

# Armstrong presses Jarrett in Law Director’s race

By Focus Staff

There are two countywide races on the ballot March 6; Knox County Property Assessor and Knox County Law Director. The Law Director’s race pits former East Knox County Commissioner Richard “Bud” Armstrong against incumbent Joe Jarret. Jarret was appointed by the Knox County Commission following the resignation of Bill Lockett who had been elected in 2008.

Most Knox Countians remember Bill Lockett’s slow downward spiral that ultimately lead to his resigning from office. Jarret had been hired by Lockett to serve as his Chief Deputy. Jarret had been working in Florida and abruptly resigned to come to Knox County. Joe Jarret did not bother to wait for Lockett to die from his self-inflicted wounds before stepping over the body to maneuver for the appointment. When Lockett finally did resign, Jarret was the heir apparent and duly appointed by the



PHOTO BY DAN ANDREWS.

*Patti Jo beams with pride as husband Richard “Bud” Armstrong announced his candidacy for Knox County Law Director on June 23, 2011.*

Knox County Commission. Armstrong had been elected to the Knox County Commission and served for two years before running for one of the new Commissioner-At-Large seats in 2010. The campaign for Law Director

has been largely a quiet affair, although Armstrong has been drawing big crowds to most of his events. Armstrong has long been active in Republican circles and is well-regarded by those who know him. Jarret, on the other hand,

is a relative newcomer to Knoxville and Knox County and is pretty much unfamiliar with Knox County Republican voters, leaving Jarret himself as largely an unknown quantity to most voters. Perhaps to make up for that deficiency, Jarret

has unleashed a barrage of television commercials to raise his profile. Armstrong began his own campaign with a kick-off event at the Crowne Plaza which, by all indications, was a huge success. The two candidates have argued

back and forth over experience, but the truth of the matter is Jarret has tried no more courtroom cases than Armstrong. Jarret has worked hard to try and please every incumbent officeholder and the Sheriff’s department was openly fishing for a favorable opinion regarding term limits. Those offices originally filled by appointment following the infamous “Black Wednesday” ---the Register of Deeds, the Knox County Trustee, County Clerk, and Sheriff --- all had a stake in whether a partial term in office was to be counted as a full term, as all would have been term limited out of office in 2014. All of the officeholders breathed a sigh of relief when Jarret obliged with a favorable opinion that would permit all of them to run again in 2014.

Jarret has recently tried to bolster his campaign by announcing the support of more than 200 attorneys. The endorsements were

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# Listen to your heart

## Rural/Metro Employee’s Experience a Lesson for American Heart Month

Listen to your body. That is important first-hand advice from Rural/Metro Government Affairs Director John Mills. He recently underwent an emergency procedure to have two stents put in his arteries preventing a life-threatening heart attack.

“I was kissed by an angel,” Mills said. “I was just in the right place at the right time, and that is what saved my life.”

That place was Rural/Metro of East Tennessee’s headquarters in West Knoxville surrounded by experienced emergency personnel.

For a few days, Mills had been experiencing all the classic symptoms of a heart attack – and ignored them. First, he felt a little pain in his right shoulder blade and thought it was a muscle spasm. Then he had some numbness in his left arm. The next day he had a little chest pain that he attributed to heartburn.

“You never think it will happen to you,” he said. “In 74 years I have never had any problems like this.”

He had just walked into a staff meeting Friday, Jan. 27, at Rural/



John Mills of Rural/Metro

Metro headquarters when Division General Manager Rob Webb immediately recognized something was wrong.

“His color wasn’t right, and he wasn’t acting like his normal self,” said Webb. “I suspected it was his heart, so we took him back to the ambulance center to be checked.”

When emergency personnel

saw the results of the 12-lead STEMI analysis, they transported Mills immediately to the hospital.

“I argued the whole way,” said Mills. “I even told the emergency room doctor that I was going home.”

But according to Mills,

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# Youth Conference developed by Teens for Teens

For most teens, swag means confidence in your appearance. But on March 3, S.W.A.G. stands for Students Working to Achieve Greatness. That’s because Knox County Health Department’s Youth Health Board has helped with the planning and development of the upcoming Healthy S.W.A.G. Teen Conference for that day.

All Knox County middle and high school students are invited to attend the event to be held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Central High School, 5321 Jacksboro Pike, Knoxville.

There is no cost but attendance is limited to the first 200 advance registrations.

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# Lou Jones named Sterchi Teacher of the Year

This year’s Teacher of the Year at Sterchi Elementary School is Mrs. Lou Jones, library media specialist. She says of the award, “I am fortunate to work in a school community in which educators, administrators, and parents are deeply committed and united in providing a quality education for all students. Because I am a part of such a dedicated community, it is especially humbling to be selected Teacher of the Year.”



Mrs. Lou Jones

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# My corner of the field



By Sarah Baker  
bakers@knoxfocus.com

As a teacher and a mother, I am a very big believer in nurture over nature. Sitting in my school's library one afternoon after school reading an article in "National Geographic" about twins, I declared this to Dr. B, my school's librarian and she said,

"Well, then keep nurturing." You bet I will. I just wish everyone else would too. The Nat-Geo article was an interesting study of twins which concluded that nature, or genetics, has more to do with who we are than we think it does. The evidence in the article was a plethora of twins who had been separated at birth but still grew up to have an abundance of similarities. My father was a twin and my sister has twins, so I am intrigued by the bonds of twins. Still, this article really got my back up.

My daughter and I were browsing magazines the other day and I mentioned the article to her. My daughter is beautiful, kind, and smart. She has never been in trouble. I spouted off at her about my belief in nurture over nature. "You mean I don't get credit for you being such an awesome kid, because you were just born that way?" She thought that my reaction was ironic. "Of course if I was born this way, you still get credit for it. Duh, you had me!" she said. Then she added, "People are born with their potential."

I thought about Emma's remarks about potential when I heard psychologist Jonathan Haidt's comments

about "The Gardens of Democracy" by Eric Liu and Nick Hanauer. According to Haidt and the authors of the book, the free market is "a garden that needs some tending." As a big believer in nurture, this makes sense to me much more than the Darwinian "survival of the fittest" philosophy about the free market. We don't want to restrict the free market, but we do need to provide it with structure.

It is the same with a child. Each one has a specific nature that needs the liberty to reach his or her highest potential, but we cannot depend on nature alone to get one there. Nor can we blame nature when a lack of appropriate structure causes one to struggle.

You know how those families in China used to bind their little girls feet to make them smaller? To me, that is external evidence of what the environment can do to us on the inside. When we are exposed to negative things, our hearts and minds can become as shrunken and warped as an ancient Chinese foot.

Just as a tomato plant needs structure and nutrients to grow properly, so do we and so do our children. When it comes to the economy, it seems to me we need to build something that provides structure and nutrients without the binding, a lattice that isn't a cage. It seems to me we could meet in the middle on that.

I'm neither an economist nor a politician, just a teacher and a mom. All I can do is nurture what is in front of me no matter what its nature is. It reminds me of a song I used to hear at church: "Lord, don't let me bruise one and don't let me lose one...in my corner of the field." All I can do is follow Dr. B's advice and "keep on nurturing."

## Youth Conference developed by Teens for Teens

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Registration forms are available online at [www.knoxcounty.org/health](http://www.knoxcounty.org/health). Attending students will receive goody backpacks, breakfast and lunch. Note: Adults and teachers also are welcome to attend! The conference will provide breakout sessions with topics on nutrition and staying active, respect and social media, and good versus

bad choices. There also will be door prizes. Sponsors for Healthy S.W.A.G. Teen Conference include TENNderCARE Program /Knox County, Knox County Health Department, Knox County Schools Coordinated School Health, KCS Nutrition, United Healthcare Community Plan, Volunteer State Health Plan and the KCHD Youth Health Board.

## Lou Jones

Cont. from page 1

level technology coach, a member of the school's Advisory Committee, and the spelling bee coordinator.

Mrs. Jones is married to Dr. Ted Jones. They have two sons, two daughters-in-law, and a grandchild on the way. She also has two big dogs who love going for walks. She loves to read and to knit. She agrees with Dr. Seuss who wrote "The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go."

Congratulations Mrs. Jones!

# Be My Valentine!



Probably many of you know the story of the origin of Valentine's Day, but, let's go over it again one more time.

St. Valentine, according to romantic legend, was a kind-hearted Roman Priest who married young couples against the wishes of Emperor Claudius XI. He also tended to the sick and wounded Christians who were imprisoned during Claudius XI's reign.

He was arrested and ordered to renounce his faith. Because he refused, he was beheaded on February 14th. Not a very good setting for a valentine theme but the young couples he married were thankful for his intervention

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Mr. Harold Agnew

## Mr. Agnew: Trimming hair and tickling ears for over 50 years

By Tasha Mahurin  
Mahurint@knoxfocus.com

On the corner of University and College Ave. in Mechanicsville, is a unique hair establishment, but Gam's Hair Fashions isn't your typical local barbershop. If you're lucky, you'll be treated to a trim or shave from Mr. Harold Agnew as he hums about his day. Known throughout the area as "the singing barber", Mr. Agnew has been tickling the ears and trimming the hair of customers in Knoxville for over 50 years.

Born in 1928 in Belton, South Carolina, Mr. Agnew began singing a playing guitar at an early age. He later married his childhood sweetheart, Miss Mallie Anderson, before moving to the Mechanicsville area of Knoxville where they raised four children.

Although, he is a barber by trade, Mr. Agnew is known throughout greater Knoxville area as a musician. He has served as a musician and choir director at various local churches, and he sang

with the Southern Travelers, a popular local gospel quartet, for over 40 years.

"You've heard of the wedding singer, well, he's the funeral singer," said barbershop owner Gary Gambel.

Currently, Mr. Agnew leads the choir at Greater Bush Grove Baptist Church and is often requested to sing at funerals in the area.

When this reporter called Mr. Agnew for comment on the story he was, in fact, singing at a funeral service.

"He does a great public service by singing around town," Gambel added. "I wish we could get him to sing more around the shop!"

Mr. Harold Agnew will celebrate his 84th birthday this month, and according to friends and fans alike, he's going strong whether he's holding a pair of scissors or a microphone.

Gam's Hair Fashions is located at 1524 University Ave. To schedule an appointment please call 865-544-0330 or simply stop by.

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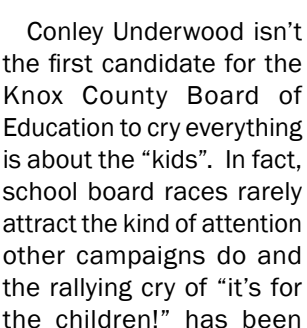
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# It Isn't All About the Kids



The mere fact one has children in the school system doesn't make one

What do relations between the Mayor, the County Commission and the Board of Education have to do with kids? Outsourcing the janitorial staff? Teacher evaluations? Heavy administrative costs and tax increases? One can argue each has something to do peripherally with the “kids”, but the fact is a good Board of Education member needs to be cognizant of not only the children, but also the educators, staff, faculty, parents and every

Perhaps school board races would get more attention from voters and taxpayers if the Board had some real accountability; presently the Board can be for everything without having to actually to raise the revenue to implement their own policies. Under the current system, the County Commission is expected to sign a check to pay for whatever the Board has decided to do, a system that hasn't worked any too well. One cannot help but think if the Board retained the power to tax to support schools, folks would be looking harder at the candidates proposing themselves for the Board of Education.

The notion one must have children in the school system to serve on the Board of Education is preposterous. Do we proportionally tax those with more children to support our schools? Do we exempt those with no children from paying taxes to support our schools? Of course not. Do we all have a stake in the education of future generations? Of course we do and everyone should have a voice in the process; it is the basis for representative government

Most every human being has a soft spot for children, puppies and rainbows, but the operation of our school system is far more complicated than a pleasant slogan. It has, for better or worse, become a big business.

Comments or questions?  
Please send your thoughts  
to [publisher@knoxfocus.com](mailto:publisher@knoxfocus.com).

# Listen to your heart

"I was pretty frightened right then," he said. "But Dr. Bishop explained exactly what he was doing as I watched the entire procedure on monitors. I had a 90 percent blockage in a major artery that could have killed me at any minute."

"When you think of a heart attack, you think of the guys on TV grabbing their chest in pain and falling over," Mills said. "At that point, it is too late. You have to listen to the early signs. I didn't. I'm just lucky I was in the right place at the right time, and someone else noticed. I received the excellent care I needed,

Women may experience slightly different symptoms

If you suspect that you or someone around you is having a heart attack, don't hesitate. Call 911 for emergency medical attention immediately.



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*Mike McMillan*  
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Mike McMillan at a recent Campaign Meet and Greet

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# Teenage Sweethearts

He was the paperboy who delivered the neighborhood newspapers until an act of kindness made him much more. One day, she and her girlfriends were standing beside her broken bicycle. The chain had come off. The paperboy got a screwdriver and put the chain back on. He became her hero and has been ever since. They lived in Chattanooga, Tennessee, about a mile apart. Bettye Collins was only thirteen years old when Samuel (Sam) Benton repaired her bicycle. The paperboy was sixteen. Bettye was allowed to walk with her hero to church and back, though she was not allowed to date until she was sixteen. They attended the same school—but not at the same time. By the time Bettye entered high school, Sam was a student at The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. Sam joined the Army when he was twenty-one years old.



By Ralphine Major  
ralphine3@yahoo.com

While he was in basic training, Sam's mother and Bettye visited him in Texas. At dinner one evening, Bettye was the only girl among the 150 boys. After serving his country for three years as a medic in World War II, Sam returned home to learn that his mother, a widow, had sold their home and even his bicycle! She had moved in with his sister; and Sam moved into the household, too. But, Sam wanted his own home. One night when he and Bettye were walking home from the movies, Sam asked Bettye what she thought about getting married. The couple that a bicycle brought together were married over sixty-six years ago! Sam still had to finish two years of college, which had been put on hold until after the war. He went to work for Union Carbide and was sent to work in Greenville, South Carolina, for two years. He spent the remainder of his forty-one-year career at Y-12 in Oak Ridge.



Sam and Bettye Benton at a recent Wallace Memorial banquet.

As liaison between the Atomic Energy Commissions in Oak Ridge and England, Sam's job took him abroad. On one trip, he took Bettye with him. While Sam attended meetings, Bettye shopped. In Reading, a little town forty miles west of London, she met an English lady in a coffee shop. The lady invited Bettye to join her. In their conversation, it came up that Sam had served in World War II. The lady wanted Bettye to bring Sam by the toy shop she owned so she could see if he had been one of her boyfriends during the war. As Sam told the story, he laughed when he told that the lady blurted

out, "he was not my boyfriend!" Bettye even had time to visit in the lady's home, one of the few thatched roof houses in England. A bicycle brought them together, and few things can keep them apart. Bettye still says of her husband: "he was my hero when he repaired my bicycle, and he still is." As I write this column, Sam has spent the last two weeks in the hospital recovering from a heart attack. Bettye is by his side day and night. This devoted couple will celebrate sixty-seven years of marriage in August. They have three daughters and one son. One daughter is a nurse and

the son is the youngest of their four children. They are blessed with five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. The Bentons have been members of Wallace Memorial Baptist Church for more than fifty years. This World War II veteran who became a hero to a thirteen-year-old girl should be a hero to all of us—not because of a bicycle chain but for defending what we as Americans cherish in this great country—our faith, our freedom, and our families. I know Focus readers join me in praying for Sam's speedy recovery and returning good health.

## NYC ban another step toward Godless America



By Richie Beeler

It's a tough business to plant a church. It can get even more challenging as the congregation grows and has no permanent place in which to worship. Usually, as the church's population increases, its resources increase accordingly and eventually a building is constructed. But if your church is located in New York City, it is highly unlikely you would find sufficient space to build it. And good luck finding any other space to use. To further complicate matters for churches in the Big Apple, the city fathers have decided to prohibit religious groups from renting or utilizing the most readily available of all facilities: public schools. These rabid church-state separationists have made it impossible for churches in the city to use school facilities for religious purposes. I am told there are some 68 congregations in greater New York that utilize schools for worship. Not surprisingly, there are some who wildly applaud this decision. According to a recent poll, twenty-seven percent of New Yorkers

agree that religious organizations should not be allowed to use public schools for any reason. While this may not be surprising, it is certainly alarming enough. It represents the kind of perverted view of the First Amendment that is becoming more and more prevalent in our society. The foundational belief of our founding fathers that the state was to stay out of the church's business, has been replaced by a vicious secularist philosophy under which atheism is the only religion that can ever be protected or acknowledged by the government.

I could spend the rest of this column giving my opinion on what an abomination to our founders is this convoluted interpretation of the Constitution. But I won't. Instead I will focus on the inescapable consequences this growing view is going to have on the America most of us grew up with. To begin with, this assault on America's deepest core value - our trust in God - began in the early 20th century. Darwinian evolution - the secular philosophy that all life and creation originated without the existence of God - was introduced into the curriculum of American public schools. It was so done under the premise that it was completely compatible with the Judeo-Christian world view

that was still prevalent in American education. But as the decades passed, the secularists abandoned the compatibility dialogue and began to show more and more hostility and intolerance of anything remotely religious where the public schools were concerned. By the turn of the 21st century, most school systems had become bastions of secular atheism where there was little to no tolerance for even the slightest acknowledgment of God. Still, in most locales, churches and other religious community organizations have been allowed to rent or borrow school facilities for various events, including in some cases Sunday worship services. There are churches in Knox County who do this very thing. OneLife Church, a vibrant, growing congregation, currently meets for worship at Powell High School. Fortunately, this is not that unusual across the landscape of America even in 2012. New churches and church plants are often able to use school facilities until they are able to procure a permanent location. But as is the case in New York City, securing permanent worship space can be a challenging if not impossible task. So I just have a simple question: what is the net

effect on the communities where these churches meet in schools, or for that matter on the schools themselves. Forgive me if I sound naive or biased, but I simply cannot imagine it being negative. I would wager that in the vast majority of cases, a church meeting in a school has an overall positive effect on both the school and the surrounding community. But as the world grows darker - and it will - the public's aversion to religious

groups utilizing schools will undoubtedly grow as well. In fact even here in East Tennessee, you might be surprised at some of the policies that are already in place. Policies not set according to the core beliefs of the citizens, but according to the secularist views of a select few elitists. And speaking of elitists, there was another statistic in that New York poll that bothered me even more. Twenty percent of the poll's

respondents thought that NO outside groups of any kind should be allowed to rent or utilize public school facilities. Not churches, not the cub scouts, not the local community clubs. If this viewpoint grows we are in serious trouble. Not only will our public schools be fortresses against religion. They will be fortresses against the public itself.

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# Political Analysis

## The 8th District School Board Race

By Focus staff

With early voting starting this week, the campaigns are in full swing and candidates are scurrying to get out their respective messages. The most hotly contested race in the Eighth District is likely the race for the Knox County Board of Education between incumbent Mike McMillan and challenger Conley Underwood.

McMillan has been on the Board of Education for just over a year and a half, having been elected in a special election caused by the resignation of Bill Phillips. McMillan faced sometime-Acting Superintendent of Schools Roy Mullins in the general election in 2010 and the current contest has many of the same supporters lining up where they left off.

Mullins was considered a heavy favorite going into the 2010 general election, but was embarrassed by revelations he was collecting a pension worth approximately \$11,000 per month. Mullins managed to collect even more by going back to work for the school system to supervise the system's vacant properties for which he was paid \$55 per hour. It has been not unusual for the school system to engage in a "retire and rehire" practice, re-employing

old administrators who are already collecting a handsome pension.

The two men represented divergent views, with Mullins not surprisingly more supportive of administrative decisions. McMillan, never a favorite of the school administration since his time on the County Commission, was more likely to rock the boat. While serving as a Commissioner, McMillan and Mullins had engaged in some tart exchanges, especially when McMillan had asked some tough questions about why the bleachers at Carter High School weren't installed correctly in the first place, necessitating an additional expenditure of \$200,000 taxpayer dollars. McMillan earned further disapproval from many school officials due to the fact he was one of the Commissioners least likely to vote for higher taxes.

The big McMillan win over Mullins left some unhappy, which likely explains the string of hysterical and tacky e-mails sent around by Mullins's daughter-in-law, Wendi, in this election cycle. Wendi Mullins, describing herself as "a highly educated women [sic]", has spread her e-mails throughout several schools in the 8th District. The King of the Pensioners, Mullins himself, is one

of Underwood's largest contributors.

It can hardly be a surprise to anyone that most of the Mullins folks find themselves supporting Conley Underwood. There is also a family connection there as Underwood's aunt, Shirley Underwood, and Mullins were top administrators for the school system for decades. Conley Underwood has hinted that McMillan is a politician and he supports taking "politics" out of the schools, although most of his support is derived from a core group pushing for a new Carter Elementary School and a herd of old pensioners from a time when the school system was rife with politics. At least one former principal has e-mailed the staff of her former school on Underwood's behalf and two current principals are supporting Underwood. In case anyone might miss the point, Underwood has also posted a picture of himself with Superintendent Jim McIntyre on his website. McMillan has refrained from trying to lure school personnel into campaigning for him. It is an interesting strategy for one who wishes to remove "politics" from schools.

Underwood tried to make a name for himself while promoting a new elementary school for the

Carter community, a claim that seemed to evaporate overnight when Mayor Tim Burchett made the statement, "Without Mike McMillan there would be no new Carter Elementary School." Even more strange is the fact McMillan is perhaps the person who started the ball rolling for a new Carter Elementary School during his campaign in 2010. McMillan strongly supported the concept of an entirely new school, while his opponent, Roy Mullins, favored renovations to the existing structure. **Conley Underwood himself supported Mullins and the irony is, had Mullins been elected, there almost certainly would not have been a new elementary school being built in the Carter community.**

Despite having been on the Board of Education for a short time, McMillan has managed to get quite a few things done for his district. Aside from the new Carter Elementary School, McMillan has pushed along the new gymnasium for Carter Middle School and just recently announced with Commissioner Dave Wright the purchase of property next to Ritta Elementary School, which should help alleviate the severe traffic problems in the area. McMillan also noticed Ritta

Elementary School met the criteria for an assistant principal, although none had been allocated for Ritta. McMillan brought the matter to the personal attention of Superintendent Jim McIntyre and Ritta Elementary soon had a new assistant principal.

McMillan hasn't hesitated to object or dissent when he disagrees with the Superintendent and was the first Board member to publicly announce his opposition to closing several small schools, including Corryton Elementary. McMillan also strongly opposed outsourcing the school system's custodial staff.

Underwood tends to speak in generalities, pointing out he is running for the "kids." Underwood says a way needs to be found to fund the schools into the future, not merely from year-to-year, while at the same time being frugal. Just how that feat can be accomplished with Knox County's current fiscal woes, Underwood doesn't say and if he could actually effectuate that, he would likely be a better presidential candidate than a competitor for the Board of Education. Underwood summarizes everything about the school system as being for the kids, while McMillan points out the annual budget for the school

system is approximately \$400 million. McMillan spent his entire adult life as a teacher and is the only current member of the Board of Education who was a classroom teacher. Knox County is currently almost \$1 billion in debt and the bill is coming due as the school system is presently facing a shortfall of at least \$7 million this year. It would surprise few familiar with budgets if the shortfall were not even more. The years ahead will almost surely be difficult ones for the school system regardless of who gets elected.

Wendi Mullins and a few others point to the fact Underwood has children in the current system, making him qualified to serve on the Board of Education. McMillan, on the other hand, educated children for thirty years. The implication being, if one doesn't have children in the system, he or she isn't qualified to be a member of the Knox County Board of Education, although everyone is certainly taxed for schools.

The contest between Mike McMillan and Conley Underwood will be one of the more interesting to watch on election night.

## Armstrong presses Jarrett in Law Director's race

Cont. from page 1

organized by former Republican Party Chairman Billy J. Stokes. Armstrong himself is the first to admit Stokes is "highly respected in Republican circles, as well as legal circles." Armstrong chuckled and said, "Billy's daughter works for Joe, so it really can't be a big surprise that he's for Joe Jarrett. If my daughter worked for Joe, I'd probably be for him, too."

Unlike judicial races where lawyers have to practice inside the courtrooms of the sitting judge, the Knox County Law Director is the attorney for

every officeholder, board, affiliated with the county government. Still, the Law Director does have a particular power of interest to local attorneys: the right to select lawyers for cases involving Knox County, which can earn a lawyer handsome fees. The school system alone is a rich source of fees for those lawyers appointed by the Law Director to represent Knox County's interests. Many of those who have done business with the county and perhaps some who hope to, have contributed to Jarrett's campaign war chest.

Bud Armstrong has developed a reputation as a plain spoken and direct man; his campaign has focused on independence, a topic likely less appreciated by politicians than voters.

"I think what people need to know is that as Law Director, the opinions issued from my office would be free of any taint, meaning the officeholders may or may not like them," Armstrong said. "They will be fair and based solely on the law."

Considering the state of Knox County's government, the Law Director frequently becomes a pivotal point in unraveling messes and

there seem to be more and more of those these days.

"I really don't have any political aspirations beyond serving as Knox County's Law Director," Armstrong admitted. "I'd like to close out my career as Law Director and if I am fortunate enough to be elected, I'd consider myself a success if people are able to honestly say, the decisions I rendered were impartial, fair, based solely on the law and in the best interests of the taxpayers."

## Be My Valentine!

Cont. from page 2

down through the years.

During the middle ages in France and England, February 14th was associated with lovers because on this date, birds would pair off to mate in the spring. (I like this legend better.) It was common on February 14 to send a Love token or letter to your desired mate.

Remember all the people you love, not just your spouse, or boyfriend/Girlfriend, but also your family, friends, and those who are less fortunate. Don't let February 14th be the only day you recognize that love.

Here is a lovely poem to send to someone you love. By Joanna Fuchs: Valentine day gives me a reason, to express the feelings I think about but don't say, about people who enrich my life, in unique and meaningful ways. You are this kind and special person. When I think of you, my thoughts are warm and fond, and filled with admiration/ I feel blessed to know you. May your valentine's day be filled with love and respect you deserve.

Thought for the day: A true friend is someone who reaches for your hand and touches your heart.

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

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# FOCUS ON Seymour

## Roberts III, Temple announce candidacy

C. Howard Roberts III of Seymour has announced his candidacy for the District 4 School Board seat representing all children attending Seymour Schools.



C. Howard Roberts III

A note from C. Howard Roberts III

"The ties I have to this community span several generations of the Ledwell and Hodges families, many of whom served in the school

system. My great uncle, Roy Ledwell, served multiple terms as Superintendent of Sevier County Schools."

"My love for this area and my commitment to these schools relates to the years I spent growing up here, being a member of the SHS band, and proudly calling myself a Seymour alumni after graduation in 1985. As a 1990 graduate of the University of Tennessee, I understand the role our schools have in preparing our youth for success. I also have a very personal interest in our schools. My wife Laurie serves as a nurse at Boyd's Creek Elementary School; our daughter Kate is a third grader there. Between the two of them, they keep me engaged in the school system. I believe that a fresh perspective with vested interest and new ideas is necessary to move our schools forward.

"I recently retired from the United States Air Force as a Lieutenant Colonel with over 21 years of service to our country. I continue to serve the East Tennessee area as a Construction Analyst with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Laurie, Kate and I are members of First Baptist Church of Seymour where I serve as Chairman of Deacons.

"Effective communication between parents, teachers and the school board member is critical. The community deserves to know and understand decisions being made affecting them and their schools. I will be readily accessible to parents and school personnel to address issues and concerns. I will have an open door policy, never more than a phone call away. Tough issues require measured and methodical decisions to ensure our community gets proper support and fair representation from their school board member. The Seymour community deserves strong and energized representation. With your support and vote on March 6th, I will be that voice. Thank you!"

Charles Temple has announced his candidacy for re-election as School Board Representative for the 4th Educational District. He is a life-long resident of Seymour and

he and his wife, Donna Wilcox Temple, have one daughter, Michelle. The Temples are members of the Seymour United Methodist Church. Charles is also a Board Member of the Sevier County Library Foundation.



Charles Temple

A note from Charles Temple:

"It is an honor and a privilege to serve as Seymour's School Board Representative and I am asking the people of Seymour for the opportunity to continue to serve them. I have gained valuable experience serving on the Board and I have an excellent working relationship with fellow Board Members, Administrators, Faculty, and Staff, as well as our Sevier County Commissioners. I firmly believe our school system is one of the best in the state and it is recognized as such. Our test scores are competitive with others in the region and state. There have been many renovations at each of our schools here in Seymour, some of which include new classrooms to each of our schools, new HVAC, updated energy monitoring equipment, new roofs, replacement of carpet with tile, a science lab, a new computer lab, cafeteria and gymnasium expansions, and additions to the athletic facilities."

"Our next large projects include both Band and Chorus room additions. Also, land has been purchased for the new Seymour Junior High School.

"I am dedicated to the public education system, and I understand the needs and feelings of the families living in the Seymour area. In order to provide greater opportunities for the young people of Sevier County, we will continue to enhance and improve our School System.

"Again, it is both an honor and a privilege to serve as your School Board Representative and I am asking for your Vote on March 6, for the opportunity to serve you based on my record of representation, my experience, and my dedication to improving the quality of education in Sevier County. As always, I will continue to work diligently to ensure that our schools in Seymour are second to none!"

## Seymour author releases children's book

We are excited to share the new release of author Jean Leigh Claudette's new children's book, "Mercedes James!" This book is the second release for East Tennessee twin sisters working under the pen name Jean Leigh Claudette. The first children's book was released in November of 2011, "The Classified Files of Sweet Williams Farm: JD's Adventures Begin." Both are exceptional books that teach children values and life lessons that they will remember for life, with a few hilarious moments that will keep you laughing. Come read about the exciting times at Sweet William's Farm and the super fun life of Mercedes James with us!

Published by Tate Publishing and Enterprises, both books can be purchased nationwide. You may purchase these from the publisher at [www.tatepublishing.com/](http://www.tatepublishing.com/), bookstore, Barnes and Noble, Hastings, Amazon and other local book stores. Also Jean Leigh Claudette can be seen around town signing and selling their books at local bookstores if you wish to purchase signed copies and meet the author. Jean Leigh Claudette looks forward to meeting all JD and Mercedes James fans.

"Mercedes James" is also an eLIVE title, meaning each book contains a code redeemable for a free audio book version from TatePublishing.com.

Author Jean Leigh Claudette lives in the mountains of Seymour, Tennessee from a family full of authors, storytellers, musicians, and artists. Claudette continues to write children's books for the young audience to enjoy.

For more information, please contact Cara Ford, Publicist and Media Coordinator for author Jean Leigh Claudette at (865) 368-0258 or at [emailcmf1975@yahoo.com](mailto:emailcmf1975@yahoo.com).



Congressman Roe will be at Seymour High School on Monday, February 13 from 3:30-5:30 p.m. to meet with new Seymour constituents following recent redistricting.

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## In Perspective

As I reviewed my account list earlier in the week, I realized that several of my clients are health-care professionals of some sort.



**By Tasha Mahurin**  
Mahurint@knoxfocus.com

Knoxvillians are blessed to have a great number of healthcare options, and I wondered to myself if that is something we take for granted around here. Knoxville is home to four major medical hospitals and countless dentists, optometrists, pediatricians, dermatologists, and the like. It also occurred to me that perhaps so many of them advertise in *The Knoxville Focus* because they realize patients have said options- which allows for a fairly competitive healthcare market.

I am an extremely busy, often frazzled, working wife and mother of two (see last week's column). In any case, I take health-care for my family seriously, and there are several factors I consider before committing to a new practice and things I take note of on a first visit. For what they're worth, here they are.

**Credentials-** A very wise person once asked me the following question:

Q. What do they call the guy (or gal) who graduated at the bottom of their class from medical school?

A. They call him a doctor.

When searching for a new doctor, I always check their credentials. I am skeptical of those who do not advertise them or have them readily available, and I always research online before scheduling an appointment. Even when someone has highly recommended the practice,

**Presentation-** The position of receptionist or appointment scheduler

**Continue on page 2**

# Guys that give



*Knoxville bachelors participated in an auction to raise money for Friends of Literacy.*

**By Sarah Baker**  
bakers@knoxfocus.com

A fantastic time was had by all at the Friends of Literacy Bachelor Auction Friday, February 10 at Rothchild Catering and Conference Center. The evening began with a VIP reception where ladies and bachelors mingled and had glasses of champagne.

At 7:30, approximately 130 guests enjoyed hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar before

**Continue on page 2**

# City, County improving parks

## Ground broken for new clubhouse

The City of Knoxville, along with the Greater Knoxville Tennis Association, held a groundbreaking last Wednesday for a new tennis clubhouse in West Hills Park off of Winston Road.

"The improvements to the facilities at West Hills Park will serve our many local tennis enthusiasts, young and old," Mayor Madeline Rogero said. "They will also help attract tournaments and competitions that will bring tennis players in from around the region and even the country."

The 1,400-square-foot building will house tennis programming, concessions, and the long-requested public restrooms to accompany the West Knoxville park's 11 tennis courts. Combined with

the 14 courts in the City's Tyson Family Tennis Center, the upgrade of West Hills Tennis Center will place Knoxville in a new category for national and sectional level tournaments.

The City of Knoxville has contributed \$220,000 toward the clubhouse, while the Greater Knoxville Tennis Association raised \$150,000. The building serves as Phase II of a long-term West Hills Tennis Center project. Plans for the project began under Mayor Victor Ashe's administration.

"The organization and enthusiasm of the GKTA has been pivotal to making this project possible," said Joe Walsh, Knoxville Parks and Recreation Director.



*Police Chief David Rausch described KPD policy to City Council members at a special meeting last Thursday.*



*A Splashpad is one of many amenities at Cowan Park*

# New Playground Coming to Carl Cowan Park

Knox County Parks and Recreation is constructing a new playground at Carl Cowan Park, 10050 S. Northshore Drive in west Knox County. The playground will replace several old pieces of equipment that date back to the 1980s.

"The playground at Carl Cowan was the oldest in our system," said Doug Bataille, Senior Director. "With the number of visitors the park gets, especially during the summer months when the splashpad is open, an upgrade was needed for safety reasons."

The new, accessible playground is designed for children up to 12 years old and features swings, two slides, a climbing wall and climbing web, agility stations and several activity panels. It will be set on a solid rubber surface.

The park was built in 1949 and dedicated to Carl Cowan, a Knoxville lawyer instrumental in the desegregation of local schools. Cowan was born in Knoxville in 1902, attended

Knoxville College and then received a law degree from Howard University College of Law in Washington, D.C. He practiced law in Knoxville from 1934 until 1980 and was appointed the first African American Assistant District Attorney for Knox County in 1953. Cowan is remembered for his volunteer work, community activism and for encouraging peaceful integration in Knoxville. A monument on site explains more about the park's history and features one of Knox County's quilt blocks titled *The Lawyer's Puzzle*.

Carl Cowan Park encompasses more than 30 acres along the Tennessee River. In addition to the splashpad and playground, amenities include tennis courts, a basketball court, soccer fields, a horseshoe pit, picnic tables and shelters, restrooms, a fishing pier and boat launch. A greenway loop around the fields measures three-tenths of a mile and a one-quarter mile natural trail along the river leads to Admiral Fogarty Park.

For more information call Knox County Parks and Recreation, 865-215-6607, or [www.knoxcounty.org/parks](http://www.knoxcounty.org/parks)

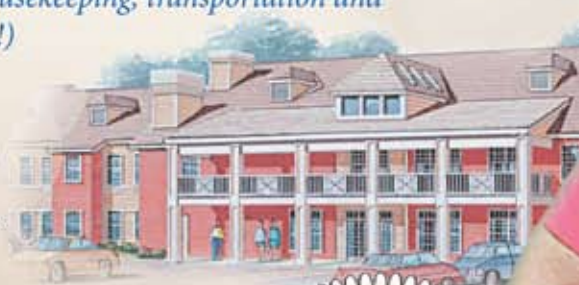
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## In Perspective

**Cont. from page 1**

sometimes isn't taken as seriously as others, however, its highly critical that your receptionist be top-notch. They are, after all, the first contact a would-be patient has with your office. Nasty attitudes tend to trickle down... so if a receptionist has a terrible demeanor, I am going to assume the doctor does as well. Bonus points for a clean waiting room with ample reading material.

**Communication-** No one likes to wait. Period. However, the best physicians are usually in high demand. If your office is behind schedule on a particular day, communicate that with the patient upon check-in.

A simple: "I apologize in advance, but we're running a bit behind" should be sufficient. People are more often than not disappointed by their own expectations. You'll save everyone frustration ahead of time if the patient is aware that the wait may be longer.

(I won't delve into the particulars of doctor/patient communication... that topic requires more expertise than you will find in my column.)

On a side note, I would like to add that this week's column was inspired by a visit to Dr. Rochester and the fine folks at Pediatric Clinic West- who get it right every single time.

I pray this week finds you in good health. Bona fortuna sit semper.

## Dan around town

PHOTOS BY DAN ANDREWS.



Hubert Smith, Randy Nichols, Commissioner McKenzie and John Stancil attend the February meeting of the Boyd Cloud Democrat Club meeting at Shoney's on Saturday, February 4.



Braves fan Lacinda Hyde meets Homer the mascot during the Atlanta Braves Country Caravan's stop in Knoxville last Thursday. The team traveled more than 3,000 miles on the Caravan before heading to Florida for the start of Spring Training in mid-February.

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## Guys that give

**Cont. from page 1**

The auction began at 8 p.m. The bachelors were dressed to the nines. Some wore tuxedos while others managed to make jeans and a sweater look quite swanky. There was a mixture of nervousness and swagger while they all had a generous spirit and a positive attitude about their ensuing dates with someone who would likely be a complete stranger. The bachelors all said they were there just to have fun and give something back. "A bunch of ladies screaming and offering money for me... it's more fun than I had last Friday!"

Emcee Lauren Davis started the evening by introducing Friends of Literacy Executive Director Melissa Nance.

Nance took a moment to thank Rotchild, Volunteer TV, B97.5, UT Federal Credit Union, and Skirt! Magazine for sponsoring the event. Last year's most eligible bachelor Mitch Wheeler who crowned this year's winner Josh Shaffer, a police sergeant and SWAT team member with the Knoxville Police Department.

The youngest bachelor, a twenty-four year old fireman named Joshua McKnight, sold for \$300, after putting on quite a show to liven up the audience. Wearing his fireman uniform, he picked one lady up in her chair and carried her to the front of the stage and even picked up auctioneer Dino Cartwright over his head. When Melinda Wood won a date

with the young muscle man she declared with pride, "My husband told me I could buy anyone I wanted!"

Friends of Literacy is a worthwhile organization that helps local adults earn their GED. Approximately one in eight Knoxville adults do not have any kind of high school diploma. With the economic downturn, lack of literacy skill is affecting some individuals more than ever. Friends of Literacy offers classes that help such people receive the education they need to be more successful. By the end of the night the bachelor auction earned \$10,500 dollars this year to help make a difference. If anyone would like more information about Friends of Literacy, go to [www.friendsofliteracy.org](http://www.friendsofliteracy.org).

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# Tennessee's Forgotten Senator

## Tom Stewart

Pages from the Political Past



By Ray Hill  
rayhill865@gmail.com

Arthur Thomas “Tom” Stewart served Tennessee in the United States Senate for ten years, including the entire period during World War II. Today Stewart is largely forgotten, although his successor, Estes Kefauver, is still remembered by many Tennesseans.

Stewart was born in Dunlap, Tennessee in 1892. Apparently there is a gene in the male Stewart line leading them to become attorneys, which continues to this day. Tom Stewart was no exception and attended the Cumberland School of Law after having graduated from Emory University. Stewart began practicing law in Winchester and was first elected District Attorney for the counties comprising the 18th Circuit in 1922, when he was only thirty years of age. Tom Stewart was regularly reelected as District Attorney and served for the next sixteen years.

It was in his capacity as District Attorney that Tom Stewart came to be associated with perhaps the most notorious legal case in Tennessee history: the Scopes Trial. Stewart was the official prosecuting attorney; although that particular trial was replete with such a colorful and interesting cast of characters it became the basis of a Broadway play and successful movie starring Spencer Tracy and Frederic March.

The genesis of the “Monkey Trial” came about when a local businessman in Dayton, Tennessee, George Rappleyea, had the notion the tiny town could get some much-needed publicity by intentionally violating the Butler Act, which had just been passed by the General Assembly. The Butler Act was named for John Butler, leader of the World Christian Fundamentalist Association, who was urging state legislatures to adopt laws making it illegal to teach evolution theories in schools. The discussion of deliberately violating the new law supposedly took place in a local drugstore and Rappleyea enlisted the aid of John Scopes, then a twenty-four year old biology teacher. Rappleyea pointed out while the State of Tennessee now forbade the teaching of evolution theories, the textbook required by the State of Tennessee for the biology course was quite unequivocal in stating the theory of evolution, as well as approving that same theory. In effect, the State of Tennessee’s mandated textbook forced Tennessee teachers to violate the new law.

John Scopes proceeded to break the law passed by the General Assembly and was quite open about it. He

even went so far as to notify his students he was violating the law and encouraged them to testify against him should the case go to court. A grand jury was convened and at least three students did indeed testify against Scopes, with John Scopes’ full approval. The grand jury returned an indictment on May 25, 1925. The interest of the press in a prospective trial was immediately apparent when Scopes’ \$100 bail was paid by the publisher of The Baltimore Sun, Paul Patterson.

Lawyers also recognized the importance of the trial, as well as the resulting publicity a trial would bring and Dr. John R. Neal announced he would serve as the head of John Scopes’ defense counsel. Dr. Neal was one of the more interesting and colorful characters in Tennessee history. Neal had joined the faculty of the University of Tennessee School of Law in 1917 and came from a wealthy family. Dr. Neal was also quite interested in politics and had won a seat in the Tennessee House of Representatives in 1906. Two years later, Neal had been elected to the Tennessee State Senate. Neal enjoyed very little electoral success in future elections, although he became a perennial candidate for just about every office, including the United States Senate and governor.

Dr. Neal’s personal eccentricities, which were many, became a source of friction with the administration of the University of Tennessee. By 1923, the University was attempting to oust Neal from the faculty of the law school, allegedly for his refusal to grade papers, failure to appear in the classroom, as well as a persistent tardiness in turning in grades for students to the University. Neal apparently disdained teaching the law to students; when he did choose to appear inside his own classroom, he apparently preferred instead to lead a discussion of current events.

John R. Neal had never paid much attention to his appearance, but as time went on, it became all too obvious he cared little or nothing about his appearance or personal hygiene. Dr. Neal would wear the same dress shirt until it became positively tattered and rarely ever bathed, supposedly because he stored books in his bathtub.

The most notable member of the prosecution was William Jennings Bryan. Bryan was extraordinarily famous at that time, as well as widely admired and nowhere more than Tennessee. Bryan had been three times the presidential nominee of the Democratic Party, losing in 1896, 1900 and 1908. Bryan was a world-renowned orator, who had made a considerable fortune from his speechmaking. William Jennings Bryan had been Woodrow Wilson’s first Secretary of State; a pacifist who resigned when it became readily apparent the United States was about to enter World War I. Bryan was also an attorney, although he had not practiced law for thirty-six years



PHOTO FROM THE AUTHOR'S PERSONAL COLLECTION.

Senator Tom Stewart

before coming to Dayton to help with the Scopes prosecution.

Bryan was also a leading fundamentalist layman, frequently teaching Bible classes while touring the country and delivering speeches. Clarence Darrow was equally famous, both as one of the leading defense attorneys in the country as well as an avowed agnostic. Darrow accepted an offer to defend John Scopes and with Darrow and Bryan pitted against one another, the Scopes Trial would be less about the law than religion and theology.

Tom Stewart, district attorney for two years, found himself in the uncomfortable position of participating in a trial that quickly became a public sensation. It was entirely predictable that Stewart would be overshadowed by the immensely famous William Jennings Bryan and Clarence Darrow, as any prosecutor would have been.

The Scopes trial received constant publicity, with a host of newspaper reporters in daily attendance and a goodly portion of John Scopes’ legal expenses were in fact paid for by The Baltimore Sun. The Scopes trial was also the first to be broadcast over the increasingly popular medium of radio.

Perhaps the most dramatic moment of the entire trial came when William Jennings Bryan was called to the witness stand, certainly an unorthodox procedure in any trial, as Bryan was one of the prosecutors. Darrow called Bryan to testify and Bryan snapped at the bait, although he demanded the right to question Darrow

as well.

Darrow intended to let Bryan speak for the entirety of Christianity and immediately posed a series of questions that put Bryan on the defensive. Darrow asked Bryan where Cain found a wife and if it were true that Eve was literally created from Adam’s rib? The two engaged in a clash of theological beliefs with Darrow’s questions designed to show Bryan’s beliefs were hardly scientific in nature.

Tom Stewart jumped to his feet to object during Darrow’s examination of Bryan, asking Darrow the purpose of his questions. Bryan himself responded to Stewart’s objection, saying clearly the purpose of Darrow’s questioning was to ridicule those who believed in the Bible. Darrow loftily replied his questions were

posed to keep “bigots and ignoramuses” from running the educational system in America.

For two hours Darrow and Bryan sparred back and forth and the questioning likely would have gone on the next day save for the fact the presiding judge declared the Bryan testimony was irrelevant. Eventually, John Scopes was found guilty and fined \$100.

The verdict was appealed and heard by the Tennessee State Supreme Court, which overturned John Scopes’ conviction on a technicality.

William Jennings Bryan returned to Dayton, Tennessee, ostensibly to attend a church service, on July 26, 1925. Bryan was aging and suffered from increasingly more severe diabetes. Bryan also had a


voracious appetite and ate a heavy meal and after dining decided to take a nap. The golden-tongued orator from Nebraska never woke from his nap.

Tom Stewart was likely relieved the circus atmosphere of the Scopes Trial was over. Stewart was considered to be quite an able attorney and had been forced to watch as Clarence Darrow and William Jennings Bryan carried the argument away from the law to more theological grounds.

Stewart returned to Winchester and his duties as District Attorney. Tom Stewart remained very active in Democratic Party politics and became quite friendly with Tennessee’s senior United States Senator Kenneth D. McKellar. It was Stewart’s friendship with K. D. McKellar that would help to catapult him into the United States Senate. Stewart had been reelected as District Attorney in 1930 and his term was due to expire in 1938, but Tennessee Democrats were engaged in one of the most bitter intraparty wars the state has ever seen.

Tennessee’s Democrats were deeply divided between two factions, one led by Senator McKellar and E. H. Crump, head of the Shelby County political machine; the other was headed by Governor Gordon Browning and the two factions were fighting for control of the Tennessee Democratic Party, as well as domination of the state’s politics. Tennessee’s junior United States Senator, Nathan L. Bachman had died suddenly in April of 1937 after having only served three months of a new six-year term. Governor Browning had the right to select an appointee to fill the office until the next regular election and Browning appointed George L. Berry of Rogersville to fill the vacancy. Berry was the longtime President of the International Pressmen’s Union and a power inside the national Democratic Party. McKellar and Crump were deeply opposed to the reelection of Governor Browning and Senator Berry. Clearly the two needed a candidate to challenge Berry and Tom Stewart was plucked from relative obscurity to make the race.

# Promises Made Promises Kept



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**From State  
Representative  
Harry Brooks**

As I write this, we have now completed the first month of this year's session. Things are moving right along as planned, and we still have hope of completing the session by early May. Numerous bills made their way through committee this week and will be coming to the House floor soon. One of those deals with the protesters who have camped out at the War Memorial Building in Legislative Plaza as part of the "Occupy Nashville" movement. Many of these people have been here since October, and they have set up tents, cooking equipment, chairs, etc. Acts of lewd behavior and criminal activity have been reported. Scheduled events and school trips to the Plaza have been cancelled due to this protest. In an effort to halt the "living on the Plaza," a bill was introduced that would require the protesters to remove their "living" supplies from the area. Failure to do so would result in a hefty fine. The protesters may still be there to protest, but they may not live there. I fully appreciate the right to free speech and the right to demonstrate, but I agree with those who feel desecrating the Plaza and the War Memorial goes beyond constitutional rights.

In past articles I informed you of two bills I have introduced. One of those involves changing lottery scholarship qualifications, and the second deals with the appointments to utility boards. Both of those bills have been assigned to State and Local Committee and are making their way through the legislative process.

Last week I asked two questions for constituent response. One had to do with needed road or transportation improvements. Several replies stated the need for improvements in the Emory Road area. I have worked with the state Department of Transportation (TDOT) to examine these needs. As I have reported before, the intersection of Tazewell Pike and Emory Road (Harbison Crossroads) is on the TDOT approved list for widening with turn lanes and a traffic light. I, like you, had hoped that the project would have been started by now. I can report that the money is in the budget for this work. Other mentioned projects deal with county or federal roads. I will report those needs to the proper authorities.

The second question concerned the most important issue for the Legislature to deal with this session. The replies here ran the gamut from keeping us fiscally sound, reducing health care costs, misuse of prescription drugs, driver's license regulations, and others. I continue to be interested in your thoughts on this question. This week I would like to have your ideas concerning the biggest need in our educational system.

For those of you interested in following committee meetings and legislative sessions live, you can do this using the internet. The address is [www.capitol.tn.gov/](http://www.capitol.tn.gov/) From there you can see what is in progress at any given time. Also if you want to see the new redistricting maps for the Senate, House, and US Congress, those are available from the same site. As I have reported previously the 19th District has the following changes: Powell and Dogwood precincts are no longer included in the 19th, and Ellistown and Hopewell have been added to the 19th. With the exception of a very few minor changes elsewhere the district remains the same as before.

My office has been asked to share a general invitation to an upcoming competition to anyone who would enjoy a visit to the Knoxville Convention Center on Friday or Saturday, Mar 2nd and 3rd to see this year's high school Rebound Rumble game. For more information call Mike Wehrenberg at 865-389-9914.

Remember Valentine's Day is soon approaching. It is a good time to show your love and appreciation to someone special in your life. It is a privilege to be your Representative.

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## Powell boys, South-Doyle girls #1

### Panthers pull out overtime win over Bearden to take title

By Steve Williams

Basketball coaches often call a timeout to ice an opposing free throw shooter when a game is on the line, but Darin Courtney used a different strategy Thursday night. He called a timeout with one of his own players going to the line in overtime with a championship at stake. He had good reason.

Conley Hamilton had missed two foul shots with the score tied and only 0.1 left on the clock in the fourth period of Powell's title game against Bearden in the James A. Ivey, Jr. Memorial Knox County Middle School tournament at Karns. If Hamilton had made just one of the free throws, it would have been enough to give the Panthers the winning margin and prevent the overtime period.

"I told him he'd have another chance," said Courtney.



*Powell Middle School players, cheerleaders and fans take the court to celebrate the Knox County boys basketball tournament championship Thursday night at Karns. The Panthers defeated Bearden 37-33 in an overtime thriller.*

Sure enough, Hamilton would get a chance to redeem himself in the OT period. This time, however, the pressure was even greater.

Powell trailed by one point when Hamilton was fouled with 20.9 seconds to go. But before going to the line for a 1-and-1, his coach

called a timeout.

Instead of "icing" an opposing free throw shooter, the Powell

**Continue on page 3**

### South-Doyle caps perfect season

By Ken Lay

Abby Evans couldn't have been happier Thursday night.

"It's been a great long ride," Evans said after watching her South-Doyle girls basketball team culminate a perfect Knox County Middle School Basketball Conference season with a 43-30 victory over West Valley to win the James A. Ivey Memorial Middle School Basketball Tournament at Karns Middle School's Thomas L. Duff Memorial Gymnasium.

The victory put the finishing touches on a perfect 16-0 conference campaign for the Lady Cherokees and prevented the Lady Wolves from claiming a second consecutive tournament championship.

**Continue on page 3**

### Q&A with CAK head football coach Rusty Bradley

by Alex Norman

Two months have passed since the Christian Academy of Knoxville Warriors claimed the Class 3A title, the first state championship in football for that school. Recently we had the opportunity to ask Warriors head coach Rusty Bradley a few questions about his program, and a season that won't be forgotten for quite some time...

Alex Norman: Going into 2011 CAK was 0-12 all-time against Alcoa, and had been knocked out of the postseason by the Tornadoes 6 straight times. This year the Warriors finally got past the Tornadoes

**Continue on page 4**

By Curtis Trotter

Knoxville-- With all champions already crowned at every respective level of football, the only thing left to close out the season is the ever-so-popular 'awards banquets' throughout the country. ESPN has the 'ESPY' Awards. The NFL has its own showcase of spectacular trophies tossed to their salaried athletes, but it is at the high school level where the first beneficiaries are found.

Saturday evening, February 4, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in downtown Knoxville is where many athletes and the ladies that cheered them on this season were honored. South Doyle head football coach Clark Duncan teamed up with cheer leading coach Angie Goddard to reward the hard work performed on the field as well as sidelines during the 2011 football campaign.

With a packed house on hand, Duncan was all smiles with the turnout. "What a crowd we had



PHOTO BY MELISSA MASON

*Coach Duncan believes that many of this year's seniors will be playing at collegiate level in fall.*

here tonight. I can't tell you how much we appreciate the hard work of Dave Mason and the Touchdown Club. The support we have received from them this year

makes all this possible. But the kids are the winners," Duncan continued.

"Janie Cormack is another individual that works tirelessly on

these projects as well. It's wonderful to be able to reward the South Doyle community with something like this. So it takes

**Continue on page 3**

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Campbell County's Maria Faust prepares to shoot a free throw while Central's Kristin Parolari looks on. Faust scored 17 points for the Lady Cougars in their 60-35 victory that spoiled Senior Night for the Lady Bobcats on Thursday. Campbell County will be the top seed in this week's District 3-AAA Tournament in Oak Ridge.

# HVA Ladies dominate second half

By Ken Lay

Hardin Valley Academy girls basketball coach Jennifer Galloway had to be pleased with what she saw from her squad Tuesday night.

The Lady Hawks were dominating in their 64-34 District 3-AAA victory over Central in Fountain City. The Hawks controlled the tempo from outset, thanks impart to the defensive effort from Taylor Harris.

Harris, Hardin Valley's senior point guard, scored 11 of her 13 points in the first half and many of those points came from transition lay-ups off of Lady Bobcat turnovers.

HVA, despite a sluggish start, played well enough to open an 11-7 lead by the end of the first quarter.

Caitlin Mann opened the game with a pair of

3-pointers to give the Lady Hawks (11-11 overall, 9-6 in district play) an early 6-0 lead.

The Lady Bobcats closed the frame with a modest 7-4 run to keep things close --- at least for awhile.

In the second stanza, the Lady Hawks turned up the defensive heat as Harris made numerous steals and converted easy lay-ups. Harris scored nine second-quarter points and help the Lady Hawks pull away.

Hardin Valley, despite not exploiting its height advantage before halftime, held a 29-17 advantage at the break.

Things were different in the second half but the situation would only get worse for the Lady Bobcats (7-16, 5-10) as Hardin Valley post players Kayla Carey and Whitney Moore made their

respective presences felt.

Carey scored 11 of her team-high 15 points after the intermission and Moore scored all eight of her points in the final 16 minutes.

"I was really happy with our defense and our energy tonight," Galloway said of the defending District 3-AAA Tournament Champions, who opened the third stanza with a 9-0 run, culminated by Harris' final bucket of the contest. "We were able to spread them out and get the ball inside."

Harris gave the Lady Hawks a 38-17 lead on her last field goal at the 5:34 mark of the third quarter.

Central senior guard Makayla Graham earned high scoring honors with 18 points. She kept the Lady Bobcats within striking distance with 10 points in the first half.

# Hawks outscore Bobcats

By Ken Lay

Hardin Valley Academy's boys basketball team had high hopes for the 2011-12 basketball season.

Things, however, haven't worked out to the Hawks' liking --- until Tuesday night when they nabbed a signature District 3-AAA victory.

Hardin Valley got a big road victory by outlasting Central 57-54 in Fountain City.

"We've played in worse places but it's good to get a big win on the road and that's part of basketball," said Hawks guard Sherrius Smith, who gave his team an early spark with 10 first-quarter points.

Smith, the HVA senior, was one of four Hawks players to score in double figures. He finished with 14. Senior forward Tevin Gunn led the way with 19 points. Jalen Carter scored 12 while Zac Carter added 10.

The Hawks (7-14 overall, 5-10 in the district) boasted a balanced attack and that pleased coach Keith Galloway.

"This was really a team victory for us tonight," Galloway said. "Everybody contributed, even the players who didn't play a minute. They were all cheering."

"We got some key points from our bench guys and the kids are all playing well right now."

The Hawks darted to an early 18-9 lead. Hardin Valley then scored the first five points of the second frame to open a 23-9 advantage.

But the Bobcats (10-14, 6-9), who were without coach Mitch Mitchell, closed the first half on a 20-12 surge to pull to within 35-29 by halftime.

Offense stole the show early but

the teams struggled to score in the third quarter. HVA, however, outscored Central 9-5 in the frame. The Hawks did look to be in control by stanza's end.

The 'Cats went to work in the fourth quarter and got to within 56-54 when Conner Wiesenbeg buried a 3-pointer with 52 seconds remaining in the contest.

Central missed an opportunity to knot the game when Gunn forced a turnover and was fouled. He converted one foul shot to seal the contest with 1.4 seconds left.

"Our kids played hard when they could've given up," said Central assistant coach Josh Brannon, who coached the team while Mitchell was serving a suspension after being ejected from an earlier contest. "We gave up a lot of second chance points and we missed eight free throws down the stretch."

"We missed those free throws and we lost by three."

Indeed, the Bobcats' struggles from the foul line were a factor. Central went 4-for-12 while the Hawks converted 12-of-15 free throws.

"They gave us everything we wanted and that was good," Galloway said of the Bobcats. "That's what we want. We don't want to be handed anything."

"I want to give them credit, but I want to give our guys credit, too. I couldn't be happier with our effort."

Demonte Patterson led Central with 17 points. He had eight during the Bobcats' fourth-quarter comeback bid. Marcellus Roberts scored 13 while Sabian Smith finished with 10.

# The Super Bowl is over. Now what?

By Alex Norman

Super Bowl XLVI did not disappoint.

The game itself might have been somewhat flawed, but it is hard to criticize a contest that literally came down to the final play.

When New England quarterback Tom Brady's Hail Mary pass was tipped... and fell to the ground a split second before Ron Gronkowski could snag it, the New York Giants had a 21-17 victory, and the fourth Super Bowl title in franchise history.

It was also the second championship in four years for Eli Manning, who should have put to rest for eternity the snide "he's Peyton's little brother" comments.

As entertaining as that contest might have been, the elephant in the room is now out and running rough shot over the psyches of football fans everywhere...

That was the last meaningful football game... of any kind... for just under seven months.

Sure, there will be other sporting pursuits to help pass the time... including the NCAA basketball tournament, college and pro baseball, Grand Slam tennis and golf tournaments, the 2012 Summer Olympics... but those simply won't fill the void.

So... here is a handy dandy list of football related tidbits to keep you going until the Vols open the 2012 season in the Georgia Dome against N.C. State. (Seriously? They are opening a make or break season for Derek Dooley in that building, which has become a house of horrors for Tennessee? The Vols have lost 6 in a row at the Georgia Dome.)

## The Peyton Manning saga.

While he retire? Will he return to the Colts? Will he

sign with another team? Over the next few weeks this is going to reach Favreian levels of absurdity.

The hot rumor this week is that Peyton will be playing for the Washington Redskins in 2012. Next week it might be the Miami Dolphins. Folks in Nashville have started a campaign to bring Manning to the Tennessee Titans.

It's hard to imagine Peyton Manning playing for a team other than the Indianapolis Colts. Without Peyton, that city probably doesn't even have an NFL franchise right now.

But it was hard to imagine Joe Montana playing for a team other than the San Francisco 49ers. And that happened.

## The return of spring football.

College campuses throughout the nation come alive on a few April weekends, giving their fans a chance to rationally look

at their team... but most of the time snap judgments are made based on a player's performance in a glorified scrimmage in which no one is allowed to touch the quarterback.

## But, pickers can't be choosers.

The Vols annual spring scrimmage is on April 21 at Neyland Stadium. Be prepared for "Tyler Bray for Heisman" talk if he looks good that afternoon.

## The NFL Draft.

This has turned into a three-day event, in which the future of a franchise is born. Once again, rash judgments are dished out with great frequency. Doubt me? Do a google search for "NY Jets Fans NFL Draft." Their reactions after certain draft picks are the highest form

of comedy.

College fans should think of the NFL Draft as the pro version of National Signing Day.

## High School football gets a head start.

We're getting close to the day when High School football season begins the moment the Super Bowl ends... With practices getting underway in July, and "Week Zero" games kicking off in mid-August, football fans have some options out there.

And in East Tennessee we have some top notch programs to follow. Maryville, Greeneville, CAK, Alcoa... Not too shabby.

## Vols open camp.

Leading into the season opener, there are a few weeks in which every bit of information coming

off of Haslam Field is of vital importance. Who is going to be the third string punter? How has the defense adjusted to Sal Sunseri's 3-4? Is it true that they are actually working on special teams?

But you should also take those discussions with a grain of salt. Very little of Tennessee practice is seen with a writer's/reporter's own eyes, since very little is open to the media.

And finally...

## Sportstalk Radio.

In Knoxville? You can listen to local sportstalk radio shows from as early as 6 a.m. to a minimum of 7 p.m. ... For better... or for worse.

See folks? The next seven months are just going to fly by...



WEEKLY ACHIEVEMENTS FOR TUESDAY CLUB 55, JANUARY 31, 2012

HIGH GAME SCRATCH--MALE  
245 ED BEATTY  
223 GENE ALLMON  
214 JOHN FISHER

HIGH SERIES SCRATCH--MALE  
639 ED BEATTY  
597 GENE ALLMON  
586 GARY WILSON

HIGH GAME SCRATCH--FEMALE  
194 LUPE ARCHER  
190 MARY MATLOCK  
180 JEANIE STURGEON

HIGH SERIES SCRATCH--FEMALE  
480 MABEL MINK  
502 LUPE ARCHER  
493 MARY MATLOCK  
487 JEANIE STURGEON

WEDNESDAY CLUB 55:  
HIGH GAME SCRATCH--MALE  
256 HUBERT GUSBY  
245 CHARLIE MURPHY  
244 BILL BYRGE

HIGH SERIES SCRATCH--MALE  
666 HUBERT GUSBY  
650 BILL BYRGE  
640 CHARLIE MURPHY

HIGH GAME SCRATCH--FEMALE  
213 KATHY CATE  
191 CAROLYN MCGILL  
182 MAUDE WALLACE  
182 MABEL MINK

HIGH SERIES SCRATCH--FEMALE  
553 KATHY CATE  
490 CAROLYN MCGILL

THURSDAY NO-TAP:  
HIGH GAME SCRATCH--MALE  
300 BILLY MAJORS  
288 HUBERT GUSBY  
286 JIM BRYANT

HIGH SERIES SCRATCH--MALE  
861 BILLY MAJORS  
750 JIM BRYANT  
739 HUBERT GUSBY

HIGH GAME SCRATCH--FEMALE  
283 GLORIA WILSON  
254 MARGARET MYERS  
222 JOY TINDELL

HIGH SERIES SCRATCH--FEMALE  
623 LYNN PORCO  
611 KIMBERLY OWENS  
577 CONNIE HEGEMEYER

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# Panthers pull out overtime win over Bearden to take title

**Cont. from page 1**

coach had pushed the defrost button. Remember, he had good reason.

"We called a timeout to get him mentally ready to step up at the line," explained Courtney.

The Powell coach then revealed what he said to Conley in the huddle during the timeout. "I told him that he's a big-time player, that he's got to erase the last ones that he missed because he's about to win the Knox County championship. That's exactly what I said to him. He said 'yes sir.' "I wanted him to catch his breath, to be ready and then I set up our defense for us to be up by one."

Hamilton, this time, hit both free throws to put Powell ahead 34-33.

Bearden, trying to retake the lead, worked the ball inside but committed a traveling violation with 2.7

seconds left. Powell used its last timeout to set up an in-bounds play to consume the remaining time. Charlie Richards threw what looked like a touchdown pass down court to Bryson Cowden, who gathered the ball in to restart the clock. Cowden was immediately fouled, but only 0.1 second remained. A technical foul was called on a Bearden player in the exciting finish. The Panthers sank three of the four free throws for the final 37-33 margin.

It is Powell's sixth Knox County championship in Courtney's 10 seasons as head coach. Three of titles were regular season crowns and three have been captured in the post-season tourney. This season's champions hang up a 23-1 overall record – best mark in school history.

Bearden, which swept the county titles last

season en route to a 22-0 record, finished 19-5 this season.

Cowden, who missed almost two weeks of action prior to the tournament due to a stress fracture in his knee, performed courageously for Powell. The powerful inside player led the Panthers with 15 points in the title game and was named the tourney MVP. "We couldn't have won this championship without him," said Courtney.

Richards and Hamilton chipped in eight points apiece.

A trio of left-handed shooters led Coach Ben Zorio's Bruins, with Shandel Willis scoring 12 points, Tony Scott 10 and Stedman Love seven.

"We got down and were a little stagnant on offense in the first half," said Zorio. "But we never gave up. Credit Powell for

making some plays down the stretch."

Bearden had trouble with Powell's 1-3-1 zone and trailed 8-1 at the end of the first period. Scott scored inside to give the Bruins their first field goal at the 5:40 mark of the second period.

Powell used a three-man weave up top against Bearden's man-to-man and was content to run time off the clock with the lead. The Panthers went into the dressing room at halftime ahead 12-6.

Powell increased its lead to 18-6 with 3:50 to go in the third period. A 3-point shot from the top of the circle by Turner Whitfield got the Bruins going. Powell led 22-16 after three stops.

Bearden unleashed its full-court press in the fourth period and pulled into a 22-22 tie on a 3-point swisher by Willis. Two free

throws by Love put the Bruins ahead for the first time at 25-24 with 2:40 remaining in regulation.

Bearden still had a one-point lead and the ball in the final minute but lost possession under heavy pressure.

Richards, driving down the lane, drew a foul with eight seconds left. He banked in the first foul shot to tie the game at 27-all but missed the second. Hamilton was fouled on the rebound but couldn't connect. That sent the contest into overtime.

In the three-minute extra period, Powell scored first as Richards raced for a layup. But the Bruins regained the lead on an inside basket by Scott and a jumper from the right wing by Love gave Bearden a 33-30 margin.

A layup by Cowden pulled Powell within one point with 26 seconds

left. Following a timeout, Bearden threw the ball away on an in-bounds pass. That set the stage for Hamilton's heroics.

Farragut, after trailing 13-6 at the end of the first period, battled back to defeat Northwest 41-38 in the boys consolation game. Alexander Rather steered the Admirals with 13 points. The Rangers were led by Kentel Williams, who tallied 12 points.

Joining Cowden on the all-tournament team were Powell teammates Richards, Hamilton and Aaron Green, Bearden's Whitfield, Scott and Willis, Farragut's Rather and Tyler Clark, Northwest's Williams and Quincy McGhee, Gabe Alvarez of West Valley and Jeremiah Howard of Gresham.



The 2011-2012 South-Doyle cheerleaders were all smiles at the banquet held at the Crowne Plaza.

## Seniors celebrated at banquet

**Cont. from page 1**

work from people like Janie, Dave, and our wonderful parents throughout the long season to get this banquet to happen."

The evening festivities began with a buffet style dinner, followed by awards for players, cheerleaders, and the tireless people usually behind the scenes of a regular season. Goddard was proud of not only the accomplishments of her girls, but the effort that the award winning ladies put forth in the classroom.

"It amazes me how these young ladies manage their academics, practice, and endless schedules at times. Without people like Nancy Sanders, and especially our outstanding parents, we wouldn't be here tonight," Goddard said.

Duncan told *The Focus* that some of his award winning seniors would likely be playing football somewhere on Saturday this fall on the collegiate level. "There's a chance that some of these kids will still get offers and sign at a later date with

some colleges or universities. Our returning all-district players leave us lots of promise as well this next upcoming season," Duncan concluded.

Goddard told *The Focus* that any South-Doyle student interested in the upcoming cheerleading season can start making plans for tryouts in April. "It will be here before you know it," Goddard added. "They can reach me at [angie.goddard@knox-schools.org](mailto:angie.goddard@knox-schools.org) for more information."

## South-Doyle caps perfect season

**Cont. from page 1**

"West Valley is a great team," said Evans, who completed her first season as South-Doyle's coach. "This wasn't their first rodeo.

"I take nothing away from West Valley but our girls fought hard all year and they never quit. My girls wanted this, especially my eighth graders. They've waited for this since they were in the sixth grade."

The Lady Cherokees may have come out on top but they trailed 10-8 after the first quarter of what turned out to be an extremely physical contest.

"They let us play, and sometimes my girls don't adjust to a physical game," Evans said.

But South-Doyle, the tournament's top seed, adapted just fine after receiving a fire and brimstone sermon from the coach following the first quarter.

In the second quarter, the Lady Cherokees turned up the defensive heat. They forced several turnovers and hit lay-ups. By the time the dust had settled, they held a 29-16 lead.

"I'm so proud of the way my girls played," Evans said.

South-Doyle put together a balanced attack in the second stanza. Shelby Williams scored all six of her points in the frame. Amy Browning, who led all scorers with 12 points, also scored six in the stanza.

Karen Donehew scored all five of her points in the second quarter to help key a 21-6 run that all but put

the game out of reach.

"We had a tough second quarter," Lady Wolves coach Alex Comer said. "Our top two players got two early fouls and we had to sit them.

"I feel like if I'd just filled out the scorebook and left the gym, we'd have been a lot better off."

Guard Kia Dwight led third-seeded West Valley (14-3) with nine points. Chanler Geer finished with nine. The Lady Wolves' other players struggled offensively.

Comer added, however, that his squad's final loss didn't ruin a good season.

"Our kids gave us all they had and I told the girls after the game that I was proud of them," he said. "I told them how much I enjoyed coming to practice and watching them get better.

"These kids worked hard. They were always in camps or they were at West Valley shooting by themselves when they didn't have an audience."

While West Valley couldn't find scoring balance, the Lady 'Kees had no such trouble.

Chattin Atchley scored nine points for South-Doyle. Cameron Dale finished with seven. She seemed to hit her shots at just the right time. She had a big second-quarter 3-pointer and came up with a pair of clutch shots in the third stanza.

The only stumbling block for the Lady Cherokees came from the foul line Thursday. South-Doyle was only 1-for-10 from the free throw stripe.

**In the third-place game:** Farragut routed Halls 41-26.

Destiny Carey and Kate McMurtry each scored 10 points to lead the Lady Admirals, who didn't allow a point in the third quarter. Farragut (14-5) led 21-10 at halftime before outscoring the Lady Demons 17-0 in the third frame.

Kaci Mitchell led Halls with eight points, all in the final six minutes.

**All-Tournament team:**

Several players received all-tournament honors. South-Doyle's Bailey was the Most Valuable Player. Browning, Atchley and Donehew were also selected, along with Mitchell and Taylor Moon from Halls. Powell's Keelie Lusby also made the team with Carey, Keyona Bourne and Carey from Farragut. West Valley had a pair of selections in Geer and Susan Kenny.

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# Sarah McCoy named Lady Demons head coach

By Ken Lay

Sarah McCoy was recently given the reins when she was recently named the Lady Demons head coach.

"This is a great opportunity," said McCoy, who now guides the Halls Middle School program. "I'm just happy to be surrounded by great parent volunteers, great coaches and great assistants.

"There's a great sense of community in Halls."

McCoy, a native of

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, moved to Knoxville to attend college at the University of Tennessee and compete for the Lady Vols rowing team, has made Knoxville her home.

"Tennessee is in my heart now and Knoxville is home now," said McCoy, 31, who teaches eighth grade reading and Language Arts at Halls Middle. "I've been an assistant at Halls for two years. Tennessee is where I met my husband and the mild winters here are

great.

"I love athletics and I love sports and this is an excellent opportunity."

McCoy, who received her Master's Degree from Tennessee in 2004, said she knows that middle school athletics provides student-athletes with a unique opportunity.

"Middle School athletics gives athletes the chance to grow as athletes and it teaches them how to balance athletics and academics before they go to

intensity of high school," she said. "That all ties in together and I'm happy to help out with them any way that I can."

Off the track and outside the classroom, McCoy is an avid Pittsburgh Steelers fan and follows UT athletics like any graduate.

"It's all black and gold and Big Orange in our house," she said.

She also enjoys classic literature.

"I like Edgar Allan Poe and Shakespeare," she

said. "I like [Robert Louis Stevenson's] *Treasure Island* and all the classics. "I just read *The Help*."

McCoy and her husband Jason have been married for eight years. The couple has two children. Andrew is seven and Claire is 10 months old.

"When I have extra time,

I like to spend it with my family," McCoy said. "We play and we garden and those things."

McCoy and the Lady Demons open the 2012 season on March 27.

## Q&A with CAK head football coach

### Rusty Bradley

Cont. from page 1

with close wins in the regular season and the state quarterfinals. What was the difference this time for the Warriors?

Rusty Bradley: The biggest difference this year as opposed to year's past was that our guys had the mentality that they were not going to be denied. This year, when things didn't go our way against them at different points of both games, our guys never panicked. They simply kept playing hard. In year's past, we have been so amped up to play Alcoa and then when the game rolled around and something didn't go our way, we let a little bit of doubt creep in. This year, we changed our approach to playing Alcoa. We treated it like just another game for us and we believed that we were going to win. That allowed us to simply go out and play more relaxed.

AN: Our area has Bearden/Farragut... Central/Halls... Webb/Catholic...etc. Has CAK/Alcoa established itself as one of the premier rivalries in East Tennessee as well?

RB: I think it has definitely established itself as one of the premier rivalries in East Tennessee. Everytime we play, there is a lot on the line for both teams. The fact that Alcoa has pushed our players and made us better has simply added to the excitement of the game. The part of playing Alcoa that I enjoy is the amount of respect that both teams have for each other. Coach (Gary) Rankin and his staff have done such a good job with their players and competing against them has made us better.

AN: Quarterback

Charlie High had a monster junior campaign, setting six single season state records... How do you think High's talents will eventually translate to the college level?

RB: I think his talents translate well to the college level. He has all of the intangibles that you look for in a quarterback. He understands defensive structure. He is competitive, smart, tough, and an accurate passer with a quick release. He understands a lot of the west coast passing game concepts that a lot of collegiate teams run. He already has great pocket presence and instincts, which is unusual for a first year starter. He does a great job of moving around in the pocket but keeping his eyes down field and finding the open receiver and his check downs. He still has some aspects of his game that he needs to work on to improve but that is always going to be the case with any player.

AN: Wide Receiver Davis Howell had a breakout year for your team in 2011. Talk about how he has improved to become one of the go to guys for your squad...

RB: Where Davis has really improved from the time he began with us as a freshman until now is in his route running. He has always been a great athlete with great ball skills. Now he is a great route runner that has phenomenal discipline in doing all of the little things involved in running routes - releases verse press coverage, getting in and out of his burst, sticking to create separation, etc. Everytime we need a big play, he is a guy we know

we can go to. He is tough and wants the ball in his hands at critical points of the game. He has a great understanding of our offense and a great chemistry with Charlie.

AN: You return a lot of talent from this state championship winning team, losing only one starter on offense to graduation. Is the pressure now on the Warriors to go back to back?

RB: I honestly believe that there is no pressure at all. The great thing about football is that each year is a new year and each January starts a new journey with a new team. The 2011 season has absolutely no impact on the 2012 season. I will never emphasize winning championships. That has never been and never will be our goal. I want each player to simply maximize their God given ability. If every player, coach, and support staff member of our program can do that - then good things will happen. I will always emphasize Proverbs 3:5-6 with our players, which says "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding: In all your ways acknowledge Him, and he shall direct your paths." What God wants us to do is trust Him and serve Him with a winning and faithful heart. If we will do that then His word promises that He will lead us to His appointed goal for us. Whatever that appointed goal may be is His plan for us, not ours. That takes all of the pressure off of us. We simply need to honor Him with our effort, work as hard as we can to maximize our God given ability, and have fun.



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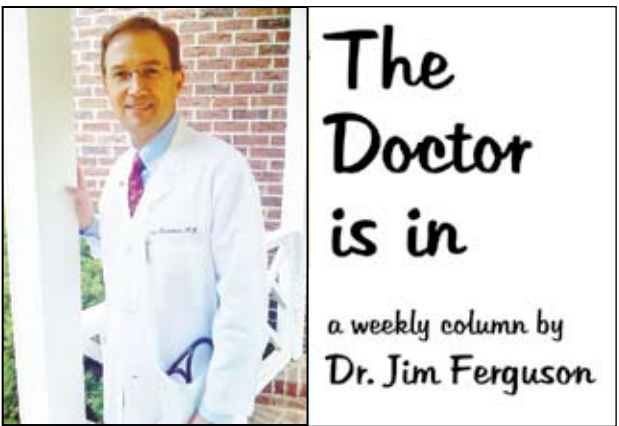
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### Planting Trees

I've yet to experience *writer's block* – the condition where writers run out of things to say. Every week a story seems to present itself, but I wondered if this week would be an exception. I was concerned because my anxious mood was affecting my creative muse. For the non-literary folks, a muse is akin to the tiny beings that stood on the shoulders of Looney Tune cartoon characters and whispered into their ears. A more Olympian vision was that of the ancient Greeks who imagined nine goddesses that motivated poets and artists. Wisdom writings observe that we'll always have something to worry

about, and the worry doesn't do us a lot of good. It's much better to focus on the Transcendent than to be consumed with worry about the present. It's easy for me to get torqued when I focus on my immediate struggles, past mistakes or when worrying about tomorrow. Last Saturday I remember awakening and being at peace for about two hours. What a blessing. The dead of winter is a troublesome time for a lot of people. The only thing good about February is that it's short. There's even a condition called SAD, or seasonal affective disorder, which is associated with

a deficiency of sunlight during the winter months. The paucity of sunlight causes less stimulation of the pineal gland and a disruption of melatonin production. You can picture the location of this tiny hormone-producing organ in the center of your head by placing your finger on the bridge of your nose and pointing at it. This gland regulates our body rhythms and sleep. In sensitive persons the lack of sunlight and melatonin can be associated with depression. An analogous condition called jet-lag occurs with travel across multiple time zones and a disruption in bodily rhythms. Some years ago a friend told me a proverb attributed to a man named Jos Mart. He said that the life-traveler should, "Plant a tree, write a book and have a son." Well, I've written a book – I'm working on a second – I've raised two daughters with my wife and one daughter is pregnant with a son. And today I planted an orchard. "The Bucket List"

is a wonderful movie where Jack Nicholson and Morgan Freeman try to experience all their dreams before they die. Well, I'm not dying and I'm still planning for the future. I hope my fruit trees will survive our pitiful south Knoxville soil and eventually produce fruit. Someone once said that we should plant a tree that we'll never expect to see mature. What a noble and selfless attitude which seems lost in our often solipsistic (word for the week) modern world. I wrote an essay some weeks ago entitled "Entropy." You should go to the [knoxfocus.com](http://knoxfocus.com) website and read this story which generated more responses than any I've written in the last four years. This principle of the Universe (entropy) is the reason time processes forward rather than in reverse. This may sound like a ridiculous statement because everyone experiences linear time with a past, present and a future. Actually, this notion of a timeline is a western concept. People

in other cultures envision time as circular and is called the *wheel of life*. The writer's of "The Lion King" redacted (second word of the week) this concept as the *circle of life* and made a fortune. What if time is an infinity of present moments? I love the movie "Groundhog Day" with Bill Murray. In this campy movie, the protagonist is caught in a recurring segment of time until he learns humility and empathy. The great 20<sup>th</sup> century apologist (third word) for Christianity, C. S. Lewis, posited that God exists out of space and time that governs us mortals. In a book called "The Gift of the Jews," Thomas Cahill posits that our western sense of time resulted when God interacted with humans and established our timeline. However, if Lewis is right then God perceives us outside of our sense of time, and present moments in His perspective may merge with past and future ones. Well, that's certainly abstruse (fourth word). I just love finding the right word for a thought! I find that I'm most alive when I write or journal. When writing I sense that I receive inspiration and direction from the greatest Muse, the Architect of all that is. He is the Maker of trees and Fergusons and all space and time. So what is required of me as I traverse this wondrous reality called life? The prophet Micah said it best, "Do justice, love mercy and walk humbly with your God;" and plant trees along the way. Food for thought...

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

For appointments call Keesha at 865-522-0326.

Do you have a question for Dr. Ferguson? Please e-mail him at [jferguson@summithealthcare.com](mailto:jferguson@summithealthcare.com).

## Public invited to open house at medical simulation center

### New UT Graduate School of Medicine Facility to Improve Clinical Skills

Representatives of the University of Tennessee Graduate School of Medicine invite members of the community to tour the new University of Tennessee Center for Advanced Medical Simulation Thursday, Feb. 16, 10:30 a.m. – 2 p.m. The medical simulation center is a 6,500-square-foot facility used by physicians and medical professionals from around the region and nation to advance their clinical skills, learn new procedures and improve clinical outcomes on behalf of

their patients. The open house gives members of the public a unique opportunity to see first-hand how healthcare professionals including doctors, nurses, therapists, physician assistants, EMTs, dentists and others use sophisticated technology to learn techniques that can quickly be put into practice for their patients. Physicians and staff with the simulation center will discuss the training they provide. They'll also demonstrate how the life-sized computerized mannequins, laparoscopic and other virtual reality simulation models are utilized to help medical professionals improve their clinical reasoning, decision

**Cont. on page 4**

## ‘Eat Play Live Knoxville’ Registration Now Open

Eat Play Live Knoxville is helping people become directly involved in local food sources and active outdoorspaces in support of their own healthy living. The Knox County Health Department has teamed up with a group of local partners to create this unique experience for citizens. Several events are slated for March 9 and 10 but the Saturday event is focused on public participation. Entitled "The Un-Conference," this less than typical event on March 10 will be at the L&N STEM Academy, is at no charge and is open to the first 150 registrants. More details on the sessions and speakers, along with electronic registration are all available at [www.eatplayliveknox.com](http://www.eatplayliveknox.com) or by calling 865.215.5170.



"Growing your own food and eating local is a great way to stay active and healthy, while also helping the area economy by supporting local producers," Knox County Mayor Tim Burchett said. "This is a slightly

different approach for Knox County Health Department," said Dr. Martha Buchanan, KCHD director. "We are focused on empowering our citizens with tools of involvement and hands-on know-how to improve our community's health." The event will include

a Participant Pledge for which attendees will be asked to choose an action to take at home or in the community, and will be contacted for follow-up. Afternoon sessions are all hands-on with six different options, and attendees will go home with a variety of resources and supplies. Community leaders and elected officials have been invited to kick-off the Eat Play Live Knoxville events on Friday morning, March 9 at the East Tennessee History Center. That evening at 7:30 p.m. the movie "FRESH" will be shown at the Relix Variety Theatre and the public is invited. Registration for "FRESH" is also via the [www.eatplayliveknox.com](http://www.eatplayliveknox.com) website.

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# Faith



CHUMC's Little Red Food Wagon.

## The Good News at Colonial Height UMC

By Elden Elmer

"The Montgomery Village Dental Hygiene Clinic" will be the focus of the Wonderful Wednesday program February 15, 2012. Dr. Shelly Diviney from the Hiwassee College located in Madisonville will be presenting the program. Dinner will consist of Chicken and Dumplings, green beans, slaw, creamed corn, drinks and dessert, any donations will be appreciated. This is one

of the many projects that the 2012 Outreach committee has chosen to support. The program will underwrite dental hygiene for children in the Montgomery Village. It will be kicked off with a Dental Hygiene fair on Feb 28th at the Boys and Girls Club located on old Maryville Pike. If you would like to find out more about this program dinner will begin at 5:30 p.m. with the program shortly afterward.

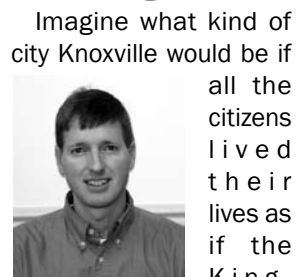
We always work so hard

to help others in foreign lands as we should, however, this year the members of CHUMC have undertaken to assist our friends and neighbors in our own back yard. The Little Red Food Wagon, program offers a new opportunity to feed our hungry neighbors. All our members are encouraged to bring one or two items each week to help fill our wagon. The food will then be delivered to the Vestal Food Bank the first Friday of each month.

The Few Project is underway to help a local family with a ramp or porch reconstruction on Thursday, February 16. If you would like to assist please contact Adam Montgomery at adambmontgomery@comcast.net.

For more information about these programs and the many others that are happening at CHUMC please contact the office Monday - Thursday 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. at 865-577-2727 or visit [chumcknox.org](http://chumcknox.org). Colonial Height United Methodist Church is located at 6321 Chapman Highway.

## Kingdom Living



By Mark Brackney, Minister of the Arlington Church of Christ

Imagine what kind of city Knoxville would be if all the citizens lived their lives as if the Kingdom of God were already present. I know that heaven is in the future and this world is not our home, but why can't disciples of Jesus start living as if the Kingdom of God were already ruling with righteousness and justice over all the earth?

I grew up viewing the Bible as a rule book. It contained everything we need for faith and practice. In it you could discover how to worship correctly. You could through reason determine the "plan of salvation," which consisted of: hearing the good news of Jesus, believing the facts, repenting of sin, confessing Jesus as Lord, and being baptized into Christ. This five-step plan was determined through inductive reasoning and common sense rationalism. The Bible thus became a divinely given scientific treatise.

As I grew in my relationship with Christ and my personal study of the Bible, my perspective of how I view Scripture has grown. I agree with Richard Hughes who wrote, "The Bible is a narrative that tells the story of a God who created us from the dust of the earth, who loves us and redeemed us when we went astray, who calls us to reflect His love to others just as He

has loved us, and who one day will triumph over all the earth and rule for ever and ever" (*Reclaiming A Heritage*, 78).

The main problem with reading the Bible like an ancient blueprint is that we run the risk of disconnecting the Bible from real life issues. We think as long as we are doing church "right" (correct worship pattern and church organization), then ethical and moral living are not as important issues.

The Bible is not just a book of facts that we as scientists are investigating. The Bible is the revealed living and active Word of God that shows how Jesus got here through the nation of Israel, and how Jesus and His followers are to live in light of His Kingdom that is breaking into this fallen world. Our model for Kingdom living is Jesus. We live with the assurance that one day the Kingdom of God will triumph. But the Christian does not have to wait for the coming Kingdom. We can go ahead and live in that reality now. We can serve the poor, help the weak, bind up the wounds of the hurting. We can love our enemies and empty our pride.

In the Lord's Prayer Jesus prayed, "Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven" (Matthew 6:10). On the day of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit came and ushered in the age of the Kingdom. Followers of Jesus get to live this reality out in daily living to the praise and glory of God. May we do God's will on earth as it is in heaven as citizens of His Kingdom.

## Church Happenings

### Eusebia Presbyterian Church

Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper Tuesday, February 21 at 5:30 p.m. Create your own custom pancake with toppings delight, sausage, bacon, fruits, drinks and much more. Donations are appreciated and will benefit C.R.O.S.S. [www.eusebiachurch.org](http://www.eusebiachurch.org)

### KFL Outreach Ministry Presents

The Knoxville Fellowship Luncheon will meet Tuesday, February 14 at the Golden

Corral on Clinton Highway at noon. Dan Rieg will be the guest speaker.

### South Knoxville Church of God

On February 26 at 10:45 a.m. we will have a free concert with Justin Terry. We invite everyone to come, invite a friend, and fellowship with us!

For further information on upcoming events, church activities, or directions, please call our church office at 573-4141, or visit our website at [SKCOG.COM](http://SKCOG.COM).

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**Info:** Rev. Eddie Sawyer, Pastor  
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*Worship with us!*



# What to do?

# What to do?

Over the last few years, home prices have dropped by as much as 50 percent. Unsold home inventories are near record highs, and mortgage rates remain low. With the economy starting to turn around, there's never been a better time to buy a house. There's no denying the numbers. It is a great time to buy, if buying is right for you. To decide if you should be in the market, ask yourself these questions:



By Jan Cole

1. How long will I live here? Length of stay is the single most important consideration in the buy-versus-rent debate. If you plan on spending the rest of your life in the same home, buy now. If you want to flip it for a profit in 12 to 24 months, keep renting. Most of us are somewhere in the middle. The common wisdom used to be a 5-year cut-off—anything longer means buy, and anything shorter means rent. In most cases, that still holds true, but market variations can nudge the numbers a bit.

2. What are my family plans? Once upon a time, young couples purchased small homes, used their equity to upgrade when the family grew, and cashed out for a smaller place once the kids left the nest. While this remains a logical progression, executing on that strategy is getting harder. Couples are marrying later, which can shorten the time between buying that starter home and needing more space. In such a buyer's market, you may find it hard to recoup your investment in just a few years, limiting your upgrade options.

3. Am I ready for the "extras?" Those online calculators do a good job of estimating mortgage payments and taxes, but they won't factor in plumbing repairs, water bills, gutter cleaning, or any of the other expenses that your landlord has absorbed all these years. These can easily add up to an extra hundred dollars per month, just for ongoing maintenance.

4. What are my investment plans? That leads us to savings. Let's assume you can pay \$2000 a month for housing. In some markets, you could spend that \$2000 on a mortgage, taxes, and insurance, or you could rent a similar place for \$1400 and save \$600 every month. If that sounds like you, renting while you save could make sense. If, on the other hand, you're going to use that extra \$600 to rent the kind of place you "could never afford to buy," then you're right—you'll never be able to afford it, because you're just tossing money out the window.

Which person are you? Be honest here. If you're more like the second person, you should definitely consider buying. The equity you build in a purchased home over the long term will probably be your biggest investment over the course of your life. Renting only makes sense if you're saving and investing the extra. *For more information on purchasing a new home, give me a call. I WILL WORK FOR YOU!!*

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Civil War Talk

On Tuesday, February 14, 2012, the Knoxville Civil War Roundtable will host well known Civil War author Richard M. McMurry, Ph.D as its speaker. At 8:00 p.m., Dr. McMurry will speak on the topic: "Jefferson Davis and Confederate Strategy" The talk is OPEN TO THE PUBLIC and will be at the Bearden Banquet Hall at 5806 Kingston Pike (next to Buddy's BBQ and .2 mile east of the intersection of Kingston Pike and Northshore Dr.) To attend the talk only is \$5.00. Alternatively, you can come at 7:00 p.m. and enjoy a delicious buffet dinner which is \$15.00 for members and \$17.00 for non-members. To make dinner reservations, please call (865) 671-9001 by 11:00 a.m. on Monday, February 13. We look forward to seeing you there!

### Everyday Justice Series

The series, "Just Living," Discussions on Sustainable Lifestyle Choices will be held at Remedy Coffee, 125 W. Jackson Ave, 865-335-0967, beginning next month. The question, "Are our everyday choices supporting injustice?" will be addressed by the following presenters:

March 1, 7 p.m. "Waste, the High Price of Our Dirty Little Habits," Dr. Bill Park, UT Agricultural & Resources Professor Bill Park

March 8, 7 p.m. "Coffee: Fair Trade and the Daily Latte," Robert Hodge, El Puente.

March 15, 7 p.m. "Food: Choosing To Eat Ethically," Katie Ries, Three Rivers Market

March 29, 7 p.m. "Clothing: The Story behind What You're Wearing," Jim Richards, Mast General Store

This series is sponsored by All Souls Church and supported by downtown area churches. For more information, please e-mail justlivingknoxville@gmail.com.

### Fountain City Easter Egg Hunt

It's almost time for the Annual Fountain City Easter Egg Hunt! This year's event will be Saturday, March 31 from 9:00 a.m. to noon at Fountain City Park. Volunteers and vendors are to arrive at 8:00 a.m. The Fountain City Business and Professional Association still has a great need for volunteers to help work this event. Volunteers or vendors interested in participating can e-mail Beth Wade at info@fountaincity-business.com.

### Halls Republican Club

The next Halls Republican Club meeting will

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Sunday School 10 a.m.

Sunday Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.

Sunday Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday Evening Prayer 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday Evening Youth 7:00 p.m.

Bus Ministry - For transportation call 546-0001.

be Monday night, February 20, 2012, at QQ Pizza (formerly Mandarin House) at 6:15 p.m. if you plan to dine or 7:00 p.m. for the meeting. The guest speaker will be Tom Walker from the Knox County Sheriff's Office, who will be speaking on gang activity in the area.

### Knoxville Modern Quilt Guild meeting

Knoxville Modern Quilt Guild is holding its annual Meet & Greet from 1:30pm-3:30pm at the Powell Branch Library on Saturday, February, 18. New members welcome! Door prizes will be given away.

### Knoxville Writers' Group

The Knoxville Writers' Group meets Wednesday, February 22, 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., Naples Italian Restaurant, 5500 Kingston Pike.

Edward Francisco,

Professor of English at Pellissippi State Community College, will speak about his recently published book of poetry, "Only the Word Gives Us Being" (2011). All-inclusive lunch, \$12.00. RSVP by Feb. 20, 865-983-3740.

### LeConte Photographic Society

On Saturday, February 25 at 10:00 a.m., the LeConte Photographic Society will present "Using a Project to Improve Your Photography: The 100 Strangers Project" at the King Library in Sevierville. This is a free class to the public.

### Seniors For Creative Learning Open House

Seniors are to meet Thursday, February 16, from 10:00 a.m. until noon at the John T. O'Connor Center. Come learn about us and look over our exciting spring schedule.



Pictured at the January Norwood Garden Club meeting are Ruth Lamb, Bettie Floyd and new member Marjorie Sizemore.

# Norwood Garden Club learns about environment

Every member of Norwood Garden Club that was present at the club's January meeting and covered dish luncheon, held at New Hope Presbyterian Church on Merchant Drive, took part in the planned discussion program on the environment.

Ruth Lamb led the discussion after reviewing an article in the National Gardener Magazine, a publication of the National Garden Clubs Inc. The article was entitled "Help Save our Pollinators." The article dealt mainly with information on the plight of the honey bees and bats that are essential to our

environment. Over fifty percent of our managed colonies of bees have been lost in the past ten years due to chemical misuses, diseases, parasites and the introduction of invasive plant and animal species.

Garden Club members and gardeners all over the community are urged to create a pollinator friendly garden habitat and to design their gardens so that there is a continuous succession of blooming plants from spring through fall. Planting native plants will attract pollinators. Proper use of insecticides will help minimize the destruction of

our pollinators. Bees, butterflies, moths, ants, beetles, etc., need protection to be available to pollinate plants for our food supply.

Norwood welcomed Marjorie Sizemore as a new member of the club. Bettie Floyd, Norwood Garden president, reported on garden and craft activities involving a local Girl Scout Troop the Norwood Garden Club has "adopted."

The February meeting will be held at the home of Bettie Floyd when Rachel Chapman will conduct a workshop on making miniature and small designs for a flower show.

### Shakespeare On The Square Auditions

The Tennessee Stage Company will hold auditions for the 2012 Shakespeare On The Square on Sunday, February 26, from 1:00 – 5:00 p.m. at the Emporium Building, 100 S. Gay Street.

Auditionees are requested to prepare two contrasting monologues, at least one classical, of no more than one minute each. Please bring two copies of a resume and standard theatrical headshot. All

auditions are by appointment only. For appointments or information please call the Tennessee Stage Company at 546-4280.

The two shows to be performed this summer are "Julius Caesar" and "As You Like It." They will run from July 12 – August 12. Rehearsals will begin the end of May.

### Sterchi Elementary news

Feb. 17 – Jump for the Playground  
March 12 - PTA Meeting  
**Cont. on page 4**

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## Green Lentil Soup

Black pepper, to taste  
1 cup dried green lentils  
5 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil  
3 small onions, finely chopped  
2 medium garlic cloves, finely sliced  
2 teaspoons cumin seeds, crushed  
1/4 teaspoons ground turmeric  
2 1/2 cups cold water  
Pinch salt, to taste  
2 tablespoons fresh cilantro, chopped

Place lentils in medium pot. Cover with cold water. Bring to boil for 10 minutes. Remove from heat, drain through colander. Set aside. Heat 2 tablespoons of oil and cook 2/3 of onions along with garlic, cumin, and turmeric for 3 minutes. Add lentils, stock, and water. Bring to boil. Reduce heat, cover and simmer for 30 minutes or until lentils are soft. In separate saute pan, heat remaining oil and saute remaining onion until golden brown, stir frequently. Use potato masher to lightly mash lentils and create pulpy texture. Reheat gently and season with salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste. Ladle soup into warm bowls. Before serving, mix fresh cilantro with fried onion and sprinkle over soup to garnish.



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Cont. from page 3**

April 13 - Family Fun Night 5:30 - 8:30

## Tennessee Volunteer Gourd Society festival

The Tennessee Volunteer Gourd Society (TVGS) will hold its 5th annual spring gourd festival entitled Home Grown & Hand Made at the Bledsoe Community Complex on April 20-22, 2012. The complex is located at 234 Allen P Deakins Rd, Pikeville, TN 37367. This show is a good opportunity for the public to meet regional gourd artisans, crafters and growers. Admission to the event is free to the public and parking is available on the grounds. As our theme indicates, all products displayed and demonstrated will be "home grown" and "hand made". Several gourd growers from the region will be displaying and selling a marvelous variety of gourds--all dried and ready for crafting.

Some techniques used in crafting gourds are pyrography, pine needle weaving, silk dyes, acrylic painting and decoupage. The Tennessee Volunteer Gourd Society is the Upsilon

Chapter of the American Gourd Society.

For information about the festival and the TVGS, visit [www.tennesseevolunteergourdsociety.org](http://www.tennesseevolunteergourdsociety.org).

## United Daughters of the Confederacy meeting

The Captain W. Y. C. Hannum Chapter #1881, United Daughters of the Confederacy will meet at the Green Meadow County Club in Alcoa on Saturday, February 18 at 10:00 a.m. Brunch will be served at 10:00 followed by the program and business session. The program will be presented by Captain Robert Russell, U.S. Navy retired. His topic will be "The Confederate Navy." Visitors are welcome to attend. Cost of Brunch is \$15.00. For reservations or more information, please contact Elaine Clonts Russell, 865-980-6346 or Debra Wilson, 865-856-9300.

## Volunteer Opportunity at STAR

STAR is looking for volunteers to help special needs children and adults with their therapeutic horseback riding lessons for the Spring Session 2012. Lesson Vol

Training (Ages 13 and up) is Saturday, February 25, 2012 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Junior Vol Training (Ages 10-12) is Tuesday, February 28, 2012 from 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Horse experience is not necessary. For more information, call Melissa Suadi at 865-988-4711 or visit our website at [www.rideat-star.org](http://www.rideat-star.org).

Seeking Christian Live-in caretaker for elderly female. Must have transportation. Living expenses+ salary. Background check required. Taylor 363-6505 or Lana 455-7505.

# Public invited to open house at medical simulation center

**Cont. from page 1**

making and overall clinical techniques.

Guests at the open house can get some firsthand experience with the advanced technology, including:

- Practice simulated procedures such as arterial balloon dilation and coronary artery stenting
- Train in endoscopic and bronchoscopic procedures
- Test abilities in

laparoscopic procedures and other surgical techniques

The UT Center for Advanced Medical Simulation is located on the campus of UT Medical Center. The entrance to the center is on the G-2 (red) level of the parking garage located between buildings C and D of the medical center. Event parking signs on campus that day will help guide visitors to the simulation center.

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## EVENTS

FOUNTAIN CITY LIONS CLUB FOR RENT FOR YOUR PARTY OR GATHERING. CONTACT ALVIN FRYE AT FOUNTAIN CITY EXXON. 687-5191

## EXCAVATING

BOBCAT/BACKHOE /SMALL DUMP TRUCK. SMALL JOB SPECIALIST CELL 660-9645 OR 688-4803

## PUBLIC NOTICE

### PUBLIC NOTICE:

Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization - Executive Board Meeting, February 22, 2012.

The Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) Executive Board will meet on Wednesday, February 22, at 9 a.m. in the Small Assembly Room of the City/County Building, 400 Main Street, Knoxville, TN. Topics to be considered: Amendments to the Transportation Improvement Program; Long Range Mobility Plan Update; TPO Certification Review; Public Comment, and other business.

If you would like a complete agenda, please contact MPC at 215-2500 or see the TPO Website at [www.knoxtrans.org](http://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.

## BULLETIN BOARD

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For additional info, call 689-2665 or 579-3494

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