

Report Shows Costs, Benefits of Permanent Supportive Housing

A study of services provided to formerly homeless people now living in permanent supportive housing in Knoxville shows cost savings in many areas. The study compared the costs of a year in housing to a year on the streets.

The study of 41 residents at a handful of sites including Minvilla Manor showed that costs of community services dropped significantly from pre-housing costs. However, because a small number of participants had significant medical needs throughout the course of the study, costs for health care services were up for the group over the previous year, causing the overall costs to go up slightly.

A statistical analysis of the data, factoring out the most extreme costs from both the “homeless” group as well as the “housed” group, indicates that for the most typical cases, an overall cost savings is seen for individuals who have been housed. These results are consistent with similar research conducted in other parts of the country.

“This shows that permanent supportive housing is doing what it is supposed to do,” said Michael Dunthorn, the City’s project manager for homelessness prevention programs. “It is keeping people off the streets, out of jail and out of mental health crisis treatment. There were a small number of individuals with significant medical needs that continued even after they were housed, but that is not surprising for a high-risk population. Living in supportive housing makes them more likely to get the health care they need.”

The study was coordinated by Dunthorn and conducted by researchers from the Knox County Health Department Epidemiology Program and the University of Tennessee College of Social Work. They tracked services provided to the 41 permanent supportive housing residents, and compared them to the same population’s usage of services during the year prior to entering housing.

- Among the findings:
- Costs of community services including emergency shelter, emergency medical services and jail costs dropped

Cont. on page 4



PHOTO BY DAN ANDREWS

President Obama presents the Presidential Medal of Freedom to Pat Summitt in a special ceremony Tuesday.

President Obama honors Summitt

Last Tuesday, President Barack Obama honored Patricia “Pat” Summitt, former head coach and current head coach emeritus of the University of Tennessee’s women’s basketball team, with the Presidential Medal of Freedom. The Medal of Freedom is the Nation’s highest civilian honor, presented to individuals who have made especially meritorious contributions to the security or national interests of the United States, to world peace, or to cultural or other significant public or private endeavors.

President Obama said, “Coach Summitt is an inspiration - both as the all-time winningest NCAA coach, and as someone who is willing to speak so

openly and courageously about her battle with Alzheimer’s. Pat’s gift has always been her ability to push those around her to new heights, and over the last 38 years, her unique approach has resulted in both unparalleled success on the court and unrivaled loyalty from those who know her and those whose lives she has touched. Pat’s coaching career may be over, but I’m confident that her work is far from finished. I look forward to awarding her this honor.”

In addition to accomplishing an outstanding career as the all-time winningest leader among all NCAA basketball coaches, Coach Summitt has taken Tennessee to more Final Four appearances

than any other coach and has the second best record of NCAA Championships in basketball. She has received numerous awards, including being named Naismith Women’s Collegiate Coach of the Century.

As we approach the 40th anniversary of the signing of Title IX, Summitt’s remarkable career reflects her rightful place in history as an unparalleled figure in women’s team sports. Off the court, Pat’s work as a spokesperson in the fight against Alzheimer’s through the Pat Summitt Foundation Fund is truly inspirational. The Pat Summitt Foundation will make grants to nonprofits to provide education and awareness, support

to patients and families, and research to prevent, cure and ultimately eradicate early onset dementia, Alzheimer’s type.

Also receiving the Presidential Medal of Freedom were: Madeleine Albright, John Doar, Bob Dylan, William Foege, John Glenn, Gordon Hirabayashi, Dolores Huerta, Jan Karski, Juliette Gordon Low, Toni Morrison, Shimon Peres and John Paul Stevens.

President Obama said, “These extraordinary honorees come from different backgrounds and different walks of life, but each of them has made a lasting contribution to the life of our Nation. They’ve challenged us, they’ve inspired us, and they’ve made the world a better place.”

Tennessee Conservative Union opposes proposed Knox County Tax Increase

The Tennessee Conservative Union has announced its opposition to a proposed Knox County Tax increase. “It is not wise or right to propose a tax increase in the midst of the second worst economic time in a century,” said Chairman Lloyd Daugherty as he urged Knox County Commission to vote for Knox County Mayor Tim Burchett’s budget and against the proposed \$35 million increase in the school’s budget.

“This is a time of austerity for families, business and government,” Daugherty continued. “We also find it highly questionable that spending more money will increase the quality of education. At the very least, a budget increase of this size should be debated and researched over a much longer period of time.”

The Tennessee Conservative Union, the main opposition to a state income tax since 1982, normally does not involve itself in local tax issues. “However,” Daugherty said, “the current debate about Knox County taxes is profound. In many ways, Knox County sets the example for surrounding counties. A tax increase here could mean potentially higher taxes for the whole region, making life here less affordable and the whole area less attractive for businesses.”

“Mayor Burchett was elected by an overwhelming majority on a platform and promise of no new taxes. We commend him for keeping his promise,” concluded Daugherty.

Dance the night away with dad

Daddy Daughter Dance to kick off Father’s Day weekend in Knoxville

Girls of all ages are invited to put on their best dresses and dance the night away with dad at Knoxville’s annual Daddy Daughter Dance. The dance will be held at Knoxville’s Crowne Plaza Hotel from 7 to 10 p.m. on Friday, June 15.

The Daddy Daughter Dance is open to girls of

all ages. Girls may bring any role model they have in their lives.

“The Daddy Daughter Dance is a great way to kick off Father’s Day weekend. We want all girls to have a positive male role model in their lives, and we invite girls of the community to spend the evening celebrating their dads or other role models and the special relationship they share,” said Booth Kammann, CEO of the Girl Scout Council of the Southern

Appalachians (GSCSA).

Attendees will enjoy light appetizers and dessert by Chick-fil-A, a professional photograph to take home that evening, a make-and-take-home craft, a DJ, a goody bag and a flower to take home. The evening will end with milk and cookies provided by Chick-fil-A and Weigel’s.

The Daddy Daughter Dance is hosted by Girl Scout Council of the Southern Appalachians, but the event is

not limited to Girl Scouts. Girls of all ages are invited to attend.

The event is sponsored by Chick-fil-A, Weigel’s, Neil Studios and KnoxVegas DJs.

Tickets are \$25 for a dad and one daughter and \$40 for a dad and multiple daughters. Tickets may be purchased online at www.GirlScout-csa.org or at the door, pending space availability.

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FOCUS
Weekly Poll

Knox County Commissioner At Large Mike Hammond has proposed both a property tax increase and a sales tax increase for schools.

Would you support Commissioner Mike Hammond for reelection?

Support (23.52%) 119

Oppose (76.48%) 387

By Age

	Support	Oppose	
18-29	100.00%	[None]	2
30-49	27.14%	72.86%	70
50-65	22.10%	77.90%	181
65+	22.92%	77.08%	253
Total	23.52% (119)	76.48% (387)	506

By Commission District

	Support	Oppose	
1	25.81%	74.19%	31
2	21.05%	78.95%	57
3	25.53%	74.47%	47
4	29.87%	70.13%	77
5	21.54%	78.46%	65
6	20.34%	79.66%	59
7	23.81%	76.19%	63
8	20.69%	79.31%	58
9	22.45%	77.55%	49
Total	23.52% (119)	76.48% (387)	506

By Gender

	Support	Oppose	
Unknown	20.00%	80.00%	20
Female	24.53%	75.47%	265
Male	22.62%	77.38%	221
Total	23.52% (119)	76.48% (387)	506



“Hey, Dad,” one of my kids asked the other day, “what was your favorite fast food when you were growing up?”

“We didn’t have fast food when I was growing up,” I informed him.

“C’mon, seriously. Where did you eat?”

“It was a place called home,” I explained. “Grandma cooked every day and when Grandpa got home from work, we sat down together at the dining room table, and if I didn’t like what she put on my plate, I was allowed to sit there until I did like it.”

By this time, the kid was laughing so hard I was afraid he was going to suffer serious internal damage, so I didn’t add the part about how I had to have permission to leave the table.

But here are some other things I would have told him about my childhood if I figured his system could have handled it.

My parents never owned their own house, wore Levis, set foot on a golf course, traveled out of the country or had a credit card. In their later years they had something called a revolving charge card. The card was good only at Sears Roebuck. Or maybe it was Sears AND Roebuck. Either

way, there’s no Roebuck anymore.

My parents never drove me to soccer practise. This was mostly because we never heard of soccer. But also because we didn’t have a car. We didn’t have a television in the house till I was eleven, but my grandparents had one. Of course, it was black and white. but they bought a piece of colored plastic to cover the screen. The top third was blue, like the sky, and the bottom third was green, like grass. The middle third was red. It was perfect for programs that had scenes of firetrucks riding across someone’s lawn on a sunny day.

I was thirteen before I tasted my first pizza. My friend, Ronnie, took me to Luigi’s to try what he said was “pizza pie.” When I bit into it, I burned the roof of my mouth and the cheese slid off, swung down, plastered itself against my chin and burned that too. It’s still the best pizza I ever had.

Pizza wasn’t delivered to our home but milk was.

We didn’t have a car until I was fifteen. Before that, the only car in our family was my grandfather’s Plymouth. He called it a “machine.”

I never had a telephone in my room. The only phone in the house was in the living room and it was on a party line. Before you could dial, you had to listen and make sure some people

Continue on page 4

Poll Shows Political Repercussions

More Than 75% Say They Would Not Vote for Hammond

By Focus Staff

For those who don’t think there would be political repercussions from the proposed tax increases sought by school Superintendent James McIntyre, the results of this week’s Focus poll indicates otherwise.

More than 500 Knox County voters were asked the question, “Knox County Commissioner At-Large Mike Hammond has proposed both a property tax increase and a sales tax increase for schools. Would you support Commissioner Mike Hammond for reelection?”

The results were a resounding “no.”

Surprisingly, Hammond demonstrated no strength in any Commission district. Even the Fourth District, which has been historically more friendly to tax increases for education, posted a

heavy majority of voters indicating they would not back Hammond for another term. More than 70% of voters in the Fourth District say they would not support Hammond for reelection.

Mike Hammond is Chairman of the Knox County Commission and one of two Commissioners-At-Large; the other is Ed Shouse. Both Commissioners Shouse and Hammond run county-wide.

Recently, Commissioner Hammond crafted a proposal with Board of Education Chairman Thomas Deakins that would increase both the sales and property taxes for schools. Apparently, the Hammond - Deakins proposal is wildly unpopular throughout Knox County.

More than 74% of voters in the largely African-American First District say they would not support

Hammond for reelection; almost 79% of voters in the Second District said they would not back Hammond again. The margin fell slightly in the Third District with just over 74% saying they would no longer support Hammond for reelection.

Commissioner Hammond had been a longtime resident of the Fifth District, which is largely comprised of the Town of Farragut, before moving to South Knoxville. Hammond had originally won election to the Knox County Commission from the Fifth District before being elected Commissioner-At-Large. Still, Hammond’s numbers in his native Fifth District were dismal. Almost 80% of voters in the Fifth District indicated they would not support Hammond for reelection in 2014.

The number was even higher in the Sixth District; the Eighth, and Ninth Districts also posted numbers over the county-wide

average of 76%. The total in the Seventh District was just over 76%.

The totals county-wide indicate Hammond would be very vulnerable in a primary contest in two years; it is doubtful he could get to the general election.

The poll is a clear indication of the feeling of the voters, despite a heavy investment by the Chamber of Commerce and the Superintendent’s allies of a \$50,000 advertising campaign. Commercial have been running in heavy rotation on cable channels, as well the evening news broadcasts. Evidently the advertising campaign has little effect, save to make even more voters aware of the effort to increase taxes.

As more and more voters become engaged, it looks like those Commissioners flirting with the idea of voting for a large tax increase may well be headed for defeat in the next election cycle.

Memorial Day ushers in summer memories



By Richie Beeler

Yes, it’s a weather column. Deal with it. With the arrival and passing of another Memorial Day, it is now time to usher in the favorite time of year for most people. Friday was the beginning of meteorological summer in the Northern Hemisphere. Almost everyone is excited. School kids, teachers, lake lovers, and other sun worshippers will revel in the next three months. I will get through them.

It’s really not my fault that I’m not particularly fond of summer. I am a hard wired weather geek. I don’t know exactly how that happened (twice) in our family, but it must be buried somewhere deep in the syntax of the DNA code. But regardless of its origin, my fondness for weather and its many manifestations just naturally lends itself to a general disdain for summer.

Weather geeks and summer do not exactly constitute a match made in heaven. That is because for most locales, including the Great Tennessee Valley, summer generally brings with it the most mundane weather of the

year. Between mid-June and early September, the average daily temperature in central East Tennessee varies by less than 5 degrees Fahrenheit. Contrast that with autumn when the average daily high drops by about 30 degrees between September and December.

In summer, the southeast is generally under the influence of a dome or “ridge” of high pressure. The strength, weakness and position of this ridge provides about the only variation in summer weather patterns. If the ridge is weak or positioned too far east or west, moisture can find its way into Tennessee, bringing with it the typical chance of evening summer thunderstorms. But if the ridge is strong and positioned just right, a hot, dry weather pattern can ensue, and often for a very prolonged period of time.

But if one is to claim true weather geek status, he must acknowledge that even summer has provided some noteworthy weather occurrences for our region. Usually with summer, the notoriety is with trends rather than events. Perhaps some of these will jog your memory as well.

2009: The summer that never came. For those of you who are convinced (perhaps by the second straight blistering hot Memorial Day weekend) that global warming has

changed our summers forever, I would call your attention to a summer just three years hence. In 2009 the mercury in greater Knoxville topped 90 degrees only once in July and three times in August. It was one of the coolest summers in memory. In many rural areas, heat-loving plants like crape myrtles never even bloomed.

2007: The summer that would not end. Five years ago the summer began with a whimper. Early July was seasonably cool, with a few days actually recording highs in the 70s. But with August came an unrelenting ridge of high pressure that would send thermometers soaring above 90 degrees for 31 consecutive days. But August was not the end. The ridge and its accompanying heat lasted through September and deep into October. There were 16 days in the 80s during October of 2007.

2010: The unrelenting heat wave. While hot summers are certainly not a rarity in East Tennessee, no summer in my memory compares to the one from two years ago. In June, July, and August of 2010, the temperature in Knoxville reached above 90 degrees a staggering 68 times. The average high was 90 in June, 92 in July, and 91 in August. The intensity and the sheer length of the heat wave were almost unprecedented for

our region.

2002: Where’s the rain, brother? One of the summers that always comes to mind as I reflect on weather patterns is the summer of 2002, when virtually no rain fell on some East Tennessee locales from May to September. The stubborn high pressure ridge locked firmly in place over the southeast kept the atmosphere capped for nearly the entire summer, depriving the Tennessee Valley of the precious rainfall it can normally count on. Mowers lost income, farmers lost crops, and only a few of the trees I planted on my land in anticipation of building a house barely survived.

2005: Hurricane Katrina. While this event did not directly affect the weather in East Tennessee, it touched us all perhaps more deeply than any weather event ever has. Hurricanes are generally autumn occurrences, but on August 29, 2005, just two days before the end of meteorological summer, Katrina slammed into the southeast coast of Louisiana and roared into infamy as the most destructive natural disaster in the history of the United States. More than \$81 billion in damage was recorded along the Gulf Coast, and 1,836 people perished in the hurricane and its subsequent flooding.

And that is one summer weather event we shall

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Triple reunion

With a bit of hesitancy, I drove to Roth-child's on a recent Saturday evening. I was on my way to a different kind of reunion and as an unusual participant.



By Joe Rector

The 1970s graduating classes from the old Doyle High School gathered for an evening of catching up and sharing stories and lives. Now, I'm a graduate of Karns High School, the class of 1970, so these weren't my fellow classmates that I hung out with for the evening. No, these were some of the first students that I taught during my 30 year teaching career.

After graduating from Tennessee Tech in 1974, I was hired at Doyle on the Wednesday before the school year started on the following Monday. I was 22 years old and so wet behind the ears that I needed a towel to catch the water. One of my first classes was a group of seniors. Bill Fogarty was the oldest

student at 19. It's hard to imagine now trying to teach kids who are three years younger than the teachers.

So, I was allowed to attend this reunion as a teacher, the only one who showed up. As fates would have it, the first person whom I recognized was the photographer. Andy Vance was one of my former students and football players...from Karns High School!

For the first little while I found a place in a corner and watched, but before long, familiar faces appeared and my comfort level rose. Even across 38 years and a sea of students, I recognized the faces of former students. Ah, it felt good to reconnect.

Those students have succeeded in a variety of ways. Two are university professors. Another is a nuclear engineer. One man finally pursued his dream and is now a country music singer, and one woman has performed with her musical group at several venues for years. Among the group

were a United Way leader and a marketing and sales professional.

More important was the fact that many of my former students were now loving parents and grandparents whose best work came in the area of bringing up their broods to be solid individuals who have themselves gone on to successful lives.

I stepped out into the hall and found a chair to rest my aching back. Sitting there, I watched a wedding party pass as they came from another banquet room. A couple of faces looked familiar, and then one young man said, "Mr. Rector?" Sure enough, the groom was a former student, and his best man (and brother) and another in the wedding party were former students at Karns. Marcus Hamilton took time from wedding to speak, and his brother Phillip and friend Adrian greeted me. I offered them congratulations and told them how glad I was to see them.

When I re-entered the banquet room, a couple of former students came to ask for copies of my books,

"Baseball Boys" and "No Right Field for My Son." Like all authors, I carry a box of books in the car, and with gratitude, I signed the books.

The evening grew late, and since my bedtime has moved up considerably as I have grown older, good-byes and thanks were offered. Driving home, my mind swirled with thoughts. I thanked the good lord for giving me the opportunity to re-connect with Doyle High Pioneers from the '70s. The fact that those 16, 17 and 18 year-old kids were now adults, many with gray hair, tinted hair, and no hair at all, brought a jolt. They bragged about their children and grandchildren. Most of all, I marveled at how three reunions took place at one spot... with the, the three young men celebrating the wedding of one, and with students from half a lifetime ago.

I'm a blessed person for having been a small part in so many lives. I just hope some good came to them during that time.

FIRST FRIDAY AT GALLERY 133



Guests and artists came together at Gallery 133's First Friday event. From top, Dawn Hawkins, Tina Brunetti, Rucker Wells and Jordan Gore. Gallery 133 is located on the 100 Block of Gay Street. Photos by Dan Andrews.

Lessons from a famous feud

The names Hatfield and McCoy ring consistently in the ears of everyone, like me, who grew up in East Kentucky. They have become an idiom for any grudge held too long against another. This past week the History Channel aired a three episode mini-series about the most famous family feud in the memoirs of America.

If you're like me and you wish that the History Channel would just stick to history as much as you wish the Science Channel would just stick to science and MTV would just stick to music, you would have loved watching the History Channel unfold this saga. It was as breathtaking as it was believable. Kevin Costner and Bill Paxton as Anse Hatfield and Randall McCoy led an all-star cast. Costner, who didn't even attempt a British accent as Robin Hood, did an excellent job with his Appalachian dialect as did everyone else. The



By Sarah Baker
bakers@knoxfocus.com

music sounded very authentic and the set was incredible, though, for some reason, much of the series was filmed in Romania. I don't know why they couldn't find an American location for such an American story, but the rest is so awesome, I have decided to forgive that slight.

The violence in this movie is extremely rough. It is not just the graphic visualization that chills the heart. It is mostly the understanding of how completely unnecessary it all was and how futile, wasted life after wasted life. Revenge begets revenge and one is reminded of what Gandhi said: "An eye for an eye makes the whole world blind." Like most volatile quarrels today, most of the problem has nothing to do with the primary players. The outside instigators are the ones pulling the strings either for their own amusement or their own special

interests, much like every middle school fight and every political debate today.

Tom Berenger is unrecognizable as Jim Vance, Anse Hatfield's uncle, who really sets the whole feud ablaze when he kills Randall McCoy's brother. Though Anse Hatfield had the nickname "Devil," it was Jim Vance who seemed to feed and thrive on hatred. He commits violent act after violent act with no conscience about it. Perry Cline, played by Ronan Vibert, is another instigator who urges the governor to put a bounty on Hatfield heads. Of course, he didn't really care that the Hatfields had retaliated against the McCoy's for the death of Ellison Hatfield. He was really seeking revenge for the fact that Anse Hatfield had won a land dispute against Perry and was granted Perry's entire 5,000 acre plot of land. Time after time, viewers can see how the feud could have ended if those on the outside hadn't urged it on for their own special interests. Imagine what

Democrats and Republicans could accomplish if neither were beholden to the special interests that benefit from their inability to compromise.

The series also did a great job depicting the hardness that develops in many who grow up struggling in Appalachia. From the feuds to the wilderness to the coal mines, it has been a difficult life for many. Though much of that is gone today, the residue remains. I think this is why I thrived when teaching in the inner city. I understand hardness. Poverty is poverty. A hard life is a hard life, no matter where it took place.

For me the most powerful moment in the production is when Sally McCoy tells her husband, "You must let your heart break. Only when the most innocent part of you suffers can there be change. Else nothing remains of ya." Wow. With all the violence and vulgarity in this world, it is so tempting to harden and lose your own innocence.

It would be so easy to be bitter. Isn't all anger and hatred a defense against suffering? So we must suffer as Christ did. We must allow our hearts to break. If Sally McCoy has the courage to allow herself to be broken so that she does not become hard, I am inspired to do so as well. Is there anything stronger than a mountain woman's

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Benjamin Whisler is presented the scholarship award from CNB's Chuck Godfrey.

CNB Presents Scholarship to SHS's Benjamin Whisler

Citizens National Bank and The Dollywood Foundation are pleased to present the Dolly Parton Scholarship in the amount of \$15,000 to a young man and graduate of Seymour High School, Benjamin Scott Whisler. Benjamin is the son of Mark and Jery Whisler of Seymour.

Benjamin was named Valedictorian of Seymour High School's Class of 2012. During high school, Benjamin was a member of the National Honor's Society, the Senior BETA Club, and was captain of the school's varsity baseball team. In addition, he volunteered countless hours of his time to

various organizations.

"We congratulate Benjamin and wish him great success as he pursues his dreams this fall at Belmont University, majoring in Audio Engineering Technology," says Chuck Godfrey, Assistant Vice President and Branch Manager of CNB's Seymour Branch.

Seymour Cruise-In

This week's Truck of the Week is a red 1969 F-100 4x4 owned by Joe Keiffer of Seymour. He restored this truck with 30 years of building. He just took the LMC award, Best of class last week in Pigeon Forge. The Cruise-In had over 70 cars two Fridays ago. Next week NAPA of Sevierville will be giving out items. Look for the NAPA truck with the big hat. There will also be free food from local restaurants. Call Dana for more information at 680-9933.

Rosie's World

Cont. from page 2

you didn't know weren't already using the line.

All newspapers were delivered by boys and all boys delivered newspapers. I delivered papers six days a week. It cost seven cents a paper, of which I got to keep two cents.

On Saturday I had to collect the 42 cents from my customers. My favorite customers were ones who gave 50 cents and told me to keep the change. My least favorite customers were the ones who seemed to never be at home on collection day.

Movie stars kissed with their mouths shut. At least, they did in the movies.

Touching someone else's tongue with yours was called French kissing and they didn't do that in movies. I don't know what they did in French movies. French movies were dirty and we weren't allowed to see them.

If you grew up in a generation before there was fast food, you may want to share some of these memories with your children or grandchildren. Just don't blame me if they bust a gut laughing.

Thought for the day: Every day above ground is a good day.

Send comments to: rosemerrie@att.net or 865-748-4717. Thank you.

Report Shows Costs, Benefits of Permanent Supportive Housing

Cont. from page 1

by \$76,721.

- Jail costs accounted for the largest part of those savings, falling from \$45,072 pre-housing to just \$640 post-housing. Total days of jail stay for the population dropped from 626 to 89. Police encounters

with study participants dropped by 67 percent.

- Costs of mental health services dropped from \$74,767 pre-housing to \$53,359 post-housing.
- Costs of health care services increased by \$131,117 for the population, but just 7 percent of

the population accounted for 90 percent of the inpatient hospitalization costs and 72 percent of the outpatient hospital services.

The full report is online at <http://www.cityofknoxville.org/development/FINALTYPCostStudy.pdf>.

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Behind the lens *The Focus* goes to Washington

By Dan Andrews

The Knoxville Focus was invited to the White House to cover Pat Summitt's Presidential Medal of Freedom Award on Tuesday, May 29. As chief photojournalist of *The Focus*, I was given the opportunity to attend this incredible event.

As I first arrived at the White House Press Briefing Room, I was amazed at how small the room actually is. The room is built above the old White House swimming pool. The confines are very tight. The seats for the press that you see on TV during press conferences are assigned to specific news organizations. Major news stations get a simple office cubicle to do all their work. It is amazing how well organized all

the organizations interact with each other and how smooth everything runs.

When it came to my interaction with the Press Corp, I found them to be very friendly. I was taken on an impromptu tour of the area, including the basement where the pool once was. Also located where the pool once was is the "signature wall." This is a wall where reporters and famous celebrities sign their name. Most notable is First Lady Laura Bush who started the tradition. Also on the wall are national security advisors, the Jonas brothers, Ben Stiller, Matthew Broderick, Anderson Cooper and many many more. The area is restricted to official White

Continue on page 2



Photos by Dan Andrews. A wall of cameras records the awards ceremony last Tuesday. Far left, media personnel is briefed. Left, President Obama welcomes all correspondents before the awards ceremony.

Flying High over the French Broad

By Curtis Trotter

KODAK-- The Tennessee Department of Transportation has started the final phase of the Highway 66 road construction project. With the restructuring of the bridge that crosses over the French Broad River well under way, locals can only for see huge backups, as well as long traffic jams during the upcoming tourists season. There are optional routes around the project that do take you out of your way though. But there is also a new way 'over' the scenic river, that may actually be quicker on heavy traffic days. Yes, you read that correct. Over the river.

Welcome to the sport of "zip-lining," a sport and way of life that's been around since the 1700s when Robert Cadman, a steeplejack and rope slider died while descending from Shrewsbury's St. Mary's church when his

roped snapped. Today's zip-lines offer more safety as well as a new way of life for the true outdoorsman.

Enter Sterling Webb of Wahoo Zip Lines, whose once crazy dream finally became a reality this spring, when he did the impossible by pulling four cables from a 300 foot cliff across the French Broad River to a premier landing zone, creating a 1/2 mile adrenaline punch to the heart that the rider will forever remember.

Webb recalls his idea that actually started several years ago. "Before we opened Wahoo Zip Lines at the foot of Bluff Mountain five years ago, I had my eye on this Highway 66 spot. I thought, what an incredible place for a zip line." Webb said.

So the young 44-year-old entrepreneur and zip-line enthusiast had to do something even more impossible than the project itself. That was to convince



PHOTO BY CURTIS TROTTER

Former Vol and New York Jets quarterback Eric Ainge grabs an early lead out of the starting gate over his girlfriend Amanda Wilburn as they prepared to rocket over the French Broad River in Kodak.

the City of Sevierville that it could be done.

"When I went down to the city and told them I wanted to build a zip-line over the French Broad River, they

just belly-laughed. They did say in a humorous way to go see the Army Corps of Engineers, TVA, and the TWRA, and while I was at it, to get with the FAA

and when I get all those permits passed, to come back and see them," Webb joked. "Well, I did what they asked and returned with the permits and placed

them in front of them like a deck of cards and said, 'Lets go.'"

Webb did say it was a long-suffering task to get them approved, but the final 'ok' was all it took to inspire him even more.

"I didn't give up on all the red tape and permits that I knew had to be done to insure the safest zip line ride in America."

The sport of zip lining has grown since Webb put the first one up in the state several years ago. According to Travel Magazine, zip-lining is the fastest growing sport in North America in the last four years. Sevier County alone has seen a huge jump in zip-lines being strung up all over the county since Webb sank the first stake in the ground.

"Competition is getting more stiff because of the popularity alone," Webb added. "Zip-lining is not

Continue on page 2

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The Focus goes to Washington

Cont. from page 1

House Press only and is considered to be sacred grounds by the White House beat reporters.

The actual work environment in the office is laid back during down time but it goes full throttle when a press event starts. One quickly observes the frenzy of clicking coming from the keypads of the Press Corp. Soon after, the reporters are busy in their cubicles typing up articles or going live via video with updates of the top headlines of the day.

Outside photos and live video are taken from a designated platform with a great view of the White House. Secret Service is very selective on where someone



PHOTO BY DAN ANDREWS.

President Obama presents John Glenn with a Medal of Freedom.

can and cannot stand while on the grounds of the White House. I found the Secret Service to be very friendly but very, very

professional.

Seeing the DC press gears turn in person was an awesome experience and a dream come true for

me. Being an official White House Photojournalist for even one day is an event I will cherish for a lifetime!

Flying High over the French Broad

Cont. from page 1

about bouncing from tree to tree and then climbing down. This sport should be an experience all on its own. It starts with the guide, then harnessing up, then the anticipation, and finally the thrill. That's true zip-lining."

Wahoo named its 66th location Wahoo Adrenaline Park because of two other amenities that pound the heart even more.

"We wanted something special here. So we added the world's largest glass bottom bridge known to man. We teamed up with Pepsi to honor Mountain Dew's big anniversary this year and sent out a towering overlook 300 feet above the French Broad River for all to see. From the Mountain Dew Sky Bridge you will also see blazing fast jet boats that return you back to our

main facility," Webb told *The Focus*. "These New Zealand racers finish off the tour, but not before your tour takes you to some uncharted waters where groves of wildlife can be seen on every tour."

One thing zip-lining does is bring the enthusiast outdoors to the beauty of nature. Webb placed his 'palace on a hill' right above the third oldest river in the world, The French Broad.

You not only get a thrill ride, nature at its best, but Webb will also throw in a few little history lessons of the river for free.

"We're not done here yet," Webb said. "If they thought this idea was crazy, just wait and see what we have coming soon." Wahoo zip lines can be reached at www.wahoozip.com. or 453-7301.

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A Feudin’ Son of Tennessee: Kenneth McKellar

Chapter Two

Pages from the Political Past



By Ray Hill
rayhill865@gmail.com

Kenneth McKellar was forty-two years old when first elected to the House of Representatives in a 1911 special election to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Congressman George Washington Gordon. His rise to political prominence had come despite the fact he was not a native of Memphis or Tennessee, having been born in Dallas County, Alabama in 1869. In fact, when Kenneth McKellar was born, Ulysses S. Grant had not yet taken the oath of office as President of the United States. When McKellar left Congress in 1953, another famous general, Dwight D. Eisenhower, was about to assume the presidency.

Like many Southern families just after the Civil War, finances had been precarious in the McKellar household. The future senator’s father apparently suffered from some sort of debilitating illness and the McKellar brothers had to work very hard to make ends meet. Kenneth McKellar, with the help of his older brothers, managed to attend the University of Alabama where he roomed with John Hollis Bankhead, II, son of Alabama’s United States Senator and a future member of the Senate himself. McKellar earned Bachelor’s, Master’s and LL.B. degrees from the University of Alabama and for much of the rest of his life wore his Phi Beta Kappa key on a watch chain that usually hung across his vest.

K. D. McKellar arrived in Memphis with his new law degree, exactly fifteen cents in his pocket, \$600 in debt to his older brothers, and wearing a suit that had seen far better days. McKellar thought he was only visiting Memphis when he got off the train, intending to spend some time with his brothers before heading to California where he anticipated opening a law office. His older brother Robert, a successful executive with one of the railroads, convinced McKellar to remain in Memphis for a while and if he chose to continue his journey on to California, Robert promised to get him a train pass.

McKellar soon found he enjoyed Memphis and liked the social life where his relatives were well established in the community. The young attorney accepted an offer to join the law firm of Metcalfe and Walker. It was not long before McKellar began his first flirtation with politics, serving as an elector for the Democratic presidential ticket headed by William Jennings Bryan, then known as the “Boy Orator of the Platte”, in 1896. McKellar had left the Metcalfe firm the year before to form a



Kenneth D. McKellar walking near the Capitol just after his election to the U. S. Senate, 1917.

partnership with Colonel William Carroll and James Chalmers. The firm of Carroll, Chalmers and McKellar was prosperous and after Chalmers died in 1898, the firm was known as Carroll and McKellar.

Colonel Carroll was a highly esteemed member of the Bar and quite well connected, both socially and politically. Colonel Carroll was also the father of a very beautiful daughter with whom McKellar was said to have fallen in love. Evidently McKellar put off asking the young lady to marry him and made the mistake of taking a long holiday and was heartbroken to discover upon his return the object of his affections had married another man. It was a blow from which the extraordinarily sensitive McKellar never recovered and he never married, remaining a bachelor for the rest of his life.

While McKellar described himself modestly as “a plain lawyer” to friends, he became a very successful one. After practicing law for almost twenty years, McKellar had earned something like \$300,000, the equivalent of quite nearly \$7,000,000 today. Despite his success as an attorney, McKellar found the time to become involved in civic affairs and politics. McKellar was a member of the Jackson Club, which was an organization dedicated to reforming local government. McKellar authored a program to do precisely that and a new city charter was amended in 1905. It was around this time McKellar became better acquainted with another transplant

to Memphis, Edward Hull Crump. Crump had come from Mississippi and the association between the two men would grow closer as the years passed and would continue for almost fifty years.

McKellar was politically prominent enough by 1910 to be urged to run for governor by many Democrats. While McKellar appreciated the compliment, he realized the bitter division inside the state Democratic Party would make it very difficult for any Democrat to win. McKellar thanked his admirers, but refused to run, seemingly content to practice law. McKellar did campaign for the eventual Democratic nominee for governor, U. S. Senator Robert Love Taylor. Bob Taylor was one of the most famous Democrats in Tennessee, much loved by many thousands of Tennesseans and had already been elected governor three times previously, once defeating his own brother Alf, who was a Republican, in a contest that was known as the “War of the Roses.” Taylor, too, was uneasy by the fractured state of Tennessee’s Democratic Party and was quite happy in the Senate. McKellar’s premonition had been correct and Taylor lost to a little known Republican from Newport, Tennessee, Ben W. Hooper.

When the Tennessee General Assembly convened in 1911, McKellar’s name was presented as a candidate to succeed U. S. Senator James B. Frazier. Senator Frazier wanted a second term, but soon discovered he could not muster

the necessary votes to be reelected. It was a “fusionist” group of Independent Democrats and Republicans who chose the next senator, Luke Lea of Nashville.

K. D. McKellar was vacationing when the Congressman from Memphis, George Washington Gordon, died suddenly on August 9, 1911.

Gordon had not only been a general in the Confederate Army, but had been one of the first members of the original Ku Klux Klan. When the seventy-four year old Congressman Gordon went on to meet his Maker, the leading candidate to fill the old general’s seat was the evidently aptly named Tom Looney. One of McKellar’s brother’s wired him while he was on vacation, informing him of Congressman Gordon’s death and the groundswell of support for his candidacy of he would run for Congress. McKellar wired back a terse telegram: “Not interested.”

When supporters of a prospective McKellar candidacy sadly reported the attorney had no interest in running in the special election, Looney promptly bragged McKellar did not want to run because he could not win. Possessing a very quick temper, McKellar immediately wired one of his brothers to announce his own candidacy for Congress and instructions to pay the filing fee. McKellar cut short his vacation and returned to Memphis to begin his campaign to represent Shelby, Fayette, Hardeman and Tipton Counties in the House of Representatives.

McKellar easily defeated the boastful Tom Looney and assumed his seat in Congress. Upon his arrival in Washington, D. C., McKellar confessed he found it “very pleasant” and concluded “it looks like I shall like it very much.” McKellar believed the success of a freshman member of Congress was largely dependent upon interpersonal relationships and he set out to try and meet the other members. McKellar also applied himself to learning the rules of parliamentary procedure, which he soon mastered.

McKellar found himself swamped with work; a heavy load of correspondence from constituents besieged him daily and the new Congressman confessed he was surprised by the number of entreaties from constituents asking him to sponsor private bills for them. At that time, there was no Social Security and any pension for veterans or the disabled or gravely ill required a private act for the specific benefit of the petitioner.

K. D. McKellar was also concerned about roads. When he was first elected to Congress, he had thought to drive his new Packard automobile from Memphis to Washington, D. C. McKellar had been shocked and indignant to discover once he was outside Memphis, the roads were barely passable. After several minor accidents and numerous flat tires, a very frustrated and angry McKellar decided to ship the expensive Packard by rail. It was an experience he did not forget and by December of 1911, McKellar was telling friends he had determined

to make a fight for a system of Federal highways.

McKellar’s fight for a Federal highway system went on for several years. It was not until 1916 that Congress finally approved a Federal Aid Road Act. There was considerable opposition throughout the entire government to spending so much money on roads and President Woodrow Wilson himself was dubious about excessive expenditures for Federal highways. Congressman McKellar and Alabama Senator John H. Bankhead called on President Wilson at the White House to urge Wilson to support the highway bill. The President promptly informed McKellar and Senator Bankhead he did not believe spending Federal money on highways to be constitutional.

Bankhead watched in horrified silence as McKellar told the President any money spent on developing a national highway system could easily be justified as being necessary for the defense of the United States, which certainly was constitutional.

McKellar reminded the President Wilson of a well-publicized event where a German submarine had docked in an American harbor so the Captain and crew could go into town for lunch. The implication was not lost on Wilson, who then asked just how much money would be needed to start a Federal highway network. Senator Bankhead had been willing to agree to \$40,000,000 to start, but Congressman McKellar told the President he thought \$75,000,000 would likely get the program underway, which would surely help create an expanded network of highways that would facilitate more rapid movement of both troops and material.

Senator Bankhead was aghast at the enormous sum suggested by Congressman McKellar. Senator Bankhead was even more astonished when President Wilson readily agreed to the much higher figure and the bill passed by the Congress included the \$75,000,000 to be spent over a span of five years. As the two men left the White House, Bankhead turned to McKellar and told the younger man he was certain he had killed the project when he asked for the stars and the moon.

Closer to home, McKellar waged a lengthy battle to acquire a second bridge spanning the mighty Mississippi river from Memphis to Arkansas. It was a hard fought battle and there were more than a few times when it appeared all was lost, but McKellar skillfully negotiated not only the tedious legislative process, but also fought off a railroad that wanted to maintain its own monopoly. McKellar got yet a different railroad to agree to pay for much of the construction of the new bridge and fought off crippling amendments to the bridge bill by the leader of his own party in the House of Representatives. It was an impressive performance, especially by a freshman legislator and McKellar’s constituents were impressed.

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Adapt and Overcome: Knoxville Challenges the Death Race

By Kareta Johnson

One man from Knoxville is determined to take on the ultimate challenge! Sean O'Donnell has attempted to participate in Death Race, one of the most punishing competitions several times, but has had no luck until recently. "Every year that I tried to submit, it filled up and this year they had spots open, but each person had to turn in a three paragraph essay of why you deserve to be chosen for the competition," explained Sean O'Donnell, first time Death Race competitor.

Death Race was started back in 2005 and is annually held in Pittsfield, Vermont. The race is like no other in the world, separating the strong from the weak and challenging each competitor physically, mentally, and emotionally. This race does not discriminate; both men and women from all different backgrounds and ages compete testing their strengths.

The race consists of about 30 punishing events and its length is basically a 45-mile excruciating endurance test for about 24-48 grueling hours. The most terrifying aspect of the length is that no competitor truly knows the end or when they will reach it. Training for this event ahead of time may be out of the question. The entire course is kept secret and the competitors do not know what they will be doing until the actual event is happening.

"It's an extreme challenge, an adventure race where in a typical adventure race you know the distance or starting location, but with this race nothing is really outlined," explained O'Donnell. The challenge is the fact that you do not know what to expect. "How do you train for something, when you don't even know what it is?"

Continue on page 3



PHOTO BY JAMES SPEARS, SPEARSPHOTO

Happiness is winning a state championship. Proof is on the faces of these Gibbs softball players after their 2-0 win over Goodpasture in the TSSAA Class AA finals. Front row, from left: Karri Byrd, Dani Jefferson, Samantha Smith, Ashley Swaney, Savannah Foster. Middle row, from left: Kaitlyn Trent, Kaitlin Beeler, Amber Swaney, Cheyenne Boles, Rachel Farmer, Megan Farmer. Back row, from left: Lexie Needham, Logan Baker, Anna Mershon, Kaetlyn Walker, Faith Lowry, Holly Moyers.

Gibbs' state softball championship is very satisfying

By Steve Williams

The satisfaction of working for something special and accomplishing it – a state championship – isn't going away anytime soon, if ever, for members of Gibbs High School's 2012 softball team.

"We're still on cloud nine," said head coach Carol Mitchell Wednesday. "It feels great."

When the Lady Eagles turned in their uniforms last Tuesday, tears of joy were still being shed.

This group of players probably

would have liked to have kept the uniforms, even as they were – dirt, sweat and all.

"They didn't want to give them back," said Coach Mitchell.

Gibbs doesn't have to part with the memories of its 2-0 victory

over Goodpasture on Friday, May 25, in the TSSAA Class AA state finals in Murfreesboro. It was the school's ninth state title in softball but first since 2000.

Seniors on the team could have

Continue on page 2

CAK soccer team takes State

By Ken Lay

Christian Academy of Knoxville's boys soccer team has been a powerhouse for a decade.

The Warriors, however, were noticeably absent from the Class A/AA Championship match for the last two seasons.

CAK returned to the title game in 2012 and the Warriors claimed their first championship trophy in three seasons with a hard-fought 1-0 victory

over Kingsbury recently at the Richard Siegel Soccer Complex in Murfreesboro.

CAK claimed the victory when Jon Ragland scored in the 62nd minute. It was the second shutout of the tournament for Warriors senior goalkeeper Zach Mayes.

But shutouts were far from rare for CAK (23-1-1) in 2012.

"I'm really proud of the way we've played all year,"

Warriors first-year coach Kurt Backstrom said after watching his team win the ultimate prize on Friday, May 25. "We've had discipline in the back all season.

"Zach Mayes has been tremendous and he has a great defense in front of him."

The championship match was a defensive struggle and CAK scored a short-handed goal. Ragland's marker came

with the Warriors, who advanced to the 2012 title match with victories over Chattanooga Christian and White House, playing down a man after Ryan Creel picked up a red card in the latter stages of the first half.

"Ryan Creel got a red card with 10 minutes left and from there, we had to play a man down and it was hot," said Backstrom, who was part of several Class AAA State

Championship squads at Farragut as an assistant to Wallie Culbreth. "It was hot down there and that made things tough."

The Warriors opened tournament play with a 1-0 overtime win over Chattanooga Christian. Stevie Johnson scored the lone marker in that contest.

CAK's offense clicked into gear in the semifinals

Continue on page 4



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Taking the ‘Lady’ out of ‘Lady Vols?’

By Alex Norman

Another week... another public relations problem for the University of Tennessee Athletics Department.

Last week it was news about the dismissals (and the manner in which they were dismissed) of Bud Ford and Debby Jennings. Between them there was a combined 80+ years working in the men's and women's athletics departments. This move has damaged the reputation of athletic director Dave Hart in some circles.

This week? Rumors about the end of the "Lady Vols" brand.

Former Lady Vol basketball star Chamique Holdsclaw typed the following on her facebook page on May 29th... and much like Ron Burgundy, it's kind of a big deal.

"I guess soon enough we won't be called Lady Vols anymore. We will be all in the same gang"

In the comments section of that same posting, Holdsclaw added...

"I don't get into Politics but I'm big on Tradition... that's one of the reason a lot of female athletes chose UT. Over the years they have built a brand. Sad the work of Joan Cronan who has fought for women for years is going down the drain. Well possibly."

Holdsclaw is one of the most successful athletes to ever step foot on the UT campus. She is a four-time All-American, a National Player of the Year, and led Tennessee to three NCAA titles from 1996-1998.

Heck, she has a street named after her near Thompson-Boling Arena for crying out loud.

These comments didn't come out of the blue.

At the present time, a petition at change.org, with a title "Help Save Women's Athletics at the University of Tennessee and Preserve Pat Summitt's Legacy," has more than 840 signatures. The petition criticizes recent personnel moves, and "any decision related to the elimination and/or significant reduction in the utilization of the internationally known and recognized Lady Vol logo."

Well, the people have apparently made their voices heard. On May 31st, Hart told WNML's Jimmy Hyams that there's no truth to rumors he considered doing away with Lady Vol logo, or its color scheme.

Whether that is true or not depends on whether you believe that Hart is committed to women's athletics at the University of Tennessee.

It would be hard to convince the hard core Lady Vols fans that he is.

The consolidation of the men's and women's athletic departments, while a financial necessity, and something that probably should have happened a decade ago (Tennessee was one of the last hold-outs) has been met with resistance from many inside the women's department, and skepticism from Lady Vols supporters.

What has made Tennessee women's athletics unique is its... well... uniqueness. UT has been a leader in the battle for an equal playing field for female athletes. If there has ever been a bigger advocate for Title IX than Pat Summitt, and a greater partner than the University of Tennessee in this regard, I'd like to see them.

And while Summitt and the basketball program's eight national championships get the most pub, the non-revenue sports have held their own.

Volleyball got to a Final Four in 2005. Track and Field won NCAA Indoor titles in 2005 and 2009 and an outdoor title in 1981. The soccer and golf programs have had success on a national level too. Right now, the Lady Vols softball program, with their fifth appearance in the Women's College World Series, might be the only team Tennessee fans can count on in terms of consistent winning.

But with so many changes at Tennessee, can you blame fans for being skeptical? Hart isn't a Tennessean, nor does he have strong connections to the University and the Athletic Department that he's been in charge of since last September.

It is entirely possible that word about these proposed changes was thrown out there to see what the reaction would be... if that is the case; it shows how little the current athletic administration really knows about their fan base.

Give Hart credit for publicly shooting down these rumors in a timely fashion. But there is a much bigger problem.

How much do Lady Vols fans trust that he is a man of his word?

Gibbs' state softball championship is very satisfying

Cont. from page 1

been in kindergarten the last time the Lady Eagles won the gold.

"They knew it had been a long time," said Mitchell. "They're all very aware of the tradition of the softball program."

This Gibbs team had a special identity.

"They are very blue collar," said Mitchell. "Some of my teams in the past have just been better than everybody else, period. (As for) this team, by no means could you look at us in the beginning of the year and even in the middle of the year and think, 'Well, they're just better than everybody else.' They worked hard. I think that's why they are so passionate about the championship. They're still in tears, and we're four days after the fact. And they are still crying because, I think, there's a satisfaction they saw that when we work hard and we improve, then this is what can happen. And it did."

Gibbs' approach was to focus on the process, not the end result.

"We just tried to make ourselves better every day," explained Mitchell. "The coaching staff pushes, but the girls have to respond. And that's exactly what happened. We pushed them. They responded. They got better every day. They got better every game. We got to the state and pretty much dominated."

Gibbs beat Upperman 9-0 and White House 3-0 before surviving a scare in the winners' bracket finals, a 7-3 victory over Goodpasture in eight innings. The title-clinching victory over Goodpasture was the Lady Eagles' 22nd consecutive win and gave them a season record of 42-5.

"We lost four talented girls from the previous year," said Mitchell, looking back on how the season started. "You never know at the beginning of the season what type of leadership you're going to have. Are other girls going to step up and take those positions? We had to move some people around and make some adjustments, but everybody was willing to play their role and be part of the team."

Samantha Smith, Gibbs' No. 1 pitcher for four years, limited Goodpasture to two hits, did not walk a batter and struck out four in the finale. Goodpasture did not get a base runner past second and was set down in order in five of the seven innings.

Gibbs struck for its first run in the second inning. After two outs, Kaitlyn Trent and Ashley Swaney singled and Karri Byrd doubled to right field to drive in Trent.

The Lady Eagles got an insurance run in the bottom of the sixth. Dani Jefferson singled, moved to second on Savannah Foster's sacrifice bunt and to third on Cheyenne Boles' double before scoring on a passed ball.

Gibbs' starting lineup and batting order at the state was senior Megan Farmer, first baseman; freshman Faith Lowry, center fielder; junior Dani Jefferson, shortstop; junior Savannah Foster, catcher; freshman Cheyenne Boles, third baseman; senior Samantha Smith, pitcher; sophomore Kaitlyn Trent, second baseman; senior Ashley Swaney, designated player; sophomore Karri Byrd, right fielder; senior Amber Swaney, left fielder.

Smith has signed a softball scholarship with Lincoln Memorial University, while twin sisters Ashley and Amber Swaney have signed with Cleveland State Community College.

Gibbs will have "a good core group" returning next season, said Coach Mitchell. "We still have to replace the four seniors." That includes Smith, "who pretty much dominated the second half of the season."


Rachel Farmer will take over on the mound. She had a 10-0 record in varsity play as a freshman.

"Hopefully, we can work her enough this summer that she will be ready to step right in and not miss a beat," said Mitchell.

"People are probably going to move positions," added Mitchell. "It happens every year. It's like a puzzle and you just got to find the right fit."

This season's puzzle turned out to be a picture of a championship team.

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Parent Signature: _____

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Youth: S M L
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Down the Lane



Rosie's Senior Bowling Review

Weekly achievements for Wednesday, Club 55, May 24, 2012

High Game Scratch-Male	613 Gene Allmon
	581 Ed Beatty
	660 Ralph Allmon
High Game Scratch-Female	145 Wanda Reed
	118 Nancy Griffith
High Series Scratch-Female	384 Wanda Reed
	334 Nancy Griffith
No Thursday scores	



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Spartans take tennis title

By Ken Lay

Webb School of Knoxville had a great recent stay at the Division II-A State Tennis Championships in Murfreesboro.

For starters, the Lady Spartans won their third consecutive team title at Old Fort Park on Wednesday, May 23 with a 4-0 sweep of St. George's. The Lady Spartans got singles victories from Anna Catharine Feaster, Vicki Garcia, Kathryn Evans and Jeannine Bell to claim the state championship.

"These girls have had a target on their backs for the last couple of years," Webb coach Jimmy Pitkanen said. "They've handled the pressure really well.

"A lot of the credit for that goes to our captains, Vicki Garcia and Jeannine Bell. They've done a good job keeping everybody loose."

Bell and Garcia also posted a second-place finish in the individual doubles tournament and Feaster won the individual singles title. Lady Spartans eighth grader Diana

Grandas also reached the semifinals of the individual singles draw.

The Webb doubles tandem of Evans and Divya Agarwal also reached the semifinals.

The Webb boys also enjoyed their stay in Murfreesboro. The Spartans also entered the state tournament seeking a third title.

Webb, however, came up short when it dropped a 4-3 decision to University School of Nashville. The Spartans won three singles matches in the state team finals as freshman Lorenzo Rollhauser, Gabi Dagotto and Rajat Agarwal to force the title match to be decided in doubles.

"The boys played really well and I thought we might have a chance when we got to doubles," Pitkanen said.

But it wasn't to be. USN swept the doubles matches and claimed the title.

"Our boys were really disappointed," Pitkanen added. "The thing about both of our teams is that

if one person lost, they all lost and if one person won, they all won. The boys really competed well and both of our teams had great senior leadership."

The Spartans, however, won the individual doubles championship on Friday, May 25. Senior Brian Carman teamed with Rollhauser to win the championship.

"I was really proud of Brian Carman," Pitkanen said. "He taught everybody on our team how to win."

In Class AAA Boys Doubles: West High's doubles tandem of Steven Patrick and Harrison Smith won their second consecutive doubles title. That duo also helped lead the Rebels to a runner-up finish in the team championships. West (13-1) lost 4-0 to Brentwood in the title match.

In Class AAA Boys singles: Hardin Valley Academy senior Daniel Hardesty reached the semifinals before dropping a 7-6, 6-2 match to eventual state runner-up Drew Forsyth of Cordova.

Hardesty advanced to the semifinals with a 6-1, 6-3 win over White Station's Sairam Gudiseva.

In Class AAA Girls Doubles: Catholic High School's girls doubles tandem of Katie McCarty and Emily Hollo-way qualified for the state tournament. The team was eliminated by eventual state champs Iris Hao and Lauren Caballero 6-0, 6-2 in the first round.

CAK eighth grader makes tournament field: Christian Academy of Knoxville eighth grader Koi Royal qualified for the Class A/AA singles tournament. Royal was eliminated with a first-round loss to Murfreesboro Central's Mason Greer.

Smith and Chastain reach title match: CAK's Barbara Smith and Haleigh Chastain reached the championship match and dropped a 6-3, 6-0 match to Ellie Henry and Hannah Henry of Chattanooga Christian. Smith and Chastain also competed in the team championships where the Warriors posted a runner-up finish.

Lady Hawks lead county in state track finals

By Ken Lay

Hardin Valley Academy, in its fourth year of existence, has already made a habit of competing for --- and winning championships.

The Hawks athletic program has already claimed a state championship in soccer, a district girls basketball championship and a pair of consecutive district baseball championships.

Now, Hardin Valley can add another State Championship trophy to its case.

The Lady Hawks won the Class AAA Track and Field Championship on Friday, May 25 at Middle Tennessee State University.

There, Hardin Valley edged Tennessee High by one point to claim the state title as the meet went down to the 200-meter dash.

HVA senior Emily Yarnell needed a second-place finish in the 200 for the Lady Hawks. She got it, completing the race in 24.84 seconds. That was the end of a big day for the University of Tennessee signee. She finished second in the 100 (12.19). She also competed on the 400-meter and 800-meter relay teams that both took third in those respective events.

The Lady Hawks swept the pole vault as Ashley Kessler and Lindsey Kessler claimed the top two spots. Ashley took first (12-2) and Lindsey finished second (11-6). West High's Maya Barosso posted a

mark of 11-6 and claimed the third spot.

Local runners also dominated the 1600-meter run. Catholic's Megan Ferowich took fourth (5:06.27). Hardin Valley's Hannah Feiten (5:07.94) finished sixth and HVA's Emma Mashburn (5:10.31) finished seventh.

Ferowich and Feiten also competed in the 3200-meter run. Ferowich finished third (11:04.80) while Feiten took fifth (11:14.98).

Barosso finished second in the 300-meter hurdles (44.94).

The Lady Hawks' Julie Davenport placed fifth in the high jump (5-2) and Chelsea Floyd, her teammate finished 10th in the triple jump with a mark of 35-05.75.

Hardin Valley's Tamia Crockett finished eighth in the shot put (34-03.25) and 14th in the discus (88-10).

Several boys have great individual efforts: In the Class AAA boys meet, several boys placed in finals. Three area runners placed in the 400-meter dash. Powell's Cody Barkhurst took fourth (49.60). Karns High's Shaquille Cantrell finished fifth (49.91) and Catholic's Kevin Nicholson came in sixth (50.24).

In the 800, Powell's Andrew Ogle finished third (1:52.14). Hardin Valley's Demonte Felton finished seventh in the 200-meter dash (22.33).

West High's A'Darrius

Continue on page 4

Adapt and Overcome: Knoxvilleian Challenges the Death Race

Cont. from page 1

The competitors were informed that the theme of this year's event is "Betrayal" and that you will have a partner for the first event, so it may be a Survival of the Fittest challenge! The only other preparation is a gear list that consists of a life vest, knitting needles, and bandages. The race does have a medical staff spread out at different checkpoints throughout the race if there are any injuries that need immediate attention.

One could say that O'Donnell has been training for this event all his life. He has participated in several adventure runs and similar challenges, but this one seems to be the most mentally challenging. "This one is definitely in its own class," he said.

O'Donnell plans to draw on his Marine Corps experience as well as finding support from his family. "This is similar to military bootcamp; there's sleep deprivation, physical skills, and mentally breaking you down." His sisters have participated in marathons with him and his father has

done countless events. "My father has been to Hawaii for the Iron Man five times, and is doing a 100 mile run this weekend, so it is bred into me," shared O'Donnell.

Many competitors are surprised by the number of opponents that help each other out. O'Donnell explained, "I'm not competing against any other competitors; I'm competing within myself against the course."

This year's event is hosted by PEAK Races, a very popular adventure company known for their Spartan races, and will be held on June 15, 2012 in Pittsfield, Vermont with about 300 insane volunteer Death Racers! Out of the worlds' most outstanding athletes that will give their blood, sweat, and tears for this race, about 15% will actually finish. "I would expect maybe about five to 15 people making it to the finish line," stated O'Donnell. Last year, half of the competitors quit after only nine hours!

"This is the next level of progression for me; I've done Iron Mans, trail runs,

adventure runs," explained O'Donnell. One of the main challenges that O'Donnell faces is the unexpected. He has been injured and broken much needed equipment during a competition, but gets right back into it instead of letting it get to him. In past years, the race consisted of crawling through mud under barbed wire, hiking a mountain, chopping wood, swimming, running, memorizing and reciting Greek texts or other cultural rhetoric involving mental challenges, and eating onions! Ironically speaking of onions, one of the Death Race directors states regarding each competitor, "When you get down to the core of a person, it's like peeling an onion, it's really inspiring for us to find that great inner self... that's what this competition is about."

For those out there that want to take on this ultimate challenge next year, you can visit the main Death Race website at www.youmaydie.com! The organization also has a Twitter and Facebook page and numerous forums online. O'Donnell feels that it is truly amazing what your

mind and body can do, just when you feel like you are going to die or give up... you can go further.

Bearden baseball continues KIL streak at state

By Steve Williams

Bearden High's pursuit of its first state baseball title in Jack Tate's final season as head coach came up short, but the Bulldogs did continue Knox County's incredible string of appearances in the TSSAA's Class AAA finals.

The KIL's streak now stands at seven.

Farragut started the string by winning the championship in 2006. South-Doyle was state runner-up in 2007. The the Admirals won four straight crowns beginning in 2008.

Except for the 2005 season, Knox County also has had a representative in the Class AAA finals every season since 2001 when Farragut was state runner-up.

The Admirals also were state runners-up in 2002 and state champs in 2003. The 2004 title game was an all-KIL affair with Farragut defeating Halls for the gold.

In this year's tournament at Murfreesboro, Bearden bowed to Arlington 9-3 in the finals, ending the Bulldogs'

outstanding season under Tate.

Farragut won its first game in the tourney then lost close games to Arlington and Riverdale.

In Class AA, Christian Academy of Knoxville's state appearance was brief as the Warriors lost their first two games to Smith County and Spring Hill.

Grace Christian Academy was edged 1-0 by Eagleville in its Class A opener, came back to beat Friendship Christian 11-3 but was ousted by Huntingdon 8-7.

In state softball, Gibbs was the big story for Knox County as the Lady Eagles captured the Class AA title, blanking Goodpasture 2-0 in the finals.

CAK continued its impressive season with a 3-1 first-round win over Chester County. The Lady Warriors, however, dropped a 6-4 decision to Goodpasture and were eliminated by Upperman 2-1.

Seymour, which defeated Maryville in the Class AAA state sectionals, couldn't sustain its momentum at the state, falling to Coffee County 12-2 and Arlington 10-0.

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It's Vacation Bible School Time!

The building is hardly recognizable now. It was much smaller back then. The traditional style church built in the sixties stood at the top of the hill. It was a fixture of my faith for nearly three decades. We waited for the time to come every summer. It was exciting! Every morning for two weeks, children and teachers formed two long lines in the parking lot. At 9 o'clock sharp, everyone was ready for the music to begin. At the front of the lines were those designated to carry the American flag, the Christian flag, and the Bible, God's Holy Word. The piano's first chord was the cue. You could almost hear its crisp notes calling: "it is time." The procession began as children of all ages marched up the church steps and into the sanctuary. It was the official start of Vacation Bible School.

Preparation for the Bible School actually started several days before with a parade. The main attraction was the church bus loaded with boys and girls and decorated with banners and balloons. We would canvas the community spreading the word about the



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

upcoming Bible School event. Each morning children marched into the sanctuary for assembly, which included pledges to the flags and the Bible and singing, before going to their separate classes. Stories from the Bible, cookies and Kool-aid, and crafts made the morning disappear quickly. In those days, there were no organized themes or fancy decorations. A student activity booklet emphasized the Bible story and verse for each day. We had great teachers, most of whom have passed on. The late Annalee Bales served as Director of the Children's Department. Without uttering a word, her patient nature could command quiet in a noisy room filled with children. I remember her stories that were illustrated with a single picture. She often summed up a story by using the title of a song, such as "This is My Father's World." The late Zettie Carter, a retired school teacher, was usually in charge of the older students. She had a unique style all her own. I especially remember the way she rolled each word when she spoke, causing listeners to wait anxiously for the next one. Just as we settled into the Bible School routine, it was over. The highlight of the two-week school came on the last day. It

was often a picnic at Norris Dam—rain or shine.

Commencement Night brought most parents to church to hear a program of songs and Bible verses presented by young voices. For many of us, it was our earliest introduction to speaking in public. For some, it was an opportunity to get the entire family involved in church. For others, it was an invitation to know Jesus. After the program, parents visited the classrooms to see the carefully hand-made crafts, often made of yarn, popsicle sticks, or construction paper. Certificates were then handed out, marking the official end of Bible School.

In the early seventies, Fairview Baptist had been without a pastor for some time. Summer was coming to a close when the church called Rev. Ralph Berry as full-time pastor. He quickly scheduled a night-time Bible School which gave those who worked on jobs during the day an opportunity to help in Bible School at night. Rev. Berry taught a Bible study class for the adults while the children attended their Bible School classes. I am reminded of couples at church, such as the late Elmer and Alice Cardwell who lived just around the bend. Elmer was the Sunday School Superintendent and Alice served as Superintendent of the Bible School for many years. The late Junior and Susie Warren were

a faithful couple in every service of the church including Bible School. Their car was usually filled with children they brought to church with them. Junior worked at a printing company and often helped get brochures and programs printed for the church.

That traditional church which once was one of the area's smallest has now become one of the largest. Its expanded campus and the new and enlarged sanctuary has long surpassed the bulging membership of two hundred in the seventies. Even now, current construction is slated to add more rooms on the hillside. The Senior Pastor, Rev. Bryan Wright, has a long association with the church on the hill. I remember his family coming to Fairview when he was but a small child, and he grew up in the rural church. It is remarkable that he and his family are serving our Lord in the place where he spent his youth learning about Jesus. It was no surprise that he felt called to the ministry. His parents, Jayne and Charles, were dedicated youth leaders for many years.

Vacation Bible School is fun, and it is also a huge building block in the foundation of our faith. It is time for the music, time for children to march into churches, and time to lay another block for their strong spiritual foundation. It is time.

CAK soccer team takes State

Cont. from page 1

in a 5-2 victory over White House. In that match, Ragland provided the bulk of the offense for the Warriors. He scored four goals and Ben Holt also tallied.

When CAK last won a state championship, the members of the 2012 senior class were freshmen.

"It was great to see these seniors go out winning a state championship," said Backstrom, who is the Warriors third head coach in three seasons. "That was the way they came in."

The Warriors won six titles (in seven championship game appearances) over eight seasons under Tom Gerlach. Gerlach led CAK to the state semifinals in his final season as coach.

Dave Parker, Gerlach's longtime assistant led the Warriors to the state semifinals in 2011.

Lady Hawks lead county

Cont. from page 3

Sanders won the 300-meter hurdles (27.92) and finished eighth in the 110-meter hurdles (16.50).

Three area runners placed in the 3200-meter run. Will Templeton (Hardin Valley) took fourth (9:26.42). Bearden's Skyler Winchester was eighth (9:29.40) and HVA's Aaron Templeton was 10th (9:42.07).

Three area pole vaulters also placed as the Rebels' Hank Mary took fourth (14-6). Bearden's Elmore Jackson took fifth (13-6) and Halls High's Connor Rohrbaugh was 11th (11-0).

In the Class A/AA girls meet: Christian Academy of Knoxville finished fourth. Laura Forster, of the Lady Warriors, took fifth in both the 100-meters and 400-meters. She posted a time of 12.77 seconds in the 100 and completed the 400 in 59.28. CAK's Sarah Zimmerman took fourth in the 800-meter run (2:22.10) and third in the 3200-meter run (11:36.60). Laura Morse was second in the high jump (5-0).

The Lady Warriors took second in the 3200-meter relay as the team of Morse, Abbie Shoutko, Catherine Bowen and Zimmer represented CAK. CAK's team of Zimmer, Morse, Foster and Bowen took second in the 1600-meter relay (4:05.72).

Austin-East's Lexus Hall finished fifth in the 200-meter dash (26.16). Carolyn Hinch was eighth in the 400 (1:01.07). Hinch finished seventh in the triple jump (32-08.25)

The Lady Roadrunners' Sherona Rogers won the shot put with a mark of 37-11. Gibbs High's Tracy Nicholas took second (34-11).

Kelsey DeLapp, of the Lady Eagles finished second in the pole vault with a leap of 10 feet.

Austin-East placed in both the 400-meter and 1600-meter relays. The Lady Roadrunners were fourth in the 400 relay (50.08) and fifth in the 1600-meter relay (4:11.01).

In the Class A/AA Boys Meet: Fulton and Austin-East both had good days on the track. The Falcons' Amir Chapman was seventh in the 200-meter dash (22.73). He teamed with Xavier Hawkins, Daryl Rollins and Dominique Williams to win the 800-meter relay with a time of 1:28.30.

The Roadrunners took seventh in the 400-meter relay as the team of Cox Cordy, Darius Smallwood, Devin Williams and Jayshon Forbes with a time of 44.80 seconds.

Lady Spartans finish ninth in Division II: Webb's girls finished ninth at the state meet as Claire Bonnyman finished eighth in the pole vault (8-6). Natalie Ritchie came in fourth in the 1600-meter run (5:26.22) and Peighton Meske was fifth (5:27.36).

The Lady Spartans were fourth in the 800-meter relay (1:47.94), sixth in the 1600-meter relay (4:15.45) and eighth in the 400-meter relay (51.27).

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The Doctor is in

a weekly column by
Dr. Jim Ferguson

Lug Nuts

A woman once wrote me that she didn't like the non-medical aspects of my column. She thought that I should only write about medical issues, and I responded by explaining to her that a weekly column about only medical issues would be as dry as toast. In fact, I believe that my column is becoming too stylized and too predictable. Perhaps it's time to stir the pot.

I often refer to myself as a "body mechanic." I don't work on cars anymore as I did when I was a teenager. In high school I had a 1965 Mustang and I did all the maintenance work on my car. However, not only did I change the oil and filter, I set the gaps in

the distributor, adjusted the timing belt and once replaced a water pump on my "hot rod." Now days I just take my truck to my mechanic and limit my work to human chassis.

Our dilemma occurred when the brakes on Becky's car failed during the Memorial weekend while we were visiting my son-in-law's family north of Cincinnati. The Johnsons are wonderful people and love a project. They are also quite resourceful. When we couldn't find anyone open to do a brake job, the Johnsons took Becky and me to Auto Zone where we purchased brake pads and rotors. Before last weekend I'd never met a rotor,

and being a city boy, I'd never held a brake pad. And then my CME (continuing mechanical education) began. We did the brake job in the front yard just like the good ole boys of east Tennessee.

Becky loves to wander in hardware stores and buy tools that I can never find when I need them. Chuck has a tool shed that rivals Parker Brothers and fortunately he had the remedy for a stuck rotor. He taught how to use a *wheel-puller*, which functions as its namesake, and is invaluable to avoid busted knuckles and utterances that might offend delicate ears. You might not recognize the bandy-legged mechanic in the picture above, but that would be me.

My father was a man of many projects and taught his three boys a work ethic and consequences of our choices. I think there is too little of my Dad's philosophy operative today. He was a WWII vet and a naval aviator and I honor his service and all the other Vets on this special day of memory and thanks. We have freedom because of men like my Dad and my

son-in-law's father, Chuck, aka, the senior lug nut.

A new controversy has arisen surrounding the comments of the MSNBC host Chris Hayes, who said he was "uncomfortable" referring to our veterans as heroes. A real man and an American would never utter such a scurrilous observation. I don't accept this odious person's apology.

I believe in Classical Liberalism as espoused by Jefferson, Adams and Washington. These *veterans* of the American Revolution were the embodiment of the American ideals of "freedom, liberty, independent thought and conscience, self-reliance, hard work and justice."

How did we move so far from those noble principles? I believe it began in the early 1900s with the Progressive movement that brought us the graduated income tax and prohibition. These, and entry into the First World War, were so unpopular that in 1924 the progressive John Dewey (of Dewey decimal fame) advocated changing the name of their movement to liberalism.

This descriptive term

has encompassed the left for more than half a century now, but has again become unpopular due to failed policies. President Obama and Hillary Clinton and many in the Democratic Party now call themselves "modern progressives" in an attempt to again repackage their unpopular and failing policies. The uber-leftist Peter Lewis, who owns the Progressive Insurance Company, also hoodwinks an uneducated public who buys his insurance enabling him to then contribute mightily to leftist causes.

I believe in freedom of the individual to state their opinion. Why should Chris Hayes apologize for his beliefs? I believe it is good for us to see the true nature of liberal-progressives, just as it is good to see the true nature of the race-baiters like Al Sharpton and Jesse Jackson.

The father of a friend coined the phrase, "Freedom is not free." This perspective graces the Korean War Memorial in Washington which I believe is the most evocative memorial in a city of memorials. We pay a price for tolerating

the illiberalism of many. I don't pretend to understand those whose thinking is so alien to mine. However, we must honor those who serve and those who fell defending the right of even odious citizens to speak.

As a doctor I am sometimes mystified when people make unhealthy choices, though I champion their rights to do so. I occasionally even have to bite my tongue when I care for some who see the world so differently than me. A woman once asked me why her husband continued to make destructive choices. All I could say was, "I don't presume to understand 'em, Ma'am; I just work on 'em."

Doctor Ferguson
is accepting new
patients. His
office is next to
Fort Sanders
Hospital.

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appointments
call Keesha at
865-522-0326.



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

Cancer Support Community Events

All Cancer Support Community programs are offered at no cost to individuals affected by cancer.

June 6, 6:00-7:30 p.m. Navigating the Social Security Disability Maze. Emily Drozdowski, Attorney at Law. Navigating the social security process can be confusing, frustrating and time consuming. Join Ms. Drozdowski, an attorney practicing in the area of disability law, as she provides an overview of the application process with a focus on cancer related impairments. Bring your questions and learn tips about Tennessee law and what you can do to help yourself out of the maze. 2230 Sutherland Avenue. RSVP

Continued on page 2



Susan G. Komen Knoxville Race for the Cure registration open

Registration for the Komen Knoxville Race for the Cure began June 1. The 16th annual event will be held on Saturday, October 27, 2012 at World's Fair Park in downtown Knoxville.

Last year, more than 13,000 area residents participated (pictured left) as runners, walkers and volunteers. The event raised more than \$845,000, which supported research, screening, education and treatment support. This year, Komen Knoxville hopes to raise \$900,000 and have at least 13,500 participants.

To register online, sign up as an individual

or with a team. All registration fees include the official Komen Race for the Cure T-shirt and race bib. In addition, breast cancer survivors will receive a pink survivor T-shirt, hat and race bib along with the race T-shirt.

Volunteers also play a large role in the Komen Knoxville Race for the Cure with their hard work, passion and commitment. Volunteer registration also opened online June 1.

For more information and to sign up for the 2012 Komen Knoxville Race for the Cure beginning June 1 visit <http://www.komenknoxville.org/>.

Kiss Knee Pain Goodbye

Wednesday, June 20, 2012
5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Turkey Creek Medical Center
Joe and Judy Johnson Conference Center
Parkside Drive off Lovell Road

Dinner provided. Space is limited.
Call 1-855-TENNOVA by June 18 to register.

Featured Speaker

W. DAVID HOVIS, M.D.
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Faith

Nothing too hard

"Ah, Sovereign Lord, you have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and outstretched arm. Nothing is too hard for you." "I am the Lord, the God of all mankind. Is anything too hard for me?"

(Jeremiah 32:17, 27)

The setting of these words was the destruction of Jerusalem at the hand of the Babylonians. Jeremiah prays to God as the city is being attacked. He doesn't want God to forget him or his people. God then speaks to Jeremiah and tells of a day when the people will come back after the captivity and live in safety. God says, "They will be my people, and I will be their God" (Jeremiah 32:38). The anguish of



By Mark Brackney,
Minister of the
Arlington Church
of Christ

the moment will one day turn to joy.

Sometimes it is difficult to remember the hope of tomorrow when the pain of today is so great. We begin to ask questions like: How can I break this habit? Can I really expect to see changes in my husband or wife? Will I ever feel loved? When will I believe or know God's purpose for my life? Why does it feel like my life is coming apart?

Have these thoughts ever crossed your mind? If so, you are not alone. There are days many of us feel defeated, overcome, and rejected. It is easy to lose hope and forget the promises of God.

Jesus shouts to us in our distress: "Everything is possible for him who believes" (Mark 9:23). The Psalm writer says: "I cry out to God Most High, to God, who fulfills His purpose for me" (Psalm 57:2). The Lord spoke through Isaiah the prophet: "Those who hope in me will not be disappointed" (49:23).

God is performing a work in you. His timing may be different from our timing, in fact, it often is. But we can trust Him. We can know with certainty that He loves us. And a loving personal God knows what is best for us.

Jesus is the key to breaking destructive addictions, to witnessing changes in your marriage and family, to being loved and in loving others, and to know God's purpose in your life. Immerse yourself in His love by spending time with Him. Dive deep into the Word of God and drink from its nourishment. Bask in the glory of God as you enter into His presence with worship. And when you are bombarded with Satan's words that something is too difficult, hopefully you will remember God's promise that nothing is too hard for Him.

May God bless you with a wonderful day and week as you live out the Jesus Creed of loving God and others (Mark 12:29-31). With God's help, you can love well, for you have been loved well by Him.

Church Happenings

Beaver Ridge United Methodist Church

Beaver Ridge United Methodist Church, 7753 Oak Ridge Hwy (the church with a heart in the heart of Karns) will offer OPEN GYM NIGHT Wednesday evenings starting June 6 and run through the summer from 6:30-8:30 p.m. This is open to anyone and a variety of activities will be available. If elementary-age children want to participate, a parent or guardian must come with them. It's fun for all ages! For more info, please contact Randy Creswell at randycreswell@yahoo.com. Or call the church office at 690-1060.

Dante Church of God

Dante Church of God will be distributing BOXES OF BLESSINGS (food) on Saturday, June 9, 2012 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. or until boxes are gone.

Anyone who would like to come and receive a box of blessings is invited.

One box per household.

For more information call 865-689-4829

Gospel Singing

Gospel Singing at Judy's Barn every Saturday at 7 p.m. Grissom Road behind Big Ridge Elementary School in Union County. Call Jim Wyrick at 254-0820.

KFL Outreach

Ministry Presents

The Knoxville Fellowship Luncheon (KFL) will meet June 5, 2012 at the Golden Corral on Clinton Highway at noon. Manuel Hudson also known as Christian rap artist Ace Infiniti, will give his testimony, telling how Jesus Christ has impacted his life. Ace works with young people in our inner cities, and uses rap to explain the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Bio at <http://kfl-luncheon.com>.

Wallace Memorial Baptist Church

Wallace Memorial Baptist Church will offer GriefShare, a grief support/recovery group, beginning Wednesday, June 6 at 10:00 a.m. and continuing each Wednesday through August. Call the church office 688-4343 for information or email kunderwood@wmbc.net.

Cancer Support Community Events

Cont. from page 1
to 865-546-4661.

June 9, 10:00 a.m.-noon. Prostate Cancer Networker & Me Too. An opportunity for men to network with other men about their experiences and a separate group for their support persons. 2230 Sutherland Avenue. Call 865-546-4661 for more info.

June 12, noon-1:30 p.m. Nutrition Ammunition: The Food-Mood Connection. Beth Booker, MS, MPH, RD. Can small changes in your diet help jangled nerves? Join us as we talk about the relationship between food and mood. A light lunch will be donated by Mellow Mushroom. Sponsored by the Kroger Foundation and the Sunrise Foundation. 2230 Sutherland Avenue. RSVP

to 865-546-4661.

June 13, 6:00-7:30 p.m. Lymphedema Awareness. Kathy Kearse, PT, CLT-LANA. Studies indicate that individuals who have received cancer treatment that includes lymph node removal and/or radiation therapy are at an increased risk of developing swelling at some point in their lives. Come learn more about lymphedema, ways to minimize your risk

and methods to monitor the involved area. 2230 Sutherland Avenue. RSVP to 865-546-4661.

June 14, 1:00-2:30 p.m. Exploring Dreams: Dream Characters. Ann Holtz and Alan Ballew. Join Ann and Alan as they help us explore the characters in our dreams - who are they really? 2230 Sutherland Avenue. RSVP to 865-546-4661.

June 14, 6:00-7:30

p.m. Leukemia, Lymphoma & Myeloma Networker. This drop-in group is open to those with leukemia, lymphoma, myeloma and myeloproliferative disorders and their support persons. Participants will be able to exchange information, discuss concerns and experiences. 2230 Sutherland Avenue. Call 865-546-4661 for more info.

June 15, 1:00-3:00 p.m. Healing through Art: Finger Painting Fun. Cheri Pollack, Mixed Media and Ceramic Artist. Join Cheri as she reintroduces you to the magic of finger painting. We will use washable paints and let imaginations run wild with bright colors and unique designs. Sponsored by the Arts & Culture Alliance and Tennessee Arts Commission. 2230 Sutherland Avenue.

RSVP to 865-546-4661.

June 16, 11:00am-1:00pm. Kids in the Kitchen with Missy. Looking for more help in the kitchen? Bring the kids and join Missy for a fun-filled morning as she teaches kids of all ages several dishes they can prepare for themselves and one meal they can prepare for the whole family. 2230 Sutherland Avenue. RSVP to 865-546-4661.

June 18, noon-1:30 p.m. Quick & Tasty Cooking: Fresh Tomatoes. Missy Kennedy, Cooking Instructor. What to do with all those summer tomatoes? Join Missy as she shares tasty, terrific recipes to tickle your taste buds. This program is sponsored by The Kroger Foundation. 2230 Sutherland Avenue. RSVP to 865-546-4661.

Weekly cancer survivor support groups, Monday evenings and Tuesday mornings and Tuesday evenings. 2230 Sutherland Avenue. Call 865-546-4661 for more info.

Weekly support groups for cancer caregivers, Monday evenings. 2230 Sutherland Avenue. Call 865-546-4661 for more info.

Faith Christian Center
4012 Oakland Drive
Knoxville, TN 37918
Sunday School 10AM
Sunday Worship 10:45 AM

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Sunday Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.
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Sunday School - 9:45 a.m. • Morning Worship - 10:45 a.m.

Evening Worship - 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday Bible Study - 6:30 p.m.

Where Christ is Making a Difference in Our Lives and in Our Community

Amazing Wonders Vacation Bible School
June 11 - 15
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SKY
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MARK 10:27
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Smithwood Baptist Church
4914 Jacksboro Pike
June 18-22 | 6 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Ages 3 - Completed 5th Grade
Register at www.smithwood.org, go to Children's Ministries Page or call 689-5448



Telling Tales

By Becky Andrews and Angel Kane

Friends

People often ask Becky and I if we are sisters. To which Becky always responds, “Yes, I’m the much younger, nicer sister.” But no, we are not sisters. (And fyi - she is older than you might think) Becky and I met years ago when our children attended school together. As you know, there are mothers you click with and those you don’t. I knew Becky and I were going to be fast friends when one day we were chatting in the school parking lot. As she opened her van door, to let her children out, a bunch of junk just fell out. It didn’t phase her one bit, she just kept on talking...even though her child, who was standing right beside her, was now five minutes late for school. I knew then and there she was a keeper!

Those who meet Becky instantly like her. She is always smiling, always running somewhere, always willing to give a hand or hug. I tend to be a “tad” more reserved. I think people who smile all the time are secretly insane. My goal when I wake up in the morning is to get home as soon as I possibly can. And I will go out of my way to avoid an oncoming - public display of affection.

And yet, Becky and I remain the best of friends. Only problem is that for years, Becky has been trying to make me more like her.

“Come work out with me.”

“No. I might see someone I know.”

“Come to a Metallica concert with me.”

“No. I might get mugged.”

“Come give me a hug.”

“No. Do we need to review our rules about ‘boundaries’ again?”

So a few weeks ago, as I was preparing for a trip, Becky arrived with some clothes for me to borrow. I perused through what she had brought. “No way - I can’t wear any of these. Do you really wear these hippie clothes?”

Exasperated, she said, “You need to get out of your box!”

“Hey, I like my box. My box has a pool, tivo, unlimited caramelos and a weekly subscription to People Magazine. People would kill to be in my box.”

Could this friendship be saved?

“Fine, wear your usual funeral clothes. Now, let’s make up - - I’m coming in for a hug - - brace yourself!”

New to The Focus, ‘Telling Tales’ is a tongue in cheek column about the life of working moms written by Middle Tennesseans Becky Andrews and Angel Kane. Tomi L. Wiley writes: “Telling Tales” is about the bonds between mothers and their children, their mates, and their families, but also about the imperative relationship between mothers and their friends. No woman, despite how urgently we wish to be sometimes, is an island - and our life preservers can be the phone calls, the understanding nods, and the time our friends take to share our burdens, our stories and our lives.

To read more of Angel and Becky’s columns go to www.wilsonpost.com and hit Columns & Blogs. Angel Kane can be reached at angel@wilsonlivingmagazine.com

ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES

Political Collectibles

Political items have been collected for a long time and will usually fall into the category of advertising as so many buttons, pins, ribbons from the past are main items of interest. Political items collectors are a very dedicated and a serious group and tend not to collect much else besides these items. Markets have been steady for this category for a long time and I see no reason it won’t get stronger especially for the 20th century items.



By Carl Sloan

Recently we have seen a surge in adversary political advertising, such as the Sen. John Kerry flip flop sandals sold by the GOP. The intrigue to searching for all of the items from past campaigns is that they were made to be for a temporary use and then discarded making the finding the good stuff a challenge. I say it’s worth it for fun as well as future values.

Local political items can be tricky as they tend to hold values only in that area. If you find a “Cas Walker for Mayor” button or poster, you’ll have no problem selling it locally. However if you come across

a Kentucky sheriff’s campaign item of vintage age, it all depends on the look and condition plus any message that could seem odd or quaint today. It is certainly worthy to collect in regards to the message or slogan. For instance if you find a poster of a 1950s campaign that was to have a picture of a rugged guy with cowboy hat and a message like “Tough on Crime” almost any collector would like to have that as it has out of region appeal based on subject matter.

The higher dollar items tend to be from the mid-19th century to mid-20th century and, as always, these are reproduced so be sure to look at the back for age and the sides for writing that may even say it’s a reproduction. Politics are our history and heritage and worthwhile to study and appreciate. If you have any political items of vintage age that you wish to sell, Fountain City Auction will always be glad to assist and advise you. Call or come by anytime to see Greg Lawson or staff at 4109 Central Ave Pk. About a mile

past the Cracker Barrel off Merchants Rd. on the right. **This week’s featured item; An early and fine silk ribbon with tassel circa 1840 called a Stevengraph valued at \$150.00**



Elvis’ First Shotgun

Everyone knows that Elvis Presley lived at Graceland in Memphis, had various Cadillacs in different colors, married Prycilla and had a child.

But the first home of Elvis would hardly be described as a mansion, or even what is today an average family home. His birthplace dwelling, now located beside the city hall in Tupelo, Mississippi, is what most southerners would describe as a “shotgun house.”

Presley was born there in 1935 and the differences between his first home and his last home are striking.

The term “shotgun house” comes from the

A Day Away



By Mike Steely

idea that you could stand at the front door and fire a shotgun directly inside. The buckshot would exit the back door without hitting anything inside.

Most shotgun houses were one-room wide and two or three rooms deep, a common causeway of doors directly opposite each other. Most were 12 to 16 feet wide and had a window in the “front room.” Origin of the shotgun house is debated, but probably came to the United States via slaves or from Haiti. The design was first noticed in Louisiana and, because the house was easily constructed

of framed wood and economical, the design quickly spread to poor families of both races in the south.

Many shotgun houses were built as company housing in coal and lumber towns and as rentals in urban areas. Many American families began in that type of house and, as their economy grew, so did their housing.

It is said that Vernon Presley borrowed the money to build his house, lost his job, and then lost ownership of the house.

The family relocated to Memphis.

You can drive down to Tupelo and actually walk through the house. While you’re there you might also want to see the full-size statue of Elvis, visit the Tupelo Auto Museum, Tupelo Zoo, or the Natchez Trace Parkway headquarters. It would make for a great day-drive back by heading north on the beautiful parkway and hitting I-40 in Nashville.

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Ages 4 yrs - Completed 5th Grade

Children will have a great time on Promise Island as they learn about God’s promises to be with us, to care about us, to give us what we need, to save us, and to answer us through Bible study, service projects, games and so much more! Supper is provided each night for the children and workers.

REGISTER ONLINE: www.vacationbibleschool.com/vgbcknoxtn

Contact Cindy Christenberry at 577-6620 or cindy@valleygrove.org.

Valley Grove Baptist Church

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CLASSIFIEDS

NEIGHBORHOOD SALES

Community Yard Sale
Saturday, June 9th
9am-2pm
Magnolia Square Apartment Homes
1921 Cedar Lane
(Between Fountain City Lake and Saint Joseph School)
 Participating families will set up in front of each building

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PATIENT COORDINATOR needed for busy oral surgery office.
 Prefer candidate with dental background. Must be friendly, energetic, dependable, proficient with computers and able to multi-task in a fast paced environment. No medical or dental benefits provided. Pay based on experience. **If you are interested in joining our team, please fax your resume to 865-688-8728.**

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 classifieds@knoxfocus.com

ANNOUNCEMENTS

June AARP driver safety classes

For registration information about these AARP Driver Safety Classes, please call Carolyn Rambo 584-9964.

6/11 & 6/12 9 to 1 Fort Sanders Senior Center, 1720 West Main Street, Sevierville

6/27 & 6/28 9 to 1 Second Presbyterian Church, 2829 Kingston Pike, Knoxville

Knoxville Hosts First Tennessee Brewer's Summit

On Friday, July 13 Knoxville will host the First Annual Brewer's Summit at the Bearden Banquet Hall at 6:30 p.m. A panel of Tennessee brewers and other's in the industry will discuss the future of craft beer and how it relates to Tennessee. This is the first fundraiser for the Tennessee Craft Brewer's Guild to help get the Guild off the ground and help promote legislation for craft beer in Tennessee.

Tickets are \$45 and include a souvenir t-shirt and tasting glass. There are only 150 tickets available for the event. For more info and tickets, go to www.brewerssummit.com.

North Knoxville BPA Membership Meeting

The North Knoxville Business & Professional Association monthly meeting is scheduled for Friday, June 8, 2012 breakfast 7:45 a.m., meeting 8:00 a.m. at the Lincoln Park Technology and Trade Center, 535 Chickamauga Avenue. The Speaker will be Mr. Alvin Nance, Executive Director/CEO at Knoxville's Community Development Corporation. Breakfast provided by KCDC (Knoxville's Community Development Corporation).

United Daughters of the Confederacy meeting

The Captain W. Y. C. Hannum Chapter #1881, United Daughters of the Confederacy will have their final meeting for the 2011-2012 year at the Green Meadow Country Club in Alcoa on Saturday, June 23rd beginning with dinner and social time at 6:00 P.M. It will be the time for the installation of newly elected officers for the 2012-2014 term. Deadline for reservations is June 16th. Special Guest, for the purpose of installing the new officers, will be Brenda Hall McDonald, Remembrance of 150 year Committee. She will be bringing the Division Sesquicentennial Quilt for display. Visitors are welcome to attend. Cost of the dinner is \$20.00. For reservations or more information, please contact Elaine Clonts Russell, 865-980-6346 or Debra Wilson, 865-856-9300.

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE:

PUBLIC NOTICE: Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization - Technical Committee Meeting, June 12, 2012.

The Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) Technical Committee will meet on Tuesday, June 12, at 9 a.m. in the Small Assembly Room of the City/County Building, 400 Main Street, Knoxville, TN. Topics to be considered: Consideration of Bylaw Changes, General Updates; and other business. The Meeting will be followed by a Workshop on the U.S. Census Bureau's 2010 Urbanized Area Boundaries.

If you would like a complete agenda, please contact MPC at 215-2500 or see the TPO web site at www.knoxtrans.org. If you need assistance or accommodation for a disability, please contact MPC at 215-2500 and we will be glad to work with you in obliging any reasonable request.

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Orange Flavored Brisket

cooking oil spray
 2-pound flat cut or first cut brisket, with all fat removed
 1 onion, chopped
 1 carrot, cut into pieces
 1 clove garlic, chopped
 1/8 teaspoon salt, optional
 freshly ground pepper
 1 14 1/2-ounce can diced no-salt-added tomatoes, drained
 1 TBSP currants or raisins
 1/4 cup red wine (optional)
 1/4 cup beef broth
 2 bay leaves
 4 strips orange zest, about 2 by 1/2 inch

Preheat oven to 325°F. Coat an oven-proof covered roaster with cooking spray. Brown the brisket over high heat. Turn the heat down to medium and add onion, carrot, garlic, salt, pepper, tomatoes, currants, wine, broth, bay leaves, and orange zest. Bring to a simmer and then cover and bake. Baste the meat every half an hour until done, about 2 1/2 hours, depending on the thickness of the brisket. When done, remove the brisket to a plate. Strain the juices, pushing some solids through the strainer to thicken the sauce and bring back to boil. To serve, slice the meat into thin slices. Place on platter with the sauce.

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