



## Commission workshop could be busy today

By Mike Steely  
Steelym@knoxfocus.com

Today's work session of the Knox County Commission could be lively as the elected officials consider everything from authorizing and funding a magnet high school at Pellissippi State, considering \$9 million in General Obligation Bonds, to asking former Trustee employee John Haun how he intends to pay back more than \$100,000 in embezzled money.

Commissioner Mike Hammond placed the repayment question on a tentative agenda sent out by Chairman Brad Anders last week. Haun, a 20 year Trustee employee, was fired earlier this year and promised to repay the county for two years of overpayment he received, pledging to use his retirement benefits to cover the debt.

Hammond had brought up the repayment issue earlier this year and the issue may be visited again in the commission's meeting this afternoon.

Construction of a magnet high school at Pellissippi State's Strawberry Plains Campus, for about \$2.7 million, may also be discussed.

There's also a discussion of leasing about 25,765 square feet there from the Board of Regents.

A contract with Barber McMurry Architects for \$256,000 may be discussed for designing and engineering a new Knox County Regional Forensic Center at 2761 Sullins Street, a resolution with Efficient Energy of East Tennessee for solar panels on 63 taxpayer-owned buildings including 54 at Knox County Schools.

Will there be a county fee for a cremation permit required from the Office of Knox County Medical Examiner? That's also in the tentative agenda, calling for the establishment of such a fee, and a possible resolution for morgue services with the University of Tennessee Medical Center.

There's also a discussion regarding the Joint Education Committee, suggested by Commissioner Sam McKenzie.

## McIntyre contract under review today

By Mike Steely  
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Knox County teachers and their supporters are not letting up trying to challenge current teaching methods, evaluations, presentations, pay, representation, the central office and, more specifically, Superintendent James McIntyre. The very verbal assault could come to a head today at 5 p.m. when the School Board meets in a called meeting "to consider the annual evaluation

and possible renewal or extension" of the superintendent's contract.

At the beginning of Wednesday's regular school board meeting the Chair, Lynne Fugate, said she was appointing a group that would include her, McIntyre and Tonya Coats of the Knox County Education Association, to iron out the dispute.

Several of the more than 25 teachers, parents, and students spoke at the Wednesday meeting and

many called for the board not to renew McIntyre's contract.

Several speakers reminded the elected Board members that "teachers are also voters."

Three parents told the Board that the current teaching methods, stressing testing even for kindergarten through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, are making their children ill with symptoms like vomiting, stomach aches, migraines and anxiety.

Dr. Cathy Fitzgerald said

to the board, "Testing is not teaching."

A librarian who was dismissed last month after an evaluation said she was "supposed to meet with Mr. McIntyre, but instead got a letter." She talked directly to the superintendent and said, "Go to the schools and spend a couple days with teachers."

"Maybe if I kept my mouth shut I'd still have a job," she said.

Two speakers asked why

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## Christmas in Fountain City

*Central High School's Marching Band was one of the many participants in Saturday's annual Fountain City Optimist Club Christmas Parade. See more photos online at [www.knoxfocus.com](http://www.knoxfocus.com). Photo by Dan Andrews.*

## Wood family donates land to K-9 program

By Tasha Mahurin  
tasha@knoxfocus.com

The Wood Family presented the City of Knoxville with four acres of land last week to provide a new location for the Knoxville Police Department's K-9 Kennel, as well as, a public dog park.

"We are extremely grateful for the generosity of the Wood Family and their commitment to our community," said Mayor Rogero at the press conference. "Their contribution will provide much-needed facilities for our K-9 unit and create a park where pet owners can allow their dogs to be active and socialize."

The Wood Family donated the property across from the Public Safety Building located on Howard Baker Jr. Avenue. KPD's current



PHOTO BY GINNY BYRD

*One of KPD's K-9 Officers at last week's press conference.*

kennel is located off Prosser Road but does not have adequate space for the department's 16 working dogs. Plans were underway to

rebuild a new kennel in that location, but it was later discovered the location would be unsuitable

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## FOCUS Weekly Poll\*

**Were you aware that Knox County Superintendent of Schools Dr. James McIntyre has only one year of classroom teaching experience?**

**YES 27.84%**

**NO 72.16%**

*Survey conducted  
December 5, 2013.*

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

## Large apartment complex decided today?

By Mike Steely  
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Huber Properties and Clear Water Partners made it through the Metropolitan Planning Commission (MPC) last month, with one vote against, to build a large apartment complex just off Emory Church Road and I-140 and now today is asking the County Commission to approve the rezoning and place it on their December 16<sup>th</sup> regular meeting agenda.

November's planning commission saw a demonstration by several nearby home owners protesting the development and a smaller number of proponents attending, both sides holding up "No" and "Yes" signs.

The main objections were against the five dwellings per acre, the additional traffic the development would generate, and the proposal of a marina there. The request is to rezone the rural 100 acres from Agricultural and Floodway to Planned Residential and Floodway.

The Planning Commission recommended the commission pass the request with three conditions: The proposed undisturbed areas on the east side of Pellissippi Parkway must be placed in conservation easements, at least a portion of the area west of the parkway must be dedicated for public access and no clearing or grading of the site would be permitted until a plan is approved by the MPC.

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# Focus on the Law

# Givers Beware!

After counting our many blessings over the Thanksgiving holidays, most of us feel motivated to share our good fortune with others. This is especially true over the next few weeks of the Christmas holiday season. There are numerous opportunities to share our time and our talents. But how do we know that our monetary gifts will really help those in need?

My first suggestion is to stick with charitable groups you know. Your own church and other religious organizations can do a great deal of good by combining your contributions with those of the other members. Your money is often spent in our community to address local needs. Specific budget and program information should be readily available to members. There is a high level of accountability at this level of giving.

A second suggestion is to



By Sharon Frankenberg, Attorney at Law

carefully choose a reputable charity. You can do research on charities by checking them out on a variety of websites. The Tennessee Secretary of State Division of Charitable Solicitations and Gaming's website may be found at <http://www.tn.gov/sos/charity/> and reached by phone at (615)741-2555. You can look individual charities up by name and find their contact information and financial reports they file with our state giving a breakdown of revenue and expenses in various categories. The IRS.gov website contains a service called Exempt Organizations Select Check. This lets you review reports and filings made with the Internal Revenue Service by various groups, including charitable organizations. This service includes a much larger base of groups than the ones

found just in our state.

Another way to research a charity is to utilize national ratings organizations like the Better Business Bureau Wise Giving Alliance ([www.bbb.org/charity-reviews/national](http://www.bbb.org/charity-reviews/national)) and Charity Navigator ([www.charitynavigator.org](http://www.charitynavigator.org)) that evaluate charities on multiple criteria including how much of donors' dollars actually benefit the charitable cause. The Center for Investigative Reports actually publishes a list of America's 50 Worst Charities and several Tennessee-based charities are near the top of the list. According a June 13, 2013 article from the Tampa Bay Times, this is based in large part on the fact that so much of the money raised by them is paid back out in huge executive salaries and fundraising costs. The interactive link is at [www.tampabay.com/americas-worst-charities](http://www.tampabay.com/americas-worst-charities). A bad charity gives only a tiny percentage of the money raised to help people. There are so many worthy groups,

please do not waste your money on bad charities.

While I was writing this column, I received an email solicitation from a national charity. I have donated to them in the past and gave them permission to contact me via email. Had this not been the case, I would have simply hit the "delete" button. Likewise, feel free to hang up on phone solicitors asking for donations. My final suggestion is to be extremely wary of door to door solicitors or any kind of situation where you are being pressured into donating on the spot. Legitimate charities don't need to resort to these type of tactics and will be happy to let you send your contribution in at your convenience. Reputable charities can stand up to scrutiny because their good works speak for themselves. Happy giving! Sharon Frankenberg is an experienced attorney licensed in Tennessee since 1988. Her office number in Knoxville is (865)539-2100.

## A champion in life



Rosie's World

I always hold my breath when I see those Olympic ice skaters do their intricate steps on ice. Especially did I hold my breath in 1984, when Scott Hamilton won the gold medal.

Scott was born on August 29, 1955 in Toledo, Ohio but was adopted by college instructors Dorothy and Ernie Hamilton from Bowling Green. The young Hamilton suffered from Shwachman-Diamond Syndrome, a rare disorder characterized by limited nutrient absorption

and a smaller stature. Though he faced significant health challenges, he thrived once he took to the ice, playing hockey, but choose to focus on figure skating, entering competitions by the time he was eleven. He relocated to Illinois to take up training but stopped in the mid-'70s due to high financial costs. He resumed his focus of the sport after his mother's death in 1977 and received sponsorship.

In 1997 he was diagnosed with testicular cancer from which he recovered. Years later he also faced a brain tumor diagnosis for which he underwent surgery in 2010 and recovered again. He started the Scott

Hamilton CARES Initiative with emphasis on funding cancer research, sharing on-line information on chemotherapy and providing one-on-one mentorship for patients.

He quoted these remarks: "The year before the 1984 Olympics was my most intensive year of training. I thought about the Olympics daily and I visualized them daily. I was not going to wait till the last minute to train. Instead, I treated every practice like a competition."

He became known for his athletic, petite frame, sleek skating outfits, and his crowd-pleasing backflips. Despite his adversities he is champion on ice and a

champion in life. He is married to his wife, Traci, and they have two children.

A word about Amy Grant: Amy Lee Grant is an American singer, songwriter, musician, author, media personality, and actress. Best known for performing Christian music, she has been referred to as "Queen of Christian Pop."

Both of these fabulous figures were in Knoxville recently giving a fabulous show of their enormous talents. I was unable to go but it can be seen on the Internet.

Thought for the day: there is only one success, to be able to live your life in your own way. Christopher Morley

## McIntyre contract under review today

Cont. from page 1

a news story about the conflict was pulled from television news broadcast and another said McIntyre "had the story pulled."

Dr. Brenda Owensby said she was glad the Board was "finally listening" but only "after the local media coverage" of the ongoing problems.

Ellen Davis presented each Board member with a "Letter of Concern" similar to those given teachers with low evaluations and demanded that testing not mandated by the state be stopped.

Regina Turner, a mother of a 4<sup>th</sup> grader, said her daughter used to "Love to learn" but now has changed and even gets migraine

headaches.

"I'm angry with you, all of you, to have taken that (love) away from her," she said.

Another parent said that the testing of K-2 students are against state mandates that forbid testing before the third grade.

Amber Rountree and others called for the board to have a teacher as a

member, selected by teachers. Several speakers said McIntyre's visits to schools were only a photo opportunity and a publicity stunt.

Dr. McIntyre has served as superintendent since July of 2008 and has overseen major changes in the way teachers educate students, including some testing and evaluations of teachers not mandated by state

requirements. He has faced increasing ire for the way he and the Central Office have dealt with teachers.

According to his current contract, the superintendent receives a salary of about \$246,000 per year, plus incentives that include an \$800 monthly car allowance, \$1200 in retirement each month, and is paid for out-of area meetings, etc.

The contract says if the Board declines to renew his contract they must pay him for the remainder of the school year. They can dismiss him for neglect of duty, insubordination, inefficiency, incompetence, or unprofessional conduct. McIntyre can resign with a 90 day notice and would only receive his unpaid salary and benefits for those days.

McIntyre has said he wishes to remain and see the changes continued, but has said that some of the testing and evaluations are local and not mandated.

Tonight's meeting will begin at 5 p.m. in the Boardroom on the first floor of the Andrew Johnson Building. The work session and Board meeting will be broadcast live on Comcast Cable Channel 10, AT&T U-verse Channel 99, and streamed live at [www.knoxschools.org](http://www.knoxschools.org).

## FOCUS Weekly Poll

**Were you aware that Knox County Superintendent of Schools Dr James McIntyre has only one year of classroom teaching experience?**

**Yes 27.84%**  
**No 72.16%**



By Age	Yes	No	Total
18-29	[None]	100.00%	1
30-49	24.56%	75.44%	57
50-65	31.97%	68.03%	147
65+	26.23%	73.77%	244
<b>Total</b>	<b>27.84% (125)</b>	<b>72.16% (324)</b>	<b>449</b>

By District	Yes	No	Total
1	28.00%	72.00%	25
2	30.00%	70.00%	50
3	27.66%	72.34%	47
4	35.29%	64.71%	68
5	25.00%	75.00%	52
6	19.05%	80.95%	42
7	35.48%	64.52%	62
8	23.64%	76.36%	55
9	20.83%	79.17%	48
<b>Total</b>	<b>27.84% (125)</b>	<b>72.16% (324)</b>	<b>449</b>

By Gender	Yes	No	Total
Unknown	43.75%	56.25%	16
Female	27.59%	72.41%	232
Male	26.87%	73.13%	201
<b>Total</b>	<b>27.84% (125)</b>	<b>72.16% (324)</b>	<b>449</b>

Survey conducted December 5, 2013.

## Area Parades

*Santa at the Seymour Christmas Parade last year.*

Photo by Rose King.



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Publisher's Position

Can you hear me now?



By Steve Hunley, Publisher  
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Teachers, parents and students turned out in force at the most recent meeting of the Knox County Board of Education. For months *The Knoxville Focus* has been telling readers about the ties between Superintendent James McIntyre, the do-nothing Chamber of Commerce and local news media outlets.

Evidently, WBIR-TV news reporters had done a story about McIntyre having less teaching experience than all the superintendents in the biggest school systems but one. McIntyre has exactly one year of experience teaching in an actual classroom, a fact that *The Focus* has been talking about for the past few years. From what I've gathered, WBIR-TV management killed the story done by its own reporters only to revive it a few days later. At the time, management offered

the rather lame explanation that they killed the story to give McIntyre the chance to rectify those things that have demoralized teachers recently.

For years McIntyre has enjoyed the support of the business establishment and political elite. After all, they were the ones that actually brought him here in the first place. Unfortunately in this town, that all too often equates to support from most of the local news media. McIntyre has never received the kind of scrutiny from the local media that other public officials have, despite the fact that he earns more than Knox County Mayor Tim Burchett and Mayor Madeline Rogero.

Some, myself included, would likely cite the fact McIntyre is appointed, rather than elected like most other officials. Considering nothing in Knox County's budget comes remotely close to the half a billion dollars expended annually by the school system, I fail to see just why McIntyre deserves special treatment by the media. Any minor courthouse scandal is piddling compared to the vast sums spent by the school system.

The Knoxville News Sentinel has only really walloped McIntyre once during his reign over the

school system, which was due to some excellent reporting by Jamie Satterfield. Ms. Satterfield pointed out many of the security systems in the schools either did not work properly or did not work at all. This occurred around the same time as the Sandy Hook tragedy and McIntyre did his best to ignore the ties between school security chief Steve Griffin and the contractor chosen to install the security systems. An investigation took place (if you can call it that) at McIntyre's behest and tens of thousands of taxpayer dollars were spent, yet Griffin managed to retire on his own terms. Still, McIntyre took credit for raising security in our schools to unprecedented levels following this fiasco. Right.

It is a fact local news media has never held McIntyre's feet to the fire. McIntyre has endorsed virtually every change in state law regarding teacher evaluations, as well as most anything Commissioner of Education Kevin Huffman has wanted. Yet McIntyre hollers that the changes in the law have tied his hands, so teachers ought not to be mad at him. I wonder if his hands were tied during his frequent trips to Nashville to support these new "Education Reform" laws.

But you've heard little about that from other local media outlets.

McIntyre and most of his rubber-stamp Board of Education have tried to assure teachers, parents and students they are "listening" and hope to make some changes. McIntyre's lack of classroom teaching experience likely makes it difficult for him to empathize with educators, much less truly understand the challenges they face on a daily basis. It would be very interesting to have Dr. McIntyre spend a day teaching in an elementary, middle and high school classroom and have his performance evaluated by an experienced educator from outside of the county.

McIntyre is attempting to prop himself up with the announcement of improved scores, intimidating somehow he is responsible for these improvements locally. Frankly, it doesn't make any difference whether we graduate 100% of our students. **The most important statistic is one almost never mentioned by the local media or McIntyre. I refer to preparation rates, which is the number of students actually prepared to further their education or join the work force.** After all, isn't that fundamentally

what education is about, to have these young people graduate and become productive, taxpaying citizens?

The Chamber of Commerce, the Knoxville News Sentinel and our local TV stations have all but pretended preparation rates don't exist.

The reason you hear nothing about preparation rates is because they are so abysmal as to be frightening. The preparation rate at Austin - East High School has gone up a whopping 200%, from 1% - 3%. That means fully 3% of students graduating from Austin - East are prepared to go on to college or university or get a job. The highest preparation rate in the county is at Farragut High School and the preparation rate there has dropped; 40% of those students graduating from Farragut High School are prepared to go on to college or join the work force. That means 60% of the youngsters graduating from Farragut High School are NOT prepared to further their education or get a real job.

The only real critic McIntyre has had on the Board of Education is Mike McMillan, who is also the only member of the Board to have spent his entire adult life, 33 years before

retiring, as a classroom teacher. McMillan has been completely independent, yet had he lost the last election, his opponent Conley Underwood, a McIntyre supporter, would have been just another rubber-stamp, along with the rest of the board, for the superintendent.

Too many of the Board members are representing the superintendent, not their constituencies. It seems pretty clear that Humpty-Dumpty has fallen off the wall and neither the Chamber, the rubber-stamp Board of Education nor the rest of the local local media can put him back together again.

Despite Board members assuring the public they, too, are "listening," they will almost surely extend his contract, which already runs for three more years. Still, five seats are up for election in May 2014 and anyone who doesn't believe the big issue will be McIntyre himself is either deluded or simply not paying attention.

For those who truly want rid of McIntyre, it's time for action. Don't wait for others to do it for you, but let your voice be heard and get up and make a difference. Ultimately, the only thing that will cause Jim McIntyre to leave is changing the Board of Education.

Extension of McIntyre's Contract Not Needed

By Steve Hunley, Publisher  
publisher@knoxfocus.com

Knox County School Superintendent James McIntyre is asking the Board of Education to extend his contract. Currently his present contract with the Board of Education runs for three more years. Is there some pressing need for the Board to extend it yet another year? No, there is not. Tennessee law permits a Board of Education to extend a superintendent's contract up to a maximum of four years in advance and Dr. McIntyre wants the most he can get.

McIntyre has been under fire by angry teachers, parents and students recently and despite his claim that he and the Board are "listening," the best example that they are not listening is

Board Chair Lynne Fugate's curt refusal to give a student critical of McIntyre merely one more minute of speaking time beyond the five minute limit at a recent board meeting. Clearly, Fugate didn't want to listen anymore than necessary. It is typical of the McIntyre administration and the majority of his rubber-stamp Board of Education.

Aside from soothing buzzword words and educational jargon, there is little to praise in McIntyre and the Board of Education. On one hand, they have tried shining on teachers by claiming that most of the changes in policy are the responsibility of the Tennessee General Assembly; that begs the question of McIntyre having promoted and endorsed virtually every change proposed by legislature and he testified on

behalf of the current evaluation system. Simply because the local media is too lazy to report the truth and all the facts does not mean that major problems in education do not exist.

The fact is, any intelligent teacher, parent or student has no reason on earth to believe a thing McIntyre says, nor the Board of Education for that matter. There has been some effort to make the teachers appear slothful and resentful of being evaluated at all, which is absolutely not true. Many educators are not even evaluated in their own field. I've said it before, evaluating a plumber as if he or she were a brain surgeon and vice versa is neither fair or reliable. In fact, I have always thought that was the job of the many many supervisors in the school system:

to evaluate educators in their respective fields.

One of McIntyre's proposed "solutions" to address teacher concerns is to have Board Chair Lynne Fugate appoint a committee, which will discuss these same concerns and recommend solutions. This is the very same Lynne Fugate who wouldn't even literally give the time of day to one of the students leaders who had the temerity to be critical of McIntyre at a recent Board meeting.

The Board has not only bent over backwards to accommodate the McIntyre in his own evaluation, but has come to resemble nothing more than an acrobatic pretzel in its desire to let the superintendent have his way. Neither the Board nor McIntyre seem to grasp the inherent hypocrisy in

his evaluation process and that of the teachers who are working in the classroom for a fraction of McIntyre's princely salary.

Other local media outlets have killed stories unfavorable to the superintendent, yet it has not failed to hide the fact McIntyre has so little teaching experience as to be practically nonexistent. I wonder how many of the establishment or political elite in town would allow a medical intern with one year's experience operate on their own brains or hearts? Darn few is my guess, yet McIntyre's claim that his one year of teaching experience was "formative" and just an extraordinary experience just doesn't cut it.

Considering that McIntyre's present contract has three more years to run, the

ONLY reason to extend his contract by another year is to protect Jim McIntyre. Extending his contract yet again does nothing for a single soul in Knox County except for Jim McIntyre. One can make the unlikely argument that another system might come and steal him away, but I don't see anyone beating down his door to snatch him.

The Board, if indeed it does extend his contract is sending a signal to teachers and the public. It is an endorsement of McIntyre, his authoritarian administration and his record. If they vote to extend his contract, they will take complete and total responsibility for his failures and should be held accountable at the next election.

Wood family donates land to K-9 program

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because caverns and a landfill were found underneath.

The proposed new kennel is part of an ongoing capital project with a cost of \$2.5 million. The 8,175-square-foot facility includes a boarding area and administrative building. The design also features an outdoor training area and agility course. Its proximity to the Safety Building will allow handlers quick access to the dogs

"Our family is delighted to make this donation and help the Knoxville Police Department house these exceptional dogs who work to serve and protect us," said Kim Wood McClamroch, representing

the Wood Family. "It's also rewarding to provide land for another dog park for our growing downtown dog population and the surrounding neighborhoods."

The park will be adjacent to the kennel, but the two facilities will be separate. The wooded portion of the property will provide a unique urban dog park with shade, mature trees and agility equipment.

The property is being donated to Legacy Parks Foundation, which will work with the City to develop both projects. This donation follows the Wood Family's gift of nearly 100 acres off Sevierville Pike in August as part of the Urban Wilderness Corridor.

POLL: Most Knox Countians Didn't Know About McIntyre's Lack of Experience

By Focus Staff

This week's *Knoxville Focus* poll posed the question, "Were you aware that Knox County Superintendent of Schools has only one year of classroom teaching experience?"

The response was a resounding "no" with more than 72% of respondents saying they had no idea Dr. McIntyre had so little teaching experience. That answer carried throughout every demographic and voting district of almost 450 people polled.

The Fourth and Seventh Districts posted the highest number of those saying they knew McIntyre had only one year of teaching experience; just over 35% of those polled

in the Seventh District said they were aware McIntyre had one year of teaching experience. The Seventh District is comprised of Halls, Fountain City and North Knoxville. Slightly fewer residents of the Fourth District, which is comprised of Sequoyah Hills and West Knoxville, claimed to realize McIntyre has but one year of teaching experience to his name.

The highest percentage of those unaware of McIntyre's classroom credentials were in the Sixth and Ninth District, which is South Knoxville. More than 79% of respondents said they did not know McIntyre had only one year of teaching experience. The Sixth District, which

includes the Karns and Powell communities posted the highest number of overall respondents unaware of McIntyre having taught in the classroom for one year. Almost 81% of Sixth District residents said they did not know about McIntyre's lack of teaching credentials.

The highest number of

those oblivious to McIntyre's classroom experience were those in the 30 - 49 age category, oddly the age group most likely to have children in school. More than 75% of those in the 30 - 49 age group did not realize McIntyre had taught school for only one year.



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# A look at McIntyre's evaluation

By Mike Steely  
Steelym@knoxfocus.com

In a narrative evaluation of Dr. James McIntyre, Jr., posted this month on the Knox County School Board's website, it appears the Board is recommending extending his contact, but with some wordage reflecting the turmoil from teachers and parents.

Noted in the evaluation is the falling graduation rate, from 90.3 percent to 87.8 and the drop in ACT scores from 20.6 to 20.2.

In the "Relationships with Staff, Personnel and Board Members" the evaluation says that while the superintendent "communicates

directly with Board Members" it also says "Dr. McIntyre's relationship with staff and personnel in the area of this performance evaluation that will require the most focus from him."

"Although he has done a number of things to communicate with teachers and staff related to evaluations, common core, PLC's, etc. recent feedback has shown there is a sense that the communication has only been one way," the evaluation reads.

"Individual Board Members made various recommendations in their evaluations of things Dr. McIntyre could do to begin

improving things. He is strongly encouraged to select some of these items to implement," the evaluation says.

"While communications to parents, staff and the community is at an all time high, the two way flow of communications is not robust," the evaluation says under the "Family and Community Engagement" heading.

In conclusion the evaluation says: "This past year has been a very challenging year as KCS sought to implement some of the most aggressive educational reform initiatives in the country... The Board appreciates the work

done by Dr. McIntyre to date, but expects that the focus now must be on improving the implementation of the initiatives that we have begun. We have confidence that he will now lead KCS through this effort by incorporating many of these recommendations over the next year.

Under a contract being presented by the School Board the superintendent's agreement would be extended until January 2017, and he would receive a base salary of \$222,800 plus incentives. The contract also says that termination of the contract can only be done with a 2/3 vote by the

school board members.

In a related matter Dr. McIntyre told the Joint Education Committee Thursday that a teacher survey was sent that day to area teachers, with 15 "bubble" answer questions and a comment section. The survey, on paper, apparently will not identify those responding but would not be received back before his meeting with the school board on his own evaluation.

He said he was hoping for two to three-thousand replies.

## FOCUS MORE ON Seymour & South Knox

# 150 Years Later: A Civil War Weekend

By Mike Steely  
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Lots of things can change in 150 years. Houses come and go, gardens become streets, and history gets paved over. People's stories get lost in family tales and important sites become homesteads, farms, factories, and subdivisions.

Not exactly true for South Knoxville's Fort Higley, which was dedicated last month high atop the mountain overlooking downtown Knoxville. One of several Civil War forts south of the river, Fort Higley's earthworks remained fairly untouched by development through the years. In order to keep the little Union fort from disappearing something had to be done.

Aslan Foundation's Board President Bob Young said the fort's earthwork fortifications survived because only one home existed there after the war. Young, County Mayor Tim Burchett, and Dr. Earl U. Hess spoke at the new the public park, known as the "High Ground Park," dedicating the place exactly 150 years after construction.

High Ground is a low-impact park on Cherokee Trail in South Knoxville that includes Fort Higley. The park is a link to the proposed Battlefield Loop that would connect all the forts on the south side of the river in a 1,000 acre wilderness and historic corridor.

Fort Higley is near Fort

Dickerson. The foundation also owns Fort Stanley, across Chapman Highway east of Fort Dickerson, and Young says there's no current plans to develop Fort Stanley yet.

Dr. Hess recounted the nearby battle at Armstrong's Hill, where Union troops twice fought back Confederates occupying Cherokee Heights. The first skirmish led to the construction of Fort Higley and the second saw Southern artillery open up on Union soldiers nearby, including some artillery shots at Fort Higley.

Had the Southern forces captured Fort Higley the Union victory in defending Knoxville might have been different. When the

Rebel commander saw the Southern forces defeated at Fort Sanders, far below, he ended the mountain-top attack and pulled his forces back.

The features at Fort Higley visible today include a cannon redoubt, rifle trenches, an interior trench, rifle pits and a ramp to the fort. After 5 years of design, planning and research Aslan Foundation opened the free park. Construction of a parking area and a gravel walk, along with trail signs and paths, inform visitors of the various parts of the fort.

"It would have been a tragedy if this piece of the Civil War history was lost," Young said.

Young and other members

of the foundation including Executive Director Jeff Monsour, chatted with visitors at the dedication. Two hours later the park was opened to the public.

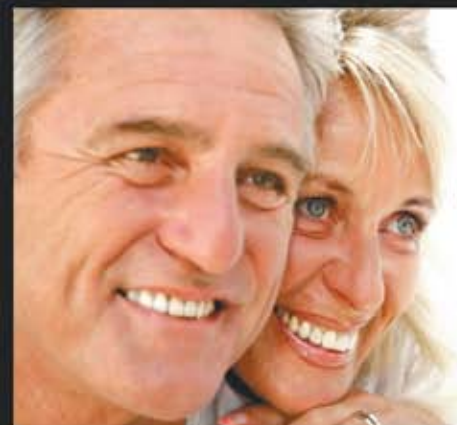
A large tent just across Cherokee Trail offered information about the Civil War in Knoxville, local museums, historic homes, organizations and local trails.

Following the ceremony, church bells in Knoxville rang in memory of the men who died on both sides during the November, 1863, battles. At 1 p.m. the monument to the 79<sup>th</sup> New York Regiment at 16<sup>th</sup> and Church was rededicated. At 2 p.m. the Fort Sanders monument, at 17<sup>th</sup> and Laurel Avenue, was rededicated by the United

Daughters of the Confederacy.

The following day the Daughters of the Confederacy, Chapter 89, presented a symposium at the Confederate Hall (The Bleak House). Speakers at the "Sesquicentennial of the 1863 Siege of Knoxville" event included Dr. Hess, Historian Gerald Augustus, Steve Dean, and Dan Pateron, the great grandson of Gen. James Longstreet.

Confederate forces had held Knoxville until Union forces under General Ambrose Burnside took the town and held it through the November battles. Knoxville and East Tennessee would remain in Union hands from then until the end of the Civil War.



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# Optimist Club of Knoxville Honors Local Students for Youth Appreciation Week

As part of youth appreciation week, the Optimist Club of Knoxville, along with Knox County Mayor Tim Burchett, and Knox County School Superintendent Dr. Jim McIntyre honored local students with awards for their accomplishments and service to the community in a reception held at The Foundry.

The Optimist Club of Knoxville Youth Appreciation projects are intended to highlight the positive contributions of our youth to society. Since 1956, this program has given Optimist Clubs across the nation occasion to work with youth toward the common goals of education, career development, physical well-being and community service. Youth Appreciation is the most popular program sponsored by clubs through Optimist International, with more than 2,000 clubs participating each year.

For more information, please visit [www.knoxvilleoptimist.org](http://www.knoxvilleoptimist.org).



Students receiving honors included: Austin-East Magnet High School's Jamyra Carvin, Bearden High School's Cara Wolfe, Carter High School's Olivia Hosey, Catholic High School's Kelsey Fields, Central High School's Paige Parker, Christian Academy of Knoxville's Colten Marcum, Farragut High School's Tess Waibel, Fulton High School's Lemerakle Ford, Gibbs High School's Alex Hibbett, Grace Christian Academy's Shelby Lenderman, Halls High School's Alyssa Mabe, Hardin Valley Academy's Alexandra Christopoulos, Karns High School's Lindsay Davis, L&N STEM Academy's Ben Smith, North-Knox Technology Center Victoria Morsch., Powell High School's Kevin Keck, South-Doyle High School's Austin Jenkins, Webb School of Knoxville's Ann Legg-Margiotta and West High School's Rachel Ryan. Optimist Club's John Meade at podium.

## Vogel, Wood appointed Stokes Treasurer

Knoxville attorney Howard Vogel and Kimberly Wood, Controller of Volunteer Mechanical, Inc., have been appointed co-treasurers of Billy J. Stokes' campaign for Judge, Knox County Circuit Court, Division I.

"I'm honored that highly respected community leaders like Howard Vogel and Kimberly Wood are supporting my campaign in this very tangible and important way," said Stokes.

Among Vogel's many accomplishments are:

- serving as former president of both the Knoxville and the Tennessee Bar Associations
- serving in the ABA House of Delegates as well as on its Board of Governors.
- membership on the American Bar Endowment Board of Directors
- membership in the American Law Institute.
- receiving the Knoxville Bar Association's Governor's Award for his service to the law and his community

Vogel, who primarily handles complex issue mediations, practices with the firm of O'Neil, Parker & Williamson.

"I have known Billy Stokes

for many years, not only as an adversary in lawsuits but as counsel for parties in complicated cases I have mediated," Vogel said. "He always conducts himself in an ethical manner and with the best interests of his clients foremost in his actions. I am happy to support Billy in his quest to become Judge." Wood has been controller of Volunteer Mechanical, Inc., an HVAC contractor headquartered in Knoxville, for 21 years. Volunteer Mechanical is a company built from the ground up by Ms. Wood and her husband, Dennis Wood. Before starting Volunteer Mechanical, Ms. Wood was a CPA with Pugh & Company, as well as Controller of Commercial & Investment Properties, a Knoxville development firm.

"I respect Billy Stokes for his legal knowledge and the principled way he practices law," she said. "His firm, going back to the days when it was known as Stokes & Fansler, has represented our company since its inception. Our families have become close friends. I am eager to do all I can to help Billy Stokes get elected as Judge."

## Boys & Girls Club Teens Give Back Through Coat Drive



Alexondria McKinney, Mia Rorex, Adrianna Johnson, Dashaun McKinney, and staff member Melvina Sexton prepare to hand out coats.

### Over 500 coats collected for Scott County families

For members of the Keystone Club at the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Tennessee Valley, community service is not a new idea. They have held food drives, raised money

for cancer research, and even traveled to Haiti to help disaster victims. This fall, however, the teens saw a need that was much closer to home.

"Sometimes we forget that it's not just people far away that could use a helping hand," said Shauna McKinney, Director of the Moses Teen Center.

"Poverty affects people everywhere, even here in east Tennessee. We chose this project to learn more about the needs of the communities around us and what we can do to help."

Together, teens at four different Boys & Girls Club locations in the Knoxville area banded together

to collect coats for residents of Scott County who needed them. The young people organized the project through their chapters of the Keystone Club, Boys & Girls Clubs of America's teen character and leadership program.

The teens set a goal of collecting 150 coats and

**Continue on page 2**

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# Boys & Girls Club Teens Give Back Through Coat Drive

Cont. from page 1

began to spread the word to parents and volunteers. Before long, collection boxes were overflowing. By the last day of the coat drive, the teens had gathered about 550 coats. Prestige Cleaners donated cleaning services for all of the coats.

“The outpouring of support that our Club members received from the Knoxville community was remarkable,” said Kira Jones, Director of the Halls/Powell Boys & Girls Club. “The Club and the community really came together to initiate a successful service learning project for people in Scott County.”

Many teens would consider their work done after collecting the coats, but the Keystone Club members went a step further. About thirty Boys & Girls Club teens and staff traveled to Winfield Baptist Church to distribute the


coats to those people who needed them most. When they arrived, they were surprised to find residents lining up outside the church an hour early.

According to the most recent U.S. Census, more than one in four Scott County residents live below the poverty level. The teens were shocked to learn that some families in the Scott County area even live without electricity and indoor plumbing.

Over the course of the day, the teens helped the families find coats and clothing in their sizes, carried groceries to their vehicles, and prayed with them.

“When a group of people come together for a purpose, the result can truly be amazing,” said Coby Wilder, one of the teen participants. The teens are already planning more projects to help the people in the Scott County area in 2014.

## A Day Away



By Mike Steely

Niota, Tennessee, is one of those places that isn't on an interstate, although it's just a few miles east of I-75 between Sweetwater and Athens. It's one of those places with one stop light and the old downtown is actually almost empty and a couple blocks off the main road.

Niota is still proud of itself. In fact it hosts its annual Christmas parade this coming Saturday, December 14, and the theme is ideal: “Small Town Christmas.”

If you don't get to the parade there's another important reason to stop by Niota sometime: it has two claims to fame you can't match.



One Vote can make history. Niota's state representative Harry Burn listened to his mother and voted to give women the right to vote. His one vote made the constitutional amendment nation-wide law.

One, it has the oldest standing Rail Road Depot in the state, a survivor of the Civil War built in 1854 and operating until 1972. It's decaying now but still houses offices for the little town. About 800 people live in Niota, which was originally called Mouse Creek Depot.

Secondly, the little village was the home of

state representative Harry T. Burn who represented the area in Nashville beginning in 1919. The following year, in 1920, Burn did something that drew huge praise and criticism.

Thirty five states of the then 48 had ratified the constitutional amendment extending the right to vote to women. Tennessee became the ratifying state thanks to Burn's mother, who wrote him pleading with him to vote “Yes.” The legislature was deadlocked 48-48 and Burn had voted “No” previously. The young legislator, only 22 at the time, changed his vote and the right to vote for women became national law.

Despite objections from his home district Burn was re-elected the following year.

“I had always believed that women had an inherent right to vote,” he wrote later, adding “My mother

was a college woman, a student of national and international affairs who took an interest in all public issues. She could not vote. Yet the tenant farmers on our farm, some of whom were illiterate, could vote.”

Burn passed the Tennessee Bar exam, became president of the First National Bank of Rockwood, Tn., and served on the state planning commission and represented his county at the Constitutional Conventions three different times.

He lived until 1977 and is buried in the Niota Cemetery. Today a state historic marker in Niota on Highway 11 tells the story. It's right next to the cemetery.

So, next time you are down that way why not drive over and thank the man who had one vote that changed the United States. Had it not been for Harry Burn, who knows?

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# Part Eight: Tennessee's Old Gray Fox Albert Gore

## Pages from the Political Past



By Ray Hill

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Senator Albert Gore was campaigning hard for a fourth term in 1970. Gore had fended off a determined challenge in the Democratic primary from Governor Buford Ellington's former press secretary, Hudley Crockett. Senator Gore's opposition to the administration of Republican President Richard Nixon had made him a target in the 1970 elections and his opponent, GOP Congressman Bill Brock, was well financed and shrewdly using many of the same issues hurled by Hudley Crockett.

Albert Gore was seen by many Tennesseans as out of touch, too liberal, and aristocratically arrogant. Gore had first been elected to the United States Senate in 1952 by defeating Senator Kenneth D. McKellar, a veteran of thirty-six years. The frail, often ill and aging McKellar had been retired to make way for the relatively youthful and vigorous Albert Gore, who had been almost forty years younger than McKellar.

Gore was sixty-two years old in 1970 and much like his political idol Cordell Hull, he had a stately appearance. His white hair and political cunning caused him to be referred to as Tennessee's "old gray fox," a title Albert Gore proudly accepted.

As Gore faced perhaps the toughest campaign of his career, it was obvious Tennessee's politics had changed dramatically. The 1970 election would prove that Tennessee had finally evolved into a genuine two-party state. Most of Gore's contemporaries were either dead or retired; Governor Frank Clement had lost a 1966 Senate race to Republican Howard Baker and had died in a car crash in 1969. Senator Este Kefauver had died from a ruptured aorta while awaiting surgery in 1963. Senator Ross Bass had lost the 1966 senatorial primary to Governor Clement and was working as a lobbyist, while Governor Buford Ellington was headed toward retirement following the 1970 election.

Neither Democratic gubernatorial nominee John Jay Hooker nor Senator Gore received help from Governor Ellington, who was the acknowledged leader of conservative Democrats in Tennessee. Ellington had been challenged in the 1966 primary by Hooker and the governor liked Hooker no better in 1970 than he had



FROM THE AUTHOR'S PERSONAL COLLECTION.

*Senator Albert Gore with his grandson, Albert Gore, III*

in 1966. Ellington had received encouragement to run against Gore himself in 1970, but chose to support the candidacy of Hudley Crockett instead. As Hooker reeled from the collapse of the Minnie Pearl fried chicken franchise and Gore tried to fend off Bill Brock, Buford Ellington maintain something of a golden silence.

While Gore fought back, in the end he was swallowed by the rising tide of the times. Bill Brock carried Tennessee, while Gore's native Middle Tennessee provided him about an equal margin. The contest was decided by the election returns from West Tennessee and the lingering ill will there towards Senator Gore helped Bill Brock win. Brock won with 52% of the vote and it was the end of Albert Gore's political career.

Albert Gore made an eloquent speech conceding his loss and had to contemplate carving out a new life for himself outside of Congress where he had served continually since 1939. Gore wrote a book, taught occasionally at Vanderbilt and tried to practice law. Senator Gore had never really practiced law and it was not successful. His salvation appeared in the form of millionaire industrialist Armand Hammer, who selected Albert Gore to serve as the Chairman of the Island Creek Coal Company.

Hammer had been Gore's business partner in an enterprise selling cattle on the former senator's Carthage, Tennessee farm. Gore's

affiliation with the Island Creek Coal Company provided him with an excellent income and he became an elder statesman of the Democratic Party. He did not have to wait long for the political ascension of his son and namesake, Albert Gore, Jr.

Al Gore won a heated primary to win the Congressional seat of the retiring Joe L. Evins in 1976. Naturally, the former senator was delighted by his son's success. Al would be reelected until 1984 when he ran for the United States Senate seat being vacated by Howard Baker. Congressman Gore faced future Knoxville Mayor Victor Ashe, who was then a member of the Tennessee State Senate. Albert Gore, Jr. won that contest easily and was a presidential candidate in 1988.

Albert Gore, Jr. made his first run for the Democratic presidential nomination in 1988 and lost, but he accomplished something his father never did.

Tennessee's Old Gray Fox, despite his years, seemed invigorated by his son's presidential bid. The former senator was always very careful to do nothing that might inflict an injury on his namesake's political career, but he was an

effective surrogate on his son's behalf.

Albert Gore, Sr. not only lived to see his son chosen by Arkansas Governor Bill Clinton to run as the vice presidential candidate for the Democratic Party in 1992, but to win. The elder Gore had long harbored national aspirations and his son had succeeded where he had failed.

Senator Albert Gore had been somewhat wounded when his son had first run for Congress and had not wanted his father openly campaigning for him. When he was elected to the United States Senate in 1984, Albert Gore, Jr. once again wanted his father kept behind the scenes. When the younger man sought the Democratic nomination for president, both of Albert Gore, Jr.'s parents campaigned hard for him.

In fact, Senator Gore had pushed young Al to make the race, believing he could win. The old gray fox campaigned hard, especially in Iowa. Although 79 years old, Albert Gore seemed to have endless energy in promoting his son's candidacy. The southern strategy employed by the Gore campaign worked reasonably well, but the candidacy of Jesse Jackson undermined Al Gore's effort in the South.

Al Gore had no trouble being reelected to the United States Senate in 1990, but another presidential run in 1992 was not to be, as the Gore family had to endure a near tragedy when Albert Gore III was hit by an automobile. Still, Arkansas Governor Bill Clinton selected Senator Albert Gore, Jr. as his running mate.

The success of the Clinton - Gore ticket thrilled no one more than Albert Gore, Sr. The former senator reveled in the success of his son. Gore spent considerable time on the family farm in Carthage, Tennessee and opened a large antique mall, which featured one of the automobiles owned by the Gore family in the 1950s. Senator Gore was still highly visible at many public events and parsed out a few public interviews, but the old gray fox was still careful, protective of his son's career, which was his legacy.

Having reputedly earned some \$500,000 a year from his job working for industrialist Armand Hammer, Albert Gore was quite comfortable financially. He and his wife Pauline set out to enjoy life in their twilight years.

Both Senator and Mrs. Gore were devastated by the loss of their only daughter, Nancy, when

she died in 1984 of lung cancer. Albert Gore, Jr. was also deeply affected by the passing of his beloved older sister. It was a blow from which none of the Gores ever quite completely recovered.

Albert Gore, Sr. died of natural causes at his home in Carthage on December 5, 1998, just a few days short of his 91st birthday. The former senator was surrounded by family members as he slipped away peacefully. He and Pauline Gore had been married for 61 years.

With the passing of Albert Gore, the tributes to the former senator came pouring in; the obituaries related the substance of Gore's life and his Congressional career. Theirs had truly been a marriage that was both loving and the two complimented one another. One Gore supporter recalled that Gore was quite "politically perceptive", yet described Pauline Gore as even more so. The Gores had been amongst the first to recognize an unknown twenty-nine year old candidate in Delaware could upset a veteran senator and one of the most popular political figures in the state in 1972. Albert and Pauline Gore were responsible for raising nearly one third of all the money Joe Biden raised that year to get elected to the United States Senate.

Remembered for his oratory, Russell Baker said Albert Gore's voice was accented by the "piney-woods Southern rather than magnolia Dixie". Former Senate Majority Leader Mike Mansfield of Montana noted, "Albert ran his boats along the lines his conscience dictated. It took a lot of guts. He had them, but he paid for it."

President Bill Clinton eulogized Gore as "the embodiment of everything public service ought to be." Clinton said Gore "was a teacher, he was a progressive, he helped to connect the South with the rest of America."

Clinton also mused that Albert Gore could have gone farther in politics than he did, saying, "You know, he might have been himself in national office if he hadn't been just a little too far ahead of his time."

Pauline Gore, unquestionably the driving force behind her husband for most of their life together, died six years after the former senator at age 92. Today they sleep together, side by side, as they were for most of their lives on earth.

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# ‘NEVER’... Yeah right

After running my mouth hundreds of time during my life, I'm ready to accept that uttering "never means never" is just deluding myself. Over and over again, life and the situations that arise demand changes in what we do or the way we do them.

Some of the never moments involved our children. Amy and I swore that we would never tell our children to "shut up." For the first year, keeping the vow was easy, but as soon as Lacey and Dallas began to speak, all bets were off. Sometimes their constant jabbering overwhelmed me to the point that I did tell them to stop talking. Of course, when Lacey reached her teens, I'd have given anything to hear her angelic little girl voice instead of the one that was filled with surly indifference.

I also declared that my children would never escape punishment when it was deserved. That usually meant a swat or two across the bottom. With Dallas I learned that no amount of swats would bring about the desired remorse or correction in behavior. He'd set his jaw and refuse to be contrite while I was present. Eventually, Amy and I discovered that the worst punishment for the boy was to place him in a room where he had nothing to stimulate him. Before long, Dallas was apologizing and begging for release.

Holidays also brought out the "never" part of me. Thanksgiving had never been a big deal when I was young. Daddy's shift work might have him away or in the bed resting for the night shift. I wanted to make sure my family stayed at home and enjoyed the food and company.

At some point, we did change our plans. Amy's extended family began meeting at her cousin's house. We'd load up the car and travel to Cookeville for the day, and after overeating and visiting with folks, we climbed back into the car for a long drive back to Knoxville. However, it was worth the travel to spend time with her family.

This year, I'm choking on "never" again. We celebrated Thanksgiving the weekend before the official date. It was the best time for the kids to travel to Knoxville for the feast. Lacey's family went to the other grandparents' house on Thanksgiving, and Dallas had planned to share the day with a friend in Chattanooga. We were separated for the first time, something that surprised me, but it turned out well.

My biggest proclamations concerned Christmas. At first, I claimed that my family would always wake up Christmas morning at our house, and that's the way it happened until grandson Madden was born. It became important to his mom that he be at home to open presents. I resisted and growled like a bear about not changing, but then Amy clarified the situation for me. She explained that she would be in Nashville at Christmas and that I was welcome to join her. If not, she said I could stay home by myself. Ouch! Since that time, we've spent the holiday with Lacey's family, and Dallas makes the journey from Chattanooga. It's a nice way to spend that special day, and being away from home isn't bad except for the fact that I have to board our Jack Russell Snoop at Butler Animal Clinic.

I spent 30 years as a high school English teacher, and when I retired from the job, I vowed that I would "never" go back, especially as a substitute teacher. Guess what? Our situation has taken a turn to the point that I'm now looking for part time employment. No perfect job exists, and if I don't come up with one before long, I'll have to go back to the classroom as a sub.

I'm discovering that nothing in this life is set in stone and all things are subject to change. Accepting that fact is sometimes difficult, but it's either a matter of rolling with the punches or being left behind. One thing is for sure: I'll "never" again say "never!"

# All Roads Lead to Clapps Chapel Part III

"... rejoice, and sing praise." (Psalm 98:4 KJV)

"It was impressive," Bob Dagley said. He could have been talking about the amazing Gibbs High School basketball team he coached fifty years ago. But this time, he was talking about Ronald Rogers and the bands at Farragut. After all these years, Dagley vividly recalls the moment: "At a Friday night football game, Ronald had the Farragut Middle School Band march around the football field before making their entrance into the stands. Then, the Farragut High School Band


marched around the field and made their entrance into the stands." Coach Dagley was an assistant principal when Rogers first became band director at Farragut. According to Dagley, the bands made quite an impression that night. The director did, too.

I was not surprised at Dagley's comments, because I knew Ronald from years earlier. When we were growing up, our families attended Fairview Baptist Church where his mother, Georgella, worked in the nursery with our mother. Even as a youngster, Ronald seemed serious and determined. When I talked to him recently, it seemed nothing had changed. Now entering his thirtieth year of teaching, he has had a remarkable career in public education. Ronald taught one year at Rutledge High School in Grainger County before moving to Knox County where he taught four years at Doyle High School and twenty-two years at Farragut. He is now in his third year at William Blount High School in Blount County. At this writing, the band director was extremely busy getting ready for the Gatlinburg parade and an upcoming concert. Rogers has served as the immediate past president of the Tennessee Music Education Association.

The director has "come home" to Clapp's Chapel United Methodist Church. Ronald grew up between Harbison's Crossroads and Clapp's Chapel and even attended the Chapel during his high school years. The members of the Chapel recognized his talent, and he served as their choir director for three years while attending the University of Tennessee (UT). "Many of the members who supported me thirty years ago are back in the choir," Ronald said. Not only does Ronald have ties to the church, he has known Clapp's Chapel's pastor, Rev. Sam Johnson, since the late seventies. As a trombone player in high school, Ronald played with a group for Easter at First Lutheran Church in Knoxville while Sam Johnson was the choir director at the church. While in college at UT, this pastor and choir director both played in the UT band. Rev. Johnson, a trumpeter, was featured in an earlier Focus column. Ronald graduated from Gibbs High School in 1978 with Rev. Johnson's brother-in-law, Kerry Hackney.

Ronald Rogers invites everyone to come and join the Christmas celebration as they practice on Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. and present the program on Sunday, December 22, at 11:00 a.m. "Under Rogers' leadership, the choir has doubled," Dave Wright told me. "It's like getting free singing lessons!" I wonder if the pastor and choir director might even bring out those beautiful brass instruments and treat the congregation to a special rendition of "Silent Night." Come and celebrate Christmas in a special way this year---at the Chapel. You will be blessed!

AN OPEN LETTER FROM FRED O. BERRY, III



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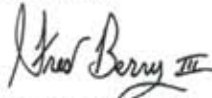
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# BACK TO BACK!



PHOTO BY CLARK WORMSLEY

Todd Kelly Jr. (6), Andrew Campbell (54), Johnny Chunn (1) and other members of the Webb School team celebrate the Spartans' TSSAA Division II-A state championship with the hoisting of the gold football Thursday night at Tennessee Tech's Tucker Stadium in Cookeville.

## Webb takes Division II Class A Title

By Alex Norman

David Meske has been the head coach at Webb School for the past 29 years.

On Thursday, December 5th, Meske added to his impressive resume.

Webb beat St. George's Independent School 28-14 to win the Division II Class A championship. It is the sixth state championship for Meske and the seventh in Spartans history.

It is also the Spartans second straight championship and fourth since 2009.

The game could not have started any better for the Spartans. The defense forced a three and out and then future Tennessee Vol Todd Kelly Jr. took the pitch on the left side, found a hole up the middle, gave a stiff arm to St. George's Derek Dixon,

and was gone. 62 yards later, Webb had a 6-0 lead with 9:26 to go in the first quarter.

On the Spartans third offensive possession, Kelly once again found the end zone. This time it was a 27 yard run to the end zone. Kelly also caught a pass from quarterback Johnny Chun for the two point conversion, and it was 14-0 Webb with 3:13 to go in the first.

At this point it looked like the Spartans were going to run away and coast to victory. But the Gryphons (9-4) had other ideas.

With just over a minute left in the first half and St. George's trailing 14-6, the Gryphons went for the big play on 3rd and 10. Dean Brown looked for Corey Jones down the left sideline, who was covered tightly by Wrinn Alexander. But the pass and the catch were perfect. Jones shook

free from Alexander, and the 74 yard play resulted in a touchdown.

They picked up the two point conversion as well, and the game was tied at 14 at intermission.

Most of the third quarter was a defensive battle. And with less than four minutes to go in the third, Webb senior Matthew Melton made the biggest play of the game, jumping in front of a pass by Brown, and making a key interception inside his own 10 yard line.

From there, momentum would be on the Spartans side.

Webb (11-2) would go on a seven play, 66 yard drive that lasted just over three minutes. Robby Strachan would carry four times for 26 yards. Kelly would get two carries for 14 yards, and Melton finished it off

**Continue on page 2**

## Oh Henry! West loses 28-27 in state thriller

By Steve Williams

It looked like West High School kicker Manny Ruiz might get a chance to redeem himself in the final minute of the TSSAA Class 5A state football championship game.

A defensive play by Henry County's Jeremiah Godbott, however, prevented the opportunity and the unbeaten Patriots from northwest Tennessee held on for a 28-27 win on a cold Friday night at Tennessee Tech's Tucker Stadium in Cookeville. It was the second state crown they've earned in three years against a Knox County opponent.

For West, which was playing in the state finals for the first time in school history, it was a heartbreaking loss. Coach Scott Cummings' Rebels (13-2) rode a 12-game win streak into the title game.

"A great game," said Henry County Coach James Counce. "Two great teams. It's a shame someone had to lose."

**Continue on page 2**

## Lady Falcons get well against Carter 75-27

By Ken Lay

Fulton High School's girls basketball team had to enter Friday night's District 3-AA contest at Carter in a foul mood as the Lady Falcons dropped their league opener at home to Gatlinburg-Pittman 72 hours earlier.

Fulton, however, got well in a hurry in smashed the Lady Hornets 75-27 at Carter's Jim Williams Gymnasium in Strawberry Plains.

The Lady Falcons (5-1 overall, 1-1 in District 3-AA) scored the first six points of the game and never looked back. It was apparent early that Fulton wasn't going to have a repeat of Tuesday night's performance.

The Lady Falcons started fast and never took their foot off the throttle. They just kept building their advantage. They opened a 25-4 lead by first quarter's end. Fulton led 45-10 at halftime and opened a 67-21 margin after three quarters with some reserves receiving some valuable playing time throughout the lopsided game.

Fulton used a stifling pressure defense and converted several Carter turnovers into easy transition baskets. The Lady Hornets never scored more than nine points in any quarter.

The Lady Falcons had three players score in double figures.

Freshman KeKe McKinney scored 12 of her game-high 18 points before halftime. Moneisha Thomas added 12 points and Tyanna Castle finished with 10. Freshman Quay Hines had nine points while Elicia Faulkner and Brittani Whiteside scored eight points each.

Che' Davis and Kezia Wyatt scored seven points each for the Lady Hornets.

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The Vols have their orders. There won't be a fourth 5-7 season in a row.

Pridemore (8 solo stops, 2 assists) and Cody Underwood (5 solo stops, 4 assists) led West in tackles.

Kelly and Melton are graduating... but Meske and the program they leave behind are already looking towards 2014...

# Webb takes Division Class A Title

*Continued from page 1*

A 26 yard end around to the left. And with 38 seconds to go in the third quarter, Webb was back in the end zone. The Gryphons weren't done. They moved the football into Webb's territory, and faced 4th and 1 from the Spartans' 45. The give was to Clay Crenshaw. Brant Mitchell raced to the right side of the line, forcing Crenshaw to the left side, where Gage Thompson was waiting here to meet him.

At 8:58 to go, the Spartans started their drive that would wrap up the championship. It started with a 26 yard run from Kelly, and ended with an eight yard run by Kelly, leaving 28 seconds remaining. Webb led the Spartans to victory.

And that would be your last look at Todd Kelly Jr. who won the Division I MVP thanks to his 10 touchdowns, 79 yards and three touchdowns. He also threw Melton picked up the Division I MVP honors with his key play on the 4th and 4.5 tackles.

Kelly and Melton are both seniors, but Meske and the players behind them leave behind are already looking towards 2014...

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PHOTO BY DAN ANDREWS

**GOING FOR GOLD AGAIN.** A pep rally/sendoff was held at Fulton High Friday afternoon for the school's undefeated football team. Cold, rainy weather moved the event inside the gymnasium, where members of Head Coach Rob Black's squad are recognized on the basketball court. The defending champion Falcons were scheduled to play Giles County in the TSSAA Class 4A state finals Saturday afternoon at Tennessee Tech in Cookeville. Results of that game were not known at press time, but The Knoxville Focus will have coverage of Fulton's bid for a state title and perfect season in its December 16 issue.

## Beavers overcome deficit to hammer Halls

By Ken Lay

Karns knocked the Halls High School boys basketball from the ranks of the unbeaten Tuesday night.

The Beavers overcame a sluggish start to rout the host Red Devils 70-45 and hand Halls, which had recently won the Admiral Thanksgiving Tournament, its first loss of the 2013-2014 season.

The Beavers (6-2 overall, 3-0 in District 3-AAA) may have won their first game at Halls in five years but the first few chapters of this saga belonged to the Red Devils (6-1, 2-1).

Halls came out hot and opened a 14-4 lead early in the first quarter before the Beavers answered and pulled to within 20-16 by the end of the frame.

"This was hard for both teams because we had both played several games in the last few days and then you come back

to school and have to get right back in the district," Karns coach Lee Henson said. "I think when our second unit came in, they gave us a lift.

"Going into the season, I thought depth might be one of our strengths and those guys really need to keep coming in and playing the way they did tonight."

The Beavers also got a big boost from senior Devin Sibley. Sibley scored 27 points, including 11 in the first quarter to keep Karns within striking distance.

"Sib kept us in it and he has that capability," Henson said.

Karns weathered the storm and stepped up its defense. Halls, which scored 20 points over the first eight minutes, managed to net just 25 in the final three quarters.

"Give Karns credit. They came in here and took care

**Continue on page 4**

## Hornets run past undermanned Falcons 93-76

By Ken Lay

When Joby Boydstone took over as Carter High School's boys basketball coach he promised that the Hornets would shoot and score in bunches.

He lived up to that promise Friday night as the Hornets notched a 93-76 District 3-AA home victory over Fulton at the Jim Williams Gymnasium.

The win helped Carter keep its perfect

record intact.

"We're building a philosophy and that is 'it's not about me, it's about the C,'" Boydstone said. "We lost focus a couple of times against Fulton and we got a little selfish.

"But once we started playing team ball, we were able to take control of the game against a good Fulton team. We want to be where Fulton is. They've earned it and we want that kind

of respect. We respect everybody and we fear no one. We're taking things one game at a time."

The Falcons (2-2 overall, 0-2 in the district) opened an 18-14 lead early before the Hornets (5-0, 2-0) rallied to take a 41-35 lead by halftime of this shootout.

Carter used a 28-13 third-quarter run to blow open a close game against the Falcons, who were without five

players who were still playing football.

"They play fast and we knew that a problem for us tonight was going to be depth," Fulton coach Jody Wright said. "We didn't have our football guys. We're missing about five.

"I think the key to the game was that Carter played two or three steps faster than we did all night. The played well. They shot well. They shot a lot of 3s but they also hit a lot of them."

That might've been the understatement of the early season. The Hornets buried nine 3-point shots en route to nabbing a crucial early-season victory in lopsided fashion.

Jordan Bowden, who scored a game-high 23 points, hit four long-range jumpers (including three after halftime). Tucker Greene (21 points) hit two 3-pointers. Blake Dutton, Toy'Shaun Winton and Austin

Hayes each hit a trey.

John Woodruff also had 14 points for Carter, which led by as many as 26 points and had a 69-48 lead at the end of the third quarter.

Fulton had three players score in double figures. Darius Filer led the way with 20 points. Kelvin Jackson had 18, including 12 in the first half and Joe Kimber finished with 13 for the Falcons, who never led after the opening frame.

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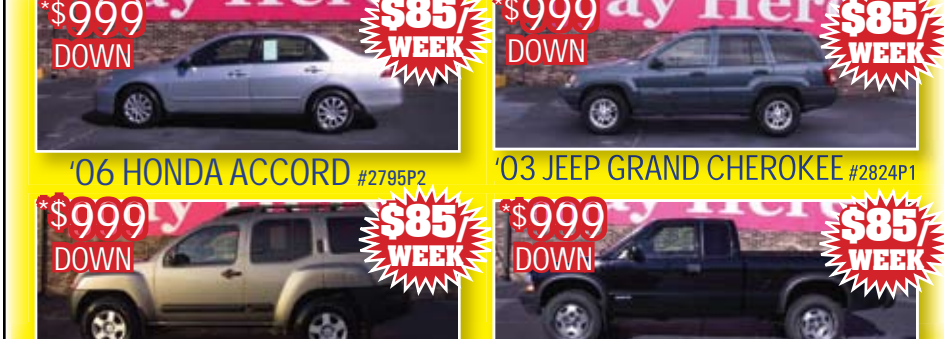
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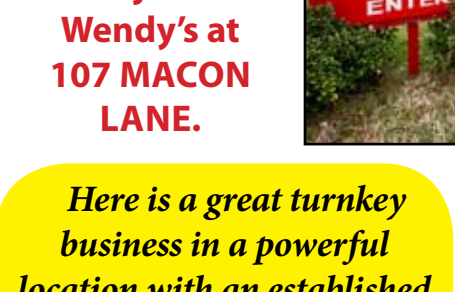
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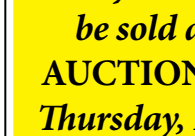
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# Balanced offense spells victory for Lady Devils

By Ken Lay

Halls High School's girls basketball team got its offense into gear Tuesday night and the result was a 65-31 District 3-AAA home victory over Karns. "Our defense was average," Lady Devils' coach Randy Moore said. "But our offense was good. "Our girls executed and they got good looks. Even on the shots they missed, they got good looks." The Lady Devils (4-3 overall, 3-0 in the district) wasted little time seizing control of the contest. They scored 19 first-quarter points and received a pair of

early 3-point shots from center Sarah Miller, an unlikely source. "We got a couple of 3-pointers from Sarah early and she doesn't take a lot of 3s and [guard] Daniele Beeler got heated up," Moore said. Beeler provided the biggest offensive punch for Halls on this night. She buried five 3-pointers and scored a game-high 21 points against the Lady Beavers (0-7, 0-3). Halls opened a 19-8 lead in the first quarter and never looked back. The Lady Devils extended their advantage to 33-14 by halftime and 48-24 by the end of the third quarter.

Beeler led the way for Halls but she got plenty of help from the Lady Devils' balanced attack. Lauren Bilitier scored 14 points for the home team. Katelyn Cantrell added eight points while Miller, Taylor Moon and Rachel Drumheller finished with six points each. "Our girls came out and handled their business," Moore said. Amonie Yarbrough led Karns with 10 points and Savannah Pope added eight. Lindsey Hitch, who finished with six points for the Lady Beavers and had half of Karns High's eight first-quarter points.



PHOTO BY DAN ANDREWS.

Halls High's Taylor Moon shoots a free throw in Tuesday night's game against Karns. Moon scored six points in the Lady Devils' 65-31 win over the Lady Beavers.

## Beavers overcome deficit to hammer Halls

Cont. from page 3

of their business," Halls coach Randy Moore said. "They did a good job on defense.

"They switched on picks and we settled for bad shots. We didn't execute and we didn't execute. After we went up 14-4, we shot a poor percentage."

Karns used a 21-6 second-quarter run to seize control of the contest and once the Beavers rallied, Halls never really got back into the game.

The Red Devils pulled to within 38-32 early in the third quarter on a 3-point shot by Braxton Moore and a traditional 3-point play by Kenny White, who converted a field goal, was fouled and converted the subsequent free throw.



PHOTO BY DAN ANDREWS.

Halls High's J.J. Corvette (23) dribbles into the front court and prepares to make a pass to teammate Braxton Moore. Karns downed the Red Devils 70-45 to hand Halls its first loss of the season.

But the Red Devils couldn't get any closer as the Beavers closed the frame on a 15-2 run to take a 53-34 lead and all but put things away.

White scored 18 points

to lead Halls while Kavon Johnson-Rivers provided the other half of a one-two punch for Karns with 14 points.

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## The Gift of Touch

I've observed that as I get older I like change less. I'm not the first person to make this observation, but the pace of change is like no other in my lifetime. For the first twenty-five years of my life I didn't pay a lot of attention to politics or world events. I do remember the Cuban Missile Crisis because my parents took me out of school, and together we filled our bathtub with water in preparation for an expected nuclear attack. And I remember the Tet Offensive and Walter Cronkite reporting on the evening news that the Viet Nam War was lost – and so it was. During the last thirty-five years I've refocused my attention beyond my

immediate horizon and conclude nothing is like it was when I came of age. In medical school I was taught the art of physical examination and diagnosis. Everyone studied the classic textbook, DeGowin's Diagnostic Examination, which I still own. I found my old friend as I was emptying my office book shelves. The notes in the margins were still there though faded by time. You see, there were no CAT Scanners or panels of blood tests when I began a career in internal medicine, and you needed all your observational and clinical skills when you and your sick patient were alone in the middle of the night. There is a famous painting called

The Doctor that hangs in the Tate Gallery in London. It depicts a house call, a sick child and things aren't going well. The doctor sits like Rodin's sculpture, The Thinker, studying the child and hoping for inspiration. Similarly, I've often corrected young doctors too quick with the results of an echocardiogram (ultrasound of the heart) before describing their patient's heart sounds. My advice was to hone their clinical skills because sometimes that's all you've got in the middle of the night. I have averaged 4000 patient visits a year for the last forty years. That's a lot of heart and belly examinations and a huge comparative data base. Some years ago a patient presented to my office with what sounded like a viral syndrome and a secondary sinus infection. I did the necessary examination of her ears, nose and throat and listened to her heart and lungs. Because she was young she seldom saw me for care, choosing instead to see her OB-GYN. Perhaps it was a gut feeling (women have intuition!) or defensive medicine that made me examine

her belly and discover the mass. Fortunately, her kidney cancer was discovered before it had spread and she was cured by surgery after her sinus infection was treated. The lesson – it takes so little to be thorough. Over the years I have led numerous medical missions in Central America. In the mountains of Guatemala there are no CAT scanners or blood tests, and the only technology is your stethoscope. When I was in Medical School the TV program MASH was popular, especially with young medical students. I thought I wanted to be a chest surgeon like Hawkeye Pierce who seemed to thrive in the crucible of trauma surgery. The Guatemalan bush is more primitive than Hawkeye's Korea of the 1950s, yet life and death is far more real. My directive for the Americans on our mission team was that care is both a noun and a verb, but the noun is only possible if the verb comes first. Every patient had the stethoscopic symbol of American technology applied to their chest as the gift of touch and an instrument of care.

I sometimes feel that my stethoscope and my touch are no longer necessary in the New Order. These days, doctors complete patient records by checking electronic boxes on a computer screen. The record was perfect for the patient I saw last year. Her previous doctor's examination and Pap smear did not mention the mass in her belly the size of a football. No one in the operating room believed the twenty-two pound tumor had materialized in six months. You be the judge of competency and a system that focuses on record keeping rather than care. I'll admit that I've quit looking at patient's retinas as part of my regular exam. Perhaps I'm becoming specialized like so many other doctors, picking an organ to treat rather than a patient. Does it matter that doctors don't routinely check their patients for hernias? I guess we should wait for a bulge in the groin or pain or an obstructed bowel. Perhaps the thorough exam I've done on patients all my life is not unnecessary or "cost effective" in the

New Order. But how can you measure care or the value of touch? Some say it's a well-documented medical record with all the appropriate screening tests ordered by surrogates; I say it is a verb that comes from the heart and is measured by a hand that is held and a pulse that is felt. Emily Dickinson once said that "Hope is the thing with feathers – that perches in the soul..." I might substitute the word care for hope. Two thousand years ago The Master said, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick" (Matthew 9:12). The New Order has turned the wisdom of the ages upside down and has institutionalized testing in the hopes of eventually reducing costs. What happens when all the money goes for fabulously expensive mandated screening tests and there's nothing left over for the care of the old or sick? Perhaps someone in the media should ask Obama.

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

## Vegan Supper Club to Feature 'Forks Over Knives' Film

The Knoxville Vegan Supper Club will meet on Sunday, December 15, 2013, at 5 p.m. at the Knoxville First Seventh-day Adventist Church, 3611 Kingston Pike, Knoxville, TN 37919. Attendees will enjoy a holiday-themed, plant-based meal and see live food demonstrations. A public viewing of the food film "Forks Over Knives" will take place, followed by a question and answer period with Dr. Daniel Castro, a local physician specializing in internal medicine. The film "Forks Over Knives" takes a critical look at the consequences of Western dietary habits. It features well-respected researchers and medical doctors, including, Dr. T.

Colin Campbell, Cleveland Clinic's Dr. Caldwell Esselstyn, Dr. Neal Barnard, and Junshi Chen. The film provides helpful information for anyone concerned about their health. The event is open to the public. There is no entrance fee but a suggested donation of \$10 per person can be made on site. Registration is limited to 50 participants and the registration deadline is Thursday, December 12, 2013. For more information and to register, visit [knoxvillein-step.com](http://knoxvillein-step.com) or contact Kimberly Crider at 865-264-3894. The Knoxville Vegan Supper Club is sponsored by InStep for Life Health Ministries and the Knoxville First Seventh-day Adventist Church.

## Rural/Metro EMS general manager named paramedic of the year

John Brinkley was recently named the Region II EMS Directors Association's "Paramedic of the Year" at the organization's annual conference in Gatlinburg, Tenn., for his exemplary service as a Knox County and U.S. Army combat medic. "Brinkley has been a paramedic with Rural/Metro for more than 20 years, and because of his exemplary leadership skills and emergency training, was recently promoted to head our Knox County EMS division," said Rural/Metro Regional Director Jerry Harnish. "Through his military service record and his commitment to clinical excellence, Brinkley serves his country and his community selflessly and is highly deserving of this

recognition." Brinkley has served in the Army Reserves since 1991, and retired in June 2013 from the 489th Civil Affairs Battalion in Knoxville, Tenn. Brinkley has completed tours in Kuwait/Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom and in Afghanistan during Operation Enduring Freedom. Brinkley received a Bronze Star and Combat Medic Badge during his service overseas. Brinkley was nominated for the "Paramedic of the Year" award by colleague and fellow serviceman Chris McLain, clinical care manager at Rural/Metro. McLain said, "John Brinkley is an excellent employee, great follower, great leader, great paramedic and friend. Without reservation and

for these and many untold reasons, John is deserving of Region II EMS Directors Paramedic of the Year Award." In 22 years at Rural/Metro, Brinkley has held the positions of EMT, paramedic, field training officer, field supervisor, training supervisor and quality assurance/quality improvement and disaster planning, before his recent promotion to oversee operations for Rural/Metro's EMS division. He is a certified instructor in pre-hospital trauma life support and maintains current life support training in basic, advanced and pediatric advanced. The Tennessee Region II EMS Directors Association is a non-profit organization chartered by the state of Tennessee and



John Brinkley

composed of ambulance service, emergency medical service, rescue, aeromedical and hospital agencies located in East Tennessee. The organization sponsors an annual medical symposium providing up-to-date medical training for EMTs, paramedics, nurses, physicians and other allied medical professionals.

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# Faith



**Eusebia Presbyterian Church.** Choirs, soloists, and congregation of historic (founded 1786) Eusebia Presbyterian Church join in a traditional "Service of Lessons and Carols" Sunday, Dec. 15, at 10:45 a.m. Christmas Eve "Candle and Carol Eucharist," with Holy Communion open to the baptized of any Christian tradition, is at 6 p.m. Music starts at 5:30. The annual Christmas party for all area children is Dec. 14, 10 a.m. to noon. Begun by Ulster-Scots pioneers before Tennessee statehood, the church and even older graveyard are located on U.S. 411, between Maryville and Seymour, corner of Burnett Station Rd. For further information, call 982-6332, or visit [www.eusebiachurch.org](http://www.eusebiachurch.org).

## Church Happenings

### Fountain City Presbyterian Church

Fountain City Presbyterian Church, 500 Hotel Avenue, announces events and services for Advent. As we prepare and await the coming celebration of the birth of Jesus, we invite the community to come for programs of fun, fellowship, and worship. The children's Christmas program will be presented at our Welcome on Wednesday program, Wednesday night December 11. The Welcome on Wednesday program will begin with a meal at 5:30 p.m. with the program to follow at 6:30. A special Yuletide Tales and Treats will be held Friday, December 20 in Fellowship Hall. Popcorn, a movie, pizza, hot chocolate and Christmas joy will be the program.

Sunday morning worship services during December are designed to help prepare for Christmas. Worship services at Fountain City Presbyterian during on December 15 and 22 will include Communion at both the 8:55 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. services. Christmas Eve brings us to special Christmas Eve

services. At 5:30 p.m. on Christmas Eve, a children's service will be held. Children will lead all parts of this worship service. Then at 7:00 p.m. a traditional candle light service with carols and Communion will be held.

### RIO Praise and Worship Center

RIO Praise and Worship Center will host a Ladies Christmas HAT-a-Braton on December 6 at 6 p.m. Special features will be speaker Wanda Keller and Psalmist Jeni Lee. RIO is located at 3702 Knox Lane, 37917. For information or RSVP, call (865)684-6055.

### Seymour United Methodist Church

The Youth will hold their first-ever Ugly Sweater Christmas Party on Sun., 12/15 at 5:30 p.m.; Youth will also do their "Dirty Santa" gift exchanging, so bring a wrapped gift of maximum value of \$10 for this fun event; Caroling (open to everyone) on Wed., 12/18 at 6:30 p.m.; Christmas Cantata on Sun., 12/22 at both worship services (see times above) and two candlelight

Christmas Eve Communion worship services on Tues., 12/24 at 7 p.m. and again at 11 p.m.

In addition, this Wednesday evening, Dec. 11th, following the regularly scheduled fellowship meal, beginning at 6:30 p.m., there will be the annual "Gifts for the Christ Child" celebration, with silent auction and the drawing for the gift baskets of various donated goodies and themes. All proceeds go to SUMC's Faith Promise Missions Fund.

### Wallace Memorial Baptist Church

Wallace Memorial Baptist Church, 701 Merchant Drive, in Knoxville will be presenting Celebrate Christmas 2013 - The 40th Anniversary of The Living Christmas Tree on Dec. 14 and 15 at 3:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. each day. Tickets are FREE and may be requested online at [www.wmbc.net](http://www.wmbc.net) or picked up in person at the church office during business hours. WMBC's first Living Christmas Tree was in 1973. It is the oldest and the longest running Living Christmas Tree Presentation in East Tennessee.

## What has gone wrong

Perhaps you were shocked, like me, when you heard about the Alabama fan that shot a relative after the Alabama loss to Auburn last week because they didn't appear to be upset enough over the loss. When did sports become about life and death? How frightening to think you can't enjoy a game for what it is, two teams giving their all, and not worrying about getting killed because you are not upset enough when your team lost? What has gone wrong with us?

Well, believe it or not, the Bible tells us what has gone wrong. In fact, the Bible is written with four broad movements, and each movement addresses major questions people have about life. Movement one is "The Creation." We are told that God created everything in Genesis 1:1. Each world view attempts to answer this question but only one can be correct. The Bible tells us clearly that we are not products of some random process by which life came into existence. We were not seeded by some



**By Mark Brackney,**  
Minister of the  
Arlington Church  
of Christ

alien race. Life did not generate spontaneously by some cosmic goo. We were purposed by a Creator who loves His creation and desires an intimate relationship. So movement one answers the question "Where did we come from?"

Movement two is found in Genesis 3 - "The Fall." Due to sin, we live in a fallen world. As humans, we have all gone our own way, thinking we know better than God. Paul told the Romans that "all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God" (3:23). No one is righteous by their own works and merit. Once sin entered this world, disease, wickedness, and death came in short order. Cancer, heart disease, addictions of all kinds, strife, murder, injustice, poverty, natural disasters, and all manner of bugs invaded our planet. I hate bugs. This movement answers the question, "Why is there evil in the world?" Movement three in the Bible is - "The Gospel." God sent good news in the form of Jesus Christ. Jesus came

to live out what God's intent was from the beginning. Jesus' ministry is a picture of the coming new heaven and earth, where there is no longer disease and death, food for all, and justice and peace prevails. Jesus ushers in the age of the kingdom where glimpses of the future break out throughout the world. Sins can now be washed away by the blood of Christ for those who put their faith in Christ, repent of sins, and are washed in baptism. Christians continue to walk by faith by doing good works and share the good news with others. The third movement addresses the question, "What is the solution to all the problems in the world?" The answer is Jesus.

The fourth movement is "The New Heaven and Earth." We are given glimpses in the Bible about our eternal future, and it is going to be amazing. The Bible tells us about both the judgment the lost will face as well as the judgment of victory for the saved and the rewarding of good works. This movement answers the question, "What happens after I die?"

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865-546-0001

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.  
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Evening Worship - 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday Bible Study - 6:30 p.m.

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3:00 P.M. & 6:00 P.M.

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Daughters of the American Revolution meeting

In the spirit of the holidays, the Samuel Frazier Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution will honor their heritage as two ladies reach a milestone for their years of membership. The focus will also be on the future as new members are welcomed. This will be the 62nd Anniversary of the Chapter. The December 21 (Saturday) meeting will be held at 11:00 a.m. at the home of Treasurer, Sharon "Sam" Wyrosdick. The program will be presented by Jim Cundall, Flight Coordinator, Honor Air Knoxville. There will be no meeting in January and the next meeting will be on February 15, 2014. Details will be announced in January. Guests are always welcome. For further information regarding this meeting, please contact chapter Registrar Martha Kroll at (865) 603-4655.

## Daughters of the Confederacy meeting

The Captain W. Y. C. Hannum Chapter #1881, United Daughters of the Confederacy will meet at the Old Gray Cemetery in Knoxville on December 22 at 2:00 p.m., in commemoration of the birthday of Captain W.Y.C. Hannum. Members will gather at the gravesite to lay a wreath. Visitors are welcome to attend. For more information, please contact Charlotte Miller, (865)448-6716.

## Fontinalis Club Meeting

Fontinalis Club will meet on Thursday, December 12, 2013 at Central Baptist Church, 5364 N. Broadway. Board meeting at 9:30 a.m., Social time at 10 a.m. The general meeting will begin at 10:30. The program will be President's Recognition, honoring all Past Presidents, followed by a Musical program by the Mountain Breeze Quartet, with Judy Linn, Fuliva Galli, Anna Miller and Belinda Price.

## Grief Support Group

UT Hospice Adult Grief Support Group is for any adult who is suffering loss. The group meets the first and third Tuesday of every month from 5:00 - 6:30 p.m. Meetings are held in the UT Hospice office at 2270 Sutherland Ave. A light supper is served. For more information or to reserve your spot, please call Brenda Fletcher, Bereavement Coordinator at (865) 544-6277.

## Heiskell Community Center

The Heiskell Community Center, located at 9420 Heiskell Road in Heiskell, will hold its Annual Seniors Christmas

Party on Thursday, December 12 from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. There will not be a speaker this month. Seniors that wish to participate in the gift exchange should bring a wrapped \$5.00 gift marked for a man or woman. Lunch served at noon with bingo following at 1 p.m. Bring a dessert and a friend. For more information call Janice White at 548-0326.

## Knox County Democratic Women's Meeting

Established in 1928, the Knox County Democratic Women are the oldest county Democratic Women's club in the United States. They meet the second Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m. at Shoney's on Western Avenue in Knoxville. New members are always welcome! Call 742-8234 for more information.

## North Knoxville Business and Professional December Meeting

This month's NKBPA meeting will be held at 7:45 a.m. on Friday, December 13, 2013 at O'Connor Senior Citizens center, Winona & 5th Avenue.

Breakfast will be donated by Your NKBPA. Join us for great networking, delicious breakfast, and fun, festive holiday activities with a Holiday Performance by Scott Warwick. Members are asked to bring door prizes/gifts to play a fun, "Dirty Santa" game. Only those bringing a gift will be able to participate so make a note now so you can join the gift frenzy!

## UT Hospice seeks volunteers

UT Hospice, serving patients and families in Knox and 15 surrounding counties, conducts ongoing orientation sessions for adults (18 and older) interested in becoming volunteers with our program. No medical experience is required. Training is provided. For more information call Penny Sparks or Sarah Palma, Volunteer Coordinators at (865)544-627

## Veteran's Benefits Lunch and Learn

Tom Humphries from Knox County Veterans Services will provide information on Veteran's Administration "Improved Pension Benefit" with Aid and Attendance for wartime Veteran's and spouses of wartime Veterans on January 10 at 12:30 p.m. at the Halls Senior Center, 4405 Crippen Road.

Bring a brown bag lunch and stop in and listen to the presentation. Determine if you or a family member are eligible for this important benefit and where you can go for assistance. There will be a Q&A session after the presentation. Please RSVP at 922-0416 by January 7 for planning purposes.

## Spiced Raisin Mini Muffins

1 cup sugar  
1 cup chopped raisins  
1 cup water  
1/2 cup butter  
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon  
1/2 teaspoon ground cloves  
2 cups all-purpose flour  
1 teaspoon baking soda  
1/2 teaspoon salt  
1 cup chopped walnuts

## GLAZE:

1 cup confectioners' sugar  
1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract  
1 to 2 tablespoons milk



In a saucepan, combine the sugar, raisins, water, butter, cinnamon and cloves. Bring to a boil over medium heat, stirring occasionally. Remove from the heat; cool to room temperature. In a bowl, combine the flour, baking soda and salt. Add raisin mixture; mix well. Stir in walnuts. Fill greased or paper-lined miniature muffin cups two-thirds full. Bake at 350 for 12-16 minutes or until a toothpick comes out clean. Cool for 5 minutes before removing from pans to wire racks. For glaze, combine the confectioners' sugar, vanilla and enough milk to achieve desired consistency. Drizzle over cooled muffins.

# CLASSIFIEDS

## PUBLIC NOTICE

### PUBLIC NOTICE:

**PUBLIC NOTICE: Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization - Executive Board Meeting, December 18, 2013.**

The Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) Executive Board will meet on Wednesday, December 18, at 9 a.m. in the Small Assembly Room of the City/County Building, 400 Main Street, Knoxville, TN. Topics to be considered: A Public Hearing on the Proposed Program of Projects (POP) Funded by Fiscal Year 2013 Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5307 Urbanized Area Formula Transit Grant funds and Section 5339 Bus and Bus Facilities Grant funds, Consideration of a Resolution to Amend the FY 2014-2017 Transportation Improvement Program (FTA Section 5307), Multimodal Grant Projects to be Submitted to TDOT, Review of the Annual Listing of Projects for FY 2013, Presentation on a Maryville to Townsend Greenway Concept; and other business.

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

## NEIGHBORHOOD SALES

**KNOXVILLE CHRISTMAS FAIR**  
**December 14**  
**10am - 7pm**  
**Chilhowee Park**  
**Jacob's Building**  
Photos with Santa, over 50 vendors, Little Ponderosa Petting Zoo, Tupperware, Candy By Roe, Tinkers Trinkets, Scentsy, Tr Dreams, Avocare, Shadow Art, Intinals Inc., The Pearl Rose, Pampered Chef, Avon, Thirty One, Seraph Jewelry, Donation Center for new, unwrapped toys for Christmas with the kids and Salvation Army TN Mountain Wrestling @8pm  
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