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# KnoxFocus 24/7

November 25, 2013

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## Improvements being made at Knoxville Center Mall exit

By Tasha Mahurin  
Tasha@knoxfocus.com

Several months ago, *The Focus* began following Knoxville City Councilman Nick Della Volpe and his quest to see improvements made to exit 8 off of Interstate 640. The Knoxville Center Mall exit is not only home to the mall, but Home Depot, Lowes, O'Charley's, Cracker Barrel, and a McDonald's, among

others. In fact, there are nearly 100 businesses located at the exit.

As previously reported, economic downturn and increased commercial development in other areas of Knoxville have caused a significant struggle amidst businesses in this community.

Adding to the struggle, nearly 40 years overgrowth of brush and shrubbery

limited the exit's visibility from nearly 60,000 travelers who pass by the exit each day. Not anymore. Last week crews from the City of Knoxville began clearing the area in an effort to make the commercial shopping area more visible.

"Government cannot run and operate area businesses," Della Volpe told *The Focus*, "but we can

certainly make it easier for them to operate."

Additionally, this month, Knoxville City Council unanimously passed a resolution urging the Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) to re-evaluate the functionality of the exit. Council's resolution further maintains that interchange is dated and that a "second opportunity" exit ramp located at the end of

Millertown and Washington Pike might also better serve both travelers and the businesses located at the exit. The resolution also suggests that modification and improvement to the exit and its frontage roads might "result in higher traffic counts and, hopefully, increased business for the merchants of the East

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## FOCUS Weekly Poll\*

### Do you believe

### in global warming?

**YES 57.48%**

**NO 42.52%**

Survey conducted November 21 2013.

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

## Waggoner Campaign Continues



PHOTO BY DAN ANDREWS.

Hundreds of supporters arrived Saturday, November 16 at Wright's Cafeteria in support of Bobby Waggoner for Sheriff (pictured standing). Almost all who arrived were asked to sign the guest book. Over 350 biscuits were made for the event.

## Area Parades

### Christmas from the East Parade

Saturday, December 14  
3:00 p.m.  
MLK Jr. Blvd.

### Fountain City Optimist Parade

Saturday, December 7  
10:00 a.m.  
North Broadway  
and Tazewell Pike

### Gibbs Christmas Parade

Sunday, December 8  
2:30 p.m.  
Gibbs Ruritan Park

### Halls Christmas Parade

Saturday, Dec. 7  
6 p.m.

Maynardville Highway,  
starting at Emory Road and  
ending at Neal Drive

### Powell Christmas Parade

December 07, 2013  
5:00  
Emory Road

### Seymour Christmas Parade

Saturday, December 14  
3:00 p.m.  
Chapman Highway,  
Seymour

### WIVK Christmas Parade

Friday, December 6  
7:00 p.m.  
Gay Street

# School Board to look at disputed policies

By Mike Steely  
steelym@knoxfocus.com

How much of the much criticized policies concerning teaching and teachers in Knox County is federal and state mandated and how much is local?

That was the question before the Board of Education last week and was the pivotal issue in another encounter with teachers, who again spoke at a workshop meeting.

Several teachers took the floor and addressed policies like the unannounced evaluations twice each year, walk-through evaluations, teacher pay,

evaluation scores and conferences of concern. Two local high school students also spoke in support of the teachers. Following the open public session the school board, along with some Central Office Staff and Superintendent Dr. James McIntyre discussed the ongoing and very public debate.

Basically the teachers are charging that the new teaching standards cause stress and interfere with teaching. The evaluations have much to do with pay and employment and some charge that many experienced teachers are

retiring or quitting. Test scores are up for Knox County and the state but some teachers are charging that they are being told to focus on the tests rather than teach a subject.

Several school board members spoke to the issues and asked McIntyre questions.

Indya Kincannon had several comments and questions and said she may introduce a resolution next month, saying "some of the complaints really are really valid."

"I'd like the board to increase base pay 5%," she added.

Asked about whether local requirements on teachers are state, federal, or locally mandated McIntyre went over a long presentation and said that some things, such as the number of unannounced evaluations and walk-through observations, could be reconsidered in some cases.

Mike McMillan asked if some changes could be applied for the system for the second half of the current school year and the superintendent said "Yes, we can think about some."

Pam Trainor mentioned

the "conference of concern" given to teachers who receive a low evaluation and said "That could be done better."

Gloria Deathridge said that personal attacks would not be in the dialog, that both sides should be looked at in the merit vs. step increases in pay, and asked if teachers have a chance to comment on their evaluation scores. The answer was "no" and the evaluators have the final say, but that the teachers can do a self evaluation before the score is issued, but not after.

Lynne Fugate ended the

open discussion saying "I was personally hurt" when she heard some comments from the teachers directed at the Central Office staff.

"Public Education is under attack. We're all professional and trying to do the right thing," she said.

Speakers addressing the school board included Stephanie Anderson, Amber Rountree, Anita Berkhart, Anita Brusseau, Jennifer Fletcher, Bob Savry, Lauren Hobson, Tonya Cotes, and Seth Reynolds.

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Focus on the Law

# Abandonment of property

When a tenant disappears what is a landlord to do? Under the Uniform Residential Landlord and Tenant Act (URLTA) in Tennessee Code Annotated Section 66-28-405, if the tenant has been absent for 30 days



By Sharon Frankenberg, Attorney at Law

to reenter and take possession of the premises.

Under URLTA, "the tenant's non-payment of rent for 15 days past the rental due date, together with other reasonable factual circumstances indi-

premise and mail a copy to the rental premises address. This notice must include 1) that the landlord has reason to believe that the tenant has abandoned the premises; 2) that the landlord intends to reenter and take possession of the premises unless the tenant contacts the landlord within 10 days of the posting and mailing of the notice; 3) that if the tenant does not contact the landlord within the 10 day period, the landlord intends to remove any and all possessions and personal effects in the premises and to re-rent the dwelling unit; 4) that if the tenant does not reclaim the property within 30 days of the landlord taking possession, the landlord intends to dispose of them as provided by law; 5) the telephone number of landlord and 6) a mailing address at which the landlord may be contacted.

If the tenant fails to contact the landlord within 10

days of the posting and mailing, the landlord may reenter and take possession of the premises. If the tenant contacts the landlord within 10 days, the landlord must use the judicial process to terminate the tenancy and recover possession as provided in other parts of the URLTA.

When the landlord reenters and takes possession under either the 30-day or 15-day scenario described above, the landlord must store the personal property for not less than 30 days. The tenant can reclaim the property within the 30 days. If the tenant does not do so, the landlord may sell or otherwise dispose of the property and apply the proceeds to any unpaid rents, damages, storage fees, sale costs and attorney's fees. Any balance remaining must be held by the landlord for a period of 6 months after the sale.

or more without explanation or payment of rent, it is prima facie evidence of abandonment. Prima facie means that the evidence presented is enough to win your case unless the other side can refute it. That means that the landlord does not automatically win if the matter goes to court but complying with the statute certainly increases his or her odds of success. When the tenant has not paid the rent as due and has been absent from the premises without explanation for 30 days or more, the landlord is expressly authorized

cataloging the tenant has permanently vacated the premises, including, but not limited to, the removal by the tenant of substantially all of the tenant's possessions and personal effects from the premises, or the tenant's voluntary termination of utility service to the premises, shall also be prima facie evidence of abandonment." Presumably, involuntary disconnection of utility service would not be enough alone. Under this specific 15-day scenario, the landlord must post a notice with six specific pieces of information at the rental

## Improvements being made at Knoxville Center Mall exit

Continued from page 1

Towne area exits and its surrounding area" - which would increase revenue for the businesses, as well as, state and local governments.

This group of merchants pays over \$2.6 million per year in city and county property taxes, in addition to \$1.5- \$2 million in city sales tax, and over \$10 million in state sales tax. They also provide some 2,000 jobs.

The Focus will continue to follow the story as it develops both in print and online.



Workers trim brush from roads around the Mall exit.

## When I was hungry

Not too long ago, the federal government cut \$5 billion from the coffers of the food stamp program. If some have their way, another \$39 billion will be cut over the next ten years. How does that happen in the most blessed



By Joe Rector  
jorector@comcast.net

country in the world? How much money has been cut from the subsidies that are doled out to corporations in America? What hunk of money went to the oil companies or to corporate farms? How much money is paid out to discourage farms from producing food? How much food spoils in storage facilities across the land? What is the total expenditure of the defense department as it overpays for the simplest items or allows contractors to fall years behind in developing systems while they continue eating from the trough of flowing money?

rich suffered some, but not to extent that the middle and lower classes did. The jobs haven't come back because businesses either see a shaky forecast or, more disconcerting, they like the extra profits they rake in.

The number of visitors at food banks increased dramatically as folks who had never needed help lined up with those whose lives are filled with shortages. The resources dwindled at these banks, and only the contributions of the "regular, everyday Joe" helped them restock. The future for these helping agencies is in question as the numbers needing food increases and the funds only stay at unacceptable levels.

Too many of our leaders love to invoke patriotism and religion. Their bible-quoting ways wear on us. I ask them to remember what Christ said when the disciples asked when they did things for him and he answered,

"I was hungry and you fed me; I was naked and you clothed me; I was thirsty and you gave me drink; I was a stranger and you came to see me; I was naked and you clothed me; I was sick and you took care of me; I was in prison and you came to see me."

Those verses should be guiding all of us as we consider the food that is available

to those who need help. It's time to stop judging others as to whether they are scamming the system. Instead, the food stamp program should be refined to oust cheaters and to ensure only items necessary for a healthy diet can be purchased. No one can argue that the biggest shame that could occur in the USA is that even one man, woman, or child goes to bed hungry.

It begins with a bunch of individuals who have more interest in staying in office and accumulating wealth than in making sure that people don't go hungry. These politicians pander to constituents who say "no work, no eat." In essence, these representatives are playing games with the health of those who are now receiving benefits. Isn't part of serving the people taking on the responsibility for the welfare of ALL?

Oh, I am familiar with all the old lines that are used. Sure, all individuals should be required to do some kind of work. However, we can't expect both parents to work unless childcare is provided. How much will that cost? Additionally, the incentive to work is squashed if a person's benefits are cut proportionately to the money that he brings in. How can he ever get ahead when things are stacked to keep him right where he is?

Yes, abuses occur in the food stamp program, and yes, some who don't qualify for assistance fraudulently make the lists. What the so-called leaders of the people should do is tighten up the screening of recipients. They also might rework the list of acceptable items that can be purchased with EPT cards. Allowing individuals to earn money while maintaining their assistance level is the best way to put the food stamp program on the right path.

Our economy took a major hit in 2007-2008. Folks lost their jobs and savings. The

# FOCUS Weekly Poll

## Do you believe in global warming?

Yes 57.48%  
No 42.52%



By Age	Yes	No	Total
18-29	100.00%	[None]	1
30-49	50.00%	50.00%	36
50-65	59.43%	40.57%	106
65+	57.62%	42.38%	151
<b>Total</b>	<b>57.48% (169)</b>	<b>42.52% (125)</b>	<b>294</b>

By District	Yes	No	Total
1	77.27%	22.73%	22
2	56.67%	43.33%	30
3	51.52%	48.48%	33
4	62.22%	37.78%	45
5	56.00%	44.00%	25
6	50.00%	50.00%	28
7	53.66%	46.34%	41
8	52.94%	47.06%	34
9	61.11%	38.89%	36
<b>Total</b>	<b>57.48% (169)</b>	<b>42.52% (125)</b>	<b>294</b>

By Gender	Yes	No	Total
Unknown	30.00%	70.00%	10
Female	59.31%	40.69%	145
Male	57.55%	42.45%	139
<b>Total</b>	<b>57.48% (169)</b>	<b>42.52% (125)</b>	<b>294</b>

Survey conducted November 21, 2013.

The Focus office will be closed Thursday and Friday this week in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday.

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# Publisher's Position

# Teacher woes did not happen yesterday



By Steve Hunley, Publisher  
publisher@knoxfocus.com

not the least of which are trying to pick United States Senate nominees as well as the numerous so-called "reforms" to education. By any standard, public education needs significant improvement, but the idea that teachers are the only source of the problem is foolish.

Much of the local media, while finally reporting on the poor morale of teachers and their unhappiness with the evaluation process, has overlooked one very significant fact: Superintendent James McIntyre, who now seems to be singing the refrain that he is not responsible for the state mandates, scurried down to Nashville every chance he got in the past to offer his endorsement to just about anything and everything Education Commissioner Kevin Huffman wanted. By the way, *The Focus* has been pointing out these problems for well over two years.

McIntyre seems to be trying to have it both ways; telling teachers he is listening and has finally indicated he intends to do something to try and fix some of the problems. We'll see. For those who have paid little attention to Dr. McIntyre, note the hallmark of his administration is to use a lot of happy adjectives, yet he is never specific about much of anything. Irrespective of just what the problem might be, McIntyre never offers specific solutions. As Board member Mike McMillan likes to say, Dr. McIntyre is full of glittering generalities and education speak, but any solutions from him are as rare as hen's teeth.

McIntyre is quick to point out much of the teacher's dissatisfaction stems from mandates enforced by the State of Tennessee, yet fails to mention the fact he has dutifully endorsed just about every proposed change. Kevin Huffman is no professional

educator either. McIntyre has never seemed to care about the ramifications, especially to teachers, of the changes mandated by the state. In fact, McIntyre and the school board have implemented several policy changes that weren't even mandated by the state.

Teachers aren't complaining about being evaluated, but they, like any rational person, wish to be evaluated fairly. *The Focus* has pointed out numerous times in the past many of the flaws in the new regulations, but the Superintendent has never once approached any member of the Knox County legislative delegation to tweak existing law or fix the problems. Only now that the discord has "gone public" does he seem to realize that he has a big problem.

**McIntyre seems to have little understanding and virtually no empathy for teachers. Of course**

**his entire teaching experience is miniscule, if not actually almost nonexistent. McIntyre only taught for one school year in a school with a student body of some 40 students. In my opinion, McIntyre is not qualified to oversee teachers much less be the head of an entire school system.**

The series of public meetings held by McIntyre and his very expensive public relations department have produced one thing in common: it is becoming a regular sight for folks to see and hear teachers and citizens blast McIntyre's performance as superintendent.

We can brag about scores and tests galore; we can point to miniscule improvement here and there, yet we are spending over half a billion dollars a year for education and not getting an adequate return on our investment as tax payers. **In Knox County**

**the only scores that really matter are the preparation rates.** Does it truly matter if we graduate 100% of the students if only 12% of them are ready to go on and further their education or get a job? Isn't that the entire point of educating children? And folks, the preparation rates would horrify you, if you paid attention to them.

McIntyre has been superintendent for six years and has had more than enough time to show significant improvement in preparation rates. This has not happened. I personally believe it is time for the Board of Education to make a change. By doing so, I believe we would be removing the biggest impediment to restoring confidence in and getting the Knox County school system to where it needs to be.

## Episcopal School Third Graders Collect Food to Feed 400 Families

Third grade students at The Episcopal School of Knoxville collected 6,039 pounds of groceries for hungry people during the school's annual food drive. This year's collection is the largest in school history, exceeding previous years by nearly 2,000 pounds.

"Giving back to our community is a core component of what we do here at Episcopal School," Lower School Director Nancy Laurence said. "Being able to give students a hands-on experience in serving others, while supporting their learning in the classroom, is a just one example of the interactive learning that happens at ESK."

The 6,000 pounds will feed 400 families of four a three-day supply of food each, according to FISH Hospitality Pantry

calculations. The rule of thumb is that 15 pounds of groceries will feed a family of four for three days.

At the K-8 Episcopal School, where every class spearheads a community service project each year, third graders have collected food items and hygiene products throughout the month of November for the last 16 years. This year's increase was in large part due to collaboration between the third graders and the Middle School's Interact Club and their mutual desire to increase the success of this annual event.

After distributing a collection box and a needs list to each class - requests for canned vegetables from first graders, canned meat from fifth graders, dried food like beans, pasta and rice from one

middle school class - third graders visited every class in the school each day to collect donations. They weighed the groceries, recorded the weight and number of items collected and put the figures on a graph. Then, they packed it all for delivery to the FISH Hospitality Pantry located at 122 West Scott Avenue.

The grand totals were announced at a Thanksgiving assembly on November 22, just before school was dismissed for the holiday.

"It was a wonderful surprise that this year's collection exceeded last year's collection by such a big margin," Jim Wright,

Director of FISH Hospitality Pantry, said. "The food collected this year will provide food packages for over 400 families just in time for Thanksgiving."

"The school's donation comes at an especially good time as families are struggling for the basic necessities of life. The need is great."

He said more than 57,000 people in Knox County live below the poverty line, and that of those, 25 percent are children. FISH Hospitality Pantry currently provides 11,000 food packages each month for the four Knoxville-area based food relief pantries.



Third Grader Rachel Schumaker loads food into a box for transportation to the FISH Hospitality Pantry.

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## FOCUS MORE ON Seymour & South Knox

# Andrew Peterson to appear at Johnson University

Author/singer/songwriter Andrew Peterson, will speak and perform at Johnson University Tennessee on November 21, at 9 a.m. There is no cost to attend and visitors are welcome.

Peterson, a 1997 graduate of Johnson University Florida, is currently writing the fourth installment of his four-part fantasy series called the Wingfield Saga. It is set for release in December 2014. In addition to his artistic endeavors, he is the founder of the Rabbit Room. The Rabbit Room is "a community of songwriters, authors, and artists interested in storytelling, faith, and fellowship."

He incorporates his faith into all his creative ventures. "I want to use my gifts to tell the truth, and



to tell it as beautifully as I can," he said.

Peterson's appearance at Johnson is part of a year-long chapel curriculum known to the students as the The Land of Your

Sojourn based on Genesis 17:8. He will host a lunch session on campus and answer students' questions about his work and life.

On the evening of

November 21, he will host a Singer/Songwriter Showcase at The Square Room in Knoxville, Tennessee. Visit [www.TheSquareRoom.com](http://www.TheSquareRoom.com) for ticket information.

## New Hope Church invites you to buy a tree, save a life

By Focus Staff

What scent reminds you most of Christmas? Fresh baked sugar cookies? What about apples and cinnamon cooking? Honestly, as great as these smells are, nothing says Christmas like a fresh cut Frazier fir nestled in the corner, covered with lights. Are you planning to purchase a Christmas tree this year?

If so, why not purchase it from New Hope Church? Beginning November 29 at 10 a.m. and running through December 22, New Hope Church, in partnership with People for Care for Learning, will be selling Frazier firs to fund two orphanages in Cambodia. 100% of the proceeds from the fundraiser will provide education, food, care, and loving homes for the orphans of House of Hope and Bob & Clara Pace Children's Home in Cambodia.

Decades of warfare, civil unrest and political corruption, have left Cambodia rampant with both

poverty and AIDS. Located in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, House of Hope is home to 21 children. The Bob and Clara Pace Children's Home is located in Siem Reap, Cambodia, and provides a home for 27 children, in addition to providing meals and youth programming for hundreds of area children each week. Proceeds from the sale of the trees will go directly to the orphanages aid in their quest to provide for the children of the areas in which they serve.

"We are asking people not to buy their tree from a big box store, but instead buy a tree from us and change a life," said Pastor Jack Nierdormayer.

The tent for the tree sale is located in the Mercy House Thrift Store parking lot on Hwy. 66 in Sevierville. Trees range in prices and sizes from the table tops for \$30 up to 12 foot for \$125. For more information or to pre-order a Christmas tree, contact the church at (865)932-4673 or visit them online at [www.newhopeonline.com](http://www.newhopeonline.com).



### Rosie's World

I'm sure most of you have seen the TV commercial about the cows who are encouraging everyone to "eat more chicken"? Well, for the month of November turkeys are going around saying, "Moo, moo, moo".

Things that make you go hm-m-m-m:

Can you cry underwater?

Why does a round pizza come in a square box?

Why is it that people say they "slept like a baby" when babies wake up every two hours?

If a deaf person goes to court, is it still called a hearing?

What disease did cured ham actually have?

How come we choose from just two people for President and fifty-one for Miss America?

Who was the first person

to look at a cow and say, "I think I'll squeeze these dangly things here and drink whatever comes out?"

Did you ever notice that when you blow in a dog's face, he gets mad at you, but when you take him for a car ride, he sticks his head out the window?

Why are you IN a movie but ON TV?

Why do you have to "put your two cents in"....but it's only a "penny for your thoughts"? Where's that

extra penny going to?

Last but not least: Do the Alphabet song and Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star have the same tune?

Why did you just try singing the two songs above?

It is a sad fact that humans are not communicating any more. I mean face-to-face. You see them everywhere, communicating --by phone, especially teen-agers. No one is sitting down and having a nice, long conversation. Well,

maybe in doctor or lawyer offices. But, in every-day living the only contact we have is by phone.

I'm all for the Andy Griffith days, when he picked up the phone and said, "Sarah, get me so-and-so." He wasn't able to carry his phone around in his hand and have conversations with everyone in Mayberry.

I do have a cell phone but it's used only a few times a day. I don't talk long on it. When I want to talk to

someone for any length of time, I invite them to visit. Or I write a letter. Does anyone do that anymore?

Thought for the day: I may not be what I ought to be

I know that I'm not all I want to be

But I've come a long way from what I used to be

And I won't give up on becoming what I know I can be

Send comments to: [rosemerrie@att.net](mailto:rosemerrie@att.net) or call 865-748-4717. Thank you.

## Random Thoughts



*We wish you many special moments and memories  
with friends and family this Thanksgiving week.*

Phone: 865-686-9970 | Fax: 865-686-9966 | PO Box 18377, Knoxville, TN 37928 | Located at 4109 Central Avenue Pike, Knoxville, Tennessee 37912



PHOTO BY DAN ANDREWS

**Knox County Retired Teachers Association presents scholarships.** The November meeting of the Knox County Retired Teachers Association was a Scholarship Program which celebrated and awarded nine scholarships to students who are studying to become educators and teachers. The scholarship winners are (back row) Caroline Fisher, Lisa Agle, Tally Burke, Alex Roushdi, Shaina Williams, (front row) Jordan Eades, Pamela S. Van Dyke, Marc Anthony Ross and Sarah Dutton. The KCRTA meetings are usually held on the fourth Thursday of alternate months.

## New Internal Auditor Hired for County

By Mike Steely  
 steelym@knoxfocus.com

Several people had applied but only two were recommended and now Knox County has a new internal auditor. Andrea Williams, a TVA Senior manager for compliance, will replace Richard Wallace who retired. She and Cindy Kington faced the County Commission last week to speak and answer questions. Both were asked basically the same questions. Williams initially received all but one vote but then the vote became unanimous. She'll get an annual

salary of \$ 114,000 and, when discussing how the salary was set it was said that it is based on the applicants current salary plus Williams told the commission she wanted a partnership with the officials, affirmed that she did not need a large staff and would "Handle myself to maintain my professionalism." Commissioner Ed Shouse said he hopes the office will now be "more proactive," and Mike Hammond said it was important that she "has input." Sam McKenzie told her "This isn't an easy job."

## Ribbon cut on newest Five Points public housing



PHOTO BY DAN ANDREWS

The ribbon was officially cut on two new six-plex public housing developments in Five Points last Tuesday.

Knoxville Mayor Madeline Rogero and Knox County Mayor Tim Burchett joined Knoxville's Community Development Corporation (KCDC) Executive Director and CEO Alvin Nance and the KCDC Board of Commissioners to cut the ribbon on two new six-plex public housing developments in Five Points on Tuesday, Nov. 19. "The opening of these in-fill housing units in Five Points completes one of the steps in our

multiphase approach to the revitalization of this community," Nance said. "With these units, we will have placed 122 units of high-quality, energy-efficient housing for seniors and families in Five Points that blend seamlessly into the existing fabric of this neighborhood. We now look forward to our next phases of redevelopment in this Community." The new family-style duplexes house six two-bedroom units in two separate buildings and

are located on Juanita Cannon Street between Selma and Wilson avenues. Juanita Cannon, a driving force to transform neighborhoods, served on the KCDC board for 18 years. The property houses a combination of one-story apartments and two-story townhomes with Energy Star-rated appliances. KCDC will begin leasing the units in December. In total, 17 family-style housing units have been constructed at four

different sites to replace blighted properties in Five Points. Curie Place, the current street separating the multiplex property from Paul Hogue Park, will be removed to allow the city to expand the park. "Once this street is removed, the families will have a great recreational park for their children to play in immediately adjacent to the property," Nance said. The new property

**Continue on page 2**

## A History Lesson in Knoxville

November 29, 1863 may be the most pivotal date in Knoxville's Civil War history, and to commemorate this historic day, the Knox County Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission invites the public to experience some of these historical activities with a day of exciting programs and historical commemorations. Here is a list of details for the day: 6:00 a.m. - At dawn on November 29th, 1863, Confederate forces assaulted the Union-held Fort Loudon in Knoxville, later to be renamed Fort Sanders. On the morning of November 29th, 2013, two groups of reenactors will set out to recreate that event and to contemplate what happened 150 years ago. Confederate reenactors will set out from Bleak House and Federal reenactors will set out from the Farragut Building in downtown Knoxville. At the exact time of the battle, they will meet at the approximate site of the northwest bastion of Fort Sanders. The event is intended to be a symbolic representation of what occurred, rather than an actual reenactment. Participation in the march is by invitation only,

although the public is welcome to observe or bring candles in remembrance. 11:00 a.m. - A formal dedication of High Ground Park will take place. This is an invite only event, with the Park opening to the public at 1:00 p.m. 12:00 p.m. - In commemoration of the Battle of Fort Sanders, church bells in the downtown area will ring for one minute at noon to signify both remembrance and reconciliation. Participating churches include, but are not limited to: St. James Episcopal Church, Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, St. John's Episcopal Cathedral, Saint John's Lutheran, First Baptist Church, Holy Ghost Catholic Church, Tyson House UTK, and Second Presbyterian Church. In addition, Ayres Hall on the University of Tennessee Campus will also join in with the ringing of their bells. 1:00 p.m. - Fort Higley will open to the public for the first time in the form of High Ground Park. Thanks to preservation work by the Aslan Foundation, the park preserves the remains of the Union fort constructed in 1863 and includes the remnants of trenches,

**Continue on page 2**



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# Elvis' first shotgun

## A Day Away



By Mike Steely

Everyone knows that Elvis Presley lived at Graceland in Memphis, had various Cadillacs in different colors, married Pricilla and had a child. But the first home of Elvis would hardly be described as a mansion, or even what is today an average family home. His birthplace dwelling, now located beside the city hall in Tupelo, Mississippi, is what most southerners would describe as a "shotgun house."

Presley was born there in 1935 and the

differences between his first home and his last home are striking.

The term "shotgun house" comes from the idea that you could stand at the front door and fire a shotgun directly inside. The buckshot would exit the back door without hitting anything inside. Most shotgun houses were one-room wide and two or three rooms deep, a common causeway of doors directly opposite each other. Most were 12 to 16 feet wide and had a window in the "front room." Origin of the shotgun house is debated, but probably came to the United States via the slaves or from Haiti. The design was first noticed in Louisiana and, because the house was easily constructed of framed wood and economical, the design quickly spread to poor families

of both races in the south.

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

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

Graceland was built in 1939 by Ruth Toof Moore on the family farm which was called "Graceland." Presley purchased the house in 1957 when he was only 22, primarily as a home for his mother and father.

The mansion opened its doors to the public in 1982 and draws as many or more

visitors than George Washington's Mount Vernon or Thomas Jefferson's Monticello. Most of the home can be toured, as well as the basement "play rooms," the outbuildings, and the pool area which contain the graves of Elvis and his mother and father.

One of the most unusual exhibits at Graceland, in Memphis, is a small replica of the shotgun house where the King of Rock and Roll was born. Or you can drive down to Tupelo and actually walk through the house. While you're there you might also want to see the full-size statue of Elvis, visit the Tupelo Auto Museum, Tupelo Zoo, or the Natchez Trace Parkway headquarters. It would make for a great day-drive back by heading north on the beautiful parkway and hitting I-40 in Nashville.

# Ribbon cut on newest Five Points public housing

**Cont. from page 1** JohnsonArchitecture to serve as the Master Planner for the Five Points community. The team consists of Urban Collage, The Communities Group, Carol R. Johnson Associates, Vision Engineering, Construction Solutions and Real Property Research Group.

In recent years, redevelopment in FivePoints has been a main focus of KCDC and the City of Knoxville. In addition to KCDC and HUD funds, the city has dedicated \$8 million over 10 years to redevelopment in the area.

In 2011, the Residences at Eastport, an 85-unit premier senior housing development, opened, and 20 units of duplex senior housing were also erected in the area. In 2012, KCDC removed 183 total units in Walter P. Taylor Homes and Dr. Lee Williams Senior Complex to decrease the population density of the neighborhood.

As this phase is completed, KCDC is already gathering resident input to plan the next step of redevelopment. In 2013, KCDC selected

JohnsonArchitecture to serve as the Master Planner for the Five Points community. The team consists of Urban Collage, The Communities Group, Carol R. Johnson Associates, Vision Engineering, Construction Solutions and Real Property Research Group.

Five Points residents and stakeholders were invited to a public workshop in September to brainstorm the vision for the Five Points Master Plan. Another workshop is planned for Dec. 5 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Walter P. Taylor Boys and Girls Club. Since 1936, KCDC has been dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for the citizens of Knoxville. KCDC's mission is to improve and transform neighborhoods and communities by providing quality affordable housing, advancing development initiatives and fostering self-sufficiency. For more information, call 865-403-1100 or visit <http://www.kcdc.org>.

# A History Lesson in Knoxville

**Continued from page 1**

rifle pits, and a cannon redoubt. A meandering walking path surrounded by native plants and a hardwood forest follows a stone wall that leads to fort's remnants.

The public is invited to tour the low-impact park from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Refreshments will be provided and exhibitors, including the East Tennessee Historical Society, Knoxville Civil War Roundtable, McClung Museum,

Legacy Parks Foundation, South Knoxville Alliance and representatives from Historic Homes of Knoxville, will have displays set up in a tent immediately adjacent to the park until 3 p.m. Due to limited on site parking, service shuttles will be available from a designated lot along Cherokee Trail at the University of Tennessee Medical Center. The park will close at sunset, and will be open to the public daily, from dawn to dusk.

In addition to the dedication

of High Ground Park, two monuments in the Historic Fort Sanders Neighborhood will be rededicated in the afternoon to honor those who fought at the Battle of Fort Sanders.

Starting at 1 p.m., the 79th New York Highlanders and the Knoxville Civil War Roundtable will host a wreath laying at the 79th New York monument located on the corner of Clinch Avenue and 16th Street. The monument was originally dedicated in 1918 by the 79th New York Veterans

Organization.

2:00 p.m. - The Chapter 89 of the United Daughters of the Confederacy will place a wreath on the monument originally dedicated by Knoxville Chapter 89, UDC on November 29, 1914 to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Battle of Fort Sanders. The monument is located between Clinch Avenue and Highland Avenue on 17th Street. The public is invited to attend both events and honor both sides that fought at the Battle

of Fort Sanders.

The Knox County Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission invites the public to attend these events. Plans are already under way for programming in 2014, with a culmination of activities occurring in the spring of 2015 for the State of Tennessee's 2015 Civil War Sesquicentennial Signature Event.

For more information visit: [knoxcivilwar.org](http://knoxcivilwar.org).

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# Part Six: Tennessee's Old Gray Fox

## Albert Gore

Pages from  
the Political  
Past



By Ray Hill

rayhill865@gmail.com

Having won a second six-year term in 1958 over serious opposition, Albert Gore returned to the Senate. Although he had won a smashing reelection victory against former Governor Prentice Cooper, Gore believed the campaign left him with political scars that never quite healed. The senator's popularity in West Tennessee would never quite be the same in the future.

As 1960 approached, Gore's national aspirations were rekindled; he longed to be on the national Democratic ticket. Albert Gore's senior colleague, Estes Kefauver, had waged two unsuccessful campaigns for the Democratic presidential nomination and there were indications he wanted to run again in 1960, but Kefauver was facing a difficult reelection campaign in Tennessee and focused his attention on keeping his job. Like Gore, Kefauver was being challenged by a fierce segregationist, Andrew "Tip" Taylor, a judge who had quite nearly won the gubernatorial nomination two years previously.

Taylor ran a campaign very similar to that of former Governor Prentice Cooper, although he did not fare nearly so well. Kefauver crushed Taylor in the Democratic primary, winning by more than 200,000 votes out of some 700,000 cast.

Albert Gore's national ambitions died with the nomination of Massachusetts Senator John F. Kennedy for president. The Kennedys were legendary for never forgiving an enemy nor forgetting any kind of a slight. Gore's own vice presidential bid in 1956 had cost Kennedy the nomination and relations between the two were never especially warm. Kennedy preferred to run with Lyndon Johnson, the powerful Majority Leader who came from the much more important (in terms of votes, both popular and electoral) State of Texas.

Senator Gore campaigned hard for the Kennedy - Johnson ticket, but Tennessee voted for Vice President Richard Nixon. Tennessee had supported Eisenhower in 1952 and 1956; the victory of Richard Nixon in the Volunteer State in 1960 was a portent of things to come.

The dawn of the Kennedy administration did not dampen the independent spirit of Albert Gore, who immediately drew the ire of the new president



FROM THE AUTHOR'S PERSONAL COLLECTION.

Senator Ross Bass and wife celebrate election night 1964 with Senator and Mrs. Gore, 1964

when the Tennessean found fault with the appointment of Douglas Dillon as Secretary of the Treasury. Dillon was a respected financier and the populist Gore was none too pleased with his appointment. Gore also was part of the revolt in the Senate's Democratic caucus against Lyndon Johnson. Throughout the decade of the 1950s, Lyndon Johnson had been perhaps the most powerful and skillful Majority Leader since the birth of the Senate. As Vice President, Johnson proposed to preside over the Democratic caucus, a notion much resented by even many of those who supported Johnson. Senator Gore denounced the idea in no uncertain terms and while he was in the minority, LBJ was so distressed by the opposition, he never exercised the right to preside given to him by the caucus members.

If the decade of the 1950s were largely placid and prosperous in America, the 1960s was a decade of unrest, dissent and the beginning of a cultural war in the United States. Albert Gore was buffeted by the winds of change in his own state.

When the Supreme Court struck down a New York law relating to prayer in schools, Senator Gore refused to support the proposed constitutional amendment allowing prayer in public schools sponsored by the Republican Leader of the Senate, Everett Dirksen. Gore had also ably defended just about every aspect of the Kennedy administration, which was not as popular in Tennessee as elsewhere. The politics of Tennessee were changing as well.

Former Governor Frank Clement, once the youngest chief executive in the nation, announced his intention to reclaim the governor's office in 1962. Clement won the Democratic nomination, but faced a stiff challenge in the general election from

William Anderson, once Captain of the submarine Nautilus, who ran as an Independent. Anderson got a considerable vote, although Clement won handily.

Gore's senior colleague Estes Kefauver died unexpectedly in 1963 and Clement appointed Herbert "Hub" Walters of Morristown to serve until the next election. Walters, a multi-millionaire businessman who was oftentimes referred to as "Mr. Democrat" in Tennessee had been an important ally of the late Senator McKellar and was quite close to Governor Clement.

Both of Tennessee's seats in the United States Senate were up for election in 1964, just as they had been thirty years earlier in 1934. Gore would be running for reelection to a six-year term while the other seat would be up for a two-year term to complete the late Senator Kefauver's term.

Governor Frank Clement, despite having just been elected to another term in the statehouse, decided to run for the United States Senate. Clement faced Pulaski Congressman Ross Bass in the Democratic primary while Albert Gore ran unopposed. Bass upset Clement in the primary and went on to the general election where both he and Albert Gore faced Republican opponents.

The Republican Party in Tennessee was becoming a factor to be reckoned with; no longer was the Democratic nominee automatically assured of victory. Republicans had won

the Third Congressional district in 1962 when conservative Democrat James B. Frazier, Jr. lost the primary to Wilkes Thrasher, Jr. GOP nominee Bill Brock had quietly gotten the support of many of Congressman Frazier's backers and despite a campaign of supporting President Kennedy, Thrasher had lost to Brock.

Congressman Bass faced Republican Howard H. Baker, Jr. in the general election. Baker was the son of the late Congressman Howard H. Baker who had died suddenly in 1963. Baker's stepmother, Irene, was the incumbent Congresswoman from the Second District, although she was not seeking reelection. The younger Baker had an impeccable Republican pedigree and also happened to be the son-in-law of the Minority Leader of the United States Senate, Everett McKinley Dirksen of Illinois.

Albert Gore's own opponent in the general election was Dan Kuykendall of Memphis. Kuykendall was a Republican activist and successful businessman who would go on to serve in Congress from 1967 until 1975 when he was defeated by Harold Ford.

The two Republican candidates for the United States Senate ran not only credible, but active campaigns. Unfortunately, they also had to carry the yoke of an unpopular Republican presidential nominee, Barry Goldwater. The Arizona senator had suggested Tennessee could do without the Tennessee Valley Authority and that certainly didn't help the

Republican ticket in an area where the GOP usually ran well.

Both Senator Gore and Congressman Bass held on to the coattails of the popular LBJ. Bass only narrowly defeated Baker, while Gore won by a more comfortable margin, but in losing Dan Kuykendall had won approximately 46% of the vote statewide.

By 1964, both John F. Kennedy and Estes Kefauver were gone. The country, as well as Tennessee, was changing profoundly. Lyndon Johnson stepped into the presidency and pressed his agenda, which was termed "The Great Society", but Johnson also increased the American presence in South Vietnam, a fact which troubled Albert Gore.

Senator Gore had visited South Vietnam in 1959 and had been skeptical ever since. Gore also disliked the authoritarian government of South Vietnam's rulers. Even though Gore voted for the Gulf of Tonkin resolution, he became a critic of the war.

When LBJ unveiled his historic civil rights legislation, Senator Gore received a flood of mail from Tennesseans who protested Johnson's bill. Gore balked at supporting the bill, but tried to walk a political tightrope, which was precarious at best. Senator Gore initially joined much of the Southern bloc in the Senate in opposing features of the civil rights bill. Although he helped fight off crippling amendments to the civil rights legislation, Senator Gore finally voted against it.

Albert Gore would later say he considered

his stand against the Civil Rights bill of 1964 as a mistake, but the truth is his position on that particular piece of legislation helped his reelection campaign.

President Johnson liked Senator Albert Gore little better than he had previously and likely wouldn't have objected to Gore being defeated in a party primary. Yet Johnson was one of the most astute politicians ever to sit in the Oval Office and he knew that the passage of the Civil Rights bill had changed politics for decades to come, especially in the South. Johnson had admitted as much to one aide and he preferred Albert Gore in the Senate to a Republican. Johnson's campaign visits to Tennessee helped both Albert Gore and Congressman Ross Bass.

The 1964 election signaled a revival of Republican fortunes in the Volunteer State. Howard Baker had quite nearly beaten Ross Bass and Dan Kuykendall had been almost completely unknown in Tennessee prior to the election. Kuykendall came within fifty thousand votes of defeating Gore.

Gore had won a third six-year term, once again displaying his frenetic pace and making numerous speeches along the way. Albert Gore's independent populism had proved to be still popular with a majority of Tennesseans.

Yet within two years, Tennessee politics would change again and usher in an era of two party politics. It would also serve as a warning to Senator Albert Gore for the future.

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# All Roads lead to Clapp's Chapel Part II

"Make a Joyful Noise..."  
(Psalms 98:4 and 100:1 KJV)

One plays a trumpet. The other plays a trombone. The talented duo make up the new worship team at Clapp's Chapel United



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

Methodist Church, often called "the Chapel."

Over the years, Rev. Sam Johnson, the trumpeter, has changed from delivering songs to delivering sermons. He became the Chapel's new minister in late summer—just in time for the church's homecoming. Rev. David Smith had held the pastorate for the last thirteen

years. Though he is a native of Chattanooga, Rev. Johnson said it feels like he is coming home. He has been married to the former Linda Jo Hackney, a Gibbs graduate, for 45 years this December 13th.

"Yes, we were married on Friday the 13th!" he said. I recognized his wife's name. Linda Jo was an exceptional pianist and took lessons from Jewel Harris Atkins. Mrs. Atkins was my piano teacher I wrote about in an earlier Focus column.

Rev. Johnson brings a wealth of experience to the pastorate, enabling him

to relate to people from all walks of life. He graduated from The University of Tennessee (UT) with a Bachelor of Science degree in Music Education. After serving in the United States Army, he went back to UT to get a Bachelor of Arts degree in Trumpet Performance. Since his college days, Rev. Johnson has directed choirs in numerous churches. He has taught music in South Carolina; worked for an oil company in Chattanooga, North Carolina, and South Carolina; and even worked for the News Sentinel for eighteen years. For the past twenty years, he has served in the ministry at churches in Lake City, Harrogate, Chattanooga, Church Hill

(near Kingsport), and now at Clapp's Chapel. Rev. Johnson and his wife have one child and one grandchild. He invites anyone seeking a church home to "come and see."

The new music director at Clapp's Chapel is no stranger to the congregation. Ronald Rogers has a past history with the church and a long established friendship with Rev. Johnson. He is hard at work with the choir practicing for their Christmas program. Everyone who enjoys singing is invited to come and participate on Wednesday nights at 6:00. There is a pot-luck meal and activities for children, and the youth group goes to Rutherford Memorial United Methodist Church to

help pack food in the food pantry. The Christmas program is December 22 at 11:00 a.m. during the normal morning worship service. (In the next segment of the Clapp's Chapel series, Focus readers will learn more about the music director who has come home to the Chapel.)

Sharing with readers about this rural East Tennessee church reminds me of a freedom for which all of us should be so thankful—the freedom to worship. It should be one of our most cherished freedoms. In the wake of recent typhoons and tornadoes, may we remember those who are suffering from the loss of loved ones and all of their possessions.



**Clapp's Chapel Pastor, Rev. Sam Johnson, and Choir Director, Ronald Rogers.**  
Photo by Linda Jo Johnson.

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**A LOOK  
 AHEAD,  
 A GLANCE  
 BACK**  
 Playing  
 Raiders  
 gain a  
 concern  
 for West  
 coach

By Steve Williams

When it comes to the semifinal round of the TSSAA football playoffs, West High can't seem to catch a break.

The Rebels were eliminated one victory from the state finals in 2010 and 2011 and now they are going to have to beat a team a second time this season to get over the hump and into the Class 5A championship game.

West is riding an 11-game winning streak and will be playing at home, but Coach Scott Cummings is still concerned.

"Playing Cleveland again definitely isn't my preference," e-mailed Cummings Saturday.

The Rebels defeated the Blue Raiders 35-25 in a regular season game at West on Sept. 27.

"I'm sure they will learn a lot from that game. Our offense is awkward for a team the first time seeing it. I'm sure they will make good adjustments and it will be much tougher.

"They match up with us with speed and athleticism," added Cummings.

West (12-1) advanced to the semifinals with a 32-19 win Friday at Anderson County.

"The key was just being resilient," pointed out Cummings. "Anderson County

**Continue on page 4**



PHOTO BY KARA MCKAMEY

Grace Christian Academy quarterback Devin Smith looks to pass in Class 2A playoff action Friday night. The unbeaten Rams defeated Silverdale Baptist Academy 49-21 to advance to this week's state semifinals.

**Grace 'pulls out all stops' to eliminate Seahawks**

By Ken Lay

Grace Christian Academy football coach Randy McKamey threw caution to the wind Friday night and the result was a 49-21 Class 2A Quarterfinal win for the Rams over Silverdale Baptist Academy before a packed house on a cool rainy night.

"When you get to this point in the season, you have to pull out all the stops, said McKamey, who will lead his team into battle against Trousdale County at home this week.

The Rams (12-0) did keep things entertaining. Grace made six fourth-down conversions (including a fake punt) and successfully executed an

onside kick en route to eliminating the Seahawks (11-1) for the second straight year.

Grace's defense held Silverdale's normally potent rushing attack in check, surrendering just 74 yards on the ground.

It was a night full of successful gambles for the Rams, but the Mustangs also had a few tricks up their sleeves. They converted their own onside kick to open the second half and put a monkey-wrench in Grace's plans --- at least temporarily.

"That onside kick to start the second half really hurt us McKamey said. "We had the momentum and we were excited about getting the ball to start the second half and we already had

the [first] play called."

Silverdale's onside kick might've caught the Rams off guard but the Seahawks' drive was stopped when Grace's Kyrin Inman intercepted a pass.

The Rams dominated things before half-time, opening a 28-7 lead. Grace scored first when Cameron Kuerschen scored on a 2-yard run. His touchdown culminated 15-play, 61-yard drive that consumed over six minutes.

The Seahawks answered a short time later when they found the end zone on a halfback option pass from Colton Rogers to Joshua Rogers that covered 61 yards.

Grace responded when Nathan Silver scored

**Continue on page 2**

**Alcoa Wears  
 Down CAK**

By David Klein

This rivalry has history. This rivalry has passion. This rivalry produces state title winners. CAK beat Alcoa two straight years in the 3A playoffs then went on to win the state title in 2011-2012. Before 2011, Alcoa had beaten CAK 12 straight times, including six straight years in the playoffs on their way to winning the state title from 2005 to 2010. This rivalry is always a physical, hard-hitting affair, and Friday's 3A quarterfinal game was no different. Alcoa forced three first half turnovers, and Jacques Tyson ran for five touchdowns as the Tornadoes downed the Warriors 42-14 Friday night at Alcoa.

Early on, it looked like it was going to be a back and forth game. Alcoa scored first, on an 11-yard Tyson run. The Tornadoes went for two, but failed, and lead 6-0 with 5:50 left in the first quarter.

The Warriors answered Alcoa's touchdown by going on a five minute, 29 second drive, mainly by running the football with Drew Jost. CAK narrowly avoided a fumble on the drive. It was to foreshadow turnover problems to come. Jost finished the drive with a one-yard touchdown run, as CAK went on top 7-6 with 14 seconds left in the first quarter.

Alcoa answered CAK's drive. It went 78 yards in just under four minutes. Tyson scored his second rushing touchdown of the game, an 8-yard touchdown. The Tornadoes again went for the 2-point

**Continue on page 2**

**Webb knocks off  
 ECS 28-15, Advances  
 to State Title Game**

By Alex Norman

The trip to Cordova was a long one...

The trip home flew for the Webb Spartans.

On November 22nd, the Spartans beat Evangelical Christian School 28-15 in the Division II-A semifinals, earning Webb School a return trip to Cookeville for the state championship game, where they'll meet St. George's on Thursday, December 5th.

For most of the first quarter defense controlled the field, but on the Spartans second possession, Webb broke through. Facing a fourth down and three from the ECS 29, Webb head coach David Meske called time out. The play they decided on was a good one.

Future Tennessee Vol Todd Kelly Jr. set up on the left side, took the pitch from quarterback Johnny Chun and ran into the end zone for the first score of the night.

Webb led ECS 7-0 with 2:41 to go in the first quarter.

Early in the second quarter, it appeared that the Webb (9-2) special teams would force the first turnover of the game. A punt from Brant Mitchell would carry into Eagles territory on a few bounces. A fumble was recovered by Dustin Nickle and the Spartans celebrated, putting their offense back on the field at the ECS 28.

But the referees said that the ball was

**Continue on page 2**

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# Alcoa Wears Down CAK

**Cont. from page 1** — conversion but failed; Alcoa led 12-7.

That's when the mistakes started happening for the Warriors. CAK turned the ball over three straight possessions. Quarterback Cole Smith threw an interception, then CAK had two straight fumbles.

Alcoa would convert the first two turnovers into touchdowns. Malik Love took a handoff, was stopped inside, then bounced it outside for a 20-yard touchdown. The Tornadoes converted a 2-point conversion attempt for a 20-7 lead.

Following CAK's second turnover, a Jost fumble, the Tornadoes scored in four

plays. Tyson ran it in from five yards out to record his third rushing touchdown of the game. Quarterback Peyton Wall completed the 2-point conversion pass for a 28-7 lead with 3:45 left in the half.

CAK got the ball again, but immediately went backward. Smith was sacked and fumbled the ball to the Tornadoes, CAK's third straight turnover. Alcoa had a relentless pass rush on the night, recording eight sacks during the game.

"We got to him a lot (Smith)," Alcoa Head Coach Gary Rankin said. "Kid's a good thrower for a freshman. You just want to win at this point and move on,"

Rankin emphasized.

This time, CAK thwarted Alcoa's attempt to put more points on the board. Alcoa led 28-7 at halftime.

The Warriors began the second half just like the first half, with a touchdown. Smith was effective in throwing the ball. A personal foul on Alcoa gave the Warriors a first-and-goal. On second-and-goal, Smith threw a 6-yard touchdown pass to Scott Sizemore. The quick drive cut into the Tornadoes' lead.

CAK went for an onside kick on the ensuing kickoff and recovered it. However, they were stopped on third down and had to punt. The Tornadoes proceeded

to march 78 yards and chew up some clock. Tyson sprinted 36 yards for his fourth touchdown of the game and a 35-14 Alcoa lead. The touchdown drive killed any Warrior momentum.

"They're always big," Tyson said of his offensive line. "Win, lose, or draw, I think my offensive line is always phenomenal. We came out and we wanted this, just a little bit more than they did," he stressed.

Alcoa forced CAK into terrible field position on its next possession, forcing them to punt after a three and out from inside their 10-yard line. The

Tornadoes started the drive at their own 29. That didn't matter. They made it look easy again, marching in six plays. Tyson rambled for his fifth touchdown on an 11-yard run for a 42-14 lead with 9:34 left.

From there, the teams traded possessions a couple of times, but Alcoa scored their playoff revenge over CAK 42-14. Alcoa hosts Upperman High School Friday in the 3A Semifinal Round. CAK ends its season at 6-7. The Warriors overcame a 4-6 regular season, some early injuries, and youth in a lot of areas to make it to the quarterfinal round, something the Warriors can build

on for next season.

"I think it's a testament to their character," CAK Head Coach Rusty Bradley said. "They found a way to win and make it to the playoffs. They persevered. The scoreboard doesn't define who we are. We're not defined by a championship or a scoreboard. The scoreboard that matters is the fact that we're saved. Because we have a relationship with Jesus Christ, we win. They maximize their God-given ability every single day, and they've played so hard and did everything they could with the ability God's given them, and because of that, they've been successful."

## Lions and Falcons and Turkeys! Oh, my!



By Steve Williams

Thanksgiving and football go together like, well, turkey and dressing.

As far back as I can remember, I associate the November holiday with family get-togethers, giving thanks, good eating and football.

One of my mom's specialties has always been celery sticks stuffed with Philadelphia cream cheese and topped with pieces of olives.

For me, it's not a perfect Thanksgiving meal without cranberry sauce, either.

In my younger days, we played some football in the backyard or across the street or on the Clinton High football field. It might have been a beautiful sun-splashed day or it could have been cold and gray. It didn't matter. We were young and having fun.

While we played in Clinton, you may have been running down-and-outs or throwing bombs in Corryton or Lonsdale or Vestal or Concord. There were Turkey Bowls all over the area, all over America. Still are, I believe.

From preps to pros, football has been a big part of Thanksgiving.

Years ago, before the TSSAA started its post-season playoffs, high school bowl games were played and one of the most prestigious in this area – the Optimist Bowl – was played annually on Thanksgiving Day at Evans-Collins Field. That's where Caswell Park and Knoxville's softball complex is located now.

The NFL's Detroit Lions and Dallas Cowboys have also been there for us to watch on TV on Turkey Day.

I can't remember a Thanksgiving when the Lions weren't playing. Good reason, too. They've played in 72 of them. For the record, Detroit has won 33, lost 37 and tied 2 on Thanksgiving Day. They always seem to play in that noon time slot, too. Just about the time someone says, "Come and get it."

The Cowboys have played in 44 of them and are 28-15-1.

This week's Turkey NFL tripleheader will match Green Bay at Detroit, Oakland at Dallas and (turkey drum roll, please) ... Pittsburgh at Baltimore.

Big Ben and the Steelers will go against the defending Super Bowl champions about the time you're ready for another helping of turkey and dressing or a slice of pumpkin pie.

I just noticed something. I can't believe not a single one of my Fantasy League players are suiting up this Thanksgiving. Who am I going to pull for now? Oh well.

By the way, the Vikings are 5-1 in Thanksgiving action but haven't played on the holiday since 2000. With that record, they should request more appearances. The Titans are 5-2, last playing on Thanksgiving in 2008.

Another option for football watchers this Thanksgiving is the return of the Egg Bowl – Ole Miss vs. Mississippi State. It will kickoff at 7:30 EST

A few years ago, when Buck Coatney was head coach at Fulton High, he always wanted his Falcons to be practicing on Thanksgiving. That would mean his team was still alive in the playoffs and in state title contention.

"Practicing on Thanksgiving was a big deal for Coach Coatney," recalled Rob Black, who is now in his third season as head coach at Fulton.

Rob took the tradition to a new level last season. The Falcons didn't just come in for a walk-through. They got fed. Biscuit and gravy, sausage, pancakes and maple syrup. Washed down with some Orange juice and milk.

You've heard of Breakfast at Wimbledon. This could have been called Breakfast at Fulton. A Thanksgiving morning feast for the Fulton High football family.

"That's a goal of ours every year – to practice on Thanksgiving and give ourselves a chance to make it to Cookeville," said Black, after last week's 40-20 quarterfinal win over Greeneville.

"This week we'll have people bring in food on Thursday morning like we did last year. Our team will come together, have a Thanksgiving meal and spend a little bit of time together early in the morning. Then we'll come out and do a walk-through. After that, we'll send everyone home to their families for the rest of the day."

Falcons might walk in the door in time to say grace. That should be easy. They have a lot to be thankful for this season.



Receiver Andy Eddins is on the move for the Grace Rams in their quarterfinal victory Friday night over Silverdale.

## Grace 'pulls out all stops' to eliminate Seahawks

**Continued from page 1**

on a 54-yard scamper that made the score 14-7 with 28.9 seconds remaining in the opening frame. Silver's TD put the Rams ahead to stay but there was still plenty of excitement.

The Rams' Geoffrey McReynolds scored the game's next two touchdowns to give the home team a 28-7 lead.

Joshua Rogers had a 6-yard scoring run to pull the Seahawks to within 28-14 with 3 minutes, 9 seconds left in the second stanza.

Grace's Spencer Green closed out the first-half scoring with a 3-yard

plunge to make the score 35-14 with 13.2 seconds left in the first half.

After Silverdale's onside kick opened the second half, the Seahawks showed signs of life. The pulled to within 35-21 when Lincoln Phillips blocked a quick kick and recovered the loose ball in the end zone.

Grace scored a pair of touchdowns in the fourth quarter. McReynolds' third touchdown made the score 42-21 with 9:58 left in the game.

The Rams' final score came when quarterback Devin Smith connected with Andy Eddins on a 26-yard strike.

## Webb knocks off ECS 28-15, Advances to State Title Game

**Cont. from page 1**

touched by a Webb player at the ECS 44, nullifying the recovery.

The Eagles responded with their best drive of the half. Mixing the run and the pass, they advanced the football all the way to the Spartans 10. But that's where the Webb defense stiffened. Mitchell broke up a pass on third down, forcing a field goal attempt from Chandler Williams.

His effort from 27 yards away was true, and with 5:24 to go in the half it was a 7-3 game.

The Spartans responded to that drive like the defending state champions that they are. Thanks to a couple of big pickups by Matthew Melton, and

then a 15-yard scamper to the end zone from Kelly, Webb increased their lead to 14-3 with 2:27 to go in the half.

An ECS (11-1) drive would stall on the Webb 34, and at intermission Webb led 14-3.

On the opening possession of the third quarter Webb scored again, and again it was Kelly, sprinting past all the Eagles for a 40 yard touchdown run, making it 21-3 Webb with 8:11 to go.

From there the Spartans defense made stops, and the offense worked the clock. And with 9:37 to go in the game, Robby Strachan put the game out of reach with a 12 yard touchdown run that made

the score 28-3 Webb.

But ECS would not go away. First, Preston Parrish got the Eagles into the end zone for the first time on a long quarterback keeper.

The conversion was no good, and with 8:33 to go, it was a 28-9 game.

Then, with 4:00 remaining, Parrish found Stephen Oliver just inside the end zone on a ten yard pass play, and suddenly it was 28-15.

But the ensuing onside kick attempt went out of bounds, and the Spartans ran out the clock.

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## Area players named to all-region team

By Ken Lay

Several local high school girls soccer players recently received all-Region 2-AAA honors from the region's coaches.

Farragut, the 2013 District 4-AAA and Region 2-AAA Champion led the way with seven players named to the team. The Lady Admirals reached the Class AAA State Tournament for the third consecutive season but were eliminated in the semifinals by Ravenwood in an overtime game.

Farragut players who made the first team included defender Josie Jennings, who was named the region's Most Valuable Player; Katie Beuerlein; K.C. Ward; Katie Cloud; Emma Jeter; Natalie Goetz and Joanda Parchman.

Hardin Valley Academy, the district and region runner-up, was represented by four selections including: Jordan Beets (a senior goalkeeper); sophomore Gabby Powers; Katie Filipowicz and Kelsey Klett.

Powell, which reached the Region 2-AAA Tournament in 2013 had three players named to the squad. The Panthers, who finished second in the District 3-AAA Tournament, were represented by Dominique Rowe; Averi Williams and Bailey Williams.

Bearden had three players named to the team including Mallory Denning, Casey Riemer and Ashley Seltzer.

West High's Raina Fitzpatrick and Keeghan Francis were selected along with Karns High's Morgan Sandifer.

Farragut's Dennis Lindsay was named Coach of the Year.

The Lady Bulldogs, Lady Rebels, Lady Beavers and Lady Panthers each had a pair of Second Team selections.

Bearden's second-team selections included Emily Mayfield and Alexa Savari. West High's Adalee Cantrell and Megan Wall made the team along with Makenzie Miller and Brooke Satterfield of Karns. Powell's two representatives were Josie Dobbs and Khalia Rainey.

Hardin Valley's Sierra Palmer also earned second-team honors.



PHOTO BY JAMES SPEARS / SPEARS PHOTOGRAPHY

Fulton High head football coach Rob Black gives quarterback Penny Smith a hug in the Falcons' 40-20 win over Greeneville. Smith threw three touchdown passes and ran for another.

# Fulton clears major hurdle in state title quest

By Steve Williams

It was officially a quarterfinal game, but going in some said Fulton vs. Greeneville could very well be for the state championship.

The defending champion Falcons and Greene Devils were both undefeated and No. 1 and No. 2, respectively, in the Class 4A state rankings.

With so much possibly at stake, it wasn't a good time to not be at full strength. But that was the case for Fulton in the TSSAA playoffs last Friday night, as star running back Daryl Rollins-Davis, just 10 yards shy of 2,000 yards rushing for the second time, was sidelined with a lower leg injury.

No problem. Seniors Xavier Hawkins and Penny Smith picked up the slack by hooking up for three touchdown passes.

Sophomore De'Ontay Tate stepped up in the rushing department and twice powered his way into the end zone.

And alert and opportunistic play by its special teams and defense did the rest.

With Rollins-Davis looking on, Fulton turned in a near-perfect performance to move past Greeneville 40-20 before an overflow crowd at Bob Black Field.

"Obviously, we had another tailback in there," said head coach Rob Black. "We ran a little more Wildcat stuff with Xavier. We threw it a little more than we've thrown it the past two weeks. I

thought Penny had a heck of a game.

"Being able to change your game plan because of Daryl Rollins-Davis being out, it sure helps when you've got Penny Smith and Xavier Hawkins."

Smith threw TD passes of 31, 43 and 78 yards to Hawkins and also scored on a 10-yard run.

Tate rushed for 137 yards on 18 carries and scored on runs of 22 and 4 yards in the fourth quarter.

"De'Ontay runs it really hard," said Black. "He's not a flashy guy. He's not a guy that's going out there to get style points. He just runs it really hard and aggressive and has good feet, good balance and good vision. We had a tremendous amount of confidence coming into the game with him."

Fulton (13-0) will host Knoxville Catholic (10-3) in the semifinals this coming Friday night. The Irishmen advanced with a 14-13 win at Hixson.

"Against a team like Fulton you've got to get the momentum early," said Greeneville Coach Caine Ballard. "Credit them. They played pretty much mistake free. Before we get to go out on offense we had a big turnover on the kickoff and they capitalized on it."

"Fulton has just incredible speed, size and strength for a high school football team. They look like a small college team."

In the win, Fulton set a new TSSAA record for most points scored in a season. The Falcons

are now at 767. The former mark of 748 was set by Greeneville in its 2010 state championship season. Smith, who completed 9 of 21 passes for 237 yards, threw 37 yards to Domonique Williams to give Fulton a first down at the Greeneville 27 on its opening possession. Three plays later, Hawkins hauled in a 31-yarder on a skinny post route for a 7-0 lead.

The Greene Devils fumbled the ensuing kickoff and Lennox Roper pounced on it at the Greeneville 34. Smith hit K.J. Roper for 16 yards and Tate ran 12 yards to the 11 before Smith weaved his way to paydirt. Fulton led 13-0 with 5:48 showing and Greeneville's offense had yet to be seen.

The Greene Devils muffed the next kickoff and had to start from their 10-yard line.

A 40-yard pass play from Zack Finchum to Quan Harrison got Greeneville going and Quan Wilson capped a 90-yard drive with a 7-yard run, the first of his three touchdowns in the game.

Greeneville faked a punt from its 46-yard line in the second quarter but failed to get the first down. With a short field, Hawkins took a short pass from Smith, broke two tackles and went 43 yards to score. Adam Diggs' 2-point pass to K.J. Roper made it 21-7.

A pair of dandy defensive plays by Williams prevented Greeneville from scoring late in the second quarter. First, Williams ran down Finchum at the Fulton 13 after

a 49-yard gain by the Greeneville QB. Four plays later, Williams recovered a fumble.

Fulton struck quickly, with Hawkins scoring on a 78-yard pass play to make it 28-7. The pass was underthrown, but Hawkins came back to get it and the defender lost containment.

Greeneville put together a 14-play, 61-yard drive to start the second half to pull within 28-13.

But the Greene Devils shanked a punt that went only 6 yards in the fourth quarter, giving Fulton the ball at the Greeneville 22. On first down, Tate, who calls himself an "old school" running back, exploded down the left sideline and banged into the end zone, making it 34-13.

The Greene Devils got within two touchdowns again (34-20) with 5:21 left in the game but couldn't execute a successful onside kick.

With Tate doing most of the work, the Falcons drove 47 yards to go up 40-20 with 1:50 remaining.

Kenny Marsh ended Greeneville's final threat with an interception in the end zone.

Finchum finished with 252 yards passing and 85 yards rushing.

Defensive standouts for Fulton included ends Jonathan Roth and Matthew Gayle, linebackers D.J. Campbell and Sidney Jackson, lineman Tony Gunn and end/nose guard Michael Scates.

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# Lady Bulldogs overcome early shooting woes in win

By Ken Lay

Bearden High School's girls basketball team overcame some cold first-quarter shooting to keep its perfect record intact Thursday night.

The Lady Bulldogs erased an early 10-4 deficit and roared back to nab a 48-26 victory over the host Lady Irish at Catholic High School.

Catholic (3-2) was hot early and led 10-8 at the end of the first quarter. The Irish enjoyed a six-point advantage before Bearden junior guard/forward Madison Rice scored a pair of lay-ups to click the Bulldogs' offense into gear.

"Those put-backs were huge for us Bearden coach Justin Underwood said. "Madison comes to practice and works hard every day.

"She's a very team-oriented young lady."

Those two baskets, which were her only points, were enough to help Bearden break through.

"Catholic is well-coached and they always play good defense," Underwood said. "They always play you tough."

Bearden (4-0) played its own stingy defense after the opening frame and held the Irish to just five second-quarter points. Furthermore, the Lady Bulldogs forced Catholic into turnovers and converted those Lady Irish miscues into points.

Bearden, which had its hands full early, pulled away and took the lead for good when senior point

guard Erin Walsh buried back-to-back 3-pointers to put the visitors ahead 18-13 with 1 minute, 42 seconds remaining in the first half.

From there, the Lady Bulldogs would dominate. They opened a 20-15 lead by halftime and blew open a close contest after the break.

Walsh scored 14 of her game-high 22 points after the break. She also received a little help from Anajae Stephney, who finished the game with 13 points.

The Lady Bulldogs all put the game away with a 14-4 third-quarter surge. Walsh scored nine of her points in the third stanza and Holly Hagood's free throw extended the Lady Bulldogs advantage to 29-19 with 1:23 left in the frame.

Susan Kenny led Catholic, which scored just 16 points after halftime, with eight points. Allie McLaughlin added six points for the Lady Irish.

The Lady Bulldogs, who will play in Central's Thanksgiving tournament this week, struggled early but Underwood commended his team's defensive effort.

"We've always been a team that plays defense and I haven't been as good as I would like," he said. "I think we played well in spurts.

"Right now, we're trying to find our identity and we need to be more consistent."



PHOTO BY DAN ANDREWS.

Fans gather after Bearden's 57-44 victory over Catholic at Catholic High School Thursday night. The Irish, who had just six players due to the football playoffs, put up a valiant effort against the Bulldogs.

## Bearden outlasts pesky, short-handed Irish 57-44

By Ken Lay

Catholic High School boys basketball coach Mike Hutchens had to know that his team was at a disadvantage Thursday night.

But no one told the Irish, who were without several players. Catholic, which dressed just six players (and played five), put up a valiant battle before falling to the Bulldogs 57-44 in a non-district game before an enthusiastic crowd at Catholic.

The Irish (2-3) had an extremely short bench because several of their players were still playing football. Catholic managed to hang tough before Bearden (2-2) made some key plays down the stretch to bring home a hard-fought victory.

"I'm proud to be their coach," Hutchens said. "We had [the deficit down

to six with three minutes to go and we're 2-3 right now with five people."

Catholic actually had one reserve but George Gordon joined the team early last week and didn't play.

"I put him on the team Monday and he's practiced for three hours," Hutchens said of Gordon.

Catholic, however, kept things close throughout and pulled to within 46-40 when Davari Reeder scored with 4 minutes, 43 seconds remaining in the contest.

After that, however, the Bulldogs outscored the Irish 11-4 and pulled away.

"Catholic outplayed us," Bearden coach Mark Blevins said. "They outplayed us on defense but we had a couple of big defensive plays and we made a couple of shots

down the stretch.

"They outrebounded us and we feel very fortunate to get out of here with a win."

Bearden, which has struggled early on this season, pulled away and opened a 53-40 lead when Austin Duncan buried a shot with 2:11 left. The Irish pulled to within 53-44 before the Bulldogs scored the final four points of the game on free throws by Jake Elkins and Duncan.

The Irish hung around from the outset and were only down 11-9 at the end of the first quarter and trailed 25-20 at halftime.

Catholic, which was behind 41-34 heading to the final frame, scored first in the fourth quarter when Ryan Henry hit a shot.

"Ryan Henry was just amazing," Hutchens said.

"He kept us in the game."

Henry scored 15 points and had nine after halftime. Catholic's Austen Rhodes led all scorers with 16 and scored 10 after the break. He scored midway through the third stanza that pulled the Irish to within 36-30.

The Bulldogs had three players score in double figures. Duncan led the way with 13 points. William Snyder finished with 11 and buried three 3-pointers. Noah Gettelfinger scored 10 before fouling out with 4:43 to go.

"We played just well enough to win the game," Blevins said. "That's what we did and that's all we did.

"Will hit some 3-pointers and those really kept us in it."

# Playing Raiders gain a concern for West coach

Cont. from page 1

really came at us and they deserve a lot of credit. They were more physical than we saw on film."

The Mavericks, who got limited production (12 carries, 22 yards) from stand-out running back Matt Fox, who tried to play on an ankle that was injured in a previous game, hang up an 11-2 record this season after finishing on top in District 3-AAA.

Junior quarterback Seth Marshall sparkled for West. He ran 67 and 53 yards for touchdowns and passed 17 yards to Noah Hoxie and 60 yards to Nathan Cottrell for two other TDs.

Cummings said the long win streak hasn't created an extra burden for his team. "It's just dealing with

success."

Cleveland (10-3) advanced to the semis with a 21-14 win over East Hamilton.

All semifinal games start at 7 o'clock local time.

In other quarterfinal action involving local teams, Catholic pulled out a 14-13 win at Hixson in Class 4A.

"We started off kind of sloppy, but in the second half we started putting things together and took the lead at 14-7," said Catholic Coach Steve Matthews.

Hixson put another touchdown on the scoreboard with just a little over two minutes left in the game to pull within one and made the decision to go for two. The Irishmen smothered the try.

"A bunch of our players were around the ball carrier," Matthews said. "Dom Souder (junior strong safety) got the most penetration on it."

Matthews said he wasn't surprised Hixson went for 2.

"They had been moving the ball pretty well," he said. "They were pretty tired."

Matthews complimented the play of quarterback Zac Janzek, who completed 18 of 26 passes, and nose guard Josh Silvey.

"Hixson was a good team," he added. "I was happy that we held them to 13 points."

With Catholic (10-3) playing at unbeaten Fulton in Friday's semifinals, Knoxville is assured of having a Class 4A state finalist.

"Fulton has the reputation alone of an outstanding team," said Matthews. "It will be a huge challenge for us."

In Class 2A, Grace Christian Academy remain undefeated with a 49-21 romp past Silverdale Baptist Academy. The Rams host Trousdale County, also 12-0, in the semis.

Once-beaten Alcoa ousted CAK 42-14 in the Class 3A quarterfinals.

Webb School earned another title berth in Division II-A by knocking off previously unbeaten Evangelical Christian School 28-15. Coach David Meske's Spartans (10-2) are defending state champions and will play St. George's (9-3) in the championship game Dec. 5 at Tennessee Tech in Cookeville. St. George's

reached the finals with a 35-28 win over Donelson Christian Academy.

GRAND ENTRANCE: Fulton's football team takes the field each home game by entering Fulton Stadium and walking through the stands and down the steps to field level.

"We opened our new stadium last year on a Saturday night against Austin-East. We decided to try something different," said Fulton Coach Rob Black. "It was going to be a one-time deal, but our fans love it and our kids love it. It's kind of turned into a tradition thing for us. A lot of fun."

TOP TEAMS FALL: Brentwood Academy and Murfreesboro Oakland,

the No. 1 and No. 2 teams, respectively, in Sonny Moore's Computer Power Ratings for Tennessee high school football (including all classifications) were defeated in playoff action Friday.

Ensworth, No. 5 in the ratings, beat Brentwood Academy 21-12 in Division II-AA semifinals. Murfreesboro Blackman toppled Oakland 16-3 in Class 6A quarterfinals.

Maryville (153.22) and Fulton (152.90) were No. 3 and No. 4, respectively, in the latest ratings and should move up with the shakeup at the top.

West (142.06) was No. 9 and Webb (130.93) No. 25 in the latest ratings, which can be seen on line.

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## The Doctor is in

a weekly column by  
**Dr. Jim Ferguson**

### Thanksgiving Horizon

It feels odd that Thanksgiving is coming so late this year. Because I write my column the week before it is published, celebratory dates just seem to get past me. This time I'll be on time and in synch with the calendar of events!

Isaac Newton discovered the concept we know as gravity, and wrote the equations we still use to launch satellites and spaceships into orbit and to Mars. He was visionary, but quoted Bernard of Chartres, "If I have seen further it is by standing on the shoulders of giants." In other words, even Newton credited the accumulated knowledge of humanity as foundational to his vision.

I am thankful for much this season. I'm thankful for the Spirit in my heart, mind and soul. I'm thankful for my wife and family, health and friends, and enough of everything that's important. I've been blessed by my country and those who went before me and made it all possible. Winston Churchill famously celebrated the brave pilots who defended England in the Battle of Britain. He said, "Never have so many owed so much to so few." When I think about earlier Americans I am thankful for all their sacrifices which make my Thanksgiving possible.

I once sat at the beach and considered the distant horizon which was

empty of visible ships; yet I knew there were ships just "over" the horizon and beyond my vision. I've imagined stress similarly. At this Thanksgiving I'm trying to claim peace as a friend of mine likes to proclaim. I envision the ship of stress sailing away and over a distant horizon. I think that if I didn't read emails from my company or watch the news on TV or surf the worldwide net, my vision of the world would be as peaceful as the beach where I once considered distant horizons.

Thanksgiving is a time of family, friends and traditions. In this holiday season, most of us redirect our vision and refocus closer to home on the fourth Thursday of November. Perhaps for a short while we retreat from the world of typhoons and politics, and consider all our blessings and their source.

Recently, my family hosted a fall harvest pig roast at our Thistle Farm. My son-in-law was the leader of the men folk who procured the pig for the roast. I am not squeamish and understand that the human

body was designed as an omnivore. This means that we require animal protein as well as vegetable. We are not strict carnivores (meat eaters like lions) or herbivores (plant eaters like cows). Once I experimented with a vegetarian diet because of religious and philosophical perspectives. This was short lived because I discovered that I detest tofu. Perhaps my design as an omnivore is enlightened and I shouldn't whine about the design specifications of my body. After all, I wasn't consulted in the design of the human body, and I didn't build it. You can be a healthy vegan, but it takes some planning. You need to use vitamin B12 and other supplements to replace the deficiencies in your restricted diet. I've treated several vegans for dementia as a result of vitamin B12 deficiency. Fortunately, their confusion abated with proper diagnosis and supplements.

I no longer hunt because I realize I have a tender side to my spirit. I especially empathize with wounded animals. Nonetheless, I decided to accompany

the men folk in my family to the hog farm and participate in "bringing home the bacon." Most of us are insulated from the source of the food we consume. We buy chicken fingers or cellophane-wrapped hamburger meat and we rarely pause to consider the animal that was raised and sacrificed for our benefit.

This came home to me as I considered the pig that was dispassionately "harvested" before my eyes. Even the other pigs were oblivious as one of their tribe was culled. They never paused from grubbing for corn cast on the ground as their comrade was dispatched and dragged from the pen. I've read that American Indians prayed for the spirit of the buffalo they killed. There seems to be something nobler about shooting an animal in the wild for food rather than in pen or harvesting animal flesh from the meat section of Kroger. After this recent "hunting" experience I assure you that I will forever be thankful for any meat that I consume, and I will say a prayer for the departed soul whose flesh sustains me.

This Thanksgiving is special for me because it will be the last one where I am "on-call" for my patients. By necessity I won't be able to turn my attention away from the outside world and focus only on the horizon of family. I will remain connected to my extended family - my patients - a little while longer. Soon this family will be much smaller.

At the end of the year I will turn over to others my patients who have been extended family members for the last thirty-five years. It is a bittersweet time, and my staff and I cry daily as we say good bye to those who will only be able to connect with me by email in the future.

Yes, it is sad, but it is necessary. No one should feel such self-importance that the world will end without their immediate attention. We have too much of this narcissism in our leaders these days.

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

# Free testing, events planned in commemoration of World AIDS Day

Observed worldwide on Dec. 1 since 1998, World AIDS Day is the moment when millions of people come together to commemorate those who have lost their lives to HIV, applaud progress made in responding to the epidemic and recommit to eradicating the disease.

The theme of World AIDS Day is 'Getting to Zero,' which refers to the United Nations' vision of zero new HIV infections, zero discrimination and zero AIDS-related deaths. East Tennessee is far from achieving the zero goal. According to the Tennessee Department of Health, last year (2012), Knoxville and the East Tennessee region saw nine AIDS related deaths and 70 newly

diagnosed HIV infections.

A World AIDS Day tribute will take place Sunday, Dec. 1 at 7 p.m. at the Holiday Inn World's Fair Park, 525 Henley Street, and will include music, skits, recognitions, light refreshments and a candlelight vigil in memory of those who have lost their lives to AIDS. Dr. Charles Ely, one of the first doctors in Knoxville to provide medical care to AIDS patients, will serve as the keynote speaker. Dr. Ely's continuing compassionate care to those infected with HIV makes him beloved by many in the community. Rev. Dr. John A. Butler will receive the Outstanding Person Award at the ceremony. The presiding elder of the Knoxville District AME Zion Church and the

Pastor at Clinton Chapel, Rev. Butler is being recognized for raising HIV awareness and activism through faith-based initiatives.

A Faithwalk will be held Saturday, Dec. 7 at 2 p.m. in downtown Knoxville. Beginning with registration at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, 414 W. Vine Ave., walkers will follow a 1.75 mile route through Market Square to First Baptist Church. The fundraiser is sponsored by Samaritan Ministry to end stigma, raise awareness and show love to those affected by HIV in our community. Proceeds will support local organizations including Samaritan Ministry, National Week of Prayer for the Healing of AIDS and Knox County

Lions Charities. To register to walk, visit [www.samaritancentral.org](http://www.samaritancentral.org).

Events Commemorating World AIDS Day:

- Monday, Nov. 25 - Free, confidential HIV testing, University of Tennessee Hodges Library, 1015 Volunteer Blvd., 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., sponsored by the Knox County Health Dept. and Lambda Student Union
- Sunday, Dec. 1 - World AIDS Day Program, Holiday Inn World's Fair, 525 Henley St., 7 p.m.
- Monday, Dec. 2 - Free, confidential HIV screening, Pellissippi State Community College, 10915 Hardin Valley Rd., 10:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., sponsored by Helen Ross McNabb Center and

Samaritan Ministry

- Wednesday, Dec. 4 - Free, confidential HIV testing, Carousel II, 1501 White Ave., 10 p.m. - 12:00 a.m., sponsored by the Knox County Health Department
- Wednesday, Dec. 4 - Free, confidential HIV testing, The Edge, 7211 Kingston Pike, 10:00 p.m. - 12:30 a.m., sponsored by Helen Ross McNabb Center
- Thursday, Dec. 5 - Free, confidential HIV testing, XYZ Club, 1215 N. Central St., 10:00 p.m. - 12:30 a.m., sponsored by Helen Ross McNabb Center
- Saturday, Dec. 7 - Faithwalk, 1:00 p.m. registration, 2:00 p.m. brief program at Immaculate

Conception Catholic Church, 414 W. Vine Ave. then Walk to First Baptist Church, sponsored by Samaritan Ministry, \$25 donation

Planning and sponsorship for World AIDS Day events are provided by Carousel II, Club XYZ, East Tennessee HIV Planning Council, The Edge, FAITH Coalition, Helen Ross McNabb Center, Knox County Health Department, Knoxville CARES, Lambda Student Union, MAC AIDS Fund, Pellissippi State Community College, Planned Parenthood of Middle & East Tennessee, Samaritan Ministry, and Walgreens.

You don't have much time left to cash in on your healthcare benefits.

By this time, you've probably hit your out-of-pocket deductible for the year. So why put off an expensive medical procedure, test or elective surgery that could cost you little or even nothing?

Call your doctor to maximize your health care benefits. To find a physician, call 1-855-TENNOVA (836-6682) or go to [Tennova.com](http://Tennova.com) and click on "Physicians."



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# Faith

## Holiday mail for heroes

Spirit and Truth Fellowship of Knoxville is collecting Christmas cards for United States military personnel who will be spending the holidays away from their families. This is a program created by the American Red Cross. We will send our collection of cards to the Red Cross at the beginning of December so they can reach our service men and women in time for the holidays. If you would like to supply cards to be included in our shipment, please deliver them to the church by Sunday, December 1, or to the Science Café by Tuesday, December 3.

card received will be screened for hazardous materials by Pitney Bowes and then reviewed by Red Cross volunteers working around the country. Please observe the following guidelines to ensure a quick reviewing process: Ensure that all cards are signed. Use generic salutations such as "Dear Service Member." Cards addressed to specific individuals cannot be delivered through this program. Only cards are being accepted. Do not send or include letters. Do not include email or home addresses on the cards: the program is not meant to foster pen pal relationships. Do not include

inserts of any kind, including photos: these items will be removed during the reviewing process.

Please refrain from choosing cards with glitter or using loose glitter as it can aggravate health issues of ill and injured warriors. Each card does not need its own envelope, as envelopes will be removed from all cards before distribution. The address of the page on the Red Cross web site that describes this program is <http://www.redcross.org/templates/render/renderCanonical.jsp?pageCan=/support/getinvolved/holiday-mail-for-heroes>.

Card Guidelines: Every

## Lincoln Park Baptist very thankful



Pictured from left to right are Burl McWhirter, Trustee; Doug Creeger, Church Depot, LLC; and Eddie Schwarberg, Pastor.

Lincoln Park Baptist Church has much to be thankful for. The Church has been faithfully serving their community for over 100 years. The first sanctuary was built in 1909 but was devastated by a fire; it was reconstructed soon thereafter. In 1954 the current sanctuary was established which sits over 1,000 people. Today the church is remodeling their sanctuary which includes new carpet, pew upholstery, and removing some of the pews with the anticipation to acquire handicap accessible restrooms in the future.

"Our Church members worked diligently to raise funds so this project could take place. Our goal was to begin the project debt free by 2017 however enough funds were received within 8 months to begin the first phase." Said Eddie Schwarberg, Pastor of Lincoln Park Baptist Church.

Church Depot, LLC (based out of North Carolina) has been a tremendous asset in seeing this renovation become a reality. They have been in this business for many years and have done a fantastic job." said Burl McWhirter, Lincoln Park Baptist Church Trustee.

"The Local Church is a place that people want to attend and feel comfortable. This renovation welcomes visitors to a fresh new look which stirs up excitement. We are incredibly thankful the Lord has blessed us in allowing these restorations to transpire. Anyone is welcome to swing by and take a look." said Pastor Eddie

Lincoln Park Baptist Church is located at 830 Chickamauga Ave. Knoxville, TN 37917. You can visit their website at [lincolnparkchurch.org](http://lincolnparkchurch.org) for more information



### New Cemetery Savings Opportunity

#### New Gray Cemetery

is pleased to announce a great benefit to Knoxville-area families.

Effective April 1, 2013, we will grant a savings of up to

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**Seniors Celebrating the Seasons.** Seniors of the Sunshine Birthday Club, located at the Larry Cox Senior Center – North Knoxville, celebrated October with a motor coach trip to Myrtle Beach, S.C. plus a hayride at Cades Cove. The group's current Christmas project is collecting toys and other items for the children in Appalachia. All donations need to be in place by Wednesday, December 11 at a covered dish luncheon at the center. All Seniors are welcome to join and get involved. The club's mission is community involvement along with keeping area seniors involved and active.

## Give Thanks

"I will give thanks to the Lord because of his righteousness and will sing praise to the name of the Lord Most High" (Psalm 7:17).

Thanksgiving is soon upon us. With this holiday comes travel, time with family, shopping and store sales, Christmas TV specials, hanging of decorations and lights, and turkey with the trimmings. But more important than

all of the holiday traditions is the need to stop and reflect on the mercies of God.

We have so much to be thankful for. Consider the blessing we have to live in this great country. Sure, we have some major challenges ahead with our blooming national debt, grid lock in Washington, and the need for jobs. But even with these, we are still the envy of citizens from other countries who would love to have the privilege to live in this land of the free. The fact that we can worship the way we choose is so often taken for granted. Many other governments in the world do not allow the freedom of religion. You are forced to believe what the State teaches (North Korea) or you are not allowed to practice any other religion than Islam (Middle Eastern nations like Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Iran, and Afghanistan). If caught with a Bible or worshipping Christ, the consequences are extreme. How blessed we are to worship openly.

Another reason to give thanks is the



By Mark Brackney, Minister of the Arlington Church of Christ

stability of our nation. While Presidents and Congressional Representatives come and go, our nation continues to function. We have abundant clean drinking water, electricity to power our utilities and gadgets, sewer to provide sanitation services. We live in relative luxury compared to the rest of the world.

We also have transportation services not found in many places. We love our cars and of course our trucks! We have city transportation for those who need it, decent roads to drive on, and adequate gasoline to power our rides.

We have a justice system that helps create a stable society through law and those who help enforce the law like the police. We have jails that house law breakers to keep criminals off the street so our homes and families might be protected.

Our nation also has adequate food reserves. How blessed we are to go to the grocery store this Thanksgiving season and have the option of some twenty different Turkey brands and stuffing mixes. The variety of our food options is overwhelming compared to the rest of the world.

I pray that you will take plenty of time this Thanksgiving to do just that – to give thanks to our Loving, Bountiful God who has given so much, especially His Son so that we might have everlasting life.

## Church Happenings

### Beaver Ridge UMC

Beaver Ridge United Methodist Church is again opening their doors for a FREE THANKSGIVING DINNER! We welcome our friends and neighbors to join us Thanksgiving Day, Thursday November 28th for a Traditional Thanksgiving feast in the Family Life Center from 11:30 a.m. -1:30 p.m. This meal

is open to anyone in the Church and community.

Join us for good food and fellowship! Reservations are not required.

Church office: 690-1060 or Web: [www.beaverridgeumc.org](http://www.beaverridgeumc.org).

### Seymour United Methodist Church

This coming Sunday, Dec. 1st, we will have just

a single combined worship service at 10 a.m., with the annual "Hanging of the Greens" ceremony.

With the above combined worship service, all Sunday school classes will begin at 9 a.m., for this coming Sunday of Dec. 1st only.

The active Youth program generally gathers each Sunday afternoon with the following schedule: 4:30 p.m.: Assembly and Worship; 5:30 p.m.: Snack Supper; 6:00 p.m. Fellowship and Mission time.

This Wednesday evening, Nov. 27th, there will be no activities, as we celebrate Thanksgiving with our families and friends.

Likewise, no special small groups will meet Wednesday evening, Nov. 27th.

Church offices will be closed from noon Wednesday until Monday, Dec. 2nd.

We invite you to visit our new church

**Heritage Baptist Church**

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Numbers 10:29

Now meeting at the Clarion Inn behind Red Lobster on Merchants Rd.

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Come worship with us

**New Beverly Baptist Church**

3320 New Beverly Church Rd. Knoxville, TN 37918

Rev. Eddie Sawyer, Pastor

[www.newbeverly.org](http://www.newbeverly.org)

856-546-0001

Sunday School 10 a.m.

Sunday Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.

Sunday Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday Evening Prayer 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday Evening Youth 7:00 p.m.

Bus Ministry -

For transportation call 546-0001.

## HALLS CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Corner of Hill Road and Fort Sumter Road  
922-4210 • [www.hallschristian.net](http://www.hallschristian.net)

Sunday School - 9:45 a.m. • Morning Worship - 10:45 a.m.  
Evening Worship - 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday Bible Study - 6:30 p.m.

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



The Central High School Marching Band participated in the 2013 Veteran's Day Parade held in downtown Knoxville. Last month, the Central High School Band had the distinct honor of performing at the October 9 Honor Air Event; the CHS band played a selection of patriotic music as the veterans returned to Knoxville's McGhee Tyson Airport. It was a memorable occasion for all band members.

# House to Home

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# Thanksgiving Tips from KCHD

With Thanksgiving just days away, here are some safety tips from the Knox County Health Department and the Knox County Fire Prevention Bureau, as well as information on proper food waste disposal from the Knox County Solid Waste Department:

### Safe Cooking

- Clean and Separate:
- Wash hands thoroughly with soap and warm water before and after handling food.
- Wash vegetables thoroughly and clean food-contact surfaces after preparing each food item and before beginning the next item.
- Use separate cutting boards for meats, seafood and other foods that will be cooked, as well as ready-to-eat foods such as raw fruits and vegetables.
- Do not rinse raw meat or poultry before cooking; it can spread bacteria.
- Do not put cooked meat back into a container that previously held raw meat.
- Use a food thermometer to ensure meat has reached a safe internal temperature.
- To check a turkey for doneness, insert a food thermometer into the inner thigh area near the breast, but not touching the bone.
- The turkey is done when the temperature reads 165 degrees. Stuffing inside the bird should also be 165 degrees.

### Storage and Leftovers

- Use the two-hour rule: refrigerate leftovers within two hours of serving.
- Your refrigerator

should be set no higher than 40 degrees and the freezer at 0 degrees.

- Hot casseroles and gravies can make your refrigerator struggle to keep the correct temperature. Use an appliance thermometer to check for proper cooling.

- Never defrost food at room temperature. A 20-pound frozen turkey needs two to three days in the refrigerator to thaw completely, so plan accordingly. Cold running water and the microwave may also be used to thaw food, but food defrosted in this manner should be cooked immediately.

- More food safety tips at [http://www.knoxcounty.org/health/food\\_safety.php](http://www.knoxcounty.org/health/food_safety.php)

### Fire Safety

- Never leave any cooking appliance unattended, especially turkey fryers.
- Because they can catch fire, avoid wearing loose or baggy clothing when cooking. And remember: stop, drop and roll.
- Keep a large lid near the cooking area to cover and smother any stovetop cooking fires.
- Turkey fryers:
  - Read the manufacturer's instructions thoroughly before using the fryer.
  - Use proper oil quantity and thawing methods prior to cooking.

- NEVER use your fryer inside your home, garage or on a balcony or patio.
- Turkey fryers should be set up at least 20 feet away from your home or any combustible material. This also goes for gas and charcoal/wood burning grills.
- If you are cooking using charcoal or wood,

make sure you are disposing of the burnt charcoal in a metal trash can at least 10 feet from your home and that it is covered by a lid.

- Do not place burnt coals in plastic or cardboard receptacles, and never keep them inside your home or garage.

- Coals can smolder and retain heat for days, which could start a fire.

- More fire safety tips at <http://www.facebook.com/KCFPB> and <http://knoxcounty.org/fire/>

### Waste Disposal

- Never pour oil or grease down the drain. This can cause costly problems for your home's plumbing and municipal sewers.

- Recycle used vegetable oil:
  - Used vegetable oil can be taken for free to three Knox County Convenience Centers or the city's Household Hazardous Waste Facility:

- Dutchtown Convenience Center - 10618 Dutchtown Rd.

- Halls Convenience Center - 3608 Neal Dr.

- John Sevier Convenience Center - 1810 John Sevier Hwy

- Household Hazardous Waste Facility - 1033 Elm Street

- Waste vegetable oil must be in a closed, non-glass container.

- To avoid rodents and other pests around your trash, consider taking Thanksgiving Day food waste to one of Knox County's eight Solid Waste Convenience Centers. Centers are closed Thanksgiving Day.

- More information, including hours and locations, at [http://knoxcounty.org/solid\\_waste](http://knoxcounty.org/solid_waste)

### Fountain City BPA Holiday After-Hours 2013

FCBPA's annual holiday event will be held Tuesday, December 10, 2013 from 4:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Commercial Bank, 5320 N. Broadway. This is a gathering of both members and guests alike to celebrate the year in a casual and festive manner. Come to network and bid on a variety of silent auction items, while enjoying some light hors d'oeuvres and great seasonal music! Tickets can be purchased in advance with cash or check for \$5 by contacting treasurer, Andrew Hartung, at [treasurer@fountaincitybusiness.com](mailto:treasurer@fountaincitybusiness.com)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CHS Class of 1955 Get-Together

The Central High School Class of 1955 Buffet Lunch and Get-Together will be held Monday, December 2, noon - 3 p.m. at the Beaver Brook Country Club at 6800 Beaver Brook Drive. Dress casually! Cost will be \$17 per person.

Please contact Helen White about reserving your spot as soon as possible, (865) 693-1299 [heleninva@yahoo.com](mailto:heleninva@yahoo.com)

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To register for the drawing, drop your name with your phone or email into the drawing box. (Prizes only ONE entry per person). Limited time only. November 23-27. If you select your email, you will automatically be signed up to see email subscriptions - to get the all and other distribute your for email subscriptions.

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<p><b>ASSORTED FLAVORS FONDANT</b></p> <p><b>\$1.99</b> 24 OZ.</p>	<p><b>ASSORTED CANNED VEGETABLES</b></p> <p><b>2 \$1</b> FOR</p>	<p><b>CHEETOS OR FRITOS</b></p> <p><b>\$1.59</b> 9.5 TO 10.25 OZ.</p>	
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## Upside Down Pumpkin Pie

1 (20 oz) can pumpkin  
1 3/4 cups sugar  
2 tsp cinnamon  
1/2 tsp ginger  
1 (13 oz) can evaporated milk  
3 eggs, well beaten  
1 tsp nutmeg  
1 box yellow cake mix  
1 cup nuts, chopped  
1 cup butter, melted

Combine all ingredients except the cake mix, nuts, and butter. Mix well and pour into a 9x13" baking dish. Sprinkle cake mix evenly over the top, top with the nuts and drizzle butter over all. Bake at 350 deg for 1 hour. Cool and serve with whipped cream.

## Apple Crunch

8 sliced tart apples  
1 t. Lemon juice  
1 cup sifted flour  
1/8 t. Salt  
1/4 cup butter  
1/2 t. Cinnamon  
1 cup brown sugar

Place sliced apples in buttered Pyrex dish. Sprinkle with lemon juice. Blend dry ingredients. Cut in butter until consistency of coarse meal. Sprinkle over apples. Bake at 375 degrees for 30 minutes. May be served with you meal or as a dessert with ice cream.

## Pumpkin Crunch

1 15 oz can pumpkm  
1/2 tsp pumpkin pie spice  
2 eggs  
1 cup sugar  
1 large can evaporated milk  
1 box yellow cake mix  
1 1/2 stick butter  
2 cups nuts, chopped

Mix the first 5 ingredients in a mixing bowl. Pour into a 9x13" pan. Sprinkle dry cake mix over top of pumpkin mixture. Spread nuts over dry cake mix. Slice butter and lay on top of nuts. Bake at 350 deg for 1 hour.

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