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## McMillan Reelected to School Board Armstrong, Ballard winners as well

By Focus Staff

In a race that went down to the wire, incumbent Mike McMillan won a hotly contested race for the Knox County Board of Education in the Eighth District. McMillan had been elected in a 2010 special election following Bill Phillips having resigned from the Board. That year McMillan faced sometime-Superintendent Roy Mullins and won in an upset. Mullins' defeat astonished seasoned political observers and horrified many of the former Superintendent's faithful retainers and colleagues.

The 2012 race between McMillan and challenger Conley Underwood was in many ways a continuation of the Mullins-McMillan campaign and quickly evolved into a grudge match. One odd dynamic of the 2012 race was the new Carter Elementary School. McMillan had made a new elementary school for the Carter community an issue in his campaign with Mullins. McMillan pledged to make a new elementary school for Carter his top priority; Mullins, at least initially, preferred renovations to a new facility. Underwood, despite working for a new Carter Elementary School, supported Mullins.

Underwood had the perfect opportunity to promote himself along with the new school and he used it every chance he got. An



PHOTO BY DAN ANDREWS

8th District School Board Member Mike McMillan, Knox County Law Director-Elect Bud Armstrong, and Knox County Property Assessor Phil Ballard celebrate their election victories Tuesday evening, March 6, with 8th District County Commissioner Dave Wright at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in downtown Knoxville

Underwood candidacy had been predicted long before the official announcement came and McMillan was ready for it. Much of the campaign was spent arguing about who deserved more credit for the new Carter Elementary School.

Underwood soon began complaining McMillan was supported by a political machine, yet he enjoyed the all out support of what was once the most formidable machine in

the county: the old school system machine. For years, the school system machine, composed of many of the literally thousands of school employees and administrators, made sure the Board of Education was populated with friendly faces. At one time, the Board resembled a reunion, as virtually every member was an old coach or retired administrator. Mike McMillan is the first retired classroom teacher to occupy a seat on the

Knox County Board of Education in decades.

The remnants of the old school system machine was out in force throughout the campaign. School employees and relatives began quietly working on behalf of Underwood. Signs supporting Underwood began popping up in the yards of some, like Cheryl Hickman, Principal of Carter High School; the family of Carter Elementary School Principal Julie Thompson all boosted Underwood

signs. The mother of Rick Grubb, transportation supervisor of the Knox County School system, was busy making calls on behalf of Underwood.

A candidate forum was proposed at Gibbs High School, organized by Ahnna Estes of the Knoxville Chamber of Commerce and community activist Jimmy Hipshire. Both McMillan and Underwood accepted the invitation to participate and the organizers oddly selected a night when

several other events were going on including a concert by the Gibbs High School Chorus, virtually guaranteeing few parents would attend the forum. Hipshire, who moderated the event, expressed his dismay that not a single parent from Gibbs was in attendance.

Former County Commissioner Jack Huddleston, who attended the forum, scoffed, "Why those people who put that together either did it to promote Conley Underwood's candidacy or they were just downright incompetent in putting together community events."

The audience at the forum was comprised almost entirely of Carter residents for Underwood and old school system personnel, led by the King of the Pensioners himself, Roy Mullins. There were so many members of the old school system machine present it looked like a nursing home for retired school personnel. For the few impartial observers in attendance, it appeared as if the organizers had tried to stack the deck against Mike McMillan, although by all accounts, the incumbent held his own. A jovial McMillan even slyly acknowledged the tilt by figuratively tipping his hat to his former opponent, Roy

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## Knoxville hosts robotics competition

By Sarah Baker  
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On March 2 and 3, Knoxville Convention Center hosted the FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Robotics Competition. Thousands of students, educators, families, and industry leaders from all over the country attended the event. With the hope of earning a spot at the FIRST Championship held April 25-28 in St. Louis, Mo, 54 high school student teams competed.

Students worked with professional mentors to design and build a robot over a six week period that solved a problem using a kit of parts and a standard set of rules. This year's

game, "Rebound Rumble," had robots participating in a basketball style game where teams had two corner and one center goal to throw bowls into. Local schools that participated included: Farragut High School, Hardin Valley Academy, Knox County Stem Academy, Knoxville Catholic High School, Seymour High School, and Webb School. Teams from Oak Ridge, Indianapolis, IN and Somerset, KY advanced to the championship.

"Each team clearly demonstrated teamwork, professionalism and strategic thinking in solving the competition's challenges," said D. LaJean Robinson, Director of the FIRST Robotics Competition Smoky Mountains Regional.

"The noise level from the audience cheering on the teams was tremendous. Students, school groups, community members, and professional team mentors filled the stands and helped to bring a level of fun and excitement to the completion. With the sustained support of the Knoxville community, this robotics competition will continue to grow and inspire students to study math, science, and engineering."

Oak Ridge is the only school in Tennessee that will go on to the championship, but Hardin Valley Academy, Knox Catholic, and Seymour all made it to the semi-finals. Hardin Valley Academy's team also received the Delphi Engineering

Excellence Award. HVA teacher sponsors John Tilson and Beth Love couldn't have been more proud. "They did great," said Tilson. "They took chances and did what they needed to do to solve problems." Freshman Georgiana Blue said, "First Robotics is a way my family and I can do something we love." Indeed, families cheering together were noticeable all over the stands at the event. The spirit of cooperation and competition made the event seem more like a ball game than a science event. Here's hoping the FIRST competition continues to foster students' interest in math, science, and good old-fashioned teamwork.



PHOTO BY SARAH BAKER

Philip Kutler, Andy Kirk, Josh Penney, and Thomas Parham from Hardin Valley Academy.

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# McMillan Reelected to School Board

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Mullins, who sat grinning in the front row. McMillan directed at least one well placed barb at the former interim Superintendent.

Underwood campaigned less on specifics than generalities and tried to make the case McMillan was personally responsible for those things with the school system, despite the fact McMillan had been on the Board of Education for only a year and a half. McMillan retorted that perhaps those responsible for the current state of the schools were Mullins and former principal and two-term school board member Jim Williams, who were supporting Underwood.

Underwood emphasized he was running for the children, a slogan thoroughly familiar to anyone who remembers the school machine's tactics during its heyday. Every tax increase proposed to the Knox County Commission came wrapped in a package labeled "for the children."

McMillan tried to campaign on his accomplishments in the short time he had been in office and offered some specifics of what he wished to get done in the future. Both candidates

lobbed attacks on the other, with Underwood dropping his self-described "polite" and "respectful" mantra to repeatedly post accusations on his Facebook page. McMillan finally fired back with a reply on his own website and each candidate charged the other with lying.

The bitterest moment of the campaign likely occurred when Underwood filed a formal complaint against McMillan with the Board's Ethics Committee. Underwood was outraged that several retired custodians had been campaigning, unbeknownst to McMillan, on school property, a violation of Board policy. McMillan immediately assumed responsibility, apologized, despite having known nothing of the custodians' attempt to support his campaign. McMillan had strongly opposed Superintendent James McIntyre's effort to outsource custodial workers.

McMillan pointed out Underwood's own supporters had been sending e-mails supporting his candidacy directly into the schools, a violation of the same Board policy. Janice Walker, the retired

Principal of Gibbs High School, and Wendi Mullins, daughter-in-law of Roy Mullins, had both sent e-mails directly into the schools urging support for Underwood. Underwood himself seemed to dismiss his own over zealous supporters, saying on a radio show that Walker was merely inviting folks to a meet and greet for his campaign. McMillan finally pointed out Underwood's treasurer was using a taxpayer supported e-mail address as his contact information on a notarized form signed by Underwood. Using a taxpayer-supported e-mail address for campaign purposes appears to be a Class C misdemeanor under Tennessee State law.

By Election Day, the rivalry between the two candidates and their respective supporters was at a fever pitch. Underwood carried his own Carter community heavily. Apparently the people of Carter gave Underwood the credit for the new elementary school, despite Mayor Tim Burchett, the man responsible for finding the money for the new school, having said, "Without Mike McMillan there would be no new

Carter Elementary School". It would seem the Carter folks either didn't believe the Mayor or are no more grateful to Burchett than they were McMillan.

While Underwood carried the precincts around Carter, McMillan was posting majorities in Gibbs and in Northeast Knox County, giving him 53% of the vote. Interestingly, it was almost exactly the same margin he won when he defeated Roy Mullins two years previously.

Underwood did call McMillan the day following the election to offer his congratulations, but his own comments on his Facebook page were a bit less than cordial. Underwood lamented the children were the big losers in the election.

Mike McMillan accepted Underwood's congratulations in good grace and spent the days following the election thanking friends and supporters and handling constituent requests. McMillan was very modest following his victory and said, "I really am truly grateful to the people of the Eighth District and will continue to do all I can to ensure our community will progress."

## Remembering mom's clothesline



Here's a memory for any of you old enough to remember:

We had rooster in the chicken yard where the clothesline was. Mom would carry a stick with her because he would try to peck or spur her when she went out for the laundry. He made a delicious Sunday dinner. How many of you remember "the clothes line?"

### REMEMBERING MOM'S CLOTHESLINE

There is one thing that's left out. We had a long wooden pole that was used to push the clotheslines up so that longer items (sheets/pants, etc.) didn't brush the ground and get dirty. You have to be a "certain age" to appreciate this one, but you younger ones can read about "the good old days"

### THE BASIC RULES FOR CLOTHESLINES

(If you don't even know what clotheslines are, better skip this.)

1. Hang the socks by the toes, not the top.
2. Hang pants by the bottom/cuffs.....not the waistbands.
3. Wash the clotheslines before hanging any clothes by walking the entire length of each line with a damp cloth.
4. Hang the clothes in a certain order and always hang whites with whites and hang them first.
5. Always hang a shirt by the tail never by the

shoulders. What would the neighbors think?

6. Wash day is always on Monday, and clothes must never be hung on the weekend, or on Sunday, for Heaven's sake!

7. Hang the sheets and towels on the outside lines to hide your "unmentionables" in the middle (perverts and busy-bodies, y'know!)

8. If the weather is sub-zero....clothes would "freeze dry".

9. Always gather clothes pins, when taking down dry clothes. Pins left on the lines were "tacky".

10. For efficiency, line the clothes up so that two items can share a middle clothespin rather than using two clothespins for each item.

11. Clothes must be taken off of the line before dinner time, nearly folded in the laundry basket and ready to be ironed.

12. Ironed? Well that's a whole other subject!

And now a poem:

*A clothesline was a news forecast, to neighbors passing by. There were no secrets when clothes were hung to dry. It was also a friendly link, for neighbors always knew if company had stopped by to spend a night or two. For then you'd see the "fancy sheets" and towels upon the line. You'd see the company tablecloths, with intricate designs. The line announced a baby's*

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# Entitlement

It all started with a Life Saver Barbie doll. It was as ridiculous as it sounds.



**By Sarah Baker**  
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There was Barbie in all her skinny, blonde beauty sporting a rainbow fruit outfit that flamboyantly advertised the little round candies. I cannot decide if grocery stores are clever to place such toys in the check-out line or just despicable. My daughter was about four years old and she had both of her arms wrapped around that doll's slender little box before I had time to say "paper, not plastic."

Don't go thinking I'm some kind of bitter Barbie hater. I've never understood people blaming a Mattel toy for female self-esteem issues. To me, Barbie is as much a part of American girlhood as bobby socks and "Eenie, meenie, minie, mo..." Never mind if "Made in China" is discreetly stamped on her rear end.

I sympathized with my daughter's longing

for this doll in all her multi-colored plastic splendor, but I didn't like how she had just grabbed it from the shelf (of course, it was placed within her reach). Also, I'm a big believer in the lesson - you can't always get what you want. "Put that back," I said to her. "We don't come to the grocery store to buy toys."

I can still see clearly how white her little finger tips got gripping that box as hard as she could. I still get a little hot under the collar when I think of the unsightly fit that I had sworn no child of mine would ever have. It was as humiliating as it was infuriating. There were real tears. There was real snot. Most of all, there was screaming, lots and lots of screaming.

Deep in my gut, I felt this was a battle I could not afford to lose. All the way home, I told Emma about the spanking she was going to get when we got home. I guess that is why when we got there, she locked herself in the car and locked me out of it. She mashed her forehead against the window wailing, "I love Daddy more than I love you now!"

Of course, when her daddy got home, he was on my side. We made her pick out 10 toys to give away. She picked mostly

broken McDonald's happy meal toys, and that was okay. She still got the point. Then I drove her back to the grocery store and made her apologize. Twelve years later, she will tell you that was the worst part. It was probably also much more effective than a spanking.

Some people will probably think I went too far, that not getting the doll was enough. Maybe you're right, but I think about that day every time I see a parent who cannot manager his or her child's behavior and every time I meet yet another kid who feels entitled to every new gadget, every new designer shoe and has every excuse in the world why nothing is ever his or her fault.

My friend Susan was telling me about the time one of her daughters was starting to act a little too entitled. "The law says you have to buy me clothes," her fashionable teen exclaimed. "It doesn't say I have to buy them at the most expensive stores at the mall," Susan explained to her. She further explained that if her daughter didn't start showing a little more gratitude, her wardrobe would start coming from the most convenient discount stores. Her next pair of jeans may just be thrown into

the cart beside the lunch meat and toilet paper.

Many of you have just seen the video that went viral of a father in a cowboy hat shooting his ungrateful daughter's laptop. He had just spent time and over a hundred dollars upgrading it for her, and she repaid him by posting a worse than disrespectful tirade about him on Facebook. If you think he was overreacting, watch the video and listen to him read what it said (Just google Facebook parenting).

On the Today show, Dr. Phil rebuked this man for embarrassing his daughter. I don't care what Dr. Phil said. That girl should be more than embarrassed after what she wrote. She should be ashamed. A lack of shame and a feeling of entitlement are a dangerous combination, and I am worried about how they seem to be festering in so many young people right now. Maybe if we handed out fewer toys when they're little, we wouldn't have to resort to shooting their toys when they get bigger. Whatever it takes, we had better get it through their heads and ours- you can't always get that you want. If we don't, we will pay an even higher price than what we spend on too many toys.

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# How to be President in 3 words: O - hi - O



By Richie Beeler

There used to be a popular saying in American politics: "As Maine goes, so goes the nation."

The phrase was a reference to Maine's reputation as a bellwether state in presidential elections. Indeed the easternmost US state did pick the winner in most of the races for the White House during the last half of the 19th century. But in the past half century, the distinction of a true presidential bellwether belongs to the state of Ohio.

No candidate since 1960 has won the presidency without winning Ohio. John F. Kennedy was the state's last

miss, narrowly losing Ohio to Vice-President Richard Nixon. Kennedy was also the last (and only) Catholic to be elected president. Last week another Catholic candidate fell short in Ohio. But while JFK went on to win the election, Rick Santorum may not be so fortunate.

The Buckeye State's bellwether reputation has likely come to bear on the Republican nomination for 2012. Santorum, who had seized momentum in the primary season with a string of victories in western states, had been unable to parlay his success to a win in Michigan. Mitt Romney, a Michigan native, pulled out a four-point victory in Wolverine country despite trailing Santorum badly in the polls just two weeks prior to Election Day.

It was then that the Santorum campaign turned

its hopes to Super Tuesday, and particularly to the state of Ohio. Early poll numbers looked encouraging for the Pennsylvanian, as it appeared he still had some momentum from his western victories and his strong second place finish in neighboring Michigan. The Santorum camp no doubt felt encouraged by the Senator's Super Tuesday chances in the socially conservative states of Oklahoma and Tennessee. But it was Ohio that was the big prize.

If Santorum could use his message of religious and social conservatism to sway blue collar Catholic and Evangelical voters, he might just be able to garner a win in a state that will be crucial to both parties in November. That was the strategy. It almost worked. Santorum came within a percentage point of denying Romney a

victory in the Buckeye State, actually leading the returns for most of the night until the three large metropolitan areas of Cleveland, Columbus and Cincinnati came in.

In the aftermath of Super Tuesday, two things are evident. For one, this Republican primary season is going to drag on to the bitter end sometime in June. Even with six victories on Super Tuesday, Romney's failure to gain a decisive margin in critical states has again kept him from an early anointing as the GOP candidate. Santorum's ability to win in Tennessee, as well as carry most of the rural conservative vote in Ohio, reveals that Romney still has huge challenges connecting with these voters.

But the other, and ultimately more important, reality that emerged from last week's vote is that the results in Ohio will no doubt

once again prove it to be a bellwether for this presidential election. Barring disaster, Mitt Romney will be the Republican nominee for president. At this point, it has become mathematical. In order to win the nomination, Rick Santorum would have to capture two-thirds of all the remaining delegates. That's not going to happen. Especially since a growing number of Republican voters are starting to see Romney as the only candidate that can beat Barack Obama.

But like his nomination, Romney's electability may have less to do with policy than with, well....mathematics. The quandary that conservative GOP voters face is the fact that the only way Rick Santorum could possibly be nominated is at the Republican convention in late August. Even if by some miracle, the delegates in Tampa

were to select Santorum, he would have barely 2 months to mount a campaign against Obama. That is a chance the GOP simply cannot take.

Republicans must now face the reality that the only candidate with a mathematical chance of sealing the nomination by the end of the primary season in June is Mitt Romney. Such a scenario would give the party a full five months to raise the necessary money and wage a long enough and effective enough campaign to defeat a sitting president.

It may not be the most palatable of options for Evangelicals and other social conservatives. Up to now, Santorum appears to be their first choice. But what is becoming more apparent every day is, come November, Mitt Romney may be their only choice.

## Leadership Academy announces new fellows



PHOTO BY DAN ANDREWS.

Eight Knox County Schools teachers and two assistant principals are the newest members of the Leadership Academy. The University of Tennessee's Center for Educational Leadership and the Knox County Schools announced the 2012-13 Leadership Academy class at Wednesday's (March 7) Board of Education meeting. The Leadership Academy prepares talented individuals to become outstanding new school principals through a full-time, intensive 15-month fellowship program. Pictured are: Byron Booker, Central High School; Windy Clayton, South-Doyle Middle School; Casey Cutter, Ball Camp Elementary School; Laicee Hatfield, Central High School; Tina Miller Holt, West Haven Elementary School; Desiree Odom Jones, Austin-East Magnet High School; Nathan Langlois, Powell High School; Kathryn Marie Lutton, Fulton High School; Jessica Schaefer Ruiz, Sarah Moore Greene Magnet Technology Academy; and Tiffany Watkins, Hardin Valley Elementary School.

## Boxing Legend Ace Miller Passes Away

Jerry "Ace" Miller, age 72 of Knoxville, passed away Thursday, March 8, 2012. He was a living testimony of the love of the Lord Jesus Christ. Ace led an honorable life filled with dedication and years of hard work in the support of the Golden Gloves Boxing Program. His most treasured accomplishment was the marriage to Lady Di on August 6, 1962 only to be followed by the birth of his three children and becoming Pop-Pop to seven grandchildren and one great grandchild.



Steve Shope, president of Golden Gloves Charities, Ace Miller, and Joe Walsh, City of Knoxville Director of Parks and Recreation.

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# FOCUS MORE ON Seymour

## Seymour-South Knox Chamber to hold a different kind of banquet

### Activities Reflect Resent Changes in the Organization

Seymour-South Knox Chamber of Commerce's annual banquet will be held on March 23rd and it promises to be anything but ordinary. With the theme "Be a Pillar in Your Community," guests can expect a variety of fun activities beginning with Networking Bingo. Along with door prizes, and dinner members will be electing and installing new officers in accordance with the recent bylaw revisions. "We hope to inform our members on ways their business fits into the new structure of the organization and how they may get more involved in the chamber and the community," says member Thomas Hill. All local area business owners and professionals are invited to attend. Tickets are \$20 and include dinner. The keynote speaker is Dick Hinton with CHARACTER COUNTS!, the most widely implemented approach to character education in schools today. Mr. Hinton has a special interest in character and ethics in adults at work and is a certified Trainer from the Josephson Institute in "Ethics in the Workplace," a program that helps organizations create an ethical culture based on the six pillars of character. "My 'real' work is an Executive Development Specialist, helping leaders and leadership groups move to the next level of effectiveness," says

Hinton. The Chamber leadership hopes that members find the program reflective of the recent change in the monthly networking meeting format where the hour includes having interesting and informative guest speakers offer programs on topics of value to members and their businesses. The Chamber meets regularly on the third Tuesday each month at Gondolier, 7644 Mountain

Grove Rd. and welcomes all community leaders, small business owners, and professionals who are interested in growing their business and making a difference in the community. For more information on the Chamber and/or upcoming community events visit [www.SeymourTn.org](http://www.SeymourTn.org). For more information about the banquet or to reserve tickets, call 661-8557 or e-mail [info@seymourtn.org](mailto:info@seymourtn.org).



Thank you for your support. I look forward to continuing to serve as your Sevier County School Board Representative.  
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### Remembering mom's clothesline

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*birth, from folks who lived inside, as brand new infant clothes were hung so carefully with pride. The ages of the children could so readily be known. By watching how the sizes changed, you'd know how much they'd grown. It also told when illness struck, as extra sheets were hung, then night-clothes, and a bathrobe too, haphazardly were strung. It also said, "on vacation now", when lines hung limp and bare. It told "we're back," when full lines sagged, with not an inch to spare. New folks in town were scorned upon if wash was dingy and gray, as neighbors carefully raised their brows and looked the other way. But clotheslines now are of the past, for dryers make work much less, Now what goes on inside a home is anybody's guess. I really miss that way of life, it was a friendly sign When neighbors knew each other best.. by what hung out on that line.*

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Open for business

# Virginia College hosts open house

By Sarah Baker  
 bakers@knoxfocus.com

Virginia College hosted an open house on Thursday, March 8 and is now enrolling students at their new Knoxville campus. Located at 4815 N. Broadway Street, the campus is in the building where there used to be a Kroger. The internal structure leaves no hint of its previous function, having been completely reconstructed into an immaculate, sleek facility which seems much larger on the inside than it appears from the street. Visitors seemed to enjoy their individualized tours as well as the hamburgers and hotdogs that were served by college staff.

Virginia College will offer vocational diplomas and associate's degrees upon opening and will eventually offer bachelor's degrees as well. Programs offered will include medical assistant, medical billing and coding, medical office administration, office administration, networking, pharmacy technician,

and cosmetology. Program directors, financial planning officers, and admissions officers have been hired. The high-spirited staff was friendly and prepared at the open house and seemed eager to start preparing students for success.

Amanda Harrison, who expressed interest in the cosmetology program, was impressed. "I love it," she said. I loved the salon - nice and spacey and I love how you learn several things other than what you're primarily studying." The Knoxville campus's very first student enrolled, Bernardo Burrell, was present at the open house all set to start the medical assistant program. "I'm excited. I can't wait to start," he said.

Jim Branham, President of the Knoxville campus, is optimistic about Virginia College building positive, constructive relationships with the Knoxville community. He is ready to share their lustrous space with organizations and businesses who may like to



Prospective students Amanda Harrison and Bernardo Burrell attended the Open House at Virginia College last week.

have meetings or events there. He has also scheduled an appointment to offer the use of their surgical space to Gary Scott, Vice President of Surgery

at UT Medical Center. VC will eventually offer a surgical technician program, but hopes to the space to use in the meantime. Branham is also hosting

a neighborhood business luncheon at 12pm on March 28. For more information about Virginia College, visit [www.vc.edu](http://www.vc.edu) or call 865-745-4500.

## Knoxville named as a Tree City USA Community for 21st year

As buds and flowers begin to appear on branches across East Tennessee, the City of Knoxville has once again been designated a Tree City USA community by the Arbor Day Foundation. It is the 21st consecutive year the City has received the honor, which recognizes a commitment to urban forestry.

"We all benefit when communities like Knoxville place a high priority on planting and caring for trees, one of our nation's most beautiful resources," said John Rosenow, chief executive and founder of the Arbor Day Foundation. "Trees shade our homes and add beauty to our neighborhoods, and they also provide many environmental, economic and social benefits. We applaud Knoxville's elected officials, volunteers and citizens for providing vital care for its urban forest."

The City's Public Service Department cares for all trees on City-owned property, and annually budgets \$40,000 to support new plantings within public spaces such as medians, parks and along streets and greenways. In 2011, the City supported the planting of nearly 400 new trees. With thousands of trees damaged or killed by violent storms last year, the City is dedicated to replenishing the local stock and maintaining a healthy tree canopy.

"We have a longstanding commitment to maintaining a healthy urban tree population," said Public Service Director David Brace. "Trees are a vital part of the landscape of our neighborhoods and parks. They enhance Knoxville's natural beauty, and they also help filter the air, conserve water and provide habitat for birds and other wildlife."

The Arbor Day Foundation is a nonprofit, environmental and education organization. To earn the foundation's Tree City USA designation, a city must have a tree board or department, a tree-care ordinance, a community forestry program, and an Arbor Day observance.

The City of Knoxville actually participates in two Arbor

**Continue on page 2**

## Commercial Bank Golden Presidential Club plans upcoming travel season

Commercial Bank GPC coordinators Nadean Meredith and Carolyn Valentine recently attended the Bank Travel meeting in Memphis.

Bank Travel is a membership organization associated with bank loyalty programs directors, a nationwide group that often plans trips and other events for their bank customers. The conference is an annual meeting that is designated to increase the knowledge of financial institutions Loyalty Program Directors in the areas of increased bank sales and travel skills.

Each year after attending Bank Travel, the program directors return to the bank filled with new ideas, new destinations, new solutions to problems and much enthusiasm. The conference features a blend of

educational seminars, round table workshops, industry speakers and time to network with hundreds of other Bank Program Directors. Meredith and Valentine met with representatives from destinations from across the United States and abroad.

The Bank Travel membership has increased dramatically in the last several years. Banks have discovered that developing senior travel/deposit clubs produce great results. Seniors are the fastest growing segment of people in the United States. Many seniors are retired and have the no mortgages or children in college and no longer have car payments. These customers have time and money on their hands and travel is the #1 recreation for many seniors.

Customers look to the Bank Club as a social, travel and financial center. They feel the travel program is a great way to travel and a more safe way to travel. The program provides the bank with the benefits of loyalty customer membership. These social and financial relationships offer an incentive to stick around. Bank clubs are effective in business of securing greater deposit accounts and additional services by providing the customer with the benefit of traveling and visiting with friends and making new friends.

Some of the events and trips planned for Commercial Bank GPC this year are: Picnic at the "Haymaker Farm", breakfast, lunch or dinner at many of our locations to kick off the travel season.



Carolyn and Nadean

Several one-day trips and some longer trips starting with a Western trip to Black Hills and Badlands, Creation Museum, Chattanooga on Historic Delta Queen, Hawaiian Island Cruise, Myrtle Beach & Billy Graham Museum. Call Nadean Meredith (606) 248-4584 or Carolyn Valentine (606) 546-5143 for more detailed information.

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Parkview Fountain City, 5405 Colonial Circle, Knoxville, TN 37918, 865-687-0033, [www.pvseniorliving.com](http://www.pvseniorliving.com)

# Mayor Rogero Gives Statement on City's Pension Plan



PHOTO BY DAN ANDREWS

Mayor Rogero at last Tuesday's Council meeting.

Mayor Madeline Rogero made the following statement to City Council on Tuesday, March 6 in light of the Council's Pension Task Force report:

The Council's Pension Task Force has reported that the City's current pension system is not sustainable. They

recommended that we consider alternatives to the plans ranging from defined benefit to defined contribution.

We have two significant issues before us.

1) Determine how to meet our current pension obligations in future years within the framework of the existing pension plans for current vested employees and retirees (in light of the Blackwell court decision). This obligation presents major funding challenges that we will face in future years.

2) Structure a new sustainable pension system for new employees that provides competitive benefits and reduces future taxpayer burdens.

We are under real time constraints on the second issue because any changes to the pension must be on the ballot by November of this year. Right now it is imperative that we focus on the issue of finding the best plan for the future.

After discussion with Vice Mayor Pavlis, I have asked my Deputies Bill Lyons and Eddie Mannis to work with

Councilman Finbarr Saunders and our actuary, Alan Pennington, to flesh out alternative pension plan scenarios including defined benefit, defined contribution, and one or more hybrid approaches.

We are committed to getting these alternatives before our employees and retirees, City Council, and the public in a timely manner such that the plans can be discussed, altered, and tweaked. We will ensure that Councilmembers have all the information you need to consider all alternatives and ultimately place a new plan on the November ballot.

I anticipate a full, robust discussion that considers all aspects of the pension, including the apportionment of risk between the employees and the public, the effect on our competitiveness in hiring and retention, and the impact on the city's future financial stability and demands placed upon our taxpayers.

I look forward to working with you on this critically important issue.

## YWCA Invites Nominations for the Tribute to Women Event

The YWCA honors outstanding women in the community by holding its annual YWCA Tribute to Women event. This annual event is East Tennessee's foremost acknowledgment and appreciation of the contributions of local women. The finalists for each category will be announced in early June and the event will be held on Thursday, August 16, 2012.

Nomination forms are available online at [www.ywcaknox.com](http://www.ywcaknox.com). All nominations must be sent by 11 p.m. on April 2, 2012.

## Knoxville named as a Tree City USA Community for 21st year

Cont. from page 1

Day recognitions: the state of Tennessee's on the first Friday in March, and the national celebration on the last Friday in April. This year there will be a ceremony

at Ijams Nature Center on April 27. For more information on the City's Tree Board and tree programs, visit <http://www.cityofknoxville.org/boards/treeboard/>.



From State Representative Harry Brooks

My wife and I were talking this morning about how quickly time is passing. If the legislative session ends at the time we predict (which is around the end of April), we are about half way finished. There is still a lot to deal with before that time arrives.

There has been a lot of discussion lately about student behavior in schools and on school buses. Just yesterday on the local news, there was a student made video using a cell phone of two girls fighting in one of the local schools. Unfortunately incidents like this in schools and on school buses are all too common. Sometimes school officials are hesitant in using force to maintain discipline for fear of retaliation from the student or student's family.

In response to this situation, I have introduced a bill that allows a teacher the ability to relocate a student from the student's present location to another location for the student's safety or the safety of others. The use of reasonable or justifiable force is allowed if necessary to accomplish this task due to the unwillingness of the student to cooperate. This policy covers a teachers' authorization to intervene in a physical altercation between two or more students or between a student and an educational employee for the purpose of ending the altercation.

This policy is in effect on school property as well as official school functions such as sporting events or approved field trips. The policy requires the teacher to file a brief report with the principal detailing the situation. If the student's behavior violated the school system's zero tolerance policy, the student is then subjected to disciplinary action that may include suspension or expulsion. If the zero tolerance policy is not part of the altercation, discipline is left to the discretion of the principal. The principal or principal's designee shall notify the teacher involved of the actions taken to address the behavior issue.

Along these same lines, legislation has been introduced authorizing suspension of students for assault on a school bus driver. A school bus driver may use reasonable force to maintain discipline on his or her bus, and the driver is to report misconduct to the principal or principal's designee as soon as practical after said misconduct but no later than the first school day after the conduct occurred if the incident happened on an afterschool bus route. Maintaining a safe environment both going to and from school as well as within the school is paramount to protecting our children. All students must learn that they need to act in a respectful calm manner to other students as well as school personnel and those in authority.

On another matter, I am happy to report that Tennessee sales tax collections are continuing to show a positive growth for the 23rd consecutive month. Hopefully this healthy growth rate is indicative of an improving economy across the state. There is concern, however, that the rapidly escalating gasoline prices will begin to erode the positive growth trend we are experiencing. Let's hope this does not happen.

I hope to see many of you at the Town Hall meetings I am holding on Saturday, March 17. I will be at Corryton Community Senior Center at 10:00 a.m. and at Powell Community Library at 2:00. Come ready to discuss any state issue that concerns you. I will also have free Tennessee Blue Books to distribute to those attending. I look forward to seeing you there. It is an honor to be your Representative.

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# Tennessee's Forgotten Senator

## Tom Stewart

Part 5

Pages from  
the Political  
Past



By Ray Hill  
rayhill865@gmail.com



FROM THE NASHVILLE BANNER COLLECTION, NASHVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

Senator Tom Stewart, May 25, 1948

Tom Stewart had been elected to a second term in 1942 as Allied troops in both Europe and the Pacific suffered defeats by the German and Japanese armed forces. The bleak news from the war had certainly affected the mood of the voters and many incumbents were defeated and the majorities enjoyed in the Congress by Democrats had been significantly reduced by Republican gains. Tom Stewart, as an incumbent, had likely suffered some degree by the general dissatisfaction of the voters and had quite nearly been beaten by Edward Ward "Ned" Carmack, son and namesake of the legendary editor and politician.

The younger Carmack had made an impressive political debut and had actually led Senator Stewart in the election returns until the ballots were counted from populous Shelby County, domain of the leader of the Memphis machine, Edward Hull "Boss" Crump. Stewart had been reelected on the basis of the huge vote he received in Shelby County, a fact that both highly embarrassed and displeased Crump. The Memphis Boss was never to forget the experience and tended to denigrate Stewart at every turn after that. Crump himself had never been enthused by Tom Stewart, who had largely been selected to run for the United States Senate by Crump's ally and political partner, Tennessee's senior U. S. Senator Kenneth McKellar. The popular perception was later that Tom Stewart was a servile politician belonging to Boss Crump, but the truth was quite different. Stewart was never especially close to Crump, but worked very closely with McKellar. Crump resented the fact Stewart's showing in 1942 required the huge Shelby County vote to make a difference in the race, which was used as evidence by Crump's detractors of his dominating influence in statewide politics. Crump's later actions not only emphasized his dissatisfaction with Tom Stewart, but dispelled the fact Stewart was merely a lackey to the Memphis Boss.

Ned Carmack, following his first campaign, would only reluctantly give up the idea of holding political office. Carmack, despite considerable financial difficulties, managed to buy an imposing and historic mansion in Murfreesboro, Tennessee just after his

defeat in 1942. Carmack announced as a candidate for governor in the 1944 primary, but later withdrew. He would again run for the United States Senate in 1946 against the much more popular and venerable Kenneth D. McKellar and lose by a greater margin.

Ned Carmack had shown some promise following in the footsteps of his father, both as an editor and politician. The younger Carmack had demonstrated flair with his writing and speaking abilities, but unlike his famous father, Ned could never quite make a success of either. Ned Carmack was doomed to spend the entirety of his life living in the shadow of his assassinated father and proved to be somewhat erratic, if not actually unstable. The senior Carmack had notoriously been gunned down in the streets of Nashville by Colonel Duncan Cooper and Cooper's son, Robin. Some few years later, Robin Cooper was found mysteriously murdered. Ned Carmack would claim credit for killing Robin Cooper, though his claim was considered by almost everyone to be a fantasy. Ned Carmack evidently also claimed he had murdered Colonel Cooper, allegedly by smothering the old man in his bed, which was certainly not true.

By the time Ned Carmack died, he left behind his imposing home on Main Street in Murfreesboro and an array of debts from one failed business after the other.

Following his reelection to a six-year term, Tom Stewart again buckled

down to the difficult business of being a working senator. Stewart attended his committee meetings, responded to his constituents, and largely supported the administration of President Franklin D. Roosevelt. Stewart had fully supported FDR's war measures and had backed the President even before America had entered the war. Stewart concentrated on issues of concern to his more rural constituents, especially in the areas of expanding rural electrification and farming. Coming from the small town of Winchester, Tennessee, Tom Stewart thoroughly understood Tennesseans living in smaller, more rural areas. A myriad of small details in legislation preoccupied many senators, including Tom Stewart, who were concerned about the welfare and prosperity of small town constituents and working families. For instance, like many Southern senators, Tom Stewart worried about the effect upon cotton and textile workers should the use of rayon become more prevalent during the war.

It was Tom Stewart who introduced the legislation to intern Japanese citizens during World War II. Certainly it was a dark period in American history and all one can say in such circumstances is our leaders were a product of their own times. Senator Stewart was hardly alone in his belief Japanese-Americans should be interned; the old Progressive warrior Senator Hiram W. Johnson of California (where the idea was especially popular) favored the same approach, as

did ultimately, President Roosevelt himself.

Still, Tom Stewart was hardly out of step with the people he represented in the U. S. Senate. His views, as expressed in the Senate of the United States, were quite likely a reflection of the views held by a great majority of the people of Tennessee. Stewart was, however, treading on dangerous ground on a different subject important to many thousands of Tennesseans: the Tennessee Valley Authority.

Stewart's senior colleague, K. D. McKellar had gained a reputation as something of a feudist. It was certainly true that once Senator McKellar took a dislike to someone, there was going to be a fight. The object of one particular McKellar hatred was David E. Lilienthal, Chairman of the Tennessee Valley Authority. McKellar's dislike of Lilienthal would eventually become an obsession, but the old Tennessean felt Lilienthal had lied to him on several occasions. McKellar was quite proprietary in his attitude on all things pertaining to Tennessee and he had saved the TVA's political bacon time and again. From his perch on the powerful Appropriations Committee, McKellar managed to snatch victory from the jaws of defeat for the oftentimes-beleaguered Federal agency. Many Republicans and conservative Democrats were unfriendly to the TVA and securing the necessary appropriations for the Tennessee Valley Authority was frequently difficult and many times

accomplished only by the thinnest of margins.

McKellar was often referred to as "The Rich Uncle of TVA" and without him, the agency would have had great difficulties and quite likely many of the dams built would never have come into being without McKellar's influence and persistence in pushing TVA projects. McKellar had opposed the creation of Douglas Dam, largely due to complaints from constituents and canning interests, as much prime farming property would be flooded. McKellar managed to keep the project delayed until President Roosevelt personally asked him to drop his opposition as the war effort required the new dam.

Neither McKellar nor Tom Stewart personally liked nor trusted David Lilienthal and not without good reason. Lilienthal was treated by the media of the time as something of a golden child and was quite skilled in the art of public relations. Lilienthal's differences with McKellar especially were explained away as nothing more than the old senator's fury at having been denied the opportunity to place his own favorites inside the Tennessee Valley Authority. McKellar certainly never apologized for helping any Tennessean and was quite active in recommending folks for jobs with most any Federal agency. It was a standard practice of the time and virtually any successful Congressman and senator from every state did exactly the same thing; McKellar was just better at it than most.

Albert Gore, Sr., McKellar's successor in the Senate, gave an oral history interview a few years after his defeat. Gore was scrupulously fair in pointing out that both he and K. D. McKellar had served on the Appropriations Committee; McKellar in the Senate and Gore in the House. Gore related quite candidly McKellar was much more successful than he in protecting the Tennessee Valley Authority. McKellar's record with regard to the TVA was such Gore felt he could not criticize the old senator when the two were opponents in 1952.

McKellar introduced a bill that would require the Tennessee Valley Authority to rely entirely on appropriations from Congress, as well as require Senate confirmation for the highest-ranking TVA employees. Considering that McKellar was the defacto Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee, that meant Senator McKellar's personal approval. Senator Stewart believed Lilienthal had certainly given aid and comfort to Ned Carmack in the 1942 Democratic primary, if not outright support, an odd position for one to be in while decrying politics. Stewart supported the McKellar proposal, which passed the Senate, but failed in the House. Stewart's support for the McKellar amendments would be a source of contention when he sought reelection in 1948. Both of Tennessee's senators would bedevil David Lilienthal for years, although without success. FDR had decided not to reappoint Lilienthal, due to McKellar's profound opposition, but his untimely death perpetuated Lilienthal's public career. The feisty little man from Missouri who succeeded Roosevelt concluded he would appoint Lilienthal as Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission and confessed to an aide in his typically salty language, the appointment would "give old man McKellar a shit hemorrhage." Harry Truman was right; both Senators McKellar and Stewart were appalled, to say the least.

At the close of 1947, E. H. Crump issued a preemptory statement he and the Shelby County machine would not support Senator Stewart for a third term. Crump announced he would instead support John A. Mitchell, a little known judge from Cookeville, for the senatorial nomination.

Crump confidently expected his announcement would cause Tom Stewart to conclude he had no chance of being reelected and meekly retire. Senator Stewart's reaction would surprise virtually everybody in Tennessee and no one more than Crump himself.

PHOTOS BY DAN ANDREWS.



GOP Presidential Candidate Newt Gingrich made a stop in Hilton Hotel, near McGhee Tyson Airport, on Monday afternoon before election day to speak to supporters.



Knoxville Focus' Tasha Mahurin, Con Hunley and Mayor Burchett attend the Game On! Against Cancer at the Games and Things store in West Knoxville. Over \$31,000 dollars was raised for the Thompson Cancer Survival Center.

# City solid waste report shows recycling gains

The City of Knoxville's Public Service Department has released its Solid Waste Division's 2011 Annual Report, showing positive results in its solid waste management programs.

The amount of material recycled and otherwise diverted from landfills increased significantly. The City's recycling rate rose to 33.7 percent of total waste in 2011 from 28.31 percent in 2010, and the overall diversion rate rose to 66.13 percent from 60.47 percent.

The City's total waste stream increased by 39,120.91 tons from 2010, about a 30 percent increase. The rise was largely attributable to yard waste collection and construction and demolition waste due to several violent storms that occurred

in the spring of 2011. The City's household trash collection actually decreased by 966 tons from 2010.

"We're happy to see our rates of diversion and recycling both go up," said Solid Waste Project Manager John Homa. "That helps keep our landfill fees down, and it means our education and outreach efforts are showing results."

The diversion and recycling increases are notable, because those rates had remained fairly consistent for the last five years. The promising trend is closely linked with the City's new household curbside single-stream recycling program. This green initiative provides an opportunity for the city to increase recycling participation and divert additional materials from landfills.

The curbside recycling program began in October 2011, and in its first three months collected 1,314.82 tons of material from about 17,000 households. In comparison, a total of 4,459.85 tons of recyclables was collected at the City's 11 drop-off recycling centers in all of 2011. With 20,000 households now enrolled in the curbside program, the City expects to see continued gains in the recycling rate in 2012.

"This will be an exciting year for this program, as we anticipate the City will fully capture the diversion benefits of 20,000 households," said Public Service Director David Brace.

The full report is online at [http://www.cityof-knoxville.org/solidwaste/report\\_2011.pdf](http://www.cityof-knoxville.org/solidwaste/report_2011.pdf).



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# The Knoxville Focus Sports & Recreation

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## Ice Bears once again title contenders

By Alex Norman

On the local sports scene, the folks in Orange and White will always garner the most attention, especially when it comes to football, men's basketball and women's basketball.

But over the past 10 years, the Knoxville Ice Bears of the Southern Professional Hockey League (SPHL) have established a place of their own in our area. This season, the Ice

Bears are averaging more than 3700 fans per game at the Knoxville Civic Coliseum, tops in the SPHL.

"It's a no brainer for any team in any sport to have butts in the seats," said Ice Bears head coach Mike Craigen. "But when you take into consideration that the Ice Bears have the number one home winning percentage all-time in the SPHL... you know that our fans have a big hand in our home success. The

guys thoroughly enjoy the atmosphere a full building brings."

Craigen has been on both sides of the boards at the Civic Coliseum. He was a fan favorite as an Ice Bears player from 2004 to 2008, helping them win two SPHL titles. Now in his second season behind the Knoxville bench, Craigen says that he's learned a great deal.

"I think the most important and lasting thing that

I took from my rookie campaign would be hard work," said Craigen. "As a player, I knew that hard work substituted for everything and as a coach the same principles apply. Whether it be spending extra time with players on the ice after practice or banging away late at night with video breakdown for the upcoming week, a coach can always improve his team with his own work ethic, and that's what I try to

do." Minor league hockey teams traditionally have an interesting combination of youngsters and veterans. The Ice Bears rely a great deal on team captain Kevin Swider, who has been playing professional hockey since 1994. Swider leads the Ice Bears in assists and total points.

"Kevin sees the game on a different plane than any other player I've ever played with, against,

or coached," said Craigen. "He has the ability to anticipate movement and developing opportunity long before anyone else in the building does. That, along with his skating and puck handling, which allow him to maintain possession long enough for all of the other options he has to develop, is the main reason he's had so much success for so long

Continue on page 2

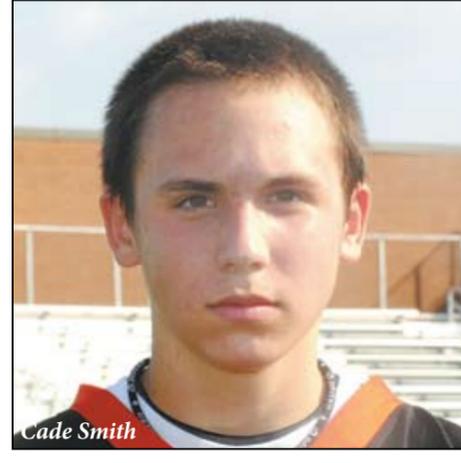
## Bunch, Crisp, Smith sign with the University of the Cumberlands



Gray Bunch



Koby Crisp



Cade Smith

By Bill Mynatt

powellfootballradiovoice@yahoo.com

Three members of the state runners up Powell Panthers signed Letters of Intent to continue their educations and play football at The University of the Cumberlands. Linebacker Gray Bunch, offensive lineman Koby Crisp and defensive back Cade Smith made their intentions official in a ceremony held Thursday, March 1, in the main lobby of the school.

Bunch has been called the "Quarterback of the Panther Defense" by his coaches. A two year starter and three year Letterman, Bunch played a key role in the Panther defensive success that led his team to a record setting 14-1 season in 2011, and a combined 25-2 mark during the past two seasons. During his senior season, the 5'10" and 185 pound inside linebacker made 93 total tackles, 9 tackles for loss, registered 3 sacks, and picked off 2 opponent pass attempts. For his work, Bunch was voted All District 3AAA by district coaches, and he was selected as the Team Defensive Player of the Year by his team mates. As a junior, Gray was credited with 81 total tackles, 9 tackles for loss, and 4 sacks. Gray's position coach at Powell was

Justin Lamb. Gray's parents are Robert and Debbie Bunch.

Crisp, a versatile offensive lineman, is a 3 year starter for the Panthers, and has played both guard and tackle during his career at Powell. At 6'2" and 255, Koby is big enough to go toe to toe with both defensive tackles and defensive ends, but he also possesses the quickness and footwork to get down-field and make secondary blocks to help his offense get those extra yards. Crisp was part of an offensive line that helped the Panthers gain over 6,000 yards and average over 40 points per game in 2011. During his career at Powell, Koby's offensive lines blew open holes that allowed a running back to set the all time State of Tennessee single season rushing record at 3,068 yards this past fall. During Crisp's tenure, his lines blocked for the school's numbers 1 and 2 all time total offensive yards leaders. Larry Neely is the Panther offensive line coach. Koby's Dad is Kenny Crisp.

Smith was one of the most versatile players in the 2011/2012 Powell senior class. As a 5'9" and 175 pound defensive back, Smith played a key role in the Panther secondary during the Panther run to Cookeville. In addition to being a solid defensive player,

Smith also excelled on special teams for the Panthers.

Former Panther head coach Matt Lowe on Smith:

"Cade brought a great contribution to the Panther football program. He embodies all that a high school football player should be."

Cade's parents are David and Kim Smith. His defensive backs coach at Powell was Scotty Stewart.

While at Powell, these seniors were part of an unprecedented run of success within the Panther football program. Some of the 2011/2012 senior class accomplishments included:

- School record for wins in a season with 14
- Best single season winning percentage at .933
- Most wins in a two year period at 25
- Best winning percentage within a 2 year period at .926
- Only the second appearance in a state championship game in school history
- Back to back District 3AAA titles
- Back to back undefeated regular seasons.

## KARNS SOCCER PREVIEW

By Ken Lay

Caleb Whitworth is hoping that 2012 will be the year that the Karns High School boys soccer team returns to its previous glory.

Whitworth, who took over a program that had been devastated by rezoning four years ago, has toiled tirelessly to rebuild a program almost from scratch.

Now, as he coaches his first class of four-year seniors, he's hoping that all the hard work will pay off with a District 3-AAA Championship.

"We'd like to compete for the district championship at the end of the season," Whitworth said. "We're a super team-focused team and we have a lot of heart."

"It's been a long three years but we want to make Karns soccer something that matters again and we want to compete with each team year in and year out."

The Beavers went 11-7 last season and finished in a three-way tie for second with Central, Powell and Clinton in the District 3-AAA Southern Division Standings. That trio finished behind defending Class AAA State Champion Hardin Valley Academy. The district divisions were

Continue on page 2

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# Central High Soccer Preview

re-aligned for the 2012 campaign. The Southern Division will feature the Beavers, Central, Oak Ridge and Clinton. Hardin Valley, Halls, Powell and Anderson County will compete in the Northern Division. Each team will play just three district games.

Top returners for Karns include: Oscar Avila (senior, midfielder); William Hawks (senior, defender); Eric James (senior, defender); Logan Kelly (senior, defender); Michael Mathis (senior, midfielder); Adrian Perju (senior, forward); Elliott Raxter (senior, forward); Munir Tutu (senior, goalkeeper); Eric Berman (junior, midfielder); Chance Bunch (senior, midfielder); Scott Hamberger (junior, midfielder); Elliot Jones (junior, forward); Troy Milligan (junior, midfielder); Logan Webb (junior, defender); Jackson Goble (sophomore, midfielder) and Riley McBee (sophomore, midfielder).

**By Ken Lay**

Central High School boys soccer coach Russ Wise has some lofty expectations for the 2012 season which opens tonight (March 12).

"Honestly, I think if we do well discipline-wise, we should be in the top four in the district," Wise said of the Bobcats, who open the season against Gibbs at Dan Y. Boring Stadium. "If the kids keep their grades up and we play together as a team, it should be a good season."

"We can't win if we play as 11 individuals. Everybody has to play together as a unit."

The showdown against the

Eagles will be the first of three matches this week for the 'Cats, who went 10-4 in 2011. Central will host the Fulton Falcons Thursday at Tommy Schumpert Park before returning to Dan Y. Boring Stadium to entertain Carter.

Kickoff for those games is slated for 6 p.m.

Top returners for the Bobcats include seniors Brandon Gilliam (defender), Nathan Gilliam (midfielder) and Julian Cosner (sweeper). Sophomore goalkeeper Cory Plont also returns after a stellar freshman season in 2011.

The Bobcats are much deeper

this season. Central has 41 players playing soccer this season, including 11 juniors and 11 seniors. Top varsity newcomers, according to Wise, who opens his fourth season as Central's head coach, are junior forward Issa Kemokai and sophomore forward Vamuyan Sheriff.

Wise said the team's strengths include depth, solid defense and strong goalkeeping.

He also noted that his major concerns for the upcoming season are team fitness, discipline and finding a shooter's touch.

"Our discipline and fitness

are a concern," Wise said. "I'm also not pleased with our transition and ball movement."

"Finishing is always a concern as well. It's tough to finish in soccer."

The Bobcats will compete in the District 3-AAA Southern Division with Karns, Clinton and Oak Ridge.

The conference's Northern Division is comprised of defending Class AAA State Champion Hardin Valley Academy, Powell, Halls and Anderson County. Each team's district finish will be determined only by divisional play with each team playing only three district matches.

## West falls to Cherokee

That battle-tested group of veterans is joined by newcomers sophomores Ryan Beets (midfielder) and Jordan Williamson (defender).

The Beavers, who open their 2012 campaign Tuesday at 6 p.m. at Grace Christian Academy, will play a rigorous schedule that features Lenoir City, Hardin Valley, West, Webb and Morristown West in addition to their district foes.

Whitworth toughened up the schedule in hopes of preparing Karns for a deep postseason run.

"We're playing against a lot of teams that made the State Tournament," he said.

For much of the past three seasons, the Beavers struggled to find an identity but Whitworth hopes that those days are behind his squad.

"At times last year, we stepped out onto the field not knowing who we really were," Whitworth said.

"This year, I think that you're going to see the maturity shine through."

"Hardin Valley will be our biggest game of the year, but I'd really like to beat Oak Ridge. We beat Hardin Valley two years ago but we've never beaten Oak Ridge."

**By Ken Lay**

West High School's boys basketball team had its State Tournament hopes dashed in heartbreaking fashion Monday, March 5.

The Rebels (29-5) saw their season end with a devastating 53-51 loss in a Section 1-AAA game to Cherokee before a packed house at West.

The Chiefs punched their ticket to the Class AAA State Tournament when Ethan Hagood hit a lay-up with 3.5 seconds remaining in regulation.

"I just knew that Ethan was going to finish," said Cherokee senior point guard James Scale, who scored 20 points to lead the Chiefs (26-7) to their first-ever trip to the State Tournament. "It's just an unbelievable feeling."

"This was just a great win and I'm glad that we came through."

While the Chiefs celebrated, West, which tied the game on a 3-point basket by District 4-AAA Most Valuable Player Calvin Walker, was stunned when Hagood scored to win the game.

"They got the open shot and they hit it," Rebels coach Chris Kesler said. "Unfortunately, we had some opportunities and we couldn't cash in."

"Over the last minute or minute-and-a-half, they made the plays and we didn't. I felt like if we'd made a few plays then

we would've been OK but they did a really good job."

West, which made its first trip to Murfreesboro in 2011, had hopes of making a return trip to the Midstate this year. But the Cinderella Story, that is Cherokee, had other ideas.

The Chiefs weathered an early storm and withstood a late surge from the Rebels to move on. Cherokee got a huge lift from its fans and rode the wave to victory.

"I didn't want to go home after tonight," Scales said. "Our crowd was great for us and I think we outnumbered them."

"The fans have done this for us all year and our team is just a big family."

Cherokee, which fell behind 4-0 early, rallied to take a 16-15 lead by first quarter's end. The Chiefs expanded their advantage to 27-23 by halftime. Cherokee also led 38-36 after three quarters.

After surrendering the first basket of the fourth quarter, West rallied to take a 48-44 lead when JayJuan Mitchell scored with

1:40 left and the Rebels appeared poised to prevail.

But Ty Ryans buried a 3-pointer to trim West's lead to 48-47. Cherokee then scored the next four points. The Chiefs went up 51-48 when Scales converted two foul shots 20 seconds left.

Walker tied the contest before Hagood scored the game winner.

Kesler was obviously disappointed with the loss but things in their place.

"It's tough to say this right now but you can't hang your head when you reach the Substate," he said. "A lot of teams would trade their seasons for the one we had."

"You have to look at this as a blessing when you get this far. We knew this would be a tough game. Nothing's easy when you get to this point."

Antoine Williams led the Rebels with 12 points. Mitchell finished with 11 for West, which won the District 4-AAA regular-season title and the Region 2-AAA Tournament.

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## KCSO holding 2012 Honor Guard Golf Tournament

The Knox County Sheriff's Office is hosting a golf tournament to raise funds for the Honor Guard and Color Guard. Many patrons will be supporting this effort by competing in the tournament or by becoming a donor or sponsor.

You can become a donor or sponsor by contributing a door prize or monetary donation. A \$100.00 donation will make you a hole sponsor. A \$25.00 donation will make you a cart donor. Any donations or prizes less than that amount will be recognized on our Sponsor and Donor board. Both contributions are tax deductible.

There will be a four-person scramble. The cost is \$300 per each four-person team. The cost is \$75.00 for a single player. Start times will be determined in order of paid registration.

This year's golf tournament will be held at the Three Ridges Golf Course at 6101 Wise Springs Road on Saturday, April 7, 2012. A barbeque lunch will begin at

noon. There will be a shotgun start at 8:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. There will be a Silent Auction, and Lenoir City Ford is providing a car as a hole in one prize. Retired New York Yankees' player Graig Nettles will attend.

The Honor Guard and Color Guard participate in community events such as opening ceremonies, graduations, and memorial services. They assist other law enforcement agencies with funeral details during the loss of an officer. They also participate in the Memorial Service, which takes place in Washington D.C. on May 15th each year, to honor fallen officers. There were 170 officers in the United States and Puerto Rico that died in the line of duty last year. Six of those were in the state of Tennessee. One of those was in Morgan County.

If you would like to be a sponsor or donate a door prize, please call Brian Cole at (865) 215-5611 or email him at brian.cole@knoxsheriff.org.



West High school students hold large signs of senior players on the basketball team at the Region 2-AAA championship game at Maryville. The signs were made by the West High marketing department. The Runnin' Rebels ran past Maryville, but were eliminated by Cherokee on their home floor in the state sectionals last week.

## Ice Bears once again title contenders

**Cont. from page 1**

in professional hockey."

Right winger David Segal is third on the Ice Bears in goals scored. He also maintains a physical presence, leading the team in penalty minutes.

"To me, David Segal is one of the most valuable and still underrated players in the entire league," said Craigen. "He has the presence during games to not only score a big goal, kill off a penalty, vocally inspire his teammates or throw a big hit... but to drop his gloves and change the momentum of a game during a fight and get our home fans on their feet."

Craigen adds, "Being an enforcer is one of the toughest jobs in all of

professional sports and David Segal has earned every bit of reputation and praise he gets. If you took David Segal out of our lineup, in my opinion you're taking away the heart and soul of the Ice Bears."

If this team is to make a deep run in the playoffs, goalie Kyle Rank will need to continue his stellar play. Through his first ten games in the Ice Bears net, the team has only one regulation loss.

"He's done nothing but work, improve, soak up information and compete every day to be a better goaltender," said Craigen. "I absolutely believe that Ranker has what it takes physically, ability wise and more importantly, mentally. His focus and urgency

level when the puck is in our end is fantastic and I'm looking forward to seeing just how good this kid can get."

Craigen's Ice Bears have clinched a spot in the SPHL postseason, and are in a battle with the Columbus Cottonmouths for the number two overall seed. So what is it going to take for the Ice Bears to win their fourth SPHL championship?

"Consistency and discipline are the buzz words for us this time of year," said Craigen. "We have shown this season that when we're firing on all cylinders and sticking with our gameplan, we can beat any team in any building."

Craigen adds, "The challenge for us is bringing that on a consistent basis and maintaining it for 60 minutes of hockey, without allowing poor discipline like bad penalties and straying from our system to interfere... it's hard to keep the intensity over the course of a 56 game schedule, but with the end in sight, I believe our guys will rise to the challenge."



**Down the Lane**  
*Rosie's Senior Bowling Review*

WEEKLY ACHIEVEMENTS FOR TUESDAY, CLUB 55, FEBRUARY 28, 2012

HIGH GAME SCRATCH--MALE  
258 JOHN FISHER  
256 RALPH ALLMON  
232 GARY WILSON

HIGH SERIES SCRATCH--MALE  
699 JOHN FISHER  
653 RALPH ALLMON  
596 GARY WILSON

HIGH GAME SCRATCH-FEMALE  
205 LUPE ARCHER  
175 JANET HUFFAKER

170 LINDA WORTH  
HIGH SERIES SCRATCH--FEMALE  
547 LUPE ARCHER  
482 LINDA WORTH  
479 BARBARA NELSON

WEDNESDAY CLUB 55:  
246 ROBERT WATKINS  
236 BILL BYRGE  
224 FRED GUTENDORF  
224 JESS CARRINGTON

HIGH GAME SCRATCH--FEMALE  
226 CAROLYN MCGILL  
180 JUDY WILSON  
178 NEDRA SATTERFIELD

HIGH SERIES SCRATCH--FEMALE  
579 CAROLYN MCGILL  
489 NEDRA SATTERFIELD  
482 MARGARET MYERS

THURSDAY NO-TAP:  
HIGH GAME SCRATCH--MALE  
300 BILLY MAJORS  
297 JOHN FISHER  
290 BILL BYRGE

HIGH SERIES SCRATCH--MALE  
857 BILLY MAJAORS  
839 JOHN FISHER  
780 GARY WILSON

HIGH GAME SCRATCH-FEMALE  
240 BETTY PHILLIPS  
222 KIMBERLY OWENS  
215 LYNN PORCO

HIGH SERIES SCRATCH--FEMALE  
587 LYNN PORCO  
577 BETTY PHILLIPS  
573 KIMBERLY OWENS

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# Martin's first season is already a success

By the time you read this, news will already be out on the UT basketball team's post-season destination. NCAA or NIT, it really doesn't matter when grading this season. The 2011-12 campaign could be declared a success before the Vols ever took the court in the SEC tournament. The rest is icing.



By Steve Williams

Thank you, Cuonzo Martin. Thank you for bringing respect back to the Tennessee men's program, for doing it the right way. Thank you for developing this team and staying the course. The result was a strong finish, eight wins in the last nine games and a No. 2 seed in the conference tourney. Not bad for a team picked to finish 11th out of 12 teams.

Thank you for teaching the young men to play the game tough but with class.

They say a team is an extension of its head coach. We certainly could see that this season.

Coach Martin believes in defense. The Vols played their hardest on that end of the floor.

Martin doesn't raise his voice. You didn't see the Vols showboating or playing up to the TV cameras.

Martin respects the third team on the floor, too, the men in stripes. He lets them do their job without screaming and getting boiling mad. He appreciates the work they do and realizes it is not an easy job. You haven't seen his players question referees' calls, either.

When this team got whipped 69-44 by Kentucky in Lexington on January 31st and fell to 10-12 overall and 2-5 in conference play, its post-season outlook was dim at best. A .500 won-loss record wouldn't guarantee the Vols a NIT berth, and the forecast of a .500 record at that time looked iffy anyway.

But Martin's team stuck together and improved, while others in the league faded.

Tennessee took care of business at home and beat Georgia and South Carolina. Then came the second win of the season over Florida, in Gainesville. It was beautiful. The Gators didn't like the Vols' physical style of play. Bert Bertelkamp said Florida fans were leaving the scene so fast it looked like money was being given away outside.

The Vols capped their second-half season surge with the overtime win at LSU and the victory over Vanderbilt in front of a fired up home crowd. Yes, Tennessee was playing its best basketball at the end of the regular season. Hopefully, it would carry over into tourney time.

But more important than finishing second in the standings was Tennessee basketball's good standing in the eyes of its fans and college basketball observers throughout the nation.

This basketball season, under Coach Martin, has been a breath of fresh air.

Last year was agonizing on and off the court under the embattled Bruce Pearl, who was suspended from coaching the first half of the SEC schedule by conference commissioner Mike Slive for violating NCAA rules and lying to investigators of college athletics' governing body.

Pearl was fired three days after the season ended with a 30-point loss to Michigan in the first round of the NCAA tournament and eventually given a three-year show cause for his unethical conduct by the NCAA last August.

Pearl's rise and fall became one of the most perplexing stories in the history of UT athletics. He had taken the Vols to its first-ever No. 1 national ranking and through their most successful stretch of all time. But he couldn't handle the success.

The coaching styles of Pearl and Martin are much different. Pearl was like a rock star. Martin is like a rock.

Heading into this season, there were still some Pearl groupies out there who were holding out hope that Pearl would return to coach Tennessee again in three years.

Pearl didn't gain any ground on Martin this year. Cuonzo's first season at UT will go down as a success and it appears he has laid the foundation for a strong program.



Presenting the Seymour Lady Eagles, your 6<sup>th</sup> grade Sevier County Regular Season Champs and Tournament Champs! Pictured left to right (first row): Cameron McConnell, Rachel Dutcher, Samantha Adams, Cassidy Kennedy, Megan Parton, Ryann Doyle, (Back Row) Coach Doug Newport, Kaylee Haynes, Kiana Bohanan, Taylor Blythe, Kallyn Newport, Lexie Gamble and Coach Dean Cruise.

# The Increasingly Popular Todd Kelly Jr.

By Alex Norman

Webb School sophomore Todd Kelly Jr. is getting a lot of attention these days... and he better get used to it.

Ever since Auburn University offered him a football scholarship a month ago, Kelly's stock has been on the rise.

"It's exciting and very intense as well," said Kelly. "With multiple offers I must call this coach and that coach, while also focusing on my academics and extra curricular activities."

Kelly's breakout sophomore season for the Spartans is a big reason he has schools like defending national champion Alabama, Clemson, and yes, the Southern California Trojans and coach Lane Kiffin offering him scholarships as well.

"T.K. is a great athlete who plays the game in a physical way, and at the same time has excellent speed," said Webb School coach Dave Meske. "T.K. is a student of the game. He has a passion for learning both on the football field and in the classroom. T.K. will be a tremendous leader and is a person of great character."

In 2011, Kelly rushed for 778 yards, averaging more than 10 yards per carry. He also scored 13 touchdowns. On defense, he made 65 tackles. Some pretty impressive numbers for someone that still has two more years of high school football left to play.

It appears that his college football future lies on the

defense side of the ball.

"I have been offered by every school as a defensive back, primarily safety," said Kelly.

Did he expect this much interest from Division 1 programs, with his National Signing Day a little less than 23 months away?

"Not at all," admits Kelly. "But it has, so I am ready for the challenges and pressure that comes with it."

Someone in his position could be overwhelmed by the increased correspondence with football programs, but Kelly seems to be doing a good job making those distractions just another part of his normal routine.

"I plan my day out and put recruiting to the side until I have completed my school work and training sessions," said Kelly. "With plenty of time left in the process, I don't have to worry too much about recruiting as I will in the near future."

Kelly added, "It's so early that I am just collecting information and thoughts from multiple visits and phone calls while also focusing on my academic success. There is no leader or favorite at this moment of time. However, sooner or later a college will hopefully stand out in my eyes."

Over the years the University of Tennessee has gotten its share of local talent. but by no means have they gotten all the good players in the Knoxville area. Alcoa's Randall Cobb and Catholic's Harrison Smith are two of the most well known cases.

Cobb wasn't told he'd

have a chance to compete at quarterback, so he picked Kentucky. Today Cobb plays wide receiver and returns kicks for the Green Bay Packers. Smith decided to attend Notre Dame, and is expected to be one of the first safeties selected in next month's NFL Draft.

Webb School is located less than 12 miles from the Tennessee-Knoxville campus. Kelly has another pretty significant UT connection. His father Todd was a standout defensive player for the Vols, and spent four seasons in the NFL with the 49ers, Falcons and Bengals.

All of those factors notwithstanding, Todd Kelly Jr. says there is no pressure to follow in his father's footsteps.

"Both of my parents will support me wherever I go,"

said Kelly. "They just want what is best for me. (My father) tells me to focus on school and becoming a better person and athlete. The rest will fall into place if I continue to stay motivated."

Part of that motivation revolves around getting the Webb Spartans back to the state title game. After winning championships in 2009 and 2010, the Spartans fell one game short of the final in 2011.

"We have to show up to work every single day and focus on getting better by taking one day at a time," said Kelly. "Our team chemistry is going to be essential in order to win it all."

With team success came individual rewards. Kelly might have the best of both worlds very soon.

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# Arts & Entertainment

## Tennessee Shines Returns

By Sarah Baker  
bakers@knoxfocus.com

WDVX, Knoxville's eminent bluegrass station, has brought back Knoxville's beloved Tennessee Shines. Previously, Tennessee Shines was a regularly sold out, weekly concert at the Bijou Theatre. Now it will be a smaller live broadcast concert hosted by Paige Davis and Bob Decker with Program

Director Tony Lawson as the MC. Fans of the preceding Tennessee Shines concerts or of WDVX's lunch-time broadcast concert, Blue Plate Special, will be elated.

The Blue Plate Special is a popular live concert broadcast which takes place inside the Knoxville Visitor Center at 301 S. Gay St. Fans regularly find their way Monday through

Friday at 12 p.m. and discover a treasure trove of authentic, local talent. Now Tennessee Shines will be broadcast on Monday evenings at 7 p.m. from the same location, and tickets for the show cost \$10 and will be available at [www.wdvx.com](http://www.wdvx.com).

The revival of Tennessee Shines premiered on Monday, March 5 and included singer-

songwriters Jill Andrews, Josh Oliver, and Sam Quinn (all formerly of the everybodyfields). Flat-pick guitarist Steve Kaufman and instrumentalist Daniel Kimbro were also impressive talents on the show.

Roger Harb, WDVX Marketing Director, explained that the new version of Tennessee Shines is going to be "less Nashville" and



Jill Andrews and Josh Oliver perform.

"more Knoxville." It is going to be more of a celebration of Appalachian heritage. "Knoxville is the biggest city in Appalachia, so why not become the cultural center of Appalachia?"

said Harb. Tennessee Shines will surely continue WDVX's enrichment of our city and their role in making that vision materialize even more.

## Playhouse keeps taking it to next level

By Sarah Baker  
bakers@knoxfocus.com

Powell Playhouse just keeps taking it to the next level. Director Nita Buell Black has done it yet again. Performances of "Steel Magnolias" during the last weekend of February brought audiences to tears and roaring laughter. It takes a lot of nerve to put forth a story many are so familiar with, but they pulled it off splendidly.

No story better conveys the strength and appeal of southern women better than "Steel Magnolias," which is probably why about 38 local women auditioned for the play's six roles. Each and every actress in the ensemble played her role with details in her demeanor that proved both intimate knowledge of southern mannerisms and emotional intimacy with her particular character.

Barbara Robertson, a kindergarten teacher at Adrian Burnett, played the part of M'Lynn, the brave mother who gives her daughter a kidney and then loses her to diabetes anyway. Robertson's pretty petite appearance is perfect for the part, and she played it with perfect tenderness and poise. What must be an emotionally taxing role, but she had the heart and the courage to take it unrestrained to

the core of the heartache every time. Bravo!

Katie Dake is a senior at the University of Tennessee who played the part of Shelby. Dake's smile and energetic delivery were just right. Annelie was played by another UT student, Christina Perkins. Perkins was adorable and her comedic timing was on the mark too. Mindy Barrett played the part of Truvy, the hairdresser whose salon is the setting of the play. Barrett is a theatre arts teacher at Halls Middle School and it shows. Her performance definitely added some pizzazz. Renee Denney was so convincing as Clairee that people in the audience thought Black had shipped in some Deep South aristocrat to play the part. Bonny Baker Pendleton played Ouiser, the smart aleck of this southern sisterhood. She was absolutely hilarious especially when she delivered the infamous, favorite line, "Well, he's a real gentleman. I bet he takes the dishes out of the



Christina Perkins, Katie Dake, Mindy Barrett, Barbara Robertson, Renee Denney, and Bonny Baker Pendleton posing with their red velvet armadillo cake at the cast party

sink before he pees in it." Don't you just love it?

Powell Playhouse just keeps getting better and better. There is nothing they couldn't pull off. They will be having a comedy night on April 21 and will perform the play "The Savage Dilemma" June 7-10. For more information, visit [www.powellplayhouseinc.com](http://www.powellplayhouseinc.com) or call 947-7428.

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You are cordially invited to attend the 8th Annual Garden Party Luncheon & Auction to benefit the Fountain City Art Center Saturday, May 12, 2011, 11AM at the home of Ginger and Bill Baxter 3901 Sam Cooper Lane Knoxville, TN 37918 Please join us at the exquisite Baxter Gardens! Enjoy a delicious lunch, a display of paintings, pottery, jewelry, & hand-painted bird houses, a Cash Bar, Silent & Live Auctions, musical entertainment, and awards given for the best table decor. Reservations: \$35 donation per person to the Fountain City Art Center 213 Hotel Avenue, Knoxville, TN 37918 For more information call or email (865)357-2787; [fcartcenter@knology.net](mailto:fcartcenter@knology.net)

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

## Docere

One of my favorite authors is Isaac Asimov. I began reading him because of his science fiction novels. Only later did I discover that he was a polymath. What's a polymath, you ask? Well, this is a modern word for what was once called a "Renaissance Man," or a person who is schooled in many disciplines. Leonardo da Vinci was such a man. Asimov has published books on every topic in the Dewey decimal library system. In my own library I have Asimov books of science fiction, humor, basic science, interpretations of

Shakespeare's plays, and a 1200 page commentary on the Bible. When my children were young they would often come to me with questions. I quickly learned that the answers needed to be short ones without digressions or pontification. I would often tell them that the answer to their question would require several sentences and then ask them if they really wanted their question answered. Not infrequently they would roll their eyes and say, "That's OK, Dad." The word doctor derives from the Latin

word docere. It means to teach, and that's what I do. I teach my patients about their problems while answering their questions. I teach nurses, even colleagues. I look forward to teaching my grandson who will be born in May. And I teach my readers of *The Knoxville Focus*. People ask me why I bother to write each week. I do so because it gives me joy and because I'm a teacher at heart. I also enjoy public speaking which is another aspect of teaching. This form of instruction once terrified me. I'm not a thespian like my wife. She is energized when on stage; it's hard work for me. Early in my career I found that my fear of public speaking was a hindrance so I practiced and practiced, even memorizing entire lectures before going to the podium. I can do it now with ease. A friend recently told me that my recent presentation to his Sunday school class was wonderful, and that I "had a gift." No, it was hard work that now makes it

look natural and easy. Have you ever seen yourself in a video or heard your recorded voice? We see and hear ourselves differently than others do. You often hear people say they don't like having their picture taken which means their vision of themselves is different from that of others or the camera. My daughter is in her last trimester and she looks pregnant. I told her that it's hard for a woman to comprehend how differently men and woman visualize pregnancy. Apparently, genetic imprinting in a man helps him to see a pregnant woman as attractive where women see only their... bigness. A corollary to these musings is my objectivity concerning my own writing. I've found that I leave out words because I knew what I was trying to say and my eyes just imagine it there on the page. Fortunately, I have an editor, who can read over my work, add the words that I inadvertently leave out and make sure my modifiers aren't misplaced. My Becky

has been modifying my behavior for the thirty-six years of our marriage and now edits these homemade stories. Last week I looked into the mirror and I looked... old. Perhaps it was because my dictation device had ruffled my hair, but it seemed more than just a bad hair day. Maybe it was the stress of the Obama-care mandated electronic medical records that add an hour to my ten hour days. Maybe it was because I no longer have as much time to spend teaching patients about their medical problems and discussing their concerns, because I now have to retreat to my office and do "point and click" data entry on the EMR system. Maybe I'm just tired of fighting the Knoxville City government who continues to torment us as we try and improve our property. Maybe, like the Psalmist, I'm having trouble "singing the Lord's song in [an increasingly] foreign land." As I listen to the purported newscasts manipulated by the perverse

media, and parse the rhetoric of the candidates and the pundits, and lament the class warfare brought to our homeland by our own President, solace escapes me. At one time I searched the world for a place to relocate and escape, but, like Socrates, I concluded that I cannot abandon my homeland. I may be forced to drink the hemlock, but one day freedom will again spring up from my ashes. By then I will be "free at last, free at last..."  
 Food for thought...

**Doctor Ferguson is accepting new patients. His office is next to Fort Sanders Hospital.**



For appointments call Keesha at 865-522-0326.

*Do you have a question for Dr. Ferguson? Please e-mail him at [jferguson@summithealthcare.com](mailto:jferguson@summithealthcare.com).*

# Indoor Tanning and Your Skin

If you are like me spring is dancing in your head, with sounds of birds singing to the wonderful sights and smells of grass greening and flowers blooming. Ahhh—spring is in the air and all around us, what a welcome time of year. Spring usually affords us a much needed break from winter and school, sets the stage for bathing suits, sun and tanning beds. It seems everyone wants to be the first to tan as we race for beaches, mountains, and fields to enjoy and feel the sun tanning our skin.

The other day as I traveled through town I could not help but notice tanning store lobbies full of customers waiting to tan. Even despite warnings from dermatologist and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on the risk of indoor tanning we still insist on browning our bodies. Indoor tanning has been linked

with cancers of the skin including the most deadly melanoma, squamous cell carcinoma, and cancers of the eye (ocular melanoma). Indoor tanning exposes users to both UV-A and UV-B rays, and both can damage the skin and ultimately—can lead to cancer. A study conducted by the International Agency for Research on Cancer Working Group on Artificial Ultraviolet Light and Skin Cancer (2007), concluded that people who begin tanning younger than age 35 have a 75% higher risk of melanoma. The studies further conclude the use of tanning beds also increases the risk of wrinkles and eye damage, and changes to skin texture. Myths about indoor tanning include: "Indoor tanning is safer than sun tanning," both indoor and sun tanning are dangerous. Indoor tanning is controlled by timers, however; ultraviolet rays can vary based on the age and type of bulbs used. Your skin can burn and become damaged by using tanning beds and booths. "I can use indoor tanning to get a base tan to protect me from getting sunburn," our skin tans

as a response to injury, the skins normal response is to produce more pigment. According to a 2009 Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System study, 16% of all high school students and 37% of white high school girls use indoor tanning. Studies also indicated people over the age of 30 tan less frequently. These studies are the driving force behind some states restricting or banning the use of indoor tanning to minors. Twenty-six states have enacted laws restricting minors' access to tanning facilities. Of these states, California, Maine, New Jersey, and New York, prohibit minors under age 14 from using tanning facilities. North Carolina law prohibits persons under age of 13 from using tanning equipment without a written prescription from a physician that specifies the nature of the condition requiring treatment. Tennessee requires either an in-person signature by the parent or guardian or a notarized consent statement (National Cancer Institute). Appearance seems to trump health when it comes to getting a

bronzed glow and tan. We associate sex appeal and glamour with being tan. Exposure to UV rays even reinforces a physiological boost in endorphins that make us feel better. So, how do we get a tan, protect our skin, and feel good about ourselves? Take the lead of a few female celebrities like Britney Spears and Paris Hilton who are giving much impetus to spray booth-and-bottle tanning. How do we protect ourselves when we are out in the sun? Slip on a shirt, slop on the sunscreen, slap on a hat, and wrap on sunglasses to protect the eyes and sensitive skin around them from ultraviolet light (American Cancer Society). When out in the sun it is important to realize that a typical light T-shirt has less protection from the sun's harmful rays than sunscreen with a sun protections factor (SPF) of 15 or higher. Slop on the sunscreen; remember sunscreens do not give you total protection. If applied correctly, a sunscreen with a SPF of 15 you still get the equivalent of 1 minute of UVB rays for each 15 minutes spent in the sun. Make sure to

check the expiration dates on your sunscreen, follow the label directions, and apply generously to dry skin at least 20 minutes before going outside to maximize absorption and protection. Generously, apply about 1 ounce of sunscreen (about a palm full) to cover legs, arms, neck and face for the average adult. Sunscreen should be reapplied at least every 2 hours and even more often if swimming or sweating. Slap on the hat (brim 2 to 3 inches) to protect your neck, ears, eyes, forehead, nose and scalp. Wrap on UV-blocking sunglasses to help protect your eyes. Please, protect your skin when out and about in the sun and if you have to have that so-called "healthy glow" consider spraying or rubbing it on. Your skin will look younger more beautiful longer all while protecting the skin you're in!

*For questions, comments, or suggestions on topics you want to read about please email me at: [howard@howardsbaker.com](mailto:howard@howardsbaker.com)*



**By Howard Baker, RN BSN**

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# Faith



**AWANA CHAMPS** Two teams of Quizzers from Knoxville traveled through adverse weather conditions to the Awana National Summit in St. Charles, IL. Students from several different churches came together to represent Bells Campground Baptist Church in Powell. Congratulations Bells Campground Baptist Church! Pictured are: Cayla Graner, West Park Baptist Church/Homeschool; Tim Kane, West Park BC/Hardin Valley Academy; Lauren Weakley, Basswood Baptist Church/Hardin Valley Academy; Jacob Leonhardt, Covenant Ministries Baptist Church, Bowling Green KY/Homeschool; Rebekah Vanderford, Chaperone; Emily Fain - Sr. Citation Achiever, French Broad Valley BC/Seymour HS; Ruth Vanderford, Parkway Baptist Church/Homeschool; Buddy Fain, French Broad Valley BC/Coach; Diann Byrd, Grace Baptist Church/Coach; Shawna Wood, Grace Baptist Church/Homeschool; Conner Todd, West Park Baptist/Grace Christian Academy; and Luke Lee, Callahan Rd. Baptist/Homeschool.

## Inward Spiritual Discipline #3: FASTING

Fasting is defined as the voluntary denial of an otherwise normal function for the sake of intense spiritual activity for a certain period of time. While fasting is often connected to food, it can be applied to many other areas. You may choose to fast from: media, electronic devices, music, or a certain beverage (coffee or soft drink). You may fast from certain food item(s): (sugar, desert, meat).

What does the Bible say about fasting? There are 90 some passages mentioning fasting in the Bible. Jesus both taught and modeled fasting. At the beginning of His ministry, Jesus went into the wilderness to fast and pray for 40 days (Matthew 4:2). Later, during the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus gave specific instructions on how to fast (Matthew 6:16-18). Jesus expected His

followers to fast, thus they needed directions on how to do so.

There are various reasons to fast. Some of these include: showing humility and repentance, developing discipline, fasting to know God's will, asking for something you desire, seeking God's face more fully.

There are some important questions to ask before a fast since our sincerity and attitude play an important role in fasting. "Am I confident that my desire to fast is God-given? What are my spiritual objectives in this fast? Is there any hidden desire to impress others?"

There are various types of fasting. I would recommend beginning with a normal fast. This involves abstaining from all forms of food but not from water, and typically lasts 24 hours. For healthy individuals, no harm will result from a short-term fast. If you choose to fast for more than three days from all food, it would be wise to consult your physician. If you have struggles with an eating disorder, are pregnant, or are being treated for any kind of an illness, do not begin any type of fasting without the approval

and supervision of your physician.

If you have never fasted before, you might start by missing one or two meals. Over time, you can build up to a full day or several days. Refrain from solid foods but drink water. Soft drinks are not good as they poison the digestive system and inhibit the purifying process. Coffee and tea stimulate the nervous system. During the first few days of a fast, you may encounter headaches as the body withdraws from caffeine. During the fast, make sure to set aside a specific time to worship and seek God. After a day or two of a fast, it is best to end the fast with a small glass of fruit juice. Gradually introduce small amounts of easily digestible foods such as yogurt, soup, fresh fruit, and cooked vegetables.

What is important is your attitude toward God and your walk with Him, not how long you fast. God wants you to obey, love and enjoy Him. Abstaining from food is one way to show our commitment in seeking Him.

## Church Happenings

### KFL Outreach Ministry Presents

The Knoxville Fellowship Luncheon (KFL) will meet March 13, 2012 at the Golden Corral on Clinton Highway, at noon. Nathan Henry will be the guest speaker. You may view Henry's complete Bio at <http://kfl-luncheon.com>.

### Faith United Methodist Church

The United Methodist Men of Faith UMC will host a tamale dinner on Saturday, March 17, 2012 from 5-7 p.m. Everyone is welcome to join us for dinner starring the best tamales in town. Don't forget to wear your favorite green outfit. The mission of the United Methodist Men is to help men grow in Christ so others may know Christ. Tamales are also available for purchase at \$12 per dozen. Faith UMC is located at 1120 Dry Gap Pike. For

more information you can visit our website at [www.faithseekers.org](http://www.faithseekers.org), e-mail at [info@faithseekers.org](mailto:info@faithseekers.org) and also call us at 865-688-1000.

### New Beverly Baptist Church

Eternal Vision will be singing and sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ at New Beverly Baptist Church located at New Beverly Baptist Church Road, Knoxville 37918 on Sunday, March 25 at 6 p.m. There is no charge, but a love offering will be taken. For more information, visit the church website at [newbeverly.org](http://newbeverly.org), or call the church office at 865-546-0001.

### Seymour First Baptist Church

Seymour's spring "Roads and Rivers Day" clean-up event is scheduled for Saturday, March 17, from 9:00 a.m. until noon.

Registration will be held in the front parking lot of Seymour First Baptist Church located at 11621 Chapman Highway. Participants will receive orange safety vests, gloves, pickers, water bottles and litter bags.

Even with the mild winter Seymour's streets and roadsides have accumulated a large amount of unsightly litter which mars the natural beauty of the area. Seymour's clean-up event is sponsored by Keep Sevier Beautiful and is also a part of the Great American Cleanup program. A good turnout of volunteers on March 17 will help to make Seymour an even more attractive community.

Scout groups, 4-H clubs, school clubs, church children and youth groups (under age 12 must have adult supervision), families,

and service organizations are encouraged to participate. Participants will receive a free ticket to the May 11 Tennessee Smokies baseball game. For more information, please call Sam Padgett at 573-7759.

### South Knoxville Church of God

There will be a "MEN'S ONLY" dinner on Friday, March 30, at 6:30 p.m. We would like to invite the men in our community to come and fellowship with us. Pastor Mike Sexton of Lakewind Church will be our guest speaker for this event.

The South Knoxville Church of God is located approximately 1 mile off Chapman Highway at 5623 Magazine Road. For further information on upcoming events, church activities, or directions, please call our church office at 573-4141, or visit our website at [SKCOG.COM](http://SKCOG.COM).

Come worship with us  
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3320 New Beverly Church Rd.  
Knoxville, TN 37918  
Rev. Eddie Sawyer, Pastor  
[www.newbeverly.org](http://www.newbeverly.org)  
856-546-0001

Sunday School 10 a.m.  
Sunday Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.  
Sunday Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.  
Wednesday Evening Prayer 7:00 p.m.  
Wednesday Evening Youth 7:00 p.m.  
Bus Ministry -  
For transportation call 546-0001.



Picture of Dottie in her winter coat with a light snow on the ground taken by Ralphine Major in the early '70s.

## Dottie

Since some of the stories I am working on for future columns are not ready for publishing just yet, my brother has written a story for me to share with Focus readers this week.

As I read it, I realized how much I had forgotten about some of the chapters from our childhood. This story caused me to remember how different life was living on the farm and serves as a reminder that our wealth was not measured in money. It was not until I entered the workforce that I realized the vast differences for families who made their living off of small farms compared to those who worked on public jobs. Though I did not realize it then, I now know that it was our parents' strong and unshakable faith in God that carried us through. It was during those years that I gained a love of the land and an appreciation for the animals used for our livelihood and for our enjoyment. I hope Focus readers enjoy reading the following story Wayne wrote about one of those very special animals that brought so much joy, not only to him, but to all of our family. Here is his story about "Dottie."

She was not really my pony, but it seemed like she was. My grandfather had bought her for all the grandchildren to ride. Her name was Trixie, and she stayed in our barn. I helped feed and currycomb her, which means brushing her coat with a metal comb. When I was eight years old, Trixie passed away, and I really missed her.

My father had just become disabled with a serious heart condition and could no longer work. About that time, my Yorkshire sow—which is a large white hog—had a litter of eleven pigs. This would be my way of getting a pony of my very own. We heard that a family at the other end of our road had a pony to sell. Dad and I went to look at this pony named Dottie. She was beautiful! Her coat was a spotted white and light brown, and she had a happy personality to match her pretty markings. Dottie was also a trick pony. She



By **Ralphine Major**  
[ralphine3@yahoo.com](mailto:ralphine3@yahoo.com)

would paw with her right front hoof and turn around in a complete circle two or three times for her favorite treat—saltine crackers! We were surprised to learn she had one time been pur-

chased for nine hundred fifty dollars! This was quite a bit of money for the late 1950's and early 1960's. During those days, gasoline only cost around twenty-two to twenty-five cents a gallon. The sale price for Dottie this time was only ninety-five dollars, which meant I would have to sell ten pigs for ten dollars each. Thankfully, the price was not higher. It would have taken a lot of pigs to save the nine hundred fifty dollars! We gave our word that we would return to get Dottie when the pigs were sold. Our word was all that was needed.

Each day while feeding and caring for the sow and pigs, I was thinking that the time to go get Dottie was getting closer. When the man came to buy the last two pigs, I was ready to go and bring Dottie home. But, Dad said, "we will go and get her tomorrow morning." That was one of the longest nights I can remember.

Every time our family went to the store, Saltine crackers were always on the grocery list. Dottie even bore a foal I named Misty, after the pony in the book, "Misty of Chincoteague." The award-winning children's book is a true story about the pony from the island of Chincoteague, Virginia. As I grew older and started riding horses, Dottie became a bigger pet than ever. Lots of times, she would be in the corner of the pasture and would nicker when we came outside. That was the signal to bring the crackers. Dottie lived out her life on the farm with our family and brought us many happy memories.

*Speaking of memories, it is time for the 40th Reunion for the Gibbs High School Class of '72, April 14, 5-9 p.m. at the Christ United Methodist Church. Contact Linda Harrell Tunstall for more information at [tunstalllinda@aol.com](mailto:tunstalllinda@aol.com) or call 865-986-4565.*

## Faith Christian CENTER

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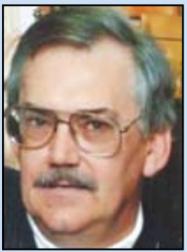
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# House to Home

## Why was it Marble City?

Did you realize that if you visit Boston, Washington, D.C., Philadelphia, New York City, or even Columbia, S.C., you may be touching pieces of East Tennessee?

### A Day Away



By Mike Steely

Washington Monument, the U.S. Capitol building, the Lincoln Memorial, the National Gallery of Art, the J. P. Morgan Library, and the South Carolina Capitol building.

East Tennessee marble has a quality that's hard to find, not only for its structure but also for its color.

There's black marble from Grainger County, red and pink from Hawkins County, pink and white from Lonsdale, Friendsville,

Concord, Island Home and Blount County. The Hawkins County marble was quarried from east of the county seat, taken by wagon to Rogersville and there floated down the river to Knoxville where it was shipped to various places.

Today many of these marble quarries have closed and have been forgotten or have disappeared beneath lake waters, as in Concord. Knox County, at one time, had some 20 different marble quarry sites.

But, you don't need to travel to D.C. or Boston, or anywhere else to see examples of the marble

from our area. Knoxville's Candoro or Marble City, located in the south end of town, is a quick trip and a surprising find.

Knoxville was once called "The Marble City" for good reason. Candoro Marble Company began in 1914 by three men, who's first letters of their last name became "Candoro." Its prized pink marble went into many of the nation's buildings including the Smithsonian. The building was designed in 1923 by noted architect Charles Barber. The eagles at the entrance of the Knoxville Post Office were sculpted from the Candoro marble.

Today the Candoro

Marble headquarters building is owned by South Knox Heritage and the building is on the National Register of Historic Places. The building is open now and then on special occasions.

To take an outside look at the building you can take Chapman Highway south until you get to Maryville Pike and it follow it south, or take John Sevier Highway to Maryville Pike and follow it north. Watch for signs. Or, you can email them at candoromarle@yahoo.com or call 577-0078.

May 12th has been set for the 12th annual "Festival" to raise funds to help preserve the Candoro

Marble Building. The Candoro Arts and Heritage Center operates the festival and is now calling on food vendors, artists, crafts persons and vendors of the unique and handmade to register and take part.

Booth numbers and instructions will be sent to vendors a few weeks before festival. Anyone interested should call Patrick at 609-3005 or visit their internet or facebook site for an application.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Alzheimer's Café-Memory Lane Café

On Tuesday, March 13 at 6:30 p.m., Courtyards Senior Living will host their monthly Alzheimer's Café-Memory Lane Café. This month the Fulmer Brothers will entertain. The café welcomes folks with Alzheimer's, their families, friends and caregivers for an evening of coffee, tea, desserts and a chance to relax in a warm, comfortable environment with others who understand!

at 7 p.m. at Shoney's on Emory Road. Former Knox County Sheriff Tim Hutchison will be the guest speaker.

### Retired Citizens of the Smokies meeting

The Retired Citizens of the Smokies meet on the first Monday of each month. Next meeting will be April 2nd, 1:00 p.m. at the Gatlinburg Community Center.

### Upcoming Civil War Talk

On Tuesday, March 13, 2012, the Knoxville Civil War Roundtable will host well known Civil War author and historian Gregg Biggs as its speaker. At 8:00 p.m. Mr. Biggs will speak on the topic: "The Campaigns of Forts Donelson and Henry" The talk is OPEN TO THE PUBLIC and will be at the Bearden Banquet Hall at 5806 Kingston Pike. To attend the talk only is \$5.00. Alternatively, you can come at 7:00 p.m. and enjoy a delicious buffet dinner which is \$15.00 for members and \$17.00 for non-members. To make dinner reservations, please call (865) 671-9001 by 11:00 a.m. on Monday, March 12.

### Urban Wilderness Arts & Trade District call to artists



If you are interested in joining others to promote the arts in South Knoxville and form an Artist's Coalition, please e-mail or phone contact information to Bobbye Edwards, Resident Artist, at Tea & Treasures, 4104 Martin Mill Pike, Knoxville, Tn. 37920. email: bedwards09@comcast.net, (865) 567-3301. You will be contacted with the date and location of first meeting.

### Fountain City Business & Prof. Assoc. meeting

The Fountain City Business and Professional Association will meet Wed. March 14 at noon. The speaker will be Kevin Kragenbrink Ph.D., Estrada Strategies. The meeting will take place at Central Baptist Church on North Broadway in Fountain City.

### Knoxville Writers' Group, Wed. March 28, 2012

Knoxville Writers' Group meets Wednesday, March 28, from 11:00 a.m.- 1:00 p.m., Naples Italian Restaurant, 5500 Kingston Pike. Grant E. Fetters, published author, will speak on "Struggles of Making the First Book." All-inclusive lunch is \$12.00. RSVP by Monday, March 26 to 865-983-3740.

### Multiple Sclerosis Self-Help Meetings

Knoxville Multiple Sclerosis Self-Help Night Group will meet at Associated Therapeutics, Tuesday, March 14, 2012, at 6:30 pm, 2704 Mineral Springs Avenue. A DVD video about Minimizing Your Risk of Falls will be shown. For more information, call Judy Moyers at 865-922-2281.

### Powell Republican Club

The Powell Republican Club will meet March 15

## ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES

# Southern Quilts

Quilting is a fine art that has been around for centuries. Quilts in American culture tend to be made in various patterns by region and certain patterns are common in



By Carl Sloan

all areas with basic repertoires found all over. No one area in our country is better or worse for quality yet the focus on Southern quilts is our discussion this week because they are some of the most desired in the markets worldwide and have been so for years.

Why? The top reason is that the South has produced so many! The South had very few textile mills, unlike the Northern states, so large woven blankets were not readily available to the commoner until after the 1920s era and even then rural folks had neither access nor funds for the store bought equivalent.

Another reason for the Southern quilt's desirability is its folk art lure. The Wedding Ring pattern is typical of a gift quilt and many were put away in a cedar chest not used and it's not uncommon to find them today like new. Patchwork quilts are just that, pieces of

scrap clothing sewn together just to make a blanket for use and the least on the scale as to value. Other patterns are Block, Geometric, Appliqué, Pinwheel and Crazy, as well as a tighter category of specialty quilts such as an Event or Fraternal. There are galleries in New York that have antique quilts for sale from the \$50,000 to \$250,000 range because of uniqueness and quality.

The quality of each antique quilt also plays an important factor in its auction price. It has to be hand sewn and has to have tight, close stitches that are even and in a pattern or type that is desirable. Not commonly understood is the back quilting that can be in swirling numerous patterns in what is called



over quilting so look at the back side.

Condition is paramount as well. Wear, stains, frayed edges, odors, and non-cotton materials are all issues.

This week's featured quilt (pictured above) is a variation of a circular plate pattern made in the 1920s -30s in East Tennessee and part of a collection of very fine one owner quilts that will be featured in mid April by Fountain City Auction.

Sellers are invited! Fountain City Auction is

now accepting consignments for the upcoming April Proxibid live broadcast internet auction. Items sought are good quilts, folk art, crocks, Americana, paintings, jugs, old advertising, carvings, Southern furniture, photographs and historical items as well as silver and gold coins. Call Gregory Lawson at 604-3468 to discuss any items you have.

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## PUBLIC NOTICE

### PUBLIC NOTICE:

**Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization Seeks Public Comment on Draft Outreach Plan.**

The Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) draft Outreach Plan outlines how the TPO will work to include the public in the region's transportation planning process. You are invited to comment, by phone, email, or during three public meetings - the TPO Technical Committee meetings on Tuesday, March 13th, and Tuesday, April 10th, and the TPO Executive Board meeting on Wednesday, April 25th. Each will be held at 9 a.m. in the Small Assembly Room of the City/County Building, 400 Main Street, Knoxville, TN.

The draft Outreach Plan is available at the TPO website at [www.knoxtrans.org](http://www.knoxtrans.org). If you need assistance or accommodation for a disability or would like a printed copy, please contact the TPO at 215-2500, [contacttpo@knoxtrans.org](mailto:contacttpo@knoxtrans.org), or at MPC/TPO offices, Suite 403, City/County Building, 400 Main Street, Knoxville, TN. Copies are available for review at public libraries in Knox County, Blount County, and Lenoir City beginning March 9th.

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- 1 cup diced onion
- 1 small sweet red pepper, diced
- 1 small green pepper, diced
- 1 cup chicken broth
- 1 celery rib with leaves, chopped
- 2 tablespoons tomato paste
- 2 teaspoons dried oregano
- 2 teaspoons Cajun seasoning
- 1-1/2 teaspoons minced garlic
- 2 bay leaves
- 1 teaspoon Louisiana-style hot sauce
- 1/2 teaspoon dried thyme
- 1 pound cooked medium shrimp, peeled and deveined
- Hot cooked rice

In a 5-qt. slow cooker, combine the first 16 ingredients. Cover and cook on low for 6-7 hours or until chicken is no longer pink. Stir in shrimp. Cover and cook 15 minutes longer or until heated through. Discard bay leaves. Serve with rice. Yield: 8 servings.

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