

Mayors working on plans to reopen businesses

Knox County will continue operating under Governor Bill Lee's Safer at Home Order through April 30. The joint City/County Task Force—convened by the Knox County Health Department—has advised Knox County Mayor Glenn Jacobs and City of Knoxville Mayor Indya Kincannon that it is still working on a local plan to ensure some area businesses can successfully open on Friday, May 1.

Mayor Jacobs and Mayor Kincannon provided the following statements Friday.

"I had hoped we would be able to get people back to work before May 1, and as a former small business owner myself, I understand how stressful and frustrating this situation has been," said Mayor Jacobs. "I still believe that government shouldn't tell businesses when and how to operate, but now that it has, we have a responsibility to work with the business community to carefully craft guidelines and communicate them directly and thoroughly to provide as much certainty and opportunity for success as we can in what remains a very fluid situation."

Mayor Kincannon said: "I am grateful for the many public health experts who analyzed local data and worked to develop a gradual plan to safely reopen local businesses. It is important that we all continue to take the necessary safety precautions like physical distancing and wearing face masks. However, I am hopeful we can have healthy residents and a healthy economy. We will closely watch the health trends in our area and continue to carefully assess what is safe for our community."

No further comments will be made regarding plans for reopening or guidelines for businesses until 10 a.m. on Monday, April 27 when the two mayors host a joint press conference in the City/County Building Main Assembly Room.



Knox County Health Department staff prep Monday morning before the drive-thru COVID-19 testing began.

County seeking solutions to overwhelming testing response

When the Knox County Health Department began free coronavirus testing last Monday at the county's Engineering and Public Works Department, the response was overwhelming. The response was huge again Tuesday and by that afternoon that form of testing was halted as the response simply exceeded the testing supplies.

The health department announced later in the week that free testing would be held Saturday at the Civic Coliseum. The Health Department said Thursday a location for testing this

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A sign marks the entry for the drive-thru COVID-19 testing held Tuesday at the Knox County Engineering and Public Works facility off Baxter Avenue. It was the second day of free testing by the Knox County Health Department and was halted due to the huge response by the public.

A-E grad working to make world 'healthier, cleaner and safer'

An Austin-East High School graduate is playing a special role in the fight against COVID-19.

Fred Lowery is a Senior Vice President and President in Life Sciences Solutions and Laboratory Products with Thermo Fisher Scientific.

"I am grateful to have the opportunity to contribute to A-E sports," said Lowery, the Roadrunners' quarterback and captain in 1987, who recently was recognized along with four other former Austin-East standouts for their contributions in purchasing a \$50,000 scoreboard for the school's football field.

"Hopefully my contributions help student athletes have the same experience that I had there and learn life skills that help them reach their dreams," said Lowery.

"With that in mind, I'm living my dream as a Senior Executive at Thermo Fisher Scientific. Our mission is to enable our

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Study of recycle fire area approved by city council

By Mike Steely
Senior Writer
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The Knoxville City Council voted Tuesday to have the Planning Commission conduct a "small area study" of the area affected by the May, 2019 recycling center fire. The study will look at the industrial area bounded by North Avenue, Central Street, Radford Place and Pershing Street.

The fire, at the Fort Loudoun Recycling Center, forced the evacuation of several nearby North Knoxville homes. Neighbors have been complaining about activity at that company before and after the huge fire there.

"What directly compels this study are conditions at the Fort Loudoun Waste and Recycling facility," Councilman Charles Thomas told The Focus.

"I am a strong supporter of

both local businesses and recycling, but the manner in which this particular business has conducted its operations over a long period of time earns it no sympathy. This in an area that has needed attention for years, and I intend to see that it gets it," he said.

The council also voted to award \$642,750 in Historic Preservation Grant support for property improvements to eligible historic properties. Councilwoman Amelia Parker was the lone "No" vote on the resolution.

Smart street lights are part of a resolution passed in an agreement with Gresham Smith to design services along Middlebrook Pike. The \$495,347 was requested by the Department of Engineering.

Also approved was an

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DM Miller Passes Away At 94

By Steve Hunley, Publisher

DM Miller passed away on April 15, 2020. DM was 94 years old when he went home to be with the Lord. For quite nearly half a century, DM Miller worked as an educator, administrator and member of both the city and county school boards. It has been decades since the City of Knoxville even had a school board, but DM was elected to it and he was proud to say he was the only person ever elected to serve on both.

Miller was a football coach at Rule High School and popular with his players, all of whom remember him fondly to this day. A Navy veteran, Miller attended Rule and came back to stay for most of his professional life. DM Miller taught a variety of subjects, including science and math. Eventually, DM Miller helmed the high school



DM Miller

he had attended as a young man, serving as principal of Rule. Miller made it downtown to work in the city school system's administration.

DM was elected to the Knox County Board of Education in 1996 and served two terms.

We served together on the Board and I always liked DM as a person and respected him as a leader in education. Miller was born in 1925 and married his wife Viola in 1951. DM Miller really was a product of his time and was devoted to his family, friends, and community. DM had a deep love for Rule High School and the youngsters who filled it up throughout the years. DM Miller was a patriot who loved Tennessee and our country.

DM Miller's passing really is a loss to our community and I am very thankful to have known him.

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WE BUY ESTATES

John DeBerry blocked by state Democrats

Finally, Some Good Economic News

Long-time Lawmaker Removed From Ballot

By Focus Staff

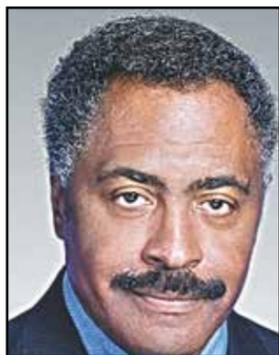
John DeBerry, a state representative from Memphis, was removed from the ballot by a vote of the Tennessee State Democratic Executive Committee. The committee voted 41 - 18 to remove Representative DeBerry from the ballot with two members abstaining. DeBerry has been consistently reelected since 1994 by the people inside his district.

An ordained minister and businessman, Representative DeBerry said, "The Tennessee Democratic Party has decided that a 26-year representative that spent 12 years as a committee chairman, conducted himself with integrity, served the party well, sponsored meaningful legislation and built bridges across the aisle to get bills passed is no longer a Democrat. And so, I'm not."

Members of the Tennessee State Democratic Executive Committee did not care to explain their reasoning in removing Representative DeBerry from the August primary ballot, but the self-proclaimed party of diversity's chairwoman, Mary Mancini said, "After a long meeting in which we heard challenges and evidence, we did what we thought best to protect the Tennessee Democratic Party and the values we stand for."

One of those "values" is clearly not the right to life for unborn children. DeBerry has been criticized by some extremist Democrats for not supporting abortion on demand, which Mancini, like most national Democrats, cloak as a "women's health" issue. Party bosses have been systematically

rooting out the few remaining Democratic officeholders who have refused to fall in line to support abortion on demand including Congressman Dan Lipinski of Illinois, who lived in Knoxville years ago while teaching at the University of Tennessee. Lipinski was at least



John DeBerry

allowed on the ballot to run and lost his race inside the Democratic primary. John DeBerry ran afoul of many Democrats by supporting the "fetal heartbeat" bill, as well as the "voucher" bill promoted by Governor Bill Lee. DeBerry, along with Democratic representatives John Mark Windle and Joe Towns, had been targeted by Planned Parenthood for having supported the "fetal heartbeat" bill, which bans abortions after detection of a heartbeat at about six weeks. Planned Parenthood planned to put up billboards advertising against DeBerry last year. Windle is the longest-serving Democrat in the general assembly, having first been elected in 1990. It would also likely be difficult for party bosses to rule John Mark Windle off the ballot, as his district would surely go Republican without him as the Democratic candidate. John DeBerry represented a solidly Democratic district and party bosses risked nothing by removing the popular representative from the ballot.

Ironically, Francie Hunt, executive director of Tennessee Advocates for Planned Parenthood, denounced Representative DeBerry for having joined "the ranks of other extremist legislators in Tennessee..." Yet as DeBerry pointed out, his views have always been well known to the people who have kept him in office for twenty-six years.

Representative DeBerry was accused of being a defacto Republican by detractors, with some saying he received financial support from GOP PACs.

House Speaker Cameron Sexton released a statement:

"Mary Mancini claims removing the longest serving democrat elected official in Tennessee, John DeBerry, a civil rights icon and ordained minister from the democratic primary

ballot was the best way to protect her party and the values the party stands for. Obviously, Ms. Mancini's new totalitarian party aligns with dictatorships around the world. You shall vote for the new Democratic agenda in totality or we will remove you for voting your beliefs.

"The unspeakable actions of Mary Mancini and a few to silence the voices of 64,000 voters in Rep. DeBerry's district shows their winning approach in the District 90 primary - - - if you can't beat him, then kick him off the ballot."

The criticism of the Tennessee Democratic State Executive Committee was bipartisan. Karen Camper, Minority Leader in the Tennessee House of Representatives and also a representative from Memphis, said in a statement of her own, "I am very disappointed by the actions taken by the executive committee of the TNDP on Wednesday. Rep. John DeBerry has represented the citizens of his district for 26 years and worked for the betterment of Memphis and Shelby County. While we may not always agree on issues, I know he is an honorable man.

Minority Leader Camper said the Democratic Caucus in the House "shares core values on many issues", one of which is "that we are the voice of the people we represent." Representative Camper pointed out DeBerry had followed all the pertinent election laws and had legitimately qualified to run inside the Democratic primary in his district." Camper also noted DeBerry had been the choice of his people to represent them 13 times. Camper said the Tennessee Democratic State Executive Committee had attempted to "nullify the choice of" the people of the 90th District and was improper.

DeBerry, courteous even in the face of an outrageous action by the Democratic State Executive Committee, thanked the people he had represented for so long for the opportunity to serve them. "I'm appreciative to all the folks who have supported me through my time in the Legislature and want to give them my thanks."

Representative DeBerry has changed his mind and indicated he will challenge the action of the Tennessee State Executive Committee

By Focus Staff

We can use every scrap of good news right about now. Tennessee's Commissioner of Finance & Administration, Butch Eley, announced the Volunteer State's tax collections for March exceeded the state budget by more than \$62 million.

This is especially good news in light of the fiscal havoc caused by the pandemic to government revenues. Total collections amounted to \$1.2 billion which was \$71.3 million more than during March of 2019. Eley cautioned Tennesseans, saying the collections, especially sales tax revenue, represented February, not March. "The monthly report clearly illustrates the inherent lag between reported tax receipts and that of actual economic activity, or lack thereof, which many Tennesseans are facing today." The February collections were robust and from a period when the economy in Tennessee and the nation were healthy, prior to the stay-at-home orders issued nationwide due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Most of the taxes collected by the State of Tennessee were running ahead of projections, including the gas tax, the tobacco tax, business tax, privilege tax, and the Hall Income Tax. Motor vehicle registration collections were down for the month of March, although fees collected for the year remained \$9.3 million ahead. Totalling up all the revenue

for an eight month period, Tennessee was \$605.7 million ahead of revenue projections. Excess revenues puts Tennessee's General Fund ahead of the budget by \$486.7 million. Four other funds utilized by the State of Tennessee are ahead of the budget by \$119 million.

Bill Lee, a successful businessman before being elected governor, anticipated a loss of revenue by the State of Tennessee with the advent of the coronavirus pandemic. An amendment was offered and adopted by the Tennessee General Assembly reducing the overall budget by almost \$154 million, although the budget recognized almost \$400 million in additional revenue would likely be collected.

Commissioner Eley cautioned the full impact of the COVID-19 virus would be felt by the state government. "The eventual impacts of COVID-19 on tax revenues are unavoidable and will begin to appear in the coming months. We will closely monitor our tax receipts during this time and remain committed to balancing the state's budget in a responsible manner during this extraordinary national economic downturn."

In an effort to get things moving again in Tennessee, Governor Bill Lee recently announced he would not be renewing the stay-at-home order, which is set to expire on April 30.

County seeking solutions to overwhelming testing response

Cont. from page 1

week has yet to be determined.

Department Director Dr. Martha Buchanan told the Knox Work Session of the Knox County Commission Tuesday evening that about 100 local residents were expected but more than 400 showed up on the first day. She urged those citizens who were able to be tested to remain in isolation or quarantine until their results came back.

Buchanan said the county is picking up the cost of the tests and results until funding arrives from FEMA. Later in the meeting Dwight Van de Vate, director of community development, told the commissioners that

the county is asking for \$710,097 in relief from the federal government for its COVID-19 efforts.

Tennessee Governor Bill Lee announced last week that his "Safer At Home" program was being lifted as of May 1st, that state parks are re-opening, and that most businesses will be permitted to operate. That applies to all state counties except the larger counties, including Knox, where the mayors and health departments will develop their own recovery plans.

Mayor Glenn Jacobs and Indya Kincannon have indicated a gradual opening of local businesses and services based on health department

recommendations.

OTHER COMMISSION BUSINESS

In a related resolution the commission discussed hiring Ernst & Young LLP to provide professional services under the Emergency Program Management Support Services to deal with the federal government in COVID-19 funds. The consulting agreement would last 180 days with two 30-day options.

"They help to maximize the FEMA funds. We thought it would be of benefit for the county," Finance Director Chris Caldwell told the commissioners.

Mayors respond to Gov. Lee's easing of restrictions

By Mike Steely

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Both Knox County Mayor Glenn Jacobs and Knoxville Mayor Indya Kincannon responded to Tennessee Governor Bill Lee's easing of restrictions last week.

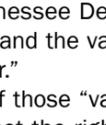
Jacobs said, "I agree with Gov. Lee's decision to end the Safer at Home Order on April 30 and am pleased he has said that some businesses will be able to open as early as next Monday."

"I look forward to working with the State to develop a plan for Knox County that gets people back to work as safely and quickly as possible," he added. "As of today, Knox County has 28 active cases. Our case trend line has remained flat over the past week

and our recoveries are increasing. Hospitals in our region are just over fifty percent occupied, and thanks to the efforts of our local health departments, hospitals and TEMA, we are well positioned to accommodate an increase in COVID-19 patients should there be an unexpected increase in the trend line."

During the Knoxville City Council meeting Tuesday Mayor Kincannon said, "I'm a little worried about lifting restrictions. People will drop their guard. We're working with Dr. Buchannan to make sure we have a plan that will work."

While the county mayor has announced some layoffs of county employees, the city mayor said Tuesday that the city plans no furloughs of employees.


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Publisher's Positions

Adapting to the Coronavirus

School System Must Begin to Prepare Now



By Steve Hunley, Publisher
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Bob Thomas, superintendent of the Knox County School system, was recently interviewed by another media outlet and stated plainly, "We weren't prepared" for the coronavirus. Nobody was, nor could they be.

As I said in a recent editorial, our governments, at every level, and our society, will have to have on-going conversations about changes wrought by the arrival of the

coronavirus. If it is true, as many experts suspect, that the fall may bring a renewal of the virus, then it is vitally important school systems around the country, and here in Knox County, begin having a conversation about what steps to take. That becomes especially important if our school system has to shut down for a couple of weeks or a month in the fall to halt the spread of the virus.

The coronavirus has certainly made itself felt and will continue to do so. Not only has it left fatalities in its wake, but also financial hardship and ruin. As this is being written, there are over thirty million Americans who are out of work because of the shutdown to curb the spread of the virus. Small businesses have been really hard hit and local governments,

like everybody else, are doing their best to find a way to return to sound footing. Mayor Glenn Jacobs has initiated furloughs for numerous county employees, but let us not forget the biggest slice of pie in Knox County is the school system and the sheriff's department. Between them, the school system and the sheriff's department represent somewhere between 75-85% of the county's entire budget. The school system spends local, state and federal tax dollars amounting to over half a billion dollars. Jacobs is going to have a mighty hard time balancing the budget on the backs of everybody else without the cooperation of the school system and the sheriff's department.

Presently, Superintendent Thomas is exploring a variety of ways to

balance his budget. The shutdown of the economy, to the surprise of no one except perhaps for a few economic illiterates and empty-headed socialists, will cause some very hard choices to be made. These hard choices are going to exact a toll and it will likely be fearsome.

There is apparently a hole blown in Davidson County's budget in excess of \$200 million. The mayor of Memphis says unless there is some federal intervention, their budget situation will be "catastrophic." There will be similar problems in most or all Tennessee counties. Still, there are those who are tone deaf.

Currently it seems to me the school system has two really important tasks: formulate a reasonable budget and come up with a sound distance learning

program to deploy in the event schools have to be closed again in the fall due to another serious outbreak of the coronavirus.

That should be very much on the minds of responsible board members. Students and their parents have already seen several rites of passage into adulthood disappear like mist in the morning sun; families watching a young man or woman accept his or her diploma probably won't happen this year. There will be no proms as long as we have social distancing. Several school principals took it upon themselves, before grasping the seriousness of the virus, to announce there would most certainly be graduation ceremonies where they would personally hand out diplomas and of course there would be proms

for all to enjoy. The fact that principals would arbitrarily make public announcements to that effect should not have happened without the central office's approval.

What we do know is this: in the fall the coronavirus won't be new to a single soul. The board of education and the superintendent won't have any acceptable excuses to make if they fail to adopt a program anticipating a fall closure of school while still continuing to deliver educational services. The school system has done a remarkable job of feeding youngsters during the pandemic, yet their primary mission is educating youngsters. Knox Countians will be waiting for an answer to the question: are you prepared for what might be coming?

An Attack on Democracy

By Steve Hunley, Publisher
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The actions of Tennessee Democratic State Executive Committee to remove State Representative John DeBerry from the ballot are more reminiscent of something that happens in a totalitarian government and not the United States of America.

John DeBerry had been elected no less than thirteen times by the people he represented and was one of the longest serving elected Democrats in the State of Tennessee before the Democratic State Executive Committee decided to remove his name from the August primary ballot. Nor had DeBerry done anything to be legitimately removed from the ballot. DeBerry had followed every iota of state law in filing his petition and had duly been qualified

to run for reelection when the Democratic State Executive Committee arbitrarily decided in what was apparently a closed-door meeting, to remove John DeBerry from the ballot.

Clearly, John DeBerry would have been just about impossible to beat at the ballot box, so instead these folks - - - the same people who spend so much time flapping their gums about "diversity" and "compassion," not to mention a "big tent" for party members - - - booted out an African-American representative, an ordained minister and civil rights leader, who routinely won 60 - 70% of the votes cast inside his party's primary. For a party whose members routinely sling charges of "Nazism" and "dictatorship," this is one of the most abjectly un-democratic actions that has occurred in my lifetime. It is worthy of

the old Soviet Politburo and it is now a statement of absolute, indisputable fact no person in Tennessee wishing to run as a Democrat can take a pro-life stance. Rather than diversity, the Tennessee Democratic State Executive Committee has taken a position of ideological purity and rigidity. A Tennessee Democrat cannot support a heartbeat bill; there is no heart at all involved in what the Tennessee Democratic State Executive Committee calls "women's health." There is not a speck of compassion for unborn lives and we've all read about other states approving legislation where babies can be killed right up until the moment of birth. Yet the head of Planned Parenthood has the temerity to refer to Reverend DeBerry as an "extremist."

Like John DeBerry,

two other Democrats in the Tennessee House of Representatives, John Mark Windle and Joe Towns, are probably going to be targeted for removal by state Democratic officials. The thing which likely separates DeBerry from Windle and Towns is his vote on behalf of Governor Bill Lee's voucher bill. DeBerry also voted to give his people an additional choice when he supported school vouchers, which have been popular in many African-American communities, but that was a vote that infuriated the teachers' unions and their minions. Even here in Knox County we have candidates running for the legislature solely to support the teachers' union.

Too many Democrats, Joe Biden included, are being driven to the far left by the griping,

moaning and wailing of a group of derelicts, socialists, and plain bums who are unhappy because Bernie Sanders didn't prove to be the popular choice of most Democrats. If Joe Biden wants to run in the general election as "Bernie Light," that is his choice, but it seems a poor strategy for those who claim national Democrats have wisely turned their backs on socialism.

The actions taken by the Tennessee Democratic State Executive Committee are shameful, disgraceful

and down right un-American. There is no oasis of diversity in the Democratic Party; only a rigidity of thought and dissent will not be tolerated. When a handful of party bosses has overturned the express will of the people, started selecting who meets their own putrid tests of ideological party purity, then Democracy has started to die. If the people allow them to get away with it, Democracy will have died altogether.

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Mac Goodwin is remembered

By Mike Steely
Senior Writer
steelym@knoxfocus.com

Conrad "Mac" Goodwin, a past president of Town Hall East (2012-2014) and an inspiration to many in the immediate community and beyond, died on April 3 at his home on Westover Drive. Goodwin was an author and a retired archaeologist. He earned a PhD in historical archaeology from Boston University and has worked professionally along the U.S. east coast, in the Caribbean, and in the Pacific. As well as being active in Town Hall East, Goodwin was involved with the French Broad Preservation Association, Slow Food Tennessee Valley, the Slovenian Consulate for Tennessee, and was an adviser to Native Plant

Rescue Squad. Goodwin served on the planning commission where his main interests involved smart growth, a livable city, solar energy, and climate change issues.

The Focus would like to share this post from the Holston Hills Facebook site that was written by Judy Powell Roy.

"For those that don't know, I am sad to say that Mac Goodwin passed away late last night from a rare aggressive form of cancer. He was surrounded by his wife, Lydia; stepson, Alex, and daughter-in-law, Sheleagh; as well as close friends, Tyler and Maja Roy. Unfortunately, relatives from out of town were not able to be here due to the situation in our world.

"Mac was a pillar in our

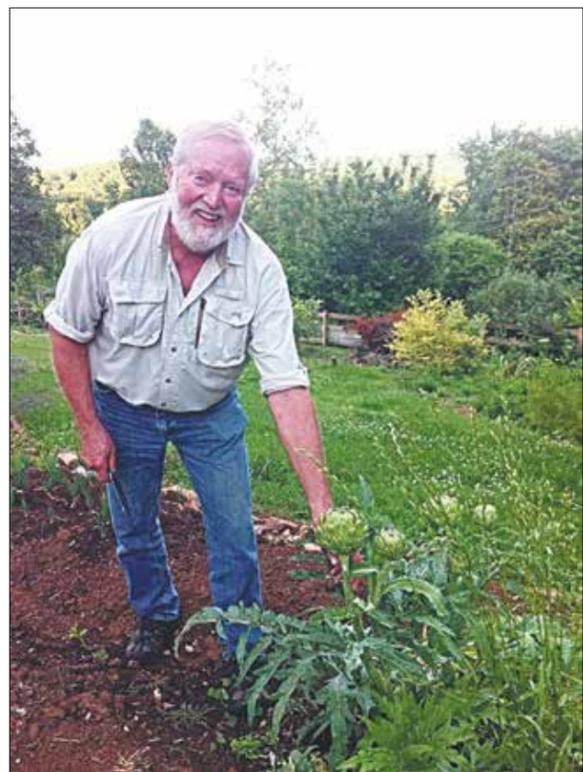
community. He served many years on Town Hall East and was a past president. He was also a member of MPC appointed by the Mayor. He wrote college geography books with Lydia and Alex.

"Mac was truly a Renaissance Man, an activist with a kind, loving heart and a giver in so many ways. Mac loved to entertain and often had pizza parties at his home, cooking in his outdoor wood-fired pizza oven. He welcomed so many people to his home, his life and into his heart.

"He loved music, gardening, and people. He was involved with the Slow Foods Group and had friends of all ages, and nationalities. He and Lydia, with their generosity would frequently open

their homes to many. They loved to empower and support so many young individuals with their passion and goals. It was not uncommon to see students and musicians stay at their home from across the country and even from overseas for months at a time. That's how Tyler, my son, met his wife, Maja. She was a guest of Mac and Lydia's visiting from Slovenia. They also created an official Slovenian Consulate at their home.

"He would always welcome you with fresh food from his garden or a glass of wine and a smile. He loved to share his fresh figs, flowers and goodies from their massive garden. He was such a sweetheart and a dear man. I will miss my dear friend as I know many will.



Mac Goodwin in his garden.

"There is going to be a shrine that a friend of his is setting up at the end

of their driveway where people can leave a note or memory of Mac."

Class of 2020

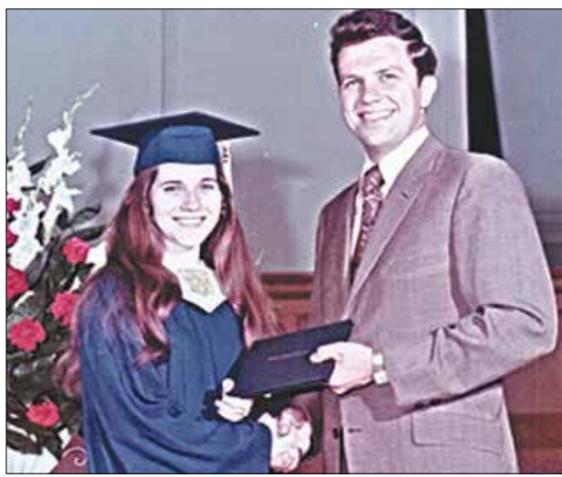
By Ralphine Major
ralphine3@yahoo.com

It is the only picture of me wearing cap and gown for high school graduation. I had forgotten that then Gibbs High School assistant principal Roy Mullins handed out our diplomas because our principal, Max Clendenen, had suffered a stroke.

Clendenen was our father's agriculture teacher at Gibbs before becoming principal, and our father thought the world of him. Beth Donahue recalled those details I had long forgotten.

No wonder Beth remembered. Her mother was a beloved teacher at Gibbs for many years, and her family attended church with Mr. Clendenen's family in the Corryton community. Mr. Clendenen was unable to return to work ever again.

When our class graduated in 1972, none of us could have ever imagined how special it was to participate in a graduation ceremony. Neither could we have imagined that one



Picture of Ralphine Major and then Assistant Principal Roy Mullins, photo by the late Ron Warwick.

day a world-wide pandemic would interrupt high school graduations and so much more!

Because of the coronavirus pandemic, graduations that were originally scheduled for May have been shifted to June or July if no further outbreaks occur. Administrators are trying to modify plans to accommodate graduates and their guests while practicing social distancing guidelines. This unprecedented event in the lives of 2020 graduates will,

undoubtedly, make them stronger for having gone through such a horrendous ordeal.

Hopefully, some type of ceremony acknowledging graduates receiving high school diplomas can take place so they, too, can have their moment to remember. Congratulations 2020 Graduates! God bless you all!

Words of faith: "I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust." Psalm 91:2 (KJV).

What Is a Counter-Complaint?

When someone comes to see me who has been sued, they will often tell me about the terrible things that the other side has done to them. When they are telling me these things, I will consider whether the person has grounds for a Counter-Complaint, which is the name for a lawsuit filed back against the person suing you.

In order to be efficient, and so the court does not have to hear the same matter twice, the court hears the Complaint (the original lawsuit) and Counter-Complaint at the same time.

The way I try to describe a Counter-Complaint to people is, if you are just defending a lawsuit and you have no basis to sue the person suing you, then you file an Answer. An Answer is your shield, and we use it to defend it against the allegations they are making against you.

However, if there is a real basis for a lawsuit



By Jedidiah McKeehan
attorneyknoxville@gmail.com

back against the person who sued you, then we would file an Answer and Counter-Complaint. When we file that, not only do we have a shield to defend against what they are saying, but we also have a sword to hit them back and try to recover damages of our own against them.

The perfect example of this is a divorce case. When someone sues for divorce, the other person can file an Answer saying, "hey, I am not this terrible person that they claim that I am." However, unless a Counter-Complaint is filed, all you can do is defend against the bad things they say about you. You are not legally allowed to say anything about the other person. To go back to my analogy, you can use a shield, but you have no sword to swing back at them.

In lots of cases, there is no basis for a Counter-Complaint. If you are being sued for a credit card debt or in a personal injury case where the wreck was

clearly your fault, there is probably no basis for you filing Counter-Complaint. However, it is always a good idea to discuss with your attorney the possibility of filing a Counter-Complaint if you feel that you are owed anything from the person who has sued you.

When you file a Counter-Complaint, the person who filed the initial Complaint will need to file an Answer responding to the allegations of the Counter-Complaint.

Once this is done, if the matter proceeds to trial, the judge will make a ruling on who is entitled to what based upon whether the evidence presented supports the Complaint, the Counter-Complaint or whether the evidence falls somewhere in the middle.

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

Let's not

Party
Meet up
Bro-hug
Defy

Let's

Stay put
Binge watch
Video-happy-hour
Save lives

Visit [coronavirus.gov](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus) for the latest tips and information from the CDC.

#AloneTogether

Study of recycle fire area approved by city council

Cont. from page 1
application by the mayor to the federal government for \$300,000 to fund 400 body cameras for the police department. If approved the city will kick in a like amount in matching funds.

Another grant request for \$349,956 to the U. S. Department of Justice was also approved, with no local match. The funds would be used for the Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding Program to assist the city in preventing, preparing for and responding to the pandemic.

The mayor was also authorized to apply for state funding of \$33,000 to provide safety enforcement and purchase supplies in the bicycle and pedestrian safety campaigns.

Ijams Nature Center

was given \$41,000 for trash and debris removal between Forks of the River and the end of Sequoyah Park. The annual funding was requested by the Public Service Department.

Councilman Andrew Roberto and Councilwoman Lauren Rider introduced two ordinances, both originally to place a 120-day moratorium on signage in industrial zone areas. Roberto told the council that only 90 days is needed. The emergency order stops any additional signs in those areas and then requires a review by the Board of Zoning Appeals.

In other business, Next Step Initiative was granted \$1,000 to support children and families from Montgomery Village; the Girls in STEM

program received \$6,000; East Tennessee Freedom Schools summer program was given \$10,000; Penult Leadership Development got \$15,000; and the city's One Year Plan recommended by the Planning Commission was approved.

Amelia Parker was the only "No" vote on adopting an amendment to the Operating and Capital Budget for the current year. Within that motion is about \$700,000 as the city's contribution to Zoo Knoxville for recovering from the COVID-19 Pandemic.

An empty lot at 2811 Merchant Drive was rezoned from residential to Office on a request from Bob Alcorn Architects and it was recommended in an 11-0 vote by the Planning Commission.

Tennessee Governors & the Path to the US Senate, XII

Pages from the Past



By Ray Hill
rayhill865@gmail.com

Senator Luke Lea was so unpopular with his fellow Democrats, the party machinery moved up the election for the Democratic nomination to November of 1915, a full year in advance of the regular general election in 1916. For the first and only time, the election in November would be followed by another in December featuring a runoff between the two top vote getters. Lea, bolstered by his ownership of the Nashville Tennessean and his incumbency, was determined to run. Former governor Malcolm Rice Patterson, as polarizing a figure inside Tennessee's Democratic party as his personal enemy and rival Luke Lea, entered the contest, along with the congressman from Tennessee's Tenth District, which was comprised of Shelby County, and a few surrounding counties in West Tennessee. That young congressman was Kenneth D. McKellar, who had first been elected in a 1911 special election following the death of George Washington Gordon, a former Confederate general.

In 1913, Malcolm Patterson abandoned his opposition to temperance; in fact, he changed his completion completely and became a popular speaker against the evils of alcohol. There were tens of thousands who were skeptical about the former governor's supposed change of heart, but considering the tragedies that had befallen Patterson and his family, it is quite possible his conversion was genuine. Malcolm Patterson had been married three times; he married Sarah Johnson in 1885 and they had three children together before she died. In 1903, Patterson married Sybil Hodges and their union produced one child before Mrs. Patterson's untimely death. Malcolm Patterson became only the second Tennessee governor to marry while in office. His third wife, Mary Russell Gardner, married the governor in 1907, just shortly after Patterson had been inaugurated. Despite Malcolm Patterson being forty-six years old, he and his wife had two children together.

In February of 1915, Patterson paid a call on Governor Tom C. Rye while in Nashville. Officially, Patterson was on a speaking tour on behalf of the Anti-Saloon League. Leaving the governor's office, Patterson confidently predicted it was only a matter of time before "strong drink" could be had without a prescription from "a reputable licensed physician." Patterson's tour had taken him all over the

country and provided him with a comfortable living.

The former governor spoke again in Nashville in April of 1915 at Ryman Auditorium and was introduced by the incumbent governor, Tom C. Rye. Rye's introduction was generous. "I have been requested, and I appreciate the honor, to introduce a man who in my judgment does anything he undertakes better than any other man," Rye said. "Where his standards wave there are always found behind them a splendid citizenship." The governor said he believed Patterson was "fighting for the homes of Tennessee." Patterson's banner on behalf of prohibition, according to Governor Rye was "second only to that unfurled by Jesus Christ among the olive-clad hills of Judea." "His cause will succeed," the governor declared, "because it ought to."

Patterson went through a long history of his political career and readily acknowledged his own opposition to the prohibition cause. Patterson demolished his own former arguments and noted there were "only" 300 saloons left in Nashville. "These may expect to go at the next Congress, and we can then look the Czar of Russia in the face," Patterson thundered. "If Tennessee and Memphis and I could go dry, you may expect anything to happen." Patterson cheerfully admitted one of the charges made by his political opponents. "Some men have said I am not consistent, and I know it, but the number who say I am not sincere is less than formerly."

Patterson, in turn, praised Rye for the governor's strong stand in favor of prohibition and enforcing the laws.

By the summer of 1915, politics began to heat up and "friends" of the former governor indicated in June Patterson would seek the Democratic nomination and oppose Senator Luke Lea. When asked if he would become a candidate for the U. S. Senate, Patterson did not issue a denial. "The time is too far away for me to say anything definite," the former governor replied. Patterson seemed to be waiting for Congressman Thetus W. Sims to make an announcement whether he would run for the Senate or not; Sims badly wanted to run. A bloated man with a bushy mustache and overstated sense of his own dignity as a congressman, Sims had been in the House of Representatives since 1896 and felt he deserved a promotion to the Senate based on longevity. Like an



Governor Malcolm Rice Patterson of Tennessee, circa 1910

old bull, Thetus Sims pawed at the ground, shook his head angrily and bellowed occasionally, but did little of substance to promote his own candidacy. Unlike the past, Malcolm Patterson was more cautious in his approach to the senatorial campaign. In August, he met with friends and supporters in Nashville at the Maxwell House. Approached by reporters from Luke Lea's Tennesseean and the Nashville American about his political plans, the former governor barked, "I have no statement to make tonight." The press, despite Patterson's comments, thought an announcement of his candidacy was imminent.

Shortly after Patterson's arrival at the Maxwell House, Congressman K. D. McKellar set up shop at the same hotel. Along with Patterson and McKellar, Congressman Cordell Hull was a resident of the hotel for a few days; the Maxwell House remained a hotbed of political activity with each prospective candidate receiving a steady stream of callers. Naturally, Luke Lea's Tennesseean kept a close eye on each potential candidate against the senator. The Tennesseean reported one close friend bluntly asked former governor Patterson if he was going to run for the U. S. Senate. "The people seem to expect it," Patterson replied. "Watch the papers about Tuesday morning." The Tennesseean, doubtless reflecting the personal opinion of Senator Lea, opined several prospective candidates had abandoned their plans to run for the Senate with Patterson's increasing interest in making the race. The Tennesseean seemed to think an official announcement of candidacy by former governor Patterson might well clear the field. That ignored the fact Congressman McKellar had already announced his own candidacy for the senatorial nomination. It would become increasingly clear with passing weeks

neither Senator Lea nor the Tennesseean thought McKellar would be a factor in the campaign. The Bristol Herald-Courier seemed to reinforce that belief, editorializing a declaration of candidacy by Malcolm Patterson made it highly unlikely McKellar could beat both the former governor and Senator Lea for the nomination.

Malcolm Patterson made his candidacy official on September 2, 1915. He would be an active candidate for the Democratic nomination for United States senator in the November primary. Patterson outlined his platform and perhaps anticipating yet another bitter campaign, said his own would "be free of personalities", as he wished to go before the people and keep the contest on "a high plane." It was quite clear immediately whatever Malcolm Patterson might wish, the campaign would not be devoid of personalities. Luke Lea's Tennesseean published a political cartoon of a cat bearing Patterson's face standing on a porch, before a door labeled "Public Life" and looking over his shoulder to see a can entitled, "His Record", tied to his tail. For those who might not readily recognize the former governor's face, the cartoonist had helpfully written "Ham" on the hapless cat.

Almost immediately after announcing his candidacy, former governor Malcolm Patterson left the campaign trail as his son had to undergo a "dangerous operation." If Patterson believed the senatorial race would be waged without comment on personalities, Tennessee newspapers dredged up his public record. The Lexington Progress issued a scathing editorial, snarling, "After having betrayed every friend except Duncan Cooper and violated every pledge except to satisfy his own lust for office, he now asks the people of the state to receive and trust

him as a reconstructed and reformed man." The Progress attributed Patterson's change on the temperance question to the fact the liquor lobby's "money ran out" and charged the former governor as "the rankest and boldest kind of hypocrite" who was "audacious and insolvent in his methods." The Lexington Progress concluded by saying, "...at least Patterson is Patterson, whether he is sounding the depths and shoals of dishonor or riding the wave of respectability..."

Despite the campaigns of Congressmen McKellar and Sims, the Brownsville State-Graphic huffed the senatorial contest came down to Senator Lea and former governor Patterson. "The other two might as well be put in 100 to 1 class right now." The Trenton Herald-Democrat thought as the candidates were all Democrats and held many of the same views on issues, "Thus the matter decidedly hinges on 'personalities'."

With the first primary a month away, the senatorial campaign heated up in October. Luke Lea's Tennesseean shamelessly promoted the senator's candidacy, while gleefully publishing any scrap of a story that might be detrimental to his opponents. Congressman Thetus Sims, bitterly lamenting he had been in Congress far longer than Kenneth McKellar, withdrew from the race. The Tennesseean thought there was an exodus from the McKellar camp to that of Malcolm Patterson. The Tennesseean speculated Congressman Cordell Hull, who it believed was backing McKellar, had switched his allegiance to Patterson. The Tennesseean noted Hull had dined with Patterson and had enjoyed coffee with the former governor in the Maxwell House Hotel.

McKellar campaigned relentlessly, stressing a theme neither Luke Lea nor Malcolm Patterson could argue with; the Memphis congressman pounded

home the notion only he could run in the 1916 general election as the nominee of a united party. Both Lea and Patterson were highly controversial and the Republicans were fielding their strongest candidate: former governor Ben W. Hooper. It was a powerful argument for many Tennessee Democrats, as Hopper had twice been elected governor and the nomination of either Lea or Patterson would likely bolster Hooper's campaign. Lea and Patterson concentrated their verbal barrages on one another, largely ignoring McKellar. Neither realized until too late the Memphis congressman's campaign for the nomination was taking hold with voters. The results of the first primary stunned just about everybody.

Congressman K. D. McKellar ran first, carrying East and West Tennessee; former governor Malcolm Patterson carried Middle Tennessee, while Senator Luke Lea ran third. Lea, in spite of owning the Nashville Tennesseean, ran behind Patterson in his native Middle Tennessee. Patterson and McKellar would face one another again in the December runoff election. Lea, who had been elected to the Senate by the fusionist movement had difficulty in denying his own record as much as Malcolm Patterson could not escape his record as governor. An even greater tragedy befell Malcolm Patterson as the election approached when his son, Malcolm, died. Both McKellar and Senator Lea canceled their speaking engagements out of respect for the Patterson family. Evidently young Patterson had never fully recovered from his earlier surgery.

As the election returns trickled in, McKellar led Patterson by a vote of 41,416 to 39,069. Luke Lea trailed with 32,348. Patterson had run third in East Tennessee, behind second-place finisher Luke Lea. McKellar carried Hamilton and Knox counties, while Patterson carried Luke Lea's home county of Davidson. Both McKellar and Patterson lived in Shelby County, but McKellar won it overwhelmingly.

The run-off election was almost anti-climactic. Congressman McKellar decisively defeated former governor Malcolm Patterson. McKellar swept every grand division of the state, winning East, Middle and West Tennessee. Patterson's best showing came once again in Middle Tennessee, which he lost narrowly to McKellar. The Memphis congressman ran even better in East and West Tennessee, running ahead of the governor two-to-one.

Malcolm Patterson's quest for elective office and vindication had fallen short, but he was not done with politics.

Getting to know

Charles Lomax Jr.

By Mike Steely
Senior Writer
steelym@knoxfocus.com

Charles Lomax Jr. has an uplifting manner and a professional friendliness that's commendable. The Knoxville native who has both a master of divinity degree and a doctor of ministry degree is now serving as Knoxville's director of community empowerment.

As the director he handles relations between the city and various departments and organizations. He oversees the Police Advisory and Review Committee, the Save our Sons program, Title VI and the Office of Neighborhoods.

The Knoxville Focus, always interested in sharing information beyond a person's public image, asked Lomax several questions.

How is your position working for you?

I absolutely love what I have the opportunity to do day in and day out. I never would have foreseen myself being in this role a year ago while I was running for city council, but it is a privilege to serve the people of Knoxville and at the pleasure of Mayor Kincaid.

I have an amazing team of employees that work diligently to make Knoxville a better place and their passion is contagious. It also helps that my two predecessors, Avice Evans Reid and Thomas "Tank" Strickland, are on speed dial and still answer my phone calls.

Tell us a bit about your family, where you were born, etc.

I was born here in Knoxville at UT Hospital in

1982. I'm an only child and my parents and I lived with my maternal grandmother in East Knoxville until the early 1990s when we moved to West Knoxville. Currently I live in North Knoxville and absolutely love my community. I moved to Georgia in 2007 to pursue my master's degree, but ultimately found my way back here. The majority of my family still calls Knoxville home.

What are your hopes for the city or county?

My hope for Knoxville is that our city would continue to thrive economically and that we would, with intentionality, embrace a true inclusive mindset creating a diversity of opportunity for everyone who calls Knoxville home. Additionally I hope that we begin to see and hear newer individuals

entering the political arena with an unlimited supply of energy and ideas.

What is your main hobby or interest in your private life?

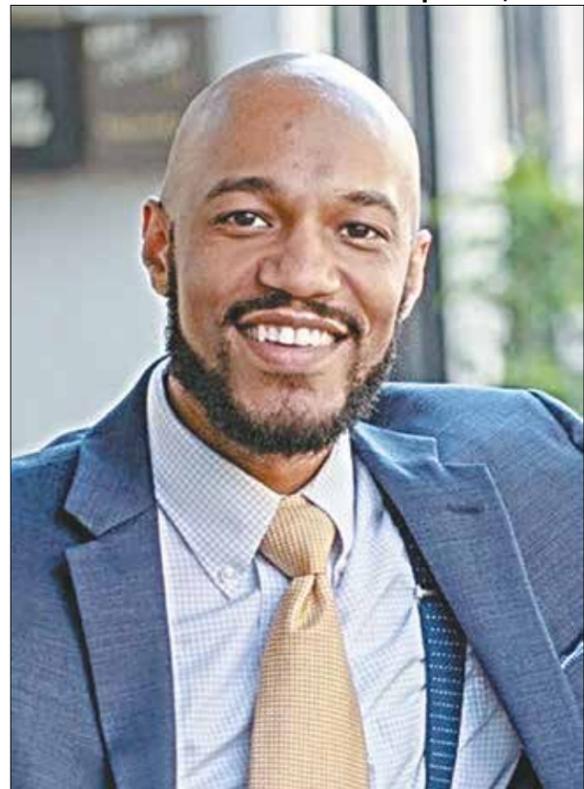
I enjoy watching sports and, of course, I'm a UT fan. I love music, listening and playing. I'm not particularly good at any of them but I play piano and organ, bass guitar, drums and the trumpet.

What do you see as your main accomplishments in life?

Earning my doctorate from the Candler School of Theology at Emory University in Atlanta is definitely near the top of my list, but I'm most proud of being able to serve as the pastor at St. John Missionary Baptist Church in Alcoa.

How do you think other people see you?

I hope they see me as



Charles Lomax, Jr., is a rising star in Knoxville politics. The minister is now Knoxville's Director of Community Empowerment.

kind, thoughtful and trustworthy.

If you had to do one thing over in your life what would that be?

That's a tough question.

Not base so many decisions on the perception or opinion of others. Life is too short not to be satisfied because you're too busy trying to satisfy others.

A-E grad working to make world 'healthier, cleaner and safer'

Cont. from page 1

customers to make the world healthier, cleaner and safer.

"Our effort to support the response to COVID-19 is a great example of this in practice. We are a supplier of COVID-19 test kits. We are a supplier of products to companies developing anti virals and vaccines to treat COVID-19. We also distribute PPE to first responders and medical personnel fighting COVID-19."

Sam Anderson, former Austin-East football coach, also recently pointed out Lowery, a Tennessee Tech graduate, has created scholarships for students that graduate and go to college.

"In short, I have endowed two scholarships at Tech," said Lowery. "One for a student from Austin-East and the other for a black male from the state of Tennessee. The A-E one is called the Lowery Award and the other one is the Chi Lambda Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Scholars Award."

"Both were funded five years ago with an initial endowment commitment of \$500K."



Fred Lowery, a Austin-East High graduate, speaks to a group of employees at a scheduled Town Hall event on a recent visit to the Thermo Fisher Scientific site in Auburn, AL.

Not a gentleman farmer

Since people have been stuck at home during this pandemic, they've increased the number of photos of their garden plants. Everything from iris to dandelions to tomato plants have appeared on



By Joe Rector
joerector@comcast.net

Facebook. A new group of "gentlemen" and "gentlewoman" farmers has arisen. Don't count on me to be one of them.

I am not a vegetable gardener. A couple of years ago, I did put some tomato plants out, just to see if they would grow. Other than that, tilling the soil, planting seeds, and reaping the bounty has never been a favorite activity for me. When we were kids, our parents put out huge gardens. The entire back lot was plowed and filled with all sorts of things: string beans, potatoes, corn, peppers, onions, tomatoes, and bunch beans. We even had rows of strawberries.

Jim and I had our jobs for the garden. We were to

go between rows and pull weeds. By the middle of the summer, the ground was as dry as a desert and as hard as concrete. We'd tug on the unwanted plants, and if we didn't get the roots out, Daddy would fuss. Instead of playing ball or riding bikes, we fried under the summer sun and "pulled weeds."

After beans were picked, we sat in the shade and broke them. Mother reminded us to get all the strings off, and we worked until our fingers were sore. She also cut corn from the cob, and one of us had to carry husks and cobs to the back of the yard for disposal. We swatted yellow jackets and bees that wanted some of the juices from the scraps.

Hearing the neighborhood rooster crow now reminds me of Daddy's decision to raise chickens. A building at the back of the yard was in place and he and Papaw Balch strung fence to keep

chickens in and other critters out. As best I remember, 100 chickens moved in, and the "nasty" began.

Oh sure, Mother gathered eggs every day. However, the area was filled with poop, and the Banty roosters attacked anyone who dared enter their turf. I remember running from the little devils and being pecked enough times to be scared to death of them. The chicken house had a layer of dried stuff on the floor that had to be scraped, and doing so filled the air was with dust, feathers, and an ammonia smell that choked anyone who was sent there to clean up the place.

Slowly, the chicken population thinned. Each Sunday, Daddy walked to the coop and chose a hen. He'd take it to the side yard and wring its neck, and after it ran around headless for a while, he'd hang it on the clothesline so the blood drained. We ran to the field where the head had been thrown and gawk at the look on its face.

We even had a couple of calves in the back yard a

few years later. An electric fence was erected, and the two animals grazed on grass, as well as feed and hay. We boys grew attached to the calves, something that should never happen. One day we came home, and they were gone. Daddy told us he traded them for their weight in meat. The freezer was stocked full of roast and hamburger, and even a few steaks. Little did we know that our meals were, in fact, the two calves we liked so much.

No, I'm not about to set out a garden or raise half a dozen chickens. Some might think it's cute, but I still have less than fond memories of those things. Playing in a garden is much different from depending upon one to feed a family. I'll just say prayers of thanks over foods that grace our table and which have come from farmers' markets or grocery stores. My energies will be directed to other activities.

Emerald Youth Launches 'Imagine. Pray. Give.' Campaign

Virtual fundraiser to take place of annual prayer breakfast

Over the past several weeks, Emerald Youth Foundation's leadership has been praying and seeking wisdom regarding the nonprofit's annual prayer breakfast originally scheduled for May 1.

As ministry operations continue remotely and city families are served in unique ways, the public's support is needed now more than ever. Rather than gathering in person for the prayer breakfast, Emerald Youth is launching its "Imagine. Pray. Give." campaign and invites the community's participation April 27 - May 1.

Imagine. Continue to imagine with Emerald Youth that Knoxville can be the best place for all children to grow up and experience the full life Christ intended. Emerald Youth believes Knoxville can rise up for its

most vulnerable and minister to the city's already isolated population.

Pray. Emerald Youth asks the public to pray that God's Kingdom come, and God's will be done, "in Knoxville" as it is in heaven. During these unprecedented times, pray for the vulnerable children and families Emerald serves, the Knoxville community at large, and the nation.

Give. The public's support is critical, and Emerald Youth asks the community to be a part of Kingdom work in Knoxville by giving to the ministry.

The "Imagine. Pray. Give." campaign will include a virtual prayer event Friday, May 1, at 8 a.m., on emerald youth.org and Emerald Youth's Facebook and Twitter platforms.

Donations can be made online now at emerald youth.org or mailed to: Emerald Youth Foundation, 1014 Heiskell Avenue, Knoxville, TN 37921.

Central's Gaston signs to run track for Tennessee Wesleyan

By Ken Lay

The coronavirus pandemic forced Braden Gaston to take a bit of a leap of faith.

And that has landed him on the track team at Tennessee Wesleyan University.

Gaston, a senior at Central High School, signed his National Letter of Intent to run hurdles and compete in the long jump for the Bulldogs.

Gaston, who also played football in Fountain City and was part of back-to-back Class 5A State Championship teams for the Bobcats in 2018 and 2019, signed to attend school in Athens on Monday, April 20.

But he never made a recruiting visit to the school. But he has faith in the Tennessee Wesleyan

coaching staff and a former Central High track and field teammate.

"I liked the coaches. They have a great vision for the program," said Gaston, who will enter college as an undeclared major. "I was being recruited as a hurdler but I will also compete in the long jump."

"I never made a visit down there but I figured I'd give it a try. I have a guy who was my teammate at Central last year, Trafton Garner, and he told me that it would be a good fit there and that I would enjoy the experience there."

Despite never making a visit to the school in Southeast Tennessee, Gaston said that he knew that the campus and class sizes were

small and that was a factor in his decision.

"I knew what it was all about down there," Gaston said.

He also noted that it will be nice to attend school relatively close to home.

"I was willing to go far away and this was a late decision that I made in the end," Gaston said. "This is my first year of college and it is close to home,"

Central, like all high schools in Knox County, makes an event of a college signing days, but due to current circumstances, Gaston's signing ceremony was a small one but that didn't temper his excitement.

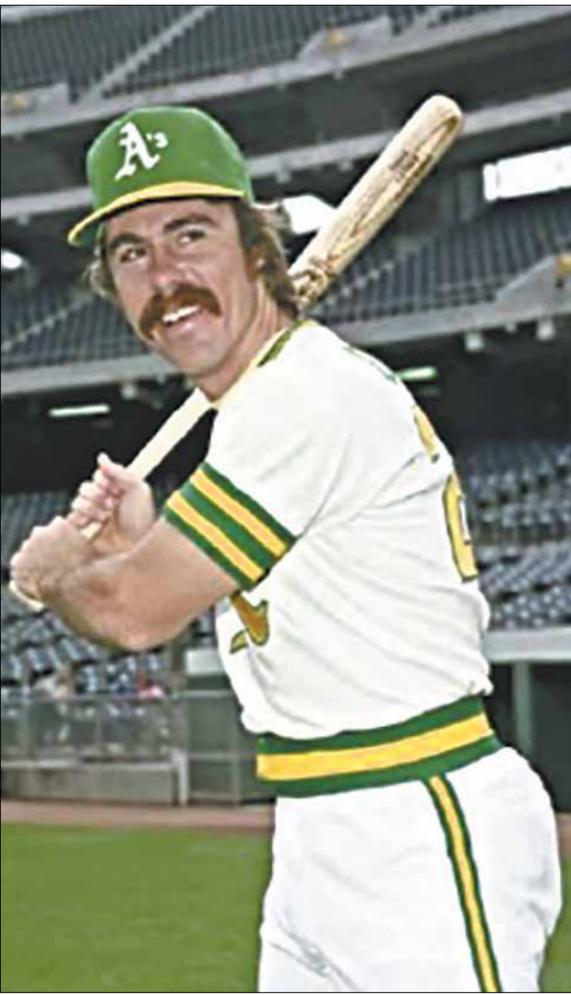
"I'm excited," he said. "This is a once-in-a-lifetime experience."



Central High School track athlete Braden Gaston signed his National Letter of Intent to compete for Tennessee Wesleyan last week. Pictured with Gaston is Bulldogs' track coach Sam Roberts. Photo submitted.

SPECIAL NAMES IN SPECIAL PLACES

'Scrap Iron' Phil Garner made Bearden proud



Bearden High product Phil Garner made his debut in the big leagues in the early 1970s with the Oakland Athletics.

By Steve Williams

Phil Garner grew up in the small town of Rutledge in Grainger County and with the high school there not having a football program in the mid-1960s; his dad moved the family to Knoxville to improve his son's chances of earning a college scholarship.

That move paid off big-time.

"My dad knew that I was a pretty good athlete and I wanted to play football," recalled Garner recently from his home in Woodlands, Tex. "We couldn't afford for me to go to college if I didn't get a scholarship or I was going to have to go to work to help pay for it. So dad moved us to Knoxville after my sophomore year at Rutledge, giving me the opportunity to play football and get more exposure in baseball."

Garner was Bearden's starting quarterback in 1965 and 1966 and also played some in the defensive secondary, but it was in baseball that he earned a scholarship to the University of Tennessee and eventually a long career as a player and manager in major league baseball.

In the big leagues pretty much from 1973 through 2007, Garner didn't have the opportunity to make many trips back to Bearden over the years, but his high school alma mater didn't forget him,

in fact it took great pride in his highly successful career and honored him by naming its baseball facility Phil Garner Ballpark.

"It was a really good feeling. I was flattered," said Garner.

Six years ago, Bearden added a bronze bust of Garner to the front of its baseball facility and Phil was at the Bearden game when they dedicated the bust. He also watched the Bulldogs play a game at Alcoa on that trip.

"It was very enjoyable," he said. "No, I don't think anybody recognized me. I've got gray hair now and a gray mustache."

"I don't look like I did in the baseball cards," he added, laughing.

At Tennessee, Garner, who played second and third base, was a two-time All-SEC selection, the 1969 NCAA home run champion and a 1970 All-American.

Garner came back to UT in the offseason and earned his degree in Business Administration in 1973 despite being a first-round draft pick of the Oakland Athletics in 1971. His jersey number 18 was retired by UT in 2009.

Phil was a three-time All-Star in the majors as he played for Oakland, Pittsburgh, Houston, Los Angeles and San Francisco. That included the 1979 World Series

SPECIAL NAMES IN SPECIAL PLACES

Bearden High School has 12 athletic facilities on campus that are named after people who have meant a lot to the Bulldogs and Lady Bulldogs sports programs.

This week the Focus recognizes: Phil Garner Ballpark (baseball) Jim Smelcher Athletic Complex Jim Bruner Practice Field Kim Hazelwood Field (softball) Jack Tate Field House and Hitting Facility (baseball) Heins Family Golf Facility

when he hit .500 (12-for-24) and helped lead the Pirates to the title.

Garner was known as "Scrap Iron" in his playing days and shared how that came about.

"There are two versions to that story. When I got traded to the Pirates from Oakland, Hall of Fame announcer Milo Hamilton interviewed Willie Stargell and asked him about me.

"Stargell answered, 'Well, he's a little feller and he's tough and he'll compete. He's like an old piece of scrap metal. You know, you can bend him and beat on him, but you can't break him. And Milo responded, 'Well, Scrap Iron then."

Continued on page 2

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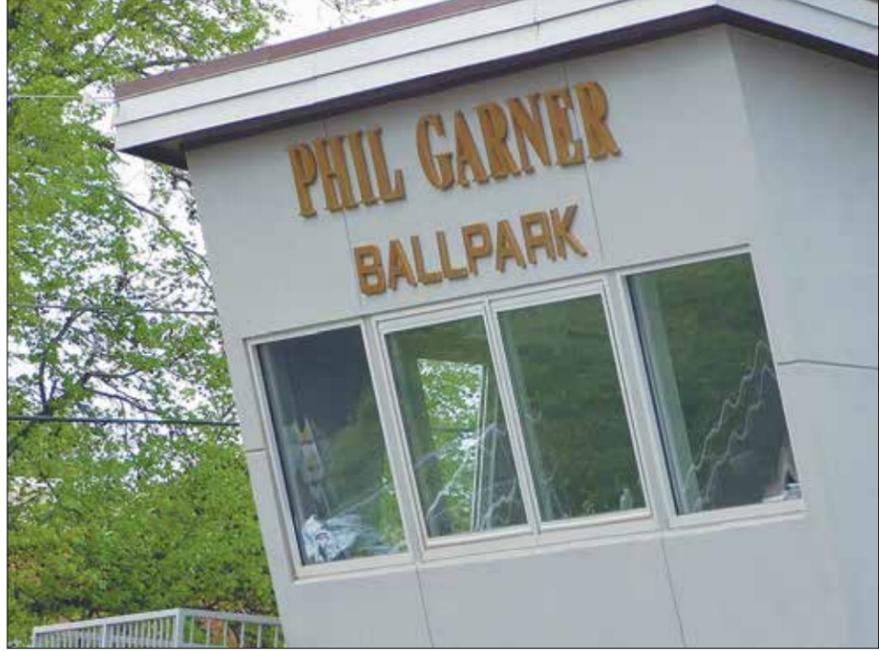
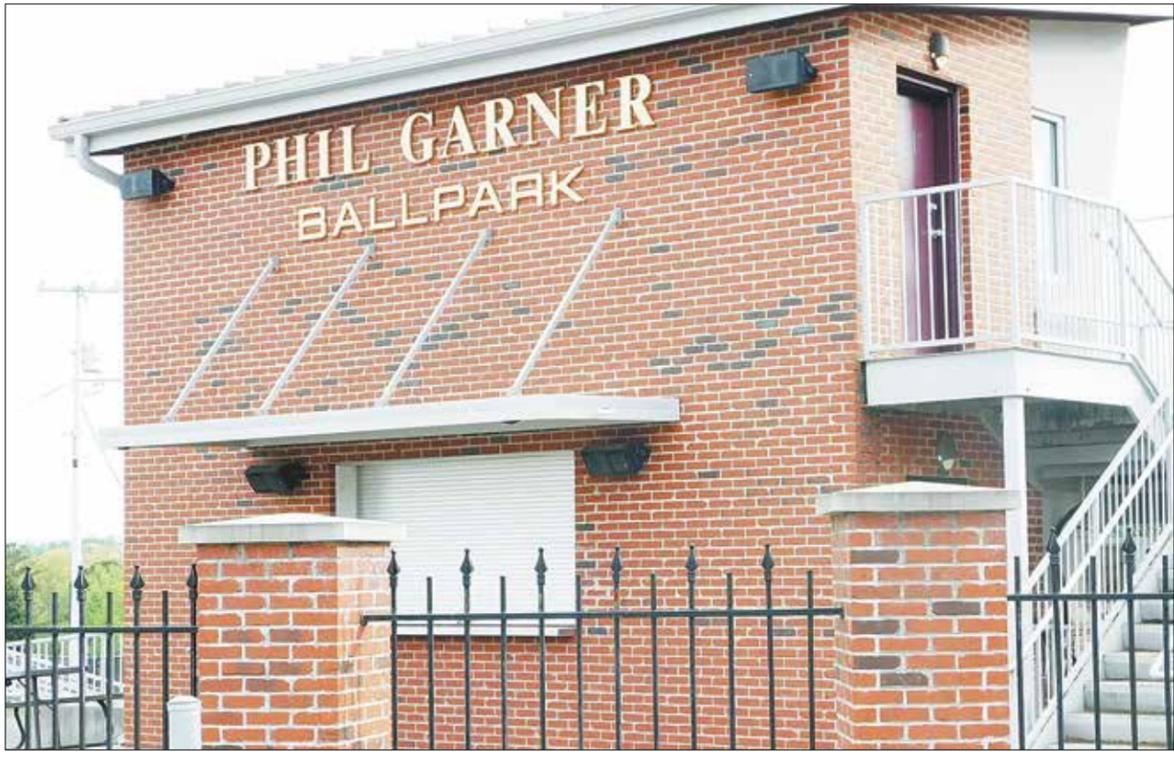
'Scrap Iron' Phil Garner made Bearden proud

Cont. from page 1

That's who he'll be.' "Milo started that moniker and of course the great Dave Parker I played with at Pittsburgh had another version," added Garner. "He said the reason they call me Scrap Iron is because every time the ball hit my glove, the ball sounded like it was hitting the lid of a garbage can. "Version one is a true story." Obviously, Parker and Garner liked to pick on each other. "Dave was 6-7 and a gift to the Planet Athlete and we had a wonderful five years together," said Garner. "But most of it, you would thought we were dead enemies because of the barbs that would go back and forth among us every day. Guys would come to clubhouse early just to listen and see what Dave and I were going to do. It was unbelievable. "Oh, yeah, I got my shots in. And thank God Dave was a gentle giant because he would have

killed me with one swipe of his big ole paws." Garner, who went on to manage Milwaukee (1992-99), Detroit (2000-02) and Houston (2004-07), now has a recreational ranch in Texas. "We have some hay meadows," he said. "We like to hunt and fish. There are several lakes on it, and it reminds me of East Tennessee with the rolling hills on it." Garner said he didn't always want to be a manager, but he kept his options open. "I started doing clinics and teaching kids. As I progressed in baseball, I thought I might want to be a general manager and the guy who ran the club in the business part of the game. "When I got closer to the end of my career, I realized I was going to have the opportunity to coach and then manage. I really felt like that was more of my calling."

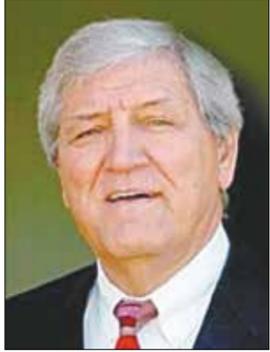
Phil Garner Field was renamed Phil Garner Ballpark in 2014 and a bronze bust of the former major league player and manager who played high school ball at Bearden made a nice addition to the BHS baseball facility. Phil Garner Ballpark is among a dozen athletic facilities on the campus. Photos by Steve Williams.



Smelcher served nine years as BHS football coach and AD

By Steve Williams

When an athletic complex to house the football program was built at Bearden, it was named the Jim Smelcher Athletic Complex after a recommendation by longtime BHS athletics donor Jim Bruner. Smelcher had been athletic director and head football coach at Bearden from 1964 until 1973. His overall record was 52-39-3. "We won the KIL championship three or four times and won the last Optimist Bowl that was played in 1968 (before the state playoffs and classification system)," recalled Smelcher recently. "Doyle was undefeated and we were 9-1." Bobby Gordon was Doyle's head coach and he and Smelcher had been teammates at Tennessee.



Jim Smelcher made his mark on Bearden athletics as a head football coach and AD before entering the insurance business.

"Bobby came down to the school on Wednesday the week before the game and said, 'Jim, I hate to tell you, but we're going to beat the hell out of you,' excuse my language," said Smelcher. "I said that's okay Bob. We're going to show up. "Anyway, we beat them bad. They only crossed the 50-yard line one time in the game."

In 1965 and 1966, Phil Garner was Smelcher's starting quarterback. "He was a heck of a competitor," said Jim. Smelcher was only 36 when he made a career change and left Bearden. "The reason I got out of coaching was I had four kids," he said. "I was one of the highest paid coaches in the state and making \$16,000. I was borrowing from Peter to pay Paul every year."

Jim was approached to enter the insurance business. "The first sell I made I made \$9,000," he said. "That was when I was still finishing my time at Bearden. I went to the principal and told him I was resigning." Smelcher was a two-time All-Stater at Lake City High and played offensive tackle and defensive guard at UT (1955-58). "Back then, you played all the time," he pointed out. Now 85, Smelcher continues to work in his insurance business, and still gets visits and calls from some of his former players, which he appreciates and enjoys.

JIM BRUNER PRACTICE FIELD

Jim Bruner played football and baseball at Bearden, graduating in 1967. He has been a very generous donor to athletic facilities at BHS. The Jim Bruner Practice Field was added to the campus in 2010. It borders the school's athletic complex and football field. In 2014, Bearden's baseball facilities underwent a major upgrade. With the help of the very

generous Bruner, Bearden constructed a brand new, state of the art press box and concessions facility, new bleachers and seating area, and a concourse unlike any other in high school baseball.

KIM HAZELWOOD FIELD

The Bearden High softball field is named after Kim Hazelwood. "Under her guidance, we got it going," said Mark Blevins, former Bearden softball coach and long-time boys basketball coach. For years, Bearden softball had been played at Rocky Hill Park. Hazelwood was the Boosters Club president and her daughter, Mary Beth, was an outstanding player on the team who later signed with East Tennessee State University. Hazelwood was instrumental in getting the softball field and lights on campus. "She was a real sweetheart and her husband was great," said Blevins. "Mary Beth was one of the best players we had in school history. "Kim did everything she could to get that field going."

Hazelwood also was a secretary in the guidance office.

JACK TATE FIELD HOUSE

Major renovations at Phil Garner Ballpark in 2014 included a new five-cage hitting facility attached to the right field fence that was named in honor of longtime Bulldogs baseball coach Jack Tate in 2017. The overall 2014 renovations have made Phil Garner Ballpark one of the finest high school facilities in the state. Tate coached baseball at Bearden for 35 years - three seasons as head coach and 32 seasons as an assistant. In 2012, Tate's Bulldogs were Class AAA state runners-up and 32-14 overall.

HEINS FAMILY GOLF FACILITY

The Bearden golf facility is named after Bearden grads Buddy and John Heins and their parents. Buddy graduated in 1978 and John in the mid-1980s. The on-campus golf facility includes putting greens and sand traps.

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Seven Carter student-athletes finalize college plans

By Ken Lay

The pandemic hasn't stopped area high school student-athletes from finalizing their college plans and seven from Carter High School officially committed recently.

Jordan Heifner and Evie DiPetro from the Lady Hornets basketball team, which won the Region 2-AA Championship in March, are now signed along with boys hoops star Ty Hurst.

Heifner will enroll at Bryan College in the fall while DiPetro will play for Furman. Hurst will head to UNC-Pembroke.

Football player Austin Ramsey will continue his athletic and academic endeavors at Union College.

Soccer player Isaac Hooks will move on to the University of the Cumberland in Williamsburg, Kentucky.

Softball player Hannah Branam will play at Columbia State Community College.

Annie Rimmer, a top area high school swimmer will stay in the Knoxville area and compete for the University of Tennessee.



The Carter Lady Hornets recently won the Region 2-AA Championship. Two players from that squad, Jordan Heifner (center, 13) and Evie DiPetro, recently signed National Letters of Intent to play in college. Heifner will attend Bryan College and DiPetro (1) will play for Furman.

Six Catholic High seniors finalize college plans

By Ken Lay

The COVID-19 pandemic recently caused the high school spring sports season to be cancelled and it's also caused other school activities to stop.

Among the casualties are traditional signing ceremonies. But student-athletes are still finalizing their respective college plans.

Six athletes from Knoxville Catholic High School have officially chosen where they will continue their academic and athletic endeavors in the fall.

Among the Irish and Lady Irish athletes to finalize their college plans are two baseball players, a girls soccer player, who help Catholic advance to the State Final Four in Murfreesboro last fall, a football player, a tennis player and a lacrosse player for the Lady Irish.

Baseball players Nick Harpst and Major Hollin announced their decisions and both will remain relatively close to home.

Harpst will play at Walters State Community College while Hollin will play at Maryville College in the spring of 2021.

Lady Irish soccer player Annalise Weedman has signed with Centre College.

Davis Clem, a tennis player for the Irish, will attend Savannah College of Art and Design in Georgia.

Catholic's Anika Van Buskirk will play lacrosse at Erskine College in Due West, South Carolina.

Football player Cody Duncan will head to Blacksburg to play football at Virginia Tech. He will enter the tradition-rich Hokies' program as a preferred walk-on.

Ijams Offers Online Options for At-Home Fun, Learning

If you're looking for fun things to learn or do while you're at home, Ijams Nature Center is here to help.

While the Ijams Visitor Center has closed and all programs have been canceled in response to COVID-19, the staff continues to share educational resources and information to educate, inform and inspire.

The nature center has launched a new Ijams E-Learning Station on its website. The new page features a variety of scavenger

hunts for kids, tips on composting or creating pollinator gardens, and more.

"A lot of things are uncertain right now, but Ijams Nature Center is here for you," Ijams Executive Director Amber Parker said. "While we can't be together in person, we still can connect as a community and share the wonders of the natural world."

Ijams will continue to add new information to the page, located at <https://www.ijams.org/ijams-e-learning>.

The staff also is sharing ways to engage with and learn about nature on Ijams' Facebook (@ijamsnaturecenter) and Instagram (@ijamsnaturecenter) pages.

"Nature is amazing, and technology is a great way to share it," Parker said. "The staff has been working on short videos to teach people about invasive species removal, share river cleanup triumphs, and inspire the artist in everyone."

"You'll find posts about fungi, frogs and flowers, and

we hope followers will share what they discover too," she said. "Inspiration awaits us in the nature of this moment. Let's experience it together."

With no program or event revenue for the foreseeable future, Parker said the nature center would appreciate donations of any amount to help bridge the gap.

"Several people already have donated to help during this pandemic, and that means the world," Parker said. "The staff is working **Continued on page 4**



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Despite circumstances, lessons from athletic participation endure

Column by Karissa Niehoff, Executive Director of the National Federation of State High School Associations and Bernard Childress, Executive Director of the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association.

Have you ever wondered what life would be like without sports?

Now we know. And it isn't fun. No NCAA basketball tournament. No traditional Major League Baseball Opening Days. No professional basketball or hockey playoffs. No Little League or youth soccer. The Summer Olympics have been delayed for at least a year. And the list of community cancellations and postponements is nearly endless.

If you're a high school sports fan, the disappointment runs even deeper, and it strikes much closer to home. The interruption of school has played havoc with the spring sports season here in Tennessee. Months of expectation and intense training appear to have been wasted for hundreds of high school sports teams. And depending where you live, the dream of scoring a decisive victory over an archrival or competing for a state championship has either been put on hold or permanently surrendered.

It's "wait 'til next year" for freshmen, sophomores and juniors. But for most of the high school seniors who participate in a spring sport, this is more than a lost season. It's the end of an active sports career. The NCAA estimates that, depending on the sport, only about three percent of all high school athletes go on to play a sport in college.

The senior first baseman who picked up his first bat when he was five years old will never have the opportunity to swing at an 82 mile an hour fastball again. The

champion runner who has diligently trained to shatter the high school state record may never compete in the 800 again. The young woman who was elected captain of her tennis team will never know how deep into the tournament her squad could have gone.

But here's what will happen, and it's significant. That same first baseman has learned that baseball is about far more than trying to hit a ball with a stick; it's about a group of young men from vastly different backgrounds coming together as a team. The sprinter has discovered that if a person has enough determination, barriers once thought impossible can be broken. And the captain of the tennis team will take the leadership skills she's learned as a student-athlete and apply them to everything she does for the rest of her life.

Their seasons—indeed, their athletic careers—may be over, but the character those senior athletes have developed because they participated in education-based high school sports lives on. It will encourage, guide and positively influence communities here in Tennessee for the next generation and beyond.

High school seniors, thank you for the contribution you have made to your team, your school and your community. And thank you for the shared sacrifice you are making right now.

As Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. once said, "Intelligence plus character—that is the goal of true education." To those TSSAA student-athletes who graduate this spring, you may have lost your senior sports season, but you have gained both intelligence and character because you participated in high school athletics. Best wishes for continued growth and success.

Ijams Offers Online Options for At-Home Fun, Learning

Cont. from page 3 remotely to the extent possible, and the natural resource and river teams continue to maintain the grounds and clean up the river. Supporting Ijams now can help sustain the nature center until Ijams is able to resume regular operations."

Ijams Nature Center is a nonprofit, 315-acre educational nature center for all ages, abilities and walks of life. Ijams' mission is to encourage stewardship of the natural world by providing an urban greenspace for people to learn about and enjoy the outdoors through engaging experiences. Located just three miles from downtown Knoxville, Ijams features 12 miles of hiking and mixed-use trails, a public access river dock, swimming, boating, biking and more. The center offers hundreds of educational programs annually,

from school field trips and off-site programs to on-site outdoor and classroom education programs that focus on topics from birding and wildflowers to yoga hikes, cooking classes and art programs. The Ijams grounds and trails are open every day from 8 a.m. until dusk. For more information, visit ijams.org.

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A shout out for high school athletes

By Mark Nagi

It's no secret that COVID-19 has had a huge effect on the daily lives of all Americans. The way we shop, the way we travel, the way we work... nothing is normal these days.

It got me thinking about what this ordeal has meant to high school athletes. They spend years practicing and training while playing the sports they love. For most of them, high school is their athletic pinnacle. Many of these kids dream of playing for a state championship. In the spring, that means tennis, golf, baseball, softball and soccer at the Spring Fling in Murfreesboro, which has become one of our state's best events. And I'm not just talking about sports. The city welcomes families for a few days each May. It feels like every hundred yards there is a game being played.

Each spring I am lucky enough to do play by play for the boys' soccer championships. I look forward to it every year. But in mid-April, Governor Bill Lee announced that due to COVID-19 concerns, school would be canceled for the remainder of the semester. This made spring sports a casualty. It also meant that

the remaining basketball championship games would not be played.

In a statement released by the TSSAA, the organization expressed its sadness at those developments. "To our senior participants - we thank you for everything you have done for your schools and communities and wish you the very best in your bright futures. This is difficult, but the lessons you've learned and friendships you've made through high school activities will last your lifetime. We look forward to the resumption of high school athletics during the 2020-21 school year and will continue work on those events at this time. The TSSAA thanks everyone involved for their patience and understanding throughout this process."

That decision was not taken lightly. And the statewide mandate kind of took the call out of the hands of the TSSAA. But they were doing all they could to play those games. It just wasn't meant to be.

When I was in high school, I played soccer and ran track. I was decent at soccer. Track? Not so much. But it would have devastated me to not have the opportunity to play

those sports. High school is such a short period of our lives. It's a shame that these kids won't have the chance to play this year.

But the message for today's high school athletes should be that even though the spring season is lost, that doesn't mean that the lessons they have learned along the way are gone. Through sports, they work with others to achieve a goal. That's the type of thing that will help them throughout their lives when their days of lacing up cleats are done.

For the seniors, we know that this isn't the way that you wanted things to end. But having no sports in spring 2019 doesn't mean that your memories are deleted.

It doesn't mean that the friendships you've made along the way are gone.

Life is a journey, and while it might feel like you are missing out, you'll learn as you get older that the journey is the most important thing. It might not feel like it, but we've got your back.

For now, we all just need to do all we can to stay safe, stay healthy, follow guidelines, and hope that those measures will bring the sports we love back to us sooner than later.

Mark Nagi is the author of "Decade of Dysfunction," which takes an up-close look at Tennessee's crazy coaching search in 2017. The book is available on Amazon.



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The Doctor is in

a weekly column by
Dr. Jim Ferguson

Skeptic or Cynic?

I have to admit that the more I listen to “experts” the more confused I become. As a citizen and physician, I believe it is my duty to stay informed. So, I read widely. And I watch the daily White House Coronavirus Task Force briefings.

Admittedly, I have an a priori bias. We all do - at least those who have a mind. I am a conservative, but I regularly read so-called liberal websites and watch Democrat-progressive media. Though I disagree with much of their philosophies, I believe they have a right to speak. It is disturbing that these basic American civil liberties are being eroded under the guise of political correctness and hate-speech. And now we are confronted with demands for conformity of behavior by the dictates of some governors, mayors and politicians.

A German philosopher by the name of Hegel came

up with what we now call the Hegelian dialectic. In Hegel's idea of a “conversation,” one side presents a thesis or position. Then, another challenges or counters the thesis with an antithesis. The two sides go back and forth and finally come to a synthesis. This dialogue is only possible when the two sides have a mutual respect for each other. Unfortunately, respect is often absent in the current American environment.

Admittedly, I've become a skeptic as I've aged and experienced life, yet I'm still willing to listen where a cynic is not. I've written of James Fowler's stages of development. Children are mightily influenced by parents. Later, they increasingly discover the outside world and realize their parents are not gods. In the teenage years the groupthink of peers and teachers assume Olympian importance. In the twenties,

thirties and forties people discover their own truths through trials and tribulations. Finally, most achieve a level of sophistication where reason and tolerance provide balance to emotion and propaganda. Rare people achieve the “sixth stage” of enlightenment where selflessness is operative.

In the quest of truth, John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, said scripture should be sifted through experience, tradition and reason. I believe Wesley's quadrilateral should be applied to all aspects of life.

As a result, I now approach everything I hear and see with a measure of skepticism. I retain an open mind, so I will listen. But then I form my own opinion driven by conscience, experience, tradition and reason.

I no longer have a juvenile mindset and I resent being told what to do, especially when dictates violate the Constitution. As an example, the governor of New Jersey admitted he didn't consider the First Amendment in his coronavirus dictates, nor have the governors of Michigan, California and lots of mayors.

A cynic is someone who no longer considers the perspectives of others and is so self-righteous that they are lost to reason

and, apparently, The Constitution. While I believe Typhoid Marys do not have the right to harm others, locking everyone up in their homes rather than T. Mary is illogical and a violation of the rights of free men. But I suspect these nascent totalitarian officials are not stupid. They're just using the crisis to gain more power.

Apparently, these dictatorial functionaries do not understand “guidelines.” As our civic duty, my family has been following the president's guidelines and has been sheltering in place for almost forty days and nights. (The biblical number 40 is often symbolic for a “long time,” but for us it's real.) We will continue to be cautious, avoid crowds and use sanitizers. But I believe it is time to renounce fear and live again.

A friend of mine recently challenged me with the notion of an “essential” job. Though I understand the military is essential, as are truckers and medical folks, my friend opined that all jobs are essential in a viable economy and country. Her reasoned perspective changed mine. I told her she should explain this to the governors and mayors mentioned above. We should remain careful, but Boo Radley must come out (as in “To Kill a

Mockingbird”).

One of my many information sources is the alternative media of talk radio. I heard an interesting interview of three millennials in their twenties regarding the coronavirus crisis. The youngest was focused on health after a friend's grandfather died of COVID-19. Another, a bit older, was focused on recent graduates with debt who won't be able to get a job. The last was bummed out that sports were cancelled. Personally, I worry about my children and grandchildren's future more than my own.

I heard another interview with the noted UT economist Bill Fox. He said the recovery of our country and economy will depend on you and me, the consumer. Well said, professor.

I often reflect on our crisis and what the country should do. We shut down the economy and retreated to our caves on the basis of other countries' experience with COVID-19 and disease projection models. These models have been repeatedly wrong. Our leaders told us we must all go into quarantine for protection and to avoid overwhelming the healthcare system. We can debate whether that was what should have been done. However, we now know that the greatest risk of serious

illness with coronavirus is in older people and especially those with hypertension, diabetes and obesity. The issue is now whether we should protect those at risk from death and set the rest of the country free. Sweden has taken this approach and it appears to have been successful.

I have worked all my life and lived frugally, so the Chinese Communist Plague has been less impactful for me than many others. Protests are rising as jobs disappear and savings are exhausted. The government cannot print enough money to make up the difference for a suspended twenty-two trillion-dollar economy. (I guarantee Congress, government workers and the media are still drawing paychecks.)

It is time to choose livelihood by taking some risks. I am in a higher risk group because of my age and hypertension. Going forward, I should be even more careful than the general population. I accept the risk for my children's future.

Governor Lee and Mayors Jacobs and Kincannon, we must open up, sooner than later. Let the American people choose their degree of risk and necessity.

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

The Pity Pool

Self-pity is a very real emotion that many people deal with. It is brought on by bad things that happen in life. It might be COVID-19, a broken arm, cancer, death, a divorce, or job loss. The treatment is often the same: well-meaning friends treat us with



By Mark Brackney, Minister of the Arlington Church of Christ

They ache with us, weep with us, and help us. Most of the time the intended result works. Friends pick us up and healing occurs. But sometimes, the sudden flow of love feels so good that we keep coming back for

more. With time, we can become “pity junkies.” Helpers become enablers. We begin to stop taking responsibility and even blame others for our problems. We complain and the pit is the end result of self-pity.

It is not easy to help someone imprisoned by self-pity. What would Jesus say to someone who lived this way? Well, thankfully we have an example for us recorded in John 5:1-15. Here we read the story of man who for thirty-eight years was an invalid. His life consisted

of begging. Each day he would be carried to the pool in hopes that someone might help him into the pool for healing when the water was stirred. This pool was in Jerusalem, just north of the Temple Mount area. The water would periodically ripple because of an underground spring. Someone at some point who had a disease was in the water when this happened and claimed it healed them of their infirmity. The news of the miracle spread throughout the city and countryside, and this ordinary pool became a Mecca for the infirmed. Five porticos were even built so the sick could stay out of the

sun as they waited for the stirring of the waters.

What a sight this must have been, a pitiful sight of broken humanity. The first question Jesus asks the man is, “Do you want to get well?” Here is a man who has been crippled for thirty-eight years and Jesus has the nerve to ask this ridiculous question. Jesus asks this question from all of us. For many, we are comfortable right where we are. As humans, we don't like change. We say we want to be healed, but in our hearts we really don't, because it will mean new responsibilities. For many years this guy has convinced himself that he would never get better.

He had become used to a life of begging, complaining, and pity hunting. As the man lay by the pool, all of his needs were met. His cup gathered enough coins to buy daily bread and beans. Everyone felt sorry for him. With a healing, greater responsibilities would come for him. Perhaps it is time to get off the mat and walk. Jesus is ready to touch your life, but he can't help us if we are happy the way we are. What is the cure? To get rid of the “self” in pity. Jesus said, “Whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever would lose his own life for me will find it” (Matthew 16:25). We cannot feel sorry for

ourselves if there is no self to feel sorry for.

This healing is showing that new creation is breaking into this present old world. When Jesus told the man to “get up” in verse 8, this is the same word the New Testament regularly used to describe the resurrection. Jesus is bringing in new life, a new creation. Jesus was giving this man a new life. Sadly, some people are not ready for new creation, for the living Word of God to come to them. They are happy right where they are, even if they are crippled. Let us welcome the new creation God wants to do in our lives.



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- Continue on page 4**

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ESTATE OF PAUL LINDSEY HOBSON
DOCKET NUMBER 82910-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 16 day of APRIL 2020, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of PAUL LINDSEY HOBSON who died Feb 19, 2020, 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 this first publication as described in (1)(A); or
- (2) Twelve (12) months from the date of this first publication; or

ESTATE OF PAUL LINDSEY HOBSON

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
ELIZABETH SKOGMAN HOBSON; EXECUTRIX
11237 SAM LEE ROAD
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37932

ROBERT W WILKINSON
ATTORNEY AT LAW
P.O. BOX 4415
OAK RIDGE, TN. 37831-4415

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF FREDDIE ELIZABETH JOHNSON
DOCKET NUMBER 82711-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 17 day of APRIL 2020, letters of administration c.t.a in respect of the Estate of FREDDIE ELIZABETH JOHNSON who died Dec 27, 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 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 17 day of APRIL, 2020.

ESTATE OF FREDDIE ELIZABETH JOHNSON

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
SUSAN LYNN PAUL; ADMINISTRATRIX CTA
623 DOGWOOD TRAIL
MCKINNEY, TX 75072

DAVID B HAMILTON
ATTORNEY AT LAW
1810 MERCHANT DRIVE
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37912

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF CHARMIE ANN GILLIAM MARTIN
DOCKET NUMBER 82909-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 16 day of APRIL 2020, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of CHARMIE ANN GILLIAM MARTIN who died Aug 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 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 this first publication as described in (1)(A); or
- (2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death. This the 21ST day of APRIL, 2020

ESTATE OF JOHN RICHARD MILLER

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
MICHAEL A COOPER; EXECUTOR
3024 CROSSWINDS LANE
SEVIERVILLE, TN 37876

JACKSON KRAMER ATTORNEY
PO BOX 629
KNOXVILLE, TN 37901

(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 16 day of APRIL, 2020.

ESTATE OF CHARMIE ANN GILLIAM MARTIN

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
BRENDA GILLIAM MOSELEY; EXECUTRIX
2912 LITTLE DUG GAP ROAD
LOUISVILLE, TN. 37777

CALLEN RAGLE
ATTORNEY AT LAW
P.O. BOX 23380
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37933

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF MARK MICHAEL
DOCKET NUMBER 82885-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 22ND day of APRIL 2020, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of MARK MICHAEL who died May 14, 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 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 22ND day of APRIL, 2020.

ESTATE OF MARK MICHAEL

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S) SHEILA
DIANE PROFFITT; EXECUTRIX PO BOX 12922
KNOXVILLE, TN 37912

SHARON FRANKENBERG ATORNEY
PO BOX 31585
KNOXVILLE, TN 37930

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF JOHN RICHARD MILLER
DOCKET NUMBER 82917-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 21ST day of 2020, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of JOHN RICHARD MILLER who died Feb 20, 2020, 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 21ST day of APRIL, 2020

ESTATE OF JOHN RICHARD MILLER

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
MICHAEL A COOPER; EXECUTOR
3024 CROSSWINDS LANE
SEVIERVILLE, TN 37876

JACKSON KRAMER ATTORNEY
PO BOX 629
KNOXVILLE, TN 37901

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF LEONARD B. MURRAY, JR.
DOCKET NUMBER 82840-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 16TH day of APRIL 2020, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of LEONARD B. MURRAY, JR. who died Feb 5, 2020, 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 16TH day of APRIL, 2020.

ESTATE OF LEONARD B. MURRAY, JR.

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
LEONARD B. MURRAY, III; CO-EXECUTOR
245 STERLING RD.
HENDERSONVILLE, TN. 37075

NICOLE J. MURRAY
WEINGEROFF; CO-EXECUTOR
126 ISLAND DR.
HENDERSONVILLE, TN. 37075

REBECCA BELL JENKINS
ATTORNEY AT LAW
9724 KINGSTON PK. STE. 202
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37922

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF ILA MAE NAPIER
DOCKET NUMBER 82903-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 15TH day of APRIL 2020, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of ILA MAE NAPIER who died Oct 4, 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 15TH day of APRIL, 2020.

ESTATE OF ILA MAE NAPIER

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
MICHAEL CLAY NAPIER; CO-EXECUTOR
351 LONGMIRE ROAD
CLINTON, TN. 37716

KEITH BRIAN NAPIER; CO-EXECUTOR
12610 OLD STAGE ROAD
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37934

EDWARD A. COX, JR.
ATTORNEY AT LAW
1111 N NORTHSHORE DRIVE SUITE N-290
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37919

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF MARK ROBERT ORR
DOCKET NUMBER 82901-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 15TH day of APRIL 2020, letters administration in respect of the Estate of MARK ROBERT ORR who died Mar 14, 2020, 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 15TH day of APRIL, 2020.

ESTATE OF JAMES DENVER PARTIN

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
RONNA M PARTIN; EXECUTRIX
B136 WALKER ROAD
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37938

STEVEN L WILLIAMS
ATTORNEY AT LAW
329 ELLIS AVENUE
MARYVILLE, TN. 37804

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF DOROTHY E. THOMAS
DOCKET NUMBER 82908-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 16TH day of APRIL 2020, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of DOROTHY E. THOMAS who died Mar 23, 2020, 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 15TH day of APRIL, 2020.

ESTATE OF MARK ROBERT ORR

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
ROBERT H. ORR; CO-EXECUTOR
626 BROOME ROAD
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37909

DONNA J. ORR; CO-EXECUTOR
626 BROOME ROAD
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37909

RICHARD T. WALLACE
ATTORNEY AT LAW
109 PARKWAY, SUITE 2
SEVIERVILLE, TN. 37862

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF JAMES DENVER PARTIN
DOCKET NUMBER 82808-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 15 day of APRIL 2020, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of JAMES DENVER PARTIN who died Sep 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 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 15 day of APRIL, 2020.

ESTATE OF JAMES DENVER PARTIN

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
RONNA M PARTIN; EXECUTRIX
B136 WALKER ROAD
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37938

STEVEN L WILLIAMS
ATTORNEY AT LAW
329 ELLIS AVENUE
MARYVILLE, TN. 37804

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF FRANCES DISNEY SWERSKY
DOCKET NUMBER 82902-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 15TH day of APRIL 2020, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of FRANCES DISNEY SWERSKY who died Feb 12, 2020, 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 15TH day of APRIL, 2020.

ESTATE OF FRANCES DISNEY SWERSKY

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
LISA ANNE SWERSKY MYERS;
EXECUTOR 10529 LEADENHALL GARDENS
WAY KNOXVILLE, TN. 37922

EDWARD A. COX, JR.
ATTORNEY AT LAW
1111 N. NORTHSHORE DRIVE, SUITE N-290
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37919

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF DOROTHY E. THOMAS
DOCKET NUMBER 82908-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 16TH day of APRIL 2020, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of DOROTHY E. THOMAS who died Mar 23, 2020, 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 16TH day of APRIL, 2020.

ESTATE OF DOROTHY E. THOMAS

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
E. KRISTIE GIORNANO; EXECUTRIX
1822 NANTASKET ROAD
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37922

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

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF WALTER L WILLIS
DOCKET NUMBER 82920-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 22ND day of APRIL 2020, letters administration in respect of the Estate of WALTER L WILLIS who died Dec 4, 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 22ND day of APRIL, 2020.

ESTATE OF WALTER L WILLIS

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
W. DAVID WILLIS; ADMINISTRATOR 2516
GRAY HENDRIX ROAD KNOXVILLE, TN 37931

P NEWMAN BANKSTON ATTORNEY
PO BOX 2047
KNOXVILLE, TN 37901

MISC. NOTICES

NOTICE OF LIEN SALE

In compliance with TCA 66-14-102 thru 66-14-106 the following cars will be sold on **May 15, 2020 @ 2:00 PM** @ Cedar Bluff Towing, Inc. 623 Simmons Road Knoxville, TN if total bill is not paid by date of sale

- 2006 Vol Passa WVWEK93C86E063806
- 2000 Por Boxst WPOCA2987Y5620259
- 2008 Che Expre 1GCHG39C581211164
- 2003 Pon Grand 1G2WVK52J73F134713
- 2013 Vol Jetta 3VWLL7AJ8DM392259
- 1999 Che Tahoe 1GNEK13R0XJ498700
- 2001 GMC Sierr 16TCE14W71Z101695
- 2006 Nis Sant 3N1CB51D86L484651
- 2003 Dod Grand 1D4GP24373B272969
- 2007 Inf QX56 5N3AA08A57N805152
- 2004 Che Caval 1G1JH12FX47180937

NOTICE OF LIEN SALE

In compliance with TCA 66-14-102 thru 66-14-106 the following cars will be sold on **May 15, 2020 @ 2:00 PM** @ Chestnut Street Transport & Recovery, Inc. 2430 Thorngrove Pike, Knoxville, TN if total bill is not paid by date of sale

- 1998 Hon Accor 1HGCG1654WA000217
- 2004 Acu MDX 2HNYD18244H531412
- 1998 For Musta 1FAFP4049WF140642
- 2007 Nis Maxm 1N4BA41E97C843815
- 2001 Inf I30 JMKCA31A21T021496
- 2018 Nis Versa 3N1CN7AP4JL825890
- 1999 Lin Conti 1LNHM97V8Y719579
- 1994 Toy Corol 2T1AE09B9C059190
- 2005 Che Cobal 1G1AC52F057593815
- 2010 Hon Accor 1HGCP2F1AA0A6173
- 2002 Bui Centu 2G4WS52J421182926
- 2007 Dod Carav 1D4GP45R47B197975
- 2003 Che Tahoe 1GNEK13Z53R240152
- 1998 Che Malib 1G1NE52MAW6235021
- 1999 Hon Civic 1HGEJ8245XL076390

NOTICE OF LIEN SALE

Convenience Centers Implement Small Changes to Manage Waste and Recycling

Knox County will continue offering solid waste disposable services during the COVID-19 pandemic, but Engineering and Public Works has implemented a few changes to help manage the flow of household waste and recycling.

The county requests that residents:

- Bring only bagged household trash and loose recyclables – limiting bulky or other waste; and
- Keep spring cleaning, basement/garage cleanout and demolition waste at home.

The convenience centers, which are busiest on Fridays, Saturdays and Mondays, are not

accepting any unbagged trash.

The centers are open 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday and 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday.

When visiting a center, please practice physical distancing requirements and leave six feet between you and other people. Additionally, please be patient with fellow residents and staff as the Centers are experiencing higher-than-normal traffic.

Residents who need to talk with staff must first contact the Solid Waste Office at (865) 215-5865 between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Food Access in Knoxville/Knox County

Cont. from page 3

home due to COVID-19

- Able to use SNAP benefits

Contact: Senior Citizens Home Assistance Services (SCHAS):865-523-2920 or <https://schas.org/s-o-s-program>

Individuals and Families

FOOD ASSISTANCE

•SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) is a federal program that provides funds to eligible low-income individuals and families to purchase eligible food items, including fresh fruits and vegetables, with an Electronic Benefits Transfer card. Call 1-866-311-4287 or apply online at www.tn.gov/humanservices/for-families/supplemental-nutrition-assistance-program-snap.html

•Women, Infants and Children (WIC): Call the Knox County Health Department at 865-215-5016 or visit <https://www.knox-county.org/health/wic.php>

FOOD PANTRIES*

•Check the availability and hours of area food pantries and possible delivery of emergency food by contacting the Compassion Coalition, 865-251-1591 or visit <https://compassion-coalition.org/covid-19-resources/>

SALVATION ARMY

•Salvation Army is providing a variety of services to qualifying individuals. Learn more at salvationarmyknnoxville.org or by calling 865-971-4907

LOCAL FOOD

•Several, but not all, area

farmers markets accept SNAP and offer Double Up Food Bucks for SNAP customers.

•The opportunity to pre-order and prepay for pickup is available from many individual farmers and providers.

Contact: Nourish Knoxville, www.nourishknoxville.org/865-805-8687

College students

Area colleges are working with their students to make sure all have access to food.

•University of Tennessee: <https://endhunger.utk.edu/>

•Pellissippi State College -Pellissippi Pantry: www.pstcc.edu/advocacy/pantry.php or call 865-539-7346

Homeless

•Area homeless service organizations such as Volunteer Ministry Center (VMC) www.vmcinc.org/ and Knox Area Rescue Mission <https://karm.org/> are providing food, with support from the Knox County Association of Baptists.

•Individuals and groups that want to help homeless individuals are encouraged to work with organizations rather than establishing impromptu food/meal donation events

* Second Harvest Food Bank of East Tennessee is an important supplier that partners with non-profit agencies, including many listed here as part of our food supply chain, and are not listed as a direct person-to-person provider.

What's next for Rebecca Parr?

By Mike Steely
Senior Writer
steelym@knoxfocus.com

Next Step Initiative was founded by two sisters, Addie Arbach and Rebecca Parr, who believed that through compassion, hope and love, they could have an impact on the lives of those living with issues of generational poverty, trauma and addiction.

Almost three years after its inaugural meeting, Parr is leaving Next Step Initiative.

"To be honest, I have not put much focus on my personal life and health, and it is time now for a rest and period of reflection," Parr said. "I know that I will continue to use my voice around specific issues, and that through the community role I have served to help so many, there is still much work to be done, but rejuvenation is necessary at this time in my life."

Addie Arbach credits her sister with the idea of Next Step. She said Rebecca called her with "a new idea" that she and her friends were discussing.

"I wanted to save lives by distributing Narcan, referring people to treatment and advocating for the rights of the homeless or addicted," Arbach told The Focus, "without judgment."

Arbach lost her son because of using dirty syringes in 2015.

She said Next Step started inside her car "with a box of Narcan and a pot of spaghetti."

The organization held its first meeting on September 13, 2017, at Sustainable Future Center, which is now the home of Next Step Initiative, and registered as a state non-profit in February 2018. In March 2018, it began distributing the overdose reversal medication Narcan through a state grant.

In November of 2018 Next Step Initiative became fiscally sponsored for 501c3 through Community Shares. In 2019 Next Step Initiative focused on serving the growing homeless population of South Knoxville through nutrition, Narcan distribution, and getting those who needed it into treatment.

The sisters practiced helping people reclaim their lives through compassion, education, work and recovery. "Helping people through love, compassion, access to healthcare, food, education, resources, treatment, volunteer work, art, and activities that are productive, are a main focus for Next Step Initiative," Parr told The Focus.

"It is not enough to just give people things," Parr pointed out. "There must be a comprehensive approach to bringing people back to productivity."

"Next Step Initiative is committed to this approach. Though I am no longer a spokesperson for Next Step Initiative, I



Rebecca Parr (right) stands with her sister Addie. The sisters founded Next Step Initiative to help serve the homeless population, housing, and drug dependence in Knoxville. Photo courtesy of Parr.

remain an advocate for the principles and mission it represents."

The Next Step location has closed temporarily during the COVID-19 outbreak but is accepting appointments and distributing food with the help of its staff and volunteers.

"Next Step has been feeding an average of 100 nightly," Arbach said last week. During the virus outbreak and distancing regulations, Next Step has

been distributing single servings of food place by place using 200 Ziploc bags, 100 dinner containers and cups with lids.

Arbach said she is pleading with the city to reopen the public bathroom so the homeless can wash and use the bathrooms.

"Through it all there was my sister, Becky. I can't imagine my journey without her support," she said.

Do you need cash flow? Have collectibles, antiques, guns and furniture that you need to sell? WE CAN HELP!

Call Fountain City Auction at (865) 474-9931.

service directory

ALTERATIONS

JOANNE'S ALTERATIONS
PANTS HEMMING \$5,
SPECIALIZING IN JEANS CALL
JOANNE 579-2254

CHILD CARE

MARCIA'S LEARNING CENTER
1411 Exeter Ave, Knoxville
(865) 673-8223
Day Shift 7:30 am - 4:30 pm
Night Shift 4:30 pm - 12 midnight

ELECTRICIAN

RETIRED UNION
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