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MONDAY
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FOCUS Weekly Poll*

The current sales tax rate in Knox County is 9.25% or \$9.25 per \$100 spent. Do you support or oppose increasing the Knox County sales tax rate?

SUPPORT 9.38%
OPPOSE 90.63%

Survey conducted May 4, 2012.

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

Miniscule Crowd At Gibbs To Hear School Budget

By Focus Staff

Mike McMillan, East Knox County's member of the Board of Education, was invited to speak at a gathering of the Gibbs High School PTO last Thursday night.

McMillan's last visit to Gibbs High School had been to attend a forum for the school board candidates. That particular forum was notable for the fact not a single resident of the Gibbs community showed up to listen. The forum was held on the same night as a Gibbs High school choral concert and apparently more folks were interested in listening to music. Once again, the crowd at Gibbs was dismal, despite calls and mass emails being sent to parents. There might have been five people attending once school personnel, McMillan and County Commissioner Dave Wright were subtracted.

The school system has been frantically doing all it can to churn up interest in the budget proposed by Superintendent Jim McIntyre, which would necessitate a 35 cent increase in the property tax. One of the oddest turns in the entire budget debate is for the first time in anyone's memory, the **Knox County Education Association has refused to endorse McIntyre's plan.** Despite the administration's claim that the Superintendent's budget improves the lot of teachers, the truth is it does very little for them. Clearly the KCEA noticed that and withheld its support and the effect was

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Burchett presents County Budget

Says NO to tax increase

By Focus Staff

Mayor Tim Burchett rolled out his proposed budget for the next fiscal year, totaling almost \$674 million.

Burchett spoke to a capacity audience inside the Large Assembly Room of the City & County Building. The biggest sticking point in the budget process this year has been the tug-of-war between Superintendent Jim McIntyre and Mayor Burchett. McIntyre proposed a budget to the Board of Education which would require a property tax increase of 35 cents. The Board dutifully and quickly approved McIntyre's



PHOTO BY DAN ANDREWS.

Mayor Tim Burchett, pictured above at the Halls Senior Center, takes his 2012-2013 Knox County Budget presentation on the road Tuesday.

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Planners to Host Open House for South County Sector Plan Update

The second round of public input sessions is gearing up for the South County Sector Plan update, with community meetings scheduled for May 8 and 10. Citizens will be able to ask MPC staff questions, offer comments, and make recommendations on the sector plan. MPC will present four key proposals in the sector plan update: a future Land Use Plan, a Community Facilities Plan, a Transportation Improvement Plan, and a Green Infrastructure Plan.

At the first-round meetings held last year, there was significant public interest in protecting the scenic qualities of the Governor John Sevier Highway corridor. The draft plan to be presented this month includes a proposal for a scenic corridor overlay for the highway. Also included among plan proposals are concepts for French Broad River conservation and designs to extend Legacy Park's Urban Wilderness trail system into the South

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Crematory placement discussion continues

By Sarah Baker
bakers@knoxfocus.com

On Thursday, May 3, The Metropolitan Planning Commission held a public meeting in the community room at the Cansler Family YMCA to hear input regarding proposed zoning regulations for the placement of facilities for cremation in the City of Knoxville.

Last fall Gentry-Griffey Funeral Chapel in Fountain City received a permit from the State of Tennessee and was issued a building permit by the City of Knoxville to construct a facility for cremation as an accessory use. This was much to the chagrin of many Fountain City residents and led to a series of actions that have taken place since.

At its November 29, 2011 meeting City Council requested MPC study, analyze, and make recommendations to them regarding appropriate siting and permitting of crematoria within the city. In December, Fountain City residents appealed the decision of the city building officials to issue the building permit. In January, the Board of Zoning Appeals denied the appeal, MPC staff conducted a public meeting to solicit input of crematory placement and regulation, and the Fountain City Community Awareness Network appealed the decision of the City BZA to the Knoxville City Council.

In February, City Council denied the appeal and upheld the decision of the BZA that a facility for cremation is an accessory use to a funeral home and that the permit was properly issued. In March, MPC considered



PHOTO BY DAN ANDREWS.

Metropolitan Planning Commission (MPC) director Mark Donaldson explains the zoning regulations of funeral homes offering cremations at the public meeting last Thursday.

proposed amendments to the City of Knoxville zoning regulations and postponed its decision until its May 10th meeting, requesting that staff conduct an additional meeting and invite members of the funeral industry to participate.

About 20 people attended the May 3 meeting at the YMCA in East Knoxville. MPC director Mark Donaldson explained that the Tennessee State Supreme Court ruled in 1966 that the legal definition of a funeral home includes the use of a crematorium as part of the same industry. Because of this and other considerations including municipal regulations from Murfreesboro, Tenn., and Charlotte, N.C., MPC is recommending regulations that would distinguish between facilities used for cremation at a funeral home and crematoriums built for principal

use. Those built for "accessory use" would require use on review and those built for principal use would be regulated to industrial districts.

Donaldson also explained that one aspect of the regulations on facilities used for cremation with a funeral home would be that cremations can only be done as a part of services offered by the same funeral home. Therefore, cremations should not exceed the number of funerals provided by the funeral home.

This regulation, however, probably will not affect Gentry-Griffey because they will be grandfathered in with their existing permits. Still, according to Eric Botts, director at Gentry-Griffey Funeral Chapel, they have performed twice as many funerals as cremations this year.

Many residents expressed

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A Special Mother

We would watch and wait for them to bloom—the red ones, the white ones. Almost in ceremonial fashion, someone made the rounds to the rosebushes in the yard. The prettiest rosebuds would be pruned and brought into the house. We learned early on the symbolism of the roses and their colors. Our father wore a red rose to represent his mother who was still living at the time. My brother and I also wore red roses to honor our mother. But, our own mother wore a white rose. Her mother had passed away when she was only eight years old. It was a tradition nearly everyone at our church followed. With our rosebuds neatly pinned on lapels and dresses, we were finally ready for church on a beautiful Mother's Day Sunday.

Mothers are special. We have come to associate the Lady Vols Coach Emeritus Pat Summit with her role as a mother to Tyler almost as much as her award-winning record as coach. Since the days of watching segments of "Monday's Child," that was hosted by WBIR's legendary news anchor Bill Williams, I have regarded one who adopts a child as "special." While it seems normal to love and cherish a child of your own, it seems like it would take an extra big heart full of compassion and kindness to love a child born to someone else. That is just what Christy did.

She traveled with her husband, Mark, across the ocean to China to adopt a special-needs child with a life-threatening heart problem.



"Mama Gets a Kiss" taken by Anna Claire's Daddy

I can remember Christy talking about the long months of processing paperwork, passports, and a medical plan to treat the child they would call their own. I remember when the young family bolted to Atlanta almost immediately on their return home from China for emergency surgery to correct little Anna Claire's heart defect. And, I remember keeping up with their long-distance hospital stays over the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. While others were celebrating the birth of a baby born two thousand years ago, it seemed Christy's family was on a journey of their own--seeking a miracle for their baby in the season of hope and miracles. I think of the love, devotion, and sacrifice this mother gave for her child—changing planes and chasing taxis with a precious "cargo" almost too fragile to handle.

Times and traditions change, but a mother's love remains the same. If roses are worn this Mother's Day, I expect the child who bonded with her new mommy when she gave her a kiss will wear a pretty red rose in honor of the mother who gave her life—in a different way. Perhaps, she is too young to fully understand all the reasons her mother is so special. But, one day she will. And, that may call for a dozen red roses!

Poll: Sales Tax Opposed

By Focus Staff

The latest poll conducted by *The Knoxville Focus* asked voters, "The current sales tax rate in Knox County is 9.25% or \$9.25 per \$100 spent. Do you support or oppose increasing the Knox County sales tax rate?"

The results reveal one of the most lop-sided results since *The Focus* started conducting polls. Almost 500 voters were surveyed and the overwhelming response was a resounding "NO."

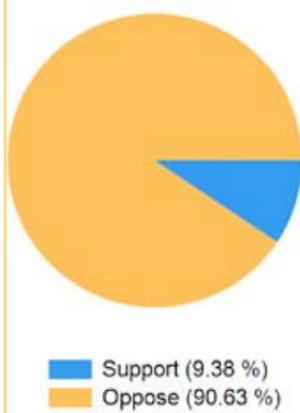
Superintendent James McIntyre has proposed a budget for the school system that will require a property tax increase of at least 35 cents; a previous poll showed a huge majority of Knox Countians are opposed to a property tax increase as well. Some Commissioners, most notably Commission Chairman Mike Hammond and South Knoxville Commissioner Mike Brown, have suggested perhaps increasing the sales tax for education would be a better idea. Both Brown and Hammond live in South Knoxville, yet less than 10% of South Knoxvillians support the notion of increasing the sale tax.

Every district inside Knox County rejected the idea of increasing the sales tax, including those inside the City of Knoxville. The highest support for a sales tax increase came from the First District, which is largely comprised of Knoxville's African-American community, yet only just over 20% of First District residents indicated they would support an increase in the current sales tax rate.

The Eighth District was the

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By District	Support	Oppose
1	20.00%	80.00%
2	10.53%	89.47%
3	15.91%	84.09%
4	9.59%	90.41%
5	11.67%	88.33%
6	3.70%	96.30%
7	8.33%	91.67%
8	1.82%	98.18%
9	8.51%	91.49%
Total	9.38%	90.63%

By Age	Support	Oppose	By Gender	Support	Oppose
18-29	[None]	100.00%	Unknown	10.53%	89.47%
30-49	5.00%	95.00%	Female	7.82%	92.18%
50-65	14.77%	85.23%	Male	11.01%	88.99%
65+	7.41%	92.59%	Total	9.38%	90.63%
Total	9.38%	90.63%			

community in Knox County most opposed to a sales tax with a whopping 98.18% saying they do not favor increasing the sales tax rate.

Knoxville Focus publisher Steve Hunley admitted he was surprised by the margins, even in his own community.

"I thought most people would be opposed to increasing the sales tax, but I didn't think it would be anything like what it was," Hunley said. "Of course several of the results from our polls have surprised me, some more than others."

Any effort to increase the sales tax in Knox County would have to go before the

voters in referendum and these results don't bode well for its passage. The schools currently receive about 72 cents out of every sales tax dollar collected inside the City of Knoxville and Knox County; Farragut only gives 50 cents out of every sales tax dollar collected.

For those politicians who think merely placing the issue before the voters will spare them the wrath of an angry public, these figures ought to raise more than a few eyebrows.

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Publisher's Position And Froggy went a'courtin'



By Steve Hunley, Publisher
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With Knox County Mayor Tim Burchett having revealed his budget last week, the reaction from the school administration has been both swift and loud. The paladin for the school administration, Superintendent Jim McIntyre, has gathered his knights about him to prepare for the final crusade in his bid to get the large tax increase he has demanded.

For several weeks prior to Burchett's budget announcement, McIntyre and his staff have been aggressively seeking attention and favorable press for the Superintendent's ambitious spending plan for the schools. McIntyre moved to have the Knox County Board of Education approve his budget quickly. The Superintendent was eager to have the Board ratify his proposal unanimously, but the fly in the ointment proved to be East Knox County Board member Mike McMillan, who was the sole dissenting vote.

McMillan had just come off a hard reelection campaign where his opponent had the solid backing of the school administration establishment. Despite the claim by the good government element that the school system is beyond politics, there were several administrators who came out into the open in support of McMillan's opponent. McMillan faced opposition from much of the Chamber of Commerce

and its allies and one "forum" was arranged for the Gibbs community by Ahna Estes, a Chamber employee. Oddly, the night they selected was the same evening the Gibbs High School chorus was giving a concert as well as other school events and not a single resident from the Gibbs community attended the forum. Instead, the crowd looked like the residents of a nursing home for retired school administrators. The good natured McMillan merely shrugged off the bitter opposition of the old school machine, which had been remarkably politically potent in its day and made his presentation.

The bid to unseat McMillan was ultimately unsuccessful and McMillan won with virtually the same percentage of the vote he won when he upset former interim Superintendent of Schools Roy Mullins.

Polls show McIntyre is upside down in his favorability rating inside McMillan's district and the proposed tax increase is unpopular in every Commission district across the county. McMillan's vote against the Superintendent's budget hasn't hurt him in the least; in fact, most think it has increased his popularity. McMillan's opponent had been perceived as far more likely to support McIntyre and his agenda without question.

Folks seem to be getting a little tired of this "it's all for the kids" mantra. In my opinion, if the election were held today, Mike McMillan would win by an even bigger majority.

The school crowd was right to suspect McMillan would be independent and vote against approving McIntyre's budget, a sharp reminder of McMillan's refusal to sit on the Board of Education and rubber stamp whatever was placed in front of him.

Despite not having unanimity in approving the

Superintendent's budget, McIntyre and his staff began a round of media events to promote the necessary tax increase, which would amount to 35 cents on the property tax rate. Local news media has traditionally paid little attention to the school system and the Board of Education and Superintendent have rarely attracted the same kind of attention from the media as the Mayors of Knoxville and Knox County, as well as the City Council and County Commission despite the fact roughly two-thirds of every tax dollar spent is expended on schools.

McIntyre's State of the Schools address was sparsely attended, especially when school personnel was subtracted from the audience. Still, it was an event calculated to make the Superintendent look good and McIntyre is certainly adept at using the kind of language that sounds good. A week long appearance on Hallerin Hilton Hill's radio show, allowed McIntyre and his staff show off their mastery of the latest phrases promoting modern education. Opponents of McIntyre's budget are still waiting for equal time but shouldn't hold their breath.

Mayor Tim Burchett and the Superintendent, despite claims to the contrary, aren't especially fond of one another and Burchett was thoroughly irritated by McIntyre injecting himself in the Mayor's purview.

For some weeks, the Mayor had subtly sent signals he would not seek an increase in taxes. Those hints soon became outright declarations, highlighted by Burchett's flatly declaring he will veto any attempt by the Knox County Commission to raise taxes during his own budget address. The reaction from the school folk was to be expected; they were collectively disappointed or outright infuriated.

Some Commissioners had seemingly allowed themselves to be seduced by the song being sung by Froggy McIntyre and Miss Mouse appeared to be looking favorably upon Froggy's marriage proposal, but with Kitty Burchett looking on and licking his chops, some seem to have second thoughts.

McIntyre's budget request isn't merely a political football, but one of political primacy, if not outright survival. McIntyre wanted to be Governor Bill Haslam's Commissioner of Education and should the Commission reject his supposedly visionary budget proposal, it will almost surely tarnish his carefully polished image. It is questionable just how effective Froggy will be if his marriage proposal to Miss Mouse isn't consummated.

McIntyre's allies are desperately rallying around the beleaguered Superintendent and The Knoxville News-Sentinel quoted Knoxville Chamber of Commerce kingpin Mike Edwards as darkly rumbling, "We were clear that we wouldn't be happy with a budget that doesn't change what we do for education."

Evidently Mayor Burchett was neither impressed nor intimidated by threats or grumblings from the Chamber of Commerce, which had speedily endorsed McIntyre's bid for a tax increase to support education. In fact, it appears Burchett has cut back taxpayer funding for the Chamber of Commerce, a position this publisher supports.

It seems to me the taxpayers spend more money on the Chamber than the Chamber brings to Knox County. Also, if they want to be involved in

politics they ought not get a single dime from tax payer money, then they'd be free to do whatever they wanted. It looks like taxes can't be too high to suit those who get a piece of the pie.

A grumpy Edwards found himself on television complaining Burchett had trimmed the Chambers' own budget. Hurray for Burchett!

As Burchett has taken his budget presentation on a tour of the county, McIntyre and his allies are showing up and are careful to have folks in the audience to praise McIntyre's vision and support a tax increase. Clearly the school folks don't want any dialogue to be one-sided and hope to give the appearance of strong support for a tax increase from the public.

Mike McMillan attended Burchett's presentations in both the Corryton and Carter communities and a Focus staff member watched as McMillan found himself facing an irate Ahna Estes, an employee of the Chamber, who promptly proceeded to tell McMillan just what his job as a member of the Knox County Board of Education is; she concluded by informing a surprised McMillan that it was not his responsibility to worry where the money comes from to pay for the Superintendent's budget. That is an attitude shared by most members of the Board of Education, who don't care about the county's spiraling debt or how Commissioners struggle to find the means to pay for whatever the school system wants.

McMillan politely retorted that Estes apparently thought his responsibilities as a member of the Board are to simply blindly approve anything supported by the

Superintendent. Estes tried to back away from that, but McMillan made the point that his is a representative position and he has a responsibility to represent the views of the majority of his constituents. McMillan, who has strongly supported the literacy component of McIntyre's budget (as does Mayor Burchett), as well as the technology program, has had other concerns about some of McIntyre's proposal.

"I really have some difficulties with the concept of the so-called coaching program," McMillan said. "If we take our best teachers out of the classroom to coach other teachers, that is absolutely going to affect the quality of instruction inside the classroom and the immediate effect won't be positive. It also adds another layer of unneeded bureaucracy."

In a last ditch effort, the school administration seems to be adopting a Plan B in the event they can't wrangle a property tax increase. Froggy seems to intend to continue his courtin' by hoping for a half cent increase in the sales tax. That would be a much more complicated thing as both the City of Knoxville and the town of Farragut would have to agree and ultimately, the issue would be decided by the people by referendum.

County Commission Chairman Mike Hammond in a recent radio appearance seemed to raise the possibility of increasing the sales tax for schools.

Considering just how high the sales tax is currently, the prospects of the people voting to increase the sales tax seems remote at best.

It sure is looking like Froggy and Miss Mouse are sure to get eaten by the kitty.

When Enough Is Enough

By Steve Hunley, Publisher
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The Tennessee General Assembly has managed to bring yet more unwanted attention to our state due to some of the legislation it has passed.

Clearly politics is changing in this country and there is good reason to think not for the better. The Democratic Party seems to be more than ever a creature of the far left, while the Republican Party has been captured by extremists on the right. Whatever middle ground there was no longer seems to exist. There are no longer any "Rockefeller" Republicans in existence, nor are there any old "Southern" Democrats.

Extremism in either party should give folks pause, if not outright alarm. This same sort of extremism has become noticeable in the Tennessee General Assembly.

Virtually every state in the nation has financial problems; the United

States of America has a debt problem spiraling out of control that poses a significant threat to our standing in the world, not to mention future generations. Even Knox County is more than \$1 billion in debt, yet the public dialogue focuses less on fiscal responsibility

and coming up with solutions to real problems.

Locally, Superintendent Jim McIntyre has ignored the economy, refused to settle for the natural revenue growth and a little more besides and is demanding what amounts

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Don't blame me, I'm just a fat guy



By Richie Beeler

You may have inferred from the title of this article that I have decided to go on the lighter side this week. Heh heh...you would be mistaken. Writing this week's column is a bit like tiptoeing through the tulips. Tulips surrounded by broken glass, rusty nails, salt and barbed wire. But I'm determined this is going to make it into your favorite family newspaper. So here goes. I don't do this often, but for context I must refer the readers to two articles that appeared last week in the local daily paper. One had to do with a property assessor in Tennessee, and the other had to do with

a controversial page in an area high school yearbook. To most people, the stories appeared unrelated. I beg to differ.

The property assessor (not the one from here) who was the subject of the article has been accused, among other things, of moving two female employees off of the office's front counter because they were overweight. Apparently he thought their physical attractiveness just did not pass muster for someone in such a public position.

Now I don't know about you, but I have quite a few female co-workers. And you might find any number of reasons to move them or write them up. But just a suggestion: whatever you do, don't make it about their weight. I can only imagine the emotional trauma this scenario, if true, has caused these two ladies. Well take heart, girls.

I've got just the answer for you. All you gotta do is read the other article. It can only bring you to one conclusion: it's ok to be fat.

Praise the Lord and pass the donuts! Heck, if the annual is right, I can just eat all the biscuits, gravy, moon pies, and potato chips my heart desires. It doesn't matter if I weigh 500 pounds. And all you haters out there can just deal with it. What you don't realize is I was born to be fat. That's right. I have a predisposed tendency toward Krispy Kreme. And heaven forbid anyone should deny their predisposed tendencies.

This is good news, people. I'm serious. Not only is it ok to be fat. It's ok to be a drunk! I mean if you have a predisposed tendency toward alcohol - don't fight it - drink up baby! And for goodness sake, don't worry about what those sanctimonious

non-drinkers say. They just don't realize you were born to get drunk. And after all it could be worse.

You could be born to steal. Now this is one where folks really need enlightenment. Because if you don't understand a person's innate need to take your stuff, you might get angry about it. But if you'll just realize that some people are born with a predisposed tendency to be a thief, you will embrace their largeness with an open heart.

It gets better. Some people might be predisposed to lying (so they say). They just came out of the womb with this hard wired desire to fib. And far be it from me to deny a liar the right to be true to himself. (Figuring that statement out could be as confusing as watching Back to the Future 2).

And what about the guy that likes to sleep around on his wife? How

can us self-righteous Bible thumpers expect this dude to live a monogamous existence when God created him to be an adulterer? It just doesn't make sense.

So what's the moral of the two stories? Do whatever the blankety blank you feel like! Be fat, cheat on your spouse, swipe your neighbors tools. And if anyone has a problem with anything you do, just remind them - I was born to do this, man! It was that God of yours that made me this way. Sin? What's that?

Gee I'm glad someone finally asked! Sin is the thing people did way back in the garden of Eden when they disobeyed a holy and righteous God. Ever since that fateful decision, mankind has been fatally damaged in every way. We are broken. That includes not just our actions. It includes our tendencies. Our attitudes,

selfish ambitions - and yes, even our sexual desires - are damaged.

Are these tendencies real? Absolutely! Does that mean we are obligated or morally licensed to act on them? I would certainly hope not. And the Bible definitely does not teach us so. We are never encouraged by Scripture to follow our hearts. In fact we are told quite pointedly that our hearts are "deceitful above all things, and desperately sick."

But that is a hard truth for people to accept, let alone apply. Our own tendency toward selfishness drives us to justify our desire to fulfill every other fallen tendency we possess. So the path of least resistance seems to be to accept human reality and give in. After all, I'm just another fat guy.

Someone please pass the donuts.

Mayor Burchett presents budget

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suggested budget with only East Knox County Board member Mike McMillan voting against it.

The Mayor's own proposal gives the schools considerably more than they have received in recent years, approximately \$13M, but it won't be enough to suit McIntyre. Some County Commissioners have publicly hinted that they might support either a property tax increase or even a boost in the sales tax to pay for McIntyre's ambitious budget. Burchett pointed out in his comments Knox County currently spends 72% on education. Another statement made by the Mayor certainly hit the school system closer to home; Burchett said when children couldn't read at a third grade reading level, giving every child a laptop wouldn't change that fact. Recent data revealed some 46% of children in Knox County cannot read at a third grade level.

McIntyre is wanting an

additional \$48 million for the schools, while Burchett is recommending \$13 million from the county's natural growth.

Burchett acknowledged Superintendent McIntyre's budget would necessitate a steep tax increase and pointed out, "It's easy to claim more money will solve our problems, but we only need to look to Washington, D. C. to know that is not the case."

The theme of Mayor Burchett's budget presentation was summed up by his comment, "This government can fulfill a role without putting a burden on its citizens."

Lest the school folks fail to get the message, Burchett's boldest statement was a direct warning to both McIntyre and County Commissioners; he brought the crowd assembled to its feet when he pledged to veto any tax increase approved by the Commission. It is unclear how many votes out of 11 County Commission would

need to override Burchett's veto. Some say 7, while others say 8 votes would be needed.

Overall, Burchett's budget document was rather impressive. The Mayor managed to meet most every need and addressed pressing problems.

Still, the maneuvering behind Knox County's budget will come to a showdown between Superintendent Jim McIntyre and Mayor Tim Burchett. While the conflict hasn't been personal, it has been intense at times. McIntyre clearly made things worse when he showed up in Burchett's office after the Mayor had recommended a raise for general county employees, most of whom had not had any kind of raise for four to six years. McIntyre demanded to know why Burchett had not consulted him about giving county employees the raise; Burchett basically told McIntyre to mind his own business.

Most of the County Commissioners are term limited and polls show the overwhelming majority of Knox Countians are opposed to raising taxes to pay for McIntyre's budget. Those with other political ambitions should be easy to spot in the voting. Those looking to retire will likely be just as easy to spot.

If McIntyre is unable to win this particular struggle, it will be interesting to see

just how effective he can be in the future. The Chamber of Commerce and some of the business community have thrown in their lot with the Superintendent and a rebuff by the County Commission will be a serious political defeat for McIntyre and his allies. It is unlikely his relationship with Commissioners and the Mayor will dramatically improve in the near future and it would be fair to say McIntyre has bet the farm on getting all he wants.

Should the Commission approve the tax increase demanded by McIntyre and Burchett keeps his pledge to veto any such tax increase, the betting is the Commissioners won't be able to scrape up enough votes to override the Mayor's veto. That, too, would draw an even more stark contrast in the mind of voters between Burchett and McIntyre.

Burchett for all his aw-shucks personality and Opie Taylor grin, is a veteran politician who survived the frequently brutal atmosphere in Nashville, the epicenter of politics in Tennessee. McIntyre, on the other hand, is a Boston bureaucrat who is excellent at answering the usually friendly questions posed by a media that has given the school system and its funding scant attention and even less scrutiny.

A betting man would be wise to put it all on the Mayor to win.

Miniscule Crowd At Gibbs To Hear School Budget

Cont. from page 1

denying McIntyre and the Board of Education hordes of foot soldiers.

In years past, the Large Assembly Room of the City & County Building has been filled to capacity with teachers during budget deliberations pushing for a local raise. The Superintendent's widely heralded merit pay bonuses affect very few teachers and teachers have been conspicuously absent during the push for McIntyre's budget.

Some members of the Board have begun to recognize the mistake in asking for such a huge increase and doing so little for classroom teachers. One or two of the Board members have tried to motivate teachers by pointing out that the criteria for the merit bonuses could be changed once the budget is approved, intimating more would qualify for the bonus. Of course the implication is the standard would not be as high as it is now.

McMillan acknowledged there is very little in Superintendent McIntyre's budget that improves the salary of classroom teachers. McMillan has also expressed concern about the "coaching"

program being promoted by McIntyre as part of his budget.

"From what I gather from the information available to me, these coaches would cost about \$70,000 each," McMillan said. "Frankly, I really don't see the need and I have grave concerns about the immediate effect of removing our best teachers from the classroom to become coaches."

"I would compare it to a football team. If you take the best players and promote them to the coaching staff, how good is the team for the next few seasons?" McMillan wondered.

"There is also the fact not every really good teacher is going to excel as a coach, although we seem to be making that presumption."

When asked about the meeting at Gibbs and the debate swirling around McIntyre's proposal and Mayor Tim Burchett's adamant refusal to recommend a tax increase, McMillan admitted the "large majority" of folks he has heard from and talked to remain opposed to increasing taxes.

"I've been hearing a lot of folks say they appreciate the Mayor," McMillan said.

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Readying for reunion

My 20 year high school reunion is coming up this summer, so as vice-president of the Middleboro High School class of 1992, I was invited by the



By Sarah Baker
bakers@knoxfocus.com

class president to be on a committee to plan this summer's get-together. About seven of us met in Harrogate at the home of a classmate to designate responsibilities. Since most of us lived away, there was some catching up about who had died, who had been arrested, and who had married whom. (Okay, we probably didn't say "whom".) It was really fun to meet these people again. I had known most of them since kindergarten and hadn't seen them in 10 years.

I remember when we got together 10 years ago how all the silly high school stuff seemed to melt away. Everyone was interested in seeing everyone else. The preps, rednecks, Goths, and geeks had turned into just plain ordinary people with new careers, new families, and lots of shared memories. I tell my teenage daughter this when she mentions what some "stuck-up prep" or

some "weird emo kid" did at school. It is funny how teenagers don't change that much. Sometimes I wonder if "The School of Athens" was more like "The Breakfast Club."

One of my designated responsibilities has been contacting other classmates and inviting them to the reunion. I cannot believe the number of people who are still holding on to bitterness about high school. More than once I heard, "Why would I want to go and hang out with a bunch of snobs who didn't speak to me in high school?" Listen. I was not one of the "popular kids" in high school. Point in Fact. I was friends with the "so-called" popular kids until my father got sick and I could no longer afford the effort of keeping up. I was elected as class VP because I gave a speech about missing the days when kids in different cliques were all friends. For me, those days were brought back at my last reunion.

I would like to address everyone who may have a class reunion this summer you are dreading. I assure you that 99% of your classmates look nothing like "The Real Housewives of New York." Many of them will be overweight. Many of them will have thinning hair. Most of them are not in the top 1% income bracket we keep hearing about on the news.

Many of them have been divorced or lost jobs. They've been living life in the same world, with the same economy you have and let's be honest. Cellulite doesn't care how many votes you got for homecoming queen. If you receive an invitation to a reunion this summer, my advice is to go and have a good time. See people for who they are now, and don't judge them based on who they were 10, 20, 30, or more years ago. You may find that the preppiest kids in school have stopped trying to be perfect. You may find that the wildest girl in school is now married to a minister. The nerd who sat behind you in Chemistry might be Bill Gates's right hand man. It will be fun to find out.

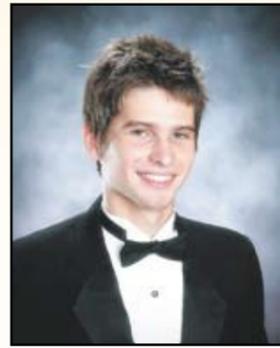
Some advice: Don't drink too much. Don't go to "hook up" with a former classmate. Don't pretend to be more successful than you are. Keep it real with them and they'll keep it real with you. Forgive the snobs. Rejoice in the redemption of the "bad kids." Mourn any you may have lost. Be thankful that you know now what you didn't know then. Remind yourself when you wish you'd realized how much potential you had back then that someday you will look back on today and wish you'd realized the same thing.

The Focus and special advertisers would like to applaud the top of area schools' 2012 class beginning this week. We wish the best for all graduates. Congratulations!

Carter High



McKenzie Chamberlain,
Valedictorian



Connor Minton,
Valedictorian



Lauren Oglesby,
Salutatorian

When Enough Is Enough

Cont. from page 3

to a 35 cent increase in the property tax. Mayor Tim Burchett counters the schools are getting roughly 72% of all the tax dollars spent in his recommended budget, but the Mayor has done little to illustrate Knox County's very serious debt problem. Now we even have County Commissioners seriously talking about raising the sales tax, which is one of the highest in the nation, if not the highest.

McIntyre's budget, despite claims to the contrary, do little for the classroom. There is virtually nothing in McIntyre's huge budget for teachers; he is emphasizing a program to provide "coaches" for teachers and principals. Really? If one took the best players off a team and made them coaches, that team isn't likely headed to a bowl game anytime soon.

McIntyre's approach is symptomatic to what's wrong with much of this country and just about all of government; instead of expecting results from the folks employed, simply install yet another layer of administration and bureaucracy. It is the true bureaucrat's idea of heaven.

Tennessee Republicans are equally guilty of not wanting to address serious problems, but seem to relish supporting and passing legislation designed to interfere in just about every aspect of an individual's life. There was a time when the Republican Party championed the rights of the individual. The party of Barry Goldwater and Ronald Reagan believed in the rights of the individual. The party of Abraham Lincoln believed in civil rights and that particular credo was accepted enthusiastically by Republicans like Carroll Reece, Howard Baker,

Sr., Howard Baker, Jr., Bill Brock and Winfield Dunn. Nowadays, Republicans argue over who is the true conservative in primary campaigns.

President Obama is a symbol of national Democrats who think the cure to every problem is taking more of our money to give to somebody else; yet the Republicans seem not to be able to resist the urge to tinker with people's lives, just in a different way.

Unfortunately, it appears both can't pass enough regulations on folks; the Democrats seem to think Americans are not taxed enough and want to continue expanding social programs that need less expansion and more reform. The Republicans are loathe to regulate business, but have no hesitation in involving themselves in people's every-day lives.

The Democrats have utterly failed at legislating social engineering and now the Republicans are attempting to foist their own beliefs into legislation while the country goes to Hell in a hand basket.

The goal for most every politician in this country should be attempting to reform government and heal the broken economy. Having a robust economy would fix many of those problems that ail our people and country, not to mention providing a better life for most Americans.

If Americans, and especially once proud Tennesseans, aren't tired of just about everybody telling them how to live, then things are probably too far gone anyway.

If Democrats and Republicans don't want to address the very real problems we are facing, perhaps another party will emerge with a more practical and less extremist approach.

Congratulations to all Carter High School Graduates

2012

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School Board, 8th District

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County Commission Chair
Mike Hammond

Bearden High



Kevin M. Hoang,
Valedictorian



Emily C. Schutt,
Salutatorian



Fulton High



Mollie Wright,
Valedictorian



Sharena Domingo,
Salutatorian



Gibbs High



Minyu Li,
Valedictorian



Lauren Peyton
Satterfield,
Salutatorian



Congratulations Graduates!

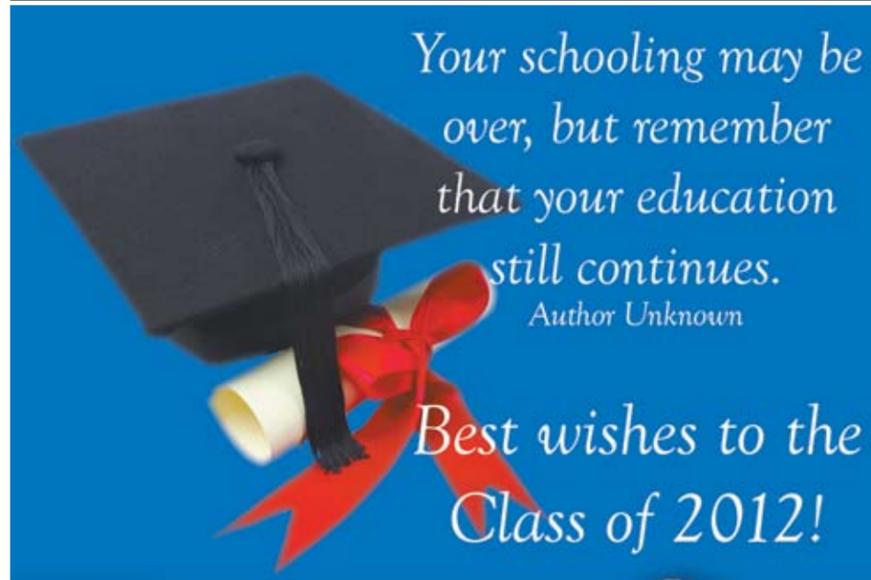
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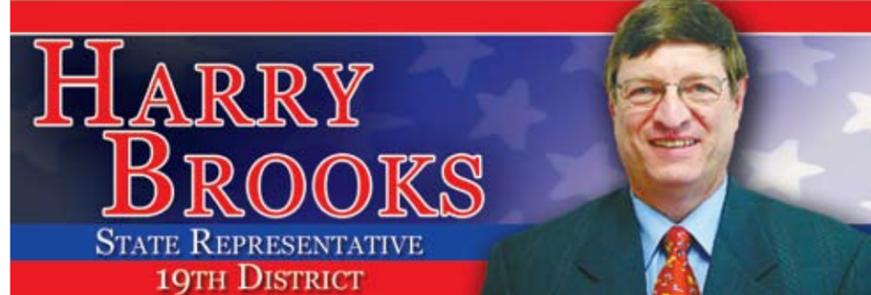
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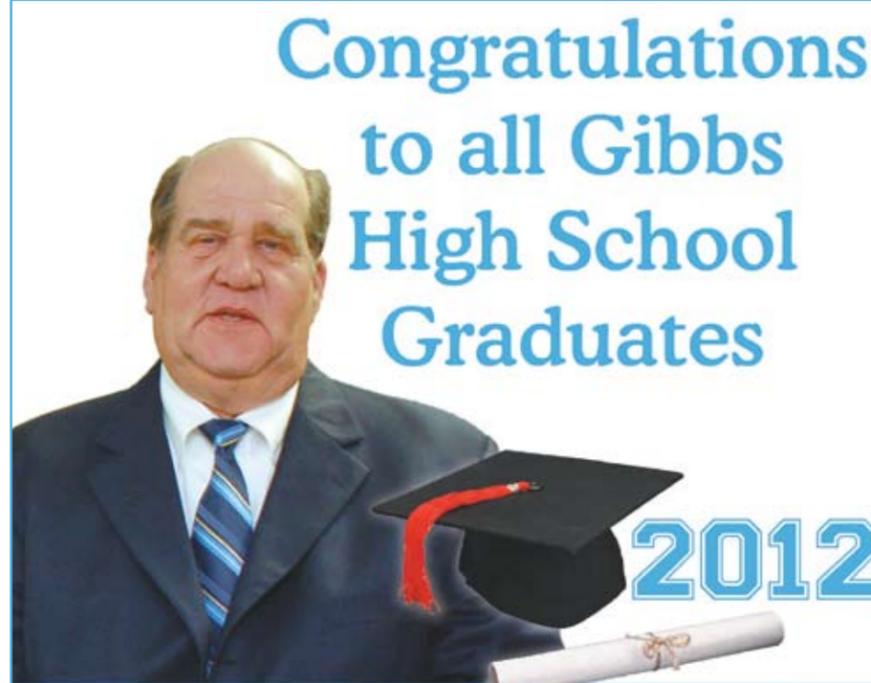
Your schooling may be over, but remember that your education still continues.
Author Unknown

Best wishes to the
Class of 2012!



HARRY BROOKS

STATE REPRESENTATIVE
19TH DISTRICT



Congratulations to all Gibbs High School Graduates

2012

MIKE McMILLAN

School Board, 8th District



Congratulations
Class of 2012!

CANTRELL'S HEAT & AIR, INC.

Crematory placement discussion continues

Cont. from page 1

disappointment and anger that nothing is being done to take back the permit already given to Gentry-Griffey. In fact, some have filed a lawsuit against the city for granting it in the first place. Nevertheless, local regulations cannot be created that are in conflict with state laws. "We're not mad at MPC," said Fountain City resident Jamie Rowe. "We're not mad at the funeral home. We're mad about the process. We care about what happens in other areas of Knoxville. We shouldn't care after what was done to us,

but we do." Rebecca Longmire and other members of the MPC tried to steer the conversation toward the future. "We can only look forward. We're trying to provide you with a step to better the process," said Longmire. At its May 10 meeting, the planning commission will consider zoning regulations drafted by MPC staff and conduct an additional public hearing and make a recommendation to City Council. If MPC takes action at its May meeting, its recommendation will be forwarded to City Council for consideration at its meetings June 12th and June 26th.

Planners to Host Open House for South County Sector Plan Update

Cont. from page 1

County Sector. The draft South County Sector Plan can be viewed on the MPC website. Sector plans are updated periodically and are used in making recommendations for zoning cases and capital improvements. The community input sessions will be open house format, where information will be presented on display boards with staff available to answer questions. There will not be a formal presentation, so the public is welcome to come at any time during the scheduled sessions. Meeting times and locations include: Tuesday, May 8, 2012 New Hopewell

Baptist Church
943 Kimberlin Heights Rd
Knoxville, TN 37920
5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, May 10, 2012
Bonny Kate
Elementary School
7608 Martin Mill Pike
Knoxville, TN 37920
5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

After this round of meetings, there will be a final session to review the draft South County Sector Plan. MPC staff will again take feedback on the draft for possible modification before presenting the plan for approval by MPC, County Commission and City Council.

American Cancer Society Raises Cancer Awareness with Relay For Life

Teams camp overnight to show that cancer never rests

The American Cancer Society hosts the Relay For Life of North Knoxville each year to raise awareness about cancer. This year's event will be held on May 11-12 at Tennova North Campus from 6pm-6am. The Chillbillies will perform from 8 p.m. - 11 p.m. Our event will also include dance lessons, tethered hot air balloon rides and other family-friendly activities. Admission is free, but donations are welcome.

The goal of Relay For Life is to raise awareness about cancer. Teams camp out overnight, each with the goal of keeping one person on the track at all times. Since cancer never sleeps, for one night a year, neither do volunteers, survivors and caregivers. Relay For Life brings together friends, families, businesses, hospitals, schools, churches - in other words, people from all walks of life. Teams seek sponsorship and donations prior to Relay For Life, all with the goal of eliminating cancer.

Relay For Life opens as cancer survivors take the first lap. This emotional time sets the stage for the importance of each participant's contribution. A festive atmosphere always develops as participants make new friends and spend time with old ones. Highlighting the evening is a Luminaria Ceremony of Hope held after dark to honor cancer



Schedule of Events
May 11
NOON Campsite set up
5:30 p.m. Team Captain Meeting, Tennova Tent
6:00 p.m. Line Dancing Lessons- Tennessee Cancer Specialist
6:30 p.m. Shag Dance Lessons
7:00 p.m. Opening Ceremonies & Survivors Celebration. Welcome-Matt Hinkin-WATE-TV 6, Kim Hansard-Star 102.1; Invocation & Welcome: Ben Easterday, 2012 Event Chair & Tammy Nickles 2012 Event Co-Chair; Tennova Spokesperson- Rob Followell CEO NKMC; 2012 Honored Survivor: Dana Henegar; Survivor Recognition: Casey Tester & Tammy Nickles; Presentation of Medallions: Tennessee Cancer Specialist; Survivor Lap/Caregiver Lap; and Team Parade.
8:00-11:00 p.m. Chillbillies Band-Main Stage
9:30 p.m. Luminaria Sales Close
10:00 P.M. LUMINARIA CEREMONY, READING OF THE Names-2012 Relay for Life Committee; Lap in Remembrance (Silence Please...); Lantern Launch
11:00 p.m. Ms. Relay Contest- Main Stage
11:30 p.m. Zumba Dance Tennova Fitness Center- Main Stage

Scenic Knoxville Fundraising Event to be held at the Ashes'

Scenic Knoxville, a nonprofit advocacy organization dedicated to preserving the scenic resources in the Knoxville area, is hosting a membership drive and fundraising event on Thursday, May 10th, 2012 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the newly renovated home and grounds of Joan and Victor Ashe.

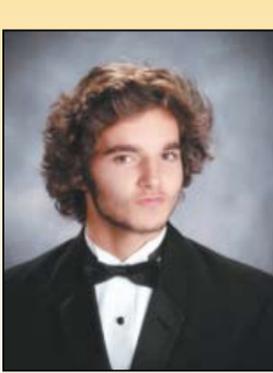
Victor will speak on issues affecting the scenic beauty of Knoxville. Guests will enjoy catered appetizers and beverages and an opportunity to see the fabulous art collection of paintings and sculpture that Victor and Joan purchased during his tenure as Ambassador to Poland.

Tickets are \$40.00 each for Scenic Knoxville members and \$50.00 each for non-members and must be purchased before Monday, May 7 at noon. Tickets can be purchased online at www.scenicknoxville.org or by sending a check to Scenic Knoxville, PO Box 50822, Knoxville, Tennessee 37950. Seating is limited.

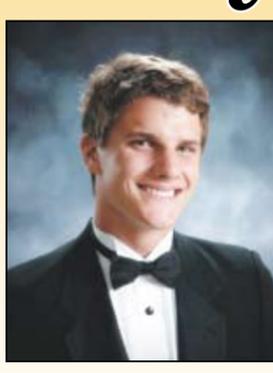
Scenic Knoxville is engaged in issues involving the visual integrity of Knoxville and Knox County including billboard and signage controls, preservation of scenic landscapes, ridgetop protection, sustainable land-use policies, and litter control. Most recently, Scenic Knoxville has taken an active role in opposing the proliferation of digital billboards and electronic messaging centers in the area.

For more information about Scenic Knoxville, visit www.scenicknoxville.org.

South Doyle High



Hasan Husain, Valedictorian



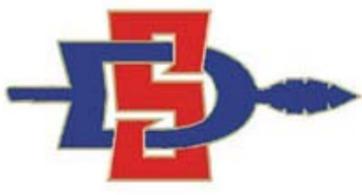
Jordan Cormack, Salutatorian



Mitra Mosadegh, Salutatorian



Star Sanders, Salutatorian



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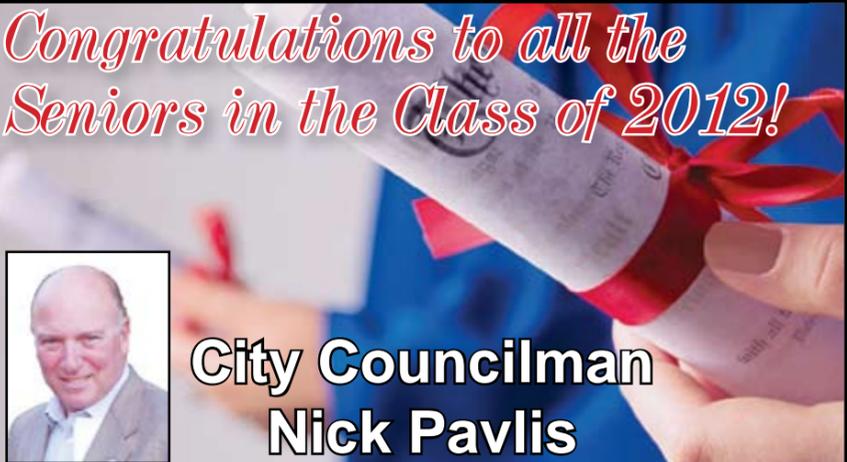
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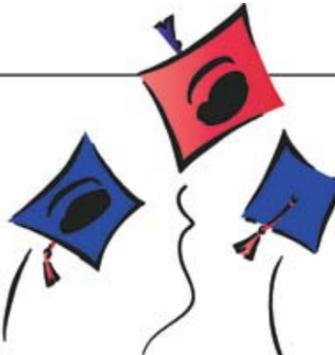
City Councilman Nick Pavlis

Congratulations to the 2012 South-Doyle Seniors!



Commissioner Mike Brown

Congratulations to the 2012 South-Doyle Seniors who committed themselves to completing their high school careers.



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Seymour High



Carla Bailey, Valedictorian



Kirsten Bridges, Valedictorian



David Burnette, Valedictorian



Heather Clark, Valedictorian



Michael Clark, Valedictorian



Madison Coker, Valedictorian



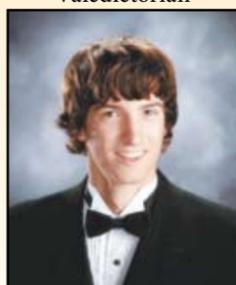
Taylor Conway, Valedictorian



Cassidy Davis, Valedictorian



Nicole Elford, Valedictorian



Zachary Glovak, Valedictorian



Hannah Humble, Valedictorian



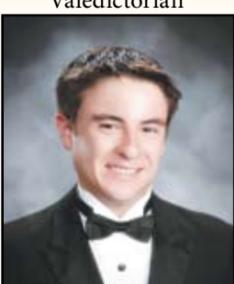
Ashley Hutchins, Valedictorian



Erika Ivey, Valedictorian



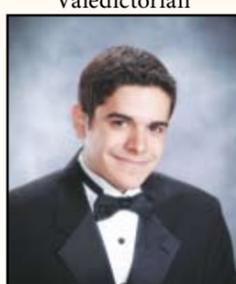
Matthew McCarter, Valedictorian



Charles Michaels, Valedictorian



Susan Minehan, Valedictorian



David Monghi, Valedictorian



David Noland, Valedictorian



Elizabeth Pollard, Valedictorian



Eric Russell, Valedictorian



Savannah Satterfield, Valedictorian



Caitlyn Smith, Valedictorian



Danniele Stahlke, Valedictorian



Christopher Thomas, Valedictorian



Erica West, Valedictorian



Dylan Whaley, Valedictorian



Benjamin Whisler, Valedictorian



Eric White, Valedictorian



Kelly Wilder, Valedictorian



Salina Haynes, Salutatorian

Not pictured: Alexander Krane, Valedictorian



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State Representative
12th District,
Sevier County

Paid for by the committee to elect Dale Carr

Congratulations to the Seymour High School Class of 2012



Charles Temple
Sevier County School Board

Geddings recognized as Officer of the Year

New Smart Trips Program Helps Air Quality, Local Schools

Knoxville Mayor Madeline Rogero and Police Chief David Rausch last Monday named Officer Mike Geddings the 2011 Officer of the Year for the Knoxville Police Department. Officer Geddings has been with the department since May 2002.

Chief Rausch said Officer Geddings is assigned to the departments Repeat Offender Squad. During 2011 Officer Geddings personally wrote and executed thirteen different residential property search warrants which resulted in the seizure of narcotics and weapons as well as cash and real property assets. These search warrants involved seven Drug Free School Zone cases. Felony cases were developed against thirty-six individuals with more than sixty-five charges. Ten firearms were seized including a stolen SKS assault rifle. Over \$12,000 and numerous vehicles were seized as a result of these operations. Officer Geddings was also the lead officer on two Nuisance Abatement injunctions in 2011. These two locations, Martha's Place on Rutledge Pike and



Officer Mike Geddings, center, with Police Chief David Rausch and Mayor Madeline Rogero.

Hall of Fame and Games on Magnolia, were heavily involved in drug dealing by both customers and employees.

Chief Rausch said, "Each

of these search warrants required an excellent command of search and seizure law as well as an absolute command of case law. In these requirements. Officer

Geddings is regarded as an expert. His diligence and attention to detail in these documents not only helps lead to successful prosecutions. but shows a great

respect for the law with a self-imposed discipline to operate within the parameters of current case law.

Continue on page 2

Smart Trips, the regional program that promotes alternatives to driving alone to improve air quality and ease traffic congestion, kicked off a new initiative May 1 that will encourage biking, walking and transit instead of driving for short trips. Known as Smart Trips Neighborhoods, www.knoxsmarttrips.org/neighborhoods, the new program's first year targets areas in North Knoxville.

Smart Trips has partnered with the Plus 3 Foundation, a charitable social network, so that each trip made and logged by bicycle, carpool, transit, or on foot will count towards donations of up to \$1,000 each to three local elementary schools - Beaumont, Belle Morris and Christenberry.

"The Neighborhoods program presents a unique opportunity. Residents can help our air quality and work towards a donation to a neighborhood school at the same time," says program manager, Kelley Segars.

The program recently distributed newsletters to residents in the target areas of Belle Morris, Edgewood Park, Fairmont/Emoriland, Fourth and Gill, Oakwood/Lincoln Park, and Old North Knoxville with information on how to order their own personalized free kits. The kits will contain everything residents need to get started replacing their short car trips including a new Bike - Walk - Transit Map of North Knoxville. Kits are being delivered by bicycle messengers.

Area residents are already enthused about the effort. At its last meeting, the Oakwood-Lincoln Park Neighborhood Association discussed the new Smart Trips program. Barbara Armstead, Association Vice President, says, "Everyone is excited and looks forward to participating."

Sign up for Smart Trips and get more info at www.knoxsmarttrips.org.

UT Report: Solar Growing as Viable U.S. Energy Source

Solar power is a viable energy source for the nation, and its use is rapidly growing in the U.S. as federal incentives - similar to those that helped other energy markets to develop - are put in place.

That is the message of "Assessment of Incentives and Employment Impacts of Solar Industry Deployment," a report commissioned by the Solar Energy Industry Association (SEIA).

The Howard H. Baker Jr. Center for Public Policy at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, administered funding for the research and the report. The Baker Center is a nonpartisan institute devoted to education and scholarship concerning public policy

and civic engagement.

The report was written by a five-person team that included Susan M. Schexnayder, a senior research associate with UT's Department of Forestry, Wildlife and Fisheries; Alexandra Brewer, a UT graduate student in political science and graduate research assistant at the Baker Center; David P. Vogt of Decision Commerce Group LLC and retired from Oak Ridge National Laboratory; Tom N. Yoder, of Ohio, a partner at Decision Commerce Group LLC and an independent research professional; and Edward J. Lapsa, an independent consultant from Knoxville.

"This report looks at solar in relation to other energy

sources and finds that solar is on the path to becoming a mainstream source of energy for our nation," said Matt Murray, director of the Baker Center. "In addition, the report pulls together data showing the solar industry's great potential for the U.S. economy - not only in the diversification of our energy supply, but also through job creation and global business opportunities."

Murray said being involved with the production of this report is in line with the Baker Center's focus on energy and environmental policy. The Baker Center is also administering the \$700,000 SunShot Solar Initiative, a project looking at the regulatory challenges

and non-technological barriers to solar adoption.

Report highlights

The report outlines a variety of benefits of solar energy, which include:

a.. Its ability to reduce energy costs by providing much of the nation's electricity needs during peak usage times;

b.. Its potential to produce hundreds of thousands of jobs; and

c.. Its tremendous export potential for solar manufacturing and materials.

Solar energy is readily available - especially during peak usage times - and, therefore, could provide a cheap energy alternative, the report states.

"As economic growth

becomes ever more dependent on abundant and sustainable energy supplies, policymakers are working to enrich the portfolio of electricity-producing fuel sources with options like wind and solar power," the report says. "Rooftop solar power alone would provide 20 percent of our electricity needs."

Annual installed solar capacity has seen steady increases, especially in the past six years. It nearly doubled between 2009 and 2010 and was expected to double again between 2010 and 2011. *Long-term annual cumulative growth projections range from about 5*

Continue on page 2

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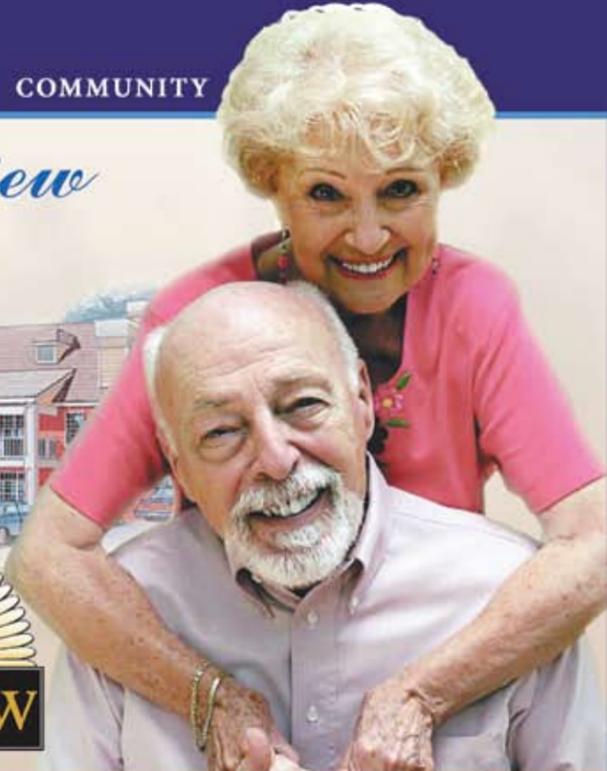
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Geddings recognized

Cont. from page 1

Officer Geddings is recognized as an expert witness in drug enforcement by the Knox County-Criminal Court as well as the LZS. District Court. Officer Geddings has received accolades from State and Federal prosecutors for his level of preparedness for court

proceedings. Chief Rausch said. "Officer Geddings operates daily with a rare determination to remove armed drug dealers from the street. Most people will never know the incredibly long hours he has spent on cases without compensation with his only reward being a successful

prosecution." Mayor Rogero said. "Officer Geddings is truly an asset to the Knoxville Police Department and to this city. We appreciate his dedication, his strong work ethic, and his drive to make Knoxville a safe place to live, work, and raise a family."

UT Report: Solar Growing as Viable U.S. Energy Source

Cont. from page 1

they enter the mainstream of commerce. Historically, it's taken about 30 years for energy resources — oil, natural gas, hydropower, coal, etc. — to go from innovation to early adoption to rapid growth and, finally, to majority adoption, the report notes. "Each traditional energy sources has been developed with what might even conservatively be considered 'significant' government engagement, from market control measures for oil, to making pipelines available for natural gas, to building flood control dams that provide the fuel for hydropower, to states surveying their coal resources," the report says.

In the days before the oil embargo, federal energy policy was either industrial

policy or economic development policy meant to maintain competition, provide for national security and promote economic development through tax incentives. After the oil embargo, the federal energy policy got more focused, maintaining competition by deregulation; assuring worker safety, public health and environmental quality; and providing for energy security by adding renewable energy options to the national portfolio.

The federal government currently provides incentives to every major energy production market, although reports of how much money the government spends on each vary greatly.

Federal incentives may aid in an energy resource's production and refining, transmission and distribution, transformation or consumption. Effective incentives help remove specific barriers, level costs for private markets and offer stability that help new technologies "cross the chasm" into mainstream use. Ideally, the incentives can decrease as the industry matures.

Fossil fuels, biofuels and nuclear power have had significant federal engagement in the production, refining and transportation steps.

Solar energy — because it's widely available and doesn't need to be transported — won't need much federal investment in these areas.

To read the full report, see <http://tiny.utk.edu/solarreport>.

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Edward Hull Crump

The Boss

Part 7

Pages from
the Political
Past



By Ray Hill
rayhill865@gmail.com

Despite encountering stiff opposition to the candidates supported by Shelby County Boss E. H. Crump and Tennessee's senior United States Senator Kenneth D. McKellar, the two men were supporting Jim Nance McCord for governor in 1944.

McCord had been elected to a single term in Congress, but had held one elective office or another in his native Marshall County for decades. McCord ran for the Democratic gubernatorial nomination without opposition and easily won the general election. Both McKellar and Crump supported Franklin D. Roosevelt's unprecedented bid for a fourth term that same year.

FDR summoned Crump to the White House as he began his fourth term for a conference. The purpose of the conference was to encourage Crump to convince Senator K. D. McKellar to retire in 1946. Roosevelt was anticipating the post-war world and he thought it would be a better one without McKellar in the Senate. McKellar was then reaching the apex of his political career and wielded enormous influence in the United States Senate. He had just been elected President Pro Tempore by his colleagues and was the Acting Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee, as well as Chairman of the Senate's Post Office Committee. FDR likely did not wish to have to contend with the McKellar influence in the Senate.

Crump told President Roosevelt that McKellar intended to run again in 1946 and to which FDR replied that if he did, McKellar would be beaten. Crump, understanding Tennessee politics far better than FDR, retorted McKellar would not only run again, but would be reelected to a sixth term. Crump was right; McKellar was reelected to another term in the United States Senate and by that time FDR lay in his own grave.

Crump decided in 1945 to give up his post as Tennessee's committeeman on the Democratic National Committee. Morristown businessman Herbert S. "Hub" Walters, a McKellar stalwart, took Crump's place on the national committee.

The opposition to the McKellar - Crump domination of Tennessee politics made a stronger effort in the 1946 elections. Edward "Ned" Carmack had quite nearly defeated junior United States Senator Tom Stewart in 1942 and Stewart's margin of victory had come from Shelby County. Carmack was eager to hold public office and had announced as a candidate for governor in



FROM THE AUTHOR'S PERSONAL COLLECTION.

E. H. Crump at the Cotton Carnival.

1944, but had dropped out well before the primary. Chattanooga Congressman Estes Kefauver had seriously considered running against McKellar, but after making a few inquiries decided the old senator was still a formidable candidate. Kefauver opted to run again for Congress, leaving Carmack to make the race against Senator McKellar.

Jim McCord was to be opposed by former governor Gordon Browning, who remained in Europe following the allied victory in World War II as part of the military government. Browning's campaign would be run in absentia, while Carmack carried most of the brunt of the actual campaigning. McCord and McKellar ran as a ticket, along with Andrew "Tip" Taylor for the Public Service Commission. As it turned out, McKellar's own campaign was run in absentia. Despite several announcements McKellar was returning to Tennessee to personally participate in the campaign, the senator remained in Washington, D. C. Tennessee was brutally hot throughout the summer of 1946 and Senator McKellar was plagued by various ailments and illness and his campaign managers thought it best for him to remain at his post of duty in the Senate.

Tennesseans were once again treated to Crump purchasing full-page ads in newspapers throughout the state promoting Senator McKellar and Governor McCord. In his ads, the Memphis Boss ridiculed the opposition to the McCord - McKellar ticket. Crump's loathing of Gordon Browning was as profound as ever. Crump's comments about the former governor were as pointed as they

had been during Browning's failed reelection bid in 1938. Crump had claimed a particular art gallery in France held no less than twenty-six pictures of Judas Iscariot and opined, "None look alike, but they all resemble Gordon Browning."

Unlike 1942, the election was not close. Senator McKellar thrashed Ned Carmack without having even returned once to Tennessee to campaign for reelection personally. Governor McCord easily defeated Gordon Browning. It was to be the last election which the McKellar - Crump alliance won a smashing victory.

Yet in Memphis Crump remained as strong as ever. Memphis had won several nationally prestigious awards over the years and the municipal stadium in Memphis was named for Crump. The machine's candidates occupied virtually every office in both the city and county governments.

As the 1948 elections loomed, Crump, like many Southerners, was growing increasingly alarmed by President Harry Truman's commitment to civil rights. Oddly one of Crump's strongest objections to Truman was the fact the Missourian had come from the Pendergast machine in Kansas City. Crump and McKellar both were dissatisfied with Truman and the Memphis Boss was soon indicating he would support the State's Right ticket of South Carolina Governor Strom Thurmond and Mississippi Governor Fielding Wright. McKellar refused to leave the Democratic Party following the convention nominating Truman, but he told Crump he held out little hope for Truman being elected.

Crump's dissatisfaction was hardly confined to Harry Truman; the Memphis Boss was not enthused about Senator Tom Stewart, who was also up for reelection in 1948. Crump had been mortally embarrassed when Stewart had been reelected in 1942 on the basis of the vote returns in Shelby County. Crump was also constantly reminded by Will Gerber, a prominent attorney and sometime Crump officeholder in Shelby County, that Stewart very well might be anti-Semitic, though there was little in Stewart's record to reflect that allegation. In December of 1947 came the announcement Crump would not support Senator Stewart for renomination in the Democratic primary the following year. Many expected Stewart to simply meekly retire to private life rather than run again and Crump probably thought the same thing. Stewart stubbornly insisted he would be a candidate with or without Crump's support. Congressman Estes Kefauver, seeing his opportunity with the split in the machine, declared he, too, would be a candidate. It proved to be Crump's single biggest political miscalculation and mistake.

Crump's senatorial candidate was Judge John A. Mitchell of Cookeville who was a cousin of former Congressman J. Ridley Mitchell, who had been a

Crump opponent. Crump had never even met John Mitchell, although he related he heard fine things about the judge.

Senator McKellar wrote Crump to say he had informed his junior colleague that he could not help him win reelection and noted Stewart had taken the news "coolly". McKellar went on to confess that Senator Stewart had "not had much to do with me since." McKellar admitted he was embarrassed by the situation and told the Memphis Boss he did not believe Judge Mitchell could win.

As the election approached, Crump grew increasingly uneasy and Senator McKellar stressed the importance of defeating Congressman Kefauver. There were indications Crump intended to drop his support of Judge Mitchell and again back Senator Stewart. The Kefauver campaign having heard the rumors, shrewdly predicted Crump would abandon John Mitchell and throw his support to Tom Stewart. Crump reacted as they hoped, denouncing the claim as a lie. He stuck with Mitchell to the bitter end and Kefauver won the senatorial nomination. Crump's blunder was compounded by the defeat of Governor Jim McCord by Gordon Browning, who was back in Tennessee and

campaigning in person.

McCord, believing education needed more support in Tennessee, had convinced the legislature to institute a sales tax. Tennesseans, not surprisingly, liked the free textbooks the tax provided, but did not like the tax. Browning beat McCord soundly. The Crump candidates had been overwhelmingly rejected at the polls and the Memphis Boss's own influence would sink further when Harry Truman was elected that fall. Although Thurmond carried Shelby County, Truman carried Tennessee.

The 1948 elections destroyed whatever national influence Ed Crump still possessed; the long rule of the McKellar - Crump alliance in Tennessee was shattered. Both Crump and McKellar were aging and when the old senator announced in the summer of 1951 he would run for a seventh term, the Memphis Boss discreetly tried to talk McKellar out of running. McKellar was eighty-two years old, frequently ill, and out of touch with many Tennesseans. Once McKellar's mind was made up, Crump determined to support his old ally again. Crump also threw the backing of the Shelby County machine to young Frank Clement who was making a strong bid to unseat the hated Governor Gordon Browning.

McKellar lost to Congressman Albert Gore, Sr., while Clement beat Browning. Crump was pleased with Browning's defeat, but it was to be his last statewide election success. The Memphis Boss was himself aging and contented himself with local matters, his financial affairs, and his family. Little escaped the Memphis Boss's attention and he remained approachable by nearly everyone and his directives to city and county officials continued to flow from his office. Crump enjoyed watching the squirrels cavort in his yard and remained the "Boss" until death carried him away.

E. H. Crump died on October 16, 1954. Among the many mourners at Crump's funeral was his long-time political partner and friend, former Senator Kenneth D. McKellar. McKellar was "in pretty bad shape" at the funeral, distraught by the close of a friendship and association that spanned almost five decades.

Crump's influence in Memphis and Shelby County lasted several years following his passing. There are still numerous reminders in Memphis of Crump's long rule and there is an imposing of statue of E. H. Crump in Overton Park. The statue still surveys what was once completely Crump's domain.

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The main responsibility of the Tennessee General Assembly is to pass a budget for the state of Tennessee. We have done that. The budget passed in the House with a 64-28-1 vote. This was the culmination of months of tireless work crafting a fiscally responsible budget. This budget is a two percent reduction from last year, and it puts \$50 million in the state's Rainy Day Fund. It addition three significant tax cuts were made a priority this year. Those include phasing out the death



From State Representative Harry Brooks

tax, elimination of the gift tax, and a reduction in the food tax with additional reduction expected next year. The Tennessee Constitution requires the budget to be balanced, and it is. The budget saves an additional \$200 million in anticipated revenues for the potential cost of the Affordable Care Act. There were attempts to spend extra revenue on projects, but we held back due to future global economic uncertainty. While we wait the US Supreme Court opinion on the federal healthcare program,

the decision was made to refrain from spending some \$250 million in anticipated future revenue to curb the potential cost of the health care law. Tennessee could be expected to pay 1.5 billion over five years. The Governor's administration stressed that the money should be saved due to global uncertainty at a time when European countries are experiencing a second recession. Currently Tennessee is faring better than most states due to prudent budgeting. House leaders point to the state's AAA+ bond rating, meaning Tennessee's economic outlook is currently better than the US government. The Legislature prioritized spending and fully funded

education, TennCare, and several crime initiatives. In addition, the budget restores over \$120 million of previous cuts to core services. The state's Basic Education Program (BEP) – the mechanism for funding public schools—was fully funded at \$5.3 billion. The BEP funding contains an additional \$47.8 million for annual growth and inflationary adjustments as well. At the same time, higher education funding was increased by over \$81 million; bring the total appropriation to \$3.8 billion. Leaders have stressed that government should be lean and efficient, while providing the best services possible to Tennesseans. In the next few weeks I will

discuss some other legislation that was passed that might not have received lots of notice by other media. I will be back in Knoxville most of the time now and can be reached at my home at 865-687-5987. Let me know if I can be of service to you. It is an honor to be your Representative. To respond you may write Rep. Brooks at 212 War Memorial Building Nashville, TN 37243 Or call 865-687-5987 Or email rep.harry.brooks@capitol.tn.gov

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Big League Reality: Farragut's Michael McKenry

By Alex Norman

For many, playing Major League Baseball is a dream that will never be fulfilled.

Michael McKenry is not one of those people.

The Farragut native is the backup catcher for the Pittsburgh Pirates.

"It was a blessing to make the team," said McKenry. "I am enjoying the ride. It is grueling, but I'm playing baseball for a living. The process is enjoyable, and you never know when it will be taken away. I'm fortunate to be part of the Pittsburgh Pirates, and I just want to make the team better."

As of May 1st, McKenry has played in eight games, batting .300 with six hits, including a home run. But McKenry's top contribution to the roster is on defense.

"You learn a little more about your pitchers every day. Guys like A.J. Burnett and Erik Bernard, they want to hear feedback," said McKenry. "You want them to respect how you go about the game. That is what is most important. If you do the little things, you build trust with your pitchers."

McKenry made his Major League debut with the Colorado Rockies in September of 2010, and spent a short time in the Red Sox system. But it is when he was dealt to Pittsburgh in March of 2011 that his career got a big time boost.

"I was called up on June 13th and was thrown right into the fire," said McKenry.

He played in 59 games for the Bucs in 2011, and endeared himself enough to management and his teammates to earn a spot on the roster this season.

McKenry credits much of his success to his time at Farragut High School.

Continue on page 2

Holston Middle New County Champs

By Ken Lay

Holston Middle School's junior varsity baseball team culminated its 2012 season with a Knox County Championship recently.

The Hurricanes defeated Hardin Valley 7-4 on Monday, April 30 at Karns SportsPark.

Holston, which finished the season with a 9-3 record, avenged two of its three regular-season losses en route to the title and knocked Hardin

Valley from the ranks of the unbeaten in the championship contest.

"This is the most rewarding season in my coaching career," said Holston coach Doug Lepper, a longtime baseball coach at Halls Community Park and youth wrestling coach in Halls.

The Hurricanes, who claimed the Division II JV Title, nabbed tournament victories over Concord Christian Academy, Catholic and the Hawks. Holston's 12-5 victory

over the Irish avenged an earlier 10-0 loss, while its victory over Hardin Valley was payback for an 8-2 loss in the regular season.

Hurricanes pitchers Dylan Bales and Chris Bradford combined to strike out nine Hardin Valley hitters.

Bradford was also a key offensive weapon as he went 2-for-3 and knocked in two runs.

He was just one of Holston's offensive stars.

Continue on page 2



Pictured in first row: Knees L-R: Mason Woodard, Hunter Lepper, Zack Mullins, Bailey Sivyer, Parker Lett and Kyle Courtney. Standing L-R: Hunter Fortner, Trey Lepper, Chris Bradford, Landon Haynes, Josh Oakes and Austin Thompson. Coaches: Tom Mullins, Doug Lepper and Robert Lett.



PHOTO BY DAN ANDREWS.

Traffic Jam: Runners await baton passes in a relay race at Wednesday's Knox County Middle School Track and Field Championships at Hardin Valley Academy.

Farragut, West Valley sweep Track Championship

By Ken Lay

Farragut Middle School's girls and West Valley's boys won the 2012 Knox County Middle School Track and Field Championships in dominating fashion Wednesday night at Hardin Valley Academy.

The Lady Admirals won their second consecutive county title with 143 points. The Halls Lady Demons took second (69). Karns was third with 68 points. West Valley finished fourth (62) and Bearden placed fifth (52).

Farragut claimed the top two spots in the 200-meter dash as Miranda Burt won the event with a time of 26.82 seconds. The Lady Admirals' Shannon McBride took second (27.44). Farragut's Katie McBride won the 400-meter run with a time of 59.61 seconds. Halls Middle's Kaitlyn Lay was second (1:03.62)

The Lady Admirals swept the relays competition, They won the 400-meter relay (53.39 seconds), the 800-meter relay (1:51.42).

Farragut's 1,600-meter relay team finished in 4:32.79. The Lady Admirals finished the 3,200 relay in 10 minutes, 35.34 seconds.

Bearden's Madeline Christian won the 800-meter run, finishing the race in 2:23.96. Farragut's Carson Woody took second (2:24.24). Lay, of the Lady Demons, took third (2:24.34) while Farragut's Heather Winter finished fourth with a time of 2:37.97.

In the 100-meter dash,

Continue on page 3

Most UT student-athletes are on right track

Bob Miller was a classmate and good friend of mine growing up in Clinton.

ton. He was a quarterback on the high school football team and also played baseball. But the one thing I'll never forget about Bob was the fact he never missed a single day of school, from the first grade until we graduated from Clinton High in 1970.

I'm sure that achievement of perfect attendance looked mighty impressive on Bob's resume when he went out into the work force.

Pat Summitt's 38-year career as women's basketball coach at the University of Tennessee is highlighted by most victories ever as a collegiate coach and eight NCAA championships, but also reaching the wow status is the fact that 100 percent of her players who completed their eligibility left UT with a diploma.

Pat wanted her Lady Vols to get that degree as much as she wanted them to cut down a net.

Continue on page 2



By Steve Williams



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Most UT student-athletes are on right track

Cont. from page 1

She had a rule that her players must sit in one of the first three rows in class. If they missed a class, they missed a game.

On graduation day at UT in 2010, former men's basketball coach Bruce Pearl pointed out that some were saying his team's greatest accomplishment had been reaching the Elite Eight of the NCAA tourney, but Pearl seemed to be just as proud of the fact his squad had just finished the best two years it ever had academically.

These are just a few examples that the academic side of the student-athlete is just as important as the more publicized athletic side. For most, in the long run, academics are much more important. Earning a living goes on much longer after the ball stops bouncing.

This is true also for the football players, who saw

their team's academic standing in the news recently. It wasn't good news, with 30 players, including 24 scholarship players, reported to be on academic probation during the spring semester.

Early reaction among some Vol fans was that the sky was falling. But head coach Derek Dooley explained there were several factors that contributed to the worst academic showing in his seven terms and that he believed the grade-point average for his team was under control. He believes his Vols will have their academics in order before next season. More than anyone, the players themselves are responsible for making the grades.

They would be foolish to waste their opportunity to get their education and degree. Only a very few will touch the pot of gold in the National Football League. In fact, less than 3 percent of college football players

make it to the NFL.

As far as the academic report, there was some good news that came with the bad. We got a chance to see how all of UT's athletic teams – men and women – were doing academically. I was impressed. Of 483 total athletes, 115 had a GPA in the 3.49 to 4.0 range. Another 123 had GPAs between 3.0 and 3.49.

The report showed 98 student-athletes between 2.50 and 2.99, 68 between 2.01 and 2.49 and 79 below 2.0.

The men's golf team had the highest GPA (3.45) in the fall term, followed by women's tennis (3.43), women's golf (3.37), softball (3.34), volleyball (3.33), women's track (3.30), men's tennis (3.28), rowing (3.26), women's basketball (3.17), women's swimming (3.17) and soccer (3.05).

As far as overall GPA, volleyball (3.42) leads the way, followed by women's

golf (3.39), men's tennis (3.36), softball (3.32), women's tennis (3.31), women's track (3.30), men's golf (3.28), rowing (3.22), women's swimming (3.19), women's basketball (3.03) and soccer (3.03).

Too many fans believe doing what it takes to win games should be the main objective of the Vols and Lady Vols. That's a selfish perspective.

Thank goodness there are policies in place that require athletes to make progress toward graduating and getting a degree. Failing to meet these requirements will bring an end to an athlete's eligibility. That could lead to dropping out of college, unfulfilled dreams and possibly a lesser quality of life down the road.

Fortunately, as the numbers show us, a good majority of UT student-athletes are on the right track.

Tennessee Sports Hall of Fame announces 2012 Athlete of the Year honorees

The 2012 induction class of the Tennessee Sports Hall of Fame already includes Gene Bartow and Coach David Walker along with Tennessee of the Year Pat Summitt, but the list of honorees keeps growing. The Tennessee Sports Hall of Fame announced recently the names of the Honorees to be recognized at its annual awards banquet and induction ceremony on Saturday, May 19th at the Renaissance Hotel in Nashville.

The Male Professional Athlete of the Year: Dan Uggla Atlanta Braves standout who graduating from Columbia Central High School in Columbia, TN, in 1998, Uggla attended the University of Memphis where after his junior season he was named an All-American by Baseball America, Baseball Weekly,

and Collegiate Baseball. During the 2011 season with the Braves, Uggla became the 23rd player in MLB history to have a hitting streak of at least 33 games. Uggla along with rookie Freddie Freeman became the first Braves in the modern era to have consecutive 20-game hitting streaks. On August 12, 2011 Uggla hit two home runs in a home game against the Chicago Cubs to break the Atlanta Braves record for longest hitting streak.

The Female Professional Athlete of the Year: 2011 was a great year for former University of Tennessee standout Tamika Catchings. Not only did the WNBA award Tamika with the MVP Award as she led the Fever to the playoffs, but she was voted by fans as one of the

Continue on page 4

Holston Middle New County Champs

Cont. from page 1

Trey Lepper went 2-for-3 and scored a run. He also had a key leadoff triple in the fifth inning. Hunter Fortner had two hits, including a triple, and drove in two runs. Hunter Lepper contributed a hit and scored twice.

The championship was a remarkable feat considering that Holston almost didn't field a junior varsity squad. "We only had enough kids to field a varsity team," Coach Lepper said. "We were going to cut the rest of the kids."

"Then they asked me to coach a JV team and this

team had the heart of a lion."

The championship run was fueled by plenty of hard work.

"We had hour-long warm-ups before every game and we had 30 practices," Coach Lepper said. "We had a theme all season and that theme was 'Hard work beats talent when talent doesn't work hard.'"

"We outworked the competition."

The Canes, who played with a team comprised largely of sixth and seventh graders, had only three players with significant middle school experience.

Big League Reality: Farragut's Michael McKenry

Cont. from page 1

where he graduated in 2003.

"The first person to mention is Tommy Pharr," said McKenry. Pharr, now the coach at Christian Academy of Knoxville, was the Admirals coach when McKenry was playing at Farragut.

"He had a huge impact on me, and I still have a strong relationship with him. You can't ask to be around a better man," said McKenry. "And that program is a traditional powerhouse. I was so happy to be a part of it. My best memory was of my senior year (the Admirals won the state title in 2003). It was a good team effort. I longed to have that feeling again, and I have it in Pittsburgh."

McKenry played his college baseball at Middle Tennessee State University, but admits his first thoughts were about playing elsewhere.

"I wanted to play in the SEC... that's not different than a lot of guys," said McKenry. "During the process I heard it all. MTSU and Kentucky came after me hard, but MTSU was the only school to offer me a scholarship as a catcher."

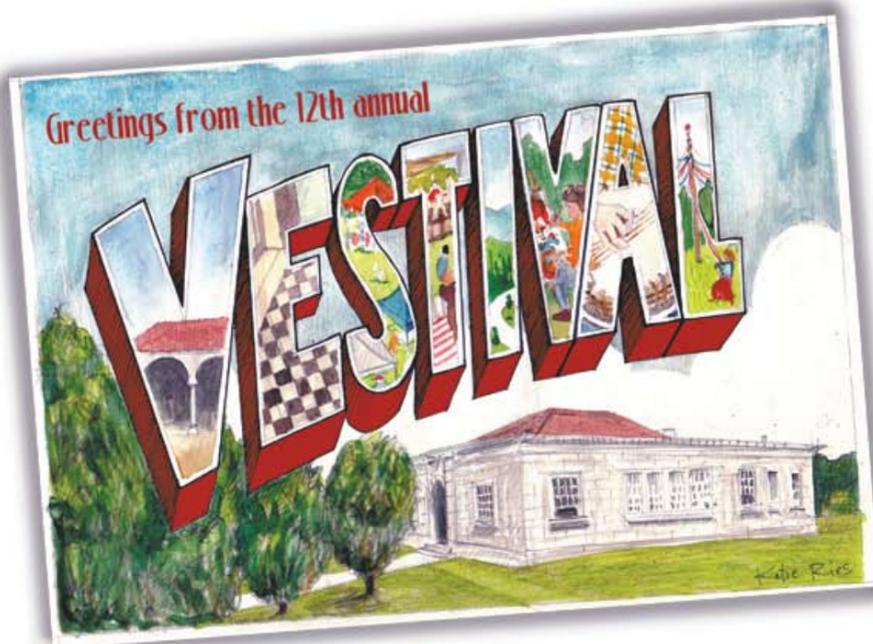
From the looks of things, the 27 year old McKenry made the right decision back then, and has continued to make them over the years. McKenry still calls East Tennessee home. He and his wife have a house in Lenoir City.

"(In the off season) I work out

at Petrone Training. I also hit and train at Christian Academy of Knoxville," said McKenry. "I'm close to my family too, which is nice when you are away from home seven months a year."

But these days, McKenry and his teammates are trying to turn things around in Pittsburgh. The Pirates haven't been to the playoffs since 1992.

"I've always wanted to play. The key is to get 1/10th of one percent better every day. Just get better a little every day," said McKenry. "The most important thing is that we have that camaraderie from top to bottom, including the front office. We are there for each other on and off the field."



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Arts & Entertainment

KSO Presents 'A Touch Of France'

Guest artist is world renowned pianist Martina Filjak

"A Touch of France," a Knoxville Symphony Orchestra concert featuring the music of classical French composers, will be presented on May 17 and 18, 8:00 p.m. at the Tennessee Theatre. This Moxley Carmichael Masterworks Concert will feature the acclaimed pianist, Martina Filjak, playing Ravel's Piano Concerto in G.

Conducted by Maestro Lucas Richman, the full Knoxville Symphony Orchestra will play Mignon Overture by Thomas; Lalo's Le Roi d'Ys Overture; Ravel's Piano Concerto in G; and Debussy's La Mer.

"We are proud to present this concert of contrasting works from French composers. The mood and tone of each are distinctly different," said Music Director Lucas Richman. "The crashing waves depicted in Debussy's La Mer demonstrate vibrant colors and soaring dynamics, giving us a different perspective on the world around us. While the unique wandering quality found in Ravel's piano concerto has often been considered

to reflect on the composer's own descent into dementia, one cannot escape the practically manic expression of delight and despair, played so beautifully by our guest artist, Martina Filjak."

Born in Zagreb and raised in a family of pianists, Martina Filjak is a graduate of the Music Academy of Zagreb and the Vienna Conservatory as well as of the soloist class of the Hochschule für Musik in Hannover, Germany in the class of Ms Mi - Kyung Kim. During the 2008-2009 season Ms. Filjak attended the prestigious Como Piano Academy at Lake Como, Italy where she had the opportunity to work with esteemed teachers and visiting artists.

In addition to winning First Prize at the Cleveland International Piano Competition and the 2008 Maria Canals International Piano Competition in Barcelona. Ms. Filjak's repertoire includes more than 30 piano concertos and a wide spectrum of chamber music and solo literature from 17th century to contemporary artists. Miss Filjak speaks seven languages and is both a Croatian and Italian national. Describing why the Ravel piece is special to her, Ms. Filjak explains, "I had a traffic accident and suffered a serious concussion when I was 13 years old. I had to lie in a dark room for several weeks. All I was listening to was this concerto. I fell in love with the music. It is so joyful and full of life. Once I was healthy and on my feet again, I immediately started practicing it and was

able to play it within a week. No other concerto offers a chance for such a sophisticated display of poetry."

"I have heard so many wonderful things about the Knoxville Symphony Orchestra and I eagerly look forward to this performance and meeting the people in Knoxville," said Ms. Filjak. Tickets to the concert begin at \$22.00 and may be purchased by logging on to the KSO website, www.knoxvillesymphony.com, or by calling the KSO Box Office at 865-291-3310 or Tickets Unlimited at 865-656-4444. Patrons are encouraged to prepare for the concert by reading the program notes or listening to the podcast; both are available on the KSO website.

The KSO has contributed to the cultural life in East Tennessee since 1935. Under the leadership of Lucas Richman, the orchestra consists of more than 80 professional musicians and performs more than 200 programs throughout East Tennessee each season. Performing in traditional venues such as the Tennessee Theatre, Bijou Theatre and the Civic Auditorium, and in non-traditional places like hospitals, school classrooms, nursing homes, city parks and churches, the KSO reaches more than 200,000 people throughout the region each year.

For more information regarding the KSO, or this Moxley Carmichael Masterworks concert please call 865-291-3310.

Farragut, West Valley sweep Track Championship

Cont. from page 1

Powell's Sage Davis claimed the top spot with a time of 13.09 seconds. Vine's Jamesha Fain took second (13.43).

Farragut's Destiny Carey, an all-county center on the Lady Admirals basketball team and defending Knox County field Athlete of the Year, won both the shot put (38-09 1/2) and discus competitions. Her county-best discus throw went 86 feet, 7 inches. Northwest Middle's Jamiya King took second in the discus (30-03 1/2) while Ally Lecoultre of Halls was runner-up in the shot put with a mark of 73 feet, 3 inches.

The Lady Admirals claimed both first and third in the long jump. Marissa Varone won the event with a leap of 15-01 1/2. Caroline Henderson was third (14 feet, 9 inches). West Valley's Casey Riemer was second with a mark of 14-11 1/2.

Meanwhile, the West Valley Wolves cruised to the boys title. The Wolves took the top two spots in the 100-meter dash. Christian Foster won the event with a time of 11.87 seconds. Dylan Austin claimed the runner-up spot (11.97). Holston's Jamarius Dixon was third (12.29).

Austin won both the 200 and the 400. Foster was second in the 200 and Cedar Bluff's Robert Taylor was third in the 200 while Farragut's Alex Laggis took second in the 400 while Halls Middle's J.T. Freels was third in that race.

In the relays, The Gresham Gladiators claimed the 400 (49.53) with the Wolves finishing second (49.82). The Wolves claimed the title in the 800-meter relay (1:42.05). Bearden's 1,600-meter relay team took the top spot (3:58.82). The Wolves prevailed in the 3,200-meter relay (9:30.96). Laggis won the 800-meter run (2:11.97).

Halls' Kyle Holland took second (2:16.63).

Bearden swept the top two spots in the long jump. The Bruins' Stedman Love prevailed with a leap of 17-10. Devin Harper was second (17-05). West Valley's Christian Ironside took third with a mark of 16 feet, 7 1/2 inches.

Cole Patterson of the Demons won both the discus (167-03) and the shot put (48-03 3/4 inches).

Powell Middle took both second and third in the discus. The Panthers' Blake Jenkins had a throw of 124-05. And Lane Hurst posted a mark of 105-04.

West Valley's Blake Cosby took second in the shot put (37-11 3/4) and Halls' Derek Coker finished third (37-07 3/4).

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Market Square hosting free concert

The Knoxville Symphony Chamber Orchestra will perform "Symphony On The Square," a FREE concert on the Market Square stage in downtown Knoxville, on Thursday, May 24 at 7:00 p.m. The concert, sponsored by Home Federal Bank, is family-friendly and open to the public. Patrons are encouraged to arrive early and bring a picnic-dinner,

blankets and/or chairs.

The Chamber Orchestra, led by KSO Resident Conductor James Fellenbaum, will perform light classics and pops tunes including George Gershwin's Summertime, Irving Berlin's A Symphonic Portrait and the ever-popular John Philip Sousa's Washington Post March.

"The Knoxville Symphony Orchestra is grateful

to have such a strong partner with Home Federal Bank who is again sponsoring this free concert in downtown Knoxville," said KSO Executive Director Rachel Ford. "This performance and all of our education and community partnership programs are part of the mission to bring our nationally acclaimed orchestra to all people

of East Tennessee."

This concert is part of the KSO's outreach efforts that include performances in non-traditional venues such as hospitals, school classrooms, nursing homes, city parks and churches. Through traditional and non traditional performances, the KSO reaches more than 200,000 throughout

the region each year.

"Home Federal Bank is always glad to have an opportunity to support our community, and this event is really close to home. With our headquarters being downtown, Symphony on the Square brings this beautiful music virtually outside our front door," said Home Federal Bank President Dale Keasling.

"The concert provides an excellent opportunity for individuals and families to enjoy free, quality entertainment and also all that downtown Knoxville has to offer."

Home Federal Bank of Tennessee is a locally owned, full-service bank serving East Tennesseans through branches in Knoxville, Anderson, Blount and Sevier Counties.

Tennessee Sports Hall of Fame announces 2012 Athlete of the Year honorees

Cont. from page 2

Top 15 players in WNBA history. Catchings is a 5-time WNBA All-Star, a 5-time All-WNBA selection and is famous for recording the only ever quintuple double (25 points, 18 rebounds, 11 assists, 10 steals and 10 blocks in 1997). She is also President of the WNBA Players Association.

The Professional Team of the Year is being awarded to two Tennessee teams. The first is the Nashville Predators, and Coach Barry Trotz. Trotz, the second-longest tenured coach in the NHL behind only Buffalo's Lindy Ruff, guided the Predators to playoff series victory for the first time in franchise history in 2011, topping the Anaheim Ducks in the Western Conference Quarterfinals before pushing the Stanley Cup Finalist Vancouver Canucks to six hard-fought games in the conference semifinals. Trotz is the only coach to lead his team to the playoffs in six of the last seven seasons, averaging nearly 98

points per season. The Predators also boast the League's sixth highest win total (272) and third-most home victories (155) in the League since the start of the 2005-06 season. The second is The Memphis Grizzlies. For the 2010-2011 Memphis Grizzlies, it was a year of firsts: first playoff win in franchise history, first playoff series win in franchise history, and first career trip to the playoffs for head coach Lionel Hollins. All of this coming after a season ending shoulder injury to star small forward Rudy Gay. With all that said, it was definitely a hectic and historic campaign for the Grizz, one that did require a lot of perseverance and toughness to get through.

Female Amateur Athletes of the Year: Jamie Achten Over the course of her four-year tenure at Lee, Achten earned numerous awards, both on and off the field, headlined by NAIA Player of the Year honors in both her junior and senior seasons, the first NAIA player to accomplish the feat

twice. The second Female Amateur Athlete of the year is Jenny Connolly. In the 2010-11 she earned six more All-America certificates, four of which were first team accolades, to bring her overall total up to 16 and was named First Team All-SEC and SEC Winter Academic Honor Roll.

The Male Amateur Athlete of the Year is Vanderbilt University's John Jenkins. Jenkins, a Hendersonville Tennessee native led the SEC in scoring for the last two seasons, is one of the program's best sharp shooters from beyond-the-arc and one of Vanderbilt's most decorated players of all time. Jenkins led the SEC in scoring in two consecutive seasons for first time since 1995 and 1996, while also pacing the nation in threes made with nearly four per game.

Two collegiate Tennessee teams will be recognized as Amateur Teams of the Year. Lee University Lady Flames Soccer and Vanderbilt University Baseball Team. The Lee

women's soccer team made NAIA history in capturing its fourth consecutive national championship. Vanderbilt University Baseball team made school history when they made their first appearance at the College World Series in Omaha this year.

The Tennessee Sports Hall of Fame is also recognizing Belmont Bruins Basketball Team and Tusculum College standout Bo Cordell as recipients of our Outstanding Achievement Award. The Bruins Compiled a 30-5 record, the most victories and highest winning percentage in Atlantic Sun Conference history and were only one of nine NCAA Division I programs to record 30 victories in the 2010-11 season. They also led the NCAA in scoring margin and ranked in the Top 10 nationally in five statistical categories. The other recipient, Bo Cordell passed for over 400 yards in nine consecutive games in 2010, which set TC, SAC and NCAA II records. He was named SAC Offensive Player of the

Week four times and twice honored as national offensive player of the week by D2football.com and D2 Sports Insider.

In addition to Bartow (Basketball) and Walker (Track) the induction class of 2012 previously announced includes Tim Jackson (Golf), Rick Insell (Basketball), James Marsalius (Football), Zan Guerry (Tennis), Gibby Gilbert (Golf), Bill Dance (Professional Fisherman), Jeff Byrd (Motorsports) and Brig. General Austin Shofner (Football and Wrestling).

The induction festivities will begin on Saturday May 19th with a lunch to honor our Tennessean of the Year Coach Pat Summitt. Tickets to the luncheon are \$40.00. The Induction Banquet will be held Saturday, May 19th at the Renaissance Nashville Hotel. Tickets for the awards banquet \$125.00 each. For more information concerning the event, call the Lynn Toy, TSHoF at 615-202-3996.

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The Doctor is in

a weekly column by
Dr. Jim Ferguson

Hold'em High

Somehow in the midst of all the turmoil, life goes on and renews itself. On May Day my grandson arrived, and things seem brighter now. Yes, the destruction continues in Washington, wars rage around the world and injustice is even encountered in our City government. But, now a new star shines among us and hope returns.

My Mother's father was a carpenter and sometimes went by the name, T.O., short for Thomas Oakley Burleson. I have a picture of him holding me aloft in the first months of my life, and clearly visible is the twinkle in his eye and a broad smile across his face. I don't have a comparative picture

of me holding up my grandson above my head; he's a neonate and is too young for calisthenics, and it might make my daughter faint. We're especially protective of our first born. My grandson does share something with Jenny's great-grandfather and for that matter my son-in-law's grandfather as well. You see, my grandson is their namesake, Oakley Augustine Johnson. And when Oakley squeezes my finger I'm convinced he'll be as strong as oaken wood.

We all have "gifts differing" observed the Apostle Paul. This great articulator of the Christian message was a learned man and a philosopher. And he must have been a keen observer

of the differences between the sexes. Have you ever wondered why men can't find things? Or, have you ever considered why women are physically and emotionally softer? However, it's a misconception to think that compassion and empathy are signs of weakness.

Women are the glue of society. You can quote me on that. I have some talents, but my nurturing skills pale in comparison to women in general and my wife's in particular. Men would be savages without the tempering influences of the women around us. And now I see my daughter growing in grace as she holds and nurtures Oakley, and balances the men in her family.

I remember some years ago a somewhat frantic call from my mother. She said that my father was limping and the back brace his chiropractor neighbor had sold him wasn't helping his misery. I drove my father to my office and after examining him I told him that his problem wasn't sciatica. Though my parents put me through medical school, my father was no fan of the medical profession. Perhaps because he was in such misery, he finally agreed to a cortisone

injection into his inflamed knee. His pain miraculously abated and on the way home he told me how he now saw me in a new light. It didn't matter that I was married with two kids and had a thriving medical practice. The point is it's hard for parents to see their kids as anything but their children. Fortunately, my girls still see me as their daddy; and that's a blessing.

I find that I am less fearful of the future these days. Most of my milestones have been reached. I do worry about our country and the parallels I see in the lessons of history. I worry that The Spirit is irrelevant to so

many and that inevitable void is being filled by the State. Mostly, I have concerns about my girls, and now my grandson.

Times were tough during the Depression years when my grandparents were trying to hold things together gardening and selling eggs door to door in Sequoyah Hills. My life has been, by comparison, a breeze. I've told Becky many times that if I died today, "It's been a good run." Now, don't get me wrong, I've got lots of life left taking care of my patients, developing our property, writing and now I have a new reason to carry on - Oakley.

Everyone thinks their child is the cutest and special; and of course they're right. This week's "Piaget" teaching point is the next time someone wants to show you pictures of their kid, be glad that there's a parent who loves that kid enough to carry pictures and brag a bit. Too many kids don't have someone to love them or to hold'em high.

If you want to save the world start with your family and follow the advice of the Proverbist in chapter 22:6: "Teach children how they should live and they will remember it all their life." My teacher's role has just been extended to another generation.



Welcome Oakley!

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Do you have a question for Dr. Ferguson? Please e-mail him at jferguson@summithealthcare.com.

Knox county senior falls prevention seminar offers fun, food and information for staying active

In the next 17 seconds, an older adult will be treated in a hospital emergency department for injuries related to a fall. In the next 30 minutes, an older adult will die from injuries sustained in a fall. Falls are the leading cause of injury among adults aged 65 years and older in the United States, and can result in severe injuries such as hip fractures and head traumas. In Knox County, more than 1,800 people aged 65 and older sought hospital care for falls in 2009 (the most current data), and approximately 19 people aged 65 or older die each year from their injuries. That's why Knox County Health Department (KCHD) and the Knoxville-Knox County Senior Safety Task Force will be hosting the community-wide Senior Falls Prevention seminar on Tuesday, May 22, from 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at John T. O'Connor Senior Center, 611 Winona Street in

Knoxville. The theme is "Your Roadmap to Preventing Falls." The seminar is free and open to the public, but participants must register to reserve their spot by calling 541-4500 by Tuesday, May 15. Health Care professionals also are welcome and continuing education credits are available.

"Knox County's seniors are one of our greatest resources," said Knox County Mayor Tim Burchett. "Keeping them healthy, active citizens benefits all of us. I appreciate the Senior Safety Task Force's efforts in helping them maintain their independence and a good quality-of-life."

"This seminar is specifically designed to give seniors and their families important tools and resources for doing personal risk assessment and developing a fall prevention plan," said Stan Boling, Covenant Senior Health vice president

and task force member. "There also will be workshops and continuing education credits for health care professionals interested in learning the latest information on minimizing the dangers of falls in the senior population."

Breakout sessions for community members will include causes and treatment for dizziness, and Dr. John Dougherty, neurologist, will discuss an Alzheimer's self-test. The day includes light breakfast and lunch with entertainment by the O'Connor Singing Seniors, an exercise break and door prizes. More than 25 vendors from the Senior Safety Task Force and other senior organizations will offer a variety of information and health screenings. Sponsors are Knox County Health Department, United Healthcare Community Plan and Covenant Senior Health.

Continued on page 2

City and County announce hiking and walking programs

Knoxville Mayor Madeline Rogero, Knox County Mayor Tim Burchett, and Covenant Health fitness expert Missy Kane announced last Monday that free walking and hiking programs will be offered this spring and summer on City and County greenways.

Mayors Rogero and Burchett announced their partnered "Tour de Fleur" wildflower walking series, which is a free tour of greenways where an Ijams nature guide discusses previously labeled flowers. Last year, the event series debuted on Will Skelton and Ten Mile Creek greenways. The mayors announced the new

greenways introduced to the program this year.

They also announced the "Happy Hiker" programs offered at various City and County senior centers.

Missy Kane announced the dates and locations for her "Get Out On Local Trails with Missy Kane and Legacy Parks" program. Kane hosts her hikes on City, County, and State trails. Each event in her program is free, but she does accept donations to benefit the Friends of Legacy Parks.

Ijams Nature Center Executive Director Paul James also announced walks that Ijams offers at its 275-acre property.

Continued on page 3

Featured Speakers

STEPHEN BOYCE, M.D.
 K. ROBERT WILLIAMS, M.D.



Get the Facts About Surgical Weight Loss

Tuesday, May 8 or 22
 5:30 p.m.

Turkey Creek Medical Center
 Johnson Conference Center
 10820 Parkside Drive

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



Tennova.com
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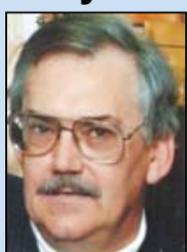
Taking a break at The Breaks

Blanketed in history and mystery, the deep gorge in the mountain on the Kentucky and Virginia state line is now a popular place for white water rafting, hiking the miles and miles of trails, taking in the fantastic views, and staying over in the lodge, cabins or campgrounds that overlook the view.

The Breaks Interstate Park is only one of two dual-state parks in the nation. The park is a three hour trip from Knoxville and most of the drive up there is pleasant and on a four-lane highway almost until you get to the park. Interstate 81 and U.S. 23 will get you into Kentucky and taking a right at Jenkins, Ky will bring you to Elkhorn and the Breaks.

On the way you may want to swing into Big Stone Gap and visit the museum there or just see the historic mountain town. The same is true for Elkhorn, Ky.

A Day Away



By Mike Steely

The ancient pass is only one of three water cuts in the entire 123 mile long Pine Mountain. The Russell Fork of the Big Sandy River rushes through the gorge and was known to Shawnee and Cherokee alike as a passage. Explorers like Daniel Boone and others followed the pass and there are rumors there of lost Melungion silver mines and counterfeiting.

The park, atop the mountain, has 4600 acres, two lakes, a swimming pool, boat rentals, bird watching, geocaching, a gift shop, restaurant, visitor's museum, a golf course, and overnights at the lodge wakes you up to a fantastic view off your balcony of the river and gorge.

By far the most viewed and photographed is "The Towers" a large rock outcrop in the bed of the river. The lodge deck is perfect for viewing the Towers and often you can see

circling hawks far below. You can also see a railroad far below that disappears into a tunnel through the mountain.

The Breaks is ran by both states, is about 10 miles north of Grundy, Va., and 7 miles south of Elkhorn, Ky. The regions economy was coal-based and most of the towns have struggled to survive. The park, however, is the 4th most visited in Virginia.

Just north of the park, toward Elkhorn, is the "Grave of an Unknown Confederate Soldier" immediately beside the road. While there wasn't a major fight there there was a battle in nearby Pound Gap. Elkhorn City's Arts Collaborative Theater on North Patty Loveless Drive, features award-winning plays like "Grease" and "Greater Tuna" during the season. Patty was born in nearby Pikeville.

You can find The Breaks on the internet at www.breakspark.com or call them at 276-865-4413.

Knox county senior falls prevention seminar offers fun, food and information for staying active

Cont. from page 1

For the second year, a professional track with continuing education units (CEUs) for nurses and LPNs will be offered.

The presenters will include Ryan Gabel, a physical therapist with Gentiva Health, and Dr. John Duncan, Knox County Health Department pharmacist. Health care professionals must call 541-4500 by May 15 to reserve a space.

More than one of every three adults aged 65 and older falls each year, accounting for 13,000 fatalities and 1.8 million hospital visits annually. In 2003, the total direct

cost for falls for this group is more than \$27.3 billion annually. By 2020, it is expected to reach \$43.8 billion.

Knox County Health Department convened the Senior Safety Task Force in March 2008 to address concerns about falls in the older population. The group meets monthly and has hosted a fall prevention seminar every year since its inception. The task force includes many community partners and has representatives from non-profit organizations, social service agencies, local government, hospitals, home health and other advocates for seniors.

Tennova Healthcare Offers Mother's Day Mammogram Specials

Have you had your mammogram yet? If not, now is the perfect time to have this life-saving screening and get some well deserved extra pampering! Bring your mom, daughter, sister or other special female to one of the following Tennova facilities on one of the dates listed below, and you can receive a free hand paraffin dip, refreshments, including chocolate-covered strawberries, and a special gift!! Screenings are 8 a.m.

– 4 p.m. on the following dates:

May 9 – Physicians Regional Medical Center (900 E. Oak Hill Ave.)

May 10 – North Knoxville Medical Center (7565 Dannaer Drive)

May 11 – Turkey Creek Medical Center (10820 Parkside Drive)

May 17 – Tennova South (7323 Chapman Hwy.)

To schedule, call (865) 545-7771 or 1-855-836-6682

Faith

Corporate Spiritual Discipline #3: GUIDANCE

If one is to excel in any particular area of life, you will need help getting there. If you grew up playing sports, you had

a coach to assist you on the court or field of play. When you learned to drive a vehicle, you had a guide to train you. In your education or course of

study, you had teachers who served to instruct you. If we find the value of guidance in most areas of life, why would we not seek this out in the most important area, that being our walk with God?

In I Corinthians 12, Paul references the church as a body. Just as the body is made up of many individual parts, so with the church. There is no one person who possesses everything. The most mature and least mature among us need the help of others. Each person

in the body of Christ is needed and God wants to use all in encouraging and growing the church.

If you desire to grow spiritually and become a better disciple for Jesus, you need to find a mentor. Each of us are on a journey and the purpose of the mentor is to help us recognize our weaknesses and assist us in our growth in the Lord. Humility is a key because we must be willing to admit our faults as well as believe we can learn from others. If we are unable to take advice

from a brother or sister in Christ, then we will be unable to take advice from the Holy Spirit.

A danger in the spiritual discipline of guidance is manipulation and control by a leader or mentor. What I am not talking about here is having a cult leader over your life. Many examples can be cited where a mentoring relationship has been abused. Jesus points out that we need to have a gentle nature in dealing with others (Matthew 12:20). Jesus never used manipulation or control

as a means to gain followers or keep them. Jesus used love, compassion, and gentle instruction.

It is also important to weigh whatever guidance a spiritual mentor might offer against Scripture. Many abuses have been done in the name of "God's Spirit told me to do this" or "God wants me to be happy." If the Spirit did speak to your heart, the advice or counsel will not go against God's Word. We need to let Scripture saturate

our thinking and decisions. God's goal for your life is not happiness, but faithfulness. The joy will follow a faithful follower of Jesus.

If you do not have a spiritual mentor, someone in whom you can seek Godly counsel, pray that God will show that person to you. Also, be praying for God to reveal who you need to mentor. God wants to use you to help grow someone else.

Church Happenings

First Lutheran Church

55 Alive, First Lutheran Church's senior members, will meet on Thursday, May 10 at noon in the Meeting Room and hear Marilyn Wing, world adventure traveler present "Around the World in a bottle of Sand." A hot lunch will be served and the cost is \$6.00. Mrs. Wing will bring 80 samples of sand from far away places including a sample from Canada's Oil Sand, very much in the news today. She will also give to each attendee a bottle of sand from the world's most

beautiful beach. Reservations are necessary. Please call 524-0366.

Glenwood Baptist Church

Glenwood Baptist Church of Powell, 7212 Central Avenue Pike, will open the John 5 Food Pantry on Thursday nights, starting May 17 at 6-8 p.m. Appointments to receive food once monthly must be requested by Wednesday, May 16. Please call the church office at 938-2611. You may also leave a message with a phone number, or email:

Glenwood@frontiernet.net.

Highland Baptist Church

Highland Baptist Church 6014 Babelay Rd. will host the Southern Gospel trio, Crimson Ridge, in concert at 6 p.m. on Sunday, May 20. A love offering will be taken. More info www.hbcknox.org or call Byron 680-8823

KFL Outreach Ministry Presents

The Knoxville Fellowship Luncheon (KFL) will meet May 8, 2012 at the Golden Corral on Clinton Highway,

at noon. Jeffrey Lee Johnson will be the guest speaker. You may view his complete Bio at <http://kfl-luncheon.com>.

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Rev. Eddie Sawyer, Pastor
www.newbeverly.org
856-546-0001

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Sunday Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Evening Prayer 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday Evening Youth 7:00 p.m.
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Wednesday Bible Study - 6:30 p.m.

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House to Home



Pleasant Ridge Speaks for the Trees. As part of Pleasant Ridge's Pre-K Earth Day lessons, the class planted an apple tree (as per a pre-k student's request). The idea was inspired by the school-wide field trip on March 2nd to see *The Lorax*. The class learned many lessons from the movie such as the importance of taking care of our trees and not polluting. The students became passionate about taking care of plants and especially trees "I speak for the trees" was put on class t-shirts. When a student suggested that it would be "a very good idea" to plant a tree Ms. Kim knew it was only fitting to plant a tree for the school. The students chose the type of tree because it can give us clean air as well as a snack. Ms. Kim and Ms. Jennifer's class of 19 helped dig the hole, cover and water the tree. Ms. Kim said, "We worked together to do something good for the Earth and environment. It will always be a reminder to the class of 2012 that they made a difference by helping provide cleaner air."

City and County announce hiking and walking programs

Cont. from page 1
 Those include night owl hikes, wildflower walks, and other nature programs. Other walking programs that were featured in the press conference today included the Knox County Health Department's Active-8 Series, the Knoxville Track Club's Knox Walks program, and the Nordic Walks that will be operated out of the Outdoor Knoxville Center on Neyland Greenway.

Tour De Fleur Wildflower Walks
 June 2: Ten Mile Creek Greenway, starting at Walker Springs Park
 July 7: Will Skelton Greenway, starting at Ijams Nature Center
 August 4: Holston River Park, starting at main shelter
 September 8: Halls Greenway; meet at the Halls Library
 October 6: Ten Mile Creek Greenway, starting at the Wynnsong Theater

Parking Area
 Get Out on Local Trails with Missy Kane and Legacy Parks
 June 6: James White Greenway to the Alex Haley Statue, starting at Outdoor Knoxville Adventure Center
 June 13: New Harvest Park
 June 20: Frozen Head State Park (more difficult) or Victor Ashe Park (less difficult)
 June 27: Concord Park Trails

July 11: Forks of the River, beginning at Ijams Nature Center
 July 18: Fort Dickerson Greenway at the Augusta Road entrance
 July 24: House Mountain Natural Area
 Schedules, locations, and contact information for each of the programs featured today may be viewed on the Outdoor Knoxville web site at www.Outdoor-Knoxville.com/calendar/greenway-walks.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHS Reunions
 Central High School Class of 1967's 45th Reunion will be July 22-24. For information contact Ionna Tillery Bryson 688-5816 or Ann Paylor Williams 687-7759.
 Central High School Class of 1957's Fifty-fifth Class Reunion is planned for Friday, May 18 at Beaver Brook Country Club 6 p.m. at the 19th Hole. Saturday, May 19 at Beaver Brook Country Club 6 p.m.

Daddy Daughter Dance
 Hey dad! Want a night out with that special little lady in your life? No, not your wife. The one with tiny feet, a smile that melts your heart and who looks up to you more than you know. Well, here is your opportunity for a daddy/daughter date night at the Daddy Daughter Masquerade Ball.

The dance will be held 4 to 8 p.m., Saturday, June 16 at the Second Harvest Grand Ballroom. The ball will include a DJ with dance lighting and age-appropriate music, finger-foods, a chocolate fountain and other desserts, face painting, nail salon boutique, prince and princess actors, best mask competition, raffle prizes for the girls, silent auction items for the dads and much more. Proceeds benefit Second Harvest Food Bank and will be used to feed hungry children in East Tennessee. Guests are encouraged to attend in masquerade attire, fancy dress, or prince/princess costumes. The suggested age range for kids is 4-12 years old but all dads, daughters, grandfathers, granddaughters, uncles and nieces are welcome.

The number of tickets is limited. Purchase now by calling 865-243-8200 or at <http://secondharvestball.com/index.php?page=tickets>.
The "Ace" Miller Memorial Golf Tournament
 May 20, 2012
 Whittle Springs Golf Course
 2:00 p.m. Shotgun Start
 12:30 p.m. Lunch served
 Contact Greg Davis for information: 865-740-1196 or Tdavis7308@comcast.net
Ossoli Circle
 GFWC Ossoli Circle--Coffee, 9:45 a.m. Monday, May 7th, Ossoli Club House, 2511 Kingston Pike. "Presentation of Scholarships" and the monthly Business

meeting.
Knoxville-Knox County Peace Officers Memorial
 The community is invited to attend the 2012 Peace Officers Memorial Service on May 17 at 10am at Mary Costa Plaza located behind the Civic Coliseum. Federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies will be represented as officers who have died during the past year will be honored. Everyone is encouraged to show their support for law enforcement officers by attending the service.
 Other events planned for Police Memorial Week include a Law Enforcement 5K Run on Saturday, May 12 at 8am at Volunteer Landing. Registration fee is \$25 and funds will be used to plan and build a local law enforcement memorial.

ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES

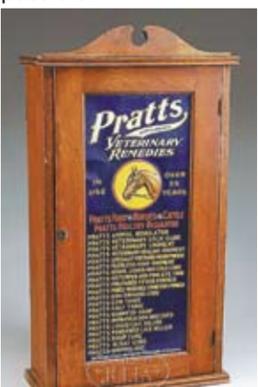
Collectible Advertising

One of the better markets in collectibles and antiques are advertising items. A market made to promote items to sell are themselves a market that can be very rewarding and fun to collect and invest in. Advertising can be found on just about any item or object that you can think of and the collectors tend to have certain categories that they tend to stick to yet many are what are called "crossover" items which means for example a Coca-Cola clock is a clock and a Coke item at the same time so a clock collector or a Coke collector are equal in wanting to obtain those items. The categories are basically: Food, gas/oil, tobacco, soft drinks, automobile and transportation including railroad, breweriana, sports, Hollywood and entertainment along with many sub categories that interchange or are crossovers. Next time you visit Pratt's Market in Fountain City look around at all of the great advertising and collectibles that adorn his store as this is a great collection to see. Behind one of the registers there is a perfect example of a crossover item being a 1900 wooden wall cabinet advertising Pratt's Veterinary Medicines on the front. So you have a wonderful antique oak cabinet with beautiful graphics including a horse portrait along with a list of cures to purchase so it's what trumps what is the question here. A person wants a nice antique cabinet with quaint designs is one category. A person is a collector of horse items is another and would be a contender as well as someone who collects veterinary medicine items. Well the winner is the vet medicine category that takes the value of this fine cabinet to many



By Carl Sloan

times over it just being an antique cabinet as the old vet items including advertising are highly collectible and command top dollar. Other things you should know is that age is great but quality is better. The old porcelain signs have held their value through good and bad times yet you need to know they are reproduced so look closely at those thick glass fused porcelain heavy signs to learn old from new before spending a large amount here. What drives the collector and all of us is the past memories and nostalgic influence the items had on us then and now and even though most advertising items were made for temporary use and then done away with makes it even more enticing for us to keep, collect and even decorate with. For a great education on advertising please join Fountain City Auction's upcoming sale June 23 that features exclusively fine advertising items from several major collections spanning decades of effort to obtain. If you have any advertising items that you may wish to consign for this sale you may contact Greg Lawson at the gallery 4109 Central Ave Pk. 604-3468 or email Fountaincityauction@yahoo.com. Please include a photograph if possible.



Pratt's Veterinary cabinet that is similar recently brought \$4,600 at auction



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NHC Dodge Electronic Plan Room, 1-866-794-6093

Builders Exchange of Tennessee, inc., 300 Clark St., Knoxville, TN

AGC & iSqFt, 1811 Church St., Nashville, TN

Reed Construction Data, 30 Technology Parkway S., Ste 100 Norcross, GA

Nashville Minority Business Center, Nashville, TN, 615-255-0432

Bids: Must be received by Thursday May 24, 2012 before 2:00 PM

Contact: Hickory Construction Company

1728 9th Ave. NW, Hickory, NC 28601

Contact: Tommy Floyd

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