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\$200,000 charged to Knox County Schools credit card

By Mike Steely
Senior Writer
steelym@knoxfocus.com

The Knox County Audit Committee was caught off guard Wednesday following a report by the external auditor, Pugh CPA. Audit officer Ted Hotz mentioned a credit card theft of about \$200,000 from an unnamed high school.

The thief, who is said to not be a school employee, used the

card at Home Depot and Lowes around the country to make purchases, possibly buying gift cards that could be converted to cash. Hotz and Knox County Schools Finance Director Ron McPherson noted the theft was discovered in March within five days of the theft. The fraudulent charges on the school system's credit card through Truist Bank were eventually paid back by the bank and/

or the merchants and there was no monetary loss for the school system.

"There is no loss," Hotz told the meeting.

Quizzed by Commissioner Larsen Jay, the outside auditor had little information to share other than it happened and school officials seemed reluctant or hesitant to go into details. McPherson said the theft was reported

to the auditor, state comptroller and local law enforcement. He said the theft was discovered by the school administrative office only a few days after it occurred.

Jay asked why the audit committee had not received the report.

It was also learned that the credit limit on the stolen credit card was increased by someone during the theft, allowing the

run-up of about \$200,000.

"This is not trivial, this is what this committee is for," Jay said, adding that the incident "is a crime and no one is giving us information."

As the matter goes on it may be revealed which high school was involved, who stole the card information and who authorized an expansion of the credit limit on the card.

GIBBS RURITAN CLUB CELEBRATES 75 YEARS OF SERVICE



PHOTO BY MIKE STEELY

Commissioners Larsen Jay and Adam Thompson honored the Gibbs Ruritan Club last week as "the fabric of Knox County" for its creation of the Ruritan Park, scholarships to local students and the annual Christmas Parade.

The Gibbs Ruritan Club was honored by the Knox County Commission last week on its 75 years of service to the community. The resolution prepared by Commissioner Larsen Jay describes the organization's history and impact on its North Knox County community:

WHEREAS, on January 3rd, 1950, Max Clendenen, agriculture teacher and future principal at Gibbs High School, along with his friend Elmo Johnson from Union County and a member of the Moshem Ruritan Club, formed the Ruritan Club in the Gibbs community; and

WHEREAS, Ruritan National chartered the Gibbs Ruritan Club with the signatures of twenty-seven community leaders and visionaries. From that historic date, 75 years of service to the Gibbs community began and continues uninterrupted today; and WHEREAS,

early on the morning of November 22, 1950, community residents were awakened to the newscast that Gibbs School was burning, the second such time in many decades. This catastrophic event emboldened the Gibbs Ruritan Club members as they helped to build the football field, erect fencing, install the first lighting system, and purchase equipment for the football team; and

WHEREAS, in the 1960s, thirty acres of land was purchased from the Hammer family for the club to establish a new community park, called the Gibbs Ruritan Park, and included lighted baseball/softball fields, a children's playground, concession stands, restrooms and a temporary clubhouse; and

WHEREAS, over the coming years, events at the park included ball games, tractor pulls, fish fries, fairs, circuses and a horse show;

and

WHEREAS, over the coming decades, improvements to the Gibbs Ruritan Park included soccer fields, a tractor pull track, tennis courts, and a picnic shelter with tables for one hundred people; and

WHEREAS, in the 1990s construction of the current, more modern clubhouse was constructed with an investment of \$500 from two hundred community donors; and

WHEREAS, in the 2000's the maintenance and upkeep responsibilities of the park became increasingly more difficult, and the club turned to Knox County to take over ownership of the park while maintaining operation of the community center building; and

WHEREAS, a partnership with Boy Scout Troop 500 was established to assist with

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New development district policy approved by commission

By Mike Steely
Senior Writer
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After much discussion and with several members noting mixed emotions, the Knox County Commission voted 10-1 to approve the creation of policies and procedures for infrastructure development districts.

Vice Chair and At-large Commissioner Kim Frazier added several amendments to the resolution including the following requirements: input from the Knox County Engineering Department, an environmental study, a conservation easement, a quarterly report, a public hearing and a one-year review of the project.

While most of the commissioners had some hesitation and questions, only Fifth District Commissioner Angela Russell voted "No" and said the county should not be part of financing such a development.

Infrastructure development districts are permitted, with local approval, under a state law adopted last year. D. R. Horton, Inc., requested the creation of such a district on acreage just off Tipton Station Road. Under the new district category, the county would approve the use of Industrial Development Board funding of \$6 million for infrastructure such as streets and utilities and new homebuyers would pay an additional \$1,000

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Trustee's Office: Knox County program offers property tax relief and freeze programs for disabled veterans, elderly residents

From Tiffany Lawson
Community Outreach & Communications
Knox County Trustee's Office

Knox County is proud to announce the continuation of essential programs designed to provide financial relief to disabled veterans and elderly residents. These initiatives aim to either refund a portion of property taxes paid or freeze property tax rates, ensuring eligible residents can better manage their finances and maintain their homes.

Disabled Veterans, Widow(er), & Elderly:

Our Property Tax Relief Program is specifically tailored for disabled veterans, their surviving spouses, and elderly citizens. This program allows eligible individuals to receive a refund on a portion of their paid property taxes. It is a token of our appreciation for the sacrifices made by our veterans and their families.

Elderly Tax Freeze Program:

For our senior residents, the Elderly Tax Freeze Program offers significant

financial stability by freezing property tax rates at their current levels. This program is available to residents aged 65 or older, allowing them to plan their financial future without the concern of rising property taxes.

Application Deadline and Submission:

To take advantage of these beneficial programs, eligible residents must submit their applications by April 5, 2025. Applications can be submitted in two convenient ways:

1. By Mail: Residents can mail their completed applications to the Knox County Trustee's Office.

2. In Person: For those who prefer face-to-face interaction, applications can be submitted at any Knox County Trustee's Office location. Our dedicated staff will be available to assist with the application process and answer any questions. These programs underscore Knox County's commitment to supporting our disabled veterans and elderly residents. We encourage all

eligible individuals to apply and use these opportunities to ease their financial burdens.

For more information, including eligibility

requirements and application forms, please visit our website at www.knoxcounty.org/trustee or contact the Knox County Trustee's Office at 865-215-8554.

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Los Angeles Fires Made Worse By Environmental Extremists

From a distance



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

A few days before the horrendous fires started in Los Angeles, the New York Times carried an article about the huge 1970s controversy over the snail darter that delayed construction of the Tellico Dam.

The Times story "How a Mistaken Identity Halted a Dam's Construction" reported that "a team of researchers argued that the fish was a phantom all along."

Dr. Thomas Near, a professor and head of a fish biology lab at Yale, said, "There is technically no snail darter."

It is ironic that the story about the non-existence of the snail darter would come out just before reports that the fires in Los Angeles were much worse because of environmentalists' efforts to protect a two-inch fish called the delta smelt.

Former New York Times reporter Nellie Bowles, writing in the Free Press, said, "Infrastructure that could have provided more water for those fires has been on hold, tied up in red tape. Ten years ago California voters approved spending \$7.5 billion to build water storage and improve state water facilities" but not one has been built "a decade into various environmental regulations and reviews..."

She added, "Also, there's a little fish; it's called the delta smelt ... that environmentalists discovered and have used for decades to block any water releases in Central and Southern California. That little delta smelt is native to the

waters, and oh so endangered. Residents of Los Angeles should have kept a few delta smelt as pets and perhaps a little water could have gotten to them."

I remembered the controversy over the snail darter very well, from both sides, because I represented two farm families in condemnation cases against TVA when I practiced law to help them get more for their farms.

But the overwhelming majority of people in Loudon and Monroe Counties wanted the dam, so my father authored an amendment to an appropriations bill to exempt the Tellico project from the Endangered Species Act.

The Congress was heavily Democratic at the time and this was a Republican amendment for a project in a Republican district. But my Dad was both well-liked and well-respected by the Democrats, too, and the amendment passed, and President Carter signed

the bill. Construction of the dam began in 1979.

While protection of the delta smelt is one of the major causes of water problems in Los Angeles, Jonathan Lesser wrote in the City Journal that the fires were "not the result of climate change."

He said the problem is largely due to "environmentalists' demands to leave forests undisturbed" and that "instead of removing dead and diseased trees and undergrowth, the state, following environmental restrictions, has allowed that natural fuel to build up, creating the conditions for explosive wildfires."

A Los Angeles television weatherman on Jan. 1 and the National Weather Service on Jan. 2 both warned that the area was under a very high risk for fires. Then on Jan. 4, the mayor left to celebrate the installation of the new president in Ghana.

The fire broke out in the

Pacific Palisades community on Jan. 7. A 117-million-gallon reservoir nearby had been left empty for over a year. Patrick Butler, a former Los Angeles Assistant Fire Chief, said, "It is unfathomable to me how this happened, except for extreme incompetence and no understanding of fire operations."

In the politically correct politics of Los Angeles, the fire chief was appointed because she is a lesbian, and the mayor was elected because she is a black woman. In today's Democrat party, sexual preference and race count far more than things like knowledge, ability, experience, etc.

One prominent California reporter commented that the mayor won overwhelmingly in the wealthy area, which was the hardest hit. Wealthy liberal elitists, heavily Democratic, will go to great lengths to show that they are not racist, even though most

have spent almost no time with black people except for the few token blacks admitted to very elite private schools.

Far Left environmentalists around the country may be pleased that California and Los Angeles County followed all the environmental rules even though it caused several deaths and as much as \$250 billion in property damage. They seem to care more about delta smelts, spotted owls, and non-existent snail darters than they do about people.

As we now know that there is no such thing as a snail darter and that protecting the delta smelt caused the Los Angeles fires to be much worse, maybe more people will realize that we should not always cave in to the false religion of environmentalism.

Will Trump observe Black History Month?

When I was young we observed Black History Week. In 1926 the eminent historian Carter Woodson proclaimed the second week in February "Black History Week."



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

This was chosen because Abraham Lincoln's birthday is February 12 and Frederick Douglass was born on February 14. Being me, I asked my sainted mother, "Why is there a Black History Week?" She said, "Because they have the other 51." In 1976, the week was extended to the entire month. Gerald Ford proclaimed it and every subsequent president including Donald Trump observed it. So in 1976, I asked my sainted mother

why February was chosen as Black History Month. She answered, "Because it has the fewest days." Love you, Mom.

During the last February of Trump's first term, he issued a proclamation to: "Celebrate the cultural heritage, diverse contributions, and unbreakable spirit of African Americans. In every generation, African Americans have enriched our culture, deepened our faith, strengthened our community, sustained our values, raised up our conscience, and called our nation to greatness."

He even hosted a reception at the White House to honor black leaders.

That was then. This is

now. The purging of DEI from the federal government has prompted some government agencies to ask whether or not they can issue public statements celebrating Black History Month and other heritage months or events. While it is obvious that this administration is not going to celebrate Pride Month in June and fly the LGBTQ flag over the White House and government buildings, it is not obvious whether the celebration of Black History Month will end. In fact the State Department has sought guidance from the White House and at last reading a State Department official says that "it was clear there would be no public-facing messages or events about Black History Month when it begins on Saturday." Yet the State

Department still has a web page dedicated to Black History Month, stating that it "serves as both a celebration and a powerful reminder that Black history is American history, Black culture is American culture, and Black stories are essential to the ongoing story of America."

I want a statement from Marco Rubio confirming that comment rather than some faceless, nameless "official." I want Trump's press secretary to be asked the question. Better yet, I want Trump to address the issue.

Personally, I am appalled. Black history is the story of triumph over adversity. It reminds us all that blacks carried within them the American dream as white Americans were trying to deny them that dream. Growing up in the segregated south, there was virtually no mention of the importance of blacks in America. The textbooks were almost completely devoid of any reference to black achievements. One would have thought that

we had been slaves and once freed had only toiled in menial tasks. The greater society demeaned us as "unqualified." We could not go to their schools. We could not be employed in their law firms as lawyers or as doctors in their medical practices. We could not even work as clerks in their department stores. But we could be janitors, maids and cooks. My father, raising two rather precocious boys, used to say that whites were afraid of us and if we were some lesser beings they would not have to enact laws to codify our inferiority. I remember Dad predicting that Jim Brown would not win the Heisman. He used to say that the award did not go to the best player in college football but only to the best white player. The award went to Paul Hornung - a player who was a great pro but only a so-so college player. Only Hornung's family could argue - and I doubt that they did - that Hornung rather than Brown deserved the award. When Mom and Dad dropped me

off at the freshman dorm at the University of Georgia where I was the only black male freshman, Dad shocked me by saying, "Show those crackers who's not qualified."

Our schools were all black (we had no white teachers) and rectified what was missing in the texts which from kindergarten to the twelfth grade had some white school's name crossed out. We learned of Crispus Attucks, Frederick Douglass, Booker T. Washington, the Rosenwald schools, Marcus Garvey, the Buffalo Soldiers, the Harlem Hellfighters, the Tuskegee Airmen, Harriet Tubman, Benjamin Banneker, George Washington Carver, Countee Cullen, James Weldon Johnson, Charles Drew, W. E. B. Dubois and many others. Of course, we knew of contemporaries such as Benjamin Mays, Thurgood Marshall, Rosa Parks, MLK, Jr., Malcolm X, Benjamin O. Davis and the great athletes of that time, Jackie Robinson, Hank Aaron and Willie Mays. This learning was not confined to the second week in February but was integrated (love that word) into the daily lessons throughout the year. We knew our history even if it was being ignored by the white-authored textbooks, the white school administrators and the white world that existed outside our own racial silo. Regrettably, in today's integrated schools our children still do not know our history.

So we will continue to celebrate Black History Month regardless. But ignoring Black History Month is a hell of a way for Trump to thank the record number of blacks who voted for him.



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GIBBS RURITAN CLUB

Cont. from page 1 the Spence Nicely property having been left to the Gibbs Ruritan Club after the passing of Mr. Nicely, whereby Eagle Scout projects were added including a walking trail, signage, benches, a bridge, picnic tables, outdoor amphitheater and other amenities for camping and outdoor gatherings; and

WHEREAS, the club's mission has evolved to focus on supporting Gibbs athletic programs,

academic programs - offering four \$1,000 academic scholarships each year to eligible graduating seniors, needy families program, BSA Troop 500, library box, community gardens, and running the acclaimed annual Christmas parade; and

WHEREAS, the Gibbs Ruritan Club, after seventy-five years, continues to carry on the efforts to assure a promising future for the Gibbs community.



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Publisher's Positions



By Steve Hunley, Publisher publisher@knoxfocus.com

Adios, Acosta

Jim Acosta, who made a name for himself as the obnoxious and abrasive reporter covering President Trump for CNN, has announced his departure from the network. There are those of us who remember Acosta when he worked for WBIR-TV back in the nineties. He was obnoxious then, too. Acosta was a perfect fit for CNN during Trump's first term when the network made no attempt to disguise its bias and hostility. During the last four years CNN has struggled to get an audience, which was already slender but is now about nonexistent. Acosta occupied a morning slot of CNN's roster of programs and when the higher-ups offered him a new slot beginning at midnight,

he decided to leave the network instead. Acosta was nothing much when he was here and he's nothing much on the way out the door of CNN.

Goodbye, Todd

Chuck Todd is leaving NBC, his last day was this past Friday. Ditto.

Congratulations, Governor Bill Lee And Majority Of TN State Legislature

The Tennessee General Assembly just passed the Education Freedom Act, which is now going to Governor Bill Lee for his signature. This legislation was the primary reason the governor called the state legislature into special session. The program will create 20,000 scholarships, 10,000 of which will go to those students whose family is financially less able, as well as students with disabilities. The remaining 10,000 scholarships will go to any student who may attend school in Tennessee. It is a great victory for Governor Bill Lee and the legislature should be congratulated for passing it.

Musical Chairs?

Congresswoman Diana Harshbarger from upper East Tennessee says she might run for governor in the event Senator Marsha Blackburn does not. A gubernatorial race by Blackburn would not require her to give up her seat in the US Senate. She could in fact appoint her own successor unless she resigned earlier and the choice fell to Governor Bill Lee before his own term expires. Harshbarger said should Blackburn win the governorship and have to give up her seat in the Senate, she would be happy to fill it. Virtually every congressman in Tennessee would probably like the appointment to the US Senate so it shouldn't come as much of a surprise that Harshbarger is openly touting herself as a candidate for higher office.

President Trump On A Roll

President Donald Trump showed what an energetic chief executive is when he did more in 100 hours than most presidents do in their first 100 days. The only spurt of energy Joe Biden ever demonstrated was right before leaving office by signing a flurry of executive orders designed to stop

or impair the agenda of the incoming president and pardoning the usual suspects. Otherwise, Biden was as spry as a turtle with two broken legs.

As this is written President Trump has just signed an executive order to remove federal funding from schools that teach critical race theory. Trump's order states, "Parents have witnessed schools indoctrinate their children in radical, anti-American ideologies while deliberately blocking parental oversight."

The order also says, "Such an environment operates as an echo chamber, in which students are forced to accept these ideologies without question or critical examination. In many cases, innocent children are compelled to adopt identities as either victims or oppressors solely based on their skin color and other immutable characteristics."

The Left insists no school in this country teaches CRT, so they have nothing to squall about, do they?

Deporting Illegal Aliens Used To Be Bipartisan

There was a time when deporting illegal aliens was a position embraced by then-President Bill Clinton.

Clinton pledged to deport illegal aliens, cut off welfare benefits for illegals, and just about everything else President Donald Trump is doing now. Hillary Clinton once said illegal aliens who have committed a crime should be immediately deported "no questions asked." Barack Obama pointed out illegal aliens broke the laws of our country in coming here and those who are dangerous especially should be deported. Obama bragged about deportations of criminals was up 80% during his administration. Hillary advocated "physical barriers" at one point.

Advice and Consent or Venom and Vehemence?

The venom and vehemence with which the Left and congressional Democrats assail nominees Robert F. Kennedy Jr. and Tulsi Gabbard should come as no surprise to anybody who has been observing politics in this country during the last decade. The Democratic party is not at all tolerant of dissent in any form; it absolutely destroys those who disagree with one of its chosen mantras, usually pressed upon it by its far-left wing. Any Democrat who deviates from the holy

of holies of leftwing ideology must be destroyed. Logic, reason, common sense and biology, a science, must be ignored.

Way To Go, J.D.!

Margaret Brennan, who could be the Joan of Arc of legacy media and is the contribution of CBS to the official narrative of the left, got the first interview with J.D. Vance as vice president. "It wasn't clear if he was radicalized when he got here," Brennan argued, referring to an Afghan national who was arrested recently for allegedly plotting an act of terrorism. "I don't really care, Margaret," Vance replied.

Terrible Tragedy In Washington, D.C.

Like so many other Americans, I was transfixed by the news coverage of the crash between the American airliner and the Blackhawk helicopter. It was horrific and a terrible tragedy. To the families of those who lost loved ones, every American should offer sympathy and sincere condolences for a profound loss. The Focus joins the families and nation in mourning the terrible loss of life of our fellow countrymen.

Is it legal to raise chickens at residences in Knox County?

By Mike Steely Senior Writer steelym@knoxfocus.com

The Knox County Board of Zoning Appeals gets all types of requests from homeowners and developers wanting to overturn decisions by officials or the planning commission. Often the requests have to do with setback restrictions or zonings.

Recently the BZA had a different request: permission to raise chickens on a residential property in Knox County. The Powell lady said she was a new resident from Florida and didn't know she couldn't have livestock on her property. She moved in with her pigs, goats and chickens.

When she learned she couldn't have them she sold her pigs and goats but kept her chickens. She said the chickens provided

eggs for her family and noted that her property was zoned RA-residential but some of the homes and large lots around her were zoned agricultural.

She said the realtor told her the home would not have been sold to her if it had been known she couldn't have livestock there. She also said the wings of the hens would be clipped if needed so they couldn't fly onto other properties.

Some neighbors told the BZA meeting that the goats and pigs she owned were free range and the goats were in neighbor's garages and yards and that the woman "had no respect for our community."

Other neighbors said they had no problems with the animals.

One BZA member

suggested the woman talk to her Knox County Commissioner who might favor changing the regulations about raising chickens in residential zones. The BZA voted to deny her appeal with one member abstaining.

What are the rules on raising chickens in the city and county?

Within the city, chickens are permitted but are regulated. An annual permit is required and the owner must occupy the primary residence. The permit is \$25 per year and is good for up to six female chickens and any fowl other than domestic chickens is not permitted.

The chickens must be for non-commercial use and owners cannot sell the eggs or engage in breeding

or fertilizer production for commercial purposes. Slaughtering the chickens is prohibited and the chickens must be contained in a fenced enclosure or henhouse. Fences must be at least 42 inches high and all the hens must have clipped wings. No roosters are permitted.

Enclosures and henhouses must be vented, clean, dry and odor-free and free of noise. Henhouses must be closed at night and located further than 10 feet from abutting property lines. Violation of the rules is subject to a \$50 daily fine.

"The city will permit up to six hens per lot or per multi-family residence. There are several additional requirements related to how they must be kept and the fees associated with having them," Amy Brooks, executive director of planning, told The Focus.

"The county does not have a similar ordinance, but it will be one of the items discussed as part of

the update to the county's code," she said.

"Our office does not handle the permitting or policies associated with hens," she added, recommending the city's Plans Review and Inspections division or Knox County Codes for more detailed information.

"One clarification is that in the county we do allow them in the (agricultural) zones but not in residential zones," added Steve Elliott, development services director of Knox County Engineering and Public Works.

The Focus reached out to all the Knox County Commissioners for comments.

Commission Chairwoman Gina Oster: "I have spoken with the law department so we can look into this. I have a few constituents that have expressed a desire for chickens. I can certainly understand with the cost of food right now. We will need to have parameters, but I like the idea to see what we can

do with zoning for this to be allowed."

Fifth District Commissioner Angela Russell said it's more complicated than it seems. She cited poultry confinement and property damage, noise from roosters, and avian flu. She said, "Professional recommendations should be obtained from both health and agricultural professionals before proceeding any further."

"I have asked Planning to begin looking into this. I am generally in favor of domestic chickens, but with some limitations and conditions so it doesn't negatively impact neighborhoods and property owners. I would like to see a thorough approach and debate first before any votes are considered," At-large Commissioner Larsen Jay told The Focus.

"I think that there is a way that we can define provisions and parameters to allow chickens in residential areas by limiting the

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New development district policy approved by commission

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per year to pay back the cost.

The idea of more community input in a public hearing was agreed to by the commissioners after a language revision in the agreement, changing the word "expected" to "required."

At-large Commissioner Larsen Jay favored the district's creation after noting the amendments will hold the developer accountable.

"Let's vote yes and keep adapting," he said.

Following the vote, Knox County Engineering Director Jim Snowden asked for and received a postponement in road improvements at two intersections at the Tipton Station Road development. The postponed memorandum of understanding with D. R. Horton, Inc., involves the creation of a roundabout on Tipton Station Road at Martin Mill Pike and at Maryville Pike.

In other business, the commission approved hiring Ernst & Young LLP for consulting services for a housing inventory, market assessment and disaster analysis using money from a regional grant.

The commission also heard a quarterly report from Director Bren Seymour on the Fire and Technical Rescue Committee, a report by Legal Aid on

eviction prevention and an annual report on the Knoxville School system by Superintendent Jon Rysewyk.

The commission allocated \$96,624 to the YWCA for victim advocate services, gave a tax break to the Knoxville Utilities Board, and approved various appointments to departments and agencies.

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Mixed bag before city council Tuesday

By Mike Steely
Senior Writer
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The Knoxville City Council meets Tuesday and has a full agenda that includes local grants to various agencies including \$150,000 to the African American Equity Restoration Task Force that will pass through to ten community-based organizations. The same number of community-based organizations could receive \$234,841 from Opportunity Youth Program grants to support youth and young adult programs.

Cannon & Cannon, Inc., may get \$130,000 for professional design services for the First Creek Greenway Project. Another \$165,000 may be approved to purchase 2004 Highland Avenue as part of the Abandoned, Blighted and Vacant Properties program. The city may also apply for a \$1.7M grant from the state Opioid Abatement Council to fight

substance abuse.

Fifteen city employees are on the agenda to receive pensions, ranging from \$632 per month to \$7,836 per month. The employees retiring mostly include members of the fire and police departments with some from the city general government.

City street measures include closing part of O'Neal Street and renaming part of Willow Avenue to Patton Street.

Part of Saint Mary Street may be rezoned from institutional to general residential neighborhood and four lots on Milton Street may change from RN-4, general residential neighborhood, to RN-5, general residential neighborhood.

A property at 1316 Grand Avenue may change from RN-5 to general commercial and two Campbell Lane lots may change from RN-1 residential to general commercial. A property on Wallwood Road may also change from RN-1 to RN-2.

DOWNTOWN



The Oarsman, or Rowing Man, statue looks out on a misty morning at the windowless Prior Brown Garage downtown as demolition begins on the historic structure. Streets around the garage have been closed off and will remain so for weeks until the bricks are removed.

Photo by Mike Steely.

Chickens

Cont. from page 3

number, sex, size of coop, space required, method of containment and required permitting." At-large Commissioner Kim Frazier replied.

"We have several students in 4H and Future Farmers of America who live in residential areas that would benefit from an updated ordinance. In addition, we have more folks than ever planting small gardens who would very much like to add fresh eggs to their bounty. I definitely think that it's worth considering."

Beer Board comment gets a laugh

By Mike Steely
Senior Writer
steelym@knoxfocus.com

Meetings of beer boards can be interesting or boring as applicants approach the city or county for permits. Sometimes the meetings can also be humorous. One such meeting took place last week when the Knox County Commission held a brief meeting with applicants.

The meeting went very smoothly with Dora Jennings of The Chatterbox Tavern at Bootlegger Harley Davidson at 605 Lovell Road receiving approval for a permit pending a health inspection. Then Chris Captain's request was approved for on- and off-premise beer sales for the Sam and Andy's location at 1403 Bexhill Drive.

Tanya Waller and Kevin

Ferrell were approved a permit for the Horn of Plenty at 9132 Middlebrook Pike.

When Jeff Nordgren and Blake Pavlis came forward with their application for Baker Boy Pizza at 7438 Maynardville Pike, one commissioner took a special interest. First District Commissioner Damon Rawls spoke to the applicants about another location of

the restaurant.

"I go there about once a week, it's just down from my home," Rawls said. The applicants responded, "You go there more than once a week." The comment brought forth a laugh from the commissioners.

The application for beer sales at the new Baker Boy Pizza was approved pending a certificate of occupancy.

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

Whirlwind

Trump has won and we have lost. Panel discussion at World Economic Forum (WEF) Davos, Switzerland. It has been breathtaking to watch President Trump since January 20, 2025, which some are calling "liberation day." His energy seems boundless. He gives speeches, signs executive orders while doing a press conference, explains the reality of Trump 2.0 to Davos elites at the WEF, shows up in the NC mountains to reassure flood victims, meets with failed Democrat leaders in Los Angeles, changes the mind of the Columbian leader while playing a round of golf, then rubs shoulders with John Q. Public in a Las Vegas casino. He's five years older than me, and it wears me out just reading about his activities. Like so many others I feared that the country was lost, but a common sense leader arose and rallied We The People with a populist, America First, MAGA agenda. Reportedly, Trump

fulfilled 46 campaign promises in the first 24 hours of his presidency, largely through executive orders and actions. Trump's shock and awe began by rescinding 78 of Biden's executive orders and then signing dozens more of his own. Because the country was in such a mess, such draconian measures were necessary. Trump is flooding the zone, to use a football analogy. He is disrupting the Washington status quo, and he's keeping the Democrats and their legacy media on their heels. I've always thought the best defense is a strong offense. Reportedly, the president has executed 300 executive orders and actions addressing the border crisis, illegals in the country, weaponization of the DOJ, removing crippling regulations, insisting that Federal workers return to the office (94% currently work remotely) and removing Federal support of gender reassignment surgery. I recently learned

that transsexuals in the military are not allowed in combat because gender dysphoria is a codified mental disorder which precludes combat assignment. I thought the military was designed for combat readiness. Maybe we will need to send IRS agents to battle the cartels at the southern border. I love the emoji of an exploding head which describes Chuck-U Schumer's lying rant about Trump's hold placed on Federal funding of agencies and NGOs (non governmental organizations) until there is a review of where the tax payer's money is going. Dark Brandon flooded these agencies with 33 million dollars in the last few days of his horrible presidency. We learned 15 million dollars was designated for condoms in Afghanistan and another 30 million for condoms in Gaza where some were reportedly being converted into IEDs (improvised explosive devices). The truth is that NO hold was placed on individual benefits such as Medicare, Food Stamps, Social Security, etc. The funding of NGOs brings to mind the Cloward-Piven strategy of overloading the system to destroy it (google it). The "irresistible force" of Trump has learned that to get things done you need to work around the "immovable obstruction" of Washington bureaucracy. The Dems fancy

themselves as the "resistance" and are slow-walking Trump's appointments. So be it. I recently learned that "Federal regulations generally protect employees from being reassigned for at least 120 days after new leadership takes over." Pam Bondi hasn't been confirmed yet as attorney general, so the firings of Jack Smith lawfare types are coming from the acting AG. There was a thought provoking piece in the New York Post January 24, 2025, by Melanie Phillips describing her book "The Builder's Stone: How Jews and Christians Built the West." The central tenet is that the Judeo-Christian ethos system which built western civilization is under attack. Progressive philosophy has attacked the foundational principles of the west arguing that original sins of racism and colonialism tainted America and necessitated its destruction. Iconoclastic Progressives attacked western core principles of biblical values and the traditional married family. (For additional background perspective, I recommend "Another Gospel?" by Alisa Childers). The erosion and resulting "spiritual, moral and political vacuum," exemplified by the woke Episcopal bishop at the Presidential Prayer Service, produced a "golden opportunity for Islamists" who also want to destroy the west. The

October 7, 2023 massacre, rising antisemitism, lunacy on college campuses along with worldwide anti-western concepts and anti-Americanism were inevitable results. Phillips argues for a "new resistance movement" of civilized rational people advocating Judeo-Christian western values "rooted in principles of truth, freedom and justice." Hopefully, the vanguard begins with a resurgent America led by President Trump and his MAGA movement. President Trump is opposed to DEI (Diversity, Equity, Inclusion) and advocates a return to merit-based hiring and promotion in government and elsewhere. There is no racial diversity or inclusivity criteria operative in the NBA or NFL. America should operate on Constitutional guarantees of equal opportunity under law rather than DEI's imposed equity of outcomes. It would be delusional for me to demand that I should be quarterback of the Chiefs just because I "imagine" myself as a quarterback. It might work as comedy for Flip Wilson, but it would be equally delusional if I were to demand that everyone accept me as a little black woman named Geraldine. If you ever wondered why we are in such a mess, just watch 5-10 minutes of a Congression hearing and behold the delusional rants of Democrats like Elizabeth Warren (aka Chief Running

Mouth) or the vicious Mazie Hirono (aka Crazy Mazy). Our best and brightest are not in Congress, some of whom are dangerously suffering from the delusional hatred of TDS (Trump Derangement Syndrome). Dan Bongino refers to Congress as the "dumbest among us." I find it fascinating that some Democrats are accepting the new reality. Bill Maher has observed that "Trump is now cool." Pennsylvania Senator John Fetterman seems to be far more rational than Schumer or the truly nutty Bernie Sanders. (I know he "identifies" as an independent, but that is just his dishonest shtick and makes about as much sense as my Geraldine analogy.) As a science fiction writer, I have tried to imagine the perspective of a true alien (not the perspective of an illegal alien gang banger). I've wondered what it would be like to see the world as a liberal progressive Democrat. Perhaps there is a "liberal" area of the brain. It might explain Fetterman's transformation after his stroke. Maybe the stroke affected his liberal area, making him more rational. Just thinking... Obama's aim was to "fundamentally transform America." Fortunately, just like the elites of the WEF at Davos, he lost and Trump just keeps winning.

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

'How Baking Soda Helped Save Our Birds'

A Zoom Program Sponsored by the UT Arboretum Society on Thursday, February 13 at 7 p.m.

In the late 1800s, all birds were seen as opportunities for target practice. The shooters did not know the difference between a finch and a wren. Bird feathers were a fashion status symbol, and birds were hunted almost to extinction to supply fashion houses. Then the conservation-minded creators of Arm and Hammer Baking Soda came to the birds' defense and started placing free bird cards into the boxes of their bicarbonate of soda. Each illustrated card identified a different species with the slogan "For the good of all, do not destroy the birds." Join UT Arboretum education coordinator, Michelle Campanis, and naturalist/author,

Stephen Lyn Bales, via Zoom for their 50th First Thursday Nature Supper Club presentation, "How Baking Soda Helped Save the Birds," Due to a scheduling conflict, the First Thursday program for February will be held on the second Thursday, February 13 at 7 p.m. The UT Arboretum Society hosts the monthly Nature Supper Club presentations. The class is free, but you must register to receive the Zoom link and recording. Register at www.utarboretumsociety.org under Programs. Closed captions are available. Please contact Michelle at mcampani@utk.edu for any questions or registration issues. Everyone who registers will be entered to win a copy of a book by Stephen Lyn Bales as the UT Arboretum Society celebrates its 50th program.



Stephen Lyn Bales ponders how baking soda helped save the birds. To contact Stephen Lyn Bales or buy one of his UT Press books, email him at hellostephenlyn@gmail.com. The UT Arboretum Society celebrates its 60th anniversary in 2025.

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Water

This past Sunday, our minister gave the second in a series on the book of John. She discussed the significance of water for Christians and the many things for which it is a



By Joe Rector
joerector@comcast.net

symbol. Of course, baptism is the most obvious one. After church, I began thinking about water and the modern world's dealings with it. Before long, I realized that we as a world have much demand for the stuff and even more responsibility for keeping it safe.

Back in the old days, those being the 1950s and 1960s, many of the homes around the area got water from wells. Somebody would come out and drill deep into the ground until "Eureka!" Water spurted out the top. Lines were run from the well to the house and water was readily available. I never lived a minute when someone had to walk to a common well, draw water from a well, and struggle to return with most of the contents of a bucket.

At some point, WKUD began providing services for the local community. Mother walked to neighbors' houses to persuade them to sign the petition to have the utility company begin business. Our water is hard, which means plenty of minerals are in it. Over time, lines that were once 3/4 inches in diameter became pinhole-sized,

and the time had come to dig up the yard and install new pipes. Metal pipes weren't that safe, but that's what was available at the time. WKUD included fluoride to help lessen

tooth decay, and some people swore it was a communist plot to kill us all. They were wrong. Neither was drinking from a hose such a bad thing. Children who had been banished to the yard until dark drank from hoses after games of baseball or football or hide-and-go-seek. We lived without contracting some fatal disease from the rubber hoses.

Today, water is "a thing." Folks have bottles of water with them most of the time. Some people have scads of water bottles or thermoses that they take to work, school, or physical activities. The plastic bottles are a scourge to the world. They don't break down but develop mountains in inland areas and islands in the oceans, all of which adversely affect the environment. Remember the days of a common ladle from which everyone drank? Today, most people would be disgusted to think of using such a thing. Better to have millions and billions of plastic bottles than to share a cup with someone else.

I don't particularly like to gulp a glass of water. The taste isn't all that off-putting, but the feeling

of bloating from the stuff never has been pleasant. Evidently, the world is filled with water aficionados. These individuals supposedly have the ability to pick the best water, and just like wine tasting, they swirl, and sniff, and swish water after smelling it. Then they pronounce the best. Hey, when I mow the yard in the heat of summer, the best water in the world is any that is wet.

For what seems to be my whole life, I've heard authorities say that we should drink more water. However, recently, somebody who has some new product has decided that humans drink too much and should switch to the new product being sold. I take this advice with a grain of salt, just like I do with other people selling all sorts of "miracle" products. I'm pretty sure in the evolutionary trail that our species spent time in the water. The liquid is the key to life. We can live longer without food than without water. How amazing the cost of water is when it's bottled and branded. Sure, some process to destroy bacteria and other harmful things takes place. Still, I laugh when people pay \$1.00 or more for a resource that covers the majority of the planet. All I know is that the best water ever came from a rubber hose from which a line of Ball Camp boys drank during a timeout of a tackle football game in our yard.

FROM THE MOUNTAINS BY JADON GIBSON Custer's Last Stand

By Jadon Gibson

General George Custer commanded between 200 and 300 Seventh Cavalry soldiers against thousands of Lakota and Cheyenne warriors led by Crazy Horse and Sitting Bull. The battle that ensued at Little Big Horn in eastern Montana on June 25, 1876, is commonly called Custer's Last Stand. Custer was on a mission to locate Crazy Horse and Sitting Bull. The plan called for General Alfred Terry to persuade them to return to their homes with their people.

Custer had a listless military career after graduating from West Point at the bottom of his class yet he was a man with no fear and inclined toward the daring. President U. S. Grant and War Secretary William Belknap were evaluating his performance at the time and Custer may have thought a spectacular showing against these two great chiefs could rescue his career.

Custer was offered Gatling guns but declined, saying they would slow his troop's movement. He also declined the use of two further companies of cavalry, saying his regiment could handle anything they found without additional assistance.

Custer's scouts reported seeing fresh signs of a large band of Indians leading to the Little Bighorn Valley and he had his men saddle up immediately. After riding much of the night, they camped in the open. Their sleep was cut short when scouts arrived and reported a large group of Indians camped nearby on the Little Bighorn River. Custer sent word for all officers to report to him for final plans to attack.

The elaborate plan was no match for the Indian fighters even though Custer's men were well-trained and brave. The Indians fought to defend their women and children as well as themselves.

Crazy Horse, the great leader among his people, led the Indian forces to a decisive victory. Rain-in-the-Face, Gall of the Sioux, and Two Moons of the Northern Cheyenne were other leaders in the battle. Sitting Bull, the great leader and medicine man of the Sioux, was "making medicine" on the mesa overlooking the Indian camp and battleground.

"Fight like dogs," Crazy Horse yelled to his forces in their native tongue after several of his men returned to the melee following a

volley of fire from Custer's army. "It's a great day to die for your people! Let the cowards cower. The real warriors come forward and fight. Come on and fight!"

The population of the Indian Village was estimated at ten to fifteen thousand men, women and children. Nearly one-third were men of the Indian fighting force. Custer could not have known the number of hostile Indians yet he had supreme confidence that the Seventh Cavalry would best the entire Sioux nation.

Custer was killed along with 286 of his command. News of the defeat arrived in the East just as the U.S. was observing its centennial. It came as a great shock as the nation was accustomed to battlefield victories.

Custer's tactics and strategy have been questioned for years. Indian accounts spoke of panic-driven flight and suicide by soldiers unwilling to be captured. Many of the men had seen the terrible fate of those who fell into Indian hands while still alive.

Two days later the soldiers who died at Little Bighorn were buried where they fell with stakes driven at the head and feet of each. An empty cartridge shell with a slip of paper with the name of the dead soldier was placed at the head so that he could be identified when exhumed for burial elsewhere. Lt. Colonel George Armstrong Custer was reburied with full military honors at West Point Cemetery on October 10, 1877.

All horses were dead except for "Comanche," the horse of Captain Myles Keogh. He was found standing in a gorge, wounded badly from bullets and loss of blood. Comanche was carefully transported to Bismarck where he underwent surgery and recovered. Special orders were issued stating that the horse was to be retired and never ridden again.

A man was detailed to keep, lead and feed Comanche. At dress parades involving the Seventh Cavalry, the horse was bridled and saddled and draped in black. He was relocated with the Seventh Cavalry at Fort Riley, Kansas in 1888 and died there in the winter of 1891. Comanche was mounted at the University of Kansas and remains on display in Lawrence, Kansas.

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Carroll Reece and Jimmy Quillen

Pages from the Past



By Ray Hill
rayhill865@gmail.com

From 1921 until 1997, two men occupied the seat in the U.S. House of Representatives from Tennessee's First District, with the exception of six years. Carroll Reece served 36 years, as did Jimmy Quillen; however, Reece's service, unlike Quillen's, was not continuous. Reece was upset in the 1930 election by Oscar Byrd Lovette, who ran as an independent in a remarkable 14-day campaign. The issue was Reece's having supported President Herbert Hoover's position on private versus public power. East Tennesseans were most decidedly in favor of private power and cheaper rates even before the advent of the Tennessee Valley Authority. It was the only election inside the First District that Carroll Reece ever lost and although he served but a single term in the U.S. House of Representatives, O. B. Lovette remains the only man ever to beat Reece at the ballot box. Reece came back to beat Lovette twice in the 1932 election, first winning the Republican primary and then fending off another challenge by Lovette as an Independent in the general election.

Reece served another 14 years before voluntarily giving up his seat in Congress after having been elected as chairman of the Republican National Committee in 1946. Ousted as chair in 1948, Reece ran the first serious race by a GOP candidate for the United States Senate since 1916 and lost to Estes Kefauver. Tennessee was still a solidly Democratic state and in 1950 Reece once again launched a campaign to take back his seat in the House of Representatives from his successor in Congress, Dayton Phillips. It was a hard-fought and exceptionally bitter campaign, especially on the part of Congressman Phillips. Reece won the Republican primary and must have experienced a feeling of déjà vu as Phillips promptly ran in the general election as an Independent. Reece won again, but Phillips outran the Democratic nominee in the fall election. Reece reestablished himself as the real political power inside the First District and presided over a growing Republican Party in Tennessee. Reece lived to see Dwight Eisenhower carry the state twice, winning in 1952 and 1956, as well as Richard Nixon winning Tennessee in 1960. Carroll Reece was reelected every two years, but he died five months after having been reelected in 1960 from lung cancer.

Both Reece and Quillen built formidable political organizations loyal to themselves and the Republican Party inside

the First Congressional District. Both were millionaires. Reece had married Louise Goff, the only child of the immensely wealthy Guy Goff, who had been a United States senator from West Virginia. An economist by education and training, Reece proved to be a shrewd businessman and owned four banks inside the First Congressional District, as well as tobacco warehouses and, at one time, bought the Bristol Herald Courier.

Carroll Reece had first gone to Congress in 1920 and quickly observed the constituent service operation of Kenneth D. McKellar, who remains to this day the Tennessean who has served longer in Congress than any other representative or U.S. senator from the Volunteer State. Reece picked up the same habit of promptly responding to every telephone call and letter and went to great lengths to be helpful to voters. When Reece first went to the House, there were no pensions for those who had served in the American armed services. Pensions had to be passed for ex-servicemen or their widows and orphans by congressmen and senators as special acts of Congress. A highly decorated hero from the First World War, Reece was always highly sensitive to the needs of fellow veterans. At one time, Reece was said to have sponsored more private bills for pensions for ex-servicemen and their families than any other single member of Congress.

Neither Reece nor Quillen were orators, nor did either man sponsor or pass many bills (aside from Reece's penchant for private bills for specific constituents), but they concentrated upon service to the people who elected them. Like his predecessor, once elected to Congress, Jimmy Quillen entrenched himself by doing all he could to be helpful to the people of his district. No problem was too big or too small to merit his personal attention. Reece was one of the first congressmen to realize the importance of hospitality to those home folks visiting Washington, D.C. Serving during the decade of the 1950s and the country being more prosperous, it became a more common practice for graduating high school seniors and other classes to visit the nation's Capitol. The teachers, parents and students found a most accommodating congressman in Carroll Reece, whose staff was ready, willing and able to help facilitate and assist them in every way possible. Reece had a favorite spot on the lawn of the Capitol where he liked having a picture taken with visiting classes. The Reece staff would send a copy not only



Congressman Carroll Reece (left) shaking hands with state Representative and future Congressman Jimmy Quillen, circa 1954.

to every person appearing in the photograph but also to the hometown newspapers, who proudly printed it in the next edition. The amiable congressman, with a ready grin and firm handshake, was remembered for decades to come, and those youngsters voted for Reece just as their grandparents and parents had before them.

That same hospitality became routine amongst the best offices on Capitol Hill. Almost invariably the congressmen and senators whose staffs made a practice of becoming experts in extending services and courtesies to constituents seemed to be unbeatable at the ballot box. Once elected to the House of Representatives, Jimmy Quillen followed the same practices as Reece.

Both Carroll Reece and Jimmy Quillen valued the friendships and relationships they made along the way. One of the most striking things to me in writing a biography of Carroll Reece was the large number of young men named for him inside the First Congressional District. I didn't realize until he passed that my friend Carroll Reagan's full name was Carroll Reece Reagan. The veteran congressman lived long enough to see the wedding announcements of numerous namesakes engaged to their future brides.

Jimmy Quillen had owned two local newspapers before joining the Navy in the Second World War. After returning home to Tennessee, he married Cecile Cox and started a real estate development and insurance business, which quickly prospered. Quillen was a friend and supporter of Congressman Reece and managed his campaigns in Sullivan County, which had a strong Democratic base in elections. In 1954, Jimmy Quillen became a candidate for the Tennessee House of Representatives, facing a Democratic incumbent in the general election. Reece campaigned alongside of Quillen in Sullivan and Hawkins counties, lending his own support to his young friend's candidacy. Quillen won the election by 96 votes. Two years later, Quillen won by more than 7,000

votes. Almost immediately, Quillen expressed his interest in running for Congress should Reece opt to retire.

One of the oddest aspects of the news media covering Carroll Reece, at least to me, is the constant speculation throughout his long political career that he might retire. That rumor seemed to circulate just about every year, although there wasn't the slightest evidence the congressman intended to quit. Quite the opposite, in fact. Carroll Reece died at 71, but there is no doubt in my mind that had he been alive and healthy enough, he would have been running again had he been 81.

Jimmy Quillen acknowledged he might be interested in running for the U.S. House of Representatives in 1956 should Reece choose to retire and if the congressman would fully endorse his candidacy. Carroll Reece continued with his usual hectic schedule of traveling throughout the First District, which had been his habit throughout his time in Congress. Carroll Reece was omnipresent inside his own district, popping up at family reunions, veterans' events, service club luncheons, party rallies and picnics. Jimmy Quillen did the same thing when he served in the House.

Reece showed no inclination to retire and was overwhelmingly reelected in 1956. After the New Year, Quillen sent up yet another trial balloon, saying he "will run" for Congress in the event Reece didn't seek reelection in 1958. Quillen was careful to add he would not officially announce his candidacy until the congressman "says what he is going to do." The state legislator was equally cautious in stressing the point he would never think of challenging Reece.

Carroll Reece was going to be 70 years old when his term expired and there were rumors Louise Reece didn't want her husband to run again.

It was certainly true Jimmy Quillen had demonstrated he was a potent vote-getter, having won by a large majority and even outran President Eisenhower in his legislative district. Although Reece did his best to appear to be reluctant to

run again, the congressman filed for reelection in 1958. Reece said his inclination to retire from the House had been overridden by his concern for the country in troubled times. Quillen had to content himself with running for reelection to the Tennessee General Assembly. The country was in the midst of a serious recession, which profoundly affected Republican fortunes in the 1958 elections. Still, Reece and Quillen both won easily. Even in Knox County, the election had gone to the Democrats where 13 Democrats were elected to the quarterly court, the forerunner of the county commission; only six Republicans had been elected.

Carroll Reece still showed no inclination to retire and was reelected yet again in 1960, beating Arthur Bright, who was a perennial contender for Congress. A superintendent at Eastman Kodak for 38 years, Bright had run for the U.S. House of Representatives every two years since 1948. For 20 years, Arthur Bright tried to win election to Congress as a Democrat from Tennessee's First Congressional District. Bright had run behind Reece and Congressman Dayton Phillips in the 1950 general election, winning less than 16% of the votes cast. Two years later, Bright lost the Democratic primary. In 1954 Bright tried again and won the primary but lost the general election to Carroll Reece. Arthur Bright showed that name recognition was important when he beat a sitting judge for the Democratic nomination in 1956, yet lost the general election to Congressman Reece again, winning only 27% of the vote. In the Democratic year of 1958, Bright lost the primary to Mayne Miller. Bright faced Reece for the last time in 1960 and won just under 28%.

When the First Congressional District seat became open in 1962, Bright tried for the Democratic nomination yet again, but lost by a wide margin to businessman Herbert Silvers, who in turn, lost the general election to Jimmy Quillen. Bright ran in the general election as an Independent but was

swamped. Bright won the Democratic nomination to run against Congressman Quillen in 1964 and, even in that banner year for Democrats, lost badly. For some reason, Arthur Bright didn't run for Congress in 1966 but made his last campaign in 1968 when he won the nomination but polled less than 15% of the vote. That election pretty much was the end of Bright's attempt to win a seat in the House of Representatives. Arthur W. Bright died in 1981.

Reece appeared to be tan and healthy when he was feted by friends and supporters in December of 1960, where 130 people gathered at a banquet for the congressman. Reece looked fine in a photograph taken at a birthday party for Vice President Richard Nixon in January of 1961. Nixon had just lost a close presidential election to John F. Kennedy in November.

Later that month, Reece began having serious respiratory problems. In the beginning, it was believed Reece was suffering the effects of having been gassed during the First World War. Congressman Reece checked himself into Bethesda Naval Hospital where he was diagnosed with advanced lung cancer. Carroll Reece died on March 19, 1961.

Jimmy Quillen had to wait until 1962 to run for Congress as Reece's widow, Louise, was elected in the 1961 special election to succeed her husband. Quillen defeated a host of other Republicans, including former Congressman Dayton Phillips, to represent the First District. Quillen remained there until his own retirement in 1997. © RAY HILL

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In Action and On Purpose

The great German pastor and anti-Nazi dissident Dietrich Bonhoeffer once said, "The church is only the church when it exists for others." While I completely agree with his proclamation, I would add that



**By Justin Pratt,
Clear Springs Baptist
Church Senior Pastor**

the same sentiment is true for every Christian. The mission of every believer who has placed their trust in Christ Jesus is to follow the model of Jesus, who spent countless time and intentional energy caring for those who are hurting. When one openly verifies himself to bear the title of a Christian, they are synonymously acknowledging that they have given their very life to exist for others. Unfortunately, the mantra of Christian testimony has fallen on tough times. We live in one of the most self-absorbed and self-centered generations our world has ever known. The egocentric spirit that has encompassed many across our nation has unfortunately crept its way into the church. Jesus advocated in John 15 in the form of a commandment, that those who follow Him should, "love one another, as I have loved you." In-Action Christianity seeks to do exactly what was proclaimed by Jesus and practiced by Bonhoeffer: to be active in the engagement in using our lives to be a help to others.

In the transitional book of Acts in the New Testament, we know that the 1st-century church was under immense persecution as they sought to spread the good news of the gospel. While the majority of these early believers experienced subjection and maltreatment, the Apostle Paul took the prize. His testimony in 2 Corinthians 11:24-24-17 declares the persecutions that he endured. Five times beaten with 39 stripes, three times he was beaten with rods, and once was stoned almost to death, not to mention a host of other risks and threats.

The record of his stoning (an archaic form of punishment and persecution in which the persecutors would throw rocks upon the one they sought to kill) is detailed in Acts 14. Amid his missionary journeys, Paul brought the message to Iconium (modern-day Turkey). Paul and Barnabas entered the synagogue and while many there believed,

many of the unbelieving Jews and Gentiles became furious and sought to kill Paul and Barnabas. They temporarily escape until they are caught in the city of Lystra. It's in Lystra that Paul is stoned, dragged out of

the city, and left for dead. If left alone in this unconscious and comatose state, undoubtedly the abuse the Apostle endured would have killed him. The writer of Acts reveals something intriguing; that a group of unnamed believers "... stood round about him." It doesn't imply that they were gawking in curiosity, but rather encircling around about him seeking to minister to his physical and emotional needs. It's one of the first instances in which we are privileged to see the church go into action and do exactly what followers of Jesus are supposed to do.

Every believer and every church would do well to follow the pattern of these disciples who came to Paul's rescue. They proved faithful despite the risk that was involved. Regardless of where we are in our faith journey, we all need someone to invest in us just as we need to invest in someone. We should all seek to be the person that we need on the hardest days of our lives. In a world where commitments often waver, loyalty stands as a pillar of strength.

Investing in people takes time. It takes energy and it takes effort. It's important to understand that whatever sacrifice you make or effort you give to others, it is always worth the effort to make the journey. We need to become increasingly aware of the people who are around us who need our attention. Perhaps it's a single mother who could use a godly man to give her son a little attention in the absence of a father. Maybe it's a few minutes of sitting with a shut-in that rarely has visitors or a young adult in need of spending an evening with a family while they are away from home at college. Discouraged, depressed, broken and lonely people are all around us. May we be aware of it and do what we can to encourage them.

We owe an immeasurable debt to those anonymous disciples of the early church who assisted Paul in his moment of need. Little did they know that this New

Testament saint that they rescued would move forward by taking the gospel to Rome. This same Paul would end up writing more books of the Bible than anyone else in the scripture. Their action inspires us with an awesome demonstration of being the church, investing in people, and changing a life that would go on to change the world. If you want to leave a lasting impact on the world, start by investing in the lives of others. I love the words of Eleanor Roosevelt, "For our own success to be real, it must contribute to the success of others."

Clear Springs excited to welcome new youth pastor Shawn Barnes

Shawn Barnes grew up in Fort Wayne, Indiana, where he was introduced to the gospel through the bus ministry at the age of 10. After attending church for the first time, Shawn trusted Christ as his Savior on August 19, 2001. At 12 years old, during a Sunday evening service at his home church, Shawn fully surrendered his life to the Lord.

Shawn graduated from Three Rivers Baptist Academy and later pursued his calling to ministry by attending Hyles-Anderson College in Crown Point, Indiana. There, he majored in Missions and graduated with a Bachelor of Science in 2016. His time at Hyles-Anderson was foundational, not only in equipping him for ministry but also in shaping his passion for missions, discipleship, and the Word of God.

In 2016, following graduation, Shawn moved to Rio Rancho, New Mexico, where he began a new chapter in life, marrying his wife, Christie, on December 10. Together, they embraced the joys and challenges of ministry as they settled into their new home.

In 2019, God led Shawn and Christie to Merritt Island, Florida, where Shawn took on the role of Youth Pastor and Music Director. During his time there, Shawn developed a deep passion for expositional preaching, effective ministry processes, and building meaningful relationships within the church community.

His ministry is defined by a commitment to expository teaching, building strong foundations for spiritual growth, and fostering a heart for serving others.



Michael and Bertha Patterson of Powell are proud to announce the award of the NAACP Dream Achievers Scholarship to their granddaughters, Serinity and Camora Patton. Sponsored by the McMinn County Branch of the NAACP and Tennessee Wesleyan University, to students of African American heritage who maintain a grade point average of 3.0/4.0 or better for the first semester of the 2024-2025 school year.

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HIGH SCHOOL WRESTLING

Farragut senior wrestlers win in their home finale against Karns

By Ken Lay

After scoring a pin in his match against Karns High's Stone Johnson, Michael Stafford was greeted by congratulatory handshakes and hugs from his co-workers Farragut High School's Lynn E. Sexton Gymnasium Friday night.

said after the Admirals' 72-5 victory over the Beavers on Senior Night. "I work whenever I can, but once wrestling season starts, it's kind of hard."

"But I work when I can." Stafford, who stuck Johnson in 1 minute, 34 seconds in the 165-pound bout, is one of three seniors on Farragut's 2024-25

roster. He works at Weigel's when he's not representing the Admirals on the mats. He's the only senior hold-over on the team as he's in his third season competing at the school.

But he almost didn't have a senior campaign. Former coach David Gararandt, who was a high school wrestler, left following last

season. The Admirals had a prolonged coaching search but no one came forth to take the reins for the once proud program that had fallen on hard times due to lack of interested athletes.

Farragut finally found its man after school started as Charlie Rohn stepped forward to reboot the program. The new coach took

the job out of necessity. He and his family relocated to the Knoxville area from Maryland.

And Rohn's son, Dylan, had been a star grappler in Maryland. But with no team at Farragut, Dylan would have also missed out on his senior season.

"That is very correct. We wouldn't have had a

team this year," Stafford said. "I was so glad when coach Rohn came here. (Garabrndt) just didn't have time to do it anymore."

Upon taking the Farragut job, Charlie Rohn, now in semi-retirement, dedicated himself to rebuilding the program --- almost from scratch. He went to **Continue on page 5**

SPOTLIGHT ON LOCAL PRODUCTS

Cain continues to climb in basketball career

By Steve Williams

When Blue Cain left Knoxville Catholic after his junior season to play at the IMG Academy in 2022-23, his dream was to play D1 college basketball and it didn't matter what conference.

He landed in the SEC at Georgia and now is a sophomore starter for the Bulldogs. It didn't take him long either to find out the difference between D1 college ball and playing on the high school level.

"The main difference in D1 and high school is just the physicality," he said recently. "We're playing against grown men so it's a lot different than high school."

With that said, Cain offered some advice to current high school student-athletes. "Just keep working and try to max out every day. And don't compare yourself to others. Just try to get as good as you can."

The growth of a player as a freshman on the college level also is important Cain pointed out. "I think my effort overall has gotten much better. I think I play much harder than my freshman year and I'm just trying to get better at that."

The 6-5, 195-pound Cain, who wears uniform No. 0, recently had a treat



PHOTO COURTESY GEORGIA ATHLETICS

Blue Cain drives against Kentucky in an 82-69 win at Athens, Ga., on Jan. 7. Cain, a product of Knoxville Catholic High, is a sophomore starter at guard for the Georgia Bulldogs.

with a game in his hometown against Tennessee. He had about 20 family

members and friends clapping and cheering him on against the Vols on Jan.

15, including his parents Chris and Myriah and sister **Continue on page 6**

HIGH SCHOOL BOYS BASKETBALL

West unbeaten on the road, even at the Dawg House

By Steve Williams

West continued its unusual win streak last week when it handed Bearden, one of the Top 5 ranked teams in the state, a 64-60 loss on its home floor aka the Dawg House.

"We have been a really solid road team this year," said West Coach Tommy Eggleston. "It's hard to figure out. Every game we've lost we were wearing our (home) white jerseys. For some reason when we go on the road, we are ready to play."

The big guys on the inside - 6-7, 210-pound Devyn Martin and Kevin "The Avalanche" Jack - led the Rebels to their biggest win of the season. Martin dropped in 23 points and raked off 12 rebounds. Jack powered in 16 points and pulled down six boards.

"I just felt like we gave

a good honest effort and were able to match the physicality of the game," added Eggleston. "We never lost our cool. We took care of the ball at the end; just all the things you have to do to win a close game."

Jailon Hill and Garrett Burch chipped in six points apiece and Robert Shuler added five.

King Hubbard was the high scorer for Bearden with 14 points. Junior standout Justin Nordin, who got into foul trouble early, scored only six points through the first three periods and finished with 12.

Domenic Mahoney hit two of the Bulldogs' nine treys and totaled eight points. Sean Capshaw and Theo Mills added seven each and Drew Parrott five.

The victory upped West **Continue on page 2**

TMSAA TOURNAMENT TIME

All-Knox County Middle School Girls AA 2025 and Boys 2025

All-Knox County Middle School Girls AA 2025

Carter
Paisley Leach

Cedar Bluff
Tianu Lee

Gibbs
Rebekah Spierdowis
Bri Banks

Holston
Lucy Odom

Vine
Tren'Azia Vinson

Whittle Springs
Mia Beeler

All-Knox County Middle School Girls AAA 2025

Bearden
Bri'Naijah Tate

Farragut
Raina Styles

Gresham
Sasha Foster

Halls
Lola Widener
Maclain Turner

Hardin Valley
Reese Galloway

Karns
Summie DeWitt

Northwest
Victori Crawford

Powell
Peyton Fielden

South-Doyle
Hannah Knight

West Valley
Emery Cooper
Janiya Turner

All-Knox County Middle School Boys AA 2025

Carter
Sawyer Cummings

Cedar Bluff
Kymani Smith

Gibbs
Jayden Jones

Holston
Roman Edwards

Vine
Jamir Kimbrough
Will Dixon

Whittle Springs
Deandre Brinson

All-Knox County Middle School Boys AAA 2025

Bearden
Isaac Kannah
Paxton Tedford

Farragut
Mac Harris

Gresham
Jai' Shaun Dean

Halls
Kegan Wayland

Hardin Valley
Abe Derenski

Karns
Branson Fears, Jr.

Northwest
Makise Witt

Powell
Grant Ferguson

South-Doyle
Tucker Carr
Cooper Jacobs

West Valley
Ben McDonald

Coach most impressed by Tate's basketball IQ

By Steve Williams

Brian Tate scored 11 points in Bearden's 42-41 win over West Valley in the Knox County AAA championship game on Jan. 23 to help his team advance to the Tennessee Middle School Athletic Association's Sectional round this week at Clinton.

Tate was the youngest and shortest player on the court for the Bruins, but one of the best when it came to shooting, passing and playing defense.

He had to have caught the eye of many of the fans on hand at South-Young Middle School.

"He's actually a young seventh grader who could probably be in the sixth grade for his age, if he chose to be," said Ben Zorio, who is in his 19th season as the BMS head coach.

"But (he has) such heart and such guts. And obviously he's at a size disadvantage against some of those guys out there. But the thing I'm most impressed about him, among so many things, is he's got such a high basketball IQ for his age."



PHOTO BY STEVE WILLIAMS

Bearden Middle School's Brian Tate prepares to put the ball in play against West Valley in this season's Knox County AAA tournament championship game. Tate had a big hand in the outcome as the Bruins won 42-41.

Brian has a good shooting touch too, which was evident in the title game.

In the second period of the close game against West Valley, Tate scored back-to-back baskets – first with a set shot from the left wing and then was on target from the right side – to increase his team's lead to five points.

Late in the third period with the score tied, Brian bombed in a 3-pointer to give the Bruins a 30-27 lead.

His most important shot, however, was a layup with 32 seconds remaining in the contest. It gave Bearden its winning margin (42-41).

"He can pass the ball

well," added Zorio. "He plays good defense. He's got it all. And the maturity he shows for his age playing out here against primarily eighth graders is pretty amazing. He's a fighter."

All other starters on the 20-1 Bearden team are eighth graders.

Fourth period eruption lifts Hawks to victory

By Steve Williams

There was a moment in the Hardin Valley versus Gresham Middle School battle for third place that proved to be decisive.

It happened in a matter of seconds at the start of the fourth period, with the Hawks trailing 35-32.

A rebound shot by Hardin Valley's Abe Derenski ... A quick interception and score by Winston Barnes ... Another layup by the short but quick Barnes for two more points. Bang! Bang! Bang!

Gresham never got the lead back

and Hardin Valley kept its season alive with its 60-49 win.

First-year Hardin Valley Coach Kyle Barnes believed that was the winning moment.

The Hawks will play Saturday, Feb. 1, at 1:30 at Hardin Valley in the TMSAA tournament.

Derenski finished with a game-high 17 points, including 11 in the second half. Ayden Perry chipped in 12, making eight of nine free throws and 10 points total in the final six minutes. Noah Allman scored 10 points, including six in the final

period. Barnes finished with eight.

Jack Roach led Gresham with 20 points and Jai'shaun Dean contributed 12.

"After playing sports my whole life," said Coach Barnes, "you understand that when it comes down to this (do or die) all you can control is how you play with each other and these boys pulled together. After being down in the first half, they came back and just kept fighting. They played for each other. They knew what was on the line. We're super proud of them."

West unbeaten on the road, even at the Dawg House



PHOTO BY TAMMY DAVIS KREGEL

Bearden's Domenic Mahoney looks for help in the lane as West's big men -- Devyn Martin and Kevin Jack -- move in. The battle was knotted at 53-all with 5:43 remaining, but the Rebels outscored the Dawgs 11-7 the rest of the way.

Cont. from page 1

to 16-4 overall and 4-2 and tied for second with Maryville in District 4-4A. Bearden remains on top at 6-1 in the district and 19-4 for all games.

It was nip and tuck most of the way, with the biggest gap being six points.

West led through the first period until Bearden scored the last seven points to go ahead 16-13. The Rebels outscored the Bulldogs 23-17 in the second period for a 36-33 halftime advantage.

Martin cashed in an old fashion three-point play for a 52-49 lead after three stops. The final eight minutes were played like a chess match.

West took a timeout with 2:53 on the clock after Nordin scored inside to pull Bearden within one at 59-58.

The Rebels ran the clock down to 1:30 when Jack was fouled shooting. He sank both pressure-packed free throws to pad the lead to three.

After Bearden Coach Jeremy Parrott called a timeout at 1:21, Hubbard swished in a 15-footer to cut West's margin to one (61-60). Bearden took another timeout with exactly 1:00 on the clock.

The first action when play resumed was a loose ball

and a scramble for it. The tie-up and possession arrow pointed West's way.

A blocking foul was called on Capshaw and sent Martin to the line for two pressure tosses. He hit both to give West a three-point lead (63-60) with 43 seconds remaining.

Nordin missed inside and Martin added another free throw to make it a four-point game.

Both Capshaw and Hubbard missed shots in the closing seconds and the Rebels' Kalou Fofana dribbled out the remaining time.

Coach Eggleston called the win "huge, absolutely huge."

The West coach noted Bearden was still on top in the district, "but it puts us in the running. We definitely want to be in one of those top two spots and hopefully we can find our way back to be No. 1."

Jack said stopping key scorers like Nordin was the difference in the game. "We got him in foul trouble early."

Martin added the win was "pretty big" for the Rebels' in the district standings. "Every game counts."

Martin also said the victory will help build more team confidence. "Going into the latter parts of February and March, I think we will need it."

'Lost weekends'

Over the years, there have been several "lost weekends" over the course of Tennessee athletics, a time when everything that could go wrong did. The recent Vanderbilt hoops weekend was one of them, two one-point losses at the buzzer over a two-day period in a "rivalry game." Such an event often tends to shatter fans' confidence, overheat the phone lines to the talk shows, and bring the message boards to a boil.

More than a few years ago, the Tennessee men's basketball team lost a close one to Oklahoma State in the first round of the NCAA Tournament. It was a No. 8 versus a No. 9 game, the teams supposedly equally matched, but Vol fans still thought the game was winnable. And it was.

The women's team lost a not-so-close contest to Ball State University also in the first round, the first time—ever—the Lady Vols had lost in the first round in the NCAAs. Given it was an "upset," Lady Vol fans certainly were. Defending national champions were not supposed to go out this way, youthful or not.

Former Lady Vol Kara Lawson clinically evaluated the game on the ESPN post-game show with her version of Pat Summitt's

famed stare. Her analysis—how teams perform during the season is how they perform during the tournament—was right on the money.

The Vol baseball team was swept in a series in Gainesville, as was the Lady Vol softball team. Losses to the Gators, particularly those three-game sweeps, are always troublesome.

If you're counting, that's 0-for-8 from Friday night to late Sunday afternoon. Somehow, the sun still rose the next Monday morning, and life as we know it went on.

Historically, there have been games Tennessee teams lost when, perhaps, the Vols should have won. Likewise, Vol squads have



When everything that could go wrong... did. Tennessee athletics.

won, when everything suggested the team should have lost. That's part of the ebbs and flows of sports.

There aren't many such circumstances, maybe one or so a decade, but they are memorable in a strange sort of way.

Consider the ultimate "Lost Weekend," again in football. There was a Saturday to remember, Nov. 15, 1969, at Mississippi Memorial Stadium in Jackson. That was the day the Rebels, led by junior quarterback Archie Manning, knocked off an undefeated and No. 3 Tennessee squad 38-0.

Tennessee had defeated Ole Miss a year earlier in Knoxville by 31-0, intercepting Manning seven

times. Vol fans wore orange and white "Archie Who?" buttons to the game that day and lived to regret it.

It's popularly called the "Jackson Massacre." It was so bad that Haywood Harris had the shortest quote ever in Sports Illustrated. After a Rebel field goal before the half hit the crossbar and bounced over to extend the lead to 24-0, all Haywood could say was: "Dang." Not "Gosh-dang," but "Dang."

"As I recall, there was no '69 Ole Miss game," former News Sentinel sports editor Marvin West has written. "The Rebels appeared, ran up and down the field a few times, and went away to celebrate their version of mule day. To the best of my

knowledge, Tennessee was not a part of the festivities." Rarely has a weekend looked so bleak across Big Orange Country. The Alabama freshmen had routed an undefeated Vol rookie squad 35-0 at Neyland Stadium the day before. You couldn't imagine a worse 48 or so hours. The sun did, however, rise Sunday morning back then, too. The "Doug Dickey Show" appeared on Channel 6 in Knoxville at 1 p.m., just as scheduled.

There weren't internet chat boards that season, with no radio talk shows, either, at least in Knoxville. You couldn't hear the callers' voices on "Hold That Line," but there was considerable discussion all over

town and across the state. It didn't get better immediately. The Vols won the final two games of the season against Kentucky and Vanderbilt, but struggled doing so. The SEC title came home to Knoxville, but the post-season prize was a trip to Jacksonville to play Florida. Many Vol fans don't consider 1969 a legit SEC title.

The Gators won 14-13 as the Vols sputtered in the Orange Zone. Afterwards, Doug Dickey decided to go to Florida as head coach, leaving behind a 46-15-4 record in Knoxville.

The hangover didn't last into the 1970 season. This group went 11-1, won the Sugar Bowl over Air Force, and finished No. 4 in the nation. It was one of the most memorable seasons in Tennessee history.

The last two months of the 1969 season are now but a blur in the memory banks. Most of today's fans hadn't been born when the Vols and Ole Miss squared off that Nov. 15th day.

From the viewpoint of those of us who were alive back then, if the Vol program could survive the months of November and December in 1969, it can survive what happened against Auburn and Kentucky.

All it takes is patience, perspective, and perseverance in massive and equal doses.

Super Bowl LIX Preview

By Mark Nagi

Ugh. Are we really doing this again?

Super Bowl LIX is coming up on Sunday, featuring the AFC champion Kansas City Chiefs. Like the dynastic Patriots, the Chiefs are the darlings of the league and seem to get every break known to man from the officials. QB Patrick Mahomes has had nothing but success since entering the league. Their tight end dates the biggest pop star on the planet. The Chiefs are trying to become the first team in NFL history to win three straight Super Bowls.

No one wants to see this. Their opponents are the NFC champion Philadelphia Eagles, whose fans are among the most vile and disrespectful in American sports. This is the

fanbase that threw snowballs at Santa Claus and cheered when Michael Irvin lay motionless on the field. They were so out of control that a jail cell and judge were inside the old Veteran's Stadium to deal with unruly fans. A win on Sunday would make them so happy.

No one wants to see this. However, this is the last meaningful football game to be played for over six months so we take what we can get. I'll be hate watching, along with most of America.

If looking for a Tennessee connection, offensive lineman Trey Smith plays for the Chiefs. He was picked in the 6th round of the NFL Draft in 2021 and trying to win his third Super Bowl title.

And that's about it. If given

a choice between the Chiefs, Eagles and a meteor... I'm choosing the meteor.

Kansas City is not only trying for a three-peat, but their fourth Super Bowl in five years, and their fifth in team history. That would place them in a tie with San Francisco and Dallas for third most all-time. Pittsburgh and New England are tied at the top with six Super Bowl wins each. The Philadelphia Eagles are playing in this game for the fourth time and hoping to win their second Super Bowl.

This is a rematch of Super Bowl LVII, only two years ago. Kansas City won that game 38-35, thanks in part to a questionable defensive holding call that benefitted the Chiefs (huge surprise, I know).

The QBs are the same,

Mahomes at KC and Jalen Hurts with Philly. The defenses feature most of the same players as in 2023. But the newcomer difference maker in this game is Philadelphia RB Saquon Barkley. He spent six years with the Eagles NFC East division rival New York Giants before signing a free agent deal with Philadelphia last offseason.

All he did is rush for 2,005 yards during the regular season, while gaining 323 yards in their two postseason games while scoring a combined five TDs. The Chiefs didn't have to worry as much about the Eagles ground game two years ago. They must worry about it now.

If you own a television set or a smartphone, you know that sports betting is legal in Tennessee. The folks in the big,

shiny buildings in the Nevada desert have KC as a slight favorite, 1.5 points the last time I looked.

A few years ago, I should have started betting the kids' 529 plans on Kansas City Money Line. The combination of coach Andy Reid, Mahomes and all-time in-game good fortune would have made paying for college no problem.

Alas, my wagers are of the small bill variety. Super Bowl LIX won't change my life financially... but it will emotionally because one of these unlikable teams will take the Lombardi Trophy.

Can't wait for college football to start again in late August.

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TSSAA golf championships to return to Sevierville

By Steve Williams

Good news for Knoxville and East Tennessee high school golfers.

The TSSAA Board of Control has voted to extend its contract with the Sevierville Golf Club for the Golf State Championship through 2026. This year's championship, slated for October 5-10, will mark the fifth year the Sevierville Golf Club and Sevierville Chamber of Commerce have hosted the tournament.

"The TSSAA is excited to continue holding the state golf tournament in Sevierville for the next two years," says TSSAA assistant executive director Matthew Gillespie.

"The first four years at the Sevierville Golf Club have been outstanding. First and foremost, we strive to provide a great experience for the student athletes, and we couldn't do that without the numerous volunteers, the Sevierville Chamber of Commerce, and everyone at the Sevierville Golf Club. The course is one of the finest in the state, and holding our tournament here provides such a great experience for the student athletes."

High school baseball Media Day set for Feb. 26

The East Tennessee



Baseball Coaches Association (ETBCA) will host its second annual High School Baseball Media Day on Wednesday, Feb. 26 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Dick's House of Sport inside West Town Mall in Knoxville.

ETBCA member schools will have head coaches and two players available for pictures and interviews to preview the upcoming season. Each school will be scheduled for a 15-minute availability during the event. A complete schedule of schools attending will be sent out soon.

Smith leads Knox bowlers at state

Gibbs High senior Malyiah Smith led Knox County's high school bowlers in the recent TSSAA state tournament in Smyrna.

Also a standout in softball and flag football, Smith placed 11th in the girls division. She averaged 173.5 in her six games and had a high game of 186.

Olivia Hailey of Bearden placed 15th individually with a high game of 193 and a 160.7 average in her six games.

Freshman Alex Owens of



PHOTO BY STEVE WILLIAMS

CAK senior Bryson White (putting on the final hole) won the 2024 TSSAA Division II-A state individual championship at Sevierville Golf Club.

Gibbs placed 17th in leading Knox County's boys with a six-game average of 189.5 and a high game of 215.

Gibbs' Unified team lost to Franklin 217 to 151 in the quarterfinals and was defeated by third place finisher Nolensville 236 to 185 in the consolation bracket.

Webb girls and boys are No. 1 in basketball

With high school basketball tournament time just a couple weeks away, Knox County has some state title contenders.

Webb School, in fact, had the No. 1 girls and boys teams in Division II-AA in the state in the latest AP /

TSWA poll.

Bearden's girls are ranked No. 3 in Class 4A, The King's Academy girls No. 4 and CAK girls No. 5 in Division II-A.

CAK boys are No. 3 in Division II-A, while Bearden's boys are No. 4 in Class 4A.

The Catholic and West boys are also gaining attention as tourney time gets closer and closer.

Transfer Rules and Residence Rule to be discussed

The TSSAA Legislative Council will hold a special called meeting Tuesday morning to discuss and decide whether to amend the Transfer Rules and/or the Residence Rule. The discussion will include, but not be limited to, existing proposals by member schools.

As it stands now, existing proposals by member schools have been opposed.

The meeting is scheduled to begin at 9 at the Hilton Garden Inn in Mt. Juliet.

Reggie McKenzie returning to home state

The Tennessee Titans have hired Reggie McKenzie as Vice President/Football Advisor.

McKenzie, who spent the past six seasons (2019-24) with the Miami Dolphins as Senior Personnel Executive, returns to his home state, where he was raised in Knoxville, was a standout football player at Austin-East and played linebacker at the University of Tennessee.

Reggie's brother Raleigh McKenzie was a standout guard for the Washington Redskins from 1985 to 1994. Raleigh has been a college scout in the NFL since his playing days. Both he and his brother came back to Knoxville last summer to lead kids at a football and leadership camp.

Smith posts two indoor track wins

Track / Cross Country standout Keegan Smith showed his versatility Saturday, Jan. 18, when he won the Boys' 2-mile High School Fast Heat in an indoor track race in Chicago.

Smith, a Knoxville Catholic High senior, was timed in 9:09.15 in the CYUP Misfits Invite Presented by HOKA.

A University of Colorado signee, he also won an 800-meter indoor race in Louisville, KY, Saturday, Jan. 25, to fulfill requirements for competing in the Tennessee State High **Continue on page 6**

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

COURT NOTICES

NOTICE OF SERVICE BY PUBLICATION

TO: RICHARD MANAGAN IN THE MATTER OF: DELANEY ANN MANAGAN, a minor juvenile DOB: JUNE 18, 2011

DAVIDSON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE DISTRICT COURT DIVISION 24 JT 78

TO: RICHARD MANAGAN, Respondent and parent of a Female Child born June 18, 2011, in Davidson County, North Carolina.

TAKE NOTICE that a Petition has been filed against you in the District Court of Davidson County, North Carolina. The nature of the relief being sought is termination of parental rights of the minor child. You are required to answer the Petition and make defense to such pleading not later than forty (40) days after the date of first publication of this notice on January 13, 2025. Upon your failure to do so, the Petitioner seeking service against you will apply to the court for the relief sought.

Raini K. Singleton, Attorney for Petitioner Penny Terry & Mitchell LLP NC State Bar No. 60444 17 East Center Street Post Office Box 626 Lexington, NC 27293 (336) 248-6222 Telephone (336) 248-6214 Fax

This notice will run in The Knoxville Focus newspaper for 4 consecutive weeks: January 13, 20, 27 and February 3, 2025.

ORDER OF SERVICE BY PUBLICATION

TO: DAVID W. RICHWINE, ANGELA RICHWINE, and AMERIHOMORTGAGE COMPANY, LLC, Defendants

IN RE: CASCADE VILLAS CONDOMINIUMS ASSOCIATION, INC., PLAINTIFF V. DAVID W. RICHWINE, ANGELA RICHWINE, and AMERIHOMORTGAGE COMPANY, LLC, Defendants

NO. 209345-1 IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE

In this cause, it appearing by sworn Affidavit, that the residence and whereabouts of DAVID W. RICHWINE and ANGELA RICHWINE, Defendants herein, cannot be ascertained upon diligent inquiry, and that personal service of process cannot be had upon said Defendants; process of publication is hereby ORDERED, and said Defendant(s) are hereby required to appear and Answer or otherwise defend against the Complaint filed herein by Plaintiff, Cascade Villas Condominiums Association, Inc., whose attorney is Kevin C. Stevens, Fourth Floor, Bank of America Center, 550 Main Street, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902, within 30 days after the date of the last publication of this notice, exclusive of said last date of publication; otherwise, default judgment may be entered against said Defendants for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

It is further ORDERED that this notice shall be published in the Knoxville Focus, a newspaper of general circulation in Knox County, Tennessee, once weekly for four consecutive weeks.

This 9th day of January, 2025.

J. SCOTT GRISWOLD Clerk and Master

ORDER OF SERVICE BY PUBLICATION

TO: UNKNOWN HEIRS OF THE ESTATE OF MARILYN VON MANN

IN RE: 5900 GROVE DRIVE, KNOXVILLE, TN 37918 ESTATE OF MARILYN VON MANN, DECEASED DOCKET NO. 89549-1 FELICIA COALSON, ADMINISTRATOR

IN THE PROBATE COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE

From the sworn Petition for Sale of Real Property and for Order requesting service of process by publication and the entire record, the Court finds that any Heirs are unknown and the residence(s) of the respondent(s) is/are unknown and cannot be ascertained upon diligent inquiry, or respondent(s) is/are a non-resident(s) of this state.

It is therefore ORDERED that any Unknown Heirs shall be served by publication of the following notice in The Knoxville Focus, a newspaper located in Knoxville, Knox County, Tennessee, as provided by law.

TO: Unknown Heirs of the Estate of Marilyn Von Mann

It is ordered that said Unknown Heirs, file an answer with the Clerk of the Probate Court at Knox County, Tennessee and with Felicia Coalson, an Attorney whose address is Owings, Wilson, & Coleman 900 S. Gay Street, Suite 800, Knoxville, Tennessee within thirty (30) days of the last date of publication or the real property of Marilyn Von Mann located at 5900 Grove Drive, Knoxville, TN 37918 will be sold.

This notice will be published in The Knoxville Focus for four (4) consecutive weeks.

This 20 day of DECEMBER, 2024.

JOHN F. WEAVER

Chancellor

NON-RESIDENT NOTICE

TO: PAUL ROBERT DANIELS, MELODIE DANIELS, SELECT PORTFOLIO SERVICING, INC., AND ALL UNKNOWN HEIRS AND CREDITORS OF PAUL ROBERT DANIELS, AND MELODIE DANIELS

IN RE: DCS REALTY, LLC vs. PAUL ROBERT DANIELS, MELODIE DANIELS, SELECT PORTFOLIO SERVICING, INC., AND ALL UNKNOWN HEIRS AND CREDITORS OF PAUL ROBERT DANIELS AND MELODIE DANIELS

NO. 209527-3

IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE

In this Cause, it appearing from the Complaint filed, which is sworn to, that the defendants PAUL ROBERT DANIELS, MELODIE DANIELS, SELECT PORTFOLIO SERVICING, INC., AND ALL UNKNOWN HEIRS AND CREDITORS OF PAUL ROBERT DANIELS, AND MELODIE DANIELS, a non-resident of the State of Tennessee, or whose whereabouts cannot be ascertained upon diligent search and inquiry, so that the ordinary process of law cannot be served upon PAUL ROBERT DANIELS, MELODIE DANIELS, SELECT PORTFOLIO SERVICING, INC., AND ALL UNKNOWN HEIRS AND CREDITORS OF PAUL ROBERT DANIELS, AND MELODIE DANIELS, it is ordered that said defendants, PAUL ROBERT DANIELS, MELODIE DANIELS, SELECT PORTFOLIO SERVICING, INC., AND ALL UNKNOWN HEIRS AND CREDITORS OF PAUL ROBERT DANIELS, AND MELODIE DANIELS, file an answer with the Clerk and Master of

the Chancery Court at Knoxville, Tennessee and with RYAN S. WORTLEY, an Attorney whose address is 3715 Powers Street Knoxville, Tennessee 37917 within thirty (30) days of the last date of publication or a judgment by default will be taken against you and the cause will be set for hearing Ex Parte as to you before Chancellor Christopher D. Heagerty at the Knox County Chancery Court, Division III, 400 Main Street, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902.

This notice will be published in The Knoxville Focus Newspaper for four (4) consecutive weeks.

This 22nd day of January, 2025.

J. Scott Griswold Clerk and Master

NON-RESIDENT NOTICE

TO: DIANE J. HOLLINGSWORTH, THE UNKNOWN HEIRS OF: P. L. DAVIS, JR., MINNIE D. WILMOTH, THOMAS RUFUS DAVIS, MATTIE DAVIS WEBB, KYLE DAVIS WEBB, WILMA TUCKER WEBB, KYLE T. WEBB, MARTHA ALICE DAVIS BOWEN, JAMES OLIVER BOWEN, JR.

IN RE: ATOMIC CITY PARTNERS, LLC, A TENNESSEE LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY, VS. DIANE J. HOLLINGSWORTH, ET AL

NO. 209452-3

IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE

In this Cause, it appearing from the Complaint filed, which is sworn to, that the defendant DIANE J. HOLLINGSWORTH, THE UNKNOWN HEIRS OF: P. L. DAVIS, JR., MINNIE D. WILMOTH, THOMAS RUFUS DAVIS, MATTIE DAVIS WEBB, KYLE DAVIS WEBB, WILMA TUCKER WEBB, KYLE T. WEBB, MARTHA ALICE DAVIS BOWEN, JAMES OLIVER BOWEN, JR., DESCRIBED IN THE COMPLAINT, it is ordered that said defendant, DIANE J. HOLLINGSWORTH, THE UNKNOWN HEIRS OF: P. L. DAVIS, JR., MINNIE D. WILMOTH, THOMAS RUFUS DAVIS, MATTIE DAVIS WEBB, KYLE DAVIS WEBB, WILMA TUCKER WEBB, KYLE T. WEBB, MARTHA ALICE DAVIS BOWEN, JAMES OLIVER BOWEN, JR., file an answer with the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court at Knoxville, Tennessee and with Stanley F. Roden, an Attorney whose address is 10269 Kingston Pike, Knoxville, TN 37922 within thirty (30) days of the last date of publication or a judgment by default will be taken against you and the cause will be set for hearing Ex-Parte as to you before Chancellor Christopher D. Heagerty at the Knox County Chancery Court, Division III, 400 Main Street, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902.

This notice will be published in The Knoxville Focus Newspaper for four (4) consecutive weeks.

This 23rd day of January, 2025.

J. Scott Griswold Clerk and Master

NOTICE TO NON-RESIDENT HEIR

TO: BREANNA STAR WALKER

ALTREBA FERNANDEZ, PLAINTIFF/

PETITIONER/ADMINISTRATRIX, VS. BREANNA STAR WALKER, HEIR OF JOHNNIE MAE HARDIN, DEFENDANT

IN RE: ESTATE OF JOHNNIE MAE HARDIN, DECEASED; ALTREBA FERNANDEZ, ADMINISTRATRIX

DOCKET NUMBER: 89411-1

IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE PROBATE DIVISION

It appearing from the Petition to Probate Will filed herein, that BREANNA STAR WALKER, an heir of Johnnie Mae Hardin, is a non-resident of the State of Tennessee, or her whereabouts cannot be ascertained upon diligent search and inquiry so that the ordinary process of law cannot be served upon her, it is ordered that said Defendant, BREANNA STAR WALKER, file an answer with the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court (Probate Division) at Knoxville, Tennessee and with L. Eric Ebbert, Petitioner's attorney, whose address is The Ebbert Law Firm, 9145 Cross Park Dr., Ste. 103, Knoxville, TN 37923, Telephone (865) 800-3051, within thirty (30) of the last date of publication or a judgment of default will be taken against you and a hearing and the cause set for a hearing Ex Parte regarding Defendant's failure to respond.

This Notice shall be published in the Knoxville Focus for four (4) consecutive weeks.

This 21 day of JANUARY, 2025.

J. SCOTT GRISWOLD Clerk and Master

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF MARY KATHLEEN ACTON DOCKET NUMBER 90412-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 30 day of JANUARY, 2025, Letters of Testamentary in respect to the Estate of MARY KATHLEEN ACTON, who died on the 19th DAY OF JULY 2024, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court Clerk of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, residents, and non-residents, having claims, matured or unmatured against her Estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above-named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claim will be forever barred:

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication (or posting, as the case may be) of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication (or posting); or

(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication (or posting) as described in (1)(A); or

(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death.

This 30 day of January, 2025.

ESTATE OF MARY KATHLEEN ACTON

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S) LISA LAYNE 718 BACK VALLEY RD. OLIVER SPRINGS, TN 37840

TRACEY YOUGHT WILLIAMS, ATTORNEY CHELSEA L. SPURLING, ATTORNEY P. O. BOX 866 WARTBURG, TN 37887

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF KAREN MARIE BISHOP DOCKET NUMBER 90455-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 30 day of JANUARY, 2025, Letters of Administration in respect of the Estate of KAREN MARIE BISHOP, who died December 12, 2024, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the Clerk of the abovenamed court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first date of the publication of this Notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this Notice To Creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication; or

(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the Notice To Creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or

(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death.

This 30 day of JANUARY, 2025.

ESTATE OF KAREN MARIE BISHOP

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S) HEATHER M. PHILLIPS, ADMINISTRATRIX 1050 LAWNVILLE ROAD KINGSTON, TN 37763

VICTORIA B. TILLMAN, ATTORNEY 1019 ORCHID DRIVE KNOXVILLE, TN 37912

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF JAMIE M. BLANKENSHIP DOCKET NUMBER 90462-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 30 day of JANUARY, 2025, letters testamentary (or letters of administration as the case may be) in respect of the Estate of JAMIE M. BLANKENSHIP, who died November 28, 2024, were issued to MARIA T. SCHETTLER by the Probate Division of the Chancery Court of Knox County, TN. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the abovenamed court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication; or

(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or

(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death.

This 30 day of JANUARY, 2025.

ESTATE OF JAMIE M. BLANKENSHIP

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S) MARIA T. SCHETTLER 9209 SLADE DRIVE KNOXVILLE, TN 37931

DUSTIN S. CROUSE, ATTORNEY 9111 CROSS PARK DR., SUITE D-200 KNOXVILLE, TN 37923

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF ROSSIE M. BONTADELLI DOCKET NUMBER 90456-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 22 day of JANUARY, 2025, Letters Testamentary in respect of the Estate of ROSSIE M. BONTADELLI, who died December 3, 2024, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the Clerk of the abovenamed court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first date of the publication of this Notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this Notice To Creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication; or

(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the Notice To Creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or

(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death.

This 22 day of JANUARY, 2025.

ESTATE OF ROSSIE M. BONTADELLI

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S) LINDSEY M. KENNEDY, CO-EXECUTOR 2678 TURKEY CREEK DRIVE OLIVE BRANCH, MS 38654

JONATHAN TAYLOR DIEGEL, CO-EXECUTOR 1436 QUEENSBIDGE DRIVE KNOXVILLE, TN 37922

VICTORIA B. TILLMAN, ATTORNEY 1019 ORCHID DRIVE KNOXVILLE, TN 37912

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF MARY EVELYN HILL DOCKET NUMBER 90428-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 30 day of JANUARY, 2025, letters testamentary (or letters of administration as the case may be) in respect of the Estate of MARY EVELYN HILL, who died December 14, 2024, were issued to the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above-named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first date of the publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication; or

(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or

(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death.

This 30 day of JANUARY, 2025.

ESTATE OF MARY EVELYN HILL

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S) TERESA J. HILL P. O. BOX 1011 KNOXVILLE, TN 37901

GLEN A. KYLE, ATTORNEY 4931 HOMBERG DR. KNOXVILLE, TN 37919

Farragut senior wrestlers win in their home finale against Karns

Cont. from page 1

the school during the lunch periods and began walking the hallways looking for potential wrestlers.

And Stafford went recruiting alongside the new coach, and together, they found enough athletes to field almost an entire roster, meaning that he and Dylan Rohn would get to wrestle this season.

“Michael Stafford helped me recruit people,” coach Rohn said. “This is his third year wrestling.”

Dylan is one of the area’s top middleweights. He’s primarily competed in the 150-pound weight class but has also seen time at 144 pounds. He won his bout against the Beavers by forfeit Friday night.

“It’s been great to



Farragut High School's wrestling team honored its three seniors Friday night. Dylan Rohn, Owen Walker and Michael Stafford and their families were recognized before the Admirals defeated Karns at the Lynn E. Sexton Gymnasium. Photo submitted.

wrestle here,” Dylan Rohn said. “It’s been fun being here and watching all these kids get better.

“I haven’t been out and about here in Farragut much, but there’s good

food here and it’s nice to be so close to everything, have everything close together. Where I lived before, everything was about two miles away.”

The third wrestler in the

senior trio is Owen Walker, a 195-pounder. He’s a first-time athlete at the school as he’s come along, in his short time as a wrestler.

“I have a group of good kids but the one I’m the

most impressed with is Owen,” coach Rohn said.

“He’s never played any sports and the first day he showed up and I didn’t think he would ever come back.

“He really struggled but he stuck with it. When he came in, he weighed about 220 pounds. Now, he’s almost a solid 190. He weighed in at 195 tonight, so he’s lost 25 pounds. And in five of his last seven matches, he’s had pins.”

Walker is making his first endeavor into athletics but he’s been active in the school’s ROTC program.

He’s developed such a passion for the sport of wrestling that he’s actively seeking opportunities to wrestle at the next level.

“I had a lot of my friends who were in wrestling and they talked me into it,” Walker said. “And I really liked it. It was fun.”

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF JANICE M. JACKSON DOCKET NUMBER 90448-3
Notice is hereby given that on the 30 day of JANUARY, 2025, letters testamentary (or letters of administration as the case may be) in respect of the Estate of JANICE M. JACKSON, who died December 13, 2024, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above-named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication; or
(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent’s date of death.
This the 22 day of JANUARY, 2025.

ESTATE OF TAK MOTOYAMA PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S) NATHAN MOTOYAMA 2030 BIG CHIEFS SKYVIEW DR. SEVIERVILLE, TN 37876
KELSEY R. REILLY, ATTORNEY 1518 N. BROADWAY KNOXVILLE, TN 37917
Notice is hereby given that on the 6 day of JANUARY, 2025, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of DONALD GENE RABY, II, who died Nov. 5, 2024, were issued to the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of this first publication; or
(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent’s date of death.
This the 6 day of JANUARY, 2025.

ESTATE OF JANICE M. JACKSON PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S) STEPHEN H. RICHARDS 7422 WINDROCK VIEW WAY KNOXVILLE, TN 37919
STEVEN K. BOWLING, ATTORNEY P. O. BOX 11125 KNOXVILLE, TN 37939-1125
Notice is hereby given that on the 22 day of JANUARY, 2025 letters testamentary in respect of the estate of MARY E. MANEY, who died May 19, 2024, were issued to the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above-named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2); otherwise, their claims will be forever barred:

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date of the first publication; or
(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent’s date of death.
This the 22 day of JANUARY, 2025.

ESTATE OF MARY E. MANEY DOCKET NUMBER 90459-2
Notice is hereby given that on the 22 day of JANUARY, 2025 letters testamentary in respect of the estate of MARY E. MANEY, who died May 19, 2024, were issued to the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above-named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2); otherwise, their claims will be forever barred:

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date of the first publication; or
(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent’s date of death.
This the 22 day of JANUARY, 2025.

ESTATE OF MARY E. MANEY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S) WILLIAM R. EADES, ADMINISTRATOR 542 LOST TREE LN. KNOXVILLE, TN 37934
BILL FIX, ATTORNEY P. O. BOX 31632 KNOXVILLE, TN 37930
Notice is hereby given that on the 22 day of JANUARY, 2025, letters testamentary (or letters of administration as the case may be) in respect of the Estate of TAK MOTOYAMA, who died October 22, 2024, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above-named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of this first publication; or
(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent’s date of death.
This the 17 day of JANUARY, 2025.

ESTATE OF JOHN EDWARD SANDERS, III DOCKET NUMBER 90449-1
Notice is hereby given that on the 17 day of JANUARY, 2025, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of JOHN EDWARD SANDERS, III, who died Dec. 29, 2024, were issued to the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of this first publication; or
(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent’s date of death.
This the 17 day of JANUARY, 2025.

ESTATE OF JOHN EDWARD SANDERS, III PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S) MARK A. SANDERS, EXECUTOR 5613 MILLERTOWN PIKE KNOXVILLE, TN 37924
Notice is hereby given that on the 22 day of JANUARY, 2025, Letters of Testamentary/Administration in respect to the Estate of MILDRED H. THOMAS, deceased, who died on December 9, 2024, were issued to the undersigned by the Probate Court for Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured against his/her Estate are required to file the same in triplicate with the Clerk and Master of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claim will be forever barred:

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication; or
(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent’s date of death.
This the 22 day of JANUARY, 2025.

ESTATE OF MILDRED H. THOMAS DOCKET NUMBER 90427-3
Notice is hereby given that on the 22 day of JANUARY, 2025, Letters of Testamentary/Administration in respect to the Estate of MILDRED H. THOMAS, deceased, who died on December 9, 2024, were issued to the undersigned by the Probate Court for Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured against his/her Estate are required to file the same in triplicate with the Clerk and Master of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claim will be forever barred:

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication; or
(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent’s date of death.
This the 6 day of JANUARY, 2025.

at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication; or
(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent’s date of death.
This the 22 day of JANUARY, 2025.

ESTATE OF TAK MOTOYAMA PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S) NATHAN MOTOYAMA 2030 BIG CHIEFS SKYVIEW DR. SEVIERVILLE, TN 37876
KELSEY R. REILLY, ATTORNEY 1518 N. BROADWAY KNOXVILLE, TN 37917
Notice is hereby given that on the 6 day of JANUARY, 2025, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of DONALD GENE RABY, II, who died Nov. 5, 2024, were issued to the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of this first publication; or
(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent’s date of death.
This the 6 day of JANUARY, 2025.

ESTATE OF DONALD GENE RABY, II DOCKET NUMBER 90388-3
Notice is hereby given that on the 6 day of JANUARY, 2025, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of DONALD GENE RABY, II, who died Nov. 5, 2024, were issued to the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of this first publication; or
(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent’s date of death.
This the 6 day of JANUARY, 2025.

ESTATE OF DONALD GENE RABY, II PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S) MARTHA L. RABY, EXECUTRIX 8012 SHARP ROAD POWELL, TN 37849
Notice is hereby given that on the 17 day of JANUARY, 2025, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of JOHN EDWARD SANDERS, III, who died Dec. 29, 2024, were issued to the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of this first publication; or
(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent’s date of death.
This the 17 day of JANUARY, 2025.

ESTATE OF JOHN EDWARD SANDERS, III DOCKET NUMBER 90449-1
Notice is hereby given that on the 17 day of JANUARY, 2025, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of JOHN EDWARD SANDERS, III, who died Dec. 29, 2024, were issued to the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of this first publication; or
(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent’s date of death.
This the 17 day of JANUARY, 2025.

ESTATE OF JOHN EDWARD SANDERS, III PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S) MARK A. SANDERS, EXECUTOR 5613 MILLERTOWN PIKE KNOXVILLE, TN 37924
Notice is hereby given that on the 22 day of JANUARY, 2025, Letters of Testamentary/Administration in respect to the Estate of MILDRED H. THOMAS, deceased, who died on December 9, 2024, were issued to the undersigned by the Probate Court for Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured against his/her Estate are required to file the same in triplicate with the Clerk and Master of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claim will be forever barred:

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication; or
(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent’s date of death.
This the 22 day of JANUARY, 2025.

ESTATE OF MILDRED H. THOMAS DOCKET NUMBER 90427-3
Notice is hereby given that on the 22 day of JANUARY, 2025, Letters of Testamentary/Administration in respect to the Estate of MILDRED H. THOMAS, deceased, who died on December 9, 2024, were issued to the undersigned by the Probate Court for Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured against his/her Estate are required to file the same in triplicate with the Clerk and Master of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claim will be forever barred:

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication; or
(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent’s date of death.
This the 22 day of JANUARY, 2025.

ESTATE OF MILDRED H. THOMAS DOCKET NUMBER 90427-3
Notice is hereby given that on the 22 day of JANUARY, 2025, Letters of Testamentary/Administration in respect to the Estate of MILDRED H. THOMAS, deceased, who died on December 9, 2024, were issued to the undersigned by the Probate Court for Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured against his/her Estate are required to file the same in triplicate with the Clerk and Master of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claim will be forever barred:

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication; or
(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent’s date of death.
This the 22 day of JANUARY, 2025.

letters of administration as the case may be) in respect of the Estate of JERRY LYNN SHELLEY, who died November 29, 2024, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above-named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication; or
(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent’s date of death.
This the 30 day of JANUARY, 2025.

ESTATE OF JERRY LYNN SHELLEY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S) STEPHEN WAYNE SHELLEY
STUART I. CASSELL, ATTORNEY 707 MARKET STREET, SUITE 1 KNOXVILLE, TN 37902
Notice is hereby given that on the 6 day of JANUARY, 2025, letters administration in respect of the Estate of VAUGHN EDWARD SMITH, who died Aug. 22, 2024, were issued to the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of this first publication; or
(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent’s date of death.
This the 6 day of JANUARY, 2025.

ESTATE OF VAUGHN EDWARD SMITH DOCKET NUMBER 90363-2
Notice is hereby given that on the 6 day of JANUARY, 2025, letters administration in respect of the Estate of VAUGHN EDWARD SMITH, who died Aug. 22, 2024, were issued to the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of this first publication; or
(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent’s date of death.
This the 6 day of JANUARY, 2025.

ESTATE OF VAUGHN EDWARD SMITH PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S) IAN SHANE SMITH, ADMINISTRATOR 5901 OLD TAZEWELL PIKE KNOXVILLE, TN 37918
Notice is hereby given that on the 22 day of JANUARY, 2025, Letters of Testamentary/Administration in respect to the Estate of MILDRED H. THOMAS, deceased, who died on December 9, 2024, were issued to the undersigned by the Probate Court for Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured against his/her Estate are required to file the same in triplicate with the Clerk and Master of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claim will be forever barred:

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication; or
(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent’s date of death.
This the 6 day of JANUARY, 2025.

ESTATE OF MILDRED H. THOMAS DOCKET NUMBER 90427-3
Notice is hereby given that on the 22 day of JANUARY, 2025, Letters of Testamentary/Administration in respect to the Estate of MILDRED H. THOMAS, deceased, who died on December 9, 2024, were issued to the undersigned by the Probate Court for Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured against his/her Estate are required to file the same in triplicate with the Clerk and Master of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claim will be forever barred:

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication; or
(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent’s date of death.
This the 14 day of JANUARY, 2025.

ESTATE OF BARBARA P. WALKER DOCKET NUMBER 90442-3
Notice is hereby given that on the 14 day of JANUARY, 2025, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of BARBARA P. WALKER, who died Nov. 23, 2024, were issued to the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent’s date of death.
This the 14 day of JANUARY, 2025.

ESTATE OF JOHN DOTY WILLIS DOCKET NUMBER 90394-3
Notice is hereby given that on the 30 day of JANUARY, 2025, letters testamentary (or letters of administration) in respect of the Estate of JOHN DOTY WILLIS, who died on October 26, 2024, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above-named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or
(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent’s date of death.
This the 22 day of JANUARY, 2025.


ESTATE OF MILDRED H. THOMAS PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S) BRUCE K. THOMAS
Notice is hereby given that on the 22 day of JANUARY, 2025, Letters of Testamentary/Administration in respect to the Estate of MILDRED H. THOMAS, deceased, who died on December 9, 2024, were issued to the undersigned by the Probate Court for Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured against his/her Estate are required to file the same in triplicate with the Clerk and Master of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claim will be forever barred:

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication; or
(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent’s date of death.
This the 22 day of JANUARY, 2025.

Notice of Public Hearing

Knoxville’s Community Development Corporation (KCDC) has developed its 2025 Public Housing Agency (PHA) Annual and 5-Year Draft Plans in compliance with the 1998 Public Housing Reform Act. The Plan will be available for review Monday – Friday between the hours of 7:30 am and 4:00 pm beginning Monday, February 10, 2025, - Wednesday, March 26, 2025, at the KCDC Main Office located at 901 N. Broadway, Knoxville, TN; all KCDC Development Offices; KCDC’s Section 8 Office located at 400 Harriet Tubman Street, Knoxville, TN and on KCDC’s website at www.kcdc.org.

Formal comments regarding the Draft Plans should be submitted to the KCDC Main Office in written format for review. KCDC’s Board of Commissioners would like to invite those who are interested to attend a public hearing regarding the Draft Plans on Thursday, March 27, 2025, at 4:30 p.m. at KCDC’s Main Office.



815 TWILIGHT CIRCLE RICHARDSON, TX 75080
SCOTT B. HAHN, ATTORNEY 5344 N. BROADWAY, SUITE 101 KNOXVILLE, TN 37918

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
ESTATE OF BARBARA P. WALKER DOCKET NUMBER 90442-3
Notice is hereby given that on the 14 day of JANUARY, 2025, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of BARBARA P. WALKER, who died Nov. 23, 2024, were issued to the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent’s date of death.
This the 14 day of JANUARY, 2025.

ESTATE OF JOHN DOTY WILLIS PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S) CALLIE ALEXANDRA TEAGUE 13140 ROYAL PALM WAY, APT. 003 FARRAGUT, TN 37934
T. MICHAEL CRAIG GRUBBS, ATTORNEY 402 CLYDE STREET KNOXVILLE, TN 37921

MISC. NOTICES

LEGAL SECTION 94

Knox County will receive bids for the following items & services:

- BID 3632, Promotional Products and Graphic Design, due 2/26/25;
- BID 3633, Construction of the New Farragut Area Elementary School, due 3/4/25

For additional information call 865-215-5777, stop by the Procurement Division, 1000 North Central St., Suite 100, Knoxville, TN 37917, or visit our website: www.knoxcounty.org/procurement. To bid on Knox County surplus items, go to www.govdeals.com.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Knox County Ethics Committee Meeting
Wednesday, February 12, 2025, at 8:30 a.m.
Small Assembly Room
City/County Building

PUBLIC NOTICE

Merit System for Employees of KCSO Board of Directors Meeting for the Gabriel Loya Grievance Hearing scheduled for Monday, February 10, 2025, at 1:00

Cain continues to climb in basketball career

Cont. from page 1

Sophie. "Blue's family is full of Division 1 athletes," noted Mike Mobley, Assistant Athletic Director at Georgia. "His dad, Chris, played golf at Duke from 1988-91 (and that's where his son's nickname came from, the Blue Devils); his mom, Myriah (Loneragan), played basketball at George Washington from 1992-96 and is in the school's Athletic Hall of Fame; and his sister, Sophie, played setter on the volleyball team at Appalachian State, finishing

her career in 2023." Even though UT won 74-56, Blue said: "It was definitely a lot of fun. I just enjoyed going back home and playing in front of my family and friends. I enjoyed it a lot." He scored five points and had two rebounds, one assist and one steal in 30 minutes of action against the Vols. Cain's high school coach, Mike Hutchens, didn't get to attend the game due to now being an assistant coach of the Knoxville Catholic girls team, but he

got to see about half of it on TV, and said he especially noticed, "Blue can use his athleticism to do more than just score and is an excellent on-ball defender." As a freshman in high school, Cain helped Catholic capture the TSSAA Division II-AA state championship in 2019-20, and in his junior year the Fighting

Irish were state runners-up. He twice earned All-State honors. "Blue was an outstanding student as well as a tremendous player at Catholic," recalled Hutchens. "He was very coachable and unselfish with superior athletic ability. He was enjoyable to coach!" At IMG, Blue was a

consensus 4-star recruit. Cain started nine of 10 games at Georgia his freshman year, scored 19 points versus Missouri in the SEC tournament and almost half of his 103 made field goals were 3-pointers. Blue has become a full-time starter this season and in the first 20 games has averaged 25.3 minutes

of playing time. He averages 8.4 points and 3.9 rebounds per game plus 1.4 assists and 1.3 steals. "My goal in basketball is to play in the NBA and my major is sports marketing," he said. "I just need to keep working every day and concentrate on getting better every day. Whatever happens happens."

TSSAA golf championships to return to Sevierville

Cont. from page 4

School Indoor meet later this season at Vanderbilt. Keegan, representing the Hard Knox Track Club, posted a time of 1:53.64.

the sixth poll of the season. The Poll is primarily a measure of dual meet strength with some consideration to individual tournament strength.

Halls matmen rank No. 13 in state poll

Halls' wrestling team was ranked No. 13 in the state in the Tennessee High School Wrestling Poll on Jan. 27. Cleveland was No. 1 in

Countdown to opening day!

It's 71 days until the Knoxville Smokies play their home opener in their new stadium against the Chattanooga Lookouts!

classifieds

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