

McMillan & Wright help secure land for Ritta

Land purchase adjacent to school will eliminate traffic problems

By Focus Staff

8th District Knox County Board of Education member Mike McMillan, 8th District Knox County Commissioner Dave Wright and Mayor Tim Burchett have been quietly working to resolve a considerable problem of importance to residents in the Ritta community. For quite some time, parents and motorists have had difficulties with tremendous traffic problems near Ritta Elementary School.

Property next door to Ritta Elementary School owned by Eddie and the late Barbara Harvey has been purchased to help resolve congestion problems. Both Wright and McMillan have been working to help this project along. Mayor Tim Burchett has been extremely helpful in keeping the project moving.

“It’s gone through the Law department and the deed has been registered,” Wright said. “So I think we’re just about there.”

“This is significant because it really should help eliminate the traffic problems at Ritta Elementary School,” McMillan explained.

Mayor Burchett pointed out, “This should help make things safer for children, parents, and everyone driving in the area. That’s really important, especially in an elementary school zone.”

Brian Harvey, son of Knoxville legend Eddie Harvey, said, “Our family has experienced the terrible and dangerous traffic problems at Ritta first-hand. We are very pleased to be of help to the Ritta community.”

Harvey went on to praise Mayor Tim Burchett, Board member Mike McMillan, and Commissioner Dave Wright, saying all “worked to help our community. They just stayed after it to get it done. It should really make a huge difference.”

Brian Harvey told *Focus* publisher Steve Hunley about the traffic congestion around Ritta school from personal experience. Harvey had decided to go fishing one day and went to his parents’ home to



PHOTOS BY DAN ANDREWS.

Above, 8th District School Board Member Mike McMillan, Brian Harvey, Knoxville legend Eddie Harvey, Knox County Mayor Tim Burchett and 8th District Commissioner Dave Wright meet at Ritta Elementary School to discuss land purchased from the Harveys that will eliminate traffic problems, pictured left.



get his bass boat, but found he couldn’t get onto Washington Pike due to the heavy traffic. Disgusted, Harvey turned back around, unhooked the boat, went in the house and told his parents, “We need to get something done about this.”

The Knox County School system now officially owns the property next door to Ritta Elementary School. A new entrance and exit is planned for the Harvey farm side of the school and a new driveway all around

the school is planned. The eventual effect will entirely alleviate the existing traffic problems.

On a separate note relating to Ritta, McMillan had earlier last year noticed Ritta met the criteria for an Assistant Principal, although no Assistant Principal had been assigned to the school. McMillan promptly pointed out the fact Ritta met the criteria established to Superintendent Jim McIntyre. Within a few weeks, Ritta had a new Assistant Principal. “I’m very thankful to be able to be a help to the Ritta community,” McMillan said. “That’s just my job.”

South Knoxville still in business one year after bridge closure

Mayor Burchett encourages all to shop south

By Tasha Mahurin
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One year later, businesses in South Knoxville continue to feel the effects of the Henley Street Bridge closure. Although the last year has brought many challenges to the area such as a decrease in traffic along Chapman Highway and new detour routes and traffic related issues, the closure has fostered a wave of community spirit and activism among the business community.

“The business community is reviving itself,” Vice Mayor Nick Pavlis, who represents the first district on City Council, told *The Focus*.

In fact the South Knoxville business community has rebranded itself as the Urban Wilderness Arts & Trade District. Business owners in the community meet monthly to discuss innovative promotional



PHOTO BY DAN ANDREWS

Mayor Tim Burchett chats with Jason Cooper and Jason Garner at Rush’s Music on Chapman Highway during a recent visit to South Knoxville.

campaigns and issues related to the area.

“We have new faces at each and every meeting,” Pavlis added. “The bridge is not going to be closed forever, and when it reopens we’re going to be much more organized here in South Knoxville.”

The Urban Wilderness Arts & Trade District is in fact in the process of launching a new discount card program in the area in an effort to show their appreciation for patrons who are shopping locally to support the area businesses. Additionally, plans exist to put new signage and banners in place to denote the area.

Another innovative measure put in place is the TREK South (Traverse, Ride, and Explore Knoxville) program formed by a group of local citizens. The goal of TREK South is to promote all areas of South Knoxville including parks,

businesses, restaurants and historic sites. TREK South holds a group excursion tour the third Sunday of each month beginning at 1:00 p.m.

Knox County Mayor Tim Burchett recently visited several South Knoxville businesses in order to better understand the impact the Henley Street Bridge closure is having on them. Mayor Burchett is also encouraging citizens from across Knox County to make a conscious effort to visit and do business in South Knoxville and South Knoxville.

“The Henley Street Bridge construction project is important, and it will benefit Knox County residents and visitors alike when it is finished,” Mayor Burchett said. “In the meantime, though, businesses along Chapman Highway, many of them locally owned, need the support of the entire community. Occasionally driving a couple extra miles south of the river to eat out, shop or conduct

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Some internet stuff

I know we're in the second month of the new year but to me it still seems as if it's a new year. When I read this poem I am inspired to pass it along to my readers.

Happy new year ahead
Thank you, lord for giving me
The brand new year ahead.
Help me live the way I should,
As each new day I tread
Give me gentle wisdom
That I might help a friend
Give me strength and courage
So a shoulder I might lend.
The year ahead is empty
Help me fill it with good things
Each new day filled with joy,
And the happiness it brings.
Please give the leaders of our world
A courage born of peace
That they might lead us gently
And all the fighting cease.
Please give to all upon the earth
A heart that's filled with love.
A gentle happy way to live,
With your blessings from above.

On the lighter side:
Places I have and have not been:
I have been in many places, but I've never been in cahoots.
Apparently you can't go



alone, you have to be in cahoots with someone.

I've also never been in cognito. I hear no one recognizes you there.

I have, however, been in sane. They don't have an airport, you have to be driven there I have made several trips, thanks to family, friends, and work.

I would like to go to conclusions, but you have to jump, and I'm not too much on physical activity any more.

I have also been in doubt. That is a sad place to go and I try not to visit there too often.

I've been in flexible, but only when it was important to stand firm.

Sometimes I'm in capable, and I go there more often as I get older.

One of my favorite places to be is in suspense. It really gets the adrenalin flowing and pumps up the old heart! At my age I need all the stimuli I can get.

And, sometimes I think I'm in vincible, but life shows me I am not!

I've been in debt---too many times, the older I get the easier it is to get there...

Oh dear, I've been there and done that!

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

A sobering lesson from Genesis

I'm reading through the Bible again. It's one of my personal goals for 2012. The great thing about Scripture for a Christian is no matter how many times you read it, God can show you something you didn't see before. That is exactly what happened to me last week while reading the Book of Genesis.

By Richie Beeler

Genesis is my favorite book of the Bible, hands down. Not only do the first eleven chapters establish the very foundation of our faith in the one true God (yes, it is crucial that we believe them as written), but the remainder of the book chronicles the lives and experiences of the forefathers of our faith. These patriarchs provide incredible life application illustrations that help us understand how we should live our lives as New Testament believers.

I came across just such an illustration last week as I read the story of Joseph for the umpteenth time. The eleventh son of Israel provides for us a biography that is almost unparalleled even for Bible characters. The tragedy to triumph story gives hope to even the most hopeless of situations. And so did I feel hope rising within me even as I read it again. Then I came to chapter 47. And somehow a piece of Joseph's saga leaped off the pages as if for the very first time. Its illustration was powerful. And horrifying.

As most of you are probably familiar with the Joseph story, I will offer

only a brief synopsis. Joseph was the favorite son of his father Jacob (later known as Israel). So favored was Joseph that his ten older brothers sold him into slavery, concocting a story that he had been killed by a wild animal. Although a slave, Joseph found amazing favor from God, and through a series of providential events, rose to become the prime minister of Egypt, second in command only to Pharaoh himself.

The king of Egypt had enlisted Joseph's services for the express purpose of seeing the land through a severe famine that Joseph had predicted as a result of interpreting the Pharaoh's dreams. Genesis 47 gives a detailed account of how Joseph and the Egyptian government managed the nation through this time of economic crisis. At this point I would like to urge every American citizen to read Genesis 47.

And learn.

The plan started with the Egyptian government collecting a portion of all it's citizens' grain during a seven-year period of prosperity that preceded the famine. When the drought hit, the plan was for the government to manage all the food supply and take care of everybody through the seven years of famine.

So when hard times came calling the people began to come to the government for food. This is recorded in Genesis 47:13-15:

"There was no food, however, in the whole region because the famine was severe; both Egypt and Canaan wasted away because of the famine. Joseph collected all the money that was to be found in Egypt and Canaan in payment for the grain they were buying, and he brought it to Pharaoh's palace. When the money of

the people of Egypt and Canaan was gone, all Egypt came to Joseph and said, "Give us food. Why should we die before your eyes? Our money is all gone." (Genesis 47:13-15 NIV)

"Sure!" said the Egyptian government. "We've got plenty of food. Just give us all your money, and you can eat like kings!"

And that's exactly what the people did. All seemed well in the land. Until the money ran out. What happened next is a bit more disturbing.

"Then bring your livestock," said Joseph. "I will sell you food in exchange for your livestock, since your money is gone." So they brought their livestock to Joseph, and he gave them food in exchange for their horses, their sheep and goats, their cattle and donkeys. And he brought them through that year with food in exchange for all their livestock." (Genesis 47:16, 17 NIV)

Once again the people ate, fed by the benevolent Egyptian government, which now owned ALL their livestock. And of course, the people still needed to eat. Then the story took yet another turn. Like I said, if you're paying attention, it gets pretty horrifying.

"When that year was over, they came to him the following year and said, "We cannot hide from our lord the fact that since our money is gone and our livestock belongs to you, there is nothing left for our lord except our bodies and our land. Why should we perish before your eyes—we and our land as well? Buy us and our land in exchange for food, and we with our land will be in bondage to Pharaoh. Give us seed so that we may live and not die, and that the land may not become desolate." **Continue on page 4**

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Who's Billy Graham?



By Ralphine Major
ralphine3@yahoo.com

I cannot imagine that anyone would need to ask who Billy Graham is. It seems I have known who he is for as long as I can remember. The 93-year-old North Carolina native has been America's evangelist for decades, preaching salvation through Jesus Christ. This beloved clergyman, who is known the world over, brought his crusade team to Knoxville in May of 1970. For ten days, Neyland Stadium was transformed from a football field to an outdoor church.

The crusade team who regularly traveled with Graham was part of the Knoxville crusade: Cliff Barrows, George Beverly Shea, Ethel Waters, and Norma Zimmer of the Lawrence Welk show. Other special guests during the crusade included President and Mrs. Richard Nixon and country music great Johnny Cash who brought with him the Carter Family, the Statler Brothers, and Carl Perkins and the Tennessee Three. Area churches took bus loads to every service. It was an experience I will never forget. I stood just an arm's length away from Bev Shea who is now 103. He was kind enough to wait until I snapped his picture with my Kodak Instamatic. However, as well known as he is today, there was a time when Billy Graham was not a household name.

I spotted the "Friends of Coal" license plate on their car in the parking lot. Though they are faithful members of Wallace Memorial Baptist Church, I first met them a few years ago at cardiac rehab. While walking laps one day, they began to share with me a unique experience in their lives. I was intrigued by what this special couple told me.

Jim and Boots Turner were a young married couple living in West Virginia. Jim has worked in several capacities through the years, including an electrician and writer. He wrote a weekly column called "Turner Says" for Community News, a newspaper in St. Alvans, West Virginia. As a young

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Political Analysis

Rogero, Burchett Drop Bomb on Gloria Ray

Mayors Ask For Resignations

By Focus Staff

Madeline Rogero, Mayor of Knoxville, and Tim Burchett, Knox County's Mayor, one a Democrat and the other a Republican, came together in an unusual display of solidarity. Both called for the resignation of Gloria Ray, CEO of the beleaguered Knoxville Tourism Sports Corporation. The local news media has been awash with stories detailing Ray's earnings, which exceeded \$411,000.

Rogero held a press conference last Thursday afternoon where she asked for Ray's resignation, along with the five members of the Board who set the compensation for Gloria Ray. Burchett went even farther; not only does Mayor Burchett want Ray's resignation and that of the five member board, but asked the State Comptroller to perform an audit of the KTSC. Burchett said he has asked for the audit as he has completely "lost confidence" in the leadership of the KTSC.

The backstory is far more interesting than the snippets being ladled out by the local news media into the troughs of an outraged public. Ray and the KTSC tried to forestall further

public criticism with a public appearance by Ray before the County Commission. Ray made a presentation and answered questions and by all accounts, did a commendable job. Yet despite being a very shrewd lady and one with an innate sense of public relations, Gloria Ray apparently didn't realize her wounds were mortal. With each new revelation her reputation suffered further. The KTSC was slow to react and finally hired public relations maven Cynthia Moxley to do damage control, evidently on the theory she, too, could raise Lazarus from the dead. Moxley's magic proved not to extend that far. Even Gloria Ray's most ardent supporters privately admitted they could not justify her compensation package.

In one last bid to forestall the inevitable, David Duncan, Chairman of the KTSC Board and the individual responsible for negotiating Gloria Ray's contract, announced his resignation last Wednesday evening. It was too little, too late. Rogero and Burchett made their request for Gloria Ray's resignation public the very next morning. Burchett appointed Knox County



Gloria Ray defends her salary at the Knox County Chairman's Luncheon and regular session on January 23.

Commission Chairman Mike Hammond to the KTSC board, allowing Hammond to pile on and he didn't disappoint, putting out his own press release on Thursday afternoon.

Gloria Ray's downfall has to do with money and not necessarily her salary and benefits. The KTSC has gotten a sizeable chunk of the hotel-motel tax and there are those who covet that money. Much of what was leaked to the press about Gloria Ray's compensation was apparently provided by some who want hotel-motel tax money for their own organizations and groups. Hungry eyes have long

been focused on the pile of money accumulated from the hotel-motel tax and the Arts Council for one wants a defined portion of that particular tax. Quite likely there will be some other enterprising groups and organizations who regularly seek grants from the city and county governments who will recognize being assigned a percentage of the hotel-motel tax would be like living off the proceeds of a healthy trust fund. They would be spared the indignity of having to come annually before the City Council and County Commission to beg for money.

While it seems absolutely certain Gloria Ray will have to quit as head of the KTSC, the corpse of the KTSC will almost surely provide a feast for others. The Chamber of Commerce will probably kindly step in and offer to absorb the KTSC; still other organizations will want a part of the hotel-motel tax revenue the KTSC gets yearly.

But those chortling over Gloria Ray's fall might lapse into silence if it occurs to them outraged taxpayers might wonder how many other highly paid CEOs head organizations that are the beneficiaries of taxpayer dollars. Likely the most highly paid person after Gloria Ray

heading an organization subsidized by taxpayer dollars is Mike Edwards, CEO of the Chamber of Commerce. Whether anyone will start to wonder just what the taxpayers are getting (and both the city and county governments make hefty contributions to the Chamber's coffers yearly) for their money is a question yet to be answered. The Chamber operates its own political action committee, but the Chamber will be quick to point out no taxpayer dollars are used for that purpose; evidently they can get actual members to pay the freight for that train. There would still likely be numerous questions about the Chamber's operation for the common folk who pay yearly tribute to the Chamber's operational budget. Were the public to be equally outraged, it will put both Mayors Rogero and Burchett in a difficult spot, not to mention the City Council and County Commission.

An unhappy and frustrated public seems to be in an ugly mood and it may well be like the French Revolution; the public beheadings didn't end with the first victim.

Publisher's note: Since this article was written, Gloria Ray has offered to resign if her attorneys and Sports Corporation attorneys can reach an agreement.

South Knoxville

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other business is an easy way citizens can help."

While visiting the area, Mayor Burchett visited such South Knoxville staples as the Disc Exchange, Rush's Music, Crow's Alignment, Emery's 5 & 10, and Comic eXchange.

"Small businesses are the backbone of our economy, and I hope all of our citizens understand that what happens in one part of the county affects all parts of the county," Mayor Burchett said. "Spending time and money in South Knoxville not only helps these businesses, but it will help our local economy."

The Urban Wilderness Arts & Trade District meets the third Thursday of every month at 6:30 p.m. at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church on Chapman Highway.

For more information about all South Knoxville to offer, visit <http://SouthKnoxIsOpen.com>.

My view on Valentines



By Sarah Baker
bakers@knoxfocus.com

He has good taste. I'm a pretty low maintenance girl and he always exceeds my

expectations. Of course, it isn't about the dinner or a gift. What matters is that I can relax and exhale with that wonderful thought *I have someone*. It is so nice to have someone. Spare me the lectures on enmeshment or codependency. I'm nobody's fool, nor as God as my witness (in my best Scarlet O'Hara voice), will I ever be again. No matter what anyone says or how many times we've been fooled, we all know it is nice to have someone special.

My teenage daughter, already disillusioned by the angst of callow courtship, is dreading Valentine's Day as if it were a day of punishment. I remembered

those years in high school when I didn't have someone special and it felt like I was the only girl in school who didn't receive a dozen roses, a Betty Boop balloon, or a teddy bear the size of a kindergarten. FYI: If my boyfriend ever buys me anything with Betty Boop on it, I will be forced to reconsider our relationship. I may be low maintenance, but I just don't get the whole Betty Boop thing. I confess I liked Hello Kitty way too far into my twenties, but when I found out Paris Hilton was a Hello Kitty fan, I was instantly and irreversibly cured. You may be thinking that I should send

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Who's Billy Graham?

Continued from page 2

man in his early twenties, he was working as a service and parts manager for Chevrolet. In the late 1940s or early '50s, his work brought him to Chattanooga, Tennessee, where he brought a wrecker to have repaired. When he checked into the hotel, the clerk asked if he was going to hear Billy Graham that evening. "Who's Billy Graham?" he asked her. She told him that Billy Graham was an evangelist in town who was holding a tent meeting. Jim went. There were around 500 people in attendance at the meeting. "It was a great sermon," Jim said. After the service, a bus brought him back to the hotel. When Jim got home to West Virginia, he told Boots he had gone to hear Billy Graham. "Who's Billy Graham?" Boots asked him.

While Billy Graham was becoming America's pastor and a world ambassador for Christ, Jim and Boots were living in coal country and raising their family of four children. While Jim traveled extensively on his job, Boots ran the household and still found time to work outside the home. She retired from the United Mine Workers Retirement Fund. This devoted couple has been married 63 years! For nearly twenty of those years, they have called Knoxville home. They are the proud grandparents to eight grandchildren and one great-granddaughter. Of course, Jim and Boots now know who Billy Graham is and so do millions of other people. In the 1940s and 50s, however, news was not as accessible as it is today. Computers and cable television were still things of the future. In fact, most homes did not even have televisions; radios were the main news outlet.

These days, services from



Picture of Jim and Boots Turner by Ralphine Major

the Billy Graham Archives can be seen each week on cable television. Millions of people flock to The Cove, a retreat for spiritual growth associated with Billy Graham Ministries in Asheville, North Carolina. Visitors may also learn more about this North Carolina farm boy who dedicated his life to traveling the world over and proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ by visiting the Billy Graham Library in Charlotte, North Carolina. Amazingly enough, one of the Turners' sons lives just blocks away from the Billy Graham Library. The barn-shaped structure has a huge cross at one end of the building, and one has to enter the building through the cross. This great man of God has served as Pastor to Presidents and was usually one of the first called upon after a

national tragedy. We can only hope that America's Presidents will call upon Franklin Graham to carry on the legacy that his father started. To learn more about Billy Graham, visit www.billygraham.org.

(NOTE: Here is a special "thank you" to Barbara Sharpe and the Fairview United Methodist Church for the beautiful royal blue custom-made tote bag they sent me. (Focus readers may recall my column last September 12, 2011, "Candy Apples at the Tennessee Valley Fair.") Along with the church's name, the embroidered message makes it so special: "heaven on a stick"-with "heaven" in gold letters. A red candy apple adds the finishing touch to the bag. I think the tote bags would be great to sell along with the candy apples at this year's fair!)

A sobering lesson from Genesis

Continued from page 2

So Joseph bought all the land in Egypt for Pharaoh. The Egyptians, one and all, sold their fields, because the famine was too severe for them. The land became Pharaoh's, and Joseph reduced the people to servitude, from one end of Egypt to the other." (Genesis 47:18-21 NIV)

The people of Egypt had been fed and taken care of. By a government that now owned everything they had. It also owned something else. It owned the people. Even after the land began producing again, the government imposed a 20% tax on everything the people grew. Am I suggesting that Joseph

was evil? No. Joseph was merely being a good and faithful steward of that which Pharaoh had placed him in charge of. Pharaoh's power would grow to unprecedented proportions as a result of Joseph's plan.

But in reading this sobering account, I am once again reminded of the words of President Gerald R. Ford:

"Any government big enough to give you everything you need is also big enough to take everything you've got."

But you don't have to take his word for it. It's right there in the Bible.

My view on Valentines

Continued from page 3

my daughter something at school on Valentine's Day, but come on. Would there really be anything worse than getting flowers from your mom on Valentine's Day? Another FYI for all you gals who got those flowers from a secret admirer delivered to you on Cupid Day. Everyone knew they were from your mom.

To be perfectly honest, I wish that we could all rock Valentine's Day the kindergarten way on into our adulthood. Think how fun it could be. Folks could decorate white paper bags and hang them on their cubicles at work or outside their office doors. Then colleagues could come by and drop in candy. Maybe there would be cardboard cards and pictures of The Smurfs or Scooby Doo would be replaced by pictures of the cast of "NCIS" or Sheldon from "The Big Bang Theory." Definitely there would be those boxes of pastel powdery little hearts. There could be messages like "Your Power-Point was Perfect Valentine" or "Photocopies are forever." I could dig it.

Sometimes Valentine's Day can

make us aware of a void. Sometimes we can have the feeling *I don't have anyone*. Remember the Charlie Brown special when Charlie Brown expects to get a suitcase full of valentines and all he gets is one little card that says, "Forget it kid." Sometimes Valentine's Day can feel like that. I will let you in on something. I have a void that my beau can't fill. No beau could. No husband could. Any man could bring me a suitcase of valentines and it wouldn't do. You see, I am not poor pitiful Charlie Brown bringing his suitcase anxious for the affection of his peers. I am much more like a character from another story. I am a woman at a well, broken by disappointment and shame, bringing a jug instead of a suitcase, thirsty for a love that won't run dry. I am skeptical and scared. I have a void that cannot be filled by any man. It would be unfair to expect any man to fill it. There is only one perfect love with the power to cast out my fear. It is not at the bottom of a box of chocolates or anything wrapped in pink and red. It is only to be found at the well.

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Joyce & Jack Huddleston - Corryton



Joyce and Jack Huddleston at a recent Meet and Greet with 8th District School Board member and candidate Mike McMillan.

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ALDI opens new store in West Knoxville

ALDI opened its newest Knoxville store, located at 110 Moss Grove Blvd, with a ribbon cutting on Thursday, February 2.

“We are pleased to bring this location to Knoxville to help more customers stretch their dollars even further,” said Troy Marshall, Mt. Juliet division vice president for ALDI. “As important as price is, there’s only one way to attract and keep shoppers: You have to have quality products. When people try our ALDI exclusive brands, they find out that inexpensive can be great.”

The new Knoxville location will be open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Saturday and from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Sunday. ALDI accepts cash, debit and EBT cards.



Following the ribbon cutting, customers were invited to sample ALDI exclusive brands, tour the new store and shop for their favorite grocery items.

In Perspective

As a woman, I just couldn’t resist this topic. Before you stop reading, let me provide a quick disclaimer: I am not a

By Tasha Mahurin Mahurint@knoxfocus.com

a “yes (or no) ma’am”. However, I am concerned about adequate acknowledgement of the female species in general, and as a business professional you should be too.

Why? Statistics suggests that women account of approximately 80% of all consumer spending, and that they have as high as 95% veto power on household spending. I am a middle-class woman, between the age of 25-49, a professional, and a mother of two- essentially I am a card-carrying member of the aforementioned 80%.

With that being said, I offer the following simple suggestions to businesses in their attempt to appeal to the fairer sex...

Women are multitaskers...bottom line. No matter our socio-economic position, career, family life, etc. -women juggle. If you want to reach the heart of a woman, stop attempting to appeal to her insecurities (see every beauty ad campaign ever written) and let her know how your business or product can make her life easier and more efficient. Keep in mind that since women generally control the spending and family budget, it never hurts to let her know you can save her money.

The Pit Stop, a drive-thru convenience mart located on Governor John Sevier Highway in

Cont. on page 2

Apprehension of burglary suspects earns officers award

Knoxville Mayor Madeline Rogero and Police Chief David Rausch named Officer Edmund Randolph and Officer Lee Shaw the December Co-Officers of the Month. Officer Randolph has been with KPD since April 1989 while Officer Shaw has been with the department since January 1994.

Chief Rausch said that on December 7, 2011, Officer Shaw received information from an officer in Union County indicating a wanted burglary suspect may be operating and hiding in Knoxville. The suspect had committed several home burglaries in Union County including the theft of firearms. Union County authorities had chased the suspect on two occasions, but the suspect eluded capture both times. Union County investigators also believed the suspect had committed additional burglaries in Knox County and that he may be with his girlfriend in the Callahan Road area.

Throughout the day Officers Randolph and Shaw continued to search for the suspect between their calls for service. At approximately 4:15 p.m. the suspect’s vehicle was located in a Callahan Road motel parking lot.

Chief Rausch said, “Knowing that the suspect was possibly armed and with his history of



Knoxville Mayor Madeline Rogero and Police Chief David Rausch named Officer Edmund Randolph and Officer Lee Shaw the December Co-Officers of the Month last Wednesday.

fleeing, Officers Randolph and Shaw developed a plan to safely and efficiently apprehend the suspect. With support personnel in place, the officers initiated contact with the suspect.”

The suspect failed to respond at first, but eventually started talking to Officer Shaw. After several minutes of dialog, Officers Randolph and Shaw were able to convince the suspect to open the door and surrender. Officers discovered

stolen checks, prescription bottles of Oxycodone, and hand-written notes connecting him to multiple burglaries.

The suspect, Carl Evans, was turned over to Union County authorities where he was charged with multiple felonies including theft, forgery, and burglary. Evans’ girlfriend, Tasha Raley, was arrested on Knox County charges of Failure to Appear and Violation of Probation from theft charges.

Chief Rausch said, “Officers Randolph and Shaw worked vigilantly as a team to investigate, locate, and capture the two suspects. Their arrest not only cleared several cases, but prevented future crimes from occurring.”

Mayor Rogero said, “The citizens appreciate the efforts of Officer Randolph and Officer Shaw for doing their part to help protect the citizens we serve.”

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PHOTO BY DAN ANDREWS

Ground broken for new Southwest Sector school. *Knox County Schools Superintendent Dr. Jim McIntyre, members of the Knox County Board of Education, and Knox County Mayor Tim Burchett officially broke ground for a new elementary school in the southwest sector of the county on Thursday, February 2. The new school will be at 1889 Thunderhead Road (located in the Northshore Town Center). The new 128,500 sq. ft. school will accommodate the current and projected population of school-aged children in this region of the county. It is scheduled to open in August of 2013 accommodating approximately 1,200 students.*



From State Representative Harry Brooks

Time is moving quickly. As I write this, it is Groundhog Day, and the groundhog has surely seen his shadow, at least in Nashville. Now that we have completed our third full week of session, things are progressing rapidly.

All bills have been filed and are in the process of being assigned to a specific committee. All bills must go through the committee system where they are either killed or moved on. Last week I reported to you concerning a bill I am running reflecting changes in awarding lottery scholarships. This week I will discuss a second bill that I have introduced.

I have had a number of constituents question policies established by our local utility districts. Some feel they do not have any input into decisions made that affect the consumers. House Bill 2770, as

introduced, will require the utility management review board to develop a process to permit subscribers of the district to submit names for consideration when vacancies occur on the Board of Commissioners for each specific district. This bill has not yet been assigned to a committee. I will keep you informed as to the status of the bill as it moves forward.

Earlier this week the Governor gave his State of the State address to a joint session of Representatives and Senators. I won't go into detail about his speech as it has been reported extensively by

the news media. But it was encouraging to hear him report that Tennessee is in "sound fiscal condition." Also State Comptroller Justin Wilson said "the willingness of the General Assembly to enact budgets that have forgone, reduced or eliminated expenses and services," is a reason for Tennessee's stable financial standing.

During the month of March, I will be holding Town Hall Meetings in four different locations throughout the 19th District. I would encourage you to attend one or more of these meetings where we will have the opportunity to talk about any issue you have. These meetings are scheduled as follows:

Saturday, March 10 – 10:00 am – Tennessee School for the Deaf
2725 Island Home

Blvd.

Saturday, March 10 – 2:00 pm – Carter Community Library

Saturday, March 17 – 10:00 am – Rural Metro Ambulance Ops Center
910 Callahan Drive

Saturday, March 17 – 2:00 pm – Corryton Senior Center
9331 Davis Dr.

In the past, I have mailed surveys to the homes of registered voters in the 19th District requesting your opinions on various subjects that are likely to be discussed and voted on during the legislative session. Due to increased postage cost, and the fact that these are NOT mailed at taxpayer expense, I have decided not to send these this year. However, I still value your opinions very much. Therefore, each week, I will be asking

your thoughts on various subjects. You can e-mail your response to me at (rep.harry.brooks@capitol.tn.gov) or call my office (615-741-879) to let me know what you think about a particular issue. The first two questions I would like to ask you are:

1. What issue would you most like to see addressed by the General Assembly this year?

2. What is the most needed road/transportation improvement in your area?

I look forward to hearing your responses to these questions. Enjoy these spring like days we have been having. Remember according to that groundhog, winter is lasting six more weeks! It is an honor to be your Representative.

In Perspective *Cont. from page 1*

South Knox County, was actually the brain-child of a busy mother who knew first hand the hassles of getting her children in and out of the car every time she needed to pick up a gallon of milk. Brilliant... whether a woman is driving her children to the pediatrician or her beloved Labrador Retriever to the veterinarian, the Pit Stop saves her time and energy. Local repair shop Chip's Transmissions was thoughtful enough to

include baby changing stations in their restrooms. Adding a special parking space for "Expectant Mothers" is also a great idea.

Hire more women! Women tend to trust women more so than men. Women understand the way other women think. When I worked for Cox Media Group, one of my clients was the most successful automobile dealership in Greenville, South Carolina. Their secret...

85% of their sales staff was female.

Keep in mind we're social creatures... if your service is inadequate, our mothers, sisters, friends, and colleagues will most likely hear about it. On the other hand if your service is exceptional our mothers, sisters, friends, and colleagues will also probably hear about it.

This one's for the girls... until next time bona fortuna sit semper.

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George L. Berry

Labor Leader In Tennessee Politics

Pages from the Political Past



By Ray Hill
rayhill865@gmail.com

The 1938 Democratic primary election in Tennessee was a duel between competing factions for political supremacy. The leader of the state machine, Governor Gordon Browning, was fighting for his political life after a bold, but failed attempt to neuter the Shelby County organization headed by E. H. Crump of Memphis. Crump was closely allied with the Federal organization headed by Senator Kenneth McKellar.

Browning and his senatorial appointee George L. Berry were facing political annihilation from the McKellar – Crump faction. Berry's repudiation of the New Deal and President Franklin Delano Roosevelt made him a distinct liability to Browning, who simply pretended Berry no longer existed. Browning tried to focus attention on Crump and the Memphis machine and his speeches became increasingly more shrill as the election approached.

Both Browning and Berry were crushed on Election Day. Prentice Cooper defeated Browning by a wide margin. In the Senate race between Tom Stewart, incumbent George L. Berry and Congressman J. Ridley Mitchell, Stewart won a decisive victory. The entire slate of candidates supported by Senator McKellar and E. H. Crump won and as a result, the McKellar - Crump combine would effectively dominate Tennessee politics for the next decade.

Although Gordon Browning was briefly consigned to a private life he found distasteful, in time he would make a remarkable political comeback. In stark contrast, George L. Berry was a spent force in Tennessee and national politics. There would be no comeback for George L. Berry and while he clung to the presidency of the International Printing Pressmen and Assistants' Union, the remainder of Berry's life would spiral downward.

Berry had not even temporarily surrendered his post as the president of his union and his last act as a member of the United States Senate was sour. As the Senate contest had been a special election, the winner should have been sworn-in just as soon as the election results were



Senator George L. Berry

certified, but Tom Stewart did not wish to resign his post as District Attorney for the 18th Judicial Circuit, as it would have allowed Governor Gordon Browning the opportunity to appoint a replacement. Stewart preferred to wait and take his Senate seat after Prentice Cooper had been inaugurated as governor. Berry wrote to remind the payroll Clerk for the United States Senate he was still a senator and entitled to \$1,511.12 in salary and expenses from the November election to January 3, 1938.

George L. Berry returned to Tennessee and his union duties and myriad of business interests. Those same business interests would cause him much difficulty during the decade of the 1940s. When 1940 arrived, George Berry managed to add to his own status as a political pariah when he endorsed Republican presidential candidate Wendell Willkie against FDR. Berry explained his decision by stating he was opposed to any man seeking a third term in the White House. In staunchly Democratic Tennessee, Berry's endorsement of the Republican nominee made it quite clear the former senator had no future aspirations for public office.

Berry's fellow union boss John L. Lewis, in a fit of royal pique, dramatically announced he, too, would support Republican Wendell Willkie. Lewis petulantly said he would resign his union office as President of the CIO if his membership did not follow his lead in rejecting Roosevelt. The leap for Lewis was not quite as far as it was for George L. Berry, as Lewis had started his political life as a Republican. Berry had always been a partisan Democrat, lived in what was then a one-party state, so Lewis's apostasy, although certainly noticeable, was less surprising. Ultimately, John L. Lewis was embarrassed

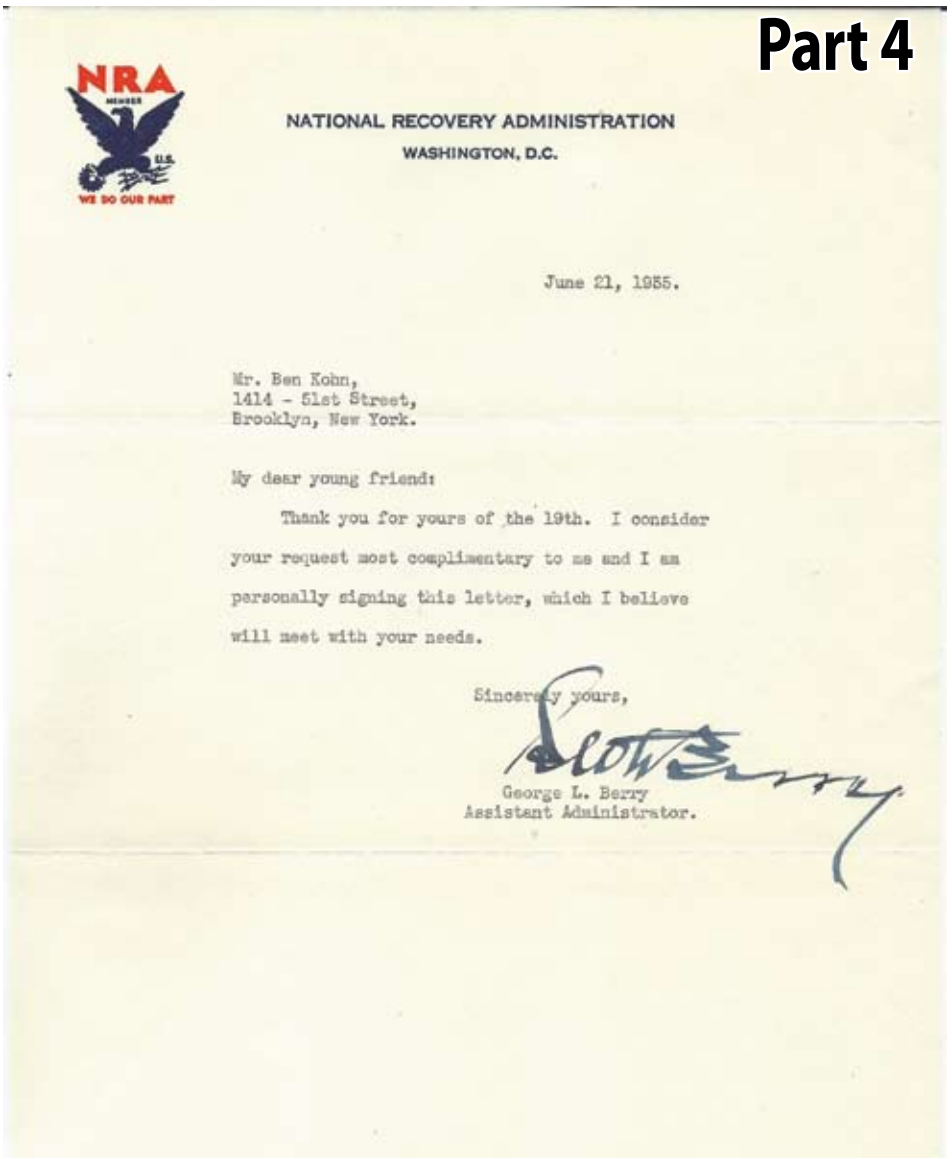
as Roosevelt was reelected and it was clear his own union membership had not heeded his instruction. Lewis did resign, but retained his position as President of the United Mine Worker's Union.

Like John L. Lewis, Berry retained the absolute loyalty of his own union members. They proved to be both astonishingly, if not actually foolishly, understanding and loyal in the face of shocking disclosures about Berry's handling of union members' own funds, which he had apparently used as his own personal piggy bank.

Berry's falling out with Franklin Roosevelt and the New Deal afforded him little protection as he came under increasing scrutiny throughout the forties. George L. Berry's financial dealings proved to be indefensible, yet time and again his union membership not only forgave him, but came to his rescue with their own hard earned dollars.

Berry had evidently bought stock in several banks with union funds; Berry had personally collected the dividends from the banks, one of which he managed. Berry had also shrewdly created a corporation designed to print a special five-color process utilized for printing cigarette packages. Despite the corporation having been funded with \$700,000 of union dollars, Berry retained personal ownership of the company and as Senator Bill Frist points out in his excellent book on Tennessee senators, Berry left the company in his will to his wife and another woman, rather than the Pressmen's Union as he had promised.

Perhaps considering the scope and labyrinth of his financial dealings, it is hardly surprising George L. Berry was finally indicted by the Internal Revenue Service for income tax evasion. It was a charge Berry chose not to contest. The financial irregularities in Berry's business



dealings and union leadership became the subject of embarrassing Congressional hearings.

By 1947, George L. Berry had been President of the International Printing Pressmen and Assistants' Union for forty years. Berry had certainly accomplished great things for his membership and the Pressmen's Home was a remarkable achievement by any standard. Yet, he had clearly enriched himself personally at the expense of his membership.

Berry's financial and legal troubles continued to mount as the 1940s drew to a close. Even Berry's hold on his union was beginning to totter, as some members of his union were questioning his leadership. Berry's stewardship of his union was even more seriously questioned by Congressional investigators.

George L. Berry was spared being deposed from the presidency of his union and further legal woes by death. Berry died from a gastric hemorrhage on December 4, 1948. Berry's remains were housed in a mausoleum next to the chapel on the grounds of the Pressmen's Home. Some years later, Berry's body was removed to a cemetery in Rogersville, Tennessee.

Berry's death left a tangle of legal questions, as well as severe financial burdens for his widow and union membership. Senator Frist's book details that George L. Berry's personal estate was valued at three quarters of a million dollars, a very sizeable sum for the time. Consider that \$750,000 in 1948 would have the purchasing power of \$6,680,000

in today's economy.

It is impossible to speculate on precisely what would have happened to George L. Berry had he lived longer; it is possible his legal troubles might have led to his imprisonment. Certainly it is entirely possible a younger generation of leadership might have defeated him for the presidency of the union. While death spared George L. Berry any significant punishment personally, it left his widow in a penurious position. His estate was divided between the IRS and the Pressmen's Union, with his widow receiving a paltry pension.

George L. Berry's beloved union did not fare especially well after his death and his most important legacy, the Pressmen's Home, even less so over the years. By the 1960s leaders of the International Printing Pressmen and Assistants' Union realized it would be impossible to maintain the Pressmen's Home site as a suitable location as a headquarters. In 1967, the union moved its headquarters to Washington, D. C. The Pressmen's Home did not survive much longer.

In 1969, the Pressmen's Union had merged with other printing unions and the Pressmen's Home was suffering from an acute lack of funding, which necessitated closing the Pressmen's Home as a retirement facility.

Throughout the intervening years, there have been attempts by various interests to maintain the Pressmen's Home. There was one effort to make a tourist resort out of the former Pressmen's Home by developers and

I personally remember from my childhood visiting for a weekend. I recall the dining room and a very large swimming pool and the beauty of the location. The rooms must have been reasonably nice for those residents who had once lived in the old hotel, as they were relatively spacious and comfortable.

Unfortunately, the Pressmen's Home did not succeed as a tourist resort or a time-share operation. Subsequently, the Pressmen's Home site has been considered for uses ranging from a retirement center to a penitentiary.

Today the most visible and lasting legacy of George L. Berry's accomplishments stands crumbling near Rogersville, Tennessee. The vestige of a once impressive personal empire remains abandoned and largely forgotten by most Tennesseans. The buildings left standing are a reminder and remnant of the work done by a man who overcame grinding poverty and lack of a formal education to rise to the presidency of his own union and a seat in the United States Senate. The same man did much good in helping the unfortunate and the ill, yet misused his own position of trust and power.

George L. Berry had no children to keep his lineage and memory alive and like the Pressmen's Home, has disappeared into the mountain mists of East Tennessee. Perhaps it is just as well for George L. Berry as his life ended on a sad note, as whatever else he might have accomplished in life, it was forever tainted by his ultimate failure in abusing the trust given him by those most dependent upon him.

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Matt Lowe resigns as Panther head football coach

By Bill Mynatt,
Radio Voice of Powell Panther
Football on AM 620 WRJZ
PowellFootballRadioVoice@yahoo.com

Citing his need to spend more time with his family, Powell High School head football coach Matt Lowe has resigned his coaching position. Lowe shared the news with his team early Friday morning.

If ever one was born to coach football at Powell, it was Lowe.

As an all state quarterback/defensive back at Powell, graduating in 1995, he was one of the most productive players ever to take the field for the Panthers. As a player he is still in the top 10 of several statistical categories at Powell, including single season total offense (4th), career total offense (3rd), career rushing yards (7th), career passing yards (2nd), career touchdowns scored (3rd), career passing touchdowns (6th), single season interceptions (T1), and career interceptions (T1).

From Powell Lowe signed a football scholarship with Middle Tennessee State University, where he played wide receiver and was elected as a team captain.

His coaching career began when Lowe was hired at Powell by the head coach for whom he played at Powell, Clark Duncan, in 2002. Lowe remained on the Powell staff during Larry Stephens' tenure as the Panther leader, and then Lowe himself was named to succeed Stephens as the Panther head coach in 2006.

In his 6 years at the helm of the Panther program, Lowe achieved an overall record of 49-23. His last two teams finished the regular seasons undefeated, earning back to back District 3AAA championships along the way. The 2010 team finished the season 11-1, before being eliminated in the second round of the playoffs.

Lowe's most recent edition of the Panthers set a

Continue on page 3

Red Devils win on free throws

By Ken Lay

The Halls High School boys basketball team picked up a crucial District 3-AAA home victory Tuesday night.

But the win certainly didn't earn any style points.

"I think we did just enough to win this ball game," Red Devils coach Randy Moore said after watching his squad edge Campbell County 51-47 before a boisterous crowd at Halls High School. "Campbell County did

a great job. They played hard and they made some great adjustments.

"We did what we had to do and we'll take the win. It's better to do just enough to win than to do everything you can do and lose."

Halls (18-2 overall, 11-2 in the district), which trailed 38-35 after three quarters, was able to notch the comeback victory despite converting only three field goals over the final eight minutes. Furthermore, the Red Devils

were held without a field for the final 3:55. Guard Connor Froning gave Halls a 42-40 lead with Halls' final shot.

After that, all the Red Devils' points came from the foul line. But Halls was

Continue on page 2

'Homecoming' win big part of South-Doyle's title season



South-Doyle celebrates its regular season championship in the Knox County Middle School Basketball League after defeating Cedar Bluff last week to wrap up a 13-0 league record. Front row (left to right): Kenslee Lowe, Cara Browning, Cameron Gale. Second row: Shelby Williams, Brooke Majority. Last row: Alexia Garrett, Chattin Atchley, Holland Jerrolds, Natalie Myers, Coach Abby Evans, Amy Browning, Karen Donehew, Lira Mathes, Bailey Gale.

Knox County Middle School basketball tourney finals this week

South-Doyle Middle School's girls basketball game at Halls this season will be remembered for more than one reason by first-year Lady Cherokees coach Abby Evans.

By Steve Williams

First and foremost, she saw her team hang on to defeat the upset-minded Lady Demons 49-48 to remain undefeated in Knox County league play. It also was a game that took Evans back to her old stomping grounds, where she had played a decade ago under former Halls coach Neil Walker.

"Going back to Halls to play was

definitely a homecoming for me," noted Evans. "Coaching in the same gym I grew up in was bittersweet. It was nice, returning home and getting a big win against a very good team."

South-Doyle built a 14-point half-time lead in the January 26th contest but Halls stormed back and had a chance to go ahead in the closing seconds. But a shot by Taylor Moon from right outside the paint missed the mark.

"We played solid defense (on Halls' final possession)," said Evans.

Bailey Gale grabbed the rebound with three seconds left on the clock and was fouled. She missed the front end of a 1-and-1, but teammate

Karen Donehew pulled down the rebound for the Lady Cherokees to end the game.

Donehew (17 points) and Amy Browning (11 points) led South-Doyle's scoring, and Gale's contributions from her point guard position were key.

"Without Bailey Gale it would have been a different game," said Coach Evans. "She ran our offense, handled the pressure and broke the press. And she calmed us down."

Even though Moon didn't connect on the potential game-winning shot for Halls, she drew praise from the South-Doyle coach. "She set the tempo for Halls and is an

Continue on page 2

Catching up with Tennessee's newest kicker: George Bullock

By Alex Norman

His old football field is so close to his new football field, you almost feel like George Bullock could kick the ball at Bill Wilson Field, and have the pigskin land at Neyland Stadium.

If you ever watched the former West High School standout boom kickoffs, you'd think this was a possibility.

On the morning of Wednesday, February 1st, Bullock signed his name to a National Letter of Intent, and faxed in the important paperwork to the University of Tennessee on National Signing Day.

Bullock is a Vol.

"I was very interested in going to Navy, but when Tennessee offered I was very excited and quick to commit," said Bullock, who had verbally committed to the Vols all the way back in July of 2011.

It was a rather tumultuous off-season for Tennessee, with the departure of more than half of Vols Head Coach Derek Dooley's staff of assistants. That uncertainty might have scared off a few other players, but not Bullock.

"I was not concerned about it," said Bullock. "I don't like to see the coaches go. However, I trust that the newer coaches are going to do great things."

Continue on page 3



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Lady Devils fall to Cougars

By Ken Lay

The Halls High School girls basketball team went into a slump at the worst possible time. They Lady Red Devils, playing at home, had a chance to keep their district regular-season championship hopes alive. But Halls, which struggled all night, dropped a 53-32 decision to Campbell County Tuesday night in a physical affair.

"It just wasn't a good night for the girls and you have those kind of nights sometimes," Lady Red Devils coach Randy Moore said. "We did come out flat."

The Lady Cougars, who clinched the District 3-AAA title with the win, controlled this one from the outset but had problems establishing their own offensive attack early but the Halls attack was even more anemic.

"Campbell County is the best team in the district but they gave us some chances," Moore said. "And they will. We just couldn't take advantage of our chances."

The Lady Red Devils (17-4 overall 9-4 in the district), who got off to a slow start, saw things only get worse when senior point guard and leading scorer Sydney Carden went down late in the opening quarter. Carden suffered a facial laceration while

diving to save a ball. She scored three points before leaving the game with 14.6 seconds left in the first quarter. With Carden sidelined, the Lady Red Devils just couldn't find a consistent offensive spark.

"It really hurt us not having Sydney. She's our leading scorer," Moore said. "The other girls didn't step up."

"It was just a rough night but we're 9-4 [in the league] and we're in second place by ourselves. Campbell County is 13-0. They're a tough team."

While Halls looked lethargic, the Lady Cougars (19-5, 13-0) heated up and were firing on all cylinders by game's end.

Campbell County led 12-6 early and steadily built its lead from there. The Lady Cougars extended their advantage to 34-21 by halftime before really blowing things open with a 7-2 third-quarter surge.

Courtney Miller paced the Lady Cougars with 13 points while Courtney Morris finished with 11.

Haley Miller scored nine points to lead Halls.

Editor's Note: On behalf of The Focus, I'd like to welcome Ken Lay to our writing staff! MD



The scoreboard tells the tale as South-Doyle held on for a 49-48 win at Halls Middle School on Jan. 26. The hard earned victory enabled the Lady Cherokees to keep their perfect league record intact.

Knox County Middle School basketball tourney finals this week

Cont. from page 1

outstanding player," said Evans.

The Lady Cherokees nailed down the regular season league championship with a 55-20 victory over visiting Cedar Bluff on Jan. 30, finishing atop the league standings with a 13-0 record, one game ahead of Farragut (12-1). South-Doyle's 52-32 win at Farragut in early December turned out to be the difference.

The Knox County Middle School League's post-season tournament is now underway at Karns. South-Doyle and Farragut received first-round byes as the girls' No. 1 and No. 2 seeds, respectively.

Powell clinched the boys' regular season crown with a 47-30 win over rival Halls on Jan. 23. Coach Darin Courtney's Panthers finished with wins over Cedar

Bluff and Carter to post a 13-0 league mark. Northwest and Bearden each were 11-2, with the tie-breaker giving the Rangers the No. 2 seed in the tournament.

"Our goal is to take it one game at a time," said Evans, following a practice session last Wednesday. "We've worked hard to get where we are. As for the tournament, everybody's going to bring their A game. It's a whole new game."

"We're not guaranteed of anything. We're not overconfident. We've got to be ready for anybody and everybody."

South-Doyle's girls were to have played in Saturday's quarterfinals against the Northwest/Cedar Bluff first-round winner.

The tourney's semifinals will be Tuesday with girls games at 4:30 and 7 and

boys games at 5:45 and 8:15.

The finals are scheduled for Thursday: 4:30 p.m.-Girls consolation game, 5:45-Boys consolation

game, 7:00-Girls championship game, 8:15-Boys championship game.

KNOX COUNTY MIDDLE SCHOOL BASKETBALL LEAGUE	
(Final Regular Season Standings)	
BOYS	GIRLS
Powell 13-0	South-Doyle 13-0
Northwest 11-2	Farragut 12-1
Bearden 11-2	West Valley 11-2
Farragut 9-4	Halls 9-4
Halls 8-5	Powell 9-4
West Valley 8-5	Bearden 8-5
Gresham 8-5	Carter 6-7
Vine 5-8	Northwest 5-8
Karns 5-8	Cedar Bluff 5-8
Whittle Springs 5-8	Karns 5-8
Holston 3-10	Holston 4-9
South-Doyle 3-10	Whittle Springs 2-11
Cedar Bluff 2-11	Gresham 2-11
Carter 0-13	Vine 0-13

Red Devils win on free throws

Cont. from page 1

far from flawless from the free throw stripe. The Red Devils hit 10-for-14 free throws over the final eight minutes.

"We made some free throws but we missed

some, too," Moore said after the contest that featured perhaps the two most improved District 3-AAA teams.

The Cougars (14-9, 6-7) trailed 27-22 at halftime but rallied to take the lead

in the lead by third quarter's end thanks to some timely hot shooting from guard Trey Torres. Torres scored seven of his nine points in the third period.

Campbell County's lead, however, didn't last long.

Halls forward Thomas Corcione buried his first two shots of the final quarter to give the Red Devils a 39-38 lead with 7:11 remaining.

The contest was knotted four times down the stretch. Froning's bucket gave the Red Devils a 42-40 lead but Cougars forward Tyler Chapman answered with a pair of consecutive baskets to give the visitors a 44-42 advantage with 2 minutes, 57 seconds left.

From there, Halls took control as Corcione, Stetson Moore and Taylor Bunch combined to convert nine free throws. Corcione, who finished with 11 points, scored the last five for the Red Devils --- all from the stripe.

"I practice my free throws a lot because we're always playing close games that seem to come down to free throws," Corcione said. "I want to win the game for my teammates."

Moore led Halls with 18 points.

Cougars center Nick Litton had a game-high 24 points. He, however, had 19 before halftime.

Corcione said the win put the Red Devils in a good position.

"Last year, we took our lumps," he said. "We only won nine or 10 games but we came together during the offseason."

"We decide we wanted to be at the top and not at the bottom."

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Down the Lane <i>Rosie's Senior Bowling Review</i> 	HIGH SERIES SCRATCH--FEMALE 489 MARY MATLOCK 468 BETTY PHILLIPS 468 LINDA WORTH	488 NEDRA SATTERFIELD
WEEKLY ACHIEVEMENTS FOR TUESDAY CLUB 55, JANUARY 24, 2012	WEDNESDAY CLUB 55: HIGH GAME SCRATCH--MALE 257 RONNIE RUSSELL 247 ROBERT WATKINS 244 MIKE CATE	THURSDAY NO-TAP: HIGH GAME SCRATCH--MALE 300 BILL BYRGE 300 BILLY MAJORS 279 ROGER SATTERFIELD
HIGH GAME SCRATCH--MALE 246 GENE ALLMON 223 STANLEY TAYLOR 221 JABO REDMOND	HIGH SERIES SCRATCH--MALE 683 MIKE CATE 634 RONNIE RUSSELL 612 DAVID PEIGH	HIGH SERIES SCRATCH--MALE 880 BILLY MAJORS 814 BILL BYRGE 804 JOHN FISHER
HIGH SERIES SCRATCH--MALE 623 GENE ALLMON 591 RALPH ALLMON 586 JABO REMOND 586 ED BEATTY	HIGH GAME SCRATCH--FEMALE 217 CAROLYN MCGILL 212 KATHY CATE 181 NEDRA SATTERFIELD	HIGH GAME SCRATCH--FEMALE 251 NEDRA SATTERFIELD 242 GLORIA WILSON 224 MARGARET MYERS
HIGH GAME SCRATCH--FEMALE 182 BETTY PHILLIPS 177 MARY SKEEN 171 LINDA WORTH	HIGH SERIES SCRATCH--FEMALE 589 KATHY CATE 561 CAROLYN MCGILL	HIGH SERIES SCRATCH--FEMALE 641 MARGARET MYERS 623 KIMBERLY OWENS 586 NEDRA SATTERFIELD



PHOTO BY DAN ANDREWS.

Coach Lowe watches as four of his athletes sign letters of intent last Wednesday at Powell High School. Signing, from left to right, are: Dy'shawn Mobley, Running back, signing with Kentucky; Dustin McPhetridge, QB-Athlete, signing with Austin Peay State University; Chris Easterday, Offensive Lineman, signing with Carson-Newman College; and Wesley Sparks, Defensive Lineman, signing with Carson-Newman College.

Matt Lowe resigns as Panther head football coach

Cont. from page 1
school record for wins and winning percentage as it advanced all the way to the Blue Cross Bowl Class 5A Championship game before coming up just short of a perfect season in a heartbreaking 17-14 loss to Henry County. Powell closed out the

2011 season with a 14-1 record, and a state runner up finish.
Lowe plans to continue teaching Wellness at Powell.
While the Panthers lose a total of 23 seniors – with 14 of those seniors starting for Powell in the Blue Cross Bowl game on

December 2 - the Panthers will return a solid nucleus of players in 2012 – many of whom played significant roles over that 2011-2012 run that resulted in a combined 25-2 record and the two District 3AAA championships.
As is Knox County School policy, the vacated position

must be advertised for a specified period of time before interviews can begin to fill the opening.
PowellPanthersFootball.com will keep you updated as the interview process unfolds and a new coach is hired.

Catching up with Tennessee's newest kicker: George Bullock

Cont. from page 2
Bullock will be working with a new special teams coach. Charlie Coiner was hired for that position by Tennessee a couple of weeks ago. His resume isn't that shabby, with stints as special teams coach for the NFL's Chicago Bears and Buffalo Bills.

"I have not spoken to him yet," said Bullock. "When talking to Coach Dooley this morning (February 1st), we discussed setting up a meeting soon so that I can get to know Coach Coiner."
It's no secret that Tennessee has struggled on special teams in recent years. Bullock is ready to take his shot right away, to help change that mediocrity.
"I will be coming in to compete in both kicking and punting," said Bullock,

who is rated as the 9th best kicker in the nation by Scout.com. "I will be focused on mostly kickoffs and field goals though."
If his high school career is a sign of things to come at the college level, Bullock won't be on the sidelines for long. Last season 79 percent of Bullock's kickoffs sailed into the end zone for touchbacks. He made 94 percent of his extra points, and even kicked a 51 yard field goal.
Still, Bullock realizes that there is always room for improvement, especially as he prepares for life in the Southeastern Conference.
"I am trying to get bigger and faster right now just like everyone else," said Bullock. "However, I am also trying to increase distance and hang time on my kickoffs."
Tennessee's roster has

some Knoxville area talent, and that includes rising sophomore Devrin Young. You might remember that he played his high school football just a stones throw from West High School, at Bearden High School.
"Certainly, it is cool to have some local guys on the team like Devrin and Cody Blanc (former Knoxville Central star) . I got a chance to talk to Devrin on my visit and we both agreed, we were glad not to be playing each other anymore."
The Vols are still in a rebuilding mode, so it also helps to have a player like

"I am trying to get bigger and faster right now just like everyone else."

George Bullock

Bullock, who helped build his high school team into one of the top football programs in East Tennessee. The Rebels advanced to the state semifinals in Class 5A in Bullock's junior and senior seasons.
"My class is going out as the most winning class West has ever had," said Bullock. "I feel like we came together as not only a class but also a team."
George Bullock brings winning experience, and a team first attitude to The Hill.
Two things that the Vols certainly were lacking in 2011.

The Tennessee Volunteers Class of 2012

By Alex Norman

National Signing Day is one of the most important days of the year for a college football program.
For the Tennessee Volunteers and their embattled head coach Derek Dooley, this class is crucial to getting this team back to respectability.
Let's take a closer look at the newest Volunteers.

The big get? Wide Receiver Cordarrelle Patterson, rated by 24/7 Sports as the number one overall JUCO recruit in the nation. A five-star recruit according to Scout.com. A two-time NJCAA All-American at Hutchinson Community College. Patterson, along with returning juniors Justin Hunter and Da'Rick Rogers, gives Tennessee one of the top pass catching trios in the nation.
Along with Patterson are consensus four-star receivers Drae Bowles, Jason Croom and Alton "Pig" Howard. On paper, it appears that Wide Receiver U is living up to its one proud nickname.

In the future, the lone quarterback recruit for the Vols in the Class of 2012 could be responsible for keeping them all happy. Nathan Peterman, the 10th rated QB in the nation according to Rivals.com, brings some hype, and a world of potential to Knoxville. Like incumbent starting quarterback Tyler Bray, Peterman is a mid-term enrollee. This gives him a big head start in learning the playbook. Peterman probably won't see the field in 2012, but few thought Justin Worley would as a true freshman either.
Rounding out the skill set, running backs Davante Bourque, Alden Hill and Quenshaun Watson give new running back coach Jay Graham some options should they be called upon early. Bourque might be the most well rounded of that group. His combination of strength and speed gives him the potential to see some playing time early. Bourque is listed at 6'1" and 210 pounds, out of Crowley, Louisiana.
And no, he is not related to NHL Hall of Famer Ray Bourque.
Local Flavor? Yes, the

Vols have some. Mid-term enrollee Cody Blanc played his high school football at Knoxville Central High School. He's listed in the ever popular "Athlete" category. Kicker George Bullock, from Knoxville West High School, is also staying close to home (and you can read more about Bullock in an article in this same edition of the Knoxville County Focus).

Tennessee's defense will probably have a different look in 2012, as new defensive coordinator Sal Sunseri is expected to switch the Vols from a 4-3 alignment to a 3-4. The Vols need immediate help on the defensive line, and got it with massive JUCO prospect Daniel McCullers from Georgia Military College. A four-star recruit by rivals.com, McCullers is listed at 6'6" and 380 pounds. Help is also on the way in the form of Danny O'Brien from Powers Catholic High School in Michigan. O'Brien is listed as the 18th best defensive tackle in the nation by Scout.com.

Another JUCO star, Darrington Sentimore of Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, will be asked to contribute sooner than later. Sentimore redshirted at Alabama in 2009.

The question marks for this recruiting class lie in one position above all others.

Linebacker.
In a 3-4 alignment, you need more linebackers ready to play than in a 4-3. Tennessee got some bad news in the days leading up to National Signing Day at that position.

Four-star linebacker Dalton Santos backed off of his Tennessee commitment three days before NSD, and chose Texas instead. The Longhorns offered Santos a scholarship late in the game, and Santos couldn't turn down his home state school.

Another four-star linebacker, Otha Peters of Covington, Louisiana, had reportedly said that he was 99.9 percent committed to Tennessee. The day before NSD, Peters switched course, choosing Arkansas instead of the Vols.

Continue on page 4

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Arts & Entertainment

Knoxville Symphony Youth Orchestra to Perform Winter Concert

Members of the Knoxville Symphony Youth Orchestra Association are gearing up for their second performance of the season. The Youth Orchestra will perform a FREE concert on Sunday, February 26 at 3:00 p.m. at the Tennessee Theatre. This performance will feature the winners of the 2011 Youth Orchestra Concerto Competition: Ellie Lai, piano, Catherine Rothery, flute, Chloe Amelia Harvel, violin. The following night, the Preludium, Philharmonia, Sinfonia and Youth Chamber Orchestra will perform a FREE concert on Monday, February 27 at 7:00 p.m. at the Tennessee Theatre.

The Sunday concert will feature the Association's top group, the Youth Orchestra, a full symphonic orchestra led by Music Director James Fellenbaum. Joining the Youth Orchestra are the 2011 Concerto Competition winners: Catherine Rothery, on the flute in Concertino, Op. 107 by Cecile Chaminade, Chloe Amelia Harvel on violin in Zigeunerweisen, Op. 20 by Pablo de Sarasate and Ellie Lai on piano in Piano Concerto No. 3, Op. 50 by Dimitri Kabalevsky. Also on the program, the Youth Orchestra will perform Mars from The Planets by Gustav Holst and Rimsky-Korsakov's Capriccio Espagnol.

The following night, the Monday concert will open with the Preludium Orchestra, consisting of beginner string players under the baton of Kathy Hart-Reilly, featuring Phantom Dance by Chuck Elledge and Turkey in the Straw arranged by Craig Duncan.

The Philharmonia, consisting of string players with minimal orchestral experience under the baton of Katie Hutchinson, will take the stage next. Performance highlights include David Schaffer's Bavarian Rhapsody and Serenade by Franz Schubert.

The Sinfonia, string players with at least three years of instrument experience, led by Association General Manager Kathy Hart-Reilly, will then take the stage with the Finale from Symphony No. 41 "Jupiter" by Mozart. Members of the West Valley Middle School 8th grade band will be joining the Sinfonia orchestra. Assistant Conductor of the KSYOA, Katie Middleton, and West Valley Middle School Conductor, Valerie Sanders, will also be joining to conduct the Sinfonia Orchestra.

The concert will close with the Youth Chamber Orchestra, intermediate string players, under the direction of Wesley Baldwin, professor of cello at the University of Tennessee. Their performance includes Bela Bartok's Romanian Folk Dances and Samuel Barber's Adagio for Strings.

The Tennessee Volunteers Class of 2012

Cont. from page 3

The Vols cupboard isn't bare at LB, with All-SEC freshmen Curt Maggitt and A.J. Johnson returning, as well as veteran Herman Lathers, who had missed all of his 2011 season with a broken ankle. But Santos and Peters could have gone a long way towards necessary depth at that now expanded position.

This class has 21 players. The most controversial signing is that of defensive back Deion Bonner of Columbus, Georgia. Bonner was arrested for stealing iPods and iPhones from the open lockers of University of Georgia players.

This is Derek Dooley's third recruiting class at Tennessee, even if his first was put together with only a few weeks notice following his hiring after the departure of Lane Kiffin.

So how will the Class of 2012 be remembered by Tennessee fans?

We'll find out... starting in 2016...

The Knoxville Symphony Youth Orchestra Association is currently celebrating its 38th season. The orchestras rehearse on Monday evenings at West Valley Middle School. The Youth Orchestra Association will perform four concerts throughout the 2011-2012 season. All four performances will take place at the Tennessee Theatre and are FREE and open to the public. The Knoxville Symphony Orchestra, Knoxville Symphony League and Knox County Schools sponsor the Association.

For more information regarding the Knoxville Symphony Youth Orchestra Association, or these winter concerts, please call 865-291-3310.

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

The Doctor's Bag

One of my favorite paintings is "The Doctor" by Sir Luke Fildes. Painted in 1887, it hangs in London's Tate Museum and depicts a doctor making a house-call on a sick child. The painting is a study in contrasts: a tilted lamp shade casts light on the tiny patient stretched between two chairs as the worried father looks on from the darkness in the back of

the room; the doctor is a study in concentration like Rodin's epic sculpture "The Thinker," while the child's mother collapses in tears. I studied the painting closely for the doctor's bag, but unfortunately for this child the proverbial bag of tricks was nowhere to be seen.

You can easily see this most famous of medical paintings on the internet. I've always loved

the covers of The Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA) which depicts great art that is then explained by JAMA's resident art critic. For years the keen observations of M. Therese Southgate, MD would engage me. She is now retired, but her description of Grandma Moses' colors "as fresh as new Crayolas on the first day of school" still resonates in my soul.

I don't want to diverge into art criticism, even though things of beauty "are a joy forever" as Keats once said; and I used to serve as a docent at our Knoxville Museum of Art. This week, my mind has been on the iconic doctor's bag as I convert to electronic medical records (EMR) and wax a bit nostalgic over the changes in my profession.

I've been preparing for this revolutionary conversion for the last nine months, but now my patients and I are living it. I'll admit I drug my feet, but the Obama-care legislation says I must submit or quit. The fact is I'm not ready to quit, so to escape the escalating fines, I will convert to EMR which some refer to as EHR (electronic health records).

After spending a final day with a personal tutor I was declared ready for 21st century electronic medical records. I was tired as I made rounds that evening on my hospitalized patients, but I was struck when I saw a colleague walking down the hall to his next patient with a laptop computer rather than a doctor's bag. At the nurse's station I empathized with another older colleague as he grouched about electronic records which the new order was forcing upon him. He swore to me that the post-it note I found on the hospital's computer screen was not his doing. It read government mandated "Meaningful use - of computers - will make your hair fall out."

I'm not an EMR troglodyte as a former colleague once quipped derisively. I can see some good in this new technology, but it must never replace a caring and thinking physician, or we're lost. I refuse to exchange my stethoscope for a mouse.

When I came of medical age in 1975 a scandalous book called "The House of God" was a rite of passage for all young doctors. The story reveals the crass

observations of an intern who is taught how to make the patient's medical chart look good - "Buff the chart."

We doctors must resist the siren's song of point-and-click data entry to make the chart look perfect. We must stay focused on our patients as did Sir Luke Fildes' doctor in his epic painting. We must guard against our conclusions becoming lost amidst pages of verbiage designed to satisfy Medicare's requirements of documentation.

Actually, the basics of medical care are pretty straight forward and are embodied in the old SOAP note format - the Subjective story of the patient, Objective findings of the doctor, Assessment or conclusions, and the Plan of treatment. I remember going to my family doctor as a teenager and seeing my entire medical record scribbled on 4X6 index cards. This was, of course, far superior to no record keeping with the impoverished patients we served in Guatemala, but pales in comparison to our marvelous EMR tool which enables us to store and organize very complex medical data.

And we do have a contingency protocol in the

event of a power outage. We have an emergency kit that contains note pads and pens.

As I finish this essay, I'm glad to report that I've survived the conversion, and so have my patients. I've rearranged our exam rooms so my patients sit beside me as I concentrate on their story and make notes with my hunt and peck keyboard skills. Details are later recorded with another new technology that I learned this week, the Dragon voice-recognition system.

Yes, this is a brave new world as Miranda observed in Shakespeare's "The Tempest." And I'm sure I'll be fine, that is unless I get a cold and the Dragon system no longer recognizes my East Tennessee nasal twang.

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.

My heartbeat goes to the dogs

Note: Because of a personal interest in this topic and an overwhelming positive response, this column is being repeated.



By Howard Baker, RN BSN

As a nurse I am a strong proponent of organ donation, and I am an organ donor myself. When you see organ recipients and their families, you are able to conceptualize the magnitude that organ donation has on both the donor and the recipient. From a donor's viewpoint you know that you have made someone else's life better, stronger, and have made the ultimate humanitarian gift - life. The recipient is often given a new freedom in life and

is better able to enjoy the things most of us take for granted.

I usually do not write about animal health, but if we stop and think about health and the health of our pets they really do inter-relate. Our pets become part of our family, and according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention pets can help decrease blood pressure, cholesterol and triglyceride levels and feelings of loneliness. Dogs, cats and horses can also suffer from the same kinds of cardiac abnormalities similar to humans and exhibit identical symptoms such as fainting episodes and exercise intolerance.

When the idea of pacemaker donation from humans to man's best friend - dogs - was first discussed with me my mind reeled with ethical and moral questions

Cont. on page 2



PHOTO BY PHIL SNOW, UTCVM

Dr. Becky Gompf examines Boston the dog (no heart problems).



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Faith



Pastor Charles L. Willis Receives Degree

The Rev. Charles L. Willis, received an Honorary Doctor of Divinity Degree from The Universal Bible College, Inc. of South Carolina. Greater Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church, 1912 E. 5th Avenue honored its pastor, The Rev. Charles L. Willis with a "30 Year Banquet" on October 29, 2011.

During the celebration, Rev. Willis received the Honorary Doctor of Divinity from Universal Bible college in Knoxville, Tennessee. The Degree was presented by the Honorable Bishop Alan Butler, Founder, Pastor and Overseer of the College.

Rev. Willis has also received a Bachelor of Divinity Degree and a Bachelor of Theology Degree from the Ohio Baptist School of Religion in Columbus, Ohio.

That's my King

I have been doing quite a bit of reading lately about King Jesus. It reminds me of a sermon I heard many years ago by Dr. S.M. Lockridge, a preacher from Dallas, Texas, in a sermon titled "Amen." In it, he describes what Jesus was like. Here is part of that powerful sermon:

By Mark Brackney, Minister of the Arlington Church of Christ

My king was born king...He's a king of righteousness. He's a king of the ages. He's the king of heaven. He is the king of glory. He's the King of kings and the Lord of lords. Now that's my king... Well, I wonder if you know him. Do you know him? Don't try to mislead me.

He's enduringly strong, He's entirely sincere, He's eternally steadfast. He's immortally graceful. He's imperially powerful. He's impartially merciful. That's my king. He's God's Son. He's a sinner's savior. He's the centerpiece of civilization. He stands alone in Himself. He's august. He's unique. He's unparalleled. He's unprecedented. He's supreme. He's preeminent. He's the loftiest idea in literature. He's the highest idea in philosophy. He's the fundamental truth in theology. He's the cardinal necessity of spiritual religion.

He's the miracle of the age. He's the only one able to supply all of our needs simultaneously. He supplies strength for the weak. He's available for the tempted and the tried. He sympathizes and He

saves. He guards and He guides. He heals the sick, He cleans the lepers, He forgives sinners, He discharges debtors, He delivers captives, He defends the feeble, He blesses the young, He serves the unfortunate, He regards the aged, He rewards the diligent, He beautifies the meek. Do you know Him?

His reign is righteous. His yoke is easy and His burden is light. Well, I wish I could describe Him to you. But He's indescribable. He's invincible, He's irresistible. I'm trying to tell you, the Heavens cannot contain Him, let alone a man explain Him. You can't get Him out of your mind. You can't get Him off of your hands. You can't outlive Him, and you can't live without Him. Well. The Pharisees couldn't stand Him, but they found out they couldn't stop Him. Pilate couldn't find any fault in Him. The witnesses [at his trial] couldn't get their testimonies to agree. Herod couldn't kill him. Death couldn't handle Him and the grave couldn't hold Him. That's my king. Yeah!

There was nobody before Him and there will be nobody after Him. You can't impeach Him, and He's not going to resign. That's my king. We around here talk about black power and white power and green power, but it's God's power. We try to get prestige and honor and glory to ourselves, but the glory is all His. Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever, and ever, and ever, and ever. How long is that? And ever, and ever, and ever, and ever, and when you get through will all of the forever's, then "Amen."

My heartbeat goes to the dogs

Cont. from page 1

on a professional level as well as on a personal level. Being an animal lover, I have a lot of difficulty thinking about animals suffering needlessly or at the hands of neglect. Since I am a proponent of organ donation, it didn't take long to get my head around the concept. I started thinking about all the people I knew and the patients I have cared for who have pacemakers. Since you cannot donate pacemakers from human to human, the benefits of donation from human to animal became clear. So why not keep the beat going in a beloved pet? It becomes easy to see there are a lot of pacemakers out there that could benefit another life and keep the joy and smiles in the hearts of many.

I think about the service dogs for the blind, military and community that are not easily replaced. A simple life-saving pacemaker could prolong their lives and the lives they serve. Pacemakers have been estimated to prolong a dog's life by as much as five years. Pacemakers cost around \$6,000 making them cost prohibitive for most. It is estimated that 90% of dogs needing pacemakers don't get them. Manufacturers will

donate pacemakers when their expiration dates are nearing; however, these devices are too few to serve all the needs.

Think about all the ways animals enrich our lives; they put smiles on faces old and young alike. Why not will your pacemaker, or donate a loved one's pacemaker, to extend the life of a beloved pet or service animal? Donating or willing a pacemaker is simple; ask the funeral home to remove the pacemaker and give it to you or a loved one. If they are being cremated the pacemaker has to be removed anyway so funeral homes are experienced in their removal.

Donated pacemakers can benefit horses, cats and dogs, and those who love them. You can make a difference in a defenseless life and the lives they touch.

Simply mail the pacemaker to:

US Mail address: Dr. Becky Gompf, D.V.M.
Dept. of SACS
C247 VTH
Knoxville, TN 37996-4544

UPS or Federal Express:

Dr. Becky Gompf, D.V.M.
Dept. of SACS
2407 River Dr.
Knoxville, TN 37996

Church Happenings

Christ United Methodist Church

Christ United Methodist Church, located at 7535 Maynardville Hwy, Knoxville, TN 37938 will have FREE CLOTHING & OTHER ITEMS available on Saturday, February 25 from 8:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. Anyone in need please come by and shop, no questions asked!!

Dante Church of God

Dante Church of God will be distributing BOXES OF BLESSINGS (food) on Saturday, February 11, 2012 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. or until boxes are gone. Anyone who would like to come and receive a box of blessings is invited. You must be present to receive a box of food. One box per household. For more information call 865-689-4829.

Grace Baptist Church

Reverend C. M. "Cotton" Kelly was elected Pastor of Grace Baptist Church Seymour. Reverend Kelly had served as Interim Pastor for a few months before being elected. The entire congregation welcomes him.

The Grace Youth will serve lunch after church on February 12 with donations for the Youth trip to Ridgecrest, March 2-4. Ridgecrest is an exciting annual event for the area youth that has long been successful.

The Rockin' Oldies senior group will attend a dinner show at the Lumberjack

Feud February 10. The group welcomes newcomers to come and join in the good Christian fun.

All women and children are invited to a "Pooh" Tea on February 11 at 2:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Come and enjoy a time of wonderful fellowship and learning with others who serve the Lord.

KFL Outreach Ministry Presents

The Knoxville Fellowship Luncheon (KFL) will meet Tuesday, February 7 at the Golden Corral on Clinton Highway at noon. Tim Tomlinson will be the guest speaker. For more information, visit: <http://kfl-luncheon.com>.

New Hope Baptist Church

Celebrate Recovery adult and youth classes every Tuesday at 7 p.m. Twelve Step Class every Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. New Hope Baptist Church 7602 Bud Hawkins Road, Corryton, TN 37721. For more information, call 688-5330 or 300-5350.

New Liberty Baptist Church

New Liberty Baptist Church is hosting a Women's Day of Praise, a day of fellowship, praise and worship. It will feature Stephanie Elswick, inspirational speaker. The event is free, but we ask that you RSVP. Registration begins at 11 a.m., Lunch begins at 12 p.m. and the program will begin at 1 p.m. Call or e-mail Charmin

Foth at 368-0806 or charminfoth@yahoo.com.

South Knoxville Church of God

The GZ Student ministry will host a "Love Banquet" on Sunday, February 12, following morning worship service. This will be a "Free" lunch for all who attend. It will be an Italian style menu with Spaghetti, salad, garlic bread, dessert, and drink. We encourage everyone to come and share in this time of fellowship with us.

The South Knoxville Church of God is located approximately 1 mile off Chapman Highway at 5623 Magazine Road. 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.

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House to Home

Inspirational Gardening

“We are stardust, we are golden--- and we’ve got to get ourselves back to the garden.”--Joni Mitchell

Humanity’s spiritual connection to nature begins with a garden--the biblical Eden, God’s chosen home for Adam and Eve. God chose a garden as the most desirable place in which to live, a place of beauty and abundance for his beloved creations. Forever after, man has expressed this connection through the creation and cultivation of gardens. You can discover that your garden and the act of gardening can be linked to deep spirituality.

Creation of a garden designed to inspire requires the same attention to layout, plants and constructed elements as the historic garden. There are four basic characteristics which dictate the function of a garden. Understanding how each one works will be critical to how the garden is laid out.

1.) Rest--To rest is to renew the self. The spiritual garden can be a place of rest, with a seat for the body, plenty of beauty for the eyes, and as much quiet as we can manage for the mind.

2.) Reflection-- So much that cannot be expressed in words comes to us in impressions, feelings, and emotions, all of which gain focus under sufficient reflection or contemplation. The garden promises the most ideal environment for thought and reflections.

3.) Prayer--The garden provides an opportunity for us to draw apart from the rat race of today’s world and pray. Our gardens provide us with this vital separation where we may compose our thoughts and formulate prayer.

4.) Celebration-- An inspirational garden urges us to respond in some way. It may ask us to stop and rest, to reflect on our lives, or to pray. There is another response, the urge to appreciate everything beautiful in our lives and to give thanks.

Nature is the most stunning of creations, providing us the ideal environment in which to cultivate our souls.

The act of creating and tending a garden offers us a great benefit. Feeling the earth in our fingers, seeing our tiny seeds become flowers, and witnessing the miracles revealed through the cyclical changes in season can be very peaceful--- healing, if you will. Gardens return us to nature and God--much satisfaction can be found there. These natural scenes evoke positive feelings, reduces stressful thoughts and reduces negative emotions. A garden makes you feel better, less stresses, more comfortable and even invigorated.

Being surrounded by nature helps fill spiritual needs as well as providing health benefits. Research shows that natural settings can promote changes in blood pressure, heart rate, muscle tension and brain activity. The garden is a place of comfort---of tranquility and deeply rooted in the spirit. --We’ve got to get ourselves back to the garden.

“I love to think of nature as a unlimited broadcasting station through which God speaks to us every hour, if we will only tune in.”--George Washington Carver

“God Almighty first planted a garden.”--Frances Bacon

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Basic Computer Class
Smithwood Baptist Church is offering a Basic Computer Class from 10 a.m. to noon on Mondays and Wednesdays, February 6, 8, 13, 15. Instruction includes an introduction to Windows 7 and how to edit text, create and arrange files and folders and use the paint program. Cost: \$20.00 for entire course. For more information, contact Shirley or Earl Walker at 687-9429 or ewwalker@bellsouth.net.

Fontinalis Club meeting
Fontinalis Club will meet on Thursday, February 9, 2012, at Central Baptist Church of Fountain City, Fellowship Hall, 5364 N. Broadway. Board Meeting at 9:30 a.m., Coffee Hour at 10:00 a.m., and General Meeting at 10:30 a.m. The program will feature Michelle Goldsberry, with Neighborhood Watch, speaking on “Being Good Neighbors.”

Fountain City Business and Professional Association meeting
The Fountain City Business and Professional Association meeting is noon, Wednesday, Feb. 8 at Central Baptist Church on North Broadway in Fountain City. The speaker is Bob Headley, Member Rep. for NFIB (National Federation of Independent Business). Topic: The NFIB – Who are they? And what can they do for you?

Memoir Writing Group meeting
Memoir Writing Group will meet at Panera Bread, 733 Louisville Road, Alcoa (across from Office Depot) on Thursday, February 9, 2012 at 7pm (2nd Thursday of each month). Creative Writing & Critique Group will meet at E.G. Fisher Library, located at 1289 Ingleside Drive, Athens, TN on Saturday, February 11, 2012 at 11am (2nd Saturday of each month). For more information, contact Sharon Fetters at 423-442-3731.

Sterchi Elementary news
Feb. 7 – Skatetown - Family Skate Night - 5:30 - 7:30

Feb. 17 – Jump for the Playground
March 12 - PTA Meeting
April 13 - Family Fun Night 5:30 - 8:30

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 18th 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.

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REALTY EXECUTIVES ASSOCIATES



Slow Cooked Ribs

2/3 cup all-purpose flour
2 teaspoons salt
1/2 teaspoon pepper
4 to 4-1/2 pounds boneless beef short ribs
1/4 to 1/3 cup butter
1 large onion, chopped
1-1/2 cups beef broth
3/4 cup red wine vinegar
3/4 cup packed brown sugar
1/2 cup chili sauce
1/3 cup ketchup
1/3 cup Worcestershire sauce
5 garlic cloves, minced
1-1/2 teaspoons chili powder

In a large resealable plastic bag, combine the flour, salt and pepper. Add ribs in batches and shake to coat. In a large skillet, brown ribs in butter.

Transfer to a 6-qt. slow cooker. In the same skillet, combine the remaining ingredients. Cook and stir until mixture comes to a boil; pour over ribs.

Cover and cook on low for 9-10 hours or until meat is tender. Yield: 12 servings.

New 2012 State Maps Now Available

The official 2012 Tennessee Transportation Map is now available to assist travelers in their planning efforts. This year's map contains a Quick Response code (QR code) that will allow users to scan and link to TDOT's mobile web application, TDOT Smart-Way Mobile.

"The state map is an important tool for travelers and this new feature will provide an added convenience by allowing motorists to quickly access real-time traffic information using their smartphones," said TDOT Commissioner John Schroer. "The map is free and is also available at welcome centers and rest areas across the state."

The 2012 state map can also be downloaded from

the TDOT web site at www.tn.gov/tdot/maps.htm

Pre-printed maps may be ordered from TDOT online at www.tn.gov/tdot/MapOrder/maporder.htm or by mailing a request to:

Tennessee Department of Transportation
Map Sales Office
505 Deaderick Street
James K. Polk Building,
Suite 300
Nashville, Tennessee
37243-0345

Individuals may request up to five free maps. Organizations and schools may order up to one hundred maps for their use.

The Official 2012 Tennessee Transportation Map is a joint effort between TDOT and the Tennessee Department of Tourist Development.

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