHN VALENTINE

Bryson Rosser joins his Bobcats in celebrating Central's first state football championship in the playoff era after a 14-9 win over Henry County at Tennessee Tech in 2018. Rosser resigned as head coach last week for family reasons. Please see story in Sports and Recreation, Section B1.

Million dollar sidewalk project before city council

By Mike Steely
Senior Writer
steelym@knoxfocus.com

While the county wrestles with a sidewalk proposal the city of Knoxville is preparing to consider a \$1 million contract for sidewalks along Wilson Avenue.

Tuesday's first meeting of 2020 will also be the first meeting for newly elected Mayor Indya Kincannon and council members Lynne Fugate, Janet Testerman, Amelia Parker and Charles Thomas. Wilson Avenue runs through a neighborhood in East Knoxville. The city council agenda is asking for council approval of an agreement with Bell & Associates Construction L.P.

Another sidewalk project on the new city council's agenda is a request from the Department of Engineering for an agreement with Design and Construction Services Inc. for the 2020 On-Call Sidewalk Replacement project for \$548,655.

Fulghum MacIndoe & Associates may be approved for \$48,850 to design services of right-of-way drainage improvements along Sevier Avenue. The City South Mixed Use Development may get construction engineering and inspection service for public improvements in an agreement with Wood Environmental for \$197,150.

The council will also look at a lease agreement with SOAR Youth Ministries, Inc., and Thrive Lonsdale for the lease of part of the property at 1212 New York Avenue for a community center.

Vaughn & Melton Consulting Engineers Inc. may be hired to provide construction administration services for the Urban Wilderness Gateway Park for \$189,120.

Can a home and a business be good neighbors?

Planning Commission hears both sides

By Bill Howard

It's long been observed that good fences (or at least property lines) make good neighbors. Apparently that works far better when the entity on each side is of the same designation: both are residences, both are businesses, both are tracts of farmland.

When the two entities have fundamentally different functions—a residence and a business, say—the "fences" observation is put to the test.

Such was the case Thursday, January 9 at the monthly meeting of Knoxville-Knox County Planning, when applicant Marty Norton sought a rezoning of 3.06 acres of land—from Low Density Residential to Light Industrial—at 3309 Mill Road. Norton wants to build an outside storage expansion of his mulch/materials business.

Christy Anderson lives across the street from the lot, and urged the commission to deny the rezoning. Her objections were those commonly offered by residential people when a business gets too close: noise and activity that might disturb the peace, and possibly crime.

"This is fourth-generation property," she said. "When my husband and I got this property 33 years ago, we put a two-bedroom trailer on it and raised three children. We never were offered the opportunity to buy the property that Mr. Norton wants to expand into. I don't want a business in front of my house. And we're concerned with the noise, about how he would bring trucks in, how customers would come in ... how all that would work during business hours. We hear him over there cutting wood, loading trucks, all kinds

of things."

"Also I know he's had an issue with theft, at least one time on his property," she added. "Right now, before he tore down the house in front of us, we could go outside, my grandson could play in the driveway...they play basketball, they ride their bikes. Once a business goes in, we might have to deal with someone who might want to rob ... they see our house and all of a sudden they wonder what's over there."

"I talked to Christy and I've agreed to put up the buffer (of trees), which will protect her from the noise and any dust," Norton said. "She did have an opportunity to buy this piece of property; all the neighbors had the same opportunity. I've done nothing but clean up the property. I keep it mowed and was even mowing the grass in the property in front of her before I even bought it. I need room to grow; if I don't grow I'll eventually die out."

Norton went on to say that the area is already far more commercial than residential. "Eventually it's all gonna be commercial; there's only two strips left," he said. "Christy could eventually rezone and it could be a lot more money for her down the road. I'm just trying to grow my business. I've cleaned it up and she's thanked me a hundred times. I'm very careful about making noises. There's a lot more noise at the (nearby) railroad tracks, and the (nearby) coal yards have been there for 50 years."

Commission Executive Director Gerald Green made sure Norton was prepared to include a row of trees as a buffer to the noise. "Yes sir," said Norton. "I'll plant a row of green giant (evergreen) trees ... they grow 30 feet tall and are beautiful for landscaping so that would give Christy plenty of privacy. I'll plant a buffer along the railroad track, and that would make

Continued on page 2

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REALTY EXECUTIVES ASSOCIATES

Knoxville Mayberry characters react to upcoming film

By Mike Steely
Senior Writer
steelym@knoxfocus.com

Each September the town of Mt. Airy, North Carolina, home of Andy Griffith, transforms into Mayberry and this year's Mayberry Days celebration will have some additional participants—film crew will be there during the event producing a feature film “Mayberry Man.”

The movie, which depicts a famous Hollywood actor being caught speeding and sentenced to spending his day at the festival, will follow him encountering the community, the “Mayberry” aspects of Mt. Airy, and the many folks who re-enact characters from the “The Andy Griffith Show.”

The feature film is being produced and promoted by a group known as Children of Mayberry and includes the children of the cast and crew of “The Andy Griffith Show.” Those include writer-director Stark Howell, son of the man who played “Dud Wash” in the series. Howell said that after he attended the festival in Mt. Airy he realized it to be “the perfect setting for a modern day, family-friendly story.”

Scheduled to be taking part in the film as supporters or actors include Clint Howard, brother of Ronnie Howard and a child star in the series; Gregory Schell, son of Ronnie Schell; and George Lindsey, Jr., whose father played Goober. Andy Griffith's daughter, Dixie, is also backing the project.

The movie will film in Danville, Indiana, as well, which promotes itself as “Mayberry in the Midwest.” Production is also planned in Los Angeles.



Bo Pierce as “Briscoe Darling” is pictured with Gregory Schell at Mt. Airy, NC., during the annual Mayberry Festival there.

Local Knox County “Mayberry” re-enactors are watching the effort to fund and produce the movie.

Bo Pierce, who re-enacts the charter of Briscoe Darling, said he hopes people are not expecting the film to be like the series but one that is true to Andy Griffith and based on the values of that show.

“It is basically a modern day story with a man interacting with the festival and with tribute artists. It reminds me of one show in the series where a young man, played by Bill Bixby, gets caught speeding, has a stuck-up attitude, and encounters the people and the spirit of Mayberry,” Pierce told The Focus.

Pierce said he's met the producers and said that the lady who played Thelma Lou, Betty Lynn, long ago retired to Mt. Airy and may, in her 90s, be involved with the film.

Sammy Sawyer, who is our local “Barney,” said, “I have heard about it but, as of now I have not been

asked to participate in any of the events. I know of some of the folks putting it together. I'm sure it will be a fun time.”

Sawyer told The Focus he's attended the festival for several years in the 1990s with his family but has never performed in character there.

The Knoxville based “Mayberry Sheriff's Office” responded, “The best show ever made, every episode preaches a sermon.” About 20 of another local Mayberry group may attend the event. Marty Caywood, who occasionally portrays “Otis” said he tries to go to the Mt. Airy Celebration every year.

Mt. Airy will be celebrating the 60th Anniversary of “The Andy Griffith Show” during their September 23-29 Festival, which itself is in its 30th year. Special guests already confirmed for the town's Mayberry Days include Betty Lynn (Thelma Lou), Darling boy Rodney Dillard & the Dillard Band, Ronnie Schell

(two Mayberry roles and Duke Slater on “Gomer Pyle, U.S.M.C.”), and Karen Knotts (daughter of Don Knotts).

The independent production staff is asking for funds to place products and businesses in the movie, and contributions from fans and people who want to be cast as extras.

Kickstarter fundraising events are planned and on Wednesday, January 15 local tribute artists may plan to attend the benefit in Mt. Airy at the Loaded Goat Bar and Grill. The event starts at 5:30 and includes prizes and music. Similar events are planned for Danville and Los Angeles.

“I'm going over on the 15th for the get together,” Pierce said, adding that there's different levels to the fund raising, “sort of a Mayberry kind of thing.”

Filming in Mt. Airy is scheduled for the week of the festival, September 23-29. The annual event takes in the entire downtown and some outlying businesses and homes. The town's notable and praised Andy Griffith Museum is worth the trip whether the festival is underway or not. Some of the downtown businesses, like Floyd's City Barber Shop, Bluebird Cafe and the Snappy Lunch take their names from the beloved series.

The original “Andy Griffith Show” aired on television from 1960 until 1968 and fostered other programs including “Gomer Pyle, USMC.” The show has been in syndication ever since and remains a favorite of television viewers who long for the Mayberry lifestyle.

Proposed school site, legislative priorities discussed at KCS work session

By Ken Lay

The first Knox County Board of Education work session of the 2020 calendar year was largely uneventful.

The meeting lasted less than an hour Wednesday night at the City-County Building.

Key areas of discussion included approval of a contract with the Lewis Group to build a new elementary school in Northwest Knox County.

The school is planned to be designed to alleviate overcrowding at Karns and Hardin Valley Elementary Schools.

Knox County Schools COO Russ Oaks discussed the process of obtaining property for the new school and noted that finding an appropriate parcel of 20 acres is proving difficult but noted that KCS is in negotiations to obtain property on Couch Mill Road.

“I think we're looking at property on Couch Mill Road,” Oaks said. “But we may have to look at different ways to obtain property than we have over the last hundred years.”

“We've looked at land but almost every piece of land in that area is already owned by a developer and

we can obtain the land but it will be more expensive than we're used to paying.

“We may have to look for property west of Hardin Valley Elementary School.”

The property also has its share of potential problems, namely the possibility of developing sinkholes.

Also at the meeting, there was discussion of legislative priorities as the board prepares for its upcoming meeting with state leaders on Friday, Jan. 17.

Among issues are the lack of counselors, nurses and other employees that are being shared by schools.

Board member Tony Norman expressed concern about the current evaluation for teachers and concern about school vouchers.

Norman noted, “We've had our last two governors and state legislators support school vouchers.”

Norman said he felt that anti-voucher discussion might be perceived as repetitive but he also said that it is important that we do offer school choice within Knox County.

The board also briefly discussed the Internal School Funds Audit report.

Can a home and a business be good neighbors?

Cont. from page 1

residential to industrial property even nicer.”

Norton further promised to put up streetlights as a deterrent to possible wayward characters. “And I'll put up cameras so we'll be able to keep an eye on things,” he said.

All three parts of the agenda item—the sector plan, one-year plan, and rezoning—passed, though not unanimously. Norton had his permission to expand. Afterward, commissioner Scott Smith had misgivings about the decision.

“I just feel weird about having residential homes where we're changing zoning on properties from

al that close to people's homes,” he said. “Even though it is near a railroad track it's still their residential home. I don't mean anything against your business (he said to Norton), I want you to be very successful but I think we should try to be considerate of people who live there.”

Norton agreed with Smith but reiterated that currently the area is not only more industrial than residential, but in the future is likely to become more so. “You can't take away what's already there,” he said.

The next meeting is February 13.

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Publisher Steve Hunley

Editor, Art Director Marianne Dedmon

editor@knoxfocus.com, design@knoxfocus.com

Managing Editor Lisa DeMarsico

managingeditor@knoxfocus.com

Mike Steely, Senior Writer steelym@knoxfocus.com

Sales sales@knoxfocus.com

Pam Poe phpoe2000@yahoo.com

Bill Wright wrightb@knoxfocus.com

Andrea Owens owensa@knoxfocus.com

Lori Burchett burchettl@knoxfocus.com

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Letter to the editor

On January 16 at 7:00 p.m. the Farragut Municipal Planning Commission (FMPC) will decide if Verizon Communications may place 5G cellular small cell support structures in 12 locations in Farragut including four in residential areas, including Stonecrest, Farragut View and The Cove at Turkey Creek. I am requesting a delay for this approval as the people of Farragut do not have adequate knowledge of how this will impact their property value and whether this new 5G technology is safe for the public. Please attend this meeting so you can learn how your property will be affected.

Some 5G cellular technology requires a line of sight with no inference with a maximum distance of 1000 feet from antenna to antenna. This means trees, hills, and curves will require more antennas with distances as short as 400 feet in a dense suburban neighborhood. In the Agenda for the FMPC meeting Thursday January 16th there is not enough technical detail on what kind of 5G antennas will be used, where they will be placed, how far apart they will be, and whether they will be in the front yards of Farragut residents. If the 5G antennas are placed in the front yards of Farragut residents it could be

expected that many homes will have in their yard, be next door, or across the street from a 5G cellular antenna. There has been a vibrant discussion on nextdoor.com about the 5G cellular roll out in Farragut. But even after two columns in nextdoor.com about this and containing over 134 comments the people of Farragut still do not know if 5G antennas will be installed in their front yards. This is not acceptable. This is why I will ask the FMPC to delay this agenda item until more clarity can be given to the people of Farragut. Australia and England have already installed

5G cellular technology and while America had a chance to learn from the early 5G adopters sadly that did not happen. There are multiple real estate studies worldwide on the price decline of home value after a 5G cellular antenna is installed at a home or nearby and they show a drop in value of the home between 2% and 21% depending on the distance to the 5G cellular antenna. Simply put, homes that have a 5G cellular antenna in their front yard, next door, or across the street home can have a reduction in their home value as high as 21%. This is an important



matter and what is needed is a workshop in the FMPC with much better notice and information for the

people of Farragut. Sincerely, Mike Mitchell Farragut Resident

Children falling behind with reading problems?

East Tennessee Focus Center can help

By Mike Steely
Senior Writer
steelym@knoxfocus.com

There are few things as frustrating and worrisome to a parent than a child who is falling behind in school because of a reading problem. There are several reasons for not reading well and one of them is dyslexia. Nanette Grillone, the Learning Lab director at the East Tennessee Focus Center, specializes in Diagnostic Prescriptive Tutoring and says she loves working with struggling students. Grillone, known affectionately as "Ms. G," is a retired teacher and comes to her specialty as a result of being dyslexic herself.

So, what is Diagnostic Prescriptive Tutoring? "Let's compare it to going to your General Practitioner (GP) or family doctor," explained Grillone. "Your doctor writes you a prescription to go see a physical therapist. The physical therapist assesses your abilities and then comes up with an individualized plan, pulling from all

of the resources and tools that are available, to meet your specific needs.

"This is similar to how diagnostic prescriptive tutoring works."

East Tennessee Focus Center Director Dr. Sadonya Meadows Allen said the Learning Lab is a new division at the Focus Center. "Currently, we are taking students in grades K through 5 needing immediate reading intervention for our diagnostic prescriptive tutoring program," she told The Focus. Other areas and levels of tutoring may be available upon request.

The Learning Lab provides more than just private tutors for children, offering a variety of programs to meet each child's individual needs.

"As the Learning Lab Director, I am trained in many reading and math intervention approaches and can easily pull from my teaching tool belt to meet most learning difficulties," Grillone said. "In diagnostic prescriptive tutoring,



PHOTO BY MIKE STEELY.

Nanette Grillone, known as "Ms.G" has worked with students of all needs for 33 years and has joined the East Tennessee Focus Center to direct the Learning Lab for children with reading difficulties.

there is a gradual release of support over time. For example, your child may be recommended to come to tutoring twice a week for one month, then once a week for three months, then once every two weeks for a month, and then a maintenance session once every other month, etc. until your child has full control or independence in their former area of need.

"We use your child's unique interests and strengths in approaching their tutoring, making it relevant to them."

After 33 years in the profession Grillone said that helping students is her passion and added there's a real joy when a student learns to do something that once was difficult for them.

She shared her struggles as a child with dyslexia and

having no one like her. "It was very frustrating for my mother in knowing how to help me, as she wished that she had a resource she could go to and get training or direction in how to help me read better in school."

"Once your child's peers find out that your child can't read or struggles, then your child begins to realize they are different."

Grillone said that this affects the child socially as well as academically. "Parents, if you are not sure, in doubt, received modified grades on your child's report card (having an "*" next to the English Language Arts (ELA) grade), or received a letter from the school stating that your child has been placed in the RTI process, then, I would encourage you to make an appointment and let us help you help your child succeed."

"We've just started the second semester of school, and if your child is not reading on grade level, then it's time to get some help, sooner rather than later. The earlier we catch them,

the less they will fall. If you have a child in Kindergarten, first or second grade, reading below grade level, consider getting another opinion.

"Sometimes I just need to untangle a few reading knots and then the child is back on track. Sometimes the child needs extra work on foundational structures that are essential building blocks needed for reading, before moving on."

Grillone not only tutors the child with tailored programs, she offers training to the parents so they can help the child at home better.

"Tutors are temporary but parents are permanent. This is why I take the time to teach the parent."

The East Tennessee Focus Center can also help adults with learning disabilities. The Center is located at 9220 Park West Boulevard (off Cedar Bluff Exit) and you can find East Tennessee Focus Center online at www.easttennesseefocuscenter.com or contact them by calling (865) 247-6754.



Rosie's World

WINTRY WEATHER

Winter is the season when the whole world seems to go to sleep. The weather is cold, the ground is hard, and the trees and plants seem to be dead. Since there is little else to do, it is a time that

is conducive to working hard, and the weather seems to suggest that we must buckle down and do the things that we have been avoiding. This is not a bad thing. How does wintry weather affect our lives? It can be very satisfying to work hard and be creative. Creativity is part of our makeup. Without a purpose in our lives, depression would quickly set in.

The snowiest winters in Tennessee occurred in 1917 when thirty inches fell in Nashville. 38.5 inches of snow fell in 1956-1960 and the winter of 1950-1951

came in second. Now our annual snowfall is only seven inches. Where did the snow go?

A winter snowstorm can range from a moderate snow to a blizzard. I remember well the snow in 1960, for I had a daughter born that year. Also, I had to walk across snow-encrusted fields to get to my car to go to work—this was up North. I loved the "blizzard of 1993" down here, but that seems so long ago. I don't want a snowfall like that all the time, just once in a while, mainly to bring back memories.

Most people know I'm a uprooted Northerner down here in the south, so I miss the snowstorms that I grew up with, because there are not many of them here. Once in a great while I'm happy to see one or two inches floating to the ground, but it isn't long until they are gone.

I won't attempt to discuss global warming because many people think they know what is causing it. The Earth is thousands and thousands of years old and global warming probably has occurred before. Will it get back

to normal? Perhaps. Who knows? I only wish I could sing that old song, "Let It Snow! Let It Snow! Let It Snow!"

Thought for the day: Snowflakes are one of nature's most fragile things, but just look what they can do when they stick together. Vesta M. Kelly

Send comments to: rosemerrie@att.net or call 865-748-4717. Thank you.

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Home Is Where the Heart Is



Kellie McCormack

Home is where the heart is for Kellie McCormack, PT, DPT. As the new clinic manager for CORA Physical Therapy in Seymour, she has returned to the town that raised her in a position to give back to a community that over the years has strengthened her commitment to serve others.

Kellie attended high school locally before she went on to attend the University of Tennessee where she graduated in 2016 with her bachelor's degree in kinesiology. She then went on to attend South College in Knoxville where she earned her doctorate in physical therapy in 2019.

The opportunity, however, to return home and mold her craft in the town she knows and loves means much more to Kellie than the simple sense of familiarity.

When asked what she would like to bring to the residents of Seymour as a physical therapist, Kellie answered, "I actively strive to be the physical therapist who shows up, listens with my whole mind, empathizes with my whole heart, and practices with both hands that have a passion to serve and provide my patients with the care they deserve."

It's that exact community-based approach and passion to serve others that

inspires Kellie every time she walks through the Seymour Clinic doors. Ultimately, that same desire to put her patients first allows them to succeed through the healing process by meeting personal goals with the proper management and patient education.

What does that mean for the residents of Seymour?

Kellie uses various techniques to create an individualized plan of care for each patient that includes manual therapy and exercises, bringing a style of patient oriented care to Seymour that benefits patients of all ages and abilities. Her expertise includes a wide spectrum of

diagnoses including:

- Post-surgical
- Neurological rehabilitation
- Vertigo and balance disorders
- Orthopedic rehabilitation
- Chronic pain

And if you can't catch her in the clinic, you might just happen to see Kellie around town at spin class, playing with her Golden Doodle (Riggins), and cheering on the Tennessee Vols.

After all, it's the simple pleasures that draw us all back in to the places we know and love. For Kellie, Seymour, Tennessee is that place.

What is a Register of Deeds?

One of the weirder terms we have in the legal field is the term, "Register of Deeds." What in the world does this term mean that gets thrown around so regularly?



By Jedidiah McKeenan

attorneyknoxville@gmail.com

include: Warranty Deeds, Quitclaim Deeds, Deeds of Trust, Releases, Powers of Attorney, Liens and other documents.

The job that the Register of Deeds office does is incredibly important. If a

piece of property has been conveyed from one person to another by deed, it has not officially happened until the deed has been recorded at the Register of Deed.

Many of the Register of Deeds' offices have updated their services to where you are able to record documents online.

When you record documents at the Register of Deeds, there is a filing fee that you will have to pay to record the documents you desire to have recorded.

What else does the Register of Deeds do other than record documents? Because of all of the documents recorded at the Register of Deeds are public record, they are open for anyone to review who desires to do so. You will often find surveyors, title attorneys, and other individuals at the Register of Deeds using their computers to research ownership interests and property descriptions of properties.

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



Judge Hixon sworn in

The new Criminal Court Judge, Kyle A. Hixon, takes the oath of office given by Governor Bill Lee. Hixon was joined by his wife, Rachel, Thursday at the ceremony at the Tennessee Supreme Court Building. Judge Hixon is now judge of the Sixth Judicial District. Photo courtesy of Hixon.

Judge Charles D. Susano Jr. Announces Retirement

After more than 25 years of service, Tennessee's longest serving State Appellate Judge, Charles D. Susano Jr., has announced he will retire from the bench

effective April 30, 2020. In a letter to Governor Bill Lee, Judge Susano said "It has been the highest honor of my life to have served the people of the state of Tennessee, and I am profoundly grateful for the opportunity."

Governor Lee stated, "We appreciate Judge Susano's long tenure and leadership on the Court. He has been admired in the legal community for many years and his service will be missed."

Born in 1936, Judge Susano is a lifelong Knoxville Catholic High School where he was the captain of school's first city championship basketball

team in 1954. In 1958, he graduated magna cum laude from the University of Notre Dame and served in the U.S. Army until 1960. After being honorably discharged, he enrolled at the University of Tennessee College of Law where he was later admitted to the Order of the Coif and became a member of the Tennessee Law Review. After graduating from law school in 1963, he served in the inaugural group of law clerks to the Tennessee Supreme Court, working for then Chief Justice Hamilton Burnett.

Licensed as a lawyer in 1964, he practiced law in Knoxville for over 30 years as a partner with Bernstein,

Susano and Stair, and later with Susano, Sheppard, Giordano and Swanson. During these years, he served on the Advisory Commission to the Tennessee Supreme Court on Civil Rules and was active in his community, serving on numerous nonprofit boards and at his church.

In March 1994, Governor Ned Ray McWherter appointed him to the Tennessee Court of Appeals. Judge Susano was elected statewide in 1994 and re-elected in 1998, 2006 and 2014. He served as Presiding Judge of the Court from 2012-2014. He has authored well over 1,000 opinions during his

time on the Court, leaving a profound legacy with this body of work.

He has served in other roles as a member of the judiciary, including sitting as a Special Judge on the Tennessee Supreme Court and serving on the Court of the Judiciary from 1999-2003. In 2009, he authored Remembering U.S. District Judge Robert L. Taylor, a notable East Tennessee Federal Judge.

Among his many accolades, Judge Susano was recipient of the Justice Frank F. Drowota III Outstanding Judicial Service Award in 2017; Appellate Judge of the Year from the American Board of Trial Advocates, Tennessee

Chapter in 2003; and Courage in the Face of Adversity Award from the Knoxville Bar Association in 2004. Although permanently paralyzed from the chest down as the result of a fall in June 1993, Judge Susano has never let his disability keep him from serving his community and beloved state of Tennessee.

Judge Susano has been married to his wife, Carolyn, for 55 years and has three children, Stephen, Maria, and Charles III, who is Knox County Circuit Court Clerk. He also has six grandchildren, Madison, Sydney, Hanna, Sophie, Jacob, and Hudson.

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Tennessee and the League of Nations, V

Pages from the Past



By Ray Hill
rayhill865@gmail.com

Despite intense pressure from constituents and his own political party, Senator John Knight Shields of Tennessee remained determined to vote his convictions as the United States Senate considered the Treaty of Versailles. John Knight Shields had been the only Democrat on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee to break ranks and support the treaty and American participation in the League of Nations with reservations. Henry Cabot Lodge, a Massachusetts Republican and Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee had agreed to America joining the League, but only if the Senate adopted a series of reservations, or amendments, that he believed would protect the United States. President Woodrow Wilson, crippled by a stroke, lay in the White House as determined as ever to reject any and all reservations. Wilson demanded Democrats and the Senate approve the treaty as written.

Shields reiterated his position when speaking before the Senate in November of 1919. "I am pledged to support these reservations. I took that pledge when I appeared at the bar of the Senate and took the oath of office as a Senator to uphold the Constitution of the United States Senate," Shields explained. Senator Shields said there had been a time when the people of the United States had been leery of making alliances with foreign nations and now the Senate was being asked to "go into an alliance with the whole world of the most complex and difficult character."

Naturally, the independence of John Knight Shields did not stand him in good stead with the White House. Even before Shields persisted in supporting reservations to the Treaty of Versailles, President Woodrow Wilson had not liked the Tennessean. Only the pleading of Shields' junior colleague, Senator Kenneth D. McKellar, persuaded the President from writing a public letter to the people of Tennessee denouncing Shields as no friend to the administration. Had Wilson written the letter, John Knight Shields would almost certainly have lost the Democratic primary to Governor Tom C. Rye in 1918. While Shields was opposed to the position taken by Wilson, Senator McKellar was backing the President wholeheartedly. The White House began to favor McKellar in matters of patronage over the senior senator. One such example was the matter of selecting the U. S. Marshal for the Middle Tennessee district. Vernon

Sharp had been perceived as the leading contender once McKellar and Shields had protested the appointment of George Witt, which had been made by Attorney General Thomas Gregory just days before resigning his own office. The Witt appointment had been made without consulting either Tennessee senator and Vernon Sharp of Nashville was Senator Shields' choice to fill the U. S. Marshal's office. McKellar was backing Edward Albright of Gallatin, Tennessee. Prior to the debate over the treaty, most politically connected people in Tennessee believed Sharp was the heavy favorite for the appointment. The Nashville Tennessean reported there would likely be "reprisals" against the senior senator's patronage recommendations and McKellar's choice was expected to be nominated by the President. Likewise, McKellar's pick for Tennessee's commissioner for the enforcement of prohibition, Lewis Elkins, was expected to be selected. Nor was Shields expected to have much to say about the appointment of a postmaster for Nashville.

When John Knight Shields arrived in Knoxville from Washington, D. C. on November 21, 1919, he responded to a resolution approved by the Memphis Cotton Exchange and the Memphis Commercial Appeal. "I have no time now to prepare a statement concerning my support of reservations to the proposed League of Nations," Shields said, "but I hope to do so as soon as I rest a little after the arduous sessions of the Senate. The resolution of the cotton brokers and the editorial to which you refer are no surprise to me. When I took my stand for American sovereignty and the rights of the American people against the proposed League of Nations without proper reservations to protect them, I expected such opposition."

Shields pointed to special interests backing the treaty and the League of Nations, saying, "Great capitalists who desire to speculate in the deprecated bonds of the bankrupt nations of Europe and dealers in cotton and food products, who desire to exploit those countries for selfish purposes and wanted the United States as provided in the League of Nations to stabilize those governments and make their bonds and contracts valid, have spent over a million dollars under the auspices of the League to Enforce Peace in organizing branches of their league, paying public speakers and subsidizing newspapers to have the treaty ratified." Senator



FROM THE AUTHOR'S PERSONAL COLLECTION

Senator Kenneth D. McKellar of Tennessee, circa 1917.

Shields said he "expected opposition from these men" who cared less about the sovereignty of America than their own pocketbooks. Shields stressed his belief the proposed reservations were, with only one exception, "necessary to protect and maintain the sovereignty of our country and the rights of our people."

"I cannot see how any American could object to a reservation to protect the interests of our own people," Shields snapped.

To the charge he had had been less than candid with the people of Tennessee while he was seeking reelection in 1918, Senator Shields offered a reasonable explanation. "The fourteen points of President Wilson were not an issue in my campaign, and I never at any time pledged myself to support them," Shields pointed out. "We were then in a war and if I had discussed the terms of peace I would have probably been denounced as a pacifist and a coward." Shields said he refused to blindly follow any president, including Woodrow Wilson. The senator said the editor of the Commercial Appeal had "obeyed orders so long that it is possible he cannot now comprehend that a man and public officer can have convictions of his own..." Shields said not only would he not resign, but might well run again "if I live so long."

Much of the press in Tennessee ignored the senator's comments, or simply roasted him on the editorial pages yet again. The Bristol Herald-Courier in particular claimed Shields, while running for reelection "was a good and great friend of President Wilson" and flatly declared the senator had been "a firm believer in the Fourteen Points." The Herald-Courier bitterly said Shields could have been reelected on no other platform other than one of support for Woodrow Wilson. The Herald-Courier sneered at the notion John Knight Shields had either a conscience or convictions of his own.

The attitude of Tennessee's junior senator,

Kenneth D. McKellar did nothing to alleviate the pressure upon John Knight Shields. McKellar had already been elected to Congress when Shields was first elected to the United States Senate in 1913. McKellar arrived in Congress in a 1911 special election, preceding the election of Woodrow Wilson as president in 1912. McKellar was an ardent supporter of Wilson and throughout his long congressional career and to the end of his life, believed Wilson was the greatest of the seven presidents he served with. Senator McKellar was also strongly in favor of the position taken by President Wilson for the Treaty of Versailles and the League of Nations. McKellar had toured the state of Tennessee speaking on behalf of the League. Senator McKellar missed few opportunities to drum up support for the League and in March of 1919, spoke before a Kiwanis Club in Nashville on behalf of the League of Nations. McKellar sent the president of the Kiwanis Club a copy of a telegram he had wired President Wilson, who was in Paris negotiating the Treaty of Versailles. McKellar told the President, "Ninety per cent people of Tennessee, irrespective of party, favor League of Nations. Fisher concurs." Fisher was Congressman Hubert Fisher, McKellar's successor as the congressman from Shelby County and a former student of the President.

While speaking in Shelbyville, Tennessee for the League of Nations, the Nashville Tennessean, a newspaper not usually friendly to the senator (he had defeated Tennessean publisher Luke Lea), noted McKellar's presentation was both clear and logical. The Tennessean was also careful to note McKellar's speech was frequently interrupted by applause from the audience.

McKellar's support for the League of Nations and backing of President Wilson gave the junior senator the upper hand in filling appointments and patronage in Tennessee, although there is no indication

of personal hostilities between Tennessee's two senators. McKellar made a speech on the floor of the Senate in September of 1919 strongly defending President Wilson and assailing the President's critics. McKellar conceded there were foundations for some of the criticism hurled at Wilson, but in the senator's opinion, most of it was "without rhyme or reason" as well as "without regard to facts." Wilson's Fourteen Points, the League of Nations, and the Treaty of Versailles caused McKellar to believe "everything the President did or said was exactly right." Once the peace was won, McKellar told his colleagues the President's "political enemies" descended upon Wilson and "politics superseded patriotism." "They knew of course," McKellar thundered, "that the chief honor of winning the war would naturally fall to President Wilson, and immediately upon the realization of that fact every one of those who during the war had claimed to be his friends but who were not, who claimed to be for his policies but who were not, began their tirade of abuse and vilification, and their machinations to prevent his getting credit for winning the war or securing peace."

"Immediately," McKellar said, "in their eyes, nothing that he had ever done or ever would do was or could be right." "He was not only wrong when they said he was wrong, but he was wrong even when they, during the war, for their own political reasons, had said he was right," Senator McKellar charged.

As the treaty languished in the Senate under the Republican majority and with President Wilson gravely ill in the White House, Senator McKellar presented his own compromise plan. McKellar attempted to peel off the votes of some Republican senators who were believed to be "mild reservationists" not entirely sympathetic to the position taken by Henry Cabot Lodge. Along with Senator John B. Kendrick of Wyoming, McKellar

prepared a draft for presentation to the Senate. The heart of the McKellar - Kendrick proposal made clear the United States "assumes no obligation to protect foreign territory by use of her armed forces or an economic boycott without specific action and approval by Congress..."

McKellar had stopped in Memphis for two days following his journey to Alabama to attend the funeral of Senator John H. Bankhead of Alabama. Senator McKellar was then called back to Washington, D. C. by Senator Minority Leader Gilbert Hitchcock who said the Tennesseean was urgently needed at the Capitol for ratification of the Treaty of Versailles. Before departing for Washington, McKellar told a reporter, "The situation looks more hopeful than ever for agreement on reservations and speedy ratification of the treaty. It now looks like we are going to do something right away."

Senator McKellar's optimism turned out to be unwarranted. When the Senate voted on March 15, 1920, all ten of the reservations promoted by Henry Cabot Lodge were approved by a two-to-one majority, which included fourteen Democrats. John Knight Shields was one of the fourteen Democrats voting with the Republicans for adoption, while K. D. McKellar voted against the measure. It was not long before Woodrow Wilson's nemesis, Henry Cabot Lodge, moved to pass a resolution to return the treaty to the President stating it could not be ratified by the U. S. Senate. Both Senators McKellar and Shields voted against the proposal. Forty-nine senators voted for ratification of the treaty with the Lodge reservations, while thirty-five senators voted against it. It was the fourth time the treaty had failed to be ratified by the Senate.

The treaty was dead for the time being and the only hope for ratification was the opinion of the American people as expressed in the 1920 election.

Gill faces Lundy in First District's Primary

By Mike Steely
Senior Writer
steelym@knoxfocus.com

Knox County Commissioner Evelyn Gill is serving her first term representing District 1 and has survived attempts to recall and remove her from the Joint Education Committee. Gill has been named Teacher of the Year for Community Service and, in 2017, received the Susan B. Anthony Award from the Tennessee Education Association. Gill has been a voice for her urban area but will be facing another community activist, Dasha Lundy, in the upcoming primary. Both are Democrats and that race could be close. Dr. Lundy has served as president of the Burlington Residents Association and secretary of the League of Women Voters.

Whoever wins the March 3 primary will face Independent Reginald M. Jackson in the General Election in August. There is no Republican candidate. Jackson has taken to the internet and Facebook to promote this campaign saying that diversity is what makes Knoxville shine.

The Knoxville Focus asked the three candidates a few questions.

How do you feel about the effort to revamp Chilhowee Park?

Gill: The need to invest in Chilhowee Park and the surrounding community is very significant especially for constituents in East Knoxville. My goal as District 1 county commissioner, will be to help facilitate and support the economic revitalization of this underutilized facility so that it becomes a vibrant example of public-private investment and growth in the district.

Lundy: Chilhowee Park is underutilized. It could become a positive space where community can gather. The main issue with Chilhowee Park is the flooding issue. We can't proceed with talks of revamping until the flooding issues are addressed.

Jackson: We need to look at ways Chilhowee Park can bring in daily revenue. For example, we have the fair that brings in great revenue and crowds, but once the fair is over it is empty for months at a time. We should have other activities/events going on that will both allow people to come out and boost revenue simultaneously.

What's the largest problem in District 1?

Gill: The largest problem in District 1 is actually a combination of interconnected problems: including

economic inequality, lack of social networks and limited business and community investments. This has its roots in long-term public-private sector segregation and disinvestment; physical and environmental blight, minimal educational investment; lack of affordable housing; and limited bus routes to connect people to employment opportunities in the County for better wages. With that said, my goal as the District 1 Commissioner, is to continue advocating for my constituents, pushing for more economic inclusion, educational opportunities and community investments.

Lundy: The largest problem in District 1 is the collective poverty rate of over 90% in the District 1 schools. Ten out of twelve schools in District 1 have a poverty rate between 52.6% to 100%.

Jackson: Leadership, execution, and prioritization. Leadership wants only a vote, but once the vote is received, they do not follow through with what was promised. We need to focus on putting and keeping things in order from least to greatest.

As commission has a majority of Republicans, how would you achieve your goals?

Gill: Although, I am the only Democrat currently on the Knox County Commission, I have been successful in working with my fellow commissioners to push legislation that has been beneficial to the development of District 1 and will continue to do so. No matter where you stand on the political spectrum, it's our duty to work with whomever is on the commission to make Knox County a thriving and vibrant place to live.

Lundy: The way that I will accomplish working with a heavily Republican commission is by knowing what each commissioner values for their district and understanding why they value it. Forming a collaboration among a majority Republican commission isn't hard to do if you respect the values of those commissioners.

Jackson: As an Independent, I am not coming in with a one-sided mind. I am looking to reach across the aisles. This allows me to be open to both parties' views.

Make a statement about Knoxville Center Mall and its possible use by county government.

Gill: The Resolution that

was passed by Knox County Commission in December reflects the commission's commitment to work with Knox County Mayor Jacobs, The City of Knoxville, and KCDC to study the highest and best use of the Knoxville Center Mall area and assist in facilitating entrepreneurship, investment and business development. The mall is an essential economic resource that can be leveraged as a recruiting tool for businesses, government and corporate entities to Knox County.

Lundy: In order to prevent The Knoxville Center Mall property from becoming blighted, exploring possible options will be beneficial such as county government and/or mixed-use development.

Jackson: The county does not need to acquire another building. The county should work with the private owners to come up with great ideas to bring revenue into the East Towne Mall area to revive the mall.

How do you feel about moving the school offices to the TVA East Tower?

Gill: Knox County Mayor Jacobs, and the Knox County Finance Department, along with the Knox County Commission and the Public Building Authority, is scheduled to hold a special meeting to discuss the contractual, financial and feasibility details regarding the proposed move of Knox County Schools' administrative

body to the TVA East tower. I will listen to the discussions from all vested parties and then decide what would be in the best interest of constituents in this District.

Lundy: With TVA being a federal building, my concern is will people who don't have the Real ID be able to access the building.

Jackson: Initially, I thought it was a good idea. But after talking with people inside the schools, around the county, and more research it seems like a bad idea to spend money on this transition. These funds could be better used in our schools to provide improved resources for our students, to assist faculty with their classroom needs that they are sometimes paying for out of pocket, and possibly improve school conditions. I believe the best decision would be to do what works best financially and economically, from a long-term point of view.

Cardin's Drive In was recently demolished. What businesses are needed in the First District?

Gill: Though Cardin's Drive-In was not actually located in District 1, it was sad to see a long-standing, iconic business close and be demolished. District 1 is not one monolithic area but instead is composed of diverse subareas that span from a thriving downtown to adjoining sections that need substantial improvement and investment. What's needed in this district is an Opportunity Zone



Evelyn Gill



Reginald M. Jackson



Dasha Lundy

designation, public-private partnership and investment in small businesses so that growth, development and capital can be targeted to support a host of convenient markets, supermarkets, retail stores, bookstores, vocational training centers, technology hubs and financial institutions.

Lundy: Small retail, small manufacturing, and tech companies.

Jackson: East Knoxville Magnolia Avenue Corridor needs a greater variety in fast-food restaurants (i.e. Krispy Kreme, Taco Bell, Wendy's, Krystal's, home style buffet). Residents currently must drive to other parts of the city for a better selection. Several urgent care facilities are also needed throughout the district.

How do you feel about the push to declare more and more of your area as Historic Zoned neighborhoods?

Gill: As residents of the historic Park City Community, my husband and I have been concerned about the rising cost of housing and rent in our community. Unfortunately, when the City of Knoxville voted

to end the historic zoning expansion, this decision didn't stave off the rising cost of home prices in East Knoxville. In the future, one option to explore is to utilize tax credits in historic areas in conjunction with HUD funds to address both affordable housing needs and preservation of homes with historic charm and character. The goal is to find some balance with market demand which is significantly higher for homes with proximity to downtown, existing public transportation, schools, parks and other amenities nearby.

Lundy: With poverty rate being so high, I am concerned that many won't be able to afford the application fee, meet the requirements of replacement of windows/doors/porches/etc. Also the HZC meetings are at 8:30 in the morning and many won't be able to miss work to attend.

Jackson: Working in business myself and owning my own house, I know that it can be costly to repair houses and/or building. The government should not enforce codes only to make people fix a house or building back to what it was. This should be a case by case circumstance.

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CONFERENCES & NON-CREDIT PROGRAMS

Elijah Young heading to Missouri

by Alex Norman

The past few weeks have not been the calmest for South-Doyle's Elijah Young.

The standout student-athlete had been verbally committed to play football at the University of Missouri since last June. But when Tigers head coach Barry Odom was fired on November 30th, Young had a lot of thinking to do.

"I kinda knew what to expect. I knew I had to have options in case this did happen," Young said. "I opened up my recruitment, but I still was committed to Missouri."

Young spoke to other colleges, who were very interested in the 2019 Mr. Football Award winner in Class 5A. He took an official visit to Purdue. Still, Missouri was always at the forefront of the decision process. UM hired former Appalachian State head coach Eliah Drinkwitz as the Tigers new head coach on December 10th. "I was his first home visit," Young remembers. "We sat down and talked. He told me what he wanted out of me as a player and a student. So, I went back (to Missouri) on an official visit. We sat down and watched film of Appalachian State football and I just loved it."

That comfort level put Young at ease, and he signed a National Letter of Intent with Missouri during the early signing period on December 18th. Young ran for 2,170 yards and 39 touchdowns as a senior for the Cherokees. Drinkwitz is an innovative offensive coach and should be able to utilize Young's talents. "I'll mainly be in backfield at running back," Young said. "They can motion me out and I can play in the slot, I can do it all."

Has Young given thought to what it'll be like the first time he lines up to play big time college football? "There will be some butterflies, but after that is all about the game. After the first snap, it is game on... all about competition and being competitive."

Everything Young has been through lately is part of the process. "Your average 17 year old isn't doing this," Young said. "I want to thank God for putting me in this position. I wouldn't want it any other way. It was stressful... all that adversity. But after that you get past this storm, it'll be sunny out there."

Young was a key part of the South-Doyle football team in recent years. He values the opportunity he had to be a part of that program. "I love (South-Doyle head coach Clark) Duncan. He's my dude. The atmosphere, the whole community in South Knoxville... I just love it.. it is the best place to be. Everyone is one unit. We are just all together. I wouldn't want it any other way. You have one chance. You only live once and only go to high school once. This is what you can do. You go in there and live it to the fullest."

Elijah Young will be an early enrollee at Missouri, and leaves for Columbia on January 16th. We wish him the best of luck as this next chapter of his life gets started.



PHOTOS BY JOHN VALENTINE.

Brook and Coach Bryson Rosser celebrate Central High's Class 5A state football championships together in 2018 (below) and 2019 (above) at Tennessee Tech's Tucker Stadium in Cookeville. Brook has landed a "dream job" and Rosser resigned as head coach at Central last week to support his wife in the move to Boston, where she will be part of the Harvard Business School Admissions Board.

Rosser era at Central ends with pride and life lessons

By Steve Williams

When Bryson Rosser was announced as Central High School's new head football coach on Feb. 3, 2014, he said what intrigued him the most about the position was "the ability to put my stamp on this program."

It turned out to be a first class stamp and its value was priceless.

However, 31 days after guiding the Bobcats to their second straight Class 5A state championship, Rosser resigned last week for family reasons.

It was sad news for the team, the school and the Fountain City community, which had seen Rosser take the Central program to new heights and recharge its "Pride and Tradition."

But CHS wasn't just losing its head football coach. Rosser also was an Administrative Assistant and an Academic Coach. The latter role he said was to "encourage kids to do the best they can in school and provide them with resources that they need to be successful and graduate."

"I'm a teacher at heart," he added. Rosser broke the news in a team meeting Tuesday afternoon. It was emotional.

Continued on page 2



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PHOTO BY KEN LAY.

West High's Kyra Buntyn sets up the Lady Rebels' offense as Fulton's Aniah Matthews defends. Buntyn scored 13 points and made a half-court shot just before halftime as West claimed a 46-37 victory over the Lady Falcons at Jody Wright Arena.

Lady Rebels get 'great team win' at Fulton

By Ken Lay

When Caitlin Hollifield took the reins of the West High School basketball program two years ago she had to know that the program was in need of a massive rebuild.

But the Lady Rebels have made great strides over the past two seasons while, at the same time, going through some growing pains.

But Tuesday night, Hollifield, who has had head coaching stops at Powell and Christian Academy of Knoxville, liked what she saw as West notched a 46-37 non-district victory over Fulton at Jody Wright Arena.

"This is a tough place to play and (Lady Falcons'

coach) Tyler (Howell) does a great job with his team," Hollifield said. "They play really hard for him."

This was a tight one early as the teams played virtually evenly over the first 16 minutes of the contest. The Lady Rebels held the upper hand out of the gate and held a 14-10 lead at the end of the first quarter.

The second quarter, however, belonged to Fulton, which opened the frame with a 10-2 run. The surge helped the Lady Falcons (3-10) open a 20-16 advantage.

But the Lady Rebels (8-7) got a huge boost just before halftime when Kyra Buntyn buried a half-court shot as time expired in the second frame and that

pulled West High to within 20-19.

After the break, the Lady Rebels built upon the momentum that Buntyn's improbable 3-pointer gave them heading to the locker room.

West outscored the Lady Falcons 18-5 in the third frame as Fulton managed just two field goals in the frame. Radaisha Bailey had a 3-pointer and Reigny Tory had Fulton's other points.

The Lady Rebels got a huge spark from sophomore guard Abby Gray, who scored five of her career-high 15 points in the third quarter.

She was solid throughout the contest and led West High's balanced

scoring attack.

"We had our young kids, two sophomores, really step up for us," Hollifield said.

Buntyn, a junior, scored 13 points. Sophomore Iesha Abduraqueeb added seven points. Nakaya Duvall finished with six points and Alexis Porter had five.

"Abby and Iesha, two sophomores, really came up big for us," Hollifield said. "This was just a great effort and it was a great team win for us."

Bailey led all scorers with 21 points and knocked down five 3-pointers for the Lady Falcons. She kept her team within striking distance throughout the game.

Falcons overcome slow start to edge West, 56-49

By Ken Lay

Fulton High School boys basketball coach Jody Wright knows two things about his team. The veteran coach, who has won multiple state championships, understands that his current squad is young. He also knows that his team must learn every time it takes the floor.

On Tuesday night, the Falcons got off to a slow start and had their hands full with West High, another young team, who has had its share of struggles but can't be taken lightly.

Fulton would pass the test and outlast the Rebels 56-49 at Jody Wright Arena but Wright left knowing that the Falcons still have plenty of growing and learning to do.

"I was disappointed with the way we came out of the gate tonight," Wright said. "We're a young team and we have to learn with every game."

"West does a lot of good stuff and they're big and I think they're better than their record would indicate."

The Rebels (2-11) certainly looked good early as they opened a 14-10 lead in the first quarter while the Falcons (9-3) had their struggles.

But Fulton turned up the defensive pressure in the second quarter, and after surrendering the first four points of the second

quarter, the Falcons closed out the first half with a 16-0 run.

Will Biven gave West an 18-10 lead when he scored with 6 minutes, 16 seconds remaining in the second stanza. After Biven's bucket, West High's offense was shut out over the rest of the first half.

"I think we went on the 16-0 run in the second quarter and that was probably the difference in the game," Wright said.

Despite enduring the long scoring drought, the Rebels didn't go away. Fulton opened a 40-30 advantage by the end of the third frame.

But West battled back and pulled to within 44-41 when Houston Dyer made a basket with 5:06 remaining in the game but the Rebels never came any closer.

Edward Lacy led the Falcons with 14 points while Adam Robinson, a center, had 11. Fulton also got a huge lift from Jayden Jenkins after halftime.

He had eight points, all over the final 16 minutes and Wright said he was huge for the Falcons.

"Jayden made some shots and he did a good job on the boards," Wright said. "He was really big for us when he came in, and we're going to need that from him."

Biven led all scorers with 17 points. Dyer added 13 for the Rebels.

Rosser era at Central ends with pride and life lessons

Cont. from page 1

Athletic Director J.D. Lambert said Rosser also turned it into one last teaching lesson.

"As he said through the tears when he told the team - 'If you have listened, if you have learned the lessons that I have been trying to teach you - then you are ready for the next step.'

"(He was) teaching up until his last moment with the team."

Rosser said his wife, Brook, had "a once in a lifetime opportunity and a dream job. She's going to be working in Boston and will be a part of the Harvard Business School Admissions Board.

"It wasn't something that was necessarily planned, but from a professional standpoint, we both are always making the best advancements that we can make for each other and this is a great opportunity not just for her, but for our family. So we're excited about it."

Rosser also felt it was important to show his football players and all students he was being "a supportive husband."

Rosser was 30 years old when offered the Central post. At that time, the Bobcats had made the playoffs only once in the six previous seasons.

"Coach Rosser proved to be exactly what Central football needed at the time of his hire," said Fulton Coach Rob Black. "He did a tremendous job not only building that football program back to winning ways but also rallied the Fountain City community.

"I think one thing that really sticks out to me is the fact that he was as much of a positive mentor to young people as he was a football coach. Knoxville high school football is losing a quality coach."

Rosser took his lumps in his first season, going 5-6 overall, including a 71-7 loss to Fulton and a 46-0 loss to West in a first-round playoff game.

His Bobcats improved to 9-3 overall and 4-1 in Region 2-4A in 2015, and in 2016 he guided Central to its first state title appearance since 1999, losing to Memphis East 27-3 in the finals.

The 2017 campaign saw Rosser lose starting quarterback Dakota Fawver, then a sophomore, to a season-ending knee injury in a Week 2 loss to Fulton. At least three other Central quarterbacks would go down with injuries that season, which saw the Bobcats (8-6) rally in the playoffs before losing to eventual state champion Catholic 42-7 in the semifinals.

Central started 0-2 in 2018 but won 13 straight to capture its first state championship in the playoff era with a 14-9 win over Henry County in the Class 5A title game that went right down to the wire.

Central extended its win streak to 21 in 2019 before losing its last two regular season games on the road at South-Doyle and

Gibbs. The Bobcats, however, avenged those two losses in the playoffs, shut out West 10-0 in the semifinals and rolled past Summitt 30-7 to repeat as state champions.

Rosser finished with a 60-22 overall record and 25-11 record in league play.

"I'm excited about where the program is and where they're headed," said Rosser.

Associate head coach Nick Craney has been named interim head coach as the search for a new coach is underway.

"I'll be back hopefully to be with these guys when we celebrate our state championship with the ring ceremony," said Rosser, who plans to help with the transition over the next couple of weeks. "I'll see these seniors through at graduation Lord willing and I'll definitely be watching the Bobcats from afar.

"I mean they gave me my first chance as a head football coach

on the high school level. I would have never thought six years would have gone by so fast and has been as successful as it has been. But I'm really appreciative of the Fountain City community, the parents and the players they have entrusted me with the last six years."

As for his future, Rosser said he will be exploring options. "Hopefully, I'll be able to help someone out on the football field somewhere next season."

But for now, "My No. 1 job is getting my family moved up; make sure my wife and my dog (Luke) are situated and happy."

Said veteran South-Doyle Coach Clark Duncan, whose Cherokees lost to Central 20-16 in this past season's state quarterfinal round: "I have enjoyed competing against Coach Rosser over the past six seasons. Coach Rosser is one of the good guys in the business. Coach is going to be successful wherever he goes."



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HVMS girls nab rivalry win to end regular season

By Ken Lay

Hardin Valley Middle School's girls basketball team closed out its regular season with a signature victory at home Thursday night.

The win was a rivalry victory and netted the Lady Hawks the Golden Turkey Award for the year.

Hardin Valley used a stifling defense and smothered rival Farragut 30-19 to pick up a regular season-ending win.

Lady Hawks' coach Cara Cahak said that she encouraged her team to play in a loose frame of mind and Hardin Valley obeyed those orders and left the floor with a lopsided victory in one of the Knox County Middle School Basketball Conference's newest rivalries.

"I'm really proud of our girls because they've grown so much in the past

year, not only in basketball but in life," said Cahak, who was named coach when Hardin Valley, one of the two newer Knox County middle schools, opened to begin the 2018-2019 academic year. "We've come a long way and I'm extremely proud of our girls."

"We came out here today and we knew that we really didn't have anything to lose and we took it to them."

The Lady Hawks (9-6 in KCMSBC play) held a narrow 6-4 edge at the end of the first quarter before really blowing things open with a 10-2 run in the second stanza. After the second-quarter surge, the game's outcome was never really in doubt as Hardin Valley enjoyed a 26-10 lead heading into the final six minutes of the contest.

The Lady Admirals, who hosted Gibbs Friday afternoon in their regular-season finale (results were

not available at press time) boasted one of the county's more potent and balanced attacks early in the season, has endured their share of offensive struggles lately, according to first-year head coach Devan McIntyre.

"We're in an offensive slump right now and we're not playing with a lot of confidence," she said. "We need to get our confidence back before we start our postseason."

Farragut (10-4 in the KCMSBC) made just five field goals in the contest, including just two over the first 12 minutes.

And while that was troubling for McIntyre, the lack of defensive intensity against the Lady Hawks was more cause for concern.

"The difference in the game was that Hardin Valley was playing defense," she said. "Our

defensive intensity just didn't match theirs."

"We just had turnover after turnover and we need to push our defensive pressure up."

Ava Claire Wrather scored 10 points to lead the Lady Hawks. Madison Smith added nine and Kyndra West finished with six for HVMS, which will open James A. Ivey Jr. Memorial Basketball Tournament play on Wednesday.

As the Lady Hawks begin tournament preparations, Cahak said that this is her favorite time of year.

"We call this January Madness. It's like March Madness," she said. "This is the best time of the year."

Addison Pressley led the Lady Admirals with seven points. Annie Priest finished game with six with all coming after halftime from the free throw line.



Bearden senior post Jakhya Davis (left), an ETSU signee, battles inside against Hardin Valley in the Lady Bulldogs' 16th win of the season.

Davis leads veteran Bearden girls team to strong start

By Steve Williams

The Bearden High girls' basketball team is positioning itself for another run at the state tournament.

Three times in Justin Underwood's previous eight seasons as head coach, the Lady Bulldogs have traveled the Road to Murfreesboro and made it to Murphy Center.

This season's team includes four players who were on Bearden's last state tourney qualifier two years ago, so it is a veteran team and loaded with guards.

Jah'niya Bussell, Emma Stone and Jakhya Davis were sophomores and Zneyah McLaughlin a freshman on the 2018 team that lost to eventual champion Riverdale in the semifinals.

With tournament time about a month away, Bearden was 16-1 overall and 4-0 in District 4-AAA – one of the state's toughest districts from top to bottom – after turning back Hardin Valley 58-30 on Tuesday, Jan. 7.

The Lady Bulldogs started the season with an 11-game win streak, including a 59-43 victory over Johnson City Science Hill in the Thanksgiving Classic at Heritage.

Bearden also got off to great start in district play as it turned back Maryville 62-45 on Dec. 10 and followed that with a 42-33 win over rival Farragut – its closest game of the season at that time.

The lone blemish on its record was a 36-26 loss to defending state champion Bradley Central in the 5Star Preps Classic at Farragut.

The Lady Bulldogs bounced back with three wins in a holiday tourney in Smyrna, Ga., including a 46-30 win over host Campbell in the championship game Dec. 28.

"We've got a really good senior class and some kids that have played a lot of ball for us led by Jakhya Davis (6-2 post)," said Coach Underwood last week. "She's our ETSU signee and has over a thousand points and a thousand rebounds. So much of what we do runs through her."

Underwood also said Bussell, a 5-6 wing, has been "playing real well as of late" and was the MVP in the Georgia tourney. "She's been giving us some good games on the outside and also is a fantastic rebounder for us."

Stone, also a 5-6 wing, and McLaughlin, a 5-8 junior point guard, are a part of the starting five, along with 5-7 sophomore Emily Gonzalez, a transfer from Lenoir City who can play the point or the wing.

While Bearden is loaded with guards, Underwood says two post players (5-9 senior Asailia Jenkins and 6-2 freshman Avery Treadwell) can come off the bench and give the team "a little more versatility and balance."

Jenkins is "very athletic" and Treadwell provides "height and length and helps protect the rim."

Bearden, which has had two semifinal finishes and a quarterfinal showing at the state with Underwood at the controls, was eliminated by Oak Ridge in the region semifinals last year.

The "first goal" set by the players at the start of this season was to win the district regular season title, said Underwood. "If we can take care of business there, then we set our eyes on making a good run in the district tournament and putting ourselves in a good position for the region tournament with an opportunity hopefully to play in the state tournament."

Doerger leads Farragut Middle past Hardin Valley, 43-25

By Ken Lay

Farragut Middle School's boys basketball team has played much of its 2019-2020 season without one of its best players and one of Knox County's strongest inside weapons.

Eighth grader Alex Doerger was injured early this season. But now he's back and wasting little time making a difference for this team.

Doerger, a two-time all-Knox County Middle School Basketball Conference standout, scored 21 points Thursday night as the Admirals toppled rival Hardin Valley 43-25 at Hardin Valley Middle School.

Doerger suffered a broken bone in his leg early during the 2019-2020 campaign and returned to Farragut's lineup for the team's holiday tournament over Christmas Break. He has appeared in the Admirals' last two conference tilts and led all scorers Thursday, with 14 points in the first half as Farragut (9-5 in KCMSBC play) opened a 28-13 halftime lead over the Hawks (5-10 in the conference).

The Admirals played host to Gibbs Friday in their regular-season finale but results were unavailable at press time.

James A. Ivey Jr. Memorial Middle School Basketball Tournament play



PHOTO BY KEN LAY.

The Farragut Middle School boys basketball team defeated rival Hardin Valley 43-25 Thursday night to win the Golden Turkey trophy for the second consecutive season.

begins Thursday and the Hawks will make a trip to Farragut's Bobby J. Henry Gymnasium to face the seventh-seeded Admirals in the opening round of the annual postseason event.

The Admirals will be the tournament's seventh seed while Hardin Valley will be seeded 10th.

The winner of Thursday's game will play second-seeded West Valley when the tournament shifts to South-Doyle Middle School on Saturday, Jan. 18.

Farragut coach Randy Swartzentruber said that he's pleased to have Doerger back for his squad.

"We can play big if we want to and I'm glad to have Alex back," Swartzentruber

said. "I'm certainly not complaining about it."

"This was a pretty well-played game for us, I thought. As our defense goes, we go and I thought we played pretty good defense tonight."

Swartzentruber, the dean of Knox County Middle School basketball coaches, said he know that Farragut will face a tough road in the postseason. But he noted that he and his squad are eagerly anticipating those challenges.

"It looks like we're going to be the seventh seed," he said. "If we win, we'll play West Valley in the second round and that should be fun."

Farragut lost a close one

at home to the Wolves in its annual regular-season showdown while Doerger was sidelined due to injury.

On Thursday, the Admirals post player was simply dominant but he got a little help from Eli Evans, who scored eight points, all before halftime, to help Farragut capture the Golden Turkey Award for the second consecutive season.

Will Kline led the Hawks with seven points while Rylie Gladwin finished with five.

Despite seeing his team struggle in its regular-season finale, Hardin Valley coach Dylan Rayho was pleased with the Hawks' effort.

"Our kids came in here and they played hard," Rayho said. "As a coach, that's all you can really ask for."

"We have new eighth graders, eighth graders who weren't a part of our program last year. And they've come in here and bought into what we're doing. They always play hard and we've gotten a lot better as we prepare our younger kids to play."

Hardin Valley opened last school year and the Hawks struggled mightily in their inaugural season but they've made great strides this year according to Rayho.

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L&N girls win squeaker, then take District 4 bowling title

By Steve Williams

Every roll of the ball can be crucial when it comes to winning and losing in bowling.

L&N STEM Academy and Carter High battled to a 13½ to 13½ tie in their District 4 girls' semifinal match at Fountain Lanes Thursday and L&N picked up the win on the tie-breaker by having three more pins in the three-game total pin fall.

The narrow loss ended Carter's season as only the top two teams qualify for this Thursday's Region 2 tournament at Fountain Lanes.

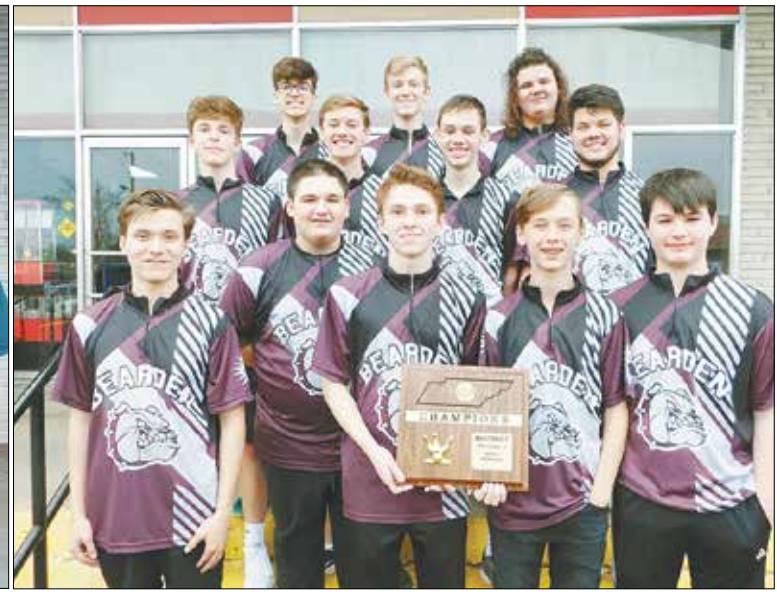
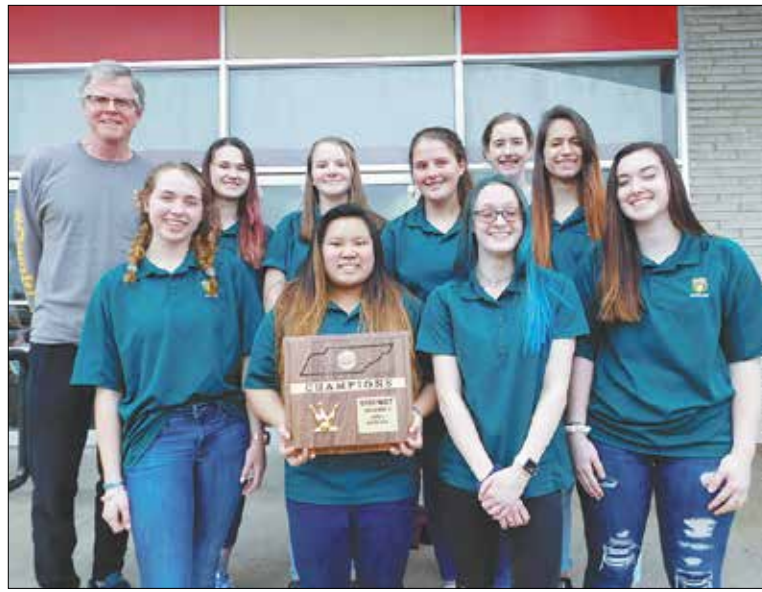
The win, however, clinched a region berth for L&N.

"I was worried the girls were going to be happy enough with that," said Coach Tim Parker. "They were eating Sonic out here on break, and I said, Now girls, do you all want to win this next one (finals) or do you just want to have some fun since we're already (qualified) for the regional? They said, 'We want to win!'"

The Lady Gryphons went on to defeat Bearden 15½ to 11½ to capture L&N's first-ever district championship.

Grace Brison rolled a 531 series to lead L&N's win over Bearden.

"This is only the third year we've had a bowling team and we've never even gotten past the quarterfinal round before," said Coach



PHOTOS BY STEVE WILLIAMS

Left, L&N STEM Academy's girls bowling team won the school's first District 4 championship last week at Fountain Lanes. They will compete for Region 2 honors this Thursday. From left, front row: Sydney Rogers, Grace Bryson, Sarah Richards and Abigail Phillips. Back row: Coach Tim Parker, Chloe Johnson, Justyce Thompson, Rachel Fetzer, Eliza Marshall and Rachel Barrick. Not pictured - Riley Doyle. Right, Bearden High's unbeaten boys bowling team captured the District 4 championship last week and will go after Region 2 honors this Thursday at Fountain Lanes. Up front (from left) are Will Carter, Michael Collins, Ben Whitaker (holding plaque), Tyler Fries and Ethan Shaw. Middle row: Brayden Brown, Will Creasman, Ian Marshall and Max McCosh. Top row: Jacob Norvell, Zak Hubbs and Brandt Turrill.

Parker.

"Bearden has a tremendous team and we feel just tickled to death to be here to win one."

Rachel Barrick paced L&N with a 459 series against Carter. The Lady Gryphons also eliminated Hardin Valley Academy 24-3 in the quarterfinals.

In boys' action, undefeated Bearden successfully defended its District 4 crown with a 21-6

victory over Central. Max McCosh (216), Ben Whitaker (215) and Tyler Fries (212) had high games for the Bulldogs, now 21-0.

Dillon Bunch led the Bobcats with games of 214 and 205.

In the semifinals, Bearden ousted South-Doyle 24-3 as McCosh fired a 233.

Fries scored a 222 in the Bulldogs' 26-1 win over Career Magnet Academy in the quarterfinals.

"My boys had a great day," said Bearden Coach Jennifer Allen. "They had a 3,331 pin fall in the semifinals, which is really good."

The top two teams from District 3 - champion Sevier County and runner-up Pigeon Forge boys and the champion Sevier County and runner-up William Blount girls - will join District 4 teams in the region tourney, which will start with semifinal action at noon.

The finals will begin approximately 30 minutes after the semifinals, which will be around 2:30.

"I don't know that we'll have much of an alley advantage, but hopefully not having to travel will help us and the fact we bowled here in the district might help us a little bit also," said Coach Allen. "It's just whoever shows up and bowls that day."

All-Knox County football team includes smarts and brawn

By Steve Williams

Christian Academy of Knoxville's Max Smith and Zander Tonkin were great examples of high school football players who excelled on the field and in the classroom during the 2019 season.

Both also were first-team honorees on The Knoxville Focus / Coaches' All-Knox County team in the Focus' Dec. 30 issue. Smith made the team as a linebacker and Tonkin as a place-kicker / punter.

"In 19 years of coaching, I have not come across a player who works as hard as he does - in the weight room or on the field," said CAK Head Coach Travis Mzingo of Smith, who also contributed significantly as a wide receiver and on special teams.

"Max does all this while carrying a 3.84 GPA," added Mzingo.

"He has several college options, but has not yet decided on where he'll attend."

Tonkin, who stood out as a place-kicker and punter, has committed to kick at Elon University of the NCAA Division I Colonial Athletic Association, said Mzingo.

"Zander's leg was a weapon for us the past three years," he added.

Tonkin's GPA is 4.05.

With Smith and Tonkin helping lead the way, Mzingo's Warriors completely turned their record around this past season, finishing 8-3 overall and 4-2 in district play to earn a playoff berth. CAK was 3-8 and 2-4 in 2018.

SUPER NUMBERS: Bearden

senior quarterback Collin Ironside had the top grade point average (4.40) submitted in the nomination process for All-Knox County.

The 6-2, 190-pound Ironside also posted BHS career school records in passing attempts, completions, passing yards and passing TDs.

ACADEMIC STRONG: Gibbs junior place-kicker John Aidan-Pittman was a member of the National Honor Society with a 3.8 grade point average.

South-Doyle had four players on the All-Knox County squad with sparkling GPAs, including senior wide receiver Nate Adebayo (3.68), senior defensive back Santana Curtis (3.66), senior lineman Michael Potter (3.64) and senior lineman Jordun Wilson (3.62).

Curtis, who also has scored 28 on the ACT, has multiple offers from all Ivy League schools plus Navy, Air Force, Tennessee Tech and Austin Peay State.

ANATURAL: Bearden senior Hayden Candela stood out as a wide receiver, strong safety and kick returner for the Bulldogs.

This past season, Candela had 77 receptions for 923 yards (12.0 yards per reception) and 11 touchdowns.

He's the BHS single season school record holder for receptions, receiving yards and receiving TDs.

"He's the best natural football player I have coached," said Coach Morgan Shinlever.

'GO TO GUY': Ken Cox was nominated for All-Knox County as an athlete

/ defensive back by Scott Meadows, who resigned as head coach after the season.

"Ken was considered our 'go to guy' said Meadows. "He did everything for us - playing defensive back, running back, wide receiver and kick returner."

OH BROTHER: Ezra Young, South-Doyle senior and brother of Missouri signee Elijah Young, was an All-Region 2-5A receiver.

The 5-5 Ezra runs the 40 in 4.4 and benches 300 pounds.

"Multiple schools are interested in him," said veteran coach Clark Duncan. "He's one of the best downfield blockers we've ever had."

DOUBLE TROUBLE: Isaiah Ligon, Austin-East senior RB / DB / ATH rushed for 986 yards and nine touchdowns and also had 554 receiving yards on offense his senior year.

Ligon, as a sophomore, earned All-State honors as a defensive back and naturally filled a DB spot in the secondary on this season's All-Knox County team. He had 114 tackles.

PRIZE CATCH: Grace Christian wide receiver Jalen Geer is attracting a lot of interest.

"Jalen was a big body receiver (6-4, 190) that we could go to and know that he would go up and make a play," said Coach Rusty Bradley, whose teams have been known for their passing attacks over the years.

"He has an offer from Centre College and University of the Columbians. ETSU has offered him a preferred walk on spot. Georgetown, Shorter and Cornell are

recruiting him as well."

SOPHOMORE STOPPER: Leo Bonifacio, a 6-1, 220-pound linebacker, led Webb in tackles with 72. He also recorded four TFL, three sacks and had three fumble recoveries.

"He will be a college prospect," said veteran Coach David Meske. "He's very physical for only being a sophomore."

UP AND COMING: Catholic sophomores Keondre' Jarmon and Tommy Winton have bright futures.

Jarmon, a 5-9, 180-pound running back, rushed for over 1,000 yards this past season. "Keondre' had a great year, finishing up the last six games with a 100 yards rushing per game," said Coach Steve Matthews.

Winton, a 5-10, 180-pound wide receiver, led the Irishmen in receptions, receiving yards and touchdowns.

"Tommy is an electric athlete that is only going to get better," said Matthews.

Both earned spots on the All-Knox County second team.

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Pressley 'excited' to be new coach at Carter

By Steve Williams

Justin Pressley is Carter High's new head football coach.

The Kingston native and Midway High graduate coached the past two seasons at Volunteer High in Church Hill. Under his direction, the Falcons improved to 3-8 in 2018 and 4-6 last season after being 0-10 in 2017.

He coached at Lindbloom High in Chicago prior to coming to Volunteer and was

20-9 over three seasons. Prior to that, Pressley was an assistant coach at Sigel and Pearl-Cohn high schools in Middle Tennessee.

"My wife and I are extremely excited for the opportunity to lead the Carter football program," Pressley told the Kingsport Times-News. "The chance to lead a program with a rich athletic tradition and be near our entire family is one we could not pass up."

Pressley, who was scheduled to meet the Carter team Friday afternoon, becomes

Carter's sixth different head coach since 2013 when Heath Woods resigned.

Jeff McMillan coached for three seasons (2014-16), Derek Witt one season (2017) and Vic Wharton was interim head coach in 2018.

Scott Meadows resigned after this past season to return to Pigeon Forge, where he had been head coach before.

Carter was 3-7 overall and 1-5 in Region 2-5A under Meadows.

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The Doctor is in

a weekly column by
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Get Woke!

I assure you that I'm not fishing for comments, but sometimes I wonder if my essays make any difference or are even read. Perhaps I've said enough; some say so.

According to marketing experts at The Knoxville Focus, the newspaper has a weekly circulation of approximately 50,000, including the online footprint. If I were writing a blog I wouldn't consider that bad. However, I would never make it as an influencer on social media! And it was never my intention to be discovered by HarpersCollins or make money from The Doctor Is In column.

Philip Yancey and others have noted that writing is a solitary enterprise, and I agree. Occasionally, I get a thumbs up response for an essay, and sometimes my opinions provoke strong negative comments. However, most of the time it's

as if my words appear briefly in print or are cast to the electronic wind. Either way that's OK. I write because I enjoy the creative process, and because I was given a voice at The Focus. For me, writing is an avocation rather than a vocation. I write for joy. And I write as service, duty and witness.

I'm teaching my grandson how to play checkers and chess. I'm certainly no expert on either, but checkers is fairly simple and with a seven year old the chess focus is on how the pieces move. In chess the various pieces have different values. Pawns are the foot soldiers and are worth a somewhat arbitrary 1 on the value scale. Knights and bishops are worth 3 and rooks/castles are worth 4. I've cautioned Oakley to be very careful and not sacrifice his queen with a value of 9 for a pawn or other lesser pieces. It would be inappropriate

to discuss real world applications of chess with my grandson. However, savvy readers can appreciate the analogy of removing the ISIS leader al-Baghdadi in 10-2019 and now the terrorist Iranian General Soleimani from the battlefield. The savage ISIS leader was infamous for beheading hundreds if not thousands. And the Iranian General was responsible for killing more than 600 American soldiers and maiming thousands more with IEDs (improvised explosive devices). Only leftists object to the execution of these monsters and invaluable battlefield pieces of Islamist armies.

There was little objection when Obama killed an American Islamist terrorist in Yemen with a drone strike in 2011. Actually, Obama authored more than 500 drone strikes killing thousands. However, I cheered when President Obama sent executioners for Bin Laden.

I'm a stickler for words, and I chafe at the misuse of the word liberal as applies to politics. The term derives from the Latin word "liberalis," meaning suitable for a free man. "Classical liberalism" was the philosophy of The Founders who advocated limited government, free markets and civil liberty.

The term "modern liberal" originated in 1924

with the progressive John Dewey. The progressive philosophy arose in the late 19th century in opposition to communism and capitalism. Republican Teddy Roosevelt was a progressive and so was democrat Woodrow Wilson. Unfortunately for progressives, their policies of a national income tax, prohibition and The League of Nations were very unpopular and elections were being lost. Dewey advised progressives to just change their name to "modern liberals." Later, modern was dropped from their mantra.

Obama and Hillary Clinton identify themselves as modern progressives, as does Nancy Pelosi. Progressives are synonymous with liberals who advocate economic justice through government income distribution, universal health-care, non-originalist interpretation of the Constitution and a living wage.

I have many friends who are liberals/progressives. I was once liberal, but never a leftist. Like me, liberals think one's skin color is irrelevant. A leftist believes that race is everything. An example is Colin Kaepernick who filters everything through race and class warfare. Liberals opt for bigger government, but are not opposed to capitalism which has lifted more people out of poverty than

any other system. Leftists or Democratic-socialists like Alexandria Ocasio Cortez and Bernie Sanders oppose capitalism. Liberals believe in national sovereignty. Leftists promote open borders. Liberals believe that America is not perfect, but is "the last best hope of earth" (Abraham Lincoln). Leftists howl that America "is racist, sexist, homophobic and xenophobic."

Leftists do not believe in free speech. Those who disagree with them and use "hurtful words" are shouted down on college campuses, once bastions of free speech. Liberals may disagree with me, but will defend my right to speak. Franklin D. Roosevelt "cited the need to protect Western Civilization and Christianity, yet leftists denounced Trump's Warsaw speech, and the need to protect Western and Christian Civilization."

Have you ever been shown a tree or a flower and then you see it everywhere? After I was shown an ailanthus tree by a friend, my eyes were opened and I began to see this "tree of heaven" everywhere. It was as if I was awakened or, in hip culture, I became "woke." This modern term is "associated with the Black Lives Matter movement, signaling awareness of injustice

or racial tension. It became a word of action. Activists were woke and called on others to stay woke." If you're listening, the phraseology is everywhere. The host of the 2020 Golden Globe awards chastised the woke crowd of hypocritical Hollywood stars.

Another term that is pervasive, but often floats under the radar, is intersectionality, explained as the "complex and cumulative way the effects of different forms of discrimination (such as racism, sexism, and classism) combine, overlap, and intersect, especially in the experiences of marginalized people or groups." Political correctness, climate change, social justice, environmental justice and economic justice all intersect in activist leftist philosophy.

The root word of politics is polis, the term for the ancient Greek city-state. In our time, politics is the interactions of our people, culture and country.

This week my purpose is educational, to open eyes and ears and minds to the interactions and forces at work in our polis. As a doctor I know a diagnosis must be made before treatment can be applied.

I am woke! Are you?

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

Where the Hilltops Touch the Sky

You may have heard of the Standing Stone near Monterey, Tennessee, where a tall sandstone statue of a wolf or dog once stood. Legend says the stone, along what became old Avery Trace, was a Native American marker.

Today the stone is only a small piece of rock atop a pedestal because early pioneer travelers picked off pieces of the statue as keepsakes. But Monterey is more than an old stone, it is a small community located just off Interstate 40 with its own

A Day Away



By Mike Steely

identity. The town might be an interesting side trip for anyone headed toward Nashville and a quick place to get out of the car and stretch your legs.

Monterey is in a corner of Putman County, high atop the Cumberland Plateau, and promotes the community as "Where Hilltops Touch the Sky."

Established in 1893 by the Cumberland Mountain Coal Company the town has about 2,700 residents.

Monterey might be called the first town in Middle Tennessee and is just off the

interstate. There's only one exit and, if you're looking for the Standing Stone monument you may have to ask because it's not well marked.

The original Standing Stone is located at 401 Commerce Avenue and there's a festival there each October that draws visitors and Cherokee tribe members.

You may also want to check out the Muddy Pond Sorghum Mill while in Monterey. It also has an annual festival and the store is open every day except Sunday.

Nearby points of interests include Crab Orchard, known for the durable sandstone rocks found there and used in home and building construction. It was a stop for early



PHOTO BY MIKE STEELY

The historic Imperial Hotel is a notable building in downtown Monterey. You may be surprised by the little town, located just off I-40 atop the Cumberland Plateau.

travelers and a hub now for limestone mining.

Nearby is Bee Rock, a high overlook, and downtown Monterey offers a seasonal Farmer's Market. The Depot Museum has

not only early railroad items but also displays of other local events, equipment, etc. There's also a passenger car parked next to the building.

You can get more

information about Monterey on the internet or you can call the City Hall at (931)839-3770. You can reach the Depot Museum at (931)839-2111.



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LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

COURT NOTICES

NON-RESIDENT NOTICE

CASSIA BRUN -Vs- JOSEPH BRUN
Docket # 147784

IN THE FOURTH CIRCUIT COURT OF KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE

In this cause, it appearing from the Complaint filed, which is sworn to, that the defendant JOSEPH DANIEL BRUN is a non-resident of the State of Tennessee, or whose whereabouts cannot be ascertained upon diligent search and inquiry, so that the ordinary process of law cannot be served upon JOSEPH DANIEL BRUN.

IT IS ORDERED that said defendant file an answer to an action of COMPLAINT FOR DIVORCE filed by CASSIA BRUN, Plaintiff herein, with the Fourth Circuit Court in Knoxville, Tennessee, and with CASSIA BRUN/PRO SE, Plaintiff's Attorney whose address is 2926 BARNARD RD. KNOXVILLE, TN 37921 within thirty (30) days of the last date of publication, and if you do not answer or otherwise respond, a Default Judgment may be entered against you on the thirtieth (30th) day after the fourth (4th) publication. This notice will be published in The Knoxville Focus for four (4) consecutive weeks.

This the 16TH day of DECEMBER, 2019.

Mike Hammond
Clerk

Deputy Clerk

NOTICE OF SERVICE BY PUBLICATION

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF BUCUMBE

IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE DISTRICT COURT DIVISION
FILE NO.: 19 CV 4613

Lisa Marie Alpert, Plaintiff
v.
Jonathan Samuel Alpert, Defendant.

To: Jonathan Samuel Alpert, Defendant

Take notice that a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above-entitled action. The nature of the relief being sought is as follows: Absolute Divorce

You are required to make defense to such pleading no later than February 3, 2020, and upon your failure to do so, the party seeking service against you will apply to the Court for the relief sought.

This the 2nd day of January, 2020.

Lisa Alpert
911 Olivette Road
Asheville, NC 28804

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF EDWARD A ALLEN
DOCKET NUMBER 82554-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 31 day of DECEMBER 2019, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of EDWARD A ALLEN who died Dec 1, 2019, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death

This the 31 day of DECEMBER, 2019.

ESTATE OF EDWARD A ALLEN
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
TONYA A BERRIER; EXECUTRIX
220 BRAKEL ROAD
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37924

O. E. SCHOW, IV ATTORNEY
AT LAW P.O. BOX 900
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37901

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF BARKAT ALI BHIMANI
DOCKET NUMBER 82522-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 19 day of DECEMBER 2019, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of BARKAT ALI BHIMANI who died Oct 25, 2019, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death

This the 19 day of DECEMBER, 2019.

ESTATE OF BARKAT ALI BHIMANI
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
IOBAL BHIMANI; EXECUTOR
912 HARBOR POINTE WAY
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37922

GAIL F WORTLEY ATTORNEY AT LAW
3715 POWERS STREET
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37917

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF MARY M BISCOE
DOCKET NUMBER 82544-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 27 day of DECEMBER 2019, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of MARY M BISCOE who died Oct 9, 2019, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death

This the 27 day of DECEMBER, 2019.

ESTATE OF MARY M BISCOE
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
WILLIAM M BISCOE; EXECUTOR
9520 MOBILE DRIVE KNOXVILLE, TN. 37923

DALE C ALLEN ATTORNEY
AT LAW P.O. BOX 900
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37901-0900

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF DANA LYNN BRYSON
DOCKET NUMBER 82275-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 26 day of DECEMBER 2019, letters administration in respect of the Estate of DANA LYNN BRYSON who died Sep 11, 2019, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death

This the 26 day of DECEMBER, 2019.

ESTATE OF DANA LYNN BRYSON
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
EUGENE BRYSON; ADMINISTRATOR
5235 AVERY WOODS LANE
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37921

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF ZURMA M H CALDWELL
DOCKET NUMBER 82309-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 26 day of DECEMBER 2019, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of ZURMA M H CALDWELL who died Jun 17, 2019, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death.

This the 26 day of DECEMBER, 2019.

ESTATE OF ZURMA M H CALDWELL
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
BRUCE E HENRY; CO-EXECUTOR
2310 SYCAMORE DRIVE
MARYVILLE, TN. 37803

DIANA HENRY COMBS; CO-EXECUTOR
1810 CALLAWAY COVE COURT
ROSENBERG, TX. 77471

CHARLES G TAYLOR, III ATTORNEY AT LAW
10805 KINGSTON PIKE
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37934

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF PEGGY BESS CANTRELL
DOCKET NUMBER 82501-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 30 day of DECEMBER 2019, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of PEGGY BESS CANTRELL who died Nov 15, 2019, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates

prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death.

This the 30 day of DECEMBER, 2019.

ESTATE OF PEGGY BESS CANTRELL
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
DEBRA WILSON; CO-EXECUTRIX
10465 S HWY 265
FAYETTEVILLE, AR 72701

DONNA CANTRELL; CO-EXECUTRIX
27 PRESTON CIRCLE
STILLWATER, OK 74075

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF JOAN E CUNNINGHAM
DOCKET NUMBER 82529-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 20 day of DECEMBER 2019, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of JOAN E CUNNINGHAM who died Oct 23, 2019, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death.

This the 20 day of DECEMBER, 2019.

ESTATE OF JOAN E CUNNINGHAM
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
MICHELLE E COOPER; EXECUTRIX
9116 TALL TIMBER DRIVE
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37931

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF DORIS JEAN KOECHERT DEANER
DOCKET NUMBER 82538-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 26 day of DECEMBER 2019, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of DORIS JEAN KOECHERT DEANER who died Dec 11, 2019, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death

This the 26 day of DECEMBER, 2019.

ESTATE OF DORIS JEAN KOECHERT
DEANER PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
DAVID H LUHN; EXECUTOR
310 N FOREST PARK BLVD
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37919

DAVID H LUHN ATTORNEY AT LAW
310 N FOREST PARK BLVD
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37919

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF MARION ELIZABETH
BALLEW EVANS
DOCKET NUMBER 82521-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 19 day of DECEMBER 2019, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of MARION ELIZABETH BALLEW EVANS who died Nov 16, 2019, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death

This the 19 day of DECEMBER, 2019.

ESTATE OF MARION ELIZABETH BALLEW

EVANS PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
JON BARRY BALLEW; EXECUTOR
7219 JACKSON MORGAN LANE
POWELL, TN. 37849

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF MONA LYNCH GEORGE
DOCKET NUMBER 82552-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 31 day of DECEMBER 2019, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of MONA LYNCH GEORGE who died Oct 31, 2019, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death

This the 31 day of DECEMBER, 2019.

ESTATE OF MONA LYNCH GEORGE
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
JOHN L HICKMAN; EXECUTOR
2520 DRINNEN ROAD
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37914

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF JAMES W HANEY
DOCKET NUMBER 82512-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 26 day of DECEMBER 2019, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of JAMES W HANEY who died Jul 13, 2019, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death

This the 26 day of DECEMBER, 2019.

ESTATE OF JAMES W HANEY
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
ALMA D HANEY; EXECUTRIX
1109 WEBSTER GROVES LANE
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37909

JOHN D AGEY ATTORNEY
AT LAW P.O. BOX 530
CLINTON, TN. 37717-0530

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF ELAINE MAY LYNN
DOCKET NUMBER 82451-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 30 day of DECEMBER 2019, letters administration in respect of the Estate of ELAINE MAY LYNN who died Aug 22, 2019, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death

This the 30 day of DECEMBER, 2019.

ESTATE OF ELAINE MAY LYNN
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
DEBRA D SMITH; ADMINISTRATRIX
200 MADORA DRIVE
POWELL, TN. 37849

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF JON PARKER REYNOLDS
DOCKET NUMBER 82540-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 26 day of DECEMBER 2019, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of JON PARKER REYNOLDS who died Nov 8, 2019, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death

This the 26 day of DECEMBER, 2019.

ESTATE OF JON PARKER REYNOLDS
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
DIANE M REYNOLDS; EXECUTRIX
650 E REDBUD ROAD
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37920

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF CECIL DAVID SEWELL
DOCKET NUMBER 82337-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 19 day of DECEMBER 2019, letters administration in respect of the Estate of CECIL DAVID SEWELL who died Aug 19, 2019, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death

This the 19 day of DECEMBER, 2019.

ESTATE OF CECIL DAVID SEWELL
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
BARBARA S SEWELL; ADMINISTRATRIX
6433 RACCOON VALLEY DRIVE
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37938

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF MARK S SIMS
DOCKET NUMBER 82553-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 31 day of DECEMBER 2019, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of MARK S SIMS who died Dec 8, 2019, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death

This the 31 day of DECEMBER, 2019.

ESTATE OF MARK S SIMS
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
GARY ALAN SIMS; EXECUTOR
402 SOUTH GAY STREET, SUITE 306
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37902

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF DAVID MICHAEL SMITH,
SR. DOCKET NUMBER 82472-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 27 day of DECEMBER 2019, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of DAVID MICHAEL SMITH, SR. who died Nov 1, 2019, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death

This the 27 day of DECEMBER, 2019.

ESTATE OF DAVID MICHAEL SMITH, SR.
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
DAVID M SMITH, JR.; CO-EXECUTOR
4020 RIVERPOINT WAY LOUISVILLE, TN. 37777

ANN MICHELE MOTT; CO-EXECUTOR
995 CORNETT ROAD
LENOIR CITY, TN 37771

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF BRUCE ALLEN SMITH
DOCKET NUMBER 82531-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 30 day of DECEMBER 2019, letters administration in respect of the Estate of BRUCE ALLEN SMITH who

Georgiana Vines shares memories in a new book

By Mike Steely
Senior Writer
steelym@knoxfocus.com

Few people in our region are as knowledgeable about politics and personalities as Georgiana Vines. The semi-retired newspaper reporter has taken some of that knowledge and written "East Tennessee Newsmakers, Where Are They Now?"

Ms. Vines will appear at Maple Hall, downtown at 414 Gay Street below the former Penny's Building, on Thursday, January 16, to discuss the book. She will be there starting at 6:30 p.m. The book covers the gamut of area personalities, ranging from the Howard

Baker family to actor John Cullum. I've been in the media almost as long as Georgiana and my interest was immediately drawn to those people she writes about that I have also interviewed or written about in news and feature stories.

I've talked to Bob Clement and written about the Clement family several times over my career. She captures him well and relays some of his own stories in one of the chapters, including a part where he is a child when his father was governor and Bob played with prisoners working around the governor's mansion.

She also writes about Marie Cirillo, a former nun who was vital in fighting poverty in rural Upper East Tennessee. I meet Cirillo years ago and have always admired the lady's work in finding and promoting land where rural poor people could build and live. Ms. Vines writes about John F. Kennedy's daughter, Caroline, and her time with Cirillo.

Her chapter about Cissy Baker, daughter of Senator Howard Baker, is touching and reveals the heartache Cissy and her family had struggling with alcoholism. I met Cissy when she ran for

congress in 1982. She lost to Jim Cooper, who remains in congress today. She went on to a news career and started a recovery center in her hometown of Huntsville.

Other chapters include stories about Jimmy Duncan, Tipper Gore, Richard Baumgartner, Jean Ash, Lamar Alexander, Phil Keith, and many, many other notables.

Georgiana Vines continues to watch local and regional politics and personalities and write for our daily newspaper. Her stories are always insightful and straight forward. That's another thing we "old" journalists still do, tell a story without opinion. We should all be thankful that her dad, George W. Fry, moved around in his profession with the National Park Service and ended up in the Great Smoky Mountain National Park. Otherwise Georgiana may never have started writing here locally.

"East Tennessee Newsmakers, Where are they now?" is published by the University of Tennessee Press. You can order directly from UTPress on the internet for \$ 29.95, or she will probably have copies available at the event.

Coming to the Parrott-Wood Memorial Library...

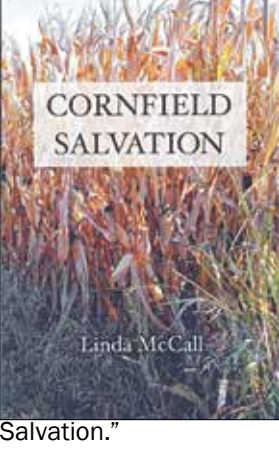
Parrott-Wood Memorial Library is hosting a **Plarn Party on Monday, January 13, 2020** at 4:00 p.m.

You may be asking what is Plarn? Plarn is short for "plastic yarn." Plarn is made by cutting plastic grocery bags into strips, which are then strung together into a single long strand. You can use plarn instead of regular yarn to crochet sturdy, homeless mats.

The Friends of the Library will be serving refreshments and hosting a get to know your neighbors event as well.

Please bring your fabric or craft cutting board, large crochet hook, scissors or roller cutter if you have them. The library has lots of plastic bags and some scissors on hand. There is something for everyone to do: sorting, cutting, linking and crocheting. Crochet classes will be offered at a later date.

Parrott-Wood Memorial Library is hosting a **Meet and Greet Program debuting local author Linda McCall on Monday, January 27, 2020** at 4:00 p.m. She will be reading from her new book, "Cornfield

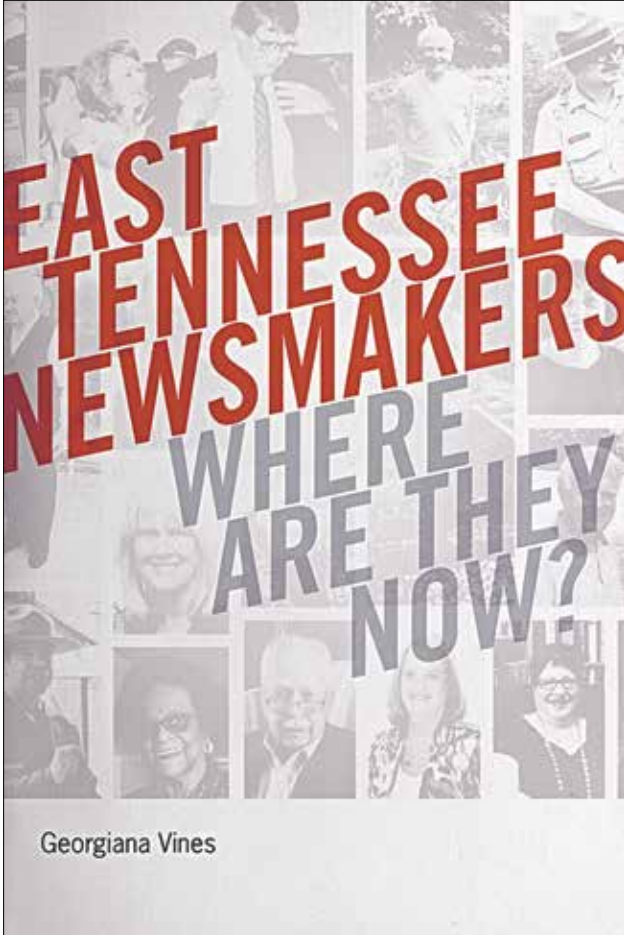


Salvation." McCall was born in Jefferson City, Tennessee, and now lives in Strawberry Plains now with her husband, Bill, who was born and raised there.

She has worked as an RN since 1980 and was an LPN before that. "I had thought some day I may write a book with some funny stories from nursing, but we shall see, cause I have a lot of them," she says in her bio.

"It is very expensive self publishing, and you have to do your own marketing, but if one person gets the message of hope, love, salvation and second chances, my goal has been achieved."

Parrott-Wood is located at 3133 W. Old A.J. Hwy., Strawberry Plains, TN 37871.



LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF VICTOR ALLEN WILHITE
DOCKET NUMBER 82534-3
Notice is hereby given that on the 23 day of DECEMBER 2019, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of VICTOR ALLEN WILHITE who died Nov 21, 2019, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:
(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of this first publication; or
(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death
This the 23 day of DECEMBER, 2019.

ESTATE OF VICTOR ALLEN WILHITE
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
FLOYD A WILHITE; EXECUTOR
4340 ROBERTS ROAD
CORYTTON, TN. 37721

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF ANNA GENEVA M WILKERSON
DOCKET NUMBER 82546-3
Notice is hereby given that on the 27 day of DECEMBER 2019, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of ANNA GENEVA M WILKERSON who died Sep 21, 2018, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:
(1) (A) Four (4) months from the date of the first date of the publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication; or
(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death.
This the 27 day of DECEMBER, 2019

ESTATE OF ANNA GENEVA M WILKERSON
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
JANET ANNE HASKEW; EXECUTRIX
7709 KINGSMEADE ROAD
POWELL, TN. 37849

ROBERT S MARQUIS & O. E. SCHOW, IV ATTORNEYS AT LAW
P.O. BOX 900
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37901-0900

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF NANCY ABBOTT
DOCKET NUMBER 82556-1

11, 2019, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:
(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of this first publication; or
(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death
This the 2 day of JANUARY, 2020.

ESTATE OF NANCY ABBOTT
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
BOBBY JOE ABBOTT; CO-EXECUTOR
302 S APACHE ROAD CLINTON, TN. 37716

CAROL PEARCE; CO-EXECUTOR
4800 SHANNON RUN DRIVE
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37918

GAIL WORTLEY ATTORNEY AT LAW
3715 POWERS STREET
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37917

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF MARILYN D ABRAMS
DOCKET NUMBER 82097-1
Notice is hereby given that on the 2 day of JANUARY 2020, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of MARILYN D ABRAMS who died May 15, 2019, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:
(1) (A) Four (4) months from the date of the first date of the publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication; or
(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death.
This the 2 day of JANUARY, 2020

ESTATE OF MARILYN D ABRAMS
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
ALAN D ABRAMS; CO-EXECUTOR
5525 LONAS DRIVE, APT B-5
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37909

TERRY ADAMS; CO-EXECUTOR
C/O CARDIOFLEX THERAPY, 12585
ORANGE DRIVE, SUITE 203
DAVIE, FL. 33330

JOSEPH LEVITT, JR. ATTORNEY AT LAW
825 N CENTRAL STREET
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37917

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF RICKY ALLEN BOWLING
DOCKET NUMBER 82563-2

of the Estate of RICKY ALLEN BOWLING who died Dec 30, 2019, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:
(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of this first publication; or
(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death
This the 3 day of JANUARY, 2020.

ESTATE OF RICKY ALLEN BOWLING
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
DUSTIN ROACH; EXECUTOR
2415 ADAIR AVE. KNOXVILLE, TN 37917

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF MONICA J ESHLEMAN
DOCKET NUMBER 81960-2
Notice is hereby given that on the 3 day of JANUARY 2020, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of MONICA J ESHLEMAN who died Apr 24, 2019, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:
(1) (A) Four (4) months from the date of the first date of the publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication; or
(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death.
This the 3 day of JANUARY, 2020

ESTATE OF MONICA J ESHLEMAN
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
BETH STUBBS; EXECUTRIX
1313 KENSINGTON DRIVE
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37922

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF WAYNE DRINNEN KIDD
DOCKET NUMBER 82547-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 3 day of JANUARY 2020, letters administration in respect of the Estate of WAYNE DRINNEN KIDD who died Nov 28, 2019, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred.
(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of this first publication; or
(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death.
This the 3 day of JANUARY, 2020

ESTATE OF WAYNE DRINNEN KIDD
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
JOYCE ANN YARNELL
MCCONN; CO-EXECUTRIX
1639 LOVELL ROAD
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37932

LORETTA IVEDENE CORPENING;
CO-EXECUTRIX
1803 WAYSIDE ROAD
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37931

STEPHEN BYRD ATTORNEY AT LAW
9051 EXECUTIVE PARK DRIVE
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37923

received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death
This the 3 day of JANUARY, 2020.

ESTATE OF WAYNE DRINNEN KIDD
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
DEBORAH LONGMIRE; CO-ADMINISTRATOR
3220 FAIRMONT BLVD
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37917

RONALD WAYNE KIDD; CO-ADMINISTRATOR
117 MAYVIEW DRIVE
POWELL, TN. 37849

DARYL DEWAYNE KIDD;
CO-ADMINISTRATOR
121 MAVIEW DRIVE POWELL, TN. 37849

BRADLEY HODGE ATTORNEY AT LAW
900 S. GAY STREET, SUITE 2100
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37902

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF BOBBY RAY YARNELL
DOCKET NUMBER 82551-2
Notice is hereby given that on the 2 day of JANUARY 2020, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of BOBBY RAY YARNELL who died Nov 9, 2019, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:
(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of this first publication; or
(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death
This the 2 day of JANUARY, 2020.

ESTATE OF BOBBY RAY YARNELL
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
JOYCE ANN YARNELL
MCCONN; CO-EXECUTRIX
1639 LOVELL ROAD
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37932

LORETTA IVEDENE CORPENING;
CO-EXECUTRIX
1803 WAYSIDE ROAD
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37931

STEPHEN BYRD ATTORNEY AT LAW
9051 EXECUTIVE PARK DRIVE
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37923

MISC. NOTICES

LEGAL SECTION 94

Knox County will receive bids for the following items & services:

Bid 2923, Roof Upgrades for Austin East High School, due 2/27/20;
Bid 2927, Powell High School Additions and Renovations, due 2/26/20;
RFP 2928, Design Build Services, due 2/20/20

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

NOTICE OF LIEN SALE

PURSUANT TO DEFAULT

Per TN Self Storage Law, contents of the following leased units will be sold to satisfy the owner's lien at Tillery Self Storage, 115 Tillery Rd, Knoxville, TN 37912, February 12, 2020, at 10:00 AM. The Company reserves the right to reject any and all bids. Some units may not be available on the day of sale. Please call 865-687-7308 to confirm the sale.

Stephanie Stacy - 216
Jermaine Lawrence - 319
Tracy Petree - 334
Ashlee Martinez - 223

NOTICE OF LIEN SALE

THE OWNERS AND/OR LIEN HOLDERS OF THE FOLLOWING VEHICLES ARE HERBY NOTIFIED OF THEIR RIGHTS TO PAY ALL CHARGES AND RECLAIM SAID VEHICLES BEING HELD AT THE STORAGE LOT OF RICK'S AUTOMOTIVE. FAILURE TO RECLAIM THESE VEHICLES WILL BE

DEEMED A WAIVER OF ALL RIGHTS, TITLE AND CONSENT TO DISPOSE OF SAID VEHICLE AT PUBLIC AUCTION ON January 17, 2020 AT 9AM AT 5601 NORTH BROADWAY ST
04 MAZDA 4F2Y294114KM34485
85 OLDSMOBILE 1G3GK47Y3FR316556
01 FORD 1FAP44441F243471
03 GMC 1GKDS1S132278966
05 FORD 1FTRX12W25NB35324

NOTICE OF LIEN SALE

CENTRAL KARNS STORAGE
7440 OAK RIDGE HWY.
KNOXVILLE, TN 37931
865-690-7773

Is holding a lien sale of all goods stored in units A0037, F0335, G0453, G0517 & G0579. These being in lien & abandoned more than 60 days. These units will be sold via an online auction at this web site www.storage-treasures.com beginning date 1/18/20 & ending date 1/25/20. This sale/auction is to satisfy the owner's lien against the delinquency of occupants: Shadow Anderson; Chelsea Windham; Brittany Corsi & Julie Gunter.
Highest bidder must have sufficient means of transporting goods. Cash is the acceptable payment method. Sale is subject to termination or postponement prior to the ending sales date.

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MEALS ON WHEELS

Time is Marching On

During the sixties, seventies, eighties, and even the nineties, 2020 seemed so far on the horizon. Two thousand twenty and the start of a new decade. Unbelievable!

Changing to a new calendar gave pause to take another look back at 2019. It was a year marked by the loss of so many friends and family. For



By **Ralphine Major**
ralphine3@yahoo.com

our family, it was a milestone year as well. It was the 25th anniversary of our father's death. He never read any of my 400 plus Focus columns. He never saw any of our "Piddle Diddle, the Widdle Penguin" books written in his memory. During those years, time and memories have become two of our best friends. Much has changed

in our world since then especially after the 9-11 tragedy that struck our nation. The promise of a new year brings hope. My favorite scripture to face the year with are Paul's words found in Philippians 3:13: "... but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before," (KJV). As a former pastor so often said, "Life is a vapor." So true. Enjoy every day of 2020, and may God's blessings be many.



Ralphine and Wayne Major at a recent fundraising event. Photo courtesy of Crosslight Ministry.

NIGHT WITH THE ARTS IN CELEBRATION OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

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I can only get better

On more than one occasion, I've stated my dislike for resolutions. We all make them after much reflection and deliberation but break them with blinding speed. Most of the things we vow to change about ourselves



By **Joe Rector**
joerector@comcast.net

deal with personal growth: read more, eat less, exercise daily, quit a habit. For the majority of us, our commitment towards those self-promises fade away. None of us should feel too bad; humans are meant to dream big, even if those dreams burn away like a fog when we wake up.

I'd like to possibly make some changes in the last years of my life. For one, I'd certainly enjoy not worrying so much. All of my life, I've been a worrier. It is an inherited trait from my Daddy. He spent hours at the kitchen table with his pad and pencil and fretted over finances. As a young man, he told his mother that he would die young, and for the rest of his years, he concerned himself with how to take care of the family that he so much loved when he was no longer there. A lack of education kept him fussing at his sons to do their best in school, and he always intended for the three of us to graduate from college.

My family says that I have to have something wrong on which to dwell. If I don't, they say I worry about that. I'd like not having to expend energy

that goes with always looking for something to go wrong. So, maybe I can give up the worry, just a little bit.

I also need to give others a break. That means being kinder to others and, most of all, giving them

the benefit of the doubt. Yes, I am overly critical of people. First of all, I pick at myself in the same way, and I hold others to the same high standards. Life would be more pleasant if I accepted that others think differently than I do and aren't wrong for doing so. Realizing that today's world belongs to younger generations might also make life run more smoothly. Those folks will face problems that I can't begin to understand, and they must find new ways of dealing with them. My old opinions and criticisms won't solve much of anything. The people in every facet of my life might be happier if I'd cut them some slack.

I've heard several people talk about the joy of just living. I might just give that a try. For generations, senior citizens have been criticized over their crusty, griping personalities. Some of that might be the result of aches and pains that accompany aging, but much of it comes from the habit of being in a bad mood. I'll see if I can just enjoy each and every day without being so hateful. Maybe I can be content with just waking up each day, breathing in and out, and experiencing whatever occurs.

No, these are not resolutions. They are more the products of different attitudes. Okay, maybe they are one in the same. At any rate, I'll see how things go and if they make a difference. I can only get better.

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JANUARY - FEBRUARY 2020

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CNA / CAREGIVER
NEEDED. REFERENCES
REQUIRED. LEAVE
MESSAGE.
865-266-9063

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ruthie@knoxfocus.com
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