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PHOTOS BY KEN LEINART.

Knox County Mayor Glenn Jacobs, University of Tennessee President Randy Boyd, Legacy Park Executive Director Carol Evans, and others who took part in the creation of the Angora Frog Farm Park and Dog Park, cut the ribbon to officially open the park Wednesday, Aug. 21.

Angora Frog Farm opens in Powell

By Ken Leinart

Legacy Parks Foundation and Knox County opened a new child-focused park and dog park in Powell on Wednesday, Aug. 21.

Angora Frog Farm and Dog Park sits on 14 acres of land donated in 2020 to Legacy Parks by Arvin and Sabra Brown.

The Brown family did not only donate the land for the park, but they also shared the family's legacy of telling folk tales that were passed down through the ages.

It started with a failed bid at naming the farm and a bullfrog.

The story goes back



Eloise and Teddy Dice enjoy one of the features along the story book trail of the Angora Frog Farm Park. With them is their mother, Asha.

several generations past when the Brown family wanted to register the

said the name was already taken.

At the time there was a bullfrog living along one of the creeks on the farm and someone in the family decided to name the frog "Angora."

The Brown family settled for the Angora Frog Farm as the name of the farm as a way of sorta thumbing their noses at the state.

Angora Frog Farm Park pays tribute to the legacy of the Brown family and the folk tales passed down through the generations about the "hairy Angora frogs" grown on the family farm.

Partnering with **Cont. on page 4**

'Found money' going to fire and rescue services

By Mike Steely
Senior writer
steelym@knoxfocus.com

According to Knox County Public Service Division Director Brent Seymour, local fire and rescue services will benefit greatly from unexpected federal funding.

The "found money" comes from state and local recovery funds and is going to various first responder organizations for equipment and related projects. Seymour told the commission agenda review meeting last week that the exception is funds going

to a Karns Training Center.

Following comments about the welcomed funds, Commissioner Larsen Jay said a regional training facility, for the use of all the fire and rescue groups, is needed. He asked what happened to earlier plans that included property for such a facility.

"It's not (gone) away," Seymour said, noting that land originally discussed for a regional facility was found to be too expensive to develop for what "our service partners were able to do." He said plans are

Continue on page 4

New county offices in West Knox on commission agenda

By Mike Steely
Senior Writer
steelym@knoxfocus.com

When the Knox County Commission meets today it may vote to approve a lease agreement at 9000 Executive Park Drive for the location of a new West Knox Satellite Office for the county clerk, trustee and health department. The resolution is sponsored by the county mayor, clerk and trustee.

The four-year agreement would begin next year at \$22,350 a month or \$268,200 that year. That rent will increase gradually each year to \$309,622 the final year. The space has 14,900 square feet and the agreement is with Corporate Square, LP.

The commission may also vote to withdraw from taking part in the Arena Use Committee in a resolution sponsored by Commissioner Larsen Jay, who says the committee formed years ago serves no purpose now.

Unexpected federal funds for the various fire and rescue organizations will be discussed as well as the regular funding those groups receive from the county.

Also to be discussed is the county's Intergovernmental Financial Assistance with the Industrial Development Board. The county funding of a new

waterline for West Knox Utility District to the I-40/175 Business Park has been withdrawn from the agenda.

The commission will also hear a request from Human Resources to change the language in the Knox County Charter to reflect Homeland Security's requirements on Civil Rights.

The Merit System Board's request may get a second and final vote on permitting sheriff's department employees to file a grievance when suspended without pay.

Honorary resolutions during the meeting may recognize Adam Wilson and Adam Wilson Realty for their support of school educators; Keith Foster, CEO of Adamant Capital Group, for his efforts to impact economic development in marginalized communities; and the Carter High School Lady Hornets softball team as state runner-up in Class 3A schools. The Gibbs High School Lady Eagles softball team will also be honored for winning their 11th State Championship.

Tonight will be the final time five of the commissioners sit as representatives of their districts. Leaving are Dr. Dasha Lundy, Kyle Ward, John Schoonmaker, Richie Beeler and Carson Dailey.

Youth Advisory Board in the works for Knox County

By Mike Steely
Senior Writer
steelym@knoxfocus.com

Knox County Parks and Recreation Director Joseph Mack spoke briefly during the Knox County Commission's agenda review meeting last week and mentioned a proposal that caught some ears.

Mack spoke about an agenda item for today's commission meeting that would create a Knox County Youth Sports Advisory Board. He said that the new board would be a governing body for all youth sports and work is

underway on the bylaws.

He said the board would create a facility for non-profits and the county to oversee and the board would put the "onus" back on the community.

"It's a fair way to do things," Mack said.

Commissioner Carson Dailey praised the proposal as a "great idea."

The resolution suggests a nine-member voting board, elected by those who use the county-owned facilities, approved by the Knox

County Mayor and noticed at commission meetings. Members would serve without pay and must comply with Parks and Recreation regulations, be vetted and have background checks.

Members may not be a coach or a youth director and may not own or manage a sports team.

Meetings would be held each month at the Sutherland Avenue Parks and Recreation headquarters and an elected chairperson could name special committees.

Twilight at Ijams fundraiser set for September 8

Ijams Nature Center's largest annual fundraiser is leveling up, and it promises to be an event like no other.

Twilight at Ijams presented by Clayton on Sunday, Sept. 8, from 6-9 p.m. will feature curated, interactive vignettes and art installations at various locations along the paved Universal Trail and Plaza.

There will be opportunities to listen to and learn about bats, explore aquatic worlds, and

more while enjoying a Southern feast of fresh, local bites and signature cocktails.

"Ijams is a special place that offers many ways to connect with nature," CEO and President Amber Parker said. "Education and community-building are at the heart of everything here, which is why we wanted to include these elements in this year's program."

"People will enjoy authentic experiences with nature and

science, engage with cool art, and build community with other nature-loving folks during activities that will even include a campfire with a gourmet s'mores bar, all while supporting a place people care about," she said.

This year's entertainment will be provided by The Tennessee Sheiks, dancing is highly encouraged, and there will be fun surprises. Parker said the event's online auction will open Aug. 30 to allow anyone

to participate, even if they can't attend the event.

"Ijams is loved by people around the world," Parker said. "We wanted to offer everyone a way to participate in the festivities and support Ijams."

Individual tickets for the Twilight Celebration from 6-9 p.m. are \$175. VIP packages are available for four and eight people, and feature reserved seating, early check-in, premium parking, and a VIP Cocktail Party

from 5-6 p.m.

Proceeds from this annual event help Ijams Nature Center welcome more than 620,000 visitors annually, offer hundreds of educational programs, and restore and maintain more than 318 acres of protected land in the heart of Knoxville.

The deadline to get tickets is Aug. 31. To reserve tickets or make a donation to support Ijams, visit ijams.org/twilight-at-ijams,

Baseball Fans Either Love Or Hate The Yankees

From a distance



By John J. Duncan Jr.
duncanj@knoxfocus.com

Ben Affleck, a famous movie star, grew up rooting for the Boston Red Sox. He is quoted on the Yankeeshater.com website as saying "I would rather utter the words 'I worship you, Satan' than (to say) 'My favorite baseball team is the New York Yankees.'"

These words are quoted in the first chapter of a book called "Damn Yankees," which is a collection of columns or articles by 24 well-known writers telling about their love/hate relationship with this famous baseball team.

The first chapter, "I have feelings for the Yankees,"

is by Roy Blount Jr. and he says the Yankees are his favorite team.

In the book, some of the articles are by writers who love the Yankees and some are by writers who hate them. Blount asks, "Is there no middle ground?" and there does not seem to be.

As I wrote in my book, I spent 5½ seasons as a batboy for the Knoxville Smokies. During those years, Knoxville was a farm team for the Baltimore Orioles and then the Detroit Tigers. I was the public address announcer my freshman year at U.T. for the 1966 season.

Because many players went from the Smokies to the Orioles and the Tigers, I rooted for those teams in the American League. I was never a Yankees fan.

In fact, when I found out that one of our neighbors at our lake house in Bean Station was a Yankees fan, I asked him how in the world that could have happened.

He blamed it on his Dad.

Baseball was much bigger and better when I was growing up. It was much more popular than pro-football then. There were only 16 major league teams (30 now) and players stayed longer with the same team. It was much easier to keep up with teams and their players.

Even though I never rooted for the Yankees, they were in the World Series so often, I can tell you the names of most of their players during the late 50s and early 60s.

Casey Stengel managed the Yankees for 12 years from 1949-1960. During those seasons, the team was in the World Series ten times and won seven of those championships.

When I was 12, the World Series was HUGE, even though it was played during the day and only on black and white TV. I snuck a small transistor radio into study hall at Holston to listen to part of one of

the games.

Bob Knisley, by far the biggest teacher at our school, came rushing toward me with a very angry look on his face. I thought I was in big trouble. Then he said in a very stern voice: "What's the score?!"

Because of my association with minor league baseball, I was fascinated to read in the Roy Blount article that he grew up watching the Atlanta Crackers and that their ballpark actually had a giant magnolia tree in center field.

The tree was in play, but it was 462 feet from home plate, and only Eddie Matthews, who later was a star player for the Braves, hit a home run over it as an 18-year-old in 1950.

Atlanta built a new stadium in 1966 to get the Braves and major league baseball. You can still see the center field magnolia tree on YouTube.

A few weeks ago, I went to Cincinnati to see a Red-Cardinals game with my

two brothers-in-law, Bob Winter and Lynn Strange, and my wife's cousin, Frank Draper. I mentioned that almost no pitchers pitched a full nine-inning game anymore. I looked it up and found that last season, only 7/10 of one percent were games where a complete game was pitched.

A few days later, I was reading a book called "Our Team" about the Cleveland Indians of the late 1940s. This was a book about Bill Veeck, Larry Doby, Bob Feller, and Satchel Paige - all very famous baseball names.

The book said in 1946, Feller started 42 games as pitcher and completed 36 of them. In the last week of the season, to break the major league strikeout record, he pitched three complete games in six days, along with one five-inning relief job.

With the sissified, over-paid players of today, a pitcher is paid many millions if he can last for six

or seven innings every fifth day.

In the summers of 1967 and 1968, I worked for the Nixon For President Committee in Washington, and I started in law school at George Washington University in 1969.

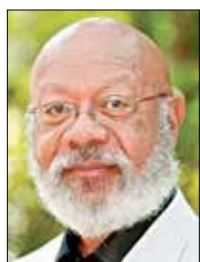
I became a big fan of the Washington Senators and even attended their last home game in 1971 before they moved and became the Texas Rangers.

The Senators were almost always bad, and there was a famous old saying - "Washington - first in war, first in peace, last in the American League."

In another story from "Damn Yankees," Steve Rushin wrote that Mickey Mantle, who had a reputation as a big drinker and womanizer, once "joked that he would be turned away at the Pearly Gates, only to be called back by St. Peter, who would tell him: 'God wants to know if you'd sign these six dozen baseballs.'"

An Illegal Crisis

I am deeply troubled by the report that a group of Trump advisors are working on recommendations to deport the 30+ million illegals in the country. Personally, I do not want to live in a country



By Dr. Harold A. Black
blackh@knoxfocus.com
haroldblackphd.com

that would do that. It would take Gestapo-like tactics of home invasion and workplace raids. All foreign-lookers would be subject to stop and frisk. Obviously, there would have to be massive detention facilities and a circumvention of a judicial review. It would be akin to the Nazis rounding up the Jews, cramming them into box cars and shipping them off to concentration camps. The round-them-up and

ship-them-out pogrom will result in profiling where those who look foreign will be required to prove that they are legal, resulting in harassment of Latinos and people of color. It will be akin to my being pulled over for driving while black (DWB). Surely there is a better way to deal with the illegals coming across the border and the illegals already here.

I am not an expert on immigration. But neither are our politicians who do nothing. The politicians are more focused getting them the most votes than interested in a solution. We seem to forget that the vast majority of illegals come

to this country hoping to find a better life for themselves and their children. They come here embodying the American dream - something that many of our native-born have lost. Most are hardworking, and religious, with strong nuclear families. Have you ever seen a Hispanic panhandler? I haven't. Second-generation migrants are English-speaking and are often more patriotic than most of us. Aren't these traits that we find desirable? Yes, some illegals commit crimes but conflating that to the majority is at best a stretch. Only xenophobes want us to believe otherwise.

Most illegals come from Mexico and the Northern Triangle (El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras) with

growing numbers from Asia (India, China and the Philippines). What is interesting is that they are not from Venezuela which has had the largest outflow of any country in the world with 8 million fleeing the repressive socialist regime. Venezuelans have migrated mostly to other Latin American countries, notably Columbia. Yet about 200,000 a year are coming to the US and the Biden Administration has granted them Temporary Protected Status, essentially giving them legal status to enable them to get work permits. I didn't know that Biden had the legal authority to unilaterally grant asylum.

There are some common sense (to me) actions that would address the problem of the massive movement of illegals to our southern border. Here are my ideas. Please tell me where I am wrong.

First, develop separate policies for those from the Americas and those from the rest of the world who cross at the southern border.

Allow the circular

migration of old where workers primarily from Mexico come into the country and then go back home once the work is over. Ironically, the tightening of immigration laws stopped the circular migration, forcing the illegals to stay in the country and bring their families with them.

- Provide a pathway to citizenship for the "Dreamers"
- End citizenship for children born in the country to noncitizens
- Require guest worker permits for all able bodied adults
- Deport able-bodied adults without work permits
- Deport "got-aways" without exception
- Jail those who reenter the country after being deported
- Provide an easier pathway to citizenship for legal immigrants
- Provide a pathway to citizenship for migrants with guest worker permits
- Provide financial support to communities on the border
- Require visas for entry at the border (obtained through US Embassies or

consulates)

- Return all unaccompanied minors to their home country
 - Tie aid to the illegals' home countries to their citizens immigrating from those countries
 - Reinstitute remain in Mexico policy
 - End automatic granting of asylum at the border
 - End all federal assistance to "sanctuary" cities
 - Do not deport criminals. Rather put them in jail with minimum sentences so that the Soros-backed DAS cannot release them back to the streets
 - Lastly, move Homeland Security to Eagle Pass, Texas, the epicenter of the illegal crisis. If Mayorkas had to live on the border, I bet he would work to find a solution.
- The question is one of assimilation of those who choose to stay. All those who desire citizenship must have work permits, be in the country legally, be required to pass a citizenship examination and speak English. Lastly, grant citizenship to those noncitizens who serve in our military.



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Tracie Thomson and Rachel Hatmaker of the Knoxville TVA Employees Credit Union were at the recent Home and Garden Show at the Knoxville EXPO Center. The show drew exhibits by various home repair and supply companies. Photo by Mike Steely.



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Publisher Steve Hunley
Editor, Art Director Marianne Dedmon
editor@knoxfocus.com, design@knoxfocus.com

Mike Steely, Senior Writersteelym@knoxfocus.com
Jamie Schnellschnellj@knoxfocus.com
Sales sales@knoxfocus.com
Pam Poe phpoe2000@yahoo.com
Ruthie Akers Ruthie@knoxfocus.com
Legal, Public Notice ads legals@knoxfocus.com

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Publisher's Positions



By Steve Hunley,
Publisher
publisher@knoxfocus.com

Kamala The Chameleon

You read it here first, but it has spread throughout the country following my editorial about "reimagining" Kamala. Evidently, Kamala is the perfect political chameleon. She has demonstrated she can change her political colors and adapt to any background. Chameleon Kamala would have us believe she was a hard nosed prosecutor instead of someone whose bail fund helped to put violent criminals back on the streets in the name of social justice. Naturally, some of those offenders killed again. One was a male sex offender

who allegedly assaulted other women before he was arrested once again. The bail fund eventually took in more than \$41 million dollars. The bail system's value to a community and those who have been victimized by criminals is that those charged with a criminal offense remain in jail without being able to hurt or harm others prior to being tried. The sad truth is those who have been previously convicted are those who are more likely to break the law once again.

The Democratic National Convention has been some kind of spectacle. The Democrats had planned to officially bury poor old Joe Biden and have a love fest as a public send off. Instead, they kept the President of the United States waiting well past prime time television. Biden had to give his farewell to the American people while most of the country was asleep.

Michelle and Barack Obama tried hard to rekindle the fire of hope beneath the candidacy of Kamala the Chameleon. All Michelle did was steal the spotlight from Kamala

and the contrast between the two women could not be greater. Michelle Obama is, however, an interesting choice as the self-designated apostle of "hope." She attended Princeton and Harvard Law School, practiced with a prestigious and elite firm, became the First Lady of the United States, owns a \$12 million house on Martha's Vineyard, one of the most exclusive places to live in the world, and is about to acquire another in Hawaii. No former presidential couple of the United States has ever so quickly amassed such a pile of wealth and lived the lifestyle of the "rich and famous" as have Barack and Michelle Obama. Michelle is an odd person to represent hopelessness. Apparently, Michelle would have been one of those her very well-to-do parents would have been suspicious of.

Kamala the Chameleon became the Democratic nominee for president without winning a single primary or delegate through an election. There hasn't been such a closed convention held in the United States in more than 100 years.

The very people who so loudly say they love democracy, even if they do knife it in the back at every opportunity, kept Biden in the basement away from unscripted events, news conferences, and the American people. The strategy is the same with Kamala the Chameleon. These are the people who are strangling democracy in darkness. They can never save what they intend to destroy.

Bill Baxter A Good Man

Bill Baxter passed away on August 18, 2024, at the age of 71. Baxter was the epitome of someone who gave freely of himself and his talents throughout his lifetime. Bill Baxter was deeply involved in the Knoxville community. At an early age, Baxter ran for elective office, losing a close race in the Republican primary. He never ran for elective office again, but Bill Baxter did remain active on behalf of GOP causes and candidates for the rest of his life.

A man who was always optimistic in his outlook, Bill Baxter was the son

of a successful man and the heir to Holston Gases. Many people forgot Bill was an attorney by trade and a good one. After working as a lawyer, Bill Baxter succeeded his father Pat as president of Holston Gases in 1985. Baxter helped to make the business bigger and even more successful and it became one of the largest of its kind in the country. Holston Gases has locations in Tennessee, Alabama, Kentucky, North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia.

Bill and Ginger Baxter raised four children and son Joe Baxter is to take over the company next month. Throughout his time in business, Baxter gave back to the community through philanthropy as well as service. That service was varied, but Bill never shied away from doing anything for his city and county. Bill Baxter always answered the call to community service whenever it came.

Baxter served on the Knox County Election Commission, Knoxville's Community Development Corporation, as well as serving on the executive board of

directors for Fountain City Town Hall.

Bill Baxter served in the cabinet of the late Governor Don Sundquist as Tennessee's Commissioner of Economic & Community Development. Baxter was named by President George W. Bush to serve as a member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority. Baxter was the last person to serve as the full-time chairman of the TVA Board, which at the time was comprised of three individuals.

Baxter never tired of helping and actively working in causes to help those less fortunate as well as working along side his wife Ginger in our community with the Knoxville Zoo and other organizations.

Bill Baxter is gone too soon, but his memory should long endure for he represented the best of us in doing for others, including his country, state and community. Wherever he might have been, Bill Baxter's home was always Knoxville and Tennessee.

I extend my heartfelt condolences to the entire Baxter family.

Rezoning speeds up council meeting

By Mike Steely
Senior Writer
steelym@knoxfocus.com

The Knoxville City Council has found a proven way to speed up their meetings. Any rezoning application on the agenda that is recommended by the planning commission can be passed without discussion.

Tuesday's council meeting, chaired by Vice Mayor Tommy Smith, saw 13 different zoning requests lumped into one vote. None of the requests had objections from the public and easily passed.

One zoning change request was pulled and discussed on a request from Councilman Charles Thomas. The property owner of the dwelling at 3030 North Central and an adjoining lot at 112 Atlantic Avenue requested to rezone from RN-2 family residential to I-MU, industrial mixed-use. Thomas said the change was the best for businesses and includes a historic overlay on the home. It was lumped into the list of rezoning and all passed unanimously.

The rezonings approved in the mass vote were three

lots on Maryville Pike from RN-4 residential to I-MU industrial mixed use; two lots on Sevier Avenue from RN-2 residential to RN-3 general residential neighborhood; one Blackstock Avenue property from general commercial to downtown edge subdistrict; an Erin Drive property from general industrial to industrial mixed use; and a property on West Baxter Avenue from RN-4 residential to C-N, neighborhood commercial.

The appeal filed by William Burton concerning the maximum height of a townhouse in the Northshore Town Center Master Plan was postponed until September 17 on a motion by Councilman Andrew

Roberto.

In other action, the council voted to contract with Midwest Causality Company for excess worker's compensation insurance for city and K-Trans management for \$200,782 in a one-year agreement.

Federal funds for the rehabilitation of 17 affordable housing units were approved in an agreement with Pines III L.P. The site is at 5999 Tannahill Drive and the request came from the Housing and Neighborhood Development Department.

The council also approved state grant applications: one for \$3.8 million to fund the Knoxville Area Transit operations and the other for \$100,000 from the Tennessee Department

of Disability and Aging for equipment and supplies for the city's senior centers.

A request from Homestead Land Holdings LLC for the rezoning of 962 North Gallaher View Road

from RN-1 to RN-5 residential was postponed for two weeks on a motion from Roberto.

Mayor Indya Kincannon's requests for appointments to the Maker Council

and Affordable Housing Fund Advisory Board were approved.

A historic overlay was added to 3030 North Central in Inskip Tuesday by the Knoxville City Council.

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Bower Field zoning changed by Knox Commission

By Mike Steely
Senior Writer
steelym@knoxfocus.com

South Knoxville's popular Bower Field was rezoned in a split vote and a very long meeting last week as the Knox County Commission met in its monthly zoning session. The split 6-3 vote had Commissioners Kim Frazier, Richie Beeler and Rhonda Lee opposing the rezoning across three agenda items.

For years Knox County has been leasing the Bower Field and that agreement has seven more years to go. That agreement may stay in place until a new ballfield is built. Thunder Mountain Property wants to develop the Chapman Highway baseball field and turn it into a commercial center with shops and venues, promising to give the county a nearby site for possibly creating a new ballfield.

Opponents say the donated site is swampy and could cost millions to transform it into a county baseball park.

The three resolutions passed concern the rezoning of the existing baseball field at 8477 Chapman Highway, rezoning a portion of the property as mixed-use and designating two nearby Sevierville Pike sites for five residential dwelling units per acre. Several people spoke in

opposition to the rezoning including attorney Daniel Sanders, Dawn Close, Kevin Murphy, and incoming District 9 Commissioner Andy Fox.

"Their concerns are valid," said Frazier, who led the opposition to the rezoning.

The opposition by Fox, who replaces term-limited Commissioner Carson Dailey, stood in contrast to Dailey's support of the rezoning. Fox called the

donation of a site for a future ballfield an "unvested promise that means nothing."

Dailey said he feels confident the new baseball field "will be bigger, a better Bower Field" and added, "I'm looking out for the kids."

Frazier called for a traffic study, a light study and a master development plan for the projects.



Knox County Republicans enjoy their weekly Friday morning breakfast at Shoney's on Chapman Highway.

'Found money' going to fire and rescue services

Cont. from page 1

still underway to develop a less costly facility.

Seymour said the additional funding for each of the organizations was discussed at a meeting of the Fire And Technical Rescue Committee. Commissioner Carson Dailey said that each organization provided well thought out."

The resolution concerning the federal funding is before the commission today and designates the \$66,016 to the Fire Prevention Bureau, \$68,025 to Knox County

Rescue, \$970,000 to Rural Metro Fire and \$349,935 to the Seymour Volunteer Fire Department. Dailey said the Karns training project has already been funded in a previous action.

A separate agenda item has the routine funding of Karns Fire Department at \$227,034, Seymour Volunteer Fire Department at \$122,827 and Knox County Rescue at \$205,137.

Representatives of the various organizations plan to attend tonight's regular commission session to speak about the funding.

Angora Frog Farm opens in Powell

Cont. from page 1

illustrator and author Daniel Wiseman, Legacy Parks crafted a story about the Angora Frog Farm and brought it to life with a story trail and play structures on the trail inside the park.

The Angora Frog Farm was created for "little children with big imaginations" as the story of Arvin the

Angora Frog leads children on the adventure of finding other Angora frogs. The trail has play features like The Lookout Tower, a spider swing, and a wobble bridge.

"We took a different approach with this park by creating a linear playground where you can enjoy a walk in the woods, climb and play, read a story, and sit

by a little creek all in one experience," Legacy Park Executive Director Carol Evans said.

There is also a dog park within the Angora Frog Farm Park. University of Tennessee President and owner/founder of PetSafe Randy Boyd said the dog park was not so much a gift, but a reward.

"The Powell community earned this," he said. "You showed how much you cared and what a positive impact this will have in your community."

The dog park was funded by Boyd's Family Foundation and is the sixth neighborhood dog park in Knox County

Legacy Parks kicked off

the project with a \$20,000 grant from The American Rental Association Foundation and the Toro Company to build the walking trail. FirstBank provided a matching grant of \$20,000 to fund the storybook panels featured throughout the park.

"This park is a special place for the community,

children, frogs and dogs," Evans said. "It is a privilege for us to be able to create a unique park in this community and honor the Brown family legacy that will last for generations to come."

The Angora Frog Farm and Dog Park is located at 7323 Brickyard Road in Powell and is open sunrise to sunset.

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The Doctor is in

a weekly column by
Dr. Jim Ferguson

A Letter to My Daughters

How can I sing the Lord's song in a foreign land?
Psalm 137:4

As the culture/civil war for the soul of America rages, I often ask myself, will there ever be an end to this strife, this division, this war? Just like the Psalmist, I feel like I'm living in a foreign land.

Recently, I had the opportunity to discuss the upcoming election with a young professional woman. She is married and has two children. Of the many perspectives we shared, the one that struck me was her comment that her life is so busy with work and family that she does not have time to read the news and search for the truth.

I understand this because when I was working and raising a family, I didn't have time to focus on politics, the country and the world. It takes time and effort to sift through

the news and search for truth, which is often elusive. When I was younger I didn't have time to follow my own axiom: "Read widely, consider carefully and sift everything through your own observations and common sense."

Perhaps I now have too much time for research and reflection. The American poet Walt Whitman once penned, "The world is too much with us." And this battle for the soul of America is certainly taking a toll on me. Wars do that; even culture wars.

It was miserable at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, in December 1776 where the Continental Army was encamped. Cold, privation and sickness were taking a heavy toll on General Washington's forces. To combat the discouragement, Thomas Paine scratched his immortal words on a drum head. "These are the times

that try men's souls. The summer soldier and the sunshine patriot will, in this crisis, shrink from the service of their country." I will not shrink from my duty and will continue to call out the great evil damaging our country.

I was a pretty good doctor, but I learned to seek the advice of other doctors because facts and knowledge are sometimes not enough. Wisdom is the appropriate use of knowledge and I often called upon the wisdom of more experienced physicians to help me care for my patients. And I learned that it is often wise to seek the perspective of "seasoned citizens" whom you trust. Three thousand years ago the Proverbist had the same perspective (Proverbs 3:5).

Like the Founders of our country, I believe in the lessons of history. In the historical book of 1 Kings 12 the young king Rehoboam, son of Solomon, makes the decision to reject the advice of experienced elders and instead follow the advice of his young radical friends. This led to increasing strife which soon split the country into a northern and a southern kingdom. The analogy to the radicals running the Biden White House, rampaging on college campuses and protesting outside

the Democrat Convention is striking.

Incidentally, I recently learned that only in America do we say "1st Kings" or "1st Corinthians." The rest of the world refers to these Biblical books as "One Kings" or "One Corinthians." Do you remember the brouhaha some years ago after President Trump used the term "One Corinthians"? He was scorned, but his phrasing was correct. It's funny that Trump is so often proven correct.

Metaphorically, our country is sick and facing a huge operation on November 5 which will determine a chance for life or certain death. If we listen to the radicals in charge of the Democratic Party or their shock troops in the streets and vote for Kamala, the patient will not survive.

If you want higher taxes, floods of illegals, less freedom and bigger government, vote for Harris and her trillion dollar price-control policy (Kamala-nomics) which even the Washington Post and CNN labeled as disastrous. If you want lower taxes, safety, smaller government and individual freedom, vote for President Trump. It's truly that simple, folks.

As we talked, the young professional seemed to be focused on personality rather than policy regarding

the presidential election. She mentioned the conversation of Trump with Billy Bush of Access Hollywood which was surreptitiously recorded and given to the Washington Post in 2005. It wasn't until 2016 that it was reported by the NY Times, when it could be most damaging to Trump.

I offer no excuses for the disgusting conversation, but it should shock no one that men can be crass. In fact, without women, men would be savages. We can be especially crude in "locker room" braggadocio. Admittedly, I've told crude jokes, but I won't ask for a show of similarly guilty hands.

I did not tell the young professional about Kamala's affair with the married Willy Brown. Nor did I mention that Doug Emhoff impregnated the nanny of his children. We are all sinners and grace is available to all.

This election should be about policy rather than personality. The policy records of President Trump and Kamala Harris are obvious. President Trump has a proven record; Harris' record is a disaster. I don't plan to have Donald Trump over for supper, but I'd like him to be America's CEO because he is a proven manager/leader.

The first amendment to our Constitution guarantees freedom of the

press. Unfortunately, the American press has violated that trust and are now undependable sources of truth. The border czar mismanaged the border and the media covered for her. The media said the George Floyd riots were "mostly peaceful." Democrat VP candidate Walz let Minneapolis burn while Harris raised money for the rioters. Harris and the decrepit Biden tell us the economy is recovering, but as we buy gas and food we know that is a lie. Last week the Harris/Biden Administration was forced to revise the 2024 jobs report down by 818,000. All year they lied about the number of jobs created.

We are in for a stormy ride this fall. The radical NY Judge Merchan may try to put Trump in jail after his Star Chamber trial. And if Trump wins re-election be prepared for riots by the unhinged Democrat base and for Democrat pols to resist certifying Trump's re-election.

I urge you to vote early and "bank your vote" because I predict problems on Election Day. And it is my hope that you will share this letter with others, especially young voters.

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

Sons of the Revolution chapter plans grave marking ceremonies in Fountain City

By Mike Steely
Senior Writer
steelym@knoxfocus.com

Saturday, September 28 will be a special day in Fountain City as the Stephen Holston Chapter of the Tennessee Society of the Sons of the American Revolution honors two patriots. A ceremony, as part of the National SAR Grave Marking Program, will place plaques at the graves of John Adair and Edward Smith in the Lynnhurst Berry Cemetery.

Mark DeNicola told The Focus that the ceremony will include a formal ceremony with readings of the history of the patriots, a gun salute and the playing of "Taps." DeNicola said the local SAR chapter is looking for descendants of Adair and Smith to attend and the general public is also invited.

More information is available by calling (865)607-9835 or by email at markdenicola@comcast.net.



The Adair Oak stands in the Lynnhurst Berry Cemetery in Fountain City over the grave of Revolutionary War patriot John Adair. It will be the site of a Sons of the American Revolutionary War honors ceremony for Adair and patriot Edward Smith on September 28.

KAT will be fare free for two weeks when KAT Reimagined launches

Knoxville Area Transit is excited to announce the launch of the new bus network, KAT Reimagined, on Monday, August 26, 2024. To make this transition easier, KAT is offering free bus service for two weeks, from August 26, 2024 through September 8, 2024, allowing everyone to experience the benefits of the new and improved transit system.

Isaac Thorne, City of Knoxville's Director of Transit, commented, "KAT Reimagined is a transformative step forward for our community.



By providing more frequent and consistent service, we are not only enhancing accessibility and convenience but also making a significant impact on our city's sustainability goals. We're **Cont. on page 2**

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Fragile & Fading List released by Knox Heritage

By Mike Steely
Senior Writer
steelym@knoxfocus.com

Local landmarks, historic properties and endangered neighborhoods were named Tuesday by Knox Heritage. The list included the categories Fading Fast, Still Fragile and Moving Forward.

The non-profit organization of preservationists has a mission of protecting Knoxville's unique character and preserving it for future generations.

"We believe that community involvement is crucial for preservation," Knox Heritage Executive Director, Christine Cloninger said. "This list, along with one-on-one

outreach to property owners, is a tool to strengthen community advocacy, encouraging stakeholders, residents, businesses and local leaders to collaborate and develop preservation strategies before these endangered historic sites are lost forever."

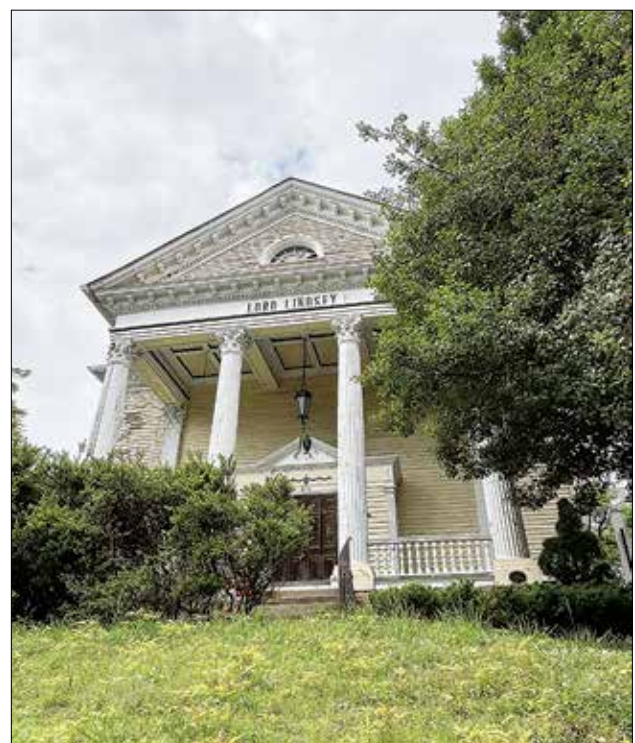
On the "Fading Fast" list is the Lord Lindsey House at 615 West Hill Avenue. Built as a private home in 1901, the structure has served as a church, a restaurant and an event center. Knox Heritage is looking for a way to preserve the empty building.

Also making that list were the JFG Sign, the Paul Howard House on Broadway, Knoxville College, and the

Standard Knitting Mill on Washington Avenue.

The Still Fragile list includes the West View Cemetery District on Keith Avenue, and the historic neighborhoods of Fort Sanders, Parkridge and Mechanicsville.

Two historic sites made the Moving Forward category where improvements in preservation are underway. The Howell House at the Botanical Gardens and Arboretum on Wimpole Avenue needs repairs. The old Giffin School on Beech Street is being transformed into a development called Historic Giffin Square to provide residential units.



The Lord Lindsey House is on the "Fading Fast" list of local historic sites announced last week by Knox Heritage.

KAT will be fare free for two weeks when KAT Reimagined launches

Continued from page 1
thrilled to offer two weeks of free service to give everyone a chance to experience the benefits of our new network firsthand."

New Network Overview

The KAT Reimagined bus network will feature 20 fixed routes, bringing more than 94,000 Knoxville residents within a quarter-mile walk of a bus stop. This system-wide redesign is focused on providing consistent and frequent service across the city, with routes operating seven days a week.

Service Improvements

- Consistent Service, 7 Days a Week: The majority of routes will operate throughout the week,

with only three exceptions, resulting in a 150% increase in Sunday service.

- Increased Frequency: With KAT Reimagined, 12,000 more residents will have access to buses running every 15 minutes — an 80% increase. Most routes will feature service intervals of 30 minutes or better. Routes 11/17 will combine to provide 15-minute service along Cumberland and Sutherland to Bearden on weekdays. Route 31 will offer 15-minute service along Magnolia Avenue through 6:15 p.m. on weekdays.

Enhanced Access to Jobs

- 19% Increase in Job Accessibility: The new network will enable access to 18,300 jobs within a 45-minute commute, with a 24%

increase in accessibility for low-income populations.

New Downtown Connector

KAT is also introducing a new Downtown Connector, running every 12 minutes, 7 days a week, using all-electric buses. This addition will contribute to reduced air and noise pollution in the downtown area, aligning with KAT's commitment to sustainability.

Ongoing Commitment to Improvement

KAT will continue to assess the performance of our services and implement improvements as needed, and as our capabilities allow, ensuring that the transit network evolves with the needs of the community.

Background on KAT Reimagined

The KAT Reimagined project was initiated to address public demand for more frequent and consistent service throughout the week. This comprehensive reimagining of the bus network involved extensive public outreach and engagement, including input from hundreds of bus passengers, over 40 organizations representing diverse community interests, and more than 1,000 participants in online and in-person surveys. Over 100 individuals also attended public meetings, both via Zoom and in person.

Throughout the process, KAT explored different transit priorities, balancing the need for more frequent trips in key areas to encourage ridership with the

goal of expanding coverage to more locations, albeit with less frequent service. After multiple rounds of draft networks and public consultations, the final KAT Reimagined bus network was approved in April 2024.

Plan Your Trip

Passengers don't have to wait until launch day to plan their trips. The Transit app now features a bus network preview tool, allowing users to explore the new routes in advance. To download this free app, search 'Transit' in your app store.

For more information on how to use this tool or to review the new route maps and schedules, visit katbus.com. Printed Route maps and schedules are also available at Knoxville Station.

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The Gentleman From Alabama

George Huddleston

Pages from the Past



By Ray Hill
rayhill865@gmail.com

Courtly, nicely dressed and usually wearing a black bowtie, George Huddleston, to all outward appearances, seemed to be a typical Southern congressman. A fiery speaker, Huddleston had been a successful attorney in Birmingham, although he preferred representing the employees rather than the employers. One of the best debaters in the House of Representatives during the decades he served in Congress, George Huddleston wielded a frequently tart tongue to powerful effect. Yet George Huddleston was not at all a typical Southern congressman of his time. The congressman was a critic of the Ku Klux Klan when that organization was highly powerful in Alabama. When first elected to Congress, George Huddleston was a strong advocate for the passage of progressive laws, as well as being one of the very few Southern congressmen friendly to organized labor and supportive of the idea of racial equality.

Described by the premier news magazine of its day, TIME, as a "thin little wisp of a man who wears slippers in his office." TIME noted Congressman Huddleston's penchant for giving in to "vast and vociferous indignations." The news magazine thought the personally wealthy Huddleston was "the South's only radical." One of the more notable episodes of Congressman George Huddleston's indignation was his breaking a ketchup bottle over the head of his primary opponent during a heated argument in a diner.

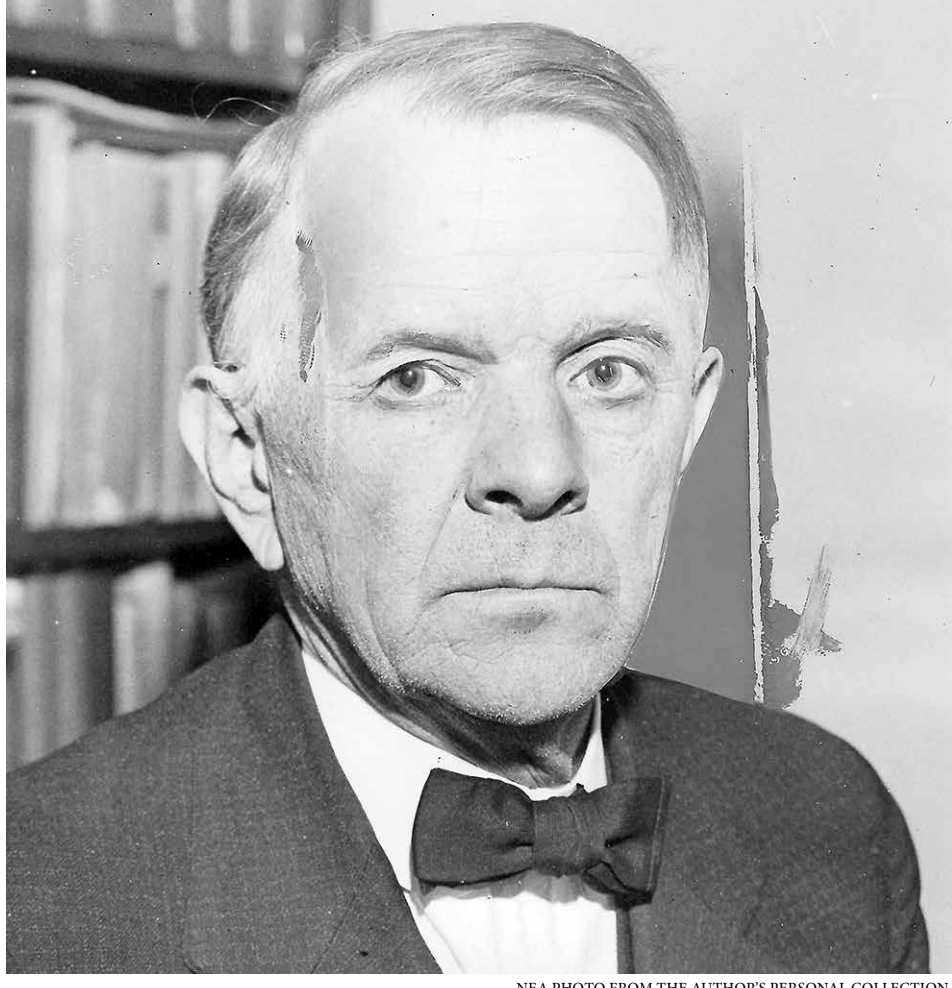
Another example of Huddleston's vast indignation was his reaction to one of the most hard-fought issues during his time in Congress; the Wheeler-Rayburn Public Utility Bill, which would dissolve the great holding companies within seven years. The mighty private power interests fought back with an army of shrewd and very well-paid lobbyists, which descended upon the Capitol. Even the influence of the most popular Democrat in the country, President Franklin D. Roosevelt, seemed to fade in the onslaught by the horde of power lobbyists. The House whips found it was some thirty votes away from a majority, even with the pressure being exerted by the White House and the congressional leadership. The lobbyists had shrewdly encouraged the public to inundate Congress with letters and telegrams by scaring the hell out of them, warning folks their savings would disappear if the Wheeler-Rayburn Bill were passed by the House of Representatives.

The gentleman from Alabama, Congressman George Huddleston, spoke from the floor of the House, bellowing what was needed was "regulation" rather than "vengeance." Huddleston scolded both sides involved in the bitter battle. "I deplore these outside influences," Huddleston told his colleagues. "Before we had the first hearing on this bill the chairman of our committee (Sam Rayburn of Texas) radioed from one end of the country to the other telling people how bad the utilities were and how much this kind of legislation was needed," Huddleston cried. "He was not alone in riding this wave," Huddleston said darkly. "The chief executive through his all-powerful influence had repeatedly done so. Let us have done with this talk of propaganda. Both sides are guilty. Both have interfered with a fair and just decision upon the part of Congress."

Born in Lebanon in Wilson County, Tennessee, George Huddleston earned his law degree from Cumberland School of Law. Huddleston moved to Birmingham, Alabama, where he practiced law from 1891 until 1911 when he retired, purchasing 50,000 acres "in the piney hills of Shelby County." First elected in 1914, George Huddleston was reelected every two years until 1936. Huddleston was a productive congressman, seeking to label products produced by either child or prison labor for consumers. When the administration of President Woodrow Wilson curtailed the right to free speech, Congressman Huddleston snapped, "In a time like this. . . it takes a lion-hearted courage for a man to stand up on his feet and dare to speak for peace." Huddleston worked for the repeal of the 1918 Sedition Bill precisely because of its oppressive restrictions upon free speech.

George Huddleston had been opposed to the entry of the United States in the First World War as well as the Selective Service Act. Congressman Huddleston did vote for the declaration of war against the German Empire and her allies. Like many of his fellow progressives in Congress, Huddleston believed the burden of paying for the war should come out of the pocketbooks of big business, industrialists, and the publishers who stood to profit from the conflict.

George Huddleston first came to Congress by succeeding a towering figure in both national and Alabama politics. When Congressman Oscar W. Underwood moved from the House to the United States Senate, George Huddleston



NEA PHOTO FROM THE AUTHOR'S PERSONAL COLLECTION.

Congressman George Huddleston of Alabama in 1931.

ran in the Democratic primary to succeed him. The young attorney ran on the slogan of "Honesty and Independence." For 22 years, George Huddleston served in the House of Representatives, representing Birmingham. Upon his arrival in Washington, D.C., the new congressman was assigned to the House Foreign Affairs Committee.

When he was first elected, Huddleston was considered a bright-eyed liberal, but he also lived up to his slogan of being independent in his thinking. Many observers thought the Alabama congressman became increasingly conservative the longer he remained in the House. By the advent of Franklin Roosevelt and the New Deal, George Huddleston seemed to be drifting rightward. Time and again during the New Deal, Huddleston reiterated his "Independent" brand. Huddleston's opposition to the Wheeler-Rayburn utility bill did not sit well with thousands of his constituents who considered the Tennessee Valley Authority to be one of the greatest things ever accomplished by the federal government on behalf of the people.

Congressman Huddleston rejected the notion he had become more conservative over time. "My principles remain now as always - - - I have not changed," Huddleston insisted. "Some who once criticized me as radical now call me conservative. The same is in them and not me."

Huddleston was acutely aware of the suffering inflicted upon his own people in particular and Americans in general. Testifying on behalf of a bill in a Senate committee, Congressman Huddleston bluntly told senators, "Any thought that there has been no starvation, that no man has starved and no man will starve is the rankest nonsense. Men are actually starving in their thousands today ..."

To those who doubted his liberalism, Huddleston pointed to three New Deal measures, which he had proposed before they were passed during the New Deal. Congressman Huddleston had sponsored

legislation for home building, which became law under President Roosevelt's Home Loan Act. Huddleston had also sponsored a bill to provide aid and relief to those citizens left destitute by the Great Depression before the New Deal. George Huddleston was also one of the first Members of Congress to advocate for public works legislation, which became a reality during the New Deal.

After being reelected to the House in 1916, the 47-year-old Congressman George Huddleston married Bertha Baxley the following year. The couple had five children. Throughout his career in Congress, most of the newspapers in Alabama railed against George Huddleston because of his economic views. Some newspaper editors flatly called Congressman Huddleston a "socialist." The opposition to the congressman in his Birmingham led to a serious opponent inside the Democratic primary in 1918, but Huddleston won a relatively close race, winning with big majorities in the more rural areas, as well as carrying those precincts where miners made up most of the voting base. Congressman Huddleston argued for the rights of immigrants to live peacefully, without harassment and was supportive of the American Federation of Labor, which was anathema to many businessmen. The congressman's largely pacifist point of view caused the Birmingham News to call his own patriotism and loyalty to country into question during the First World War. Congressman Huddleston had riled President Wilson enough so that the occupant of the White House sent a public letter condemning Huddleston's voting record in the House of Representatives.

Yet there were limits to George Huddleston's political independence. Although outspoken in his opposition to the Ku Klux Klan, the congressman voted against an anti-lynching bill in 1922. Huddleston realized to do otherwise would jeopardize his standing in his congressional district. Huddleston worked hard to pass legislation to

help unemployed veterans get jobs and was one of the moving spirits in the passage of the 1933 Securities Act, which brought about federal regulation of the financial industry following the crash of the stock market and the onset of the Great Depression.

Congressman Huddleston was caustic in his criticisms of President Herbert Hoover for having failed to alleviate much of the suffering caused by the Depression. The Alabama congressman was chosen by his party to respond to President Hoover's State of the Union address in 1931. Huddleston hammered the Chief Executive for Hoover's failure to provide aid to Americans impoverished by the Depression. Huddleston personally sponsored a bill to allocate \$100 million to ease the misery of people by giving them direct relief. Congressman Huddleston's bill was the first of its kind in American history. The Alabama congressman's bill was quickly rejected by Hoover.

Although later excoriated for his own failure to rubber stamp every measure sought by President Roosevelt, George Huddleston proved to be a leader in shepherding New Deal legislation through the House. Huddleston personally steered no less than fifteen major bills through the House of Representatives. George Huddleston seemed likely to remain in Congress as long as he wished. The Alabamian had been reelected to the House in 1934 by winning the only election that mattered, the Democratic primary, with better than 60% of the vote.

As it oftentimes the case, political independence frequently carries with it a hefty price tag. Congressman Huddleston's opposition to the utilities bill helped to seriously erode his support back home. Huddleston faced 42-year-old Luther Patrick in the Democratic primary. Patrick was an attorney by profession, but he was also a sometime poet and radio personality and humorist. Patrick homed in on Huddleston's having refused to support the president, as well

as depicting the incumbent as having sided with the private power lobby instead of public power and the people. It was a politically potent argument in Tennessee, home of the TVA, and almost equally so in Alabama.

Facing five opponents in the first primary, Congressman George Huddleston won a plurality of the vote, but the incumbent was only ahead of Luther Patrick by fewer than 4,000 ballots. With no candidate having received a majority of the vote, the congressman and Patrick faced one another in the run-off election. The contest was hard fought and bitter, the highlight of the race was the two opponents meeting in a restaurant where the congressman broke a bottle of ketchup or "sauce" over Luther Patrick's head. Patrick insinuated the members of Alabama's congressional delegation wished to see George Huddleston defeated for reelection. Congressman Sam Hobbs promptly wrote Patrick a letter, a copy of which he released to the press, denying the delegation was opposed to Huddleston.

As the election results trickled in, Huddleston may well have wished he had hit Patrick harder. The challenger handily defeated the incumbent, winning quite nearly 60% of the vote.

George Huddleston never again sought public office. Having sold off 46,000 of his 50,000 acres, the former congressman had invested his profits in real estate, which provided him a nice income. Once defeated, Congressman George Huddleston went home to Alabama. As is almost always the case, the rejection by the voters of his district was painful and stung to the quick. Huddleston refused to issue any statements or give an interview to newsmen for a full decade before breaking his self-imposed silence.

George Huddleston lived long enough to see a vindication of sorts from his defeat for reelection. That came with the election of his son and namesake to Congress in 1954. What the elder Huddleston did not live to see was the astonishing defeat of his son in 1964 by, of all things, a Republican. As Barry Goldwater was carrying Alabama easily over Lyndon Johnson, John Buchanan beat Congressman George Huddleston Jr. by 21%.

The former congressman died after a long illness at his home at the age of ninety.

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A Little Kindness

Yes, our community is still in the middle of construction on the new Schaad Road. Our neighborhood road is at the beginning of the detour. Then, the new way empties traffic onto a narrow,



By Joe Rector
joerector@comcast.net

one-lane road. Several eighteen-wheel rigs have traveled over these roads, and we're lucky no major accidents have occurred. The Ball Camp community is nearing its collective wits' end. That's why we requested a meeting that would answer questions. The office of Knox County

Public Works sent a small army to meet the public at the elementary school. Things didn't start well for those attending. They had to walk through a polling place set up in the library. The road gathering was being held in the gym at the far end of the building.

Some residents came "loaded for bear" and ready to verbalize their grievances. The public works employees were well prepared. They listened to individuals who hated the whole program and wished

the road had never been built. Others complained that deliveries from companies never came because drivers couldn't find a way to reach customers' houses. No matter how angry residents became, Mr. Jim Snowden, the leader of the KCPW, was polite and remained low-key. He patiently answered everyone's questions, even if he'd already answered a question several times. Other folks who came with him fanned out in the crowd and followed his lead. Sure, a couple of people were overcome by anger and expressed their displeasure with curse words intermingled with their

comments. The truth of the matter is that the KCPW's team proved itself to be loaded with shining stars. They had already put in a long workday before coming to our meeting. These hours were overtime, and I don't think the workers were paid. The politeness and attention to individuals eased tensions. Most of us were surprised by the professionalism and kindness that the team exhibited.

An updated map was taped to the walls of the gym. Residents could find their homes and how they sat in relationship to the new road. Most were concerned about the

placement of red lights, and Snowden gave that information. At the same time, he was open to suggestions for lights and other changes or additions.

I've experienced the same kind of treatment at the county clerk's satellite office in Cedar Bluff. The guard at the door is a mixture of motherly love and teacher. She is kind and helpful, but she can easily handle any hothead who crosses the threshold. The entire staff takes care of a variety of services, and they do so in a quick way that always ends with a "thank you." At times, the waiting room is filled, and some folks grow testy.

That hateful attitude never seems to affect the employees. They remain kind. I always leave the place thankful for the service and kindness I've received.

It's fashionable to belittle governmental offices and their staff. I won't take part in such behavior. My experiences with the clerk's office and the KCPW staff have given me faith in our local government agencies. The next time you visit one of these places, thank them for their assistance and kindness. Too often, those people only hear the ravings of irate customers. A little kindness goes a long way.

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HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

Big plays lift Karns to 29-14 win over Hawks

By Steve Williams

It was the type of game one might expect in a season opener. A lot of flags for penalties, particularly by host Karns.

But the Beavers made up for them with a bunch of big plays and avenged last year's loss to rival Hardin Valley with a 29-14 payback Friday night at the R.T. Everette Sports Complex.

So, the rotating trophy that reads "Pride of Pellissippi" is now in Karns' hands.

Both teams had big crowds in attendance. Chills may have run up and down the bodies of many fans when the two teams took the field for the first time in 2024. It was a thrilling sight.

The Beavers' little but quick Avery Westfield, listed as an "athlete" on the roster, threw one touchdown pass and caught another. Doug Turner powered in for one TD and Austin Slover threw one touchdown pass to Weston Ritter, who snagged two in the game.

Karns' Brady Kittle though stole the show late



PHOTO BY BARRY HOUGHIN

Brady Kittle, Karns defensive lineman, intercepts his second pass in the Beavers' win over rival Hardin Valley. And he had a night to remember!

in the contest. The 6-2, 240-pound defensive lineman picked off two passes and received many pats on the back from teammates. One interception by a DL is rare; two in a game is almost unheard of.

"We had a lot of critical moments when we needed a big play and we had guys step up and make big plays when we needed to," said second-year Karns Head

Coach Lee Warren. "That was the difference."

Talking about big plays, Warren added: "I want somebody to find out when the last time a D-lineman in East Tennessee had two picks in a game."

That would be hard to find.

Linebacker Alex Idol, "the quarterback of Karns' defense," contributed 11 tackles in the victory.

After Nathan Holbrook's opening kickoff sailed into the end zone for a touchback, Karns was penalized 10 yards on the first play from scrimmage.

Westfield made a spectacular finger-tip catch for a gain of 38 yards and a first down at midfield, but the Beavers couldn't take advantage of their field position as their

Cont. on page 4

A GLANCE BACK AND A LOOK AHEAD Bearden nips West in 3-overtime thriller

High School Football Scores + Schedule

WEEK 1 SCORES

Alabama 36, TSD 8
Providence, Ind. 13, CAK 2
Anderson Co. 28, Powell 25
Bearden 31, West 24 (3 OT)
BGA 68, Webb 41
D-B 27, Farragut 20
G-P 48, Seymour 15
Gibbs 37, Union Co. 8
Karns 29, HVA 14
Catholic 50, Lakeway 13
Central 31, Fulton 12
GCA 63, TKA 7
Halls 41, Campbell Co. 0
Lenoir City 41, S-D 0
Sevier Co. 49, Carter 13
Wm. Blount 36, A-E 12

WEEK 2 GAMES

Kickoff at 7 unless noted

Thursday

S. Carolina at TSD

Friday

Alcoa at Bearden

TKA at CAK

Mo. East at HVA

S-D at Heritage

A-E at Carter

Brevard NC at Catholic

Maryville at Central

Campbell Co. at Fulton

York at GCA

Gibbs at Halls

Clinton at West

Seymour at McMn Cen.

Farragut at Powell

Karns at Wm. Blount

By Steve Williams

Host Bearden and West ended Week 1 of the 2024 high school football season with a bang Saturday night.

With an overflow crowd watching, the Bulldogs posted a 31-24 win in a three overtime thriller.

Torian Riggins scored a touchdown on a 3-yard run to give Bearden the lead in the third OT period and William Pendergrass kicked the extra point. The two-time defending state champion Rebels failed to score in their turn.

The game was tied 21-all at the end of regulation.

Other Week 1 highlights included Halls shutting out Campbell County 41-0 on the road and Gibbs rolling past Union County 37-8. These two rivals will tangle this week at Halls.

Powell rallied after falling behind but fell short in a 28-25 loss at Anderson County in a Thursday TV game.

The Panthers were without one of their key players as running back

Cont. on page 2

CHS takes Battle of Broadway, 31-12

By Ken Leinart

The 2024 installment of "The Battle of Broadway" belongs to the Knoxville Central High School Bobcats after first year Head Coach Kevin Lane's squad dealt visiting Knoxville Fulton a 31-12 setback Friday night at Dany Y. Boring Stadium at Joe Helton Field in Fountain City.

The game was tight in the first half, but the Bobcats opened the third quarter with a punishing ground game and began to slowly dismantle the Falcons' defense.

"We play a lot of kids both ways," Lane said of the Bobcats. "We were a little gassed in the second quarter, but at halftime we

made some adjustments up front and found a way to run the ball."

The Bobcats used the legs of junior running back Jaedyn Harris and the arm of sophomore quarterback Kaden Long to grab the lead on the first possession of the game. Harris carried the ball five times for 33 of the scoring drive's 55 yards. Long zipped a laser to junior J.J. Smith from nine yards out for a touchdown with 9:12 to play in the first quarter.

Devon Cole nailed the point after and the Bobcats held a 7-0 lead.

The Falcons found some success against the Bobcat defense in its first drive of the game, senior quarterback Javon Moulden

connected with Rehuan Womble and Raymond Thomas to move the sticks, but the Central defense held and forced a punt.

The Bobcats put together a 13-play drive that bridged the first two quarters with Long moving the ball with a couple of nice tosses to Smith and then senior tight end Daniel Sackie.

But it would be another Sackie, sophomore J.J., who got the call for the score rumbling into the end zone from two yards out for a touchdown. Cole's point after gave the Bobcats a 14-0 lead with 10:46 to play in the first half.

Both teams struggled to find rhythm until the Falcons put together a nice little drive to close out the



Central quarterback Kaden Long (6) and teammates celebrate the Bobcats' second touchdown en route to a 31-12 win over Fulton in the Battle of Broadway Friday. Photo by John Valentine.

first half.

Moulden led the Falcons to the end zone in a three-play drive covering 48 yards with a 15-yard strike to senior wideout Travis

Ballinger.

The kick failed, but the Falcons put a dent on the Bobcat led at 14-6 with 2:32 left in the first half.

The second saw the

Bobcats go old school.

After stopping the Falcons to open the third stanza, Central let Harris do the talking.

Cont. on page 2

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Equipment guy to ball boy, Central to honor Winger

By Steve Williams

David Winger still remembers wanting to be a quarterback when he came to Central High School as a freshman in 1982.

It didn't turn out that way, but Dave has become a quarterback's best friend at CHS for 43 years as the Bobcats' "ball boy."

Now 58 years old, he's still going strong in that position and looks back on his career with pride and the tradition he has maintained, which just happen to coincide with the school's motto of "pride and tradition."

Winger will be honored for his longtime contributions to the football program this coming Friday night prior to Central's home game against Maryville.

Dave said he likes the fact that this special game will be played against the Red Rebels from Blount County, one of the state's top teams for many years. He knows it will be a tough battle, but he'll do his job and hope the Bobcats do too.

"I wanted to play (on the football team) and my dad told me that there may be something better for you than doing that," Winger recently recalled. "And I said well okay, so I just took it at that. I'll just go back and see if there was anything I can do for them on the sideline on Friday night."

"I started doing the equipment and stuff and was a water boy. I was holding the football for the field goal kickers in practice and getting to know the players and especially the quarterbacks."

"So I stuck with it from then on and hadn't let go of it."

Winger said he started being a ball boy in the fall of 1988; the year Todd Helton was a freshman at Central.

"It was different than what I was doing and I had



PHOTO BY STEVE WILLIAMS

David Winger, Central High's longtime ball boy, will be recognized Friday night at the Bobcats' football game against Maryville.

to have the officials tell me what they wanted done and I had to catch on, especially if it rained," he said. "Rainy days were probably the hardest ones for keeping the footballs dry. But it turned out to be better than what I thought it would be."

"It was fun. Going to other schools and seeing other football players and stuff. I didn't quit. I stuck with it and I really didn't think that I would be doing it this long. Working this many ball games, you know, I've been blessed to be around it this long. And people have supported me through the years."

Quarterbacks are not the only players that need the ball to be dry. You can put punters, kickers, centers and long snappers in that group, too.

"Since we've got turf, it's not as bad," said Dave. "I do it now with ease. It's fun."

Winger, who also has

been a custodian at Central for 33 years, said on home games he arrives at school before 3 o'clock and does some work before heading to the field to get everything ready before the kickoff.

"On the away games, I take off and leave straight from my house and go to the fieldhouse," said Dave. "I ride the bus with the team everywhere we go and I've met a lot of head football coaches like that."

Eddie Courtney, who stepped down as head coach at Farragut this year, became one of Winger's favorite coaches over the years.

"Courtney is a good one and I've met more than that," said Dave. "They've been real supported of me ... and they think it's great that I've stuck with it this long."

Winger also mentioned former South-Doyle Coach Clark Duncan, Gary

Shepherd and Kevin Julian when they were at Halls, and George Quarles when he was at Maryville.

"I've also got to know players from the opposite side and it's just fun going to these away games where you get to see these other high schools that you've never seen before. And I've seen a lot of high schools that I didn't even know existed in East Tennessee, and I'm like 'golly bum,' that was a big high school."

Winger also is well-known and respected by the officials.

"I'll wave at them. And they'll say: 'Well, we don't have to worry about the footballs tonight.' I've got to know a lot of officials that way. It makes you feel you're doing your job when they say, 'Well, we don't have to worry about that.'"

Winger also commented on the young kids starting out as ball boys.

"They'll throw footballs on the sideline and they're not paying attention," he pointed out. "And I say, you know, I take a job seriously, and when I have to do a job, I don't play around with it."

"I've had some of (the young ones) on my sideline and they've asked me how long I've been doing it and I've told them. I had one little guy say: 'You've been on the sideline that long!!!?' And I answer yell. I started out doing just like what you're doing right now. And they're like, 'Oh man that's neat.'"

"Each quarterback I've had here at Central has been different than most. They always say, 'These are the two (football) that I want to use tonight Dave,' and I say OK, I'll take care of you. And usually I do."

Ryan Bolton, Class of 2022, is one of the rare football players who played quarterback, punted and

was a holder for the place-kickers in his career at Central.

"Working with Dave, you knew he was going to do his job," said Ryan. "I was fortunate to work with him. He took great pride in his job and always made sure the footballs were in the condition I preferred."

Winger has worked under six head coaches at Central, starting with Harold Taylor his freshman year, and then Joel Helton who was in charge of the Bobcats' program for 27 years (1984-2010). Joe Haskell was head coach for three years after Helton.

Bryson Rosser took the reins in 2014 and guided the Bobcats to three straight state finals, including back-to-back Class 5A titles in 2018 and 2019.

Nick Craney was Central's head coach the next four years and Kevin Lane came aboard this season.

During the lean years, "I was going to stick with the team," said Winger. "I wasn't going to give up on them."

Following the 2018 state championship, Coach Rosser presented Dave with a special token of appreciation.

"He had a replica gold ball made for me and give it to me at the football banquet that year," said Dave. "I've got it in my house in my bedroom, so I've enjoyed that and then we went back-to-back the year after that."

"It has been a great ride doing this."

The actual number of games Winger has been a ball boy at Central is currently 430 (from the 1988 season until now). But if you include 36 jamboree games (1988-2024) and the 64 other Central games he "worked" from 1982-1987, his total is 530.

These numbers are special to Dave and Dave is special to Central High.

Bearden nips West in 3-overtime thriller

Cont. from page 1

Carson Wheeler had to serve his TSSAA one-game suspension from an unsportsmanlike incident in the last game of the 2023 season.

Webb lost a high-scoring game at Battle Ground Academy, 68-41.

Other top attractions coming up this week

include Alcoa at Bearden, Farragut at Powell, Maryville at Central, Karns at William Blount and Austin-East at Carter.

Alcoa, winner of nine straight state titles, lost its home season opener to Ravenwood 27-17.

GIBBS ROLLS: Slot back Levi Allison and linebacker

Brady Hughes stood out in the Eagles' 37-8 win over Union County. Allison rushed for 47 yards and a touchdown and added 32 receiving yards and a TD. Hughes recorded nine tackles and one TFL.

RODGERS DOUBLES: Powell's Deuce Rodgers helped the Panthers make

it close in their 28-25 loss at Anderson County. The junior quarterback led Powell statistically with 126 passing yards and two touchdowns plus had 17 carries for 129 yards and one TD.

CAK 'D' SHINES: Defensive end Colin Crider and linebacker

Maddox Mozingo each had 15 tackles to lead the Warriors in their 13-2 loss at Our Lady Providence in Indiana in Week 1. Maddox's safety accounted for the Warriors' only points.

WORDS FROM TSSAA: "We encourage everyone to come out and

support their students, schools, and communities. Your presence and positive energy help foster a sportsmanlike environment at local games. Let's kick off the season with enthusiasm, cheering on our teams with respect and responsibility. Play hard, play fair, and enjoy the game!"

CHS takes Battle of Broadway, 31-12

Cont. from page 1

Harris had his number called seven straight times while moving the ball from the 45 to the 13-yard line.

The Falcons stiffened on defense however, forced a couple of hurried pass attempts and almost got away with allowing no points when a Cole field goal try sailed left from 32 yards out.

Cole was leveled on the kick though and the hosts were given a fresh set of downs at the nine yard line. Again the Falcon defense stood tall and Cole nailed a 23-yarder for a 17-6 Bobcat lead after a drive that ate up more than five minutes of clock.

The Falcon offense was having trouble gaining traction though.

"We made a few adjustments at halftime," Lane said. "We were able to take away their screen pass and forced them to try and run the ball inside."

The Bobcats got the ball back with just over three minutes to play in the third and it appeared Harris capped off a quick 52-yard drive with a four-yard score.

A holding penalty negated the points though and the Bobcats would wait until the first pay of the final stanza to put up points when junior Nick Chittum took it in from 14 yards. Cole's point after made it 24-6.

The rest of the night's scoring came in a flurry.

Fulton's Albert Johnson scored from six yards out on a seven-play drive that

covered 52 yards in just over three minutes. The drive was helped by a facemask and pass interference calls against the Bobcats. The two-point attempt failed and Fulton trailed 24-12 with 8:09 left to play.

That score remained until the 7:58 mark.

Keshun Jenkins took the ensuing kickoff 75 yards for a touchdown.

Cole's kick made it 31-12.

Fulton's last chance to score was cut short when Demario Chapman recovered at Falcon fumble. The Bobcats picked up two first downs then took a knee for the win.

The Bobcats will host 1-0 Maryville next Friday.

Fulton will host 0-1 Campbell County.

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'The die seemed cast for intercollegiate football in Knoxville'

The time we have waited for— anxiously, in many cases—is now here. Tennessee football returns this Saturday (Aug. 31) against Chattanooga on the legendary field and in the equally legendary stadium that has hosted Vol football since 1921.



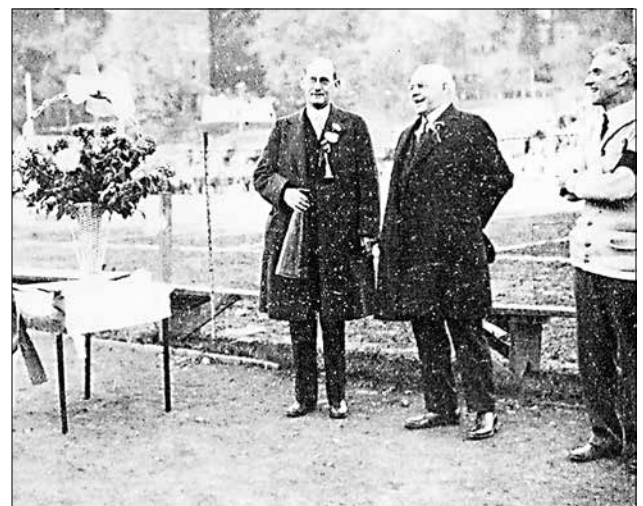
By Tom Mattingly

Dougherty, born on March 23, 1886, in Scott County, Va., was five years old. Both would prove to be influential figures in the program's growth and development.

represent. The rush line is a heavy one and in it is numbered Mr. Denlinger, an ex-Princeton player, who is now professor in the university gymnasium."

Here's a look at the Vol starters that day: Robert L. Hayes, "center rush," 205 pounds, James R. Wood, left guard, 190 pounds, Charles C. Moore, right guard, 150 pounds, Herbert R. Lathrop, left tackle, 155 pounds, Edwin S. Werts, right tackle, 150 pounds, Charles McClung Rhea, left end, 145 pounds, John B. Cox, right end, 150 pounds, Howard A. Ijams, quarterback, 110 pounds, Shirley E. Spence, halfback, 140 pounds, H. K. Denlinger, halfback and coach, 160 pounds, and Charles A. Mooers, fullback, 150 pounds. All except Hayes are listed as Tennessee football lettermen.

Moore was captain of the 1892 team and is credited for school colors being orange and white, although it would be 1922 before the Vols would appear in the now-famous orange jerseys. For many fans in those days, baseball was the sport of choice on campus. The Knoxville Journal noted that, "If we are routed in this



University of Tennessee president Dr. Harcourt A. Morgan (L) is shown with Col. William Simpson Shields (R) at dedication ceremonies for Shields-Watkins Field on Sept. 24, 1921.

game, we will send our baseball team down next spring to balance up accounts."

Russ Bebb reported in his 1973 history of Tennessee football that the results of the game were not reported in Knoxville newspapers until Nov. 25. Bebb also wrote that the story was "probably reluctantly" printed. There had been a brief mention in the Journal's Nov. 22 edition of the game being played, but offering no details.

Game reports indicated that the contest was more like rugby. Reports also indicated that around 100 fans

witnessed the game. There are larger crowds today at Tennessee's "closed scrimmages."

The headline of the Nov. 25 Journal story was vintage: "SEWANEE WON: Our University Boys Are Not In It With Them." The game story, brief as it was, was "buried on page 7," Bebb wrote.

"The down train this a.m. brought 46 Knoxville boys from the University of Tennessee, who came to meet the Sewanee boys and contest for the football championship of the state," an unnamed journalist

wrote. "The Sewanee team came the night previous. Sewanee wore the purple colors, Knoxville the Orange and White, and the two teams have owned the town. A heavy rain had been falling all day, and the boys played in the rain. Sewanee won easily by the score of 24 to nothing. After the game, all the boys took in the theatre."

A campus publication called the "University Student" reported that one player was undaunted by the outcome. "It was the first game of our team, and was played after a long tiresome ride that morning. We are not ashamed of our defeat, for it took a good team to beat us," the story read.

That was then. This is now. There has been nothing humble about the growth and development of Vol football over the years. It all started, in the rain, 133 years ago with a game in Chattanooga. As more than 100,000 fans find their way to Neyland Stadium on fall Saturdays today, they will say quite clearly that there's no place they'd rather be.

Predicting the 2024 Tennessee Vols season

By Mark Nagi

Well, folks... we finally made it. This Saturday we get to see the Tennessee Volunteers play some football.

They'll host Chattanooga (keep those dollars in state) at 12:45 p.m. Temperatures might be the equivalent of sitting in the sun at that time of day, but it'll be worth it.

Now, you might not have the time to watch all 12 of Tennessee's football games. You've got bills to pay, kids to pick up, dogs to give Cheetos... so with that in mind, I'm going to tell you how each of those 12 games is going to go.

(Note: This is mostly tongue in cheek so please don't take this too seriously.)

In the opener against Chattanooga, Nico Iamaleava only plays a half but accounts for 5 scores in Tennessee's 42-0 victory. Vols fans immediately begin a Heisman Trophy

campaign.

In Week 2, Tennessee faces N.C. State in Charlotte, because yeah why would you want to play this Power 5 out-of-conference game in a college town when you can play it in an artificial NFL stadium? News breaks before the game when Dave Doeren, who was the Vols head coach for about 8 seconds during the 2017 coaching search following Schiano Sunday, announces that he will now take the Tennessee job. UT AD Danny White answers the phone, asks "Who is this?" and watches UT edge the Wolfpack 31-27.

In Week 3 against Kent State, it's Family Weekend on The Hill. Parents ask their children how the academic year is going while spending \$13 for a Miller Lite. Vols win 45-14.

The following week Tennessee welcomes Oklahoma to the SEC. The game is played in Norman, and 15,000 Vols fans find their

way into the road stadium. This is a rematch of the 2015 classic, a double OT win for the Sooners in a game best remembered for then UT head coach Butch Jones kicking a field goal on 4th and goal from the 1-yard line. This time, it's the Vols kicking a field goal from the 1-yard line... in the final seconds of a 38-35 win. Oklahoma immediately submits an application to join the Pac-2.

Two weeks later Tennessee plays on the road at Arkansas. It's a chance to reconnect with former Vols assistant coach and Arkansas head coach Sam Pittman, who for some reason brought Bobby Petrino back to coach the Razorback offense. Petrino misses the game when he falls off a moped on the way to the stadium. Dylan Sampson rushes for 2 scores in the Vols 29-17 win.

UT is 5-0 with Florida coming to Knoxville. It's Checker Neyland, the old stadium is rocking, and

the Gators are mediocre at best. This is a perfect recipe for an UF upset, especially since the Vols almost always seem to have their worst performance of the season when playing the Gators.

But James Peace gives us an Al Wilson-type performance with 3 sacks and 2 forced fumbles in a 34-16 victory. Florida fires Billy Napier after the game and re-hires Steve Spurrier.

A week later it's the Third Saturday in October with Alabama coming to Neyland Stadium. Two years previous the Vols upset the Crimson Tide 52-49 in one of the greatest college football games ever played. This time around the game is just as close, and it's the Vols smoking victory cigars after a 42-39 win. Following the game, Alabama fires Kalen DeBoer and re-hires Mike Price.

Two weeks later it's a night game at Neyland Stadium with the Vols hosting Kentucky.

Before the game, Wildcats head coach Mike Stoops guarantees a UK win. Tennessee's crowd is loud and proud throughout a 49-0 Vols victory. After the game, Kentucky fires Mike Stoops and disbands the program.

Tennessee improves to 9-0 with a lackluster 28-17 win over Mississippi State, setting up a meeting of undefeated playoff contenders in Athens. Juan Jennings caught a Hail Mary in 2016, the last time UT had beaten UGA. This time Squirrel White races 82 yards for what would become the winning score in Tennessee's 27-21 win.

Wins over UTEP and Vanderbilt end the 2024 regular season as the Vols go 12-0 for the first time since 1998.

Only the SEC title game and playoffs remain.

I'll leave those results to your imagination.

Farragut's Beeler wins Cherokee Farm Opener

By Steve Williams

The 2024 high school cross country season is off and running.

Evan Beeler, starting his senior season at Farragut, tuned up with a winning time of 10 minutes and 24.94 seconds in the Metro Knoxville XC's 3200-meter event at the Cherokee Farm course on August 17.

The harriers ran a shorter race in the Cherokee Farm Opener to help get acclimated to the summer weather and distance.

West junior Nicholas Burke came in second with a time of 10:30.69.

Senior Tanner Coggin of Farragut placed third at 10:36.27, nipping Volunteer High's Roman Borghetti-Metz (10:36.28) at the finish line. Kevin McCurry, also from Volunteer High, was fifth in 10:37.78.

The girls also ran a 3200-meter distance, with Webb sophomores Ariana Vargas (13:01.09) and Gaby Bainbridge (13:05) finishing 1-2, respectively. West freshman Campbell Asti came in third with a



time of 13:09.33.

The Knoxville Ambassadors' Tallulah Worley, a junior, was clocked in 13:13.59 for fourth place and Webb junior Audrey Cookston was fifth (13:33.08).

The next Metro Knoxville XC meet will be the Norris Dam Invitational on Sept. 7.

The future schedule also includes: Johnson University Invitational on Sept. 14, Cherokee Classic on Sept. 21, the Mounds #1 on Sept. 28, Cove Lake Invitational on Oct. 3, the KIL meet and the Mounds #2 on Oct. 19 and the Region 2 Championships on Oct. 30.

Witsell takes over HVA CC program

John Witsell is the new boys' and girls' cross country coach at Hardin Valley



Skyla Allman is Farragut High's first Girls' Flag Football coach.

Academy, but he's no stranger.

"I have been associated with Hardin Valley cross country for over 12 years," he said Friday. "I am so proud of the skills learned by the HVXC athletes. These skills allow them to excel on the course and permeate into their school and personal lives.

"I jumped at the opportunity to lead these awesome

kids and carry on the traditions built at HVA."

Hardin Valley was scheduled to run in its first meet of the season this past Saturday at the Chick-Fil-a Saturday Light Fever in Hendersonville. Many of the state's top programs were expected to be there.

Farragut girls excited about flag football

Farragut High's first-ever flag football head coach, held a meeting last week (Aug. 21) at the school for girls interested in playing flag football.

Twenty five very enthusiastic young ladies attended the meeting and received great information about the upcoming season, reported Jack Tate, Farragut Assistant Athletic Director and SID.

Official practice will begin on Monday, October 28. Farragut's first flag football games will be played on Monday, Nov. 11.

The school year 2024-25 will be the first year for

flag football as an officially sanctioned TSSAA sport.

Among the 12 states that have sanctioned girls flag football, seven offer the sport in the fall (Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Georgia, Illinois), four in the spring (Florida, Hawaii, New York, Tennessee) and one in the winter (Nevada).

Coach Allman played high school flag football at Fannin High School in Blue Ridge, Ga. She also played and coached club-level flag football at Kennesaw State University in Georgia.

Currently a substitute teacher for Knox County Schools, Allman has two sons, ages 13 and 9 months.

Boys & Girls Clubs benefit from Hall of Fame event

The Boys & Girls Clubs of the Tennessee Valley benefit from the Greater Knoxville Sports Hall of Fame and Induction Ceremony in several ways, with ticket and auction

proceeds at the top of the list.

The 43rd annual event was held last week at the Knoxville Convention Center.

The BGCTNV strive to provide a world-class Club experience that puts success within reach of every young person who walks through its doors, putting them on track to graduate from high school with a plan for the future.

The organization provides a safe, caring environment for Club members during the summer and after school and offers more than 35 fun and educational programs covering a range of topics, including STEM, the Arts, Health & Wellness, Fitness Programs & Team Sports, and Summer Learning Loss Prevention.

Serving more than 7,200 youth annually, BGCTNV is made up of 22 Clubs in Blount, Loudon, Anderson, Claiborne, and Knox Counties.

Wallace Women craft love for the homebound



Courtney Lindsay and Autumn Humphrey at Craft Night at Wallace Memorial. Chelsea Murphy of Wallace Women said, "We faithfully desire to be a Women's Ministry that is passionate about loving our community, meeting people where they are, and empowering them with the anticipation of Heaven reminding them their season of struggle is temporary and to keep their eyes on things above as they finish well."

Over 50 Wallace Women came together for the annual Craft Night recently to make pieces of art to deliver to their homebound community.

"Wallace Women strive to actively serve both ladies in the walls of the church and those in the community," Love Community Director Chelsea Murphy told The Focus. She spoke of the importance of maintaining ties with the elderly as they experience the challenges of the final season of their lives.

"Many of the homebound members from Wallace have been instrumental in serving and have been faithful leaders who have laid the foundation of launching Wallace Memorial Baptist Church over 70 years ago."

The ladies gathered to paint rocks and canvas and even inspirational words to gift to the seniors

as colorful encouragement and tokens of appreciation.

Through each of the visits and deliveries, Wallace Women seek to be a positive voice of truth and hope to those who can no longer do for themselves. In the midst of building relationships with their homebound members, Wallace Women embrace the opportunity to love, care, and serve as they minister to the shut-in members' needs.

On delivery day, Chelsea told the team, "You never know who needs your visit. Your smile. Your encouragement. Your presence. Never underestimate what your visit means to one who is broken, sick and lagging behind."

"May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had." Romans 15:5 NIV

Firm Foundation

Jesus finishes his amazing sermon on the mount with these words: "Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his



By Mark Brackney
Arlington Church of Christ

house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it

fell with a great crash" (Matthew 7:24-27). Jesus is sharing a weighty story. One builder is wise and the other foolish. The Greek word for "wise" is phronimos and can be translated: thoughtful, smart, intelligent, enlightened. The word "foolish" is moros where we get the word moron. It can be translated: stupid, unintelligent, not thoughtful, unenlightened. In Greek, these are not just moral words but mental words. A fool was someone who did not follow the way of Jesus' wisdom, while the wise one does. Jesus is tapping into an ongoing conversation of his day of who is wise and who is a fool. Jesus does

this with a parable of two home builders.

Homes back then were different than ours today. First, they were not for one family. These were multi-generational homes. Second, they were not bought and sold unless you lived inside the city. Most people lived out in the country. It was a rural - agrarian society. You lived on ancestral land, land that was passed down through the generations through your family. Third, the home was not just for rest and relaxation. Your home came to symbolize your life as a whole.

Jesus says the wise person builds the house of their life on the foundation of practicing his teachings

as laid out in this sermon. The foolish man doesn't do anything with Jesus' teachings. Jesus doesn't say why. Maybe they are too busy, or tired and worn out - finding things too hard right now. Maybe they prefer a different rabbi. Jesus doesn't say. Jesus lets us find ourselves in the story. Where are you at in practicing his teaching?

In the short run, you can't tell those who practice Jesus' teachings and those who don't - house on the rock, house on the sand. Both homes look the same. They both might have pets and children. Both homes look the same until the flood comes. Jesus uses "flood" as a metaphor to mean some type of

hardship: unemployment, a death, bad news, a failed marriage, some kind of trauma - a flood. It is not if the flood comes, but when the flood comes.

Jesus is honest about the human condition. Both the wise and the foolish will go through the flood. Life is hard, even when it is good. If you expect life to be easy and it is not, it becomes harder. But if you expect life to be hard and you have Jesus, you will get through it. When the flood comes, it will shake the life

of your house to the core and reveal what your life is built upon. If your life is built on the foundation of Jesus Christ, when those floods come, you can stand.

Your house is your life. We are all building something. You are building a life. What are you building your life on? What is the bedrock of your life? Build your life on the firm foundation of Jesus and his teaching, putting his words into practice, living it out in community, by the power of the Holy Spirit.

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF LIEN SALE

The following described vehicles impounded/ repaired/towed will be sold at public and/or private auction in compliance with the Tennessee Public Acts 1967, Chapter 240, House Bill 379. The sale will be held at Jim's Garage & Wrecker Service Vehicle Impoundment Lot located at 5906 Walden Street, Knoxville, TN 37919.

These vehicles have been checked through the files of the Commissioner of Revenue, Title Section, Division of Motor Vehicles, Department of Revenue, State of Tennessee. In appropriate cases, the vehicles have been checked in other states, and the owners and/or lienholders have been notified by certified mail. In those instances where no vehicle identification/serial number or license number was available, this Public Notice in the newspaper will comply with the law.

The failure of the owner/lienholder to exercise their rights to reclaim any vehicle listed below not bearing a VIN/serial number shall be deemed a waiver of all rights and title and authorization to sell said vehicle.

- 1) 15 KIA OPTIMA 5XXGM4A76G416129
- 2) 17 DODGE JOURNEY 3C4PDCBB8HT612531
- 3) 06 CHRYSLER PT 3A4FY58B56T315002
- 4) 06 CADILLAC 1G6KD57Y9U106392
- 5) 06 FORD MUSTANG 12VFT80N665257264
- 6) 08 INFINITI QX56 5N3AA08C48N912020
- 7) 13 CHEVY SONIC 1G1JD6SB1D4117720
- 8) 17 HY.TUCSON KM8J33A46HU330207
- 9) 01 CHEVY MALIBU 1G1ND52J316279206
- 10) 13 KIA OPTIMA KNAGM4A71D5402993
- 11) 05 V.W. JETTA 3VWVF71KX5M632733
- 12) 02 BUICK LASABRE 1G4HP54K62U163394
- 13) 07 TOYOTA SCION JTKDE177770197974
- 14) 05 CHEVY TAHOE 1GNEK13V35J121322
- 15) 12 CHEVY 3GNFL4E58C5521016
- 16) 14 HONDA CIVIC 19XFB2F56EE013515
- 17) 18 FORD EDGE 2FMPK4K88JBB88345
- 18) 00 TOYOTA TACOMA 4TASN92N8Y2657428
- 19) 06 FORD ESCAPE 1FMYU03146KB46132
- 20) 12 CHRYSLER T&C 2C4C1G62CR368486
- 21) 01 TOYOTA CELICA JTDDR32T110083858
- 22) 09 DODGE AVENGER 1B3LC46B89N525894

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These vehicles have been checked through the files of the Commissioner of Revenue, Title Section, Division of Motor Vehicles, Department of Revenue, State of Tennessee. In appropriate cases, the vehicles have been checked in other states and the owners and/or lienholders have been notified by certified mail. In those instances where no vehicle identification/serial number or license number was available, this Public Notice in the newspaper will comply with the law.

The failure of the owner/lienholder to exercise their rights to reclaim any vehicle listed below, not bearing a VIN/Serial number, shall be deemed a waiver of all rights and title and authorization to sell said described vehicle(s).

- 1) 08 CHRYSLER 300 2C3LA43R28H295593
- 2) 04 NISSAN XTERRA 5N1ED28774C627055
- 3) 11 BUICK 1G4GC5EC1BF387529
- 4) 12 LEXUS ES350 JTHBK1EG1C2477817
- 5) 18 TOYOTA COROLLA 2T1BURHE4JC065393

NOTICE OF LIEN SALE

PUBLIC SALE TO BE HELD ON, September 11, 2024 11:00 AM AT YOUR EXTRA STORAGE (starts at Cedar Bluff location): CONTENTS OF THE FOLLOWING UNITS WILL BE SOLD TO SATISFY OWNERS LIEN FOR RENT DUE 254 Harry Lane Blvd. Knoxville TN 37923: E32 Jessica Bacon, F09 Jerry Bunch, N25 Satti ElSayed, K49 Randy Peterson, C17 Courtney Wilson-Loyal, E27 Megan Johnson, M26 Billie Murr, M19 Michelle Collette.

7144 Clinton Hwy, Knoxville TN 37849: G07 Deborah Waddell, D43 Walter Black, H12 Mike Sellers.

4303 E. Emory Rd. Knoxville TN. 37938: F04 Shane Canter, K03 Pamela Conner, F55 Tiffany Cremeans, G40 Stuart Humberg, H21 John Lee, I13 Judy Moore, H01 James Nipper, B22 Sharon Smallwood, D10 Barbara York.

CASH ONLY

2020 Lincoln Nautilus Reserve Loaded \$30,997
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2023 Transit 250 High roof cargo van \$42,950
2022 Ford Escape SEL Loaded, AWD \$43,975
2021 Jaguar F-Pace P250 S AWD \$37,950
2023 Ford Bronco Sport Big Bend, 4X4 \$29,999
2018 Ford Mustang Convertible Pkm \$24,550

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 Hope to see you soon.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Application for title: Thomas Miracle hereby serves notice that he/she intends to apply for a title on a vehicle described as follows: 2003 Honda VTX1800, Vehicle Identification Number 1HFSC46052A003591. Any and all parties holding an interest in said vehicle must contact Thomas Miracle by certified mail return receipt

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