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## High School Fall Sports



PHOTO BY JJ SPEARS

Gibbs senior Quez Sharp battles to get in the end zone against the South-Doyle Cherokees Friday night. Sharp scored two touchdowns in the unbeaten Eagles' 49-0 romp as the high school regular season reaches the halfway mark. Please see Week 5 game coverage and pictures and other prep fall sports news in Sports and Recreation, Section C.

## Major real estate developments heard at city council

By Mike Steely  
Senior Writer  
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A motion to add \$4.2 million to fund the Western Heights Phase III improvements passed easily during Tuesday's meeting of the Knoxville City Council where real estate development issues dominated the four-hour meeting.

The appeal of a special use permit issued to Mike Stevens Homes to build a tall townhouse on four lots on Horizon Drive in Northshore Town Center was denied. William Burton sought the appeal of a planning commission decision to allow the development in the RN-3 zone.

Some Northshore Center residents object to the height of the proposed

building because the tall structure will block the views that were promised to them in previous purchase contracts. Councilman Andrew Roberto asked if the city could enforce promises made in contracts and council attorney Rob Frost replied it could not. The appeal was denied.

The Overlook Owners Association appealed a proposed development on West Hill Avenue and Locust Street. The development had been approved by the Design Review Board and Knoxville/Knox County Planning.

Attorney Daniel Sanders represented the group and called the huge complex, which will include garage parking,

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## Fox motion on zonings turned down by commission

By Mike Steely  
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Andy Fox, the new Knox County Commissioner who represents the 9th District, proposed a resolution that didn't get the traction needed in the body's agenda review meeting last week.

Normally Knoxville-Knox County Planning sends recommendations of zoning changes to the commission but Fox quoted the Knox County Code that reads "zoning resolutions

may be initiated by the county board of commissioners."

Fox said he is concerned about South Knox County's utility capacity involving wastewater treatment. He was specifically seeking the rezoning of five properties along Chapman Highway and Sevierville Pike owned by developer Thunder Mountain Properties.

Commissioner Shane Jackson asked if the law department had looked at the proposal.

"This is fairly unprecedented but rezoning can be done by the commission," said Deputy Law Director Mike Moyers. He said adding it to the current agenda would require a two-thirds vote or the Fox resolution may be added to next month's agenda.

"There are possible negative amplifications of this," Moyers said, adding, "I need more time to study this."

The resolution was voted down 7-5 with Fox, Adam Thompson,

Rhonda Lee and Angela Russell voting to add it and Jay, Jackson, Damon Rawls, Courtney Durrett, Gina Oster, Terry Hill and Kim Frazier voting "No" on hearing it in today's regular meeting.

In other zoning business, among many zoning change requests was one from Johan Van Tilburg for property at 7735 Freeway Heights in Halls. The two requests asked for a change from Suburban Mixed Residential to Corridor Commercial and

Business and Manufacturing. The property is next to Tindell's Building Materials on Norris Freeway.

Tilburg said the idea is to expand the business' storage. Seventh District Commissioner Rhonda Lee praised the Tindell's business' involvement in the community and asked that a tree barrier be preserved.

The commission also discussed a rezoning at 10801

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## Valliant asks for reappointment to merit board despite lawsuit

By Mike Steely  
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John Valliant III, a member of the Knox County Sheriff's Office Employees' Merit System Board of Directors, asked the Knox County Commission to reappoint him to that board during the commission's agenda review last Monday. Valliant has filed a lawsuit against Knox County due to changes made by the commission involving the operation and membership of the merit board. He said he had exhausted all other options in his efforts to change the board rules.

Valliant, an attorney, said he was the best candidate for the seat, is a critical thinker, and challenged the rule that no volunteer member of the merit board is permitted to be involved in political activity. He cited "constitutional freedom and freedom of speech" and recalled the commission voting 6-5 to keep the changes made to the board. He quoted federal and state law that permits non-employees to be involved in politics.

Commissioner Rhonda Lee, who is also an attorney, asked Deputy Law Director Mike Moyers if Valliant could legally sue the county while serving and Moyers replied he could.

"I don't want to discuss the case here," Moyers said, adding that Valliant's requested attorney fees weren't

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## KCSO merit board looks at compassion leave, job changes

By Mike Steely  
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Knox County Sheriff Tom Spangler met with his office's Employees' Merit System Board of Directors last week to propose updating some job descriptions and adding a couple of new positions.

The board meeting included a discussion about a rule change involving compassion leave and a vote that aligned the number of days involved with the current sheriff policy. All certified employees who fall under the board's authority will be granted up to three days of pay in the event of a death in their immediate family. That category is rather broad and includes a spouse, son, daughter, mother, father, brother, sister, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, grandparents, grandparents-in-law, mother- or father-in-law, or



Sheriff Tom Spangler spoke to the Knox County Sheriff's Office Employees' Merit System Board of Directors last Monday.

other relatives in step lineage.

Employees unable to return to work after the three days may request accrued annual or sick leave.

The board voted to drop the requirement of a bachelor's degree for some positions within the

department and it was noted that about 30% of current deputies have the degree. The board also heard a report about different positions and their duties in the department.

Pay grade increases were announced for the Office of Professional Standards secretary and

the environmental crime detective lieutenant, and a new position was announced: program specialist, a civilian who will process all volunteers in the department's various programs.

Spangler spoke of another new position, the Mental Health Transportation Officer.

He also discussed the scope of the KCSO employees under the merit board's attention and the administration positions that do not fall under the merit board's authority. Spangler said he currently employs seven positions in his administration although he could have named ten people. He said he has just over one year left in his term of office and said he hopes whoever wins the position keeps some of his employees in the office as he did when he was elected.

# There Are No Perfect Candidates

From a distance



By John J. Duncan Jr.  
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There has never been a perfect candidate for any office and there never will be. In fact, the only perfect candidates seem to be people who have never run for anything.

I remember hearing or reading that a president many years ago said of one of his critics: "What does he know? He's never even run for sheriff." (or something similar).

The title of my column is "From a Distance." This comes from something my

father said to me a long time ago: "Everything looks easy from a distance." I think this is especially true of sports and politics.

It is easy to sit at home, comfortable and relaxed, eating popcorn, and thinking of things a candidate should have said. It is totally different to think of things in front of cameras, knowing millions of people are watching, and being questioned by hostile (in Trump's case) moderators. What tremendous pressure.

Having said and written all that, I have to admit that Trump's performance in his debate with Kamala Harris was a disaster. It made me think of things three different people had said to me several weeks before the debate.

The first was my friend, Tom Seymour, a longtime member of the staff at

Holston Hills Country Club. He said sometimes he thought Trump was almost trying to lose the election - that it seemed like he really didn't want it anymore.

Then I heard similar things from my wife, Vickie, and my friend, insurance man Steve Cox. None of the three knew the others had said the same things, and all three do not want Harris to win.

Until marrying me, Vickie was very non-political. She said she could tell that I grew up in a family that talked about sports and politics around the dinner table, while her family never talked about either one.

When I was dating her, several people told me she was one of the sweetest women they knew. She has almost never said a critical or unkind thing about anyone.

But she told me early on that her late husband watched CNN all the time and that she did not like Trump. In fact, she thought he was a mean, bad man.

Then, in late spring last year, we were invited to have dinner with him in a very small group in Nashville. He spent over three hours with us and asked our opinions and did as much or more listening than talking.

Then, at about 11:15 at night, after a very long day, he called the restaurant staff in to talk with them and pose for photos and sign autographs for the workers.

Vickie was amazed. She thought he was very nice, likeable, and nothing like the way he was portrayed on CNN. Nor unfortunately, the way he came across on the debate with Harris. Frank Luntz, a longtime

Republican pollster and advisor to candidates, had a good response when Piers Morgan questioned him about the debate. Morgan asked, "Do you think Kamala won, and does that mean she may now win the election?"

Luntz replied, "I think more accurately is that Donald Trump lost. And this is not the worst debate performance I've seen in my career, but it's very close to it."

On the Sunday after the debate, Luntz said in response to some tirade Trump wrote on his Truth Social site: "I have never seen a candidate more determined to blow an election."

Luntz also said on the Morgan program, "I think he loses because of this debate performance," to which Morgan replied, "Wow."

I have seen many elections turn in the final week or two of campaigning. I certainly hope Trump can recover, because Harris is not even close to being the moderate she tried to be on the debate.

Socialism has wrecked the economies of most of the countries in this world. People are fleeing those countries. People are fleeing the left-wing policies being forced on them now in California.

Harris is the most far-Left person ever nominated by one of our two major parties. She is a socialist, possibly even a Marxist. If given the opportunity, Harris would turn the whole country into California. This would be bad for us and terrible for our children and grandchildren.

## Knox Rules Committee drops required reports

By Mike Steely  
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The Knox County Commission's Rules Committee, chaired by Kim Frazier, met last week and looked at three possible changes in the way the full body operates.

The first was a decision to drop the annual reports required from each commissioner who serves on a committee. They decided although those reports seemed a good idea at the time the reports were sometimes not submitted or proved to be inadequate.

Frazier moved the reports to be dropped and the committee members agreed.

The committee then looked at possible changes to the language used during Knox County Beer Board meetings and considered an idea left by former Commissioner John Schoonmaker. After reviewing the language and hearing an opinion from the law director, the committee decided that changing the language was not necessary. Basically, it would have added the accused must "state guilt or innocence in selling beer to a minor."

After deciding the language wasn't necessary because most accused violators plead guilty, the rules committee moved on to how a new commission reorganizes committee assignments.

Commissioner Andy Fox suggested asking the members which committee they preferred, making a list, and voting on the membership. Committee members then would pick their chair and vice chair.

Commissioner Larsen Jay said that normally the returning commission members are asked if they wish to stay on the assignment and, if so, the other members are chosen.

Frazier said that rules members didn't need to decide that question during the meeting and asked the law department to draft some language to be considered. The rule committee will next meet in January 2025.

A brief meeting of the Knox County Commission's Rules Committee heard three proposals dealing with required reports, beer board language and how committees are chosen during reorganization.

## The Fed is always trying to save us from itself

I wonder if there is an institution subject to more second-guessing than the Federal Reserve? Ninety percent of the time the Fed is not in the news. Its Open Market Committee mostly meets with scant interest from the media. However, when there is economic uncertainty or economic stress the Fed is in the news front and center. When the economy is experiencing slowing growth, the pundits wonder when will the Fed cut interest rates. When the Fed does act, the pundits opine that they waited too late, or acted too soon, or didn't cut enough, or cut too much. When the economy is experiencing inflation, the Fed is urged to increase interest rates. Then the pundits can again criticize the Fed for acting too slowly, or too fast, or raising rates too little or too much.



By Dr. Harold A. Black  
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Usually the Fed is responsible for the swings in economic activity that it then tries to fix. Central bankers are notorious for creating the ups and downs in the economy and then overcorrecting and causing more swings. This is what keeps them employed and feeling godlike. Unfortunately, most of them really don't know what they are doing. Very few central bankers are trained in monetary policy. At the Fed, only one governor has that pedigree. The Fed governors tend to be bankers, lawyers or academics who are not monetary theorists. The current Fed chairman is a lawyer.

As a result, the Fed governors rely on their staff - an impressive array of PhDs - to help guide policy suggestions. However, the staff is not dominated by monetary theorists. In fact, few of the

staff at the board of governors or the staff at the reserve banks are monetarists. It would be surprising if there were a consistent Fed policy. Rather it always looks as if they are making things up as they go along.

As it stands now, the Fed has too much on its plate trying to decide monetary policy along with regulating the banking system. My suggestion would be to divide the Fed into two. One group would concentrate on monetary policy while the other would concern itself with bank regulation. The monetary policy side would be administered by people who are trained in monetary theory. There are two major schools of thought in this area (monetarists and Keynesians) and one fringe group (modern monetary theorists). I would have representation from all three plus a staff made up of all three views. The other part of the Fed would concern itself with bank regulation and be made up of lawyers, accountants and bankers.

Monetarists contend that the interest rate fixation by the Fed is misguided. Interest rates are not a unique indicator of the economy. The same interest rate can exist in virtually every economic circumstance:

recovery, downturn, inflation or recession. The Fed then manipulates its Fed funds target rate while at times moving its purchases or sales of Treasury bills via open market operations in opposite directions. This is called discretionary monetary policy which central bankers consider their birthright. However, discretionary policy is destabilizing and generating economic uncertainty. Indeed, at times the Fed conducts contradictory monetary policy which is akin to driving with one foot firmly on the brake while the other foot is flooring the accelerator.

Monetarists favor a fixed rule emphasizing the role of monetary aggregates (M2 and the monetary base - currency plus bank reserves) rather than interest rates. Setting a fixed growth rate in the money supply and ignoring short-term fluctuations in the economy and interest rates lead to greater economic stability. Of course, the central bankers are no longer playing god in manipulating stuff in order to look important. The likelihood of the Fed doing that is virtually nil unless forced to by law. The likelihood of Congress forcing the Fed to do so by changing the law is less than nil. Rather it is hoped that one day a Fed chairman will be finally nominated and confirmed who is an expert in monetary theory. Perhaps only then will the Fed stop being such a destabilizing force in the economy.



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# Publisher's Position DEI or DIE?



By Steve Hunley, Publisher  
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and inclusion, but whoever is chosen on the basis of race, gender and inclusion is also the most qualified and able person. It would be more proper for it to be DIE, as it means death to intelligence and equality. What progressives mean by diversity is only people of color. White people are to be excluded. Exclusion by race by any other name is called discrimination. If not DIE, then it would be more accurate to state that DEI stands for what it really is: discrimination, exclusion and indoctrination.

Inclusion means accepting victimhood and hating the various oppressors, like Jews for instance, which is why the far left supports a murderous antisemitic terrorist organization like Hamas. Not accepting the beliefs of the far left is the ultimate blasphemy and means one is NOT inclusive and therefore must be a bigot and a racist.

In truth, DEI was conceived in neo-Marxist ideology and birthed in the wake of critical race theory being seen for what it was - - a blatant attempt to rewrite American history based on

imaginings and an abuse of the truth. But to the far left truth is the last thing that matters. It is considered gospel in most of academia and the mainstream media and is designed to indoctrinate neo-Marxist beliefs, crush free speech and smother to death any dissenting opinion by canceling those people and invoking the crime of bias against those who dare not to accept the orthodoxy of the far left.

Joe Biden promised to pick a Black woman as his vice-presidential running mate. There weren't a whole lot of other qualifications stated, so Congressman Burchett is pretty much right about Harris being a DEI choice, like it or not. For folks like Allie Feinberg and her superiors at the News-Sentinel who believe up to their hair follicles in woke ideology and DEI, why in the world is it such a terrible thing to say Kamala is a DEI pick, especially if it is such a good thing?

Most likely because in their heart of hearts they all know being the DEI pick isn't quite the same as being the most qualified

candidate or the best candidate for the job. I should think even Allie would like to think she was hired because she was the best candidate for the job and not because no Bulgarian trans folk dancer who identifies as a cat and uses a litter box didn't apply.

Rewriting history, dismissing and repressing religion, and realigning everything on the basis of victims and oppressors while centering upon race and sexual orientation is at the very heart of DEI and the woke agenda. Jews are not allowed to defend themselves, their homeland or their people precisely because they are, according to the far left, oppressors. They deny that Hamas, Isis, Hezbollah and their ilk are terrorists. They believe children should be able to get gender reassignment surgery without the parents having anything to say about it.

And to help them along in stamping out individual thought and freedom, the wokesters reimagine the English language. The homeless are the "houseless." An ex-convict is labeled a "returning

citizen" instead or, at least a little closer to the truth, "persons with a history of incarceration." Equality is a bad word, which should tell anyone still capable of rational thought where we are today; instead, the far left would have us use "equity." Likewise, it is considered just awful to refer to the disadvantaged, as one should point to the "historically and intentionally excluded." And we've all heard their rallying cry of "social justice." "Illegal alien" has of course become "undocumented citizen," when they aren't citizens at all. "They" is an accepted singular pronoun by the woke and we are all supposed to pretend there aren't just two biological sexes. To take that view is to be burned at the stake for spewing hate speech. And of course, they interpret the speech of anyone who disagrees with them or their insanity as "violence." They, on the other hand, can call for the slaughter of an entire race of people and it's just fine because we can't ever forget, that the Jews are oppressors and oppressors get what they deserve in the end.

And ironically, they like to call their opponents Nazis and authoritarians.

The difference between equality and equity is like the distance between oceans without end. Fair opportunities are to be buried; instead we must seek predetermined outcomes for those who are supposed to be members of allegedly marginalized minorities. It's akin to affirmative action with a 99-point advantage in the beginning out of a 100-point scale for the marginalized. That is pretty much the entire qualification that is needed. And never forget, whites can never be the victims of racism; only members of the designated marginalized are allowed that privilege. The dictionary has to be updated several times each year to keep up with the ever-changing definition of racism.

Yep, Joe Biden was not cognitively impaired, nobody knew it, and Jill just ran the cabinet meeting because she's good at it and it was DEI in action. We need to reimagine that, too.

## New chairman for Knox Co. Audit Committee

By Mike Steely  
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Knox County Audit Committee Chairman Jim Morrison opened Thursday's meeting by asking for a vote for the chair and vice chair of that committee. He then nominated Vice Chair Matthew Warren who was selected for the chair position.

Morrison and Warren are the two CPAs on the body that also includes Knox County Commissioners Larsen Jay, Angela Russell and Shane Jackson. Jackson

was absent but the other members approved Warren's nomination. Then Morrison, who has served several years as chair, was chosen as vice chairman.

Warren will assume the duties at their next meeting.

The audit committee heard from Chris Caldwell, Knox County Finance Manager, who said the annual finance report is still being closed out. He said there is a surplus of about \$4 million received above the budget, and added, "We are still tracking well this year."

Knox County School's Ron McPherson told the meeting the

system has a 3% surplus in revenue and that sales taxes are up 6 - 7% but said that revenue is slowing. He noted the school system's 8,000 employees and said schools are "in a positive position."

Ted Hotz of Pugh & Company said his firm is finalizing the annual audit and hopes to have a final annual report by December 31. Asked about a state inquiry into Farragut Booster Club matters, Hotz said he expects a report on that and promised to copy Jay and the audit committee members a copy.

Morrison discussed the upcoming Knox County Commission resolution to continue Pugh's contract as the county's external auditor and recommended that the contract be renewed.

"We've had a lot of success with Pugh," he said, to which Caldwell and Commissioner Jay agreed. Jay moved to suggest to the main commission that the external auditor be hired again for one year.

Zac Fullerton gave the Knox County Internal Audit Department's report on the school system's Fleet Management

Divisions and Warren asked him about school vehicles which are permitted to be driven home by employees. Fullerton said that 31 of the 36 vehicles used were compliant. He also said that all accidents other than minor incidents are reported to the school division.

It was suggested that all school vehicles receive scheduled maintenance and that guidelines be developed.

The committee then chatted about a future meeting date and Morrison talked about moving the 9 a.m. meetings to a later time.

## Valliant asks for reappointment to merit board despite lawsuit

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legal. Commissioner Larsen Jay, who had spearheaded the restructuring of the merit board, asked if Valliant hadn't agreed to abide by the new rules when he was appointed to the board. Valliant said he had and said, if reappointed for a three-year term, he would continue to obey the rules even if he loses his

lawsuit. The reappointment is on today's commission agenda in a motion filed by Commissioner Terry Hill.

In other business, the agenda review meeting included a discussion as to which commissioners will introduce and honor the five outgoing commissioners during today's regular session.

Commissioner Terry Hill discussed briefly the two

resolutions on today's agenda involving closures of Lobetti Road at Ball Camp Pike and at Schaad Road. She noted several people were present at the agenda meeting and asked them to return to speak to the issue during the regular session.

Jay moved to add two measures to be discussed involving a contract with Ernst & Young LLP for a

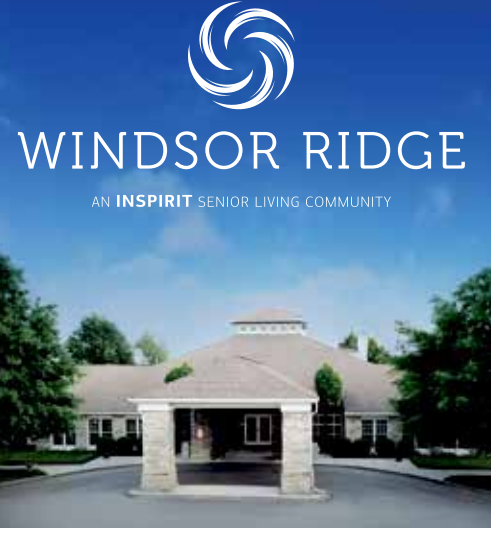
needs assessment of mental health resources in the county. He also wants a discussion on the new Parks and Recreation policy involving the use of county sports fields by non-profit organizations. The mental health assessment is expected to cost about \$425,000 under a grant to the health department and should last about 16 months to complete.

## Fox motion on zonings turned down by commission

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After several other zoning change approvals, Commission Chair Gina Oster told the members she wants to change the order of requests on the agenda in the future to lump them into categories by district. Commissioner Larsen Jay also suggested moving all the deferred rezoning requests to the top of future agendas.

Hardin Valley Road in a request to switch from Business and Technology Park to General Business. The request from Graham Corporation was approved for a commercial center to have two or three tenants. Commissioner Kim Frazier said she regrets the development taking up part of a Century Farm there.

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# Sharps Chapel Festival coming Saturday, September 28

## A Day Away



By Mike Steely

of Jacob Sharp, son of the founder, is on the National Register of Historic Places.

Sharps Chapel is on the Chuck Swan peninsula and surrounded on the north, west and south by the Clinch and Powell rivers that now make up Norris Lake.

On Saturday, September 28, Sharps Chapel will host its Fall Festival from noon until 9 p.m. with a vintage car show, children's pageant, a scarecrow building contest, live music with local bands, various vendor stalls, unique crafts and goods, and 15 food trucks.

The Kids Zone will feature a bounce house, a miniature pumpkin patch, carnival games and a petting zoo. There's also a beauty pageant and cowboy contest for kids up to 14 years old. The Scarecrow Contest is a fundraiser for the Union County American Legion.

Wild Blue Yonder will be featured at the Gospel Tent.

The best way to get to the festival is to take Maynardville Pike, Highway 61/33, north until you cross the Clinch River Bridge and turn left on the first road on

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Sharps Chapel Road to Sharps Chapel Park.

More information can be requested by emailing chapelffallfest23@gmail.com or finding the Sharps Chapel Fall Festival page on Facebook.

# UT Arboretum Society Butterfly Festival returns Sept. 28

The University of Tennessee Arboretum Society will present its ninth annual Butterfly Festival on Saturday, September 28 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the UT Arboretum Auditorium and surrounding grounds, 901 S. Illinois Avenue in Oak Ridge. Activities include the UT Insect Zoo, two butterfly tents, educational speakers and children's activities.

The UT Arboretum will be closed for parking to regular visitors on the day of the Butterfly Festival, Saturday, September 28 until 3 p.m. The regular parking lot is closed, and all parking areas will be dedicated to the Butterfly Festival. This change is being implemented for the safety of Butterfly Festival visitors and staff.

Important information on parking this year: Parking will be in designated areas of the UT Arboretum adjacent to the event and on a first come first served basis. The entrance fee is \$5 cash fee (to facilitate entry) per carload. The gate will be open at 9:30 a.m. The event will take place rain

or shine. Accessible Parking is available on a first come first served basis. Please have your placard clearly visible when you enter the Arboretum for the Butterfly Festival to assist parking staff in directing you. A shuttle service will also be available from the regular parking areas for those needing assistance.

Children's craft activities will be available at a cost of a \$1 ticket per activity or \$10 for all ten crafts. Payments can be made with cash or credit card.

Educational presentations will take place inside the air-conditioned auditorium. Lucas Coe-Starr will speak at 10 a.m. on "Fall Bird Migration in East Tennessee." Stephen Lyn Bales will speak at 10:50 a.m. on "The Mystery of Monarchs."

A free pollinator plant will be provided by a local native plant nursery, Tennessee Naturescapes, for each family as long as the supply lasts.

To learn more, go to [www.utarboretumsociety.org](http://www.utarboretumsociety.org).

# Major real estate developments heard at city council

Cont. from page 1

apartments and possibly retail stores, a "huge 100-year mistake." He charged that the mayor and several council members had inappropriately consulted with developers to approve the project. He said Mayor Indya Kincannon's office

was acting as the "project manager" and said those involvements were a "violation of due process."

Sanders said all city correspondence and records dealing with the issue should be made public. He said he made two public records requests and was

told it could cost \$8,000 to fulfill his request. Attorney Frost said such a request, for all records, could take a lot of time and staff to comply.

Council members Lauren Rider and Tommy Smith were also called out by Sanders and both said they met with developers but promised no support or decision on the project. Former council member Janet Testerman was also named by Sanders. Councilwoman Gwen McKenzie asked Frost if the issue would go to court and Frost replied it depends on how

the council votes.

The proposed development would stretch from Locust Avenue to West Hill Avenue and First Street, overlooking Neyland Avenue and the Tennessee River next to the Henley Street Bridge.

Mayor Kincannon said it was "completely false" that she or her office assisted in the proposed development. The council voted unanimously to deny the appeal.

It took a split vote to approve a request by Homestead Land Holdings LLC to rezone a lot on 962 North Gallaher at the

intersection with Mars Hill Road. Several residents objected to the rezoning, from RN-1 to RN-4, claiming the townhouse development conflicted with the neighborhood houses and questioned where the entrance road would be located.

Councilwoman Seema Singh said the location was "ideal for housing like this." Councilman Tommy Smith objected to the re-zoning, citing traffic and neighborhood concerns.

The approval split the council 5-4 and the development was approved.

In other action the council voted to increase the rates for nonconsensual vehicle towing, approved applying for state funds for the Emergency Management Agency, approved engineering consultations for the East Greenway Drive and Boyd's Bridge Pike bridge repair projects, and issued a quit claim deed for 1209 Forest Avenue.

An agreement with Goodwill Industries to provide recycling maintenance, customer assistance and educational services at five locations was approved.

## Allotting City's 202 Funds motion draws objection

By Mike Steely  
Senior Writer  
[steelym@knoxfocus.com](mailto:steelym@knoxfocus.com)

Occasionally when the Knoxville mayor calls for any "added by motion" suggestions from council members a new resolution comes forth. Tuesday Vice Mayor Tommy Smith moved to allocate "202 funds" to various non-profit agencies in the city but the move immediately drew a challenge from Councilwoman Amelia Parker.

The "202 Fund" is money set aside by the city for organizations that apply for help through a questionnaire by a certain deadline. Several non-profits seek the funding.

Parker objected to Smith's proposal to add the funding to the agenda, stating that one of the non-profit groups was left out of the filing process. She said she could not support the idea without the unnamed party being included. Smith

said the applicant missed the deadline to apply and could do so again in two weeks at the next regular council meeting.

Councilwoman Lauren Rider said some of the applicants have "events coming up soon" and the process shouldn't be impacted by delaying a decision. City Recorder Will Johnson told the meeting he tried to resolve the filing issue but could not.

Smith asked that his proposal proceed saying the other fund recipients shouldn't suffer because one group failed to file a request. Parker voted "No" to kill the Smith motion and said that adding a motion to the agenda during a council meeting must be approved by all the council members.

The allotment of the city's "202 Funds" apparently will be heard again in the next council meeting on October 1.

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## The Doctor is in

a weekly column by  
Dr. Jim Ferguson

### Courage

In this world you will always have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world (John 16:33).  
Jesus Christ

As I begin this essay it's raining and there's a fall-like chill in the air. Perhaps this is the reason I'm weary. Actually, we needed the rain, and ordinarily I like rainy days which often force me to slow down.

My garden harvest is complete, farm chores are done and wood for the winter is stacked and covered. I have so many blessings: faith, family, friends, resources, health, security, and even purpose. So why am I down? The Doctor's diagnosis is I'm weary of the war; the war to save the soul of America.

I suspect others feel the same, so I share my feelings to assure you that you are not alone. I recently quoted Thomas Paine as he lamented the tough times

at Valley Forge in the winter of 1776. Others have sacrificed so much for my freedom. This is what drives me to speak out against the great evil that has swept over our land and is threatening to destroy our country. Theologian and Lutheran minister Dietrich Bonhoeffer said, "Silence in the face of evil is itself evil: God will not hold us guiltless. Not to speak is to speak. Not to act is to act." Bonhoeffer's courageous resistance to the Nazis cost him his life, but not his soul.

My dad was a naval aviator during the Second World War. Sometimes I wish that I had served my country in the military, but when I graduated from high school in 1969, America was disengaging from the war in Vietnam, although Americans were still dying to prevent the spread of communism - the so-called Domino theory.

I registered for the draft

which was a lottery system at the time, drew a high number and was able to stay in school while others served. One might conclude I was lucky or it was my destiny that brought me to this moment and gave me a voice of resistance to anti-American forces. Specifically, I reject what the Democrat party has become. I reject its progressive policies which have become neo-Marxist socialism and antisemitism. I will not be shamed (gaslighted) into tolerating or accepting that which is wrong.

In 1521 the Catholic priest Martin Luther was on trial for his life in an ecumenical court in Worms, Germany. The church and pope demanded Luther recant his beliefs and accept the elitist groupthink under threat of excommunication and execution. Every reasoned person of faith should read at least the last paragraph of Luther's defense oration, but I'll quote his final statement, "It cannot be either safe or honest for a Christian to speak against his conscience." I left the Methodist Church as a similar matter of conscience.

I admire C. S. Lewis, an Oxford don (professor) who wrote the Narnia series and was also a science fiction writer. He was an atheist until he

investigated Jesus, trying to debunk Christianity. He failed and became the most notable Christian apologist of the 20th century. Everyone should know about Lewis who died on the day President John F. Kennedy was assassinated on 11/22/1963. I highly recommend the movie "Shadowlands," starring Anthony Hopkins as Lewis. It is a beautiful biopic of Lewis' life.

People come to the faith in different ways. Like Lewis, my path was more logical than emotional. Lewis later explained his faith in Jesus Christ with his simple trilemma, stating Christ was either a "liar, lunatic or Lord." Since there is no scriptural or historical evidence that Jesus told lies or was insane, Lewis deduced Jesus was Lord. We can thank Martin Luther, a man of conscience, whose stance enabled individuals to use reason and freedom of thought to pursue a personal relationship with God.

In some ways, I admire Taylor Swift and I give her credit for saying she carefully considered the presidential candidates. I disagree with her decision to support Harris, but I won't be swayed by her choice. I don't follow the orders of popes, nor can I take the recommendation

of someone whose largely biographical songs describe her poor choices. I pray she finds happiness, love and, of course, God because youth, fame and money are not enough and will not last a lifetime, let alone eternity.

Admittedly, I am afraid as November approaches. My fear is less for me than for my children and grandchildren because my time is about over. Recently, I wrote about the cardinal virtue of courage. I believe courage is the decision to act virtuously despite the emotion of fear. Soldiers storming the beaches of Normandy, as depicted in the first few minutes of the movie "Saving Private Ryan," is real courage. And so is President Trump standing with a defiant raised fist and blood on his face after being shot for his beliefs.

As a science fiction aficionado and writer, I believe that "Dune" is the best sci-fi novel of the 20th century. In a critical scene, the protagonist passionately says, "Fear is the mind killer." And it is because fear may override reason and courage. We must overcome our fear and logically, courageously, vote against Comrade Kamala, the dishonest media, elitists and the broken Washington bureaucracy. We must vote for President Trump and a

chance to Make America Great Again. The alternative to Trump is an acceleration of the economic and social disaster we are in and from which we will not recover.

I read recently that President Trump is the most consequential political figure of our times. I believe that is true. He is unlike any other in my lifetime. And the very fact that Democrats and their propagandist media, the Washington establishment and agencies like the corrupt FBI and Secret Service leadership, RINOs and Never Trumpers and most celebrities fear and are against him, is why I'm for him. If that makes me a "populist" or part of the MAGA crowd, so be it. I'd rather stand with Trump, a man who stands with Providence, than Putin, Hamas, the Cheneys, Taylor Swift, etc. who support Comrade Kamala.

It's time to stand up and be courageous. It's time to vote for policy and not be distracted by feelings or personality. Disliking "mean Tweets" or a brusque New Yorker style or personality are not reasons to vote against what is best for you financially, your safety, your children's future and for Making America Great Again.

You may email Dr. Ferguson at [fergusonj@knoxfocus.com](mailto:fergusonj@knoxfocus.com)

## CAC director to be honored with street name

By Mike Steely  
Senior Writer  
[steelym@knoxfocus.com](mailto:steelym@knoxfocus.com)

Several Knoxville streets have honorary names and one street off Western Avenue will soon get one of its own: "Barbara Kelly Legacy."

"As I am sure you know, CAC is celebrating its 60th anniversary; Barbara Kelly has been a part of CAC's tremendous success for the past 58 years. She has served as executive director since 1999. This would be a fitting way to recognize her almost six decades of commitment to the most needy residents of our community," former Knoxville Mayor

Madeline Rogero wrote in a letter of support.

The honorary naming was before the Public Property Naming Committee Thursday and committee chair Gwen McKenzie shared that she received additional letters of support from citizens including former Mayor Victor Ashe and Buz Johnson, Community Action Committee Chairman.

The naming in honor of Kelly was proposed by fellow CAC member Polly Doka who submitted the application. The Knox County Recorder looked

**Continue on page 6**



CAC's Executive Director Barbara Kelly will be getting an Honorary Street Name in her honor. The CAC is celebrating 60 years and Kelly has served there in various capacities for 58 years.

## Covington leaving Knox Co. Ethics Committee

By Mike Steely  
Senior Writer  
[steelym@knoxfocus.com](mailto:steelym@knoxfocus.com)

Knox County's Ethics Committee Chair Michael Covington is leaving the committee. He notified The Knoxville Focus on Wednesday.

"In case you hadn't heard," Covington said by email, "I have taken a position with the Property Assessor's Office and stepped down from the Ethics Committee."

Covington has served on the board for several years as a member and then as

chair.

He is leaving due to his new duties under newly elected Property Assessor Phil Ballard. Covington has been a city council and county commission candidate, a Republican Party spokesperson, a radio talk show host and a pundit on WATE television's "Tennessee This Week."



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# Friends ease the bad times

The time seems right to brag on some friends of mine. Yes, I do have friends, even though some of them don't know. One group consists of men from all walks of life who like to play



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

and just when I think I have fine-tuned the skills of the game, I play a round that is so horrible that it's embarrassing. That happened with these men. My brother, Jim, has played with them for some

time, but I was a newbie. The practice round I played the day before was one of my better ones, so I felt okay about playing with the "big boys." My confidence was soon shattered. On the second shot to hole one, I swung and looked up at the same time. Any golfer knows that is the greatest of all sins in this game. For the rest of the day, I

butchered the course with terrible shots. Meanwhile, the men I played with killed drives, placed iron shots on the greens and birdied holes. All the time, these guys continued to encourage me, and every swing was another gigantic disappointment. On a couple of holes, I picked up my ball and waited for the good players to finish up. All of the men met at the clubhouse, and we talked about funny shots and amazing ones as well. Some teased Jim about something he had done, but they left this new guy alone. I can't tell them how much I appreciate their invitation to play and kindness during the day. Other than

the fact that I stunk up the course, the day was a good one.

The second group that brightened the day was the choir/praise band at Beaver Ridge United Methodist. I've talked about them before, but they came through for me this week. Just seeing them lightens any bad mood, and as soon as we begin singing, nothing is wrong. Skip keeps me up to date on what we're singing and the latest news in Karns. Paula plays the piano for us, and like Victor Borge, stops in the middle of a piece to relay something that leaves us laughing uncontrollably. The praise band has a talented group that thrills many of our members. Chad, whom

I used to think was quiet and reserved, can pick a guitar and belt out some of the newest religious songs. Angie easily sings old favorites and new tunes as well. Ashley touches hearts with the songs she performs, and Gage, her husband and our director, can fill the church with his beautiful renditions of songs. The choir and praise band make Wednesday evenings my favorite time of the week.

The last set of friends that make life a little better are the men with whom I work at the golf course. Brent is the boss, and I fret sometimes that my work doesn't meet his high standards. His son Evan is much like his dad


but is not as intimidating. Jeff has been at the place for years. He and Jim have a game they've played for 20 years. Jack is dry-witted and always has something good to say. John, the mechanic without whom we couldn't survive, always has something friendly to say, and on occasion, he mixes up something the night before for us to eat early the next morning.

I'm disappointed about our vacation loss, but according to reports, it rained most of the days we would have been there. I am thankful that these folks were around to rescue me from a rotten attitude. I hope I can do the same for them sometime.




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# The Gentleman From Mississippi

## William M. Colmer

### Pages from the Past



By Ray Hill  
rayhill865@gmail.com

William Meyers Colmer is one of the longest-serving members of the U.S. House of Representatives in Congress. Colmer was elected to the House at a time when Southern states were ruled by one party and Southerners had a habit of reelecting an incumbent continuously so that he could acquire seniority and influence and better serve his district and state. Some called it the South's revenge for having lost the Civil War. Colmer served in the House of Representatives for 40 years. By the time Bill Colmer left office, he had served in Congress longer than any other Mississippian. Colmer served through the Second World War, as well as the Korean and Vietnam wars. Colmer served in the House during the Great Depression, which was bitterly intense in the Magnolia State.

Mild-mannered, red-headed and bespectacled, William Colmer looked like a reasonably prosperous lawyer, which is what he was. "A dour, gangling man with a choppy gait, Colmer looks younger than his 70 years," a writer for TIME wrote in 1961. The congressman's name was pronounced as "calmer." Colmer was a man who evidently never forgot his humble beginnings and unlike many of his contemporaries, there was nothing flamboyant about William M. Colmer. One newspaper editor, eulogizing Colmer after his death, recalled the congressman was not afflicted with the "overwhelming ego which seems such a major part of so many of today's politicians." Colmer was remembered by friends and foes alike as a man of integrity and was always paid the accolade of being a "gentleman."

Colmer had been county attorney and district attorney before challenging incumbent Congressman Robert S. Hall. Hall had been elected to two terms in the House before being challenged by Bill Colmer. In 1932, there was a free-for-all inside the Democratic primary with Colmer, Congressman Hall and former Congressman T. Webber Wilson all seeking the nomination. All three candidates ran a close race, within 1,235 votes of one another, with a fourth, lesser candidate siphoning off a couple thousand votes. Colmer and Congressman Hall faced each other in the run-off election, which the district attorney won decisively. Two years later, Congressman Colmer beat back the challenge of three other Democrats to win the Democratic primary. Only once, in 1966, did Colmer's vote in the Democratic

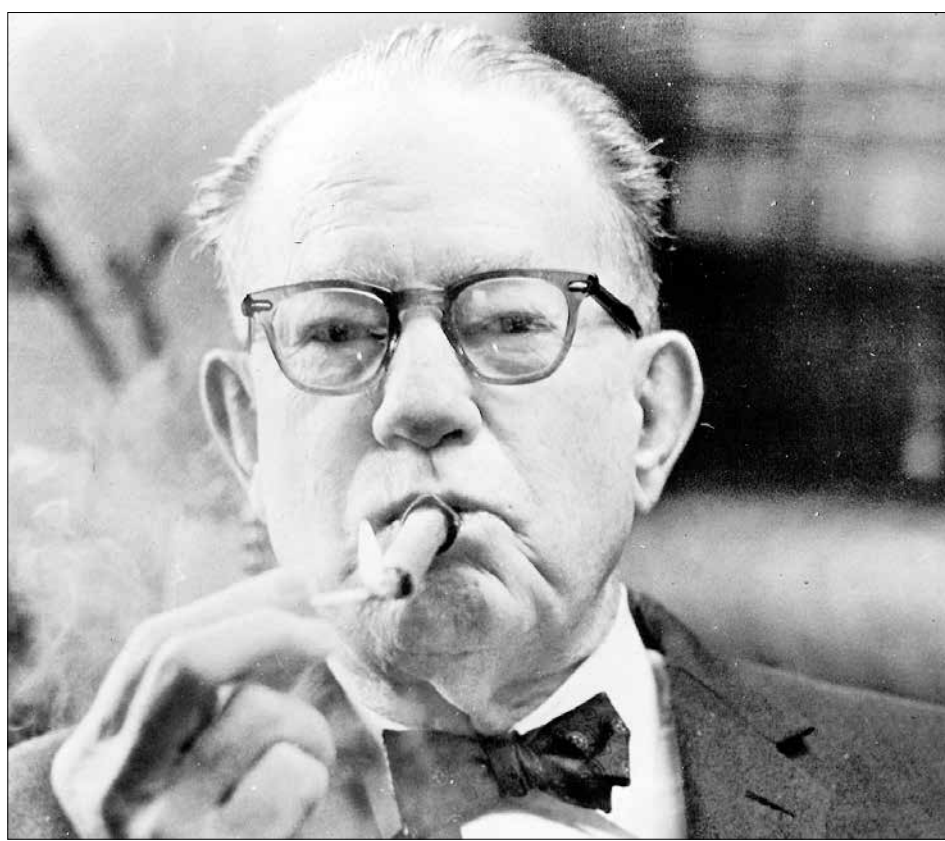
primary ever dip below 60% and that year it was just by a fraction.

In a day and time when the racist label is thrown about casually, William Colmer was a staunch segregationist. Representing the Pascagoula area in the House, Colmer became quite an expert in servicing his constituency. TIME magazine, the premier news magazine of its day, was, like its publisher, steadfastly internationalist in its point of view. Colmer was, by the 1950s, becoming skeptical about the billions of dollars Congress was spending annually on foreign aid. TIME sniffed that Congressman Colmer was an "arch-reactionary" as the Mississippian snapped, "We have seen only in the last few days instances of the fact that this aid is not only not appreciated, but in many instances is not welcome." Colmer was one of several congressmen who offered amendments to pending legislation that would have had the effect of gutting the very "principle of foreign aid."

When first elected to Congress, Bill Colmer ran as a loyal supporter of Democratic presidential nominee Franklin D. Roosevelt. Colmer was elected in 1932 and participated in the first hundred days of Roosevelt's New Deal, which the Mississippian supported. When Roosevelt was in New Orleans, Congressman Bill Colmer made the trip from his district to see the president. "I'm proud of Bill Colmer and what he has done for the Roosevelt Administration," FDR said. As the New Deal began to ebb, so did Congressman William Colmer, who became more conservative with the passage of time. At the end of his long life, few could recall Colmer had been an enthusiastic New Dealer at one time. Colmer readily acknowledged the fact, drawing to a friend once, "You may not believe it, but I came to Washington as something of a liberal."

Only once did William Colmer attempt to seek a promotion when he ran in a 1947 special election following the death of Senator Theodore Bilbo. When he first announced his candidacy for the Senate, Bill Colmer was considered the favorite to succeed Bilbo. Congressman Colmer ran in a crowded Democratic primary, but he ran second to winner John C. Stennis, who had been a judge of the Circuit Court. Never again did Bill Colmer ever try to win higher office, remaining content to serve his district in the House of Representatives.

By the decade of the 1950s when Colmer had been in the House of



FROM THE AUTHOR'S PERSONAL COLLECTION.

Congressman William Colmer of Mississippi lighting his cigar in September of 1972.

Representatives for 20 years, he was a high-ranking member of the Rules Committee, which was enormously powerful as it could bottle up bills or send them to the floor. Colmer and the chairman of the Rules Committee, Howard W. Smith of Virginia, proved to be quite efficient at obstructionism, smothering to death any number of Civil Rights bills. When John F. Kennedy became president of the United States, he realized something had to be done about the House Rules Committee, which was a roadblock to much of the legislation his administration wanted passed. Kennedy enlisted the aid of the most influential member of the House, Speaker Sam Rayburn. In the last big brawl of his lengthy career, Rayburn fought a brutal hand-to-hand contest with Judge Smith, Colmer and their supporters to enlarge the membership of the two committees with two additional Democrats and one Republican. The speaker figured that would give the Kennedy Administration a margin of one. Eventually, realizing they didn't have the necessary votes to win inside the Democratic Caucus, Rayburn was finally successful in fending off an assault by a combination of conservative Democrats and Republicans.

In 1966, following the defeat of Judge Howard W. Smith, William M. Colmer of Mississippi became chairman of the Rules Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives. Colmer once described the function of the House Committee on Rules as a "cooling off vehicle, especially in a time of great national excitement, distress and emotion." House Democrats, with a substantial majority, in 1949 adopted a rule that limited the Rules Committee's ability to hold a bill to 21 days. Two years later, a coalition of conservative Republicans and Democrats were able to repeal the rule.

Throughout his long tenure in the House, William

M. Colmer had bolted the regular Democratic Party to support tickets that were more popular locally. Like most everyone in Mississippi, Congressman Colmer had refused to back Harry Truman in 1948, preferring to support the States' Rights or "Dixiecrat" candidates, Strom Thurmond and Fielding Wright, who was the governor of Mississippi. In the 1960 election, Mississippi supported an independent slate of electors rather than regular Democratic nominee John F. Kennedy. Some Democrats rumbled Colmer should be punished for his political apostasy by being removed from the Rules Committee or stripping him of his seniority. The idea went nowhere.

Colmer annually held a banquet, which drew presidents of the United States as guests, as well as fellow congressmen and senators. The feast served Mississippi's seafood.

As is usually the case with an aging incumbent, for the last decade of his service in the House, rumors seemed to float every two years the congressman was going to retire. Colmer became increasingly sensitive about his advancing age, insisting his age not be stated in the Congressional Directory. Colmer finally made the announcement he would not seek reelection at age 82. When Colmer decided to retire in 1972, he surprised some by endorsing his administrative assistant, Trent Lott, who was running as a Republican. Lott had been a conservative Democrat previously, but he felt could win the general election as the nominee of the GOP. Colmer contacted his loyal supporters and financial backers on behalf of Lott.

Trent Lott won the election as Richard Nixon swamped George McGovern in Mississippi and became one of two GOP congressmen elected from Mississippi, the other being Thad Cochran.

The eight years of

retirement for William M. Colmer were pleasant. In spite of his advancing years, Colmer was apparently in good health and continued to be seen inside his former district and was on hand for any number of public appearances. When Vice President Gerald Ford came to Hattiesburg to campaign for GOP Congressman Trent Lott, the former congressman sat on the dais reserved for special guests. It was Bill Colmer, Ford's longtime former colleague, who introduced the vice president to the audience.

In 1974, the new federal building in Hattiesburg, Mississippi, was named in honor of former Congressman William M. Colmer. The dedication ceremonies honored Colmer who spoke to the audience after being introduced by his successor in the House, Trent Lott. "If they'd listened to Bill Colmer 25 years ago, we wouldn't be in the mess we're in today," Lott said. Following the result of the 1974 elections, which saw the number of Democrats in Congress increase due to the backlash against Watergate and President Ford's pardon of Richard Nixon, Colmer sighed, "I do not think there is any escaping the fact that the new Congress is going to be overwhelmingly on the liberal side." The former congressman worried the increased Democratic majorities in both houses of Congress would be perceived by the "liberals" as "a mandate from the people to spend more."

Although the former congressman was suffering from a cold, a reporter for the Biloxi Sun-Herald said Colmer was still quite articulate, saying the country's "biggest problem" was inflation. "I do not think we can go on indefinitely with deficit spending without bringing down the house of inflation on us." "We must either stop inflation or we are going to lose our cherished form of government," Colmer warned.

In retirement, Colmer endorsed his friend and former colleague Gerald Ford for president in the 1976 election and continued to enthusiastically support his former aide and protégé, Trent Lott. Colmer explained Ford not only had "moral integrity" but was also a man of fundamentally sound conservative principles while his own party advocated "socialist" ideas which had long been repudiated by Mississippians at the ballot box. When former Texas governor and Nixon Cabinet officer John Connally came to Mississippi to attend a reception for Lott, former Congressman Bill Colmer quite nearly "stole the show" with his own remarks. The nearly 350 guests gave Colmer such a warm reception, he quipped, "I never would have supported this errand boy" for Congress had he known so many people were supportive of him. Colmer referred to his former aide as "a pretty good boy" who had been "flirting with this job for some time now." "With the record Trent has made, I have no fear he will be elected," Colmer added. John Connally said, "If all the Democrats in this country had been like Congressman Colmer, I wouldn't be a Republican."

Colmer joined President Ford on a trip down the Mississippi River, along with former GOP Congressman Prentiss Walker and former Governor John Bell Williams. Colmer told a reporter he had supported every Democratic presidential nominee until he left Congress. "But I'm just one of thousands of Democrats who are going to vote for Ford," Colmer said. Former Governor and Congressman John Bell Williams acknowledged what many already suspected, saying he had not supported a Democratic presidential candidate since 1952. "And I wasn't too proud of that," Williams lamented. As to his endorsement of Gerald Ford, John Bell Williams said, "I don't think it will come as a surprise to anyone who knows my independence." A total of four former Democratic congressmen from Mississippi announced they were voting for President Ford: Colmer, Williams, Thomas Abernethy and Charles H. Griffin.

Time takes its toll on the healthiest and most vibrant of people and Colmer was no exception. The last month of his life, Colmer's health began to seriously fail. Bill Colmer was quite simply worn out and he died at age ninety.

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# CAC director to be honored with street name

**Cont. from page 1**  
into the request and notified Doka that the request for an honorary street sign could not be placed on Western Avenue because that thoroughfare is a state

route. He suggested placing it at the entrance to Major Avenue at Western, the street next to the CAC building.

"It is appropriate she be remembered for all

her many good deeds and countless hours of labor," Ashe noted in his letter.

"As Executive Director since 1999, Barbara has helped to shape our community's approach for meeting the needs of children, families, and older adults through the wise use of public and private resources," Johnson noted.

The designation and sign now will go to Knoxville City Council for approval.

## Corrections

In the September 16 Focus, Ryne Sandburg's name was misspelled in "Newcomer says Smokies' move to Old City 'sounds like fun.'" The Powell soccer photo in the same paper was misidentified as Sifa Morgan. It was Avery Smith. We apologize for the errors.

# LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

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## Pete Stafford: A coach's coach and a great man

By Steve Williams

His bio is vast, but the first two things listed are Education and Family.

They come before Awards and Elected Positions. Even his Personal Athletic Accomplishments are listed at the bottom.

That should tell you all you need to know about Pete Stafford.

He's not a highfalutin guy; not a conceited bone in his body.

When you are around him, you get the feeling he would do anything in the world for you.

And John L. "Pete" Stafford, 84, has done a lot.

Most of it has been across the river in South Knox County. But much of

it too has flowed across the state as far as the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association is concerned.

This past Friday night, Pete and his wife Faye and their family were recognized at the South-Doyle High School football game.

"Pete had an amazing career," said S-D Athletic Director Daryl Chandler. "His induction into six different Halls of Fame speaks volumes to his brilliance and skill as a player, coach, and administrator. While his honors are too numerous to mention, his humility is the quality that always gave me comfort and confidence to get the job done."

**Continue on page 4**



PHOTO BY GRANT BUSH

South-Doyle Athletic Director Daryl Chandler makes a presentation to Pete Stafford and his wife Faye on the football field at South-Doyle High School Friday night.

## Clutch shots at Starkville sparked Justus' UT career Memorial ceremony for FHS grad Sept. 30

By Steve Williams

Billy Justus will long be remembered as a captain and leader in the University of Tennessee basketball program during the late 1960s, along with his free throw accuracy and fall-away jump shot, and the March 6 night in 1967 when he lifted the Vols to a Southeastern Conference championship and NCAA tournament berth in a three-overtime win over Mississippi State in Starkville.

A memorial ceremony for Justus, who died at age 76 on Oct. 17, 2023, at his home in Belle Meade in the Nashville area, will be held in the library at Fulton High School, his alma mater, Monday (Sept. 30) starting at 6:30 p.m.

Two other starters on the 1967 team – Fulton product Ron Widby and 7-footer Tom Boerwinkle – also have passed away, while point guard Bill Haun and forward Tom "Spook" Hendrix are still living, according to Bill Young, who like Justus was a sophomore that year on the Ray Mears-coached team.

"Billy and I were good friends and went all the way through high school together," said Young, who went to South High while Justus went to Fulton. "We played everything against each other, starting off when we were in junior high."

"We actually competed against each other in Biddy League basketball when we were 11 or 12 years old."

He also said the two tied for the high jump

**Cont. on page 3**

## HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

# Bearden rolls region win over Hardin Valley

By David Klein

The Bearden Bulldogs got off to a fast start Friday night and never looked back against the visiting Hardin Valley Hawks. Time and time again, Bearden's wide receivers and running backs got whatever they wanted down the field in taking a 35-0 half-time lead on the way to a 35-7 Region 2-6A win over Hardin Valley.

The Bulldogs wasted no time on their first offensive possession, gaining first downs on their first three plays of the game. Senior running back Torian Riggins ran for a 2-yard touchdown with 10:01 left in the first quarter for a 7-0 lead.

A scant three minutes and 45 seconds later, the Bulldogs scored again on Drew Parrott's 20-yard touchdown run for a 14-0 Bulldog lead with 6:16 left in the first quarter. Parrott started the game in place of injured quarterback DJ Hunter. Parrott had



PHOTO BY TAMMY DAVIS KREGEL

Bearden junior running back Tory Beaufort sprints to paydirt in the Bulldogs' 35-7 in over Hardin Valley Friday night at Bill Young Field.

switched to wide receiver before the start of the season after playing quarterback last season for the Bulldogs. He would finish the game by passing for a perfect 8 for 8 for 135 yards and two touchdowns.

Moments later, cornerback Keshawn Mills intercepted the Hawks' Dylan

Umansky's pass. Bearden took advantage of the turnover as Parrott threw a 10-yard touchdown pass to Deameion Leavell in the left corner of the endzone. The score made it 21-0 Bearden with 3:09 left in the first quarter.

Following a defensive stop of the Hawks, the

Bulldogs blocked a punt and recovered the football in Hawks' territory. On 1st-and-goal at the 2-yard line, Tory Beaufort ran for a touchdown to give the Bulldogs a 28-0 lead with 9:04 left in the second quarter.

With 2:39 left in the second quarter, Beaufort

found the endzone again to give Bearden a 35-0 lead. Beaufort started left, then cut the ball back to the right side for the touchdown.

"I just wanted to score," Beaufort said. "I ran outside zone. They play a funky defense, bring nickel defense all the way down so we like cut it off. I couldn't get there, I seen the other side open. I just trusted my speed, and ran to the outside, trusted my blocking, got the touchdown."

The second half began with a running clock since Bearden was up by 35 points. The Bulldogs were able to get their backup players in and Bravo Maddox saw time as quarterback. Neither team did much offensively as both teams turned the ball over as Hardin Valley threw an interception and Bearden fumbled the football.

The Hawks prevented a shutout and got on

**Cont. on page 4**

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## HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

## Halls upends Carter, 35-19

By Mark Nagi

Last Thursday's meeting between Carter and Halls was a matchup of two teams off to solid starts this season. Following those 48 minutes, it was the host Red Devils staying hot.

Halls jumped out to a big lead and never looked back, beating Carter 35-19. "I felt like kids were focused," said Halls head coach Brent Hughes. "I felt like they were ready to go. Just super proud of our football team."

Late in the first quarter, the Red Devils opened the scoring thanks for a short TD pass from Amari Lethgo to Landon West, making it 7-0 Halls.

"We knew what they were going to do," said Hughes. "They didn't want us to run the football. They allowed us to have matchups with our skill kids and we just took advantage of them."

In the second quarter it was the Halls defense making a huge play. Tres Scates picked up the fumble and raced 39 yards to the end zone, extending the lead to 14-0.

"Defensively we were flying to the ball," said Hughes. "We were making plays and creating turnovers and really set the tone."

Carter then drove deep inside Red Devils territory, but Nathan Martin picked it off inside the Halls 10-yard line. He raced down the field and brought it all the way back to the Carter 19.

"It's called being opportunistic," said Hughes. This is probably the first time this year that in all three phases we did a pretty good job feeding off each other. We got an onside kick but didn't execute and score but were able to pin them deep. Working hand in hand with each other."

On the very next play, Lethgo passed down the middle of the field to Drew Ross, and the Red Devils were in control 21-0.

After another interception for Carter (3-2), this time by Drew Ross, Halls (4-1) scored on the weirdest play of the night. Lethgo's pass was tipped at the line of the scrimmage, he caught his own toss, then fumbled near the goal line. Offensive lineman Noah Martin fell on the football in the end zone with less than 15 seconds to go in the first half for the most improbable of scores.

It was 28-0 at intermission.

In the third quarter Lethgo threw a 24-yard TD pass to Nathan Martin with 6:52 left in the third quarter. That made it a 35-0 game.

"He is special. At the end of the day, he is one of the best around," Hughes said

of Lethgo. "I think when it is all said and done, he will be the best quarterback to come through Halls football history. He doesn't get phased. He is just so humble and is such a hard-working kid. He is just a special talent. I think the thing that I am so proud of him on is that I really challenged him his sophomore year because he missed a lot of down the field throws. He's a baseball player so sometimes it can be difficult getting out of the baseball throwing. He has really done a tremendous job in his junior year on his deep ball touch. And you can just see it. He is putting the ball in perfect place, for our kids to go make plays, and for the defense not able to make a play. Just so proud of his growth. The sky is the limit for this young man."

Despite the large deficit, the Hornets didn't quit. They got on the board later



PHOTO BY JOSHUAH WILLIAMS.

**Halls quarterback Amari Lethgo throws a 24-yard touchdown pass to Nathan Martin to bring the score to 35-0.**

in the third quarter when Brody Sparks hit Gabe Dennis on a 63-yard TD, making it 35-6. Early in the fourth quarter those two hooked up again with a 30-yard score. A Jody Scruggs TD run completed the scoring.

"Really thought tonight

was a huge step for our young football team and hopefully an opportunity to continue to grow in the right direction," said Hughes.

Halls will try to continue their winning ways on Friday night with a rivalry game at Powell, while Carter makes a trip to Anderson County.

## 'Relentless' Rebels pull away from Central, 56-14

By Steve Williams



PHOTO BY ROB TAYLOR

**West senior Antwain Burdine gets past Central defensive back Reggie Jones Friday night. Burdine scored the Rebels' first two touchdowns in a 56-14 win.**

Central won the first quarter and was still in the game until West's big-play machine started cranking out touchdowns after touchdowns at Bill Wilson Field.

With the Bobcats threatening to take a 10-point lead, the Rebels' Davis Neely blocked what would have been a 19-yard field goal and Abel Ancelet returned it 90 yards for a touchdown on the final play of the opening half.

The 10-point swing was just the beginning of what was to come as West pulled away to a convincing 56-14 victory.

"Special teams was big on the last play of the first half and carried over to the second half," said West Coach Lamar Brown. "I was really proud of our kids. They kept fighting, good things were happening and we got some great examples of relentless effort on film now. They should know what that looks like. I was proud that they kept fighting, but we got to start a ball game better."

"I feel like we are a work in progress and trying to get better every week," added Brown. "We've had our ups and downs and hopefully tonight's win and go 1-0 in the region was big for us."

On the game's opening possession, Central faced a third-and-15 at its 15-yard line. Sophomore quarterback Kaden Long faked a handoff and threw a pass to Daniel Sackie who broke away from tacklers on an 85-yard touchdown run. Less than a minute into the game, the Bobcats led 7-0 after Devon Cole's extra-point kick.

West pulled even at 5:18 in the quarter when Antwaine Burdine scored on first-and-goal at the 9 to cap a 10-play, 80-yard drive. Pete Rogers' PAT made it 7-7.

Central Coach Kevin Lane gambled on fourth-and-one at the Bobcats' 29-yard line and won when Long passed nine yards to Sackie. Long gained 29 yards on the new first down and two plays later Sackie hauled in a

**Continued on page 4**

## Gibbs defense shuts out South-Doyle

By Ken Leinart

They weren't perfect, but the Golden Eagles were close.

Gibbs High School took a Region 2-4A win at South-Doyle Friday night, 49-0, and, with the exception of some first half penalties and giving up one turnover, did it quickly.

The Eagles scored early in the first quarter and were driving for a second score before Cherokee Kamariyon Rice grabbed an interception on the 13th play to keep the score 7-0 after one quarter.

But Gibbs scored four times in the second frame - four and a one-yard scores from Brady Hughes, and a two-yard score from Marquese Sharp. Jacob Donaldson added a 38-yard fumble return for a score as well. Mikel Van Pelt was perfect on all his extra point attempts, but he was short on a 42-yard field goal attempt as the half drew to a close.

"We worked on trying to come out faster and clean up some things. I thought we did that," Gibbs Head Coach Brad Turner said.

"We made plays ... our defense made plays. We had a shutout. I don't care who we're playing, that's a really good thing for our defense."

The Eagles scored one more with their starters to begin the third quarter with Sharp scoring his second touchdown after a six-play, 80-yard drive.

The final touchdown came on a 46-yard run from Camden Beeler midway through the third frame. Neither team scored in the fourth quarter.

Eagle quarterback Warren Axton was 12 of 17 for 144 yards through the air and carried the ball eight times for 64 yards, including the game's first score. The Eagles have the

week off before hosting Campbell County in a non-region tilt Oct. 4.

For the Cherokees, the Eagle defense was hard to overcome. Tucker Ownby had a monster game for the Eagles with five tackles, a hurry, and a tackle for a loss.

Wyatt Bentley and Lane Patterson also had big nights for the Eagles.

Cherokee sophomore quarterback Cade Carr was five for 19 passing for 88 yards. His longest completion was to senior Nathan Thompson for 34 yards.

The Cherokees rushed 19 times for 33 yards.

Carr left the game in the third after a clean hit after a throw.

"He's a little banged up," Cherokee Head Coach Larry Headrick said. "We're a little banged up."

Trey Lane and Scott Wiggins were solid on defense for the Cherokees while Jeremiah Smith led the hosts in tackles with eight.

"It's tough," Headrick said. "You go through a grind and how do you respond? That's what we're going to have to figure out - how are we going to respond to this?"

"What are you going to do Monday when you get back in the lab and you go to work?"

The young Cherokees travel to Knoxville Central Friday night for a non-region game.

"It's just a matter of continuing to trust the process and getting them to believe and buy in and I feel they've bought in, but at some point, too, you have to build them up mentally," Headrick said of his squad.

"They're a tough football team," Headrick said of Gibbs. "They've had to build the same thing we're building. They are where we want to be. We have to continue to get better, better in the weight room, get stronger."

## A GLANCE BACK AND A LOOK AHEAD

## Coach's wife gets into the game, too

By Steve Williams

There was a woman hollering often just behind the sideline fence at the West football team Friday night during the its first region game of the season against Central.

She was really into it, shouting words of encouragement to the Rebels who were trailing Central early and for much of the first half.

After her continuous yelling continued, this reporter had to look back to see who it was. I didn't know the woman. I figured she must have had a son playing in the game.

As West pulled away to a big lead, I don't recall hearing anymore loud instructions and support for the Rebels.

After the game ended, and I had interviewed the Central head coach and then the winning West coach, I spotted the lady who had been doing all that hollering and asked her if she still had her voice.

She laughed and said yes.

There were some other women around her, and

somebody said, 'You don't know who this is, do you? She's Coach Brown's wife.'

We all laughed and introduced ourselves. She told me her name was Tonya. I told her I would have to tell Lamar the next time I saw him that I had met his wife.

But it stunned me at first. Coach Brown is in his eighth season at West and I've covered the Rebels several times, but it was the first time I had seen and heard the coach's wife.

"I'm usually at the top of the stands cheering," she said.

"But tonight I had to come down."

West has had a lot of good teams under Coach Brown, so Tonya I guess hasn't had to 'come down' too often.

As I left, I told her it was nice meeting a coach's wife and "you're a good one" to support the team with such spirit and enthusiasm. "I would say a lot of the players' moms do, too."

**HALFWAY THERE:** Most teams are halfway into the regular season and most games will be in region play the rest of the way.

Highlights of Week 5 included Fulton defeating Gatlinburg-Pittman 34-14, Halls jumping out to a big lead over Carter and coasting to victory, and Gibbs and Grace Christian both getting to 5-0.

Top attractions in Week 6 include three rivalry games with Bearden playing at Farragut, Halls making the drive down Emory Road to battle Powell and CAK being close enough to walk to the Webb campus to take on the Spartans.

**WELCOME BACK:** West High's 2014 football team had its picture taken on the field at halftime as they celebrated their 10th anniversary of their state championship.

**PREPS OF THE PAST:** Ten years ago on Sept. 20, 2014: Central won at Powell 28-14. Jadarius Sackie scored on a two-yard run and QB Austin Kirby on a 10-yard run. Cedric Washington blocked a field goal and returned it to the 26 to set up a short TD pass from Kirby to Lyndon Wilson. The Bobcats' final score came on a 19-yard run by Evan Wise.

High School Football Scores + Schedule	
<b>WEEK 5 RESULTS</b>	
Alcoa 43, Austin-East 7	AC 56, Seymour 12
Bearden 35, HVA 7	CAK 41, Lakeway 6
CCS 34, Prov. Acad. 27	Gibbs 49, S-D 0
Heritage 35, Karns 0	TKA 48, Ch. Grace 25
Fulton 34, G-P 14	GCA 42, N. Dame 17
Halls 35, Carter 19	Webb 31, Ch. Christ. 14
West 56, Central 14	Briarcrest 31, KCHS 28
Powell 48, Clinton 8	TSD 44, Arkansas 42
<b>WEEK 6 GAMES</b>	
Kickoff at 7 unless noted	
<b>Thursday</b>	
GCA at Lakeway	
<b>Friday</b>	
Carter at Anderson Co.	Seymour at Cherokee
Bearden at Farragut	Fulton at Karns
South-Doyle at Central	CAK at Webb
Heritage at West	HVA at Maryville
Halls at Powell	TKA at Prov. Christ.

# Orange and White... and Black?

In late October 2009, there was a great deal of interest in a cross-section of the Tennessee Volunteers when the Tennessee Vols were rumored

to be wearing black shirts (with their orange pants) in their upcoming game against South Carolina. That was a definite break with tradition. Messing around with the traditional orange and white outfits was unheard of at that time.

That changed when the Vols ran through the "T" on Halloween night in black shirts and orange pants, thus confirming the rumors. It had to have been the worst-kept secret in Big Orange Country. For better or for worse, all kinds of uniform combinations have since been seen on Shields-Watkins Field.

Hit the rewind button to a long-ago weekend in Tennessee football. On Friday, March 31, 1939, the Knoxville News-Sentinel, perhaps breathlessly, reported that the Vols would be having an "Orange & Black Game" a day later on Shields-Watkins Field.

Kickoff was slated at 2:30 p.m.

In the compiled history of Tennessee football, from the works of Tom Siler, Marvin West, Ben Byrd, Ed Harris, Russ Bebb, and many others, titled the "Tennessee Football Vault," I have never found any reference to an "Orange & Black Game."

The KNS also reported that the game would be broadcast on WNOX, with station manager Dirk Westegaard making the announcement. Sports Information Director Jack Joyner did the play-by-play, with local radio personality Tys Terway on the color. No mention was made of Lindsey Nelson, however.

The future broadcasting legend was a student assistant and an integral part of the Vol athletic program at the time, looking for his big break into the business of broadcasting. He literally looked for any opportunity to make an impact on the program. For Lindsey, the best was yet to come.

Unlike today, there was no effort to draw a crowd. The "World's Largest Spring Game" promotion was 47 years away. The "Orange & Black Game" was a necessary evil, the sooner dispensed with, the better.

"Only season ticket

holders, along with city officials, and a few newspaper representatives would be admitted," read the story from March 31. A day later, on game day, another story let fans again know the rules. "Only radio sports commentators, U-T faculty, and purchasers of season tickets will be admitted," the story read. No mention was made about the price of tickets.

Newspaper accounts made no mention of the reasoning behind the restrictions placed on who could attend the contest. It was, as Nelson has written, a manifestation of Bob Neyland's intense desire to have as few eyes as possible looking in on one of his practices.

"To Neyland," Lindsey wrote in his autobiography, "a football game was too important to be threatened by the presence of outsiders."

Neyland was suspicious about who might be watching practice, either on the practice field or at the stadium. He was so suspicious he once sent trusted aide Gus Manning to check on happenings on Cherokee Bluff across the Tennessee River. After several visits to the bluff, Gus informed Neyland that the couple he found didn't "give a dang

about your No. 10 play."

The Orange team seemed to have the advantage in personnel, with future college football hall of fame members Bob Suffridge, Ed Molinski and George Cafego leading the way, but that seeming talent discrepancy didn't translate to the events on the field. Bob Foxx and Bill Luttrell led the way for the Black team.

Hugh Faust was in charge of the Black team, while Bill Britton handled the Orange team. Neyland and John Barnhill were said to be "neutral observers."

Harold Harris's game story in Sunday's News-Sentinel assessed the scene: "Playing their hearts out for a chance at varsity berths next fall, a makeshift machine of inexperienced reserves and untried sophomores clad in Black shirts held a more powerful Orange brigade to a 6-6 tie Saturday afternoon at Shields-Watkins Field, as the University of Tennessee spring football practice came to an end."

Harris also reported that 1,500 fans "braved chill winds" to attend a "drab intra-squad struggle."

Excited about an 11-0 campaign a year earlier, Tennessee fans were anxiously looking ahead to the 1939 season, one



Tennessee's Austin Johnson, adorned in a black jersey, rumbles down the field, ball in hand, in the 2009 South Carolina game.

in which the Vols held 10 regular season opponents scoreless.

"The Vols are well heeled with oodles of talent for every position with the lone exception of end, where Capt. Bowden Wyatt is no longer holding sway," wrote Harris. He might also have mentioned the loss of George Hunter at the other end, but didn't, nor did he mention the absence of tackle Bob Woodruff.

"Considering the fact most of them are reserves

or sophomores, I think the Black team did extra well to hold the so-called varsity on even terms," said Neyland.

It has been said and written that spring games are full of sound and fury, but not really of great significance. On this day, however, seeds were sown for a historic 1939 season.

In addition, the "Orange & Black Game" is now a part of the Tennessee football literature and history.

## Clutch shots at Starkville sparked Justus' UT career

Cont. from page 1

championship at 5 foot, 6 inches in junior high.

They competed against each other in football, basketball, baseball and track in high school.

"We played in an East versus West All-Star basketball game after our senior year and Billy was elected captain of our team," said Young. "He was a great leader. He was personable. Everybody always liked him and he was an extremely hard worker and played really hard."

"From a personal standpoint, I hated it if he guarded me. He would just drive you nuts. He was so quick and he was at your feet all the time. When I was at South and we were going to play Fulton, I just hoped he wasn't guarding me."

Justus was the first Fulton basketball player to have his jersey retired. He also was a standout quarterback in football.

At UT, Justus and Young both signed football scholarships with the agreement that they could play either or both football and basketball.

"You couldn't sign a basketball scholarship and play football," pointed out Young.

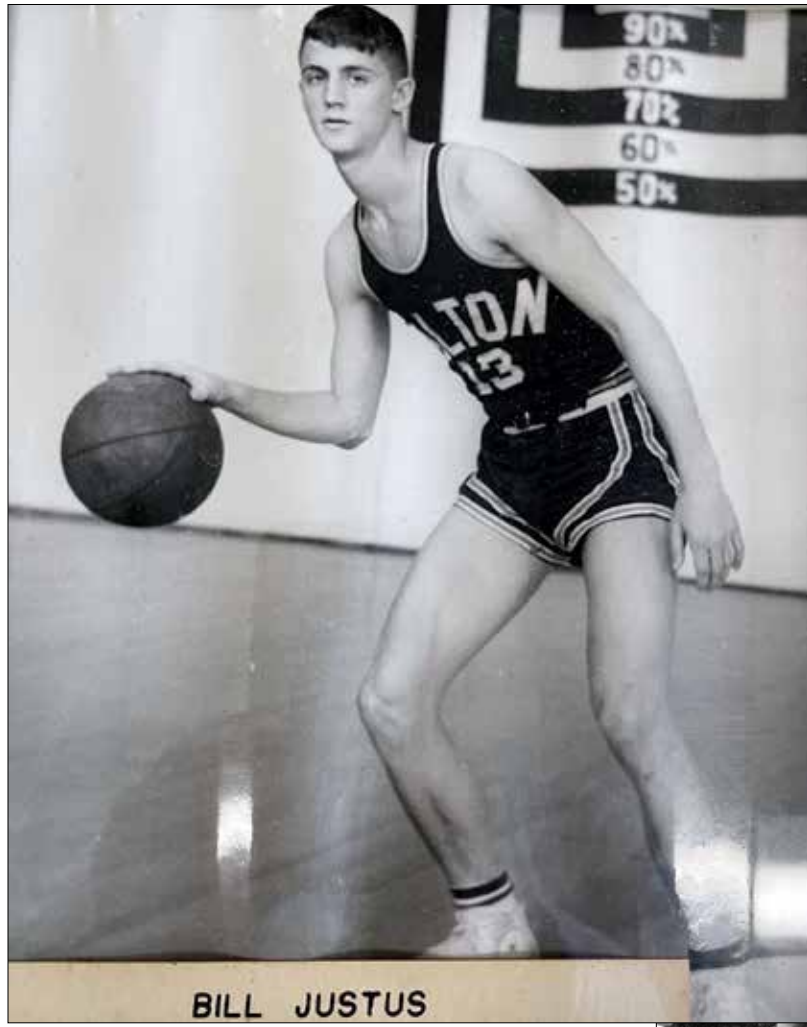
Both played football and basketball their freshman year, then Justus decided he wanted to stick with basketball. Young stopped playing basketball and concentrated on football.

Both became captains in their No. 1 sport.

"We just went in opposite direction with it, but he (Justus) was quite an athlete for sure," said Young, who was a standout safety at UT.

It was said that Justus had ice in his veins in that memorable game when he hit the winning free throws at Mississippi State with .07 on the clock to propel Tennessee to the 1967 SEC title.

As the second shot swished through the net,



BILL JUSTUS

John Ward, Voice of the Vols, announced to the fans that their Vols would be bringing home some hardware from Starkville: "Wrap it up, tie it in Orange and White, and send it to Bill Justus, care of Gibbs Hall, Knoxville, Tennessee!"

Justus went on to become an All-American guard his senior year for the Vols and a two-time All-SEC first team honoree.

After college, Justus traveled extensively teaching ball-handling and shooting skills for Converse at coaches' clinics and basketball camps throughout the United States. Later in his career, he also did color commentary for the Vol TV and Radio Networks.

In March of 2018, 51 years after Justus' clutch free throws gave Tennessee the SEC title in 1967, he was the color analyst for another huge UT win over Mississippi State in Starkville that opened the door to a SEC title.

This reporter got the opportunity to chat with

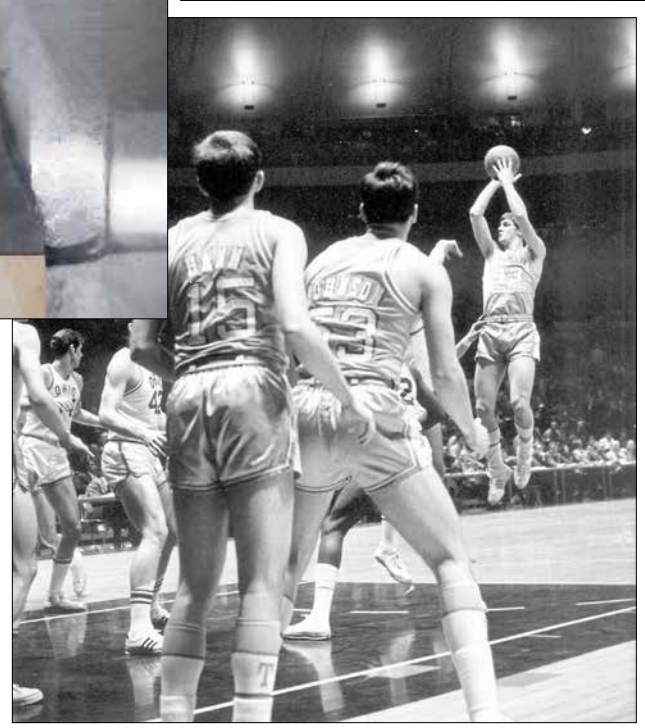
Justus on the phone after that game and enjoy 25 minutes going down Memory Lane. Billy said the return to Starkville was his first in over 30 years.

"When I used to work for Converse, part of my territory was Mississippi and I passed through Starkville many times," he said. "It's still pretty much a small college town."

Justus recalled one thing about the 1967 win at Mississippi State I never knew or had long forgotten.

"Eastman Kodak in Kingsport gave UT a plane that the basketball team used to travel on," Justus said. "It was named The General, maybe in honor of Coach Neyland, I'm not sure. Anyway, the night we won the championship the weather was so bad we couldn't fly out of there and had to stay overnight."

"We heard they had one of the greatest celebrations ever on Cumberland Avenue after we won that night. The next day when we returned, there was a



Upper left: A picture of basketball standout Bill Justus in the trophy case at Fulton High.

Left: Bill Justus takes one of his fall-away jump shots. "He extended his arms high too when he took a shot," said Bill Young, a teammate of Justus on the Vols' 1967 team.

Above: Bill Justus working as a color analyst on the Vol Network.

A memorial ceremony for Bill Justus will be held in the library at Fulton High School on Monday, September 30 starting at 6:30 p.m.

good crowd at McGhee Tyson Airport to greet us. And at the bottom of the steps coming off the plane was the UT football team with Dewey Warren, the quarterback, out in front."

Two years after that, in 2020, this reporter heard Justus praise UT senior Jordan Bowden on the Vol Network for his play despite a road loss at Arkansas.

"I think you are one of the most productive players in Tennessee basketball history," Justus told Bowden on the post-game show.

Coming from a former Vol great, that one sentence had to make Bowden proud.

And that was Justus; always trying to do something good for UT.

### AWARDS AND STATS

In high school, Justus was named All-State in football (1964) and basketball (1964 and 65). He also received All-America honorable mention in football in 1964 and was All-America in basketball in 1965 ... Justus claimed NCAA Basketball Academic All-America status in 1967-68 ... He was the NCAA free throw shooting champion in 1967-68, sinking 133 of 147 attempts for a 90.5 percentage ... He finished his career second in UT history with a .849 percentage at the foul line (338 of 398) ... His career scoring total was 1,236 points for a 15.1 average per game ... Justus was inducted into the Knoxville Sports Hall of Fame in 1990 and the Tennessee Sports Hall of Fame in 2005 ... He was named an SEC Legend in 2006.

## HIGH SCHOOL SOCCER

## Powell takes down Halls



PHOTO BY JOSHUAH WILLIAMS.

**Powell High's Sifa Morgan battles Halls' High's Cloi Toach in the Lady Panthers' 10-1 win over the Lady Devils at Scarbro Stadium Tuesday night.**

stew over its loss to Powell, and instead of feeling sorry for themselves, the Lady Bobcats went to work.

"I took that loss hard. The girls took that loss hard," Quinn said. "We came back in and I went to work and we all went to work. I'm not saying 'I,' I'm saying 'we.'"

"We came back Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday and we worked. We had the hardest practices I think we've ever had. I'm really proud of these girls. We did what we were supposed to

do and everything came together for us. The girls really responded."

Teighley Fowler put four goals into the back of the Lady Bobcats' net and Paige Branam scored twice (and now has four goals in Central's last two matches.)

On Tuesday, Central hosts Karns at 7 p.m. The Lady Bobcats travel to the north side of Black Oak Ridge to play Halls. Kickoff is slated for 5:30 p.m.

**Lady Rebels stun Farragut:** West High has had its

share of ups and downs this season, but things are definitely trending upward in Marble City as the Lady Rebels edged the Lady Ads, 3-2, Thursday night on the road.

West High backup goalkeeper Eleanor Travis, a sophomore, was pressed into service after starter Emma Capps exited the match due to injury.

Travis entered the game in the 26th minute and promptly made a save on a shot by Courtney George and stopped a set play, making a save on Emma Huang's free kick.

After halftime, Travis stopped four more of Farragut's scoring chances, while giving up one goal to the Lady Admirals.

Ava Childress, Charleigh Freeman, Lillyann Freeman scored in the match for the Lady Rebels. Ava Upshaw and Bella Pace had goals for the Lady Admirals, who blanked Greeneville, 9-0, at home on Tuesday.

**Lady Bulldogs post two shutouts:** Jayla Blue scored the lone goal of the match as Bearden blanked Chattanooga Baylor, 1-0, Tuesday night.

The Lady Bulldogs also beat District 4-3A rival Maryville, 4-0, Thursday night. Halle Bibee scored twice, while Blue and Calla Misenheimer also chipped in with markers for Bearden.

## HIGH SCHOOL VOLLEYBALL



**Farragut High School's volleyball team celebrate a point in Wednesday night's match at Catholic. The Lady Admirals, who won the match, were wearing pink to show support for those fighting cancer.**

## Catholic, Central host Pink Out volleyball matches

By Ken Lay

Two area high school volleyball programs had Pink Out nights last week to show support for cancer awareness.

Central and Clinton played a Pink Out match Thursday in Fountain City while Farragut, Catholic and Cleveland had matches at Catholic High School on Wednesday.

Thursday night's District 3-3A match between the Lady Dragons and Lady Bobcats was the second Pink Out match between the two teams this season. Clinton hosted one earlier this season at the Don W. Lockard Gymnasium.

In last week's match, the Lady Dragons and Lady Bobcats acknowledged those who are receiving treatment, celebrated survivors and paid tribute to those who have lost their battle with the disease prior to the playing of the national anthem, which was signed by three Central players.

Then, it was time to play volleyball and the Lady Bobcats put up a valiant battle against the Lady Dragons, falling in four sets, 25-15, 22-25, 25-10, 26-24.

Both Central coach Susan Davidson and Clinton coach Lorri Johnson

(a former Lady Bobcats' head coach) were pleased after the match.

"My kids played their hearts out and I'm not upset at all," Davidson said. "Lorri has a great team and our kids really fought hard. "I keep telling people that we're come, but we are coming."

Johnson agreed. "They're really young. They have some good young kids," said Johnson. "I wouldn't be surprised if they win out in the second half of the season."

Davidson's young squad has had a roller coaster ride of a campaign, but they have three wins (including two victories) over Black Oak Ridge rival Halls. They beat the Lady Devils in three sets Tuesday, notching a 25-19, 25-12, 25-18 victory in that match.

"That was a big match for us. We beat Halls in three over there on Tuesday and our kids also played really well tonight."

At Catholic on Wednesday, Farragut downed the Lady Irish, 26-24, 22-25, 15-12. The Admirals also downed Cleveland 25-23, 14-25, 15-10. The Lady Raiders also defeated the host Lady Irish 25-18, 19-25, 15-10.

## Pete Stafford



PHOTO BY JJ SPEARS

**The extended Stafford family, book-ended by twin granddaughters on each side and Pete and Faye front center, enjoy a proud and special day together.**

Council from 1989 through 2002 and vice president of the council those last four years.

After teaching and coaching at Sevier County High School from 1963 through 1967, his work in the Knox County School system began at Young High in 1968.

When the Young and South high schools closed in 1976, Stafford continued his work at the new South-Young High School (1976-1991) and became head football coach of the Trojans for six seasons and athletic director and assistant principal for eight

years. After South-Young and Doyle high schools consolidated to form South-Doyle in 1991, Pete continued as assistant principal and AD through 2002.

His total years of service as a teacher, coach and administrator was 39 years!

The South-Doyle Middle School's football field is named after him.

As an athlete himself, Stafford played football at Maryville College and was the Scots' team captain his junior and senior years; starting every game and every quarter for four

years.

Stafford also wrestled in college and was SEC runner-up his junior and senior years, posting a personal record of 19-1 his senior season.

At Porter High, Stafford was the Blount County Defensive Player of the Year and All-East Tennessee in football in 1958 in addition to being the Panthers' team captain and MVP.

More importantly, however, Pete would probably tell you that's where he met Faye, his sweetheart and the love of his life.

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"His influence, advice, and support as a coach assured you he always had your back."

Stafford received his Bachelor of Science from Maryville College in 1963, his Masters of Science from Tennessee Tech in 1971 and his Masters of Science +45 Hours from the University of Tennessee in Knoxville in 1973.

He and his wife were married in 1960. Faye was an All-State basketball player on Porter High's 1959 state championship team and is in the Greater Knoxville and Blount County Halls of Fame.

They have two children, John Bryson Stafford and Kim (Darrell) Galyon, six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

A longtime TSSAA wrestling official, Stafford is in the National Wrestling Hall of Fame. He officiated 32 state tournaments in his career and received the TSSAA Award of Merit for 50 years of dedicated service as an athletic official in 2011.

Stafford was a member of the TSSAA Legislative

## Bearden rolls region win over Hardin Valley

Cont. from page 1

the scoreboard with an 11-yard Kaden Cutcher touchdown run. That made the final score 35-7 Bearden. The Bulldogs finished the night rushing 27 times for 243 yards and three touchdowns, averaging nine yards per carry. "All week long it was

about us getting better and being 1-0 in region play on Saturday," Bulldogs Coach Josh Jones said. "We had a really great week of practice, a good week of prep. I thought the focus was good. We played well, got ahead early and we got a lot of guys in and that's what makes Friday nights fun."

Hardin Valley (1-4) travels to Maryville Friday while Bearden (2-2) plays at arch rival Farragut (0-4) Friday night. "It's a rivalry game," Jones said. "Coach (Geoff) Courtney and his staff do such a good job. Throw the records out the window. Those guys are going to play hard. Farragut's won a lot of games in this rivalry

and we're trying to reverse that.

"For us, we've just got to focus that it's another region game. We can't get caught up in all the hype of the rivalry. We got to get better this week in practice and go out there and play harder than they do, play more physical than they do on Friday night."

## 'Relentless' Rebels

Cont. from page 2

36-yard TD pass from Long. Cole's kick gave Central a 14-7 lead with 1:22 left in the quarter.

Troit Patterson caught a 41-yard pass on the last play of the quarter and Burdine scored on a 32-yard reverse play on the first play of the second quarter to knot the score at 14.

Central went on a long drive until Jack Keith picked off his first pass in the game. The Bobcats got the ball back at the West 9 with less than a minute in the half after a 21-yard interception return by Reggie Jones. On fourth-and-goal at the 2, they had to settle for a field goal attempt with 14 seconds to go because they were out of timeouts. That's when Ancelett raced down the sideline in front of the Rebels' bench for West's go-ahead score.

In the second half, the Rebels got touchdowns on Wrenn's 22-yard run, Keith's 35-yard interception return, Wrenn's 7-yard run, Tre Buley's 16-yard return after Keith blocked a punt (which started a running clock) and Jack Harrison's 5-yard run. Kicker Addison Cline added the last PAT.

"Jack (Keith) is always around the ball," said Coach Brown. "He's a heck of a player. Whether it's run or pass, it seems like he always ends up at the ball. He does a great job of reading his keys and making plays."

"Jack has had some really good nights this year and I think that's probably his fifth interception this year."

Central Coach Kevin Lane felt "the difference in the second half" was the deciding factor. "We were playing a great team; a well-coached team. They play really hard. And just the turnovers, I mean we gave them the ball on their end of the field. They had three defensive touchdowns and credit to them for making those plays."

"And like I just told our kids, we were fighting. They just got more depth than we do right now. They got more experienced depth. We had some starters out that hurt us pretty bad. But no excuse, they kicked our tail in the second half."

West (3-2) will host Heritage Friday, while Central (2-3) entertains South-Doyle.