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MONDAY
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FREE- Take One!

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JACK IS BACK

He's throwing a party and you're invited!

By Dan Andrews

An epic battle of "David versus Goliath" is occurring in radio and it appears that David, or in this case, Jack Ryan, might emerge victorious. The award-winning DJ was recently let go by a powerhouse country radio station and was replaced by "syndication." That means the radio station brought in a DJ that airs nationally on multiple radio stations at once to save money.

Ryan was left with an unknown future. For a short while it was a dark place in his life and he worried about how he was going to take care of his family. During a conversation at The Bistro at the Bijou, he told me that waiting for callbacks from applications "is the hardest thing I have ever had to deal with in my life. The phone's just not ringing."

After being on the job hunt for several weeks the phone did start ringing and independent country radio station 96.7 Merle FM hired him. Since then a groundswell of supporters have made the move to 96.7 FM. Ryan said, "the response has been overwhelming. I tell those close to me that we thought listeners and advertisers would 'trickle' their way to us; but it's been more like a flood. And that's not an exaggeration."

The response has been so loud it has shaken the foundation of radio in Knoxville. Many industry executives in the radio business are watching. Many are probably wondering why so many listeners are so loyal to a guy on radio. Even without the huge signal or the

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PHOTO BY DAN ANDREWS.

Jack Ryan is congratulated by Mayor Burchett on his return to the airwaves at new home Merle FM on Thursday, April 12. Ryan will be throwing a Jack's Back party this Thursday featuring give-aways and a performance by Con Hunley.

FOCUS Weekly Poll*

Knox County School Superintendent James McIntyre has proposed extending the school year up to seven days at a cost of \$7 million. Do you support or oppose extending the school year?

SUPPORT 24.19%
OPPOSE 75.81%

Survey conducted May 8, 2012.

* Focus Weekly Polls are conducted by an independent, professional polling company.

Concerns about Broadway property raised in meeting

By Sarah Baker
bakers@knoxfocus.com

Mayor Madeline Rogero, City Law Director Charles Swanson, and other City officials held a community meeting with members of the Fourth and Gill Community to provide an update and answer questions on issues surrounding the building at 826 N. Broadway. The meeting was held on May 9 at Central United Methodist Church.

Focus Prison Ministries' executive director, Steve Humphreys, was cited on March 8 for unlawful use of a halfway house. According to Swanson, the city defines a halfway house as a residence in which parolees reside who must have prior approval or notify authorities of where they live. Earlier this year, rumors began to spread that residents at a Wells Avenue location were being transferred to the 826 N. Broadway location including people who required advanced approval. Inspectors discovered that were people living there that fit that description. In late April, Focus Ministries paid a \$50 fine and those residents were supposed to be out by May 10. At the time of the May 9 meeting, Swanson had received confirmation that those particular residents had already moved out.

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Longer School Year Proposed, Budget Battle Continues

Teachers group does not support superintendent's budget

By Focus Staff

Superintendent Jim McIntyre has trotted out yet another innovation, albeit a modest one with a hefty price tag. McIntyre is proposing to increase the school year by one week. This proposal, according to McIntyre, costs roughly \$1 million per day. Interestingly, if the school system is able to operate for an entire week at a cost around \$1 million, one should consider the school year is 180 days long and the school budget is almost \$400 million.

McIntyre's proposal is hardly new, as other systems in the state as well as other states are considering extending the school year. Our sister state of North Carolina is currently studying a piece of legislation designed to increase graduation rates and improve literacy by adding five more days to the school calendar. Interestingly, the North Carolina proposal, which is remarkably similar to that of McIntyre, would not cost more for teachers and the State of North

Carolina would cover the expenses involved in transporting students.

McIntyre and his staff appeared before the Knox County Commission last week, accompanied by what The Knoxville News-Sentinel estimated to be 150 supporters of the Superintendent's budget request, which will require a 35 cent increase in the property tax. Of course 150 citizens out of more than 350,000 residents doesn't amount to much and the sole small business owner who came before the Commission to warn about such a large property tax increase harming her family business was given little attention.

South Knox County Commissioner Mike Brown gave what seemed like an endorsement of McIntyre's proposed budget and the tax increase, pointing out the best teachers were choosing to go elsewhere. It was an interesting argument, especially in light of the fact there is virtually nothing in McIntyre's supposedly visionary budget for classroom teachers. In

fact, the Knox County Education Association has refused to endorse McIntyre's budget proposal for that very reason, which makes Brown's stated concerns look a bit out of place.

Dr. Sherry J. Morgan, President of the Knox County Education Association, recently wrote a letter which outlined numerous complaints, both about the budget and Dr. McIntyre. Morgan went so far as to claim many teachers could not personally afford the tax increase proposed by McIntyre.

"Teachers have called and emailed indicating they cannot afford a tax increase," Morgan wrote. "Teachers and other education personnel are working two jobs and barely making ends meet. Teachers have spouses who have lost their jobs. I have teachers tell me their children are on free/reduced lunch."

Morgan went on to say that the plight of many teachers is further aggravated because they "have students loans to pay or their loans have been deferred because of their lack of income."

Morgan's letter went on to address teacher complaints about McIntyre's widely heralded "merit bonus" plan. Morgan states that according to Knox County's APEX

information "between 65% and 85% of teachers will NOT qualify for 'Strategic Compensation'."

Several members of the Knox County Board of Education have recognized the political mistake of having left the classroom teachers out in the cold. Karen Carson has tried to reassure teachers that if the system gets the money it wants, the criteria for strategic compensation can be revised. Of course what isn't being stated to parents is that revising the supposed merit bonus plan to include more educators would be watering down the criteria for rewarding excellence.

Morgan went on to complain the KCEA was not even considered as McIntyre put together his budget. Morgan says, "KCEA had no input in KCS budget."

Even meeting with McIntyre proved to be difficult as Morgan related, "For KCEA to have meetings with McIntyre, we have had to send certified letters." Morgan said KCEA has had no difficulty in meeting with state legislators, Mayor Burchett, or former Superintendents in the past.

Morgan concluded her letter by saying, "This is my 24th year teaching in Knox County schools and I have never seen morale so

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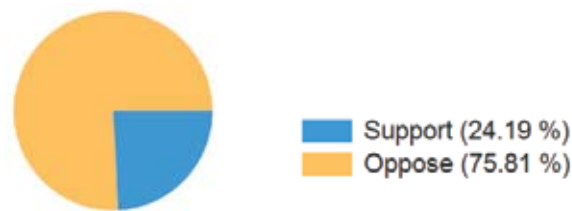
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FOCUS Weekly Poll

Knox County School Superintendent James McIntyre has proposed extending the school year up to seven days at a cost of \$7 million. Do you support or oppose extending the school year?



By Age	Support	Oppose
18-29	100.00%	[None]
30-49	27.78%	72.22%
50-65	21.11%	78.89%
65+	25.10%	74.90%
Total	24.19%	75.81%

By Commission District	Support	Oppose
1	27.59%	72.41%
2	24.56%	75.44%
3	29.17%	70.83%
4	32.89%	67.11%
5	27.87%	72.13%
6	25.00%	75.00%
7	23.08%	76.92%
8	10.91%	89.09%
9	13.33%	86.67%
Total	24.19%	75.81%

By Gender	Support	Oppose
Unknown	18.75%	81.25%
Female	27.20%	72.80%
Male	21.52%	78.48%
Total	24.19%	75.81%

Poll: Almost 76% oppose extending the school year

By Focus Staff

The Knoxville Focus asked quite nearly 500 voters, "Knox County School Superintendent James McIntyre has proposed extending the school year up to seven days at a total cost of \$7 million. Do you support or oppose extending the school year?"

Almost 76% of Knoxville residents and Knox Countians oppose

extending the school year by seven days at an approximate cost of \$7 million. Those voters most likely to have children in schools, aged 30-49, were opposed to extending the school year; just over 72% of those voters aged 30-49 did not favor McIntyre's latest proposal.

Once again, McIntyre's policies are the least popular in the 8th District,

which is South Knoxville and South Knox County and represented by Pam Trainor on the School Board and Mike Brown on the County Commission. Even in the 4th and 5th Commission Districts, McIntyre's proposal is not popular. Extending the school year did get more support in the 4th District, which is Sequoyah Hills and

points west, but it was only a third of the total. The 5th District, which is Farragut and surrounding areas, saw over 70% of respondents in opposition to extending the school year.

Recent polls have shown overwhelming opposition to increasing either the property tax or the sales tax and now McIntyre's proposal to extend the school year.

Concerns about Broadway property raised in meeting

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"It is not necessary to demonize people," said Swanson. "We believe what people tell us until we can show that they're not telling us the truth."

Residents like Lauren Ryder and Barbara Simpson say they're not trying to demonize people, but that it is a concentration issue. "We're not unchristian. We're not unkind," said Ryder. Several shared her sentiment, some even mentioning

that members of their own families had been incarcerated. They just don't think it's fair for their neighborhood to have a disproportionate amount of halfway houses. Apparently, several were grandfathered in to this area before the current zoning regulations. North Knoxville is also home to Knox Area Rescue Ministries and Volunteer Ministry Center. "We can't be everything to everybody," said Simpson.

The city can only enforce the law based on the current legal definition of a halfway house. Changing that definition, according to Swanson, would mean serious "policy issues." "We are going to continue to monitor the situation," he said. If it is being used as a halfway house, we will do everything legally necessary to make sure our zoning code is enforced and that it is not used as a halfway house."



Chuck Swanson, City of Knoxville law director

JACK IS BACK

Cont. from page 1

huge marketing power of a major station, it appears Jack Ryan is succeeding. "We have something that separates us from everybody," Ryan explained. "A very loyal base of listeners that will put up with a little less to feel they are contributing to the greater good of our society."

As a country music beat writer and personal friend of Jack Ryan's, I must say that I have witnessed a

truly remarkable story. Mr. Ryan and I share a unique bond for country music. In fact, I needed an active member for my accreditation for the highly exclusive Academy of Country Music and it was Mr. Ryan who sponsored me.

Since joining Merle 96.7FM, Ryan has been going nonstop... with round the clock promotions, marketing, and finding time to do what he loves the most: Playing

country music on the radio. Jack Ryan is having a huge "Jack's Back" party on Thursday, May 17 at the Cotton Eyed Joe following a free party at Elliott's boots on Campbell Station Road from 4 to 6. "Jack's Back" is a huge party in more ways than one. While the party itself is huge with great singers, great prizes, and great entertainment, the success of this event is what everyone in the industry will be watching for.

On stage that night will be Homer Hart, Fairview Union, Southern Drawl band and East Tennessee's own Con Hunley. A car full of cash will be given away at 10 p.m.

"So, to all my fans, (and I feel like a rock star for even saying that) I want to say thank-you for sticking with me through thick and thin," Ryan said with a smile. "Thank you for giving Merle 96.7FM a shot. We play a lot of music you haven't heard in a long time and I hope it's refreshing to you. I guarantee you that if you stick with us, we'll grow and our signal will too."

Longer School Year Proposed, Budget Battle Continues

Cont. from page 1

low among professional educators and school service professionals."

Morgan stated that she was not invited to meet with Superintendent McIntyre until the same afternoon as he intended to present his budget to the Knox County Board of Education.

The absence of educators from budget hearings is noticeable. In the past, teachers have filled the Large Assembly Room of the City County Building to capacity, roaring their approval of those statements they considered to be

friendly to their cause and glowering when they were displeased.

It was a strategic mistake on the part of Superintendent McIntyre as it had become conspicuously embarrassing that rank and file teachers are not supporting his budget plan, taking little part in public meetings, and simply not giving a hoot. More experienced members of the Board of Education like Indya Kincannon and Karen Carson are doing all they can to repair the damage and local media is giving scant attention to the missing component in the education circle that once was reliably active on behalf of tax increases and funding for schools.

Commissioner Brown isn't alone in his comments about McIntyre's budget improving the lot of teachers; The Sentinel has not mentioned increased salaries, unless they were referring to administrative personnel or the few who would qualify for the merit bonus.

It remains to be seen if the Superintendent and his allies will have six votes on the Knox County Commission to pass the tax increase; the key will be to get seven to override Mayor Burchett's expected veto.

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Publisher's Position

Is time running out for McIntyre?



By Steve Hunley, Publisher
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It looks like a few Knox County Commissioners have bought into Superintendent James McIntyre's budget, which will require a 35 cent or 14.83% increase in the property tax. While the school system and its allies are careful to point out this will only be a few dollars for most folks, average working families can expect to see an increase in their monthly mortgage payments to

cover the cost of the proposed increase. For those living in apartments or rental homes, look for an increase in monthly rent as landlords are going to pass along the tax hike to renters. Whether or not folks are going to be tickled when they realize their mortgage payment or rents have risen, remains to be seen, but I very much doubt it.

Unfortunately, a lot of folks won't become engaged in this debate until after the fact. Still, I am convinced the overwhelming majority or Knox Countians oppose increasing either the property or sales tax. Despite what some might think, when we conduct polls we keep our polling questions as simple and straight-forward as possible. In fact, many Congressional campaigns have run smaller samplings inside an entire Congressional

district than has *The Focus* for Knox County. In recent polls, Knox Countians overwhelmingly oppose any increase in the property or sales tax.

McIntyre's proposal could change the face of Knox County politics for now and in the future. The Superintendent has termed his budget proposal as a defining moment for Knoxville and Knox County. There is little doubt in my mind that McIntyre's success or failure regarding this budget request will become a defining moment all right; I think that it very well could be a defining moment for McIntyre's future as superintendent.

By 2014, most of the members of the Knox County Commission will be gone, some due to term limits and others retired by the voters. By 2014, voters will also have had the chance to see whether

their money has been spent wisely and although the school folks will give the same old excuse and say it is far too soon to be able to tell anything definitive, we certainly should have some idea. It won't be long after that when Knox Countians may take Board of Education Chairman Thomas Deakins's advice to retire the incumbent Board members and replace them and allow them in turn to replace the Superintendent.

If the Superintendent and Board cannot begin producing tangible results, improved scores and the like, sooner rather than later, voters probably aren't going to have the patience necessary for the long haul, especially when they discover Commissioners spent the entire wad of their tax dollars on schools and let everything else, like law enforcement,

infrastructure, public works, libraries, courts, parks, health services, senior services, solid waste and community development, etc., go ignored.

The notion that the only thing that matters in local government are schools is foolish; the county's debt situation is getting little or no attention as well from the Commissioners and that bill will have to be paid and including interest. In fact, the debt is currently in excess of one billion dollars now. Ignoring Knox County's fiscal health in the short term is equally foolish.

As time passes, it's going to be harder for other departments to function as efficiently and provide the same level of services, especially as the Commission allowed the school system to have not only everything it needs but also everything it wants.

2014 will likely be a watershed election for Knox County. Candidates won't likely be campaigning on providing more for the schools, but promising not to vote to raise taxes.

The pension for the Sheriff's Department is costing three times as much as voters were led to believe and, as said before, Knox County's debt is growing exponentially. For any Commissioner to ignore this is extremely careless and short-sighted.

Mayor Tim Burchett, who has promised to veto any attempt by the Commission to raise the property tax, will likely be the winner, especially by 2014. My guess is Tim Burchett will be left standing after a lot of other people who supported a tax increase in one of the worse economic times in our nation's history are gone.

Oh, those unintended consequences



By Richie Beeler

When the people speak, I always try to listen. If you read this column with any regularity, you know that I am a strong proponent of the people's right to vote, especially when it comes to electing local officials, or making major changes to the structure of our government. The founding fathers of both our state and nation took great pains to make sure that radical reforms in government could not take place without the direct consent of the people. The Tenth Amendment to the Constitution sealed the deal.

Having said all that, I do not mean to suggest that I always agree with the decisions of the voters. Occasionally, though not often, the candidate I support in a local race does not win. Sometimes the candidate that appears to have the better qualifications or credentials does not win. Once in a while, a person of less

than impeccable character will garner the most votes. And then sometimes, there are unforeseen ramifications to what the voters decide on those doggone ballot questions. You might even call them unintended consequences.

One case in point would be the referendum of November 2008 which included the now infamous charter amendments 3 & 4. Number 4 was a slam dunk. An overwhelming majority of voters said that they wanted Knox County's constitutional offices to remain elected positions, rather than having them appointed by the Mayor and County Commission. Number 3, however, was a different story.

That particular measure sought to reduce the number of county commissioners from 19 to 11. There would be one commissioner from each of the county's nine districts, and two more at-large seats to be elected countywide. Despite being defeated on Election Day, the amendment built up just enough of a margin in early voting to be adopted, effectively changing Knox County's legislative makeup. Whether

or not the change was good is highly debatable.

There is a growing sense of voter remorse over amendment 3. Citizens are realizing that it's a whole lot tougher to gain their commissioner's undivided attention when there is only one for the whole district. Commissioners are finding that their job has gotten twice as busy. And folks in rural and inner city areas are finding out just how outnumbered they are.

Proponents of amendment 3, with the help of the mainstream media, were able to turn it into a populist issue. In the wake of the Sunshine Law fiasco of 2008, County Commission was not exactly the most beloved body in town. The idea of cutting its size from 19 to 11 - which effectively eliminated several commissioners' seats - was a notion that resonated just enough with an angry electorate to narrowly pass the amendment.

Another such referendum that has given way to the dreaded unintended consequences was the 1994 term limit amendment, which Knox County voters passed with little fanfare. The amendment sought

to limit the service of the county's elected officials to two consecutive terms. It was an amendment to the Knox County Charter, and was assumed by many to be applicable only to those officials whose offices were specifically created by the Charter, namely the Mayor and the County Commission. Most people assumed that the county-wide constitutional offices were exempted from the term limit provision because they operated under state law. The State Attorney General agreed, opining that constitutional offices were indeed exempt from local term limit restrictions.

However, in 2006 the Tennessee Supreme Court ruled that Knox County's charter, while deeply flawed, did indeed apply to its constitutional offices. The Court held the will of the people as the highest standard in determining such matters. I agree with their philosophy, although I strongly disagreed with their ruling. But since 2006, term limits have become the norm in Knox County. And talk about unintended consequences.

There are few things that

get voters riled up quite like the mention of term limits. "Throw the rascals out," is a commonly heard battle cry among proponents. But are term limits really a good thing? I would propose that they are not, for one simple reason. The factor that makes independently elected officials most effective is their direct accountability to the people. Go to almost any locally elected office and I can just about guarantee you will receive better, more courteous service than if you go to an appointed office. Having been around local government for more than 25 years, I can tell you it's the way things are.

But throw term limits into the equation and suddenly you can end up with folks in their second term who frankly feel little accountability to anyone. The voters can't re-elect them, and they can't throw them out either. And lest you think I'm picking on local officials, I would merely cite the most famously term limited office of all: the American presidency.

Of all the two term presidents in our history, almost NONE had a successful second term. Populist

Harry Truman left office at the end of his second term with the lowest approval rating of any president in history. That is until George W. Bush ended his second term in early 2009. Richard Nixon brought the American political system to its knees in his second term. Bill Clinton was impeached. Even the beloved Ronald Reagan's legacy was tarnished by the Iran-Contra scandal. And all these Chief Executives served after term limits were applied to the presidency. Their direct predecessor, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, was elected four times to the office, and may have been the most effective world leader of the 20th century.

Term limits do not make elected officials more accountable to the voters. In fact, they destroy accountability by essentially turning officials into "lame ducks." They may sound good at the ballot box, and they may be championed by many in the media.

But the unintended consequences can be devastating.

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Seymour Primary School teachers Tabitha Jacklet, Amy Humble and Jennifer Karrasch on May 3 unveil the school's new classroom technology, which was purchased when Seymour Primary School won the 2011 U.S. Cellular Calling All Communities grand prize of \$150,000. Seymour Primary hosted a "Technology in the Classroom" Parent Night on May 3 so that parents and school supporters could see how the new technology is being used to impact lesson planning and classroom productivity. U.S. Cellular's Calling All Communities campaign awards \$1 million to schools across the nation in support of education and will return in September 2012.

Calling All Communities Campaign returning In September

U.S. Cellular (NYSE: USM) has announced that its Calling All Communities campaign will return for the fourth year this September. It challenges schools to rally community support for the chance to win a share of \$1 million to fund the projects their students need the most. The school that garners the most community votes will win \$150,000 with the next 17 schools each receiving \$50,000. Schools are encouraged to take advantage of the summer months to start building their winning campaigns early.

"Calling All Communities gives schools in the towns and cities where we live and work the opportunity to earn the funding they need to invest in the areas most critical to their students' learning experiences," said Jack Brundige, director of sales for U.S. Cellular in Tennessee. "We are committed to education and this annual campaign is a great way to engage entire communities to rally for a common goal. We're looking forward to more Tennessee schools participating this fall." Since the program began in 2008, U.S. Cellular has awarded \$3 million to 38 schools across the country.

A total of seven schools in Tennessee have been named Calling All Communities Champions, winning a total of \$650,000. That includes the 2011 Calling All Communities grand prize winner, Seymour Primary School in Seymour. The East Tennessee school chose to split the prize money with its sister schools in Seymour and used its share to add overhead projectors, interactive whiteboards and additional technology to classrooms.

Like Seymour Primary School, Calling All Communities champions nationwide have used their winnings in a variety of ways to strengthen the learning experience for thousands of students. Many winning schools outfitted their classrooms with new computers, improved outdated infrastructure and renovated gymnasiums, kitchens and science labs. A few gave scholarships to graduating students while others donated some of their winnings to non-profits around the world.

"We've learned that it takes a team of dedicated parents, teachers and community members to be successful," added Brundige. "Now is the time for communities to get an

early start on organizing their campaigns so they're ready for September."

U.S. Cellular gathered advice from past winners to help schools get a head start on planning for their Calling All Communities campaigns:

Invite your local U.S. Cellular associates to help you educate your school and community about the program.

Visit uscc.com and our Facebook page to access tools on how to start your campaign and share fun videos with your friends and family. Use social networking sites such as Facebook, YouTube and Twitter to talk about the campaign.

Engage parent teacher organizations, alumni networks, sports teams, the school band or student groups to help spread the word by handing out campaign flyers.

For more information about U.S. Cellular and past Calling All Communities campaigns, visit uscellular.com or facebook.com/uscellular. Check back this fall for more details about the 2012 Calling All Communities campaign. Official rules will be available when the program launches in September.

Dale Carr supporters to host free BBQ in Seymour

By Tasha Mahurin
Mahurint@knoxfocus.com

Supporters of long time Sevierville resident and businessman Dale Carr will host a free BBQ at the Hardin Farm in Seymour on May 17 from 5:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.

Dale Carr and wife, Jo Ann live in Sevierville. They have one son Brandon.

Dale graduated Sevier County High School in 1972. He started his career at Sevier County Electric System in 1973. He worked for the System for 30 years, the last several years as the office manager. As office manager he was responsible for the day to day operations of the office as well as all accounting for all daily collections. He retired from the electric system in 2003. During those 30 years he was also involved in the Real Estate and Auction Business. In 1999 he, along with his partner Todd Thompson, started Thompson Carr Auctions. He continues to be a working partner, conducting several auctions each year.

Dale has been active in Sevier County helping several organizations. He served as the first treasurer of the Boys and Girls Club of Sevier County, and he currently serves on the Sevierville Housing Authority and the Downtown Sevierville Association as well as working with the Sevier County High School Alumni. Additionally, he



Dale Carr

currently sits on the Dr. Robert F. Thomas Foundation Board, a supporting board of the Le Conte Medical Center, which helps the community with funds for local emergency agencies as well as equipment for the hospital. The foundation also helps with continuing education for Le Conte and supporting medical staff.

Dale will face incumbent Richard Montgomery in the August 2nd primary for the 12th District Tennessee State Representative seat. Hardin Farm is located at 759 Wade Road in Seymour. The event is free and the community is invited to attend.

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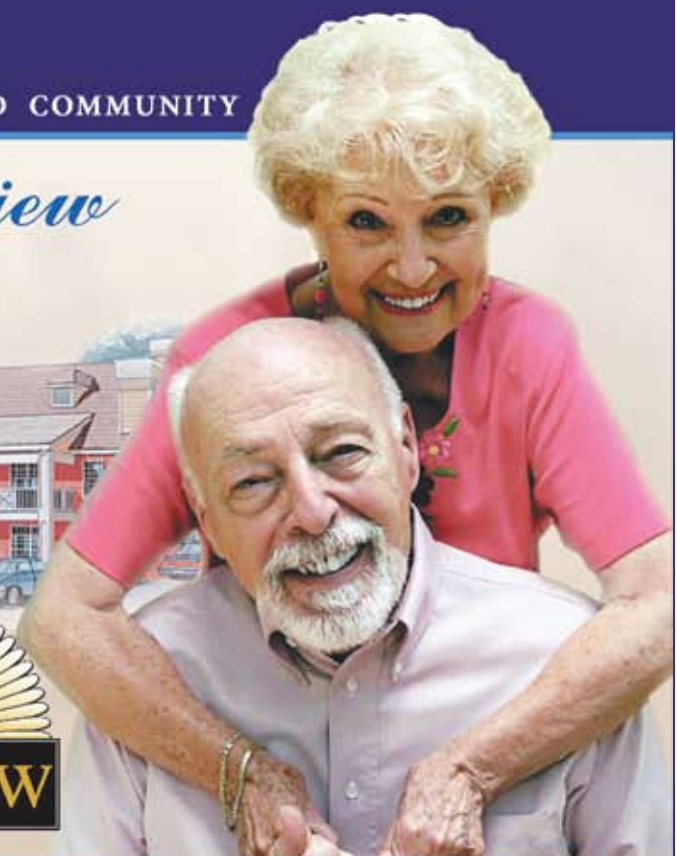
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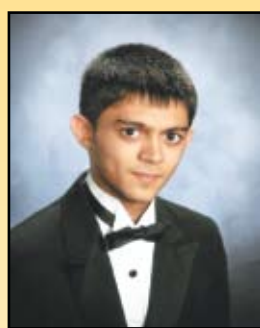
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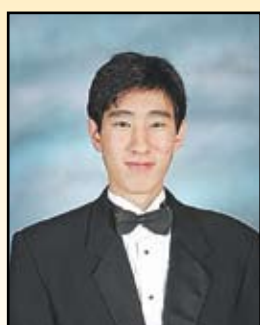
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The U.S. Senate In The Age of McKellar

1917 - 1953

Pages from the Political Past



By Ray Hill
rayhill865@gmail.com

Kenneth Douglas McKellar arrived in the United States Senate in 1917 and it was a much sleepier place than it would become a few decades later.

Capitol Hill has always been almost a world unto itself through the ages and still is; the Senate had its own post office, barber shop, private store, stationery shop, gymnasium and restaurants. The Senate had its own cabinet shop, where furniture was made and the photographs senators wished to be displayed would be sent down for framing. An elaborate maze of underground tunnels connected the various office buildings to the Capitol, complete with a miniature subway to deliver senators to Capitol Hill quickly.

Mail was delivered twice daily to senatorial offices and there were chutes at the end of the hall where employees could deposit letters, which descended into the bowels of the Russell Senate Office Building.

Considering the number of employees and visitors to Capitol Hill, folks naturally had to be fed. There was a restaurant open to the public, as well as one exclusively for the use of members of the Senate. A new menu was printed daily for visitors to order lunch. A sample menu from 1940 indicates one could order a lunch of flanked tenderloin steak with mushrooms for 85 cents; while an entire Maine lobster with julienne potatoes and combination salad was also 85 cents. For 60 cents, one could dine on broiled rockfish, string beans, and browned potatoes. A glass of milk was 5 cents and a pot of coffee was 15 cents.

Before 1909, senators had no official office, with many members using personal funds to rent office space in Washington. Realizing the need for offices and committee rooms, the first Senate Office Building was built in 1909. Two others would pop up over the years with the "old" Senate office building being named for Georgia U. S. Senator Richard Russell. The "new" Senate office building, completed in 1958, would be named for Illinois Senator Everett Dirksen and the most modern of all, the Hart Senate Office Building (named for Michigan Senator Philip Hart) was built in 1982. The Russell Building featured beautiful and ornate chandeliers, fireplaces in the private offices of senators, and none of the later buildings bespeaks the rich wood and elegance of the Russell Senate Office Building. Senator McKellar's office was a prime suite of rooms on the second floor of the Russell Senate Office Building, a suite later occupied by now-Vice President Joe Biden.

When the Senate Office Building was new in 1909, each senator had a suite consisting of two rooms and there was a private lavatory for the senator.

Richard Riedel spent almost fifty years as an employee of



PHOTO FROM AUTHOR'S ARCHIVES.

Senator McKellar, as President of the Senate, signing his name to a bill, 1946

the United States Senate and wrote a fascinating memoir entitled Halls of the Mighty, detailing his experiences. Mr. Riedel gave an account not only of his observations of individual members of the Senate, but provided much color about the institution of the Senate.

In the Senate cloakroom, there were a series of wooden lockers, with each senator's name emblazoned in carefully hand-painted gold letters where he could hang his coat and hat before proceeding to the Senate floor. The Senate barbershop, at a time before disposal razors, much less electric razors, contained a collection of beautiful porcelain mugs, rimmed in black and gold with each senator's name on his personal shaving mug. Every senator was gifted with his own comb and hairbrush as well as an individualized shaving mug. The senator's barbershop was operated only for those elected to the United States Senate, while another served the Senate employees. Members paid nothing for their haircuts, although most tipped the barbers who were on the Senate payroll.

Riedel was living in Washington, D. C. and was nine years old when he was selected to serve as a Pageboy in the United States Senate under the patronage of the powerful Pennsylvania Republican Boies Penrose. The Senate floor at the time featured elaborate snuff boxes for those members who wished to avail themselves. In today's world, snuff is almost unheard of and largely forgotten. For those who are not familiar with this smokeless tobacco product, it is ground tobacco. One would take a pinch of snuff and inhale it, oftentimes producing a magnificent sneeze. The U. S. Senate in 1917 had snuffboxes located on either side of the Chamber, one for Democrats and another for Republicans. There were also cuspidors discreetly placed

on the Senate floor for those senators who enjoyed chewing tobacco inside the Senate chamber.

When someone wished to see a senator who was on the floor, the guest would be escorted into the Senate Lobby or the ornate Marble Room and the senator could comfortably talk to his visitor while sitting on an overstuffed leather sofa. Senators, wishing for some peace and quiet, could retire to the Reading Room where newspapers from every state were kept and a huge map of the United States displaying current weather conditions hung on the wall. The Reading Room was yet another place exclusively for the use of senators and forbidden to anyone else.

For those members of the Senate who retained the favor of their constituents, came longevity in office, which brought increased power and prestige. Office space, like most everything else, was allocated on the basis of seniority. Junior senators were given office suites consisting of three rooms, while more senior senators occupied four room suites. Seniority also brought that particular senator more office space as well as one of the "hideaway" offices in the Capitol. The location of each senator's hideaway office was carefully guarded and frequently even staff members did not know precisely where their own senator's private office might be; the senator himself carried the key to unlock the door of his own hideaway. Depending upon the senator's seniority, the room could be very simple, if not actually barren. For those lucky few who were senior members, the office could be positively sumptuous with grand chandeliers and beautiful furniture.

Lyndon Johnson was so acquisitive when he was Majority Leader of the U. S. Senate, he set a new senatorial standard and he soon occupied

most of a wing of one Capitol Hill floor and his offices were so luxurious, they were referred to as the "Taj Mahal".

Another benefit of seniority was the chairmanship of a committee; the more important the committee, the more staff positions and office space available to the senator. Kenneth McKellar eventually was the Senate's most senior member, Chairman of the Appropriations Committee and President Pro Tempore of the United States Senate. McKellar had his office in the old Senate Office Building, the impressive ceremonial office of the President Pro Temp, a private office allotted to the Chairman of the Appropriations Committee, as well as one of the better hideaway offices inside the Capitol.

The Senate had its own library and if a particular book could not be found for a senator, the Library of Congress would send along the requested book via a small tunnel on a conveyor inside a small trunk that resembled a suitcase.

The beautiful President's Room was the site of an altercation involving Senator McKellar and a member of the press who had angered the hot-tempered Tennessean. Richard Riedel, then serving as the Senate's first press liaison, was approached by Bob Horton, a Scripps-Howard reporter who wished to see McKellar. Riedel, never suspecting anything amiss, dutifully went to fetch Senator McKellar from the Senate floor. McKellar entered the President's Room to find Horton waiting for him and unbeknownst to the horrified Riedel, discovered the reporter had penned a story that had enraged McKellar. Senator McKellar grew increasingly agitated, berated the surprised reporter in typically colorful McKellar language. The old Senator was soon shaking his fists in Horton's face as he recounted the reporter's

perfidy and finally worked himself into a state of real fury. When Riedel saw McKellar draw back his right arm to take a swing at the startled reporter, he jumped in between Horton and Senator McKellar, shouting, "Please!"

McKellar turned and stomped off to the Senate Chamber, while Horton breathed a sigh of relief. Neither McKellar nor Horton forgot the incident and according to Mr. Riedel, the two men never exchanged another word. McKellar did later thank Riedel for his intervention, saying he appreciated Riedel's having prevented what would surely have been an embarrassing moment.

The President's Room was so named due to the fact every chief executive from the time of Lincoln had visited Capitol Hill to sign bills before the adjournment of each Congress. A large table, padded with green felt, was used by the presidents to affix his signature to legislation, a custom that came to an end with the arrival of Franklin Delano Roosevelt. President Lyndon Johnson, a man with a sense of history and love for the Senate's traditions, returned to the President's Room to sign into law his historic Civil Rights Act of 1965. The table came to be known as the "Lincoln table" due to Abraham Lincoln having used it to sign legislation to free those slaves who had been pressed into service by the Confederate Army.

Richard Riedel related another incident inside the President's Room involving Senator McKellar. The Senator was being interviewed by a reporter when Riedel was suddenly jolted by the sound of a tremendous crash and the sound of broken glass and he watched as a vast cloud of dust came billowing out of the room.

"Knowing Senator McKellar was in there, I wondered what he had done this time!" Riedel

recalled.

The dust was apparently so thick one could not actually see what had occurred inside the President's Room. Riedel watched as the occupants drifted out of the room and at least in this particular instance, McKellar was not the cause of the commotion. Evidently a plaster panel above a chandelier had fallen, taking with it much of a chandelier in its descent.

The pace of life in the Capitol was much quieter than it would be years later. Senators had very small staffs and there were no offices back home in their respective states, save for those professional offices maintained by the member, many of whom continued to practice law when Congress was not in session. Senator McKellar had largely closed his own law office, but kept an office in the Commerce Trust Building in Memphis where he received visitors and answered mail.

McKellar remained readily accessible to friends and constituents throughout the balance of his long Congressional career. My friend Hal Gerber is the son of Will Gerber, who was an attorney and close associate of Memphis Boss E. H. Crump. Young Hal was interested in an appointment to one of the military academies and his father took him to McKellar's apartment in the Gayoso Hotel. Hal Gerber recalls receiving a warm welcome from the Senator who patiently explained his appointments to the various military academies were filled. McKellar offered to recommend Hal instead of one of the current applicants, but Hal thought the Senator knew he would not wish that and said so.

Washington, D. C. has been commonly referred to as something of a "sleepy Southern town" many times, but Congressional offices and the pace of life in the Capitol changed dramatically with the arrival of the New Deal and President Franklin D. Roosevelt. The economic crisis caused Congressmen and senators to be flooded with letters from constituents begging for some kind of job or help. World War II changed things even more, with Congress remaining in session for even longer periods of time.

A reorganization of the Congress came in 1946 with senators replacing their "Secretary" with an Administrative Assistant. Senators were given more professional staff and the antiquated committee structure was streamlined, giving new members at least one good assignment.

Today, despite the advances in technology, it seems the pace of life is faster in every respect. Communications to Members of Congress are usually sent via email and one may or may not receive a response, but in any event it seems far less personal. Replies are frequently mass generated and the signature is usually a computer font printed onto the page. The days of real orators holding the Senate floor are largely over; today Congressman and senators appear on the floor blow-dried and wearing the soft blue shirts conducive to making a good appearance on television. The passing of West Virginia Senator Robert C. Byrd, who entered the Senate in 1959, was the end of an era. The once revered traditions of the United States Senate are now largely confined to the pages of history and museum pieces, but what a tradition it was!



The professional staff at Senior Financial Group is ready to help with any questions about Medicare.

Senior Financial Group assists those on Medicare

By Tasha Mahurin
Mahurint@knoxfocus.com

Jerold Johnson was a struggling carpenter in the early 80s. Inflation was high and construction projects scarce when he dialed a wrong phone number that changed his life. By dialing the wrong number, he inadvertently answered a newspaper ad for insurance sales. After speaking and then meeting with the gentleman who had placed the ad, Johnson knew he was

going to go into insurance. Thirty years later Johnson is the owner and principle of Senior Financial Group in West Knoxville.

"I always enjoyed working with the elderly," Johnson told *The Focus* when asked how Senior Financial Group came to be.

Senior Financial Group is an individual brokerage firm with licensed insurance agents who help seniors statewide. Their primary goal is to help each person

understand their options for Medicare parts A,B,C, and D and guide them through the often overwhelming enrollment process. Additionally, they offer supplement plans to those who may need additional coverage.

The group offers assistance applying for extra help, whether it be patient assistance programs, Medicaid, or affordable medications. As a client's personal advocate, they offer assistance with filing appeals, claims,

and drug coverage exceptions. They can also help answer billing questions and help resolve many other issues.

"It's important that our clients feel comfortable and truly understand their healthcare options," Heather Majka of Senior Financial Group stated. "We're able to help them do that, while explaining complicated healthcare plans and eliminating extended wait-times."

Majka cites a client who is retiring from the Knox County Sheriff's Department. He is 65 and eligible for Medicare, however, his spouse is age 62 and will be losing her coverage.

"That's where we come in," Majka added. "We're going to be able to ensure that he enrolls in the appropriate Medicare plan to suit his needs, while also finding affordable healthcare coverage for his spouse."

Senior Financial Group's dedication is also evident in their commitment to give back to the community. Their staff volunteers time and expertise at the Knox County Office on Aging and sponsors the Carter Senior Center. If you would like them to assist you or have questions regarding their services, please call 865-777-0153. They are located at 11304 Station West Drive in Knoxville, and are open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.



PHOTO BY DAN ANDREW

Hallerin Hilton Hill welcomes Gov. Bill Haslam to the Sertoma Center's benefit dinner on Thursday May 10, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel. Haslam was the featured speaker and Hallerin Hilton Hill emceed the Friendship Dinner, which supports the Sertoma Center's mission to provide care for individuals with developmental disabilities.



Vestal's own Ogle Street Barber Shop recently welcomed new barber Bobby McMurray. Bobby has been a barber for 25 years and looks forward to continuing to serve the residents of South Knoxville through the legacy of Ogle Street Barber Shop.

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Catching Up With Former Vol Charles Davis

By Alex Norman

Life can take you in unexpected directions. That is certainly the case for former Tennessee Vols defensive back Charles Davis. Today he is one of football's most respected analysts, thanks to his work on Fox Sports college football coverage, as well as his appearances on the NFL Network.

"I always wanted to be a broadcaster, but never really saw the avenue or path to make it happen," said Davis. "Every day I give thanks to SEC Associate Commissioner Mark Whitworth who recommended me to a former FOX Sports South executive named Steve Craddock, who two years later gave me a shot on air. People have been blaming them ever since!"

Davis's resume includes stops at TBS, CBS, TNT, The Golf Channel, and Sun Sports Network. But had he not chosen broadcasting as a career, Davis would have done just fine in other areas. He graduated from UT with a degree in political science and earned his Master's degree in history.

Davis is one of many members of the sports media that engages sports fans via social media. On twitter, Davis's @CFD22 handle currently has more than 23,800 followers.

"Twitter is a good forum, and it's the forum of 'now.' I'm not nearly as active as many, but when I'm on, I try to answer as many questions as possible," said Davis. "Not everything you receive is positive, but unless the message is vile and degrading, I try to answer those, too."

The most controversial aspect of college football is probably the Bowl Championship Series (BCS). Born in 1998, its goal has been to match the top two teams in the country in the national championship game. It

Continue on page 2

Meade made coach for Gibbs

By Ken Lay

Timmy Meade is no stranger to success on the basketball court and now he'll step up to take on a new challenge.

Meade, 26, was recently named boys basketball coach at Gibbs High School.

"I'm really looking forward to this," said Meade, who played at Sullivan South High School and King College. "I haven't seen any

of the Gibbs kids play. But I've heard a lot of good things and I'm proud to be a part of that community.

"One of the reasons that the Gibbs job appealed to me is because it reminds me a lot of home. It reminds me a lot of where I played in high school. I'm looking forward to getting to know these kids and showing them what I'm all about."

Meade, who replaces the retiring Rick Anderson, may not have seen the Eagles play but he's certainly no stranger to good basketball. He spent the last three seasons as an assistant to West High's Chris Kesler. There, Meade coached in the toughest Class AAA district in East Tennessee. The Rebels, who reached the Class AAA State Tournament in 2011 and hosted a Section

1-AAA game for the first time in 2012, play a tough schedule that features the likes of Lenoir City, Bearden, Maryville, Farragut and Catholic.

The competition will likely be just as stiff in Corryton as the Eagles, who reached the Region 2-AA Tournament in 2012, play district games against rivals Union County and Carter as well

Continue on page 2



PHOTO BY DAN ANDREWS

Halls High left-hander Grant Painter delivers a pitch in the Red Devils' 11-2 victory over Oak Ridge in an elimination game of the District 3-AAA baseball tournament at Bob Polston Field. Painter hurled a complete game and belted a two-run homer against the Wildcats.

Halls advances to title game

By Ken Lay

Hardin Valley Academy has fielded a varsity baseball team for four seasons and the Hawks have already proven that they are a force to be reckoned with on the diamond.

Hardin Valley claimed its second consecutive District 3-AAA Tournament Championship with a 4-1 victory over top-seeded Halls Thursday night before an enthusiastic packed house at Halls High's Bob Polston Field.

The second-seeded Hawks (23-12) culminated a perfect district tournament run with Wednesday's victory.

"This doesn't get old," said Hardin Valley coach Kirk Renegar, who saw

his team shock the high school baseball world by claiming the 2011 title as the No. 4 seed. "This is an absolute tribute to our seniors who have been here through the dark times."

The Hawks may be playing with their first-ever class of four-year seniors but on this night, it was a freshman who stole the show.

Pitcher Will Neely won a district title game less than one year after graduating from middle school.

"He's a very talented athlete," Renegar said of his freshman hurler, who surrendered just one earned run, five hits and four walks while striking out six in a complete game victory. "He

has tremendous heart and he's extremely competitive and when you take those things and combine them with the talent that good Lord has blessed him with, you have a special player.

"He's a quiet kid but he's extremely competitive."

Neely exhibited his grit in midway through the contest.

Halls (27-6) mounted a two-out rally in the bottom of the third when Aaron Hardy singled and advanced to third when Trent Whetsell singled. With runners on the corners, Neely retired Red Devils catcher Austin Smith, the District 3-AAA Player of the Year, on a deep fly ball to center field.

In the bottom of the fourth, he pitched his way out of a bases-loaded one-out jam with consecutive strikeouts.

"I just told myself that I needed to throw strikes and I believed in myself."

Meanwhile, the Hawks, who will host Bearden in a Region 2-AAA Semifinal today (May 14), scored three runs in the top of the fourth on a pair of scoring singles. Pinch hitter Zach Sears opened the scoring with an RBI single of Halls pitcher Blake Shuler, who later surrendered a two-run hit to Anthony Gambuzza.

HVA added a run in the in the six when Ben Barnett scored on another single by Gambuzza.

Continue on page 2

Ranking of coaches could have had a different look

Learning from one's mistakes is a part of life. With that in mind, let's take a look at The Sporting News' recent rankings of college head football coaches.



By Steve Williams

It was one of the hot topics on the local sports scene last week, mainly because UT's Derek Dooley was ranked dead last among the 14 coaches in the SEC and 99th out of 124 nationally.

Ouch!

As I scrolled down the list, looking at the ages, years of coaching and win-loss records of these men, I actually started getting disappointed that former Tennessee coach Phillip Fulmer wasn't in these rankings.

Heck!

Fulmer was 58 years old, had been the Vols' head coach for 17 years and had produced a 152-52 record when he was forced to resign after the 2008 season.

And guess what? Fulmer's winning percentage of 74.5 percent is higher than The Sporting News' current top ranked coach, Alabama's Nick Saban. The 60-year-old Crimson Tide coach has a 16-year record

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Ranking of coaches could have had a different look

Cont. from page 1

of 141-54-1. Throw out the tie and that's a winning percentage of 72.3 percent.

Wow!

I came away with two conclusions: Dooley is underrated and Fulmer was under appreciated.

And don't get me wrong. Saban deserves the No. 1 ranking. He's coming off a national championship season. He has a 28-4 SEC regular-season record over the past four years. He has Bama, well, rollin'. And that ain't easy for a Tennessee fan to say.

It doesn't do any good to look back, but I'm going to today anyway, just to look at what might have happened had former athletic director Mike Hamilton not notified Fulmer of his season-ending dismissal on Nov. 2, 2008.

That was Hamilton's first mistake.

At the end of that emotional week, Fulmer's Vols lost to Wyoming, a 26-point underdog, in Neyland Stadium. The Vols did come back to give their longtime coach a victory ride off the field after beating Kentucky 28-10 in Fulmer's last game on Nov. 29. The season ended with a 5-6 record - only the second losing season in Fulmer's career at UT.

Not long after that, Hamilton hired Lane Kiffin. That turned out to be his second mistake. Lane lasted one year before running off to Southern Cal for his dream job. His short stay disrupted and delayed the rebuilding process at UT.

It's now been three seasons since the end of the Fulmer era. Kiffin went 7-6. Dooley has gone 6-7 and 5-7.

If you do the math, Fulmer averaged 8.9 wins per season over 17 years. Let's round that off to nine wins per season. Using those numbers, three 9-3 seasons plus a 2-1 bowl record would have boosted Fulmer's coaching record to 181-62. Sometime last season, which would have been the 20th campaign for the dean of SEC coaches, he would have moved past General Neyland (173-31-12) as the Vols' all-time winningest coach.

Heck!

But we can't change the past. We can only wonder. And learn from our mistakes.

Hopefully, Dooley will correct the mistakes he's made in his young career and bring the Tennessee program back to prominence.

And if the Vols ever have another head football coach with 100 more wins than losses, hopefully the UT administration won't make the mistake of dismissing him.

Please!

Meade made coach for Gibbs

Cont. from page 1

as Fulton and Austin-East.

Meade, who will close out the school year as a math teacher at West, will take the teaching position currently occupied by Anderson in the fall.

Meade is eagerly anticipating the chance to run his own program but said that he'll long remember the lessons that he learned from Kesler.

"I learned X's and O's from [Kesler], but more than that I learned by watching how he managed people," Meade said of his former boss. "Everything he decides to do is right.

"I'm never seen a more patient man, but he's also a man who's not afraid to get after somebody."

Kesler also taught

Meade the importance of having a well-conditioned team.

"I learned from him the importance of being in better shape than the other team, no matter what style they play," Meade added.

Meade has been married to wife Kristine for nearly three years and the couple enjoys the beach and lake outings. Timmy and Kristine are also members of Grace Lutheran Church.

Meade is also an avid sports fan.

"I love Tennessee football," he said. "I like Tennessee basketball, too, though it seems that I never get to watch it because I'm always coaching."

He's also a fan of the Atlanta Braves and the National Football League.

By Ken Lay

The Bearden High School softball team is a doormat no more.

The Lady Bulldogs punched their ticket to the regionals with a second-place finish in the District 4-AAA Tournament Wednesday night at Kim Hazelwood Field.

Bearden (25-15) came up short of the district title but that didn't seem to matter after a day of softball that lasted over four hours.

"This is just amazing," Lady Bulldogs' senior first baseman Sara Burklin said after Bearden fell 11-1 to Maryville in the championship game. "When I came here, we weren't even at the bottom.

"We were below the bottom and now we're at the top and it just feels great.

The Lady Bulldogs punched their ticket to today's Region 2-AAA Tournament with a 9-3 victory over rival Farragut in an elimination game earlier in the evening.

In that contest, Burklin went 2-for-4. She drove in four runs and scored another to pace Bearden to its fourth win over the Lady Admirals for the second time in tournament play and the fourth time in 2012. Burklin also spoiled a no-hit bid by Lady Rebels' senior pitching ace Allison Barbee and scored Bearden's lone run in the championship game.

"Sara has really played well for us in the postseason," Lady Bulldogs coach Leonard Sams said "Beating Farragut four times in a row this season was

really special.

"They're the measuring stick that we use. They're an elite program and they've made it to state a couple of times."

Bearden, which pounded out 13 hits against Farragut Wednesday night, found itself down 1-0 early as the Lady Admirals scored in the top of the first.

Farragut senior shortstop Baylee Williams, an all-tournament performer, led off the game with a double. She scored on Tori Etheridge on a fielder's choice.

The Lady Bulldogs would answer in the bottom of the frame when Burklin belted a two-run single with two outs. Danielle Willis and Kiarra Freeman scored on the play.

Bearden took a 5-1 lead in the bottom of the second. Freeman had an RBI single. Willis drove in a run with a bases-loaded walk. Jessie Goodson also picked up an RBI with a sacrifice fly.

The Lady Admirals (22-16) pulled to within 5-3 in the third. Williams, who went 4-for-4 with two doubles and two runs, singled. She came home on a hit by Avery Blankenburg, who later scored on a wild pitch.

Bearden put the game away with four more runs in the bottom of the fourth when Burklin and senior catcher Amanda Dunaway had two run singles. Lady Bulldog pitchers Goodson and Dana Stienbacher got out of some tough jams to keep hot swinging Farragut, which finished with 10 hits, off the board.

Bearden entered the



PHOTO BY DAN ANDREWS.

Bearden third baseman Catie Monroe awaits a pitch in Wednesday's District 4-AAA championship game at Kim Hazelwood Field. Maryville defeated the host Lady Bulldogs 11-1 to win the title.

championship game against top-seeded Maryville (33-7) knowing it had clinched a regional spot. Sams took the opportunity to give his younger players a chance to play. The Lady Rebels and Lady Bulldogs played evenly until Maryville used a five-run third and six-run fourth to claim the district championship.

"That was kind of by design," Sams said. "We didn't want Maryville to see Jessie [pitch] because we'll use her in the region final if we can get past Karns."

The Lady Beavers will host Bearden today in the Region 2-AAA Semifinals. Game time was unavailable at press time. Karns defeated Halls in Wednesday's District 3-AAA Championship game. The Lady Devils will travel to Blount County.

Bearden advances to the

region tournament for the first time since 2005 and it's a trip that's taken a while as Sams has rebuilt the program from scratch.

"This is indescribable," Freeman said. "I was in shock.

"We couldn't have done this without each other. The first year I was here, we only won one game. We'll be ready to play."

All-Tournament Team: All-Tournament Selections included: Burklin; Freeman and Rachel Goodson from Bearden; Williams, Sierra Sims and Kaci Murr (Farragut); McKenzie Sherman (Heritage); Bry Blanco, Jessica Connaster and Haley Hilliard from Maryville. Tournament MVP went to Barbee.

Halls advances to title game



BY DAN ANDREWS.

Oak Ridge starting pitcher Ried Elwood concludes his motion in the Wildcats' 11-2 loss to host Halls Thursday. He had a rough outing and was the losing pitcher in the 2012 season finale for Oak Ridge.

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For Halls, which travels to Farragut for the other regional semifinal today, it was a game of blown chances.

"We had opportunity, after opportunity, after opportunity but we just couldn't put the ball in play and you have to give [Neely] some credit," Halls coach Doug Polston said. "The good thing is that we advance and that's what it's all about this time of year."

Halls tallied an unearned run in the fifth. Hardy led off the frame with a single and advanced to second and third on wild pitches. Hardy scored when Grant Painter reached on an error.

The Red Devils advanced to the title game with an 11-2 victory over Oak Ridge. Painter hurled a complete game and hit a two-run homer. Whetsell also blasted a three-run round tripper in the bottom of the third.

Catching Up With Former Vol Charles Davis

Cont. from page 1

is likely that after years of discussion and overall fan displeasure, a playoff system of some sort will be enacted in time for the 2014 season.

Overall, Davis believes the BCS has been a good thing for college football.

"The focus and attention paid to the championship games begins in pre-season and lasts throughout," said Davis. "Have there been mistakes made in the court of public opinion? Yes. But those same mistakes were made with the poll/bowl system, too."

Davis added, "The new playoff system that's coming? It's a start, but with a 'Football Four' model that seems to be what will be implemented first, be prepared for more screaming to come.

It won't be perfect, but the public appears to favor the playoff system. Let's see how it works."

Davis played for the Vols from 1982-1986, and is still closely connected to the program. He is well aware of the struggles the Vols have had in recent years. Tennessee head coach Derek Dooley has his share of critics, but Davis isn't one of them.

"The program has the most stability now under Coach Dooley since he took over, in terms of players, returning starters, lettermen, etc.," said Davis. "The difficult part is that there are seven new coaches on staff, and that's difficult for the players. Another voice, another person saying 'trust me,' new techniques being taught, and a new 'language' being

spoken. It's not easy for both sides, but I sense optimism in Knoxville."

Davis added, "Coach Dooley has worked awfully hard to get Tennessee back into the SEC picture. It hasn't happened yet, but it's not for a lack of effort, or without an overall executed plan. The program was really struggling when he took over, and while the record is not what anyone who bleeds 'Big Orange' is happy with, I feel that better days are ahead. Coach Dooley has my full support!"

Today there is a fine line between objective sports journalist and sports fan. But Davis has no problem weighing his job as a broadcaster with his support for his alma mater.

"We all came from somewhere, all rooted for

different teams. When I call games and have to comment on games/teams/coaches, it's all as a professional broadcaster," said Davis. "I can still, however, root for my alma mater to be successful. Thus far, I have not had to call a national game involving my alma mater. But, look around... it's been done before, so I'm confident that I could do it impartially. The difficulty is that if fans know it's your school, they often 'hear' a bias, even when there is none."

Davis is one of the best in the business, and someone that Tennessee fans can be happy to see representing their University, each and every time he takes to the microphone.

Arts & Entertainment

Southern Gospel Music at its Best



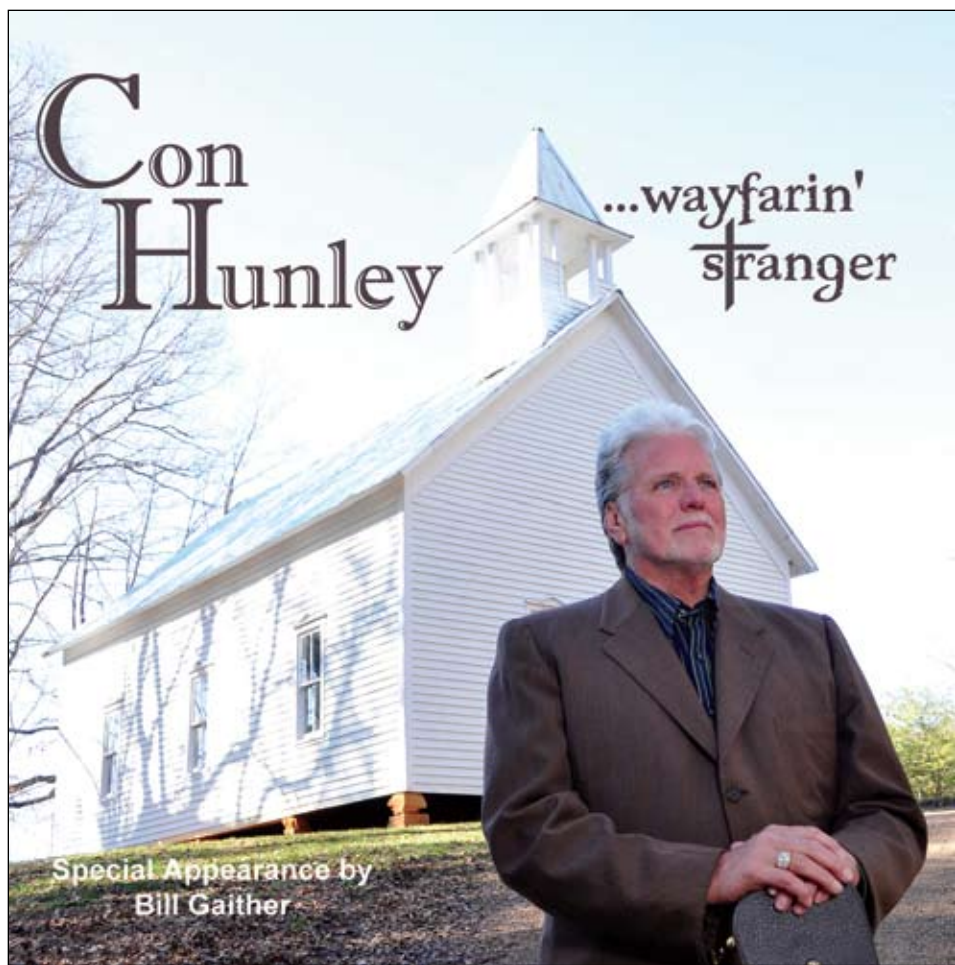
By **Ralphine Major**
ralphine3@yahoo.com

the moment I met him. This highly successful attorney was a fan of bluegrass and country music! Zane knew Con Hunley, who was a young recording artist at the time; and he often mentioned him to me. With his boyish grin and twinkle in his eye, Zane could talk about someone in a way that made me feel like I knew them, too. Con is the man standing in front of the church, providing an inspirational scene for the CD that waits to be played.

Opening the "Wayfarin' Stranger" CD is like unlocking a treasure-trove of music steeped in history and heritage. The inside cover features a photo of Con with his parents and siblings performing at the Bijou Theatre in Knoxville in 1982 where they sold out two nights back to back! I scanned the selection of songs as I lifted the disc from its cover. It was time to listen to the music, and I was anxious to hear the first chord. Con's powerful rendition of the beloved old hymn, "Amazing Grace," is a perfect opening. It is followed by a very special surprise, entitled "When I Was a Sinner," which was written by Con's Mother when she was only sixteen years old! As a tribute to his father, Con sings "There's a Leak

in This Ol' Building," which was one of his Dad's favorite songs. Hunley certainly does justice to the song made popular in the seventies by Kris Kristofferson, "Why Me, Lord." A huge highlight on the CD comes when Con is joined by Bill Gaither, America's gospel music legend. Together, Gaither and Hunley deliver a memorable recording of the favorite old hymn, "Peace in the Valley." It has been said that family creates the best harmony, and it certainly proves true on this gospel CD with Con's siblings providing the background vocals. A wide variety of accompaniment from drums to the mandolin add so much to the total sound of the songs.

The collectible CD is a balanced blend of the old hymns and some new songs I had not heard before, like "I Dreamed I Drove the Nails" and "Jonas." Both the old songs and the new ones have a common thread running through them: Con sings from his soul on every one of them. I found a new favorite in "A Little Bit of Jesus," and I especially enjoyed an old favorite: "Surely the Presence." No one sings Lanny Wolfe's lyrics better or more beautifully than Con on this timeless hymn. In



Con's new gospel CD is being released on May 15th. Titled "Wayfarin' Stranger," this CD is Con's first-ever gospel CD and is sure to become one of your favorites! Purchase the CD at www.conhunley.com or Disc Exchange.

fact, listeners can almost "hear the brush of angels' wings" in Hunley's controlled, easy-listening style. The range of his voice, the clarity of his words, and the feeling in each note makes "Surely the Presence" a worshipful experience to the very end. Long after the CD has stopped, I hear

the song playing over in my mind.

As I close the cover on this collection of music and more, I see a very old church building with weathered boards. It was organized by Con's grandfather, a minister, in Luttrell. What a rich tradition of family and music Con shares with

his listeners on this compact disc. Set for release May 15, this is the first ever gospel CD recorded by Con. I certainly hope it will not be his last! For more information about this talented and gifted artist, visit www.conhunley.com.



Detail of "Child's Fantasy," Harriet Howell

Knoxville Watercolor Society Exhibit at the Fountain City Art Center

By **Sylvia Williams**

A reception was held Friday evening, May 4, at the Fountain City Art Center for the new exhibit by the members of the Knoxville Watercolor Society. The KWS show boasts 38 luminous and highly professional transparent watercolors. Be sure to come by the Center before the end of the show on June 1; no admission is charged to view Art Center exhibits. This year's KWS President is Mary Secrist. The show chairperson is Paula Browning.

Also on view through June 1 is a watercolor show in the "Student Exhibits" area. The exhibit contains approximately 40 lovely works by the students of Mary Baumgartner's classes in "The Wonderful World of Watercolor."

This spring and summer, the Fountain City Art Center has classes for both children and adults, including several new offerings. Among the classes are: handmade books with Bob Meadows, both 6 weeks classes and a workshop; mixed media, "Experimental Painting" by Doris Prichard; an oil pastel workshop by Paul DeMarrais; oil painting with Aurora Harrison Bull, watercolor with Mary Secrist, Kate McCullough, Rob White, or Mary Baumgartner; portrait painting with Chico Osten; intro to art with Christine Harness; drawing with Elaine Flaherty; pottery with Roger Bench; fused glass with Penny Berridge, and much more!

The Fountain City Art Center is in the old library building at 213 Hotel Avenue. Art Center hours are: Tu, Th 9-5; W, F 10-5; Sat. 9-1



Detail of "Pond Memory," Harriet Campbell

except for 1st Saturdays. If you'd like to volunteer at the Center, call or email: 865.357.2787; fcartcenter@knology.net. We are always looking for new "art ambassadors."



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Starlifter Air Force Band to Perform at New Harvest Park

On their "Rockin' Through Tennessee" tour, Starlifter, the variety show group of the United States Air Force Band of Mid America, will perform at the New Harvest Park amphitheater on Sunday, May 20 at 7 p.m. The concert is for all audiences and is presented free of charge by Knox County Parks and Recreation.

"We are glad Starlifter chose one of our parks for a stop on their Tennessee tour and I'm pleased we can provide this type of quality entertainment for our citizens," said Knox County Mayor Tim Burchett.

Starlifter, from Scott Air Force Base in Illinois, is made up of seven musicians who present a fast-paced, high energy performance of rock and roll, pop, country, rhythm and blues, and patriotic crowd pleasers. In each genre, their repertoire extends from oldies to songs at the top of today's charts.

New Harvest Park is located in northeast Knox County, just off Washington Pike past the Target shopping center. The amphitheater is surrounded by grass and visitors may bring blankets or lawn chairs to enjoy the show.

For more information, please contact Knox County Parks and Recreation, 215-6600.



Emerald Youth Foundation's new initiative for high school seniors, Emerald Youth Fellows, includes members (front, left to right) Brianna McTeer, Darius Smallwood, Keyla Banks, Khadijah Rucker, Jalynn Luethke, Amber Jordan, Sharena Domingo, and Gabrielle Drinkard; (back, left to right) Nick Burton, Joshua Butler, Jarod Henderson, and Sterling Gee. Emerald Youth Fellows was launched at the ministry's recent prayer breakfast.

Emerald Youth breakfast celebrates Knoxville's young people

More than 1,000 guests attended the Emerald Youth Foundation Prayer and Fundraising Breakfast on Friday, May 4, at the Knoxville Expo Center.

Guest speaker and nationally-known Christian author George Barna delivered a challenging message – based on his book "Transforming Children into Spiritual Champions" – about why children should be a church's number one priority. The breakfast benefited Emerald Youth's three programs: JustLead, Emerald Youth Sports and Emerald Youth Fellows, the latter of which was officially

launched at the breakfast.

Emerald Youth Fellows engages inner city young adults to become scholars and Christian leaders in their communities. Beginning this year with a class of 12 high school seniors, and continuing annually, life skill supports such as time management, intercultural communication, budgeting skills, and spiritual formation will be provided to the young adults. The transition support will continue through their post-secondary training to placement in the faith community, the workforce, and a servant role in the city.

"The prayer and fundraising breakfast is always a special time for Emerald Youth Foundation," said executive director Steve Diggs. "It gives us the chance to celebrate our city's young people and show how they are growing in their faith, excelling academically and building meaningful relationships with caring adults. And the launch of Emerald Youth Fellows this year is a significant step as we put additional effort towards serving the 18-25 year-old age group."

The event also featured the story of Emerald Youth alumnus Anthony Tate and praise and worship music

by the 60-member youth choir. Following the breakfast, Emerald Youth provided a special session with Barna designed specifically for pastors and Christian leaders. He addressed America's worldviews and how churches can become more strategically involved in facilitating a Biblical worldview. Church leaders from Knoxville, Sevierville, Cleveland, Dandridge and other areas attended.

For more information about Emerald Youth Foundation, visit www.emeraldyouth.org or call (865) 637-3227.

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

In Their Prime

Where do you go when you go to sleep? You certainly aren't consciously aware of your surroundings when you're asleep, and unless you're snoring you're not interacting with others. Of course you're breathing and your heart is beating when asleep; these parameters of life were used by the ancients to define the living. However, we moderns see our ability to think as the principle arbiter of our humanity. I'm thankful that I woke up this morning and I was able to reboot the advanced computer that sits atop my shoulders and allows me to think. "Cogito ergo sum," said Descartes.

There's a big difference between being asleep,

where we're temporarily disconnected from life, and the deterioration of thought processes associated with conditions like Alzheimer's disease. Our community is struggling with Pat Summitt's announcement that she has the degenerative brain disease known as Dementia of the Alzheimer's type (DAT). This is the correct terminology in her case because I don't think Ms. Summitt underwent a brain biopsy which is necessary for the most precise categorization of this dreaded condition.

There are other diseases that damage the brain and hamper its function. We've heard a lot these days about recurrent head injuries and concussions that can have short

and long term consequences. Examples are the head injuries our soldiers receive in combat or the late effects of concussion injuries National Football League players are arguing in a current lawsuit. I read with relief an article in the Mayo Clinic Proceedings (April 2012), which found no increased risk of Alzheimer's Disease, Parkinson's Disease or Lou Gehrig's Disease in High School football players after more than 50 years of observation. And those players in the 1950s had much poorer head gear than is currently used.

There is no doubt that severe head injuries can lead to long term consequences. There is the condition dementia pugilistica also known as punch-drunk in boxing lingo. An example is Mohammed Ali. I conceptualize the severe brain injury scenario as causing an accelerated aging process in the brain. A similar pathological process occurs with mini strokes and certainly with larger ones. Rehabilitation experts called physiatrists now use the drug Namenda (a drug used to treat dementia) in a

prophylactic fashion after severe head injuries.

Think of your brain as an organ composed of ten billion neurons or brain cells. Now imagine each of these cells as an octopus with a head, but instead of eight arms each nerve cell has hundreds of arms all reaching out to touch the tips of their neighbors' arms. There is a space between the tips and across this junction an electro-chemical signal sparks. This isn't an actual spark like the lighter on your BBQ grill. It's all done with chemical messengers.

There are at least five classes of chemical messengers and various deficiencies of these can produce depression, panic attacks, phobias and degenerative brain diseases. Parkinson's disease is caused by inadequate levels of the neuro-transmitter (messenger) dopamine. Huntington's disease is associated with decreased production of GABA (gamma amino butyric acid). And Alzheimer's disease is caused by a deficiency of the neuro-transmitter acetylcholine. Interestingly, aging brains also have reduced

levels of acetylcholine and are very sensitive to drugs like Benadryl that hampers this messenger's production.

It all began when the ninety eight year old Mr. C tried to help his ninety-seven year old wife with dementia and severe arthritis to the bathroom one night. They're both in the hospital now in adjoining rooms. We nailed his hip back together and he's doing surprisingly well. They've been a pair for more than seventy years and their story brought to mind the Kathy Mattea song *Where Have You Been?*

If you don't know this ballad from the nineties you must go to the Net, read the lyrics, and then go to youtube and experience a bittersweet story of faithfulness. The song chronicles a couple's life together and was written by Mattea's husband about his grandparents. As an experienced geriatrician who sometimes feels as if he's seen it all, I still get tears in my eyes every time I hear and reflect upon the lilting chorus, "Where have you been...?" And so did the young nurses when

I shared the song with them. We must guard against seeing the elderly as just patients, and remember that they are people with a lifetime of love and commitment and a story.

I'm not a musician, but music touches my soul. Recently, I did a Sunday school lesson entitled *In the Zone* emphasizing that hymns help us get into the right frame of mind to worship, or for that matter to learn. There seems to be something about the harmonics of sound that we call music which focuses our minds and hearts to hear the Words of truth.

The nurses heard the message today, and the teaching went both ways.

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.

UTMC Healthy Living Kitchen Team Writes Cookbook

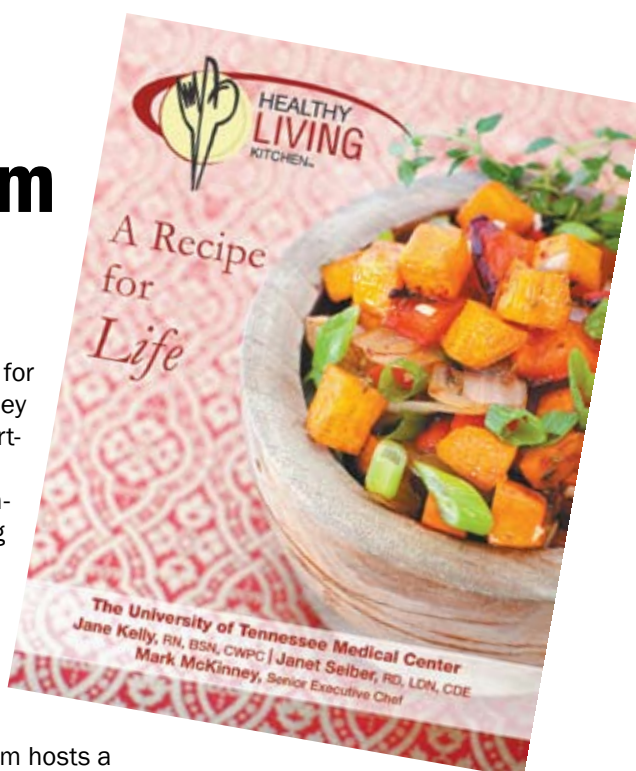
The Healthy Living Kitchen Team at The University of Tennessee Medical Center has published a cookbook called "A Recipe for Life." The large print 195 page cookbook contains a collection of delicious, simple and cost-effective recipes from the past five years of the Healthy Living Kitchen Cooking Classes. A healthy lifestyle section is also included, delivering easy to read health information that is to the point and can be used on a daily basis.

"Whether you have had a diagnosis of heart disease, diabetes, or celiac disease, or you are just interested in improving your health, 'A Recipe for Life' provides a step-by-step guide to making healthier lifestyle choices," said University Cardiology physician, Dr. Jeffrey Johnson. "I have found the cookbook to be an

excellent resource for my patients as they thrive to live a heart-healthy lifestyle."

UT Medical Center's Healthy Living Kitchen Team consist of dietitian Janet Seiber, cardiac nurse Jane Kelly and executive chef Mark McKinney. The team hosts a series of healthy cooking classes at UT Medical Center. These classes offer tips for grocery shopping, meal planning, cooking tips, recipe modification, as well as recipes for all occasions.

The cookbook is available for purchase at The University of Tennessee Medical Center Gift Shop for



\$35 or on-line in both e-reader and print versions by visiting utmedicalcenter.org. For more information on the cookbook or on the cooking classes call 865-305-6877 or visit us on the web at utmedicalcenter.org.

CuddleBugs Baby and Family Fair on May 20

Pregnancy, babies and families will all be celebrated at the 1st Annual CuddleBugs Baby & Family Fair at Turkey Creek Medical Center from 2- 4 p.m. on Sunday, May 20. This free event is open to the public and will take place in Turkey Creek Medical Center's Women's Pavilion, 10820 Parkside Drive. Activities at the CuddleBugs Baby & Family fair include:

- Tours of the Women's Pavilion, birthing suites and facility
- Q&A sessions with local OB/GYN and primary care doctors, lactation consultants and prenatal educators
- Community booths with information and resources for pregnancy, babies and families

- Fun activities for children
- Free chair massages for pregnant women
- Registration for Tennova's new CuddleBugs maternity program
- Comprehensive information about Tennova's maternity and childbirth classes

CuddleBugs is a free program designed to provide answers to new and expectant moms from the earliest stages of pregnancy through post-delivery - including guidance for newborn care. For more information about CuddleBugs, visit CuddleBugsBaby.com or Tennova.com.

For more information on the event or labor and delivery at Tennova Healthcare, please call (865) 545-7975.

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K. ROBERT WILLIAMS, M.D.

Tuesday, May 22
5:30 p.m.

Turkey Creek Medical Center
Johnson Conference Center
 10820 Parkside Drive

Space is limited. Call 865-694-9676 to register.



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Faith

Corporate Spiritual Discipline #4: CELEBRATION

The final spiritual discipline we will examine in this series is that of celebration. To be a follower of Jesus means to celebrate life, even in the midst of a world that is full of sorrow and darkness. We believe that being in God's Kingdom is a great blessing and joy. We want others to see the love of God written on our faces.

Does this mean that followers of God will not suffer like others? No, we will still go through sorrow and disappointment in this life due to the sinful world that we live in. But we know that God is with us through His Holy Spirit that He sent. We are truly not alone in our difficulties. Jesus once told His followers before His crucifixion, "In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome

the world" (John 16:33).

When we go through hardship, it is a time we can brag on God. Consider Michaelangelo. Imagine when asked to paint the ceiling of the Cistine Chapel if he would have said, "I don't do ceilings." But he agreed to take on this very difficult task and no doubt suffered many backaches and headaches for the painstaking detail he put into this masterpiece we still get to enjoy today at the Vatican in Rome. What if Mother Theresa said she didn't do street ministry? What if Martin Luther King Jr. said he didn't do marches? What if Nelson Mandela chose not to do prison time for what he believed? What if Noah didn't build a big boat? What if Rahab didn't hide spies? What if Ruth didn't follow her mother-in-law? What if Peter didn't do Gentiles? What if Mary didn't anoint feet? What if Jesus didn't do crosses? But each of these chose the difficult path and God was glorified and many were blessed.

Perhaps we should stop

telling God what we won't do or don't do. God chooses to do His work by way of the Holy Spirit through clay pots like you and me. Just as Jesus' work was making God known even in the midst of suffering, we get to do the same.

Beyond suffering, there is so much to celebrate in life. There are so many gifts God has given us to enjoy. Paul wrote to his young protégé, Timothy, "For everything God created is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving, because it is consecrated by the word of God and prayer" (1 Timothy 4:4). Consider just a few of the gifts God has given you to celebrate: love, beauty of creation, answered prayer, changed lives, our future, spiritual gifts to bless others, food, clothing, and shelter.

Of all the people on earth, God's people should be having the biggest party. Celebrate His goodness in your life for loving and saving you through Christ.

Church Happenings

Beaver Ridge United Methodist Church

Beaver Ridge United Methodist Church, 7753 Oak Ridge Hwy (at the Karns red light) is changing their Tuesday afternoon Bible Study to a BOOK study for a few weeks. We welcome you to join us MAY 15 for a four-week study of PRACTICING OUR FAITH: A way of Life for a Searching People, written by Dorothy C. Bass. This best-selling guide helps take belief out of the realm of theory and shows how to live it out in a series of twelve central practices such as hospitality, forgiveness, healing, testimony, and keeping Sabbath.

Beaver Ridge will have a Benefit Concert to help one of our church-families in need of a special equipped vehicle to accommodate their young son who requires a feeding tube, oxygen equipment and a full time nurse. This special Benefit Concert will be held on Sunday, June 3 at 4 p.m. in the church sanctuary. Our Beaver Ridge Choir director Jean Osborne and vocalist Jo Ludwig will perform a full-length program. The concert of both secular and contemporary selections will be appropriate for any age. Donations will be accepted during the performance. This will be a fun, inspiring and very special community event to assist a very deserving family. Come and invite everyone you know! For more information please call our church office: 690-1060

Glenwood Baptist Church

Glenwood Baptist Church of Powell, 7212 Central Avenue Pike, will open the John 5 Food Pantry on Thursday nights, starting May 17 at 6-8 p.m. Appointments to receive food once monthly must be requested by Wednesday, May 16. Please call the church office at 938-2611. You may also leave a message with a phone number, or email: glenwood@frontiernet.net. Glenwood Baptist Church of Powell, 7212 Central Ave. Pike will be led in worship Sunday morning, May 20 at 10:45, by a group from Teen Challenge. They will sing and give testimonies of deliverance from severe life-controlling situations. 938-2611 www.glenwoodpowell.com Welcome.

KFL Outreach Ministry Presents

The Knoxville Fellowship Luncheon (KFL) will meet May 15, 2012 at the Golden Corral on Clinton Highway, at noon. Sonya Mackie will be the guest speaker. You may view her complete Bio at <http://kfl-luncheon.com>.

Mount Harmony Baptist Church

Mount Harmony will be having Homecoming May 27 at 11:00 a.m. Rev Gray Day will bring the message. The Church is located at 819 Raccoon Valley Rd, Heiskell, TN 37754

Reformata Baptist Church

Reformata Baptist Church will have its food pantry open Saturday, May 19 from 10 a.m. until 12 p.m. or while supplies last. Everyone is welcome. We are located at 500 Maryville Highway, Seymour, TN 37865

Spirit and Truth Fellowship

These days, it seems that almost everyone knows at least one person who is very intelligent, understands computers and all the latest gadgets, and is engrossed in science and/or science fiction, but they won't go to church and might even turn away if you try to start up a conversation about God. This is precisely why Pastor David Spakes began a little over a year ago to plant a new church in our area called Spirit and Truth Fellowship of Knoxville (STFK). Beginning May 27, the church will begin meeting on a weekly basis every Sunday morning from 9:30 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. in a rented space at Ijams Nature Center in South Knoxville. STFK is evangelical, independent, and non-denominational. The church very much needs the prayers and support of the Christians in our area to carry out its mission to lead sincere skeptics to Christ. If you consider yourself to be science-minded, you should definitely check us out. Find out more on our web site at www.spirit-and-truth.net. The address nerdchurch.org will also get you there.



Bill, Star, Dane, Derby, and Zane Deatherage

Dane Deatheridge Ordained

Dane Deatherage was ordained as a minister in the Baptist faith on April 15, 2012. The ordination was performed at the Fairview Heights Northside Baptist Church in Anniston, Alabama. Dane is currently the youth minister at Fairview Heights. Reverend Chris Thomas, Pastor of Fairview Heights, performed the ordination.

Dane will complete his Masters' Degree in Divinity later this year at Beeson College on the campus of Samford University in

Birmingham, Alabama. Dane graduated of Farragut High School in 2005 where he lettered for three years in football. Dane was also the East Tennessee Golden Gloves champion in 2002.

Dane Deatherage completed work on his Bachelor's Degree in the College of Communications at the University of Tennessee with high honors in 2009.

Dane is the son of Star and Bill Deatherage, who live in Farragut.

Science Cafe Now Meeting in South Knoxville

The STFK Science Cafe is a monthly event sponsored by Spirit and Truth Fellowship of Knoxville, a new church in South Knoxville that promotes science education and awareness in the community. "For our members who enjoy discussing topics of science," says Pastor David Spakes, "the Science Cafe is a recreational activity and fellowship opportunity. Some churches have activities for youth, young married couples, and seniors; or they may have interest groups like scrapbooking, book club, exercise, and so on. We have the Science Cafe." The church has a strict policy to not discuss God at the Science Cafe meeting, keeping its focus on topics of science. "We welcome everyone to attend the Science Cafe if they like science, and we know that some people who come will have no religious beliefs or affiliations. We have created a venue where Christians and non-

Christians come together in the same room and talk about science that is not a debate of science versus religion. We're sick and tired of debates. We are here because we share a common interest and are having fun." The church has registered its Science Cafe with the NOVA scienceNOW community (www.sciencecafes.org) and follows their format.

Parents who attend the Science Cafe are encouraged to bring their children. Each meeting begins with a 5-10 minute clip of a NOVA scienceNOW program from Public Television, and then the kids get the opportunity to ask a question if they have one. Afterwards, the kids are dismissed to Kid's Cafe. While the adults and young adults are involved in science discussion, the small children are busy in a nearby area with an age-appropriate science lesson and hands-on activities. "The children learn about the same or related topic

that the adults are discussing, and we hope this will lead to quality family time with the parents and children talking more about the subject at home."

The STFK Science Cafe meets monthly at Ijams Nature Center. The meeting is scheduled in advance—usually on a Tuesday between 5:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.—and announced on the church's web site at <http://sciencecafe.spirit-and-truth.net>. Admission is free, and snacks are provided. People planning to attend are asked to call Ijams Nature Center at 577-4717 extension 110 before the meeting so the staff will know how many attendees to prepare for.

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Wednesday Bible Study - 6:30 p.m.

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ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES

Selling collectibles on the internet

Selling or buying on the internet with sites such as Ebay can be quite rewarding. As a broker who sells on the web everyday, I would like to share some of the tips I have learned over the years on how to best use Ebay and Craigslist. I have four strict rules for selling on any internet site and leaving out any one of these rules can be a big problem.

Rule 1. You should have a good and desirable item in the marketplace that you have researched through sale values, not just asking prices.

Rule 2. Good photography. I can't stress this enough. Your pictures are crucial to communicate your item's condition and they also give you credibility in showing the buyer that you know what you are selling and are not afraid to show its genuine condition. Chip on a vase? Show it by all means and, believe me, it won't hurt as bad as you think. Digital cameras are not that complicated and downloading is just a matter of practice and patience. Get with a family member or friend to explain downloading if you are new to the concept and you will find that it is just learning how to find a file and following basic instructions. Photograph the subject from a straight line so no shots of the guitar



By Carl Sloan

or painting on the floor as you shoot down and also work on editing your shots for shadows, contrast, color and cropping with such tools that you have for free on most sites. This is very important and with a little practice you will be amazed how professional your pictures will look.

Rule 3. Good and accurate descriptions. If you think you may have a print rather than a painting or questions on anything, get advice first and have your ducks in a row before listing. **Rule 4.** Good reputation and customer service is the final rule. Timely shipping, good communications and careful packing can make all the difference. Lots of great packing materials like Styrofoam and bubble wrap are tossed out everywhere so don't pay a lot of money for what you can find for free. Be a champ here and you will get lots of good feedbacks that give others the confidence to purchase from you in the future. The best way to learn is to try it out so sign up as a seller and try one or two items at a time and follow the basic instructions given. Don't give up and you will join millions who sell over the web every day.

I prepare auction houses for live broadcast sales on the internet on an international scale primarily through



Examples of vintage advertising for June 23rd sale

Fountain City Auction with Greg Lawson. If you have a single item or even an entire estate, the team at Fountain City Auction can help you. Greg offers pick up services at a very minimal costs. The combination of a general sale and internet sale format is a one - two punch that is exclusive to Fountain City Auction. The company is located at 4109 Central Ave Pk. and I am very proud to be part of the team. I must say that I have had a lot of good results getting the maximum exposure for your collectibles. Please contact Greg Lawson at fountaincityauction@yahoo.com or simply call or come by and meet the team. Also see upcoming sales at auctionzip.com > 37912 that include photos and times. Special Notice - Fountain City Auction is now accepting advertising items and collectibles of all kinds for a major bi-annual sale. Let us know soon as lots are closing if you may anything to include in this major offering to be broadcast live over the web June 23 starting at noon.

Kayla Marie

I met Kayla when she was 10 years old. She had that refreshing kind of shyness that doesn't seem suspicious, just unsure of what to say. She had beautiful red hair and dramatic freckles, but her most prominent feature was



By Sarah Baker bakers@knoxfocus.com

around in flesh. Our flesh gets us into trouble, unless we consciously choose every day not to live for our own flesh. You will have to make that choice every day, too.

Keep being real. If you pretend to be some-

thing else, someone will miss the opportunity to love you for who you really are.

You are one of the funniest people I know. This is directly related to your intelligence. My favorite memories of you are the times when I could not stop laughing from something you said that was so smart and funny.

Remember all the hiking we've done together. For the rest of your life, I hope you make it a priority to spend time outside.

Read. Read. Read. Even after you graduate from college, read for your own pleasure. It will enrich your heart and mind. It will make you brighter and more empathetic. It is also a healthy escape from the stress of life.

NEVER. NEVER. NEVER give someone else the responsibility of making you happy.

In relation to #9, sometime you may feel joyless, like everyone has let you down or disappeared and that you do not have the strength to make yourself happy. In that case, you must humble yourself and ask God to help you. Help

from anywhere else will not do. It is unfair to expect it from anyone else. After you pray, be still.

Don't compare your life to anyone else's. There are so many things in this world that look great on the outside and are rotten on the inside. Material things are just a mirage.

Don't let Twitter, Facebook, etc. take the place of real face to face human contact in your life.

Your freckles will help you look young forever.

Remember all the times we sang along with the radio in the car. Remember the difference between real music and overrated synthesized scrap. Don't stop singing, writing, and drawing.

Live in the truth. Trust your own sense, your own gut.

Never dye your hair.

You have the most beautiful hair color I have ever seen.

You are so brave. You have already proven that you can survive anything life throws at you out of nowhere. Not to mention your sense of adventure. You'll probably have a zip-line in your backyard.

You will always be important to me. I will never forget all the joy you've added to my life. Knowing you is a privilege I will NEVER regret.

Underneath that heart-shaped face, deep inside the heart of a girl named Kayla Marie, is a good soul. I'm very proud of the woman you've become. Congratulations on your graduation. I love you more than a fried bologna sandwich with mustard and Funyuns. (You know that is a lot!)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ace Miller Memorial Golf Tournament

May 20, 2012
Whittle Springs Golf Course
2:00 p.m. Shotgun Start
12:30 p.m. Lunch served
Contact Greg Davis for information: 865-740-1196 or Tdavis7308@comcast.net

Budget and Credit Workshop

The Knoxville Area Urban League is holding a six-week Budget and Credit Workshop on Tuesday evenings from 5:30 to 7 p.m., May 15 - June 5. The workshop helps participants build and improve their credit and understand their spending habits and make wise spending choices so that they can save money and meet long-term goals, such as purchasing a home. There is no cost to participate. Info: 865-524-5511.

Calvary Baptist Church

Calvary Baptist Church in Heiskel is planning their 70th Annual Homecoming celebration on June 24. All old members, current members and any person who is looking for a church to attend is invited. More information will be coming as we put together the very special homecoming.

CHS Reunions

Central High School Class of 1967's 45th Reunion will be July 22-24. For information contact Idonna Tillery Bryson 688-5816 or Ann Paylor Williams 687-7759.

Central High School Class of 1957's Fifty-fifth Class Reunion is planned for Friday, May 18 at Beaver Brook Country Club 6 p.m. at the 19th Hole. Saturday, May 19 at Beaver Brook Country Club 6 p.m.

DOC Meeting

The Captain W. Y. C. Hannum Chapter #1881, United Daughters of the Confederacy will meet at the Green Meadow Country Club in Alcoa on Saturday, May 19th at 10:00 a.m. Brunch will be served at 10:00 followed by the program and business session. The program will be "James Lawson Kemper - The Forgotten General" presented by Janelle Kemper. Visitors are welcome to attend. Cost of Brunch is \$15.00. For reservations or more information, please contact Elaine Clonts Russell, 865-980-6346 or Debra Wilson, 865-856-9300.

East Knoxville Business and Professional Association May Meeting

Join EKBPA as Mayor Rogero shares her vision for East Knoxville on Thursday, May 17 at the Mabry-Hazen House, 1711 Dandridge Ave, Knoxville, TN 37915. 7:45 a.m. Networking & Breakfast; 8:00 a.m. Program. This is a free event and the community is encouraged to attend.

Homeownership Workshop

The Knoxville Area Urban League is hosting a three-session Homeownership Workshop on May 15, 17 and 19, 1514 East Fifth Ave., Knoxville, TN 37917. The workshop, which is open to anyone preparing to purchase their first home, covers the details involved in selecting, purchasing, financing and maintaining a home and meets all requirements for FHA and THDA loans. Classes are held on Tuesday and Thursday evening from 5:30 to 8:30 and on Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon. Training Fee: \$20. Info: 865-524-5511; www.thekaul.org.

Town Hall East Meeting

Join Town Hall East at the Eastminster Fellowship Hall, 4904 Asheville Hwy, at 7 p.m. on Monday, May 14; Dr. James P. McIntyre, Jr., Superintendent of Knox County Schools, will be the guest speaker.

West Knox GOP Meeting

Knox County Mayor Tim Burchett will speak on his Budget Proposal for fiscal year 2012-2013 at the West Knox Republican Club meeting Monday, May 14, 2012 at the Red Lobster Restaurant, 8040 Kingston Pike, Knoxville, TN 37919, 6 p.m. to dine and 7 p.m. for program. **Cont. on page 4**



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cont. from page 3

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If you can donate any of these items, please call (865) 219-0130. Ask to speak to Jeff Drum. He prefers to have donations delivered to ETTAC's Knoxville office, 116 Childress Street from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. The East Tennessee Technology Access Center is a nonprofit agency is based in Knoxville, but serves people with disabilities in 24 counties of East Tennessee.

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1 cup shredded cheddar cheese
In a 1 quart oven proof casserole dish, combine, soup mix, sour cream, broccoli and 3/4 cup cheese until smooth. Sprinkle reserved cheese over top. Bake at 350 deg for about 30 minutes. Serve hot with Tostitos. This is also good using a 10 oz pkg of spinach instead of the broccoli.

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