

Judge Wimberly receives prestigious honor

By Tasha Mahurin Tasha@knoxfocus.com

Knox County Circuit Court Judge Harold Wimberly Jr. received the Bill Williams Service Award for outstanding achievement in the area of adoption services last week from the Department of Child Services for his commitment, dedication, and service to assisting the department in finding adoptive families for children in full guardianship of the state.

Judge Harold Wimberly, Jr. is a Knoxville native and has been a General Sessions or Circuit Court judge for the past 39 years. He graduated from West High School and attended the University of Tennessee and the University Tennessee College of Law. Wimberly went on to serve as a General Sessions judge from 74'-78'. He was later appointed by former Governor Ned McWherter to circuit court clerk and has been re-elected to that position four times.

During his tenure as a Continue on page 2

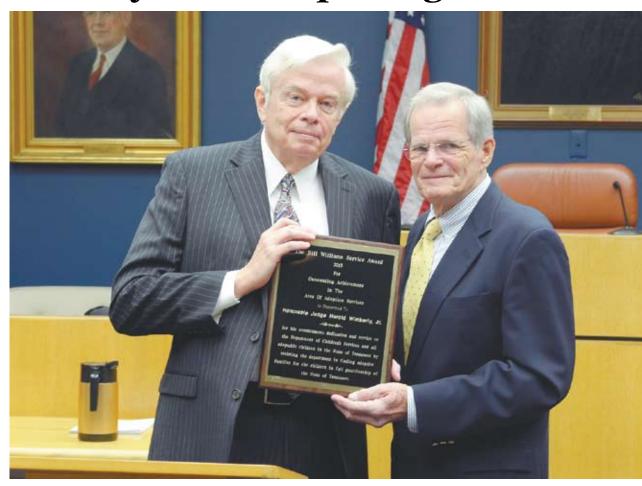


PHOTO BY JOHN GUSTIN.

Knox County Circuit Court Judge Harold Wimberly received the Bill Williams Service Award for outstanding achievement in the area of adoption services last week. Wimberly received the award for his commitment, dedication, and service to assisting the department in finding adoptive families for children in full guardianship of the state. The award is presented annually by the Department of Children's Services. The Honorable Harold Wimberly (left) is pictured with Bill Williams (right).

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

Survey conducted

November 26, 2013.

Being Lincolns



Parking Garage, **Pensions, Billboards By Mike Steely**

Steelym@knoxfocus.com

The demolition of the Pryor Brown parking garage, built in the 1920s, to make way for a block-long street level parking lot was rejected by City Council last week.

Royal Properties was appealing a Metropolitan Planning Commission rejection. A local petition to save the multi-story garage and objections by Knox Heritage may save the structure. The old parking facility, located on the corner of West Church and Market, may be one of the oldest such buildings in the nation.

FOCUS Weekly Poll*

In your opinion, should the **Affordable Care Act require** companies to cover contraceptives for their employees with health insurance even if the use of contraceptives is against the employees' religious beliefs? YES 32.72% NO 67.28%

PHOTO BY MIKE STEELY.

Tom and Sue Wright as Abe and Mary Lincoln appeared at Fort Dickerson recently, only one of the many public appearances the couple make locally and around the country.

By Mike Steely steelym@knoxfocus.com

A suggestion from his grandson prompted Thomas Wright to become Abraham Lincoln.

Or at least take on the Lincoln character. And now the Oak Ridge man, who is a facility supervisor for an engineering and construction

special events, in schools, and just in Kentucky. We used to go to the about anywhere he's asked. His wife, Sue, thought that Mary Todd Lincoln should be represented also, and now she takes that part.

an event is memorable.

"My wife and I are both from the

company, portrays Mr. Lincoln at area near the birthplace of Lincoln annual Lincoln Day festival where they have a Lincoln Look-Alike contest and he (his grandson) would go with us. He assumed that I knew Seeing the two of them together at about Lincoln so we started getting ready to do what my grandson asked.

Continue on page 3

Arthur Seymour, Jr., and representatives of the owners, Royal Properties, told the council the building is "beyond repair," citing the age of the building, the concrete deterioration and a hole in the roof.

Kim Trent, executive director of Knox Heritage, said the garage is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Sites and developer David Dewhirst said that the garage could be restored and urged the council to reject the appeal.

Councilman Marshall Stair called for no motion after saying the garage's condition was simply about the "neglect" of keeping up repairs.

Councilman Dan Brown said he had visited the garage and wants to see it preserved.

The Pryor Brown parking garage was bought by the federal government years ago with the idea of demolishing it and building a federal courthouse. When another site became available it was sold to the present owners in 1995.

Stair said the multi-story structure fits well within the collection of historic buildings downtown, and offers more parking than a parking lot.

"This building defines that street. There's something unique about it," he said, adding that the demolition of the building and a block-long lot would be like "missing teeth in a beautiful smile."

Councilman Duane Grieve asked how much it would cost to restore the garage and called the condition of the building and the request to remove it "demolition by neglect."

<u>Continue on page 2</u>

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PAGE A2 The Knoxville FOCUS **Focus on the Law Voter Identification Act**

The

In 2008, the United States Supreme Court upheld a voter identification law passed in Indiana requiring voters at the polls to present either a United States-issued or an Indiana-issued form of photo iden-

tification to vote. The case was Crawford v. Marion County Election Board, 553 U.S. 181 (2008) where the plaintiff challenged the law's constitutionality as restriction on the right to vote. In a 6 to 3 decision, the Supreme Court recognized that there is "no question about the legitimacy or importance of the State's interest in counting only the votes of eligible voters." Indiana had experienced cases of in-person voter impersonation at polling places as well as voter registration rolls with a large number of names of persons



Frankenberg, Attorney at Law who were either deceased or no longer lived in Indiana. Court further found that the burden placed on eligible voters was not substantial as the

and going to the Bureau of Motor Vehicles, gathering required documents and posing for a photograph is not a significant General Assembly passed a increase over the usual burdens of voting.

ID cards are free

Currently 34 states have passed voter identification laws. Several state voter identification laws are being challenged in court. Opponents of the laws call them racist efforts to suppress the votes of minorities and low-income Americans. The American Civil Liberties Union, among others, is challenging the law in Wisconsin as impacting the elderly

and low-income voters dis- away by election officials. proportionately. The trial is The Tennessee Supreme taking place in federal court this month. In Texas, challenges to the State's Voter Identification law are working their way through the courts. Since 2002, the Texas Attorney General's Office has prosecuted 50 cases of voter fraud which is a tiny number when compared to over 13 million eligible voters in 2012.

In 2011 the Tennessee law requiring voters to present government- issued photographic identification at the polls. This new law was challenged after the City of Memphis Public Library began issuing photo identification cards to its patrons. While the law allowed the acceptance of photo identification cards that had been issued by an entity of the State of Tennessee, the library-issued photo identification cards were turned

Court heard the case and ruled unanimously to uphold the Act. In April of this year, the General Assembly amended the Voter Identification Act to specifically exclude cards issued by municipal libraries as valid identification. This amendment codifies the decision by the Tennessee Supreme Court and suggests that our Voter Identification Act will be enforced by the courts.

The State's interest in ensuring voter confidence in the electoral process as well as its compelling interest in preventing voter fraud presently outweigh the burden imposed on voters by having to prove their identity at the polls. We will see in the next few months if any of the currently pending cases change the status of voter identification laws at the national level.

meeting.

Councilman Fin-

barr Saunders,

who initially introduced the motion

to approve on first

reading, pulled the

motion off the table

and Wallace moved

to postpone until

the members could

The city coun-

Parking Garage, Pensions, Billboards

Continued from page 1

With no motion to approve or disapprove, the idea of demolition failed.

The council also voted to give the mayor permission to establish rules and regulations for the operation of mobile food trucks in the city. The pilot program would be tweaked as it runs but could give the vendors expanded sites to operate downtown.

The council also postponed action amending the employee pension system. Kathy Aslinger told them the changes are required to meet Internal Revenue requirements and would include changes in the actuary table to calculate retirement benefits for employees who add a beneficiary.

Stair said the change in the calculation

Podiatrist-Foot Specialist

would increase the amount paid to retired employees a possible \$5 to \$7 million over the years. He asked if the change in calculation was required to meet the IRS regulations and Aslinger said, no, but would keep up with the actual cost and "correct the math."

Stair said he would not support that and, along with Councilman George Wallace, said

council in the proposal would not be and advertising structures in the regardreviewed for a decision at or before the ing height regulations.

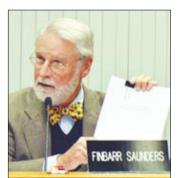


PHOTO BY DAN ANDREWS

review it. **Councilman Finbarr Saunders** at last week's City Council cil also postponed, meeting. until their Dec. 12

meeting, any disthe number of pages presented to the cussion dealing with signs, billboards



FOCUS Weekly Poll

December 2, 2013

In your opinion, should the Affordable **Care Act require companies to cover** contraceptives for their employees with health insurance even if the use of contraceptives is against the employees' religious beliefs?

	•		
Yes 🗾	32.72%		
No	67.28%		
By Age	Yes	No	Total
30-49	20.69%	79.31%	29
50-65	33.33%	66.67%	144
65+	33.98%	66.02%	206
Total	32.72%(1	24)67.28%(25	55)379
By Distric	x		
1	46.15%	53.85%	26
2	39.29%	60.71%	56
3	22.86%	77.14%	35
4	41.38%	58.62%	58
5	40.54%	59.46%	37
6	20.59%	79.41%	34
7	31.37%	68.63%	51
8	27.50%	72.50%	40
9	21.43%	78.57%	42
Total	32.72%(1	24)67.28%(25	55)379
By Gende	er		
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43% 78.57%	b 14
71% 66.29%	175
63% 67.37%	190
32.72%(124)67.28%(255)379	
	43% 78.57% 71% 66.29% 63% 67.37% 72%(124)67.28%

Survey conducted November 26, 2013.

Judge Wimberly receives prestigious honor

Cont. from page 1

circuit court judge, Wimberly became passionate about adoption. He has overseen 584 adoptionswhich led to 1,000 children being placed into homes. It is for his unwavering commitment to children that he was recognized with the Bill Williams Service Award.

seeing children placed into loving, forever homes," Wimberly's long time

clerk, Judy Moore, told The Focus.

In his spare time, Wimberly loves to travel and has been an avid photographer for the past 20 yearsdocumenting his travels throughout the United States and Europe. He is married and has one son, who is also a lawyer.

The Focus congratulates "He's passionate about him on a job well done in the service of local children.

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The popular Holiday Spectacular at Pellissippi State Community College features the talents of more than 140 Pellissippi State students and faculty in eight different musical ensembles, as well as other performers, such as these ballerinas from Holiday Spectacular 2012.

Popular Holiday Spectacular launches complimentary tickets to ensure seating

tain your hopes for a white Christmas at Pellissippi State Community College's hugely popular Holiday Spectacular musical concert, offered in two performances, 6 and 8 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 5.

Part of Pellissippi State's Music Concert Series, the Holiday Spectacular is free and the community is encouraged to attend.

Because space is limited, the college is asking that guests arrive 30 minutes before each performance to receive a complimentary ticket. Tickets will be issued at holiday music coupled with some

Enjoy holiday cheer and enter- the door to the first 485 guests, and having a ticket guarantees a seat.

The Holiday Spectacular, centered this year around the hopes of many East Tennesseans for a white Christmas, takes place in the Clayton Performing Arts Center on the Hardin Valley Campus. The concert features the talents of more than 140 Pellissippi State students and faculty in eight different musical ensembles.

"The choirs and instrumental ensembles will offer traditional

beautiful contemporary settings," said Bill Brewer, Music program coordinator.

"Besides the festive sounds of the season, the audience will experience a visual spectacle of lights and multimedia, along with graceful holiday dancers. Every audience member will leave the show with a taste of holiday cheer."

The Music Concert Series is part of The Arts at Pellissippi State, which brings to the community cultural activities ranging from music and theatre to international celebrations, lectures, and the fine arts.

While all events in the series are free, donations are accepted at the door for the Pellissippi State Foundation on behalf of the Music Scholarship fund.

For additional information about the Music Concert Series or The Arts at Pellissippi State, call (865) 694-6400 or visit www. pstcc.edu/arts. To request accommodations for a disability, contact the executive director of Human **Resources and Affirmative Action** at (865) 694-6607 or humanresources@pstcc.edu.

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Area Parades

Christmas from the East Parade

Saturday, December 14 3:00 p.m.

MLK Jr. Bvld. **Fountain City**

Optimist Parade

Saturday, December 7 10:00 a.m.

North Broadway and Tazewell Pike

Gibbs Christmas Parade Sunday, December 8

2:30 p.m. Gibbs Ruritan Park **Halls Christmas Parade**

Saturday, Dec. 7 6 p.m.

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

Karns Christmas Parade

Saturday, Dec. 7 10 a.m. Starts at Ingle's on Oak Ridge Hwy to Red Light at Walgreens and Hardee's

Powell Christmas Parade

December 07, 2013 5:00

Emory Road Seymour Christmas Parade

Saturday, December 14

3:00 p.m. Chapman Highway,

Seymour **WIVK Christmas Parade**

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

Rosie's World

is almost gone, and the mashed

potatoes and gravy are practically

demolished. Our day of thanks is

over--too quickly, it seems. The usual

thankful prayers have been uttered--

food, thanks for the helpers who had

forgone family and friends for a little

the impossibly unhappy souls of our

Besides the yearly thanksgiving

unselfish workers of the good?

while to cook and serve the homeless,

town. What would we do without these

prayers we yield, there are a few things

I am thankful for that perhaps pass by

without one noticing. For instance, after

the trees rid their limbs of their glorious

russet, golden and brown leaves, look

around! There is still a lot of greenery

thanks for family and friends and good

Well, the turkey

Giving thanks for the little things

> from other states arrive safely-and also give thanks when they arrive back home safely.

I mustn't forget the variety of seasonal programs on TV. The Christmas movies on the Hallmark and Family channels are thought-provoking and heart-throbbing. Also, there are the many holiday specials. No longer do we need to linger at the "Cops and Robber" shows (and that's on the evening news!), at least, for a while. And, thanks for the old, old Christmas movies, such as, "White Christmas", "Little Women" "Falling In Love", "A Christmas Carol", "It's A Wonderful Life," and "Miracle on Thirty-fourth Street." We know most of these movies by heart yet the season cannot pass without watching them one more time. They are a yearly repertoire that just can't be missed.

Being Lincolns

Cont. from page 1

Our first appearance was in 2009 in honor of Lincoln's 200th birthday," Wright said.

"We've appeared at the history center in Atlanta as well as a number of reenactments including Tunnel Hill, Ga., Cumberland Gap, the Ramsey House, Wild Cat Mountain, and Munfordville, Ky., " he said, adding that they have visited numerous schools in the Oak Ridge and Knoxville area, made appearances at the Museum of Appalachia and various civic events such as club meetings, boy scout meetings, local historv fairs and at Veteran Dav events and photos.

few years ago in Cumberland Gap, we played chess for some photos," he said. He said he met several people portraying the Confederate President and some became friends and compared their experience with his, but Wright said he met a couple of them who were not so friendly. "In fact, one pulled a gun on me! I'm not sure he was kidding," he said.

The Wrights' Abe and Mary appeared recently at Fort Dickerson during a reenactment there and drew lots of attention.

"Normally we do not We look forward to continucharge schools, but for ing our efforts to education reenactments where we have to travel very far we usually ask for a hotel be history," he concluded. provided and maybe \$200. Usually, if it's close to home tacting Tom and Sue Wright and our schedule is open we like to go and just visit with the public and we generally do not charge unless we are asked to speak," he said. Wright said they have visited many of the Lincoln colnoakridgetn.com. sites in Kentucky and Illinois.

"We recently made a trip "I met 'Jefferson Davis'a to Virginia and visited the Confederate White House in Richmond, where he visited as well as the Berkeley Plantation where Abe visited General McClellan early in the war," Wright said.

"We have not yet made it to Washington, D. C. but hope to in the next couple of years," he added.

"My wife and I consider it an honor and privilege to represent such important people in our history. We are members of the national organization, Association of Lincoln Presenters, and meet with fellow portrayers at an annual conference. our you people and encourage them to learn about our Anyone interested in conabout having Abe and Mary Lincoln visit their organization, event, or school should call them at 428-1680 or email them at thomaswright8@comcast. net. Their website is abelin-

left, especially in the mountains. The coniferous trees, holly bushes and perennial plants are there all year to help us while away the winter months.

As much as I dislike the rush of the Christmas season even before Thanksgiving, I am thankful for the riotous display, twinkling lights, moving characters, candy canes along driveways, and fat plastic Santas on the rooftops. Surely we can be thankful for the brilliant array of these scenes that greet our eyes as we travel.

And, speaking of traveling, I am thankful when my children and grandchildren who travel

ABSO

As Thanksgiving journeys into the Christmas season, I give thanks that, once again I am able to enjoy these holiday seasons. May everyone out there be as fortunate as I feel. Thank you, my friends.

Thought for the day: Happy moments--praise God. Difficult moments--seek God Quiet moments--worship God Painful moments--trust God Every moment--thank God. Send comments to rosemerrie@att. net or call (865)748-4717. Thank you.

Αυст

parades.

The Focus asked him what the oddest reaction he had as Lincoln and he replied "Are you a Ghost?" and "I thought you got shot."

Adults and children also ask Wright if his beard is real, what is your horse's name, where's your ax, and "Are you a vampire slayer?"

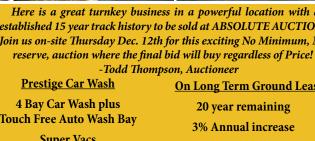
Being Lincoln for reenactments have seen some odd

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PAGE A4 **FOCUS MORE ON** Seymour & South Knox

cutting ceremony at South-

Doyle Middle School's new

The hands-on learning

environment includes a

90-seat amphitheater set

into the hillside on the SDMS

campus and a "labitat"

ecology research area.

outdoor classroom.

The Knoxville FOCUS

Let there be heat



By Joe Rector

open its door and turn on the broiler so that the heat from it would warm the kitchen. We boys were thankful to arrive at school where the classrooms were comfortably warm.

Daddy hired some men at the mill to dig out a basement so that a coal furnace could be installed. It changed our lives for the better in some ways, but the thing wasn't the perfect heating source. The metal monster demanded food, and our older brother trod down the stoker. Every few days he had to carry buckets of clinkers that Daddy had

respiratory problems. After Daddy died, Mother abandoned the furnace because she couldn't and knew we wouldn't keep the thing filled with coal. She had her brother Charles find good electric heaters for the rooms in the house. They blew warm air, but no area ever warmed up enough to be comfortable. We'd squawk when someone stood in front of the heater and blocked the flow.

Not until all of us left home did Mother have a heat pump installed. It didn't produce enough "hot" air so Mother purchased a monster wood burning stove that had us throwing open every window in the house the first time it was fired up on a cold winter's day.

Now, I'm like so many senior citizens who struggle with being just a little "chilly." That's where the new heater comes to the rescue. I have another one in my office, the other room where I spend hours at a time. However, when I go to bed, I want the room to be cool. Most nights, the window at the head of our bed is opened a little to let fresh, nippy air in. I don't so much mind that morning cold air because our house can be quickly heated so that we are comfortable. I worry about the day that comes when my feet and hands turn to permanent ice cubes.



students at SDMS have participated in Knox County's "Adopt-A-Watershed" program and through that initiative have learned the value and necessity of having clean and accessible water in our communities.

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the South Woodlawn Neighborhood Association and South-Doyle Middle School, and became a reality when the school received a \$30,000 grant from The

For almost 10 years,

Dow Knoxville. Seussa-

Dow Chemical Corporation

to construct the facility along

Baker Creek on the school's

campus. The Dow Gives

Community grant focuses on

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in the neighborhoods near

Palooza!

December 16, 6:00 p.m. Seymour High School Auditorium A night full of fun for the whole family presented by the Seymour High Forensics Team! Dinner and a show! Dinner is provided by Buddy's BBQ, and the SHS Drama Department will be performing plays based on your favorite Dr. Seuss books! PRICES:

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dinner*

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weekend Amy dispatched me to purchase a quartz heater. Its purpose is to knock off the chill in our family room. At

Over the

one time in life, I might have

objected because heaters smothered me and had me taking off layers of clothes. Things are different these days because I sit and shiver as my hands and feet turn to blocks of ice. It's not a state unfamiliar to me.

When we were small children, our house was heated with a coal-burning Warm Morning Heater. It was set in the living room on an asbestos mat. The efficiency of that stove left much to be desired. On especially cold mornings, a light coating of ice covered portions of the plaster walls and all of the windows.

The bedroom Jim and I shared was just as cold as the living room. We lay under a couple of quilts and bedspreads. When the time came to get up, we ran across the wood floors and came to abrupt stops in front of the stove. For a few minutes we'd turn ourselves from front to back in vain attempts to warm up. One side would be comfortable, but when we turned, it would again be painfully cold in no time. Jim and I retreated to our room where we grabbed clothes and shoes. In front of the heater we dressed for the day. Breakfast during the



joerector@comcast.net

toast. Mother's oven was an oversized appliance that could bake up to four pies at once. She'd

the steps to serve coal into fished from the furnace.

The house was warmer than it had ever been, but it came with a price. The first time the furnace fired each year, it coughed smoke from every register. For the next couple of days the haze continued. At the same time, the fuel wasn't the cleanest. We woke up, made a bee-line to the bathroom, grabbed a handful of toilet paper, and blew the black crud from our heads. Sure, we were warmer, but the coal burner contributed to headaches, sinus infections, and upper

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RAM brings medical help and more

By Mike Steely steelym@knoxfocus.com

The name says it all. Remote Area Medical, headquartered here in Knoxville, serves the poor with medical, eye and dental needs across the United States and internationally. Last month's Red Carpet Event at the Tennessee Theater highlighted the efforts of the organization with a reception and a new film.

Stan Brock, founder of the Remote Area Medical Volunteer Group (RAM) was present and attendees saw the award-winning film, plus heard the Tennessee Wind Symphony.

Brock could have gone in the United States.

down in history as a wildlife television star for his Remote Area Medical. work on the series "Wild Kingdom," or "Stan Brock's Expedition Danger" that ran for 7 years, or as an author of books or even as a star in movies like "Escape from RAM has grown to serve the Angola."

While living among Indians in South America Brock became in need of medical care and found that medical care was 26 days away. When he left Guyana he decided to find a means of delivering basic medical care to needy people. Initially the effort was aimed at Third World countries and then also focused on similar needs

Tennessee is the only state that has "Open Borders To Doctors" Brock opened the organizations headquarters in Knoxville. Since then needy citizens around the globe with basic medical care, eye care, and dental care. One day, at the Bristol Speedway, RAM served more than 2,000 people. The traveling clinic usually opens at 5:30 a.m. but Oklahoma City, Okla., people line up a day before Grundy, Va., Newport, Tenn., or wait overnight.

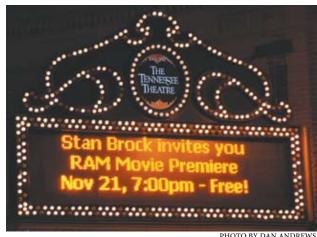
There's no identification or payment asked of those in need. During the Haiti relief effort Brock and other RAM staff parachuted into

In 1985 he founded a village and brought medical care and supplies.

> "You can close your eyes and put a pin in the map and go there. You'll find people there in the hundreds or thousands that need the service," Brock has said.

> In 2014 RAM's schedule calls for visits to Houston, Texas, Madisonville, Tenn., Buena Vista, Va., Clay County, Tenn., Indio, Calif., East St. Louis, Miss., Wise, Va., San Juan, Texas, and Greeneville, Tenn.

RAM is funded by donations and volunteers, including doctors, dentists, nurses, pilots, and veterinarians. You can find RAM



The Tennessee Theatre hosted the RAM red carpet event and screening on Thursday, November 21.

on Facebook, or Google or Yahoo them, or call them at 579-1530. Donations can be made with most major credit or debit cards.

Congressman Duncan visits Fountain City Elementary



PHOTO BY DAN ANDREWS

Fountain City Elementary teachers and students sing the National Anthem as Congressman Duncan presents the school with a flag that had flown over the state Capitol building in Nashville.

By Mike Steely steelym@knoxfocus.com

including Superintendent Mcintyre, School Board member Deathridge,

students." Hold also said that Duncan stayed for photographs with "It was a really special time with Commissioner Smith and students and staff and handed out "Lucky Pennies" to the students. The coins had the inscription "Keep me and you'll have Good Luck," on one side and "John H. Duncan, Member of Congress" on the other, with a penny in the middle.

Big Brothers Big Sisters: Making an impact across **East Tennessee**

By Tasha Mahurin Tasha@knoxfocus.com

"Working for UT athletics was my dream job, and I never thought I'd leave it," Doug Kose, told The Focus.

began serving on the Sisters live in single-parent board of directors for Big Brothers, Big Sisters of East Tennessee. Kose moved to Knoxville from Ohio in 2005 to accept a position within nearly 400 agencies the University of Tennessee Athletic Department. During East Tennessee agency that time, he served on the board of Big Brothers Big Sisters and became passionate about the organi- they are currently working zation and its cause. When to expand their coverage in the position for CEO of the the Greenville area.

supported mentoring network, Big Brothers Big Sisters makes meaningful, monitored matches between adult volunteers ("Bigs") and children ("Littles"). Most children That was before he served by Big Brothers Big and low-income families, or households where a parent is incarcerated.

The organization has across the country. The serves youth ages 6-15 from Athens to the Tri-Cities area. Kose explained that

organization came avail- The service is free for

the kids," said Tina Holt, Principal of Fountain City Elementary School of Congressman John Duncan's visit on Friday, November 22.

Congressman Duncan had dropped by Fountain City Elementary to speak to the students and teachers, telling them about the two national houses, the three branches of government, and what he does in Washington. He presented the elementary school with a flag that had been flown over the state Capitol. Also present were Knox County officials, Commissioner Grieve. Holt said that Angela Cook directed the pledge to the flag and singing of the national anthem, and that the Safety Patrol carried the flag.

"Our school is worth the attention," Holt said. She added that the event was timely enough to allow the kindergartners to leave on time, was not formal, and that Duncan not only spoke but asked students questions and got replies.

"He said that the children and their families were his boss," she said, "and shook hands with the

"It was a one-on-one," she said. Congressman John Duncan, Jr., succeeded his father in office and has now served longer than his father did. Duncan is a former Knox County Criminal Court Judge and has served in Congress since 1988. He serves on several committees, including Homeland Security.

able in 2012, Kose applied both the "Big" and the for it.

you're doing is helping kids throughout the year. In and really making a differ- December they will begin ence in their lives every their "Double My Donation" day is amazing," he added. campaign- which is a pro-Kose, who accepted the position in January of this contributions made during year, hopes to make a lasting impact on the organization and the children it serves.

est donor and volunteer

"Little", therefore, the "Knowing that what organization fundraises gram in which individual the month with be matched by corporate donors.

On January 4, truly committed sponsors of As the nation's larg- the organization have Continue on page 2



PAGE B2 The Knoxville FOCUS December 2, 2013 **Big Brothers Big Sisters: Making an impact across East Tennessee**

Cont. from page 1

the opportunity to participate in the "Penguin Plunge." Participants will walk-a-thon. However, they

into the frigid waters of the mentor. Tennessee River.

take pledges, much like a tribute financially, and rently have about 50 chilaren't willing to dive into won't be walking- they'll the river, you can still be

be running, and jumping... involved- by becoming a and requires a background, it is for the child.

"We always need 'Bigs'," If you aren't able to con- Kose explained. "We curdren on our waiting list." The process is involved

driving record, and reference check and takes 6-8 weeks to complete. According to Kose, however, the experience is just as rewarding for the mentor as

"Many of our mentors benefitted more from the program than their little

brother or sister. It really

changes the way you view

the world," he said. For more information on say they feel that they have Big Brothers Big Sisters of East Tennessee visit www.tennesseebig.org or call their local office at (865)523-2179.





Some members of the Big Brothers Big Sisters of East Tennessee enjoyed tailgating earlier this fall.

Tea & Treasures selected to host next **SBC Cash Mob**

First 30 people to receive free \$20 gift card courtesy of ORNL **Federal Credit Union**

Thanksgiving typically marks the start of the holiday season. With this sentiment in mind, ORNL Federal Credit Union (FCU) has announced the next installment of its Small Business Counts Cash Mob program - Tea & Treasures at 4104 Martin Mill Pike in South Knoxville on Thursday, December 5 from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

This is the first Small Business Counts cash mob to take place in South Knoxville since the program launched in late July.

Opened six years ago, Tea & Treasures is a retail shop and hidden gem located in an old country home that was originally built in 1905. The shop is run by owner and cancer survivor Jenny Wolf and

Christmas Craft Fair December 7

resident artist Bobbye Edwards and features a variety of handmade and vintage items such as jewelry, handbags, pottery, crafts and ornaments from more than 40 local artists. The store is typically only open on Fridays and Saturdays, but complimentary tea is always served.

The Small Business Counts Cash Mob program was created to recognize and show support for local merchants, like Tea & Treasures, in the 16 counties that ORNL FCU serves by encouraging people to shop locally at a given date and time. The program includes the promotion and support of two local businesses each month and will continue into 2014.

At the cash mob event, the first 30 people will receive a \$20 gift card to use on any merchandise within the store, courtesy of ORNL Federal Credit Union. Limit one per family or couple.

Other special discounts and offers will also be available.

For more information about the Small Business Counts program or to nominate a local merchant,





visit www.SmallBusinessCounts. com. There is no requirement for



the business to be a member of **ORNL** Federal Credit Union to be selected for a cash mob. Details of future cash mobs will be made available approximately one week in advance of each event.





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PAGE B3 Part Seven: Tennessee's Old Gray Fox Albert Gore

Pages from the Political Past



By Ray Hill rayhill865@gmail.com

Congressman Ross Bass had been elected to the United States Senate in 1964 to fill out the remainder of the late Senator Estes Kefauver's term of office. Senator Bass had to face the voters again in 1966 and the campaign would be a repeat of 1964, with Bass once again facing Governor Frank Clement in the Democratic primary and Republican Howard Baker in the general election.

Bass was upset in the primary by Governor Clement, who in turn lost to Howard Baker by about 100,000 votes. Although Baker had run a strong race in 1964, which had not been a good year for Republicans, his victory stunned many Democrats who could not bring themselves to believe a GOP candidate could win a statewide election in what had been a one party state for decades. Howard Baker was the first Republican to ever be elected to the United States Senate by popular vote.

The Republicans also managed to snag yet another Congressional seat with the victory of Dan Kuykendall in Memphis. Kuykendall had challenged Albert Gore in 1964 and had come within fifty thousand votes of winning. Kuykendall had run against Congressman George Grider, who had defeated the last remnant of the old Crump machine in 1964. Many of Congressman Republican Party. While the Democrats still held a majority of the Congressional seats in Tennessee, the Republicans were making serious inroads in areas that had never before supported a GOP candidate. Lyndon Johnson had been the first presidential candidate to carry Tennessee since Harry Truman, but Richard Nixon carried the Volunteer State in a threeway race with Vice President Hubert Humphrey and Alabama Governor George Wallace. Wallace had run especially well in West Tennessee, while Nixon was amassing huge majorities in traditionally Republican East Tennessee. Nixon carried Tennessee with just over 37% of the vote. Perhaps even more shocking to Tennessee Democrats was a temporary loss of control of the state House of Representatives. The election of a Republican Speaker of the House, Bill Jenkins, was an historic event in Tennessee. Albert Gore would again seek reelection in 1970 and he had been a consistent opponent of the Nixon administration. President Nixon had engaged in a strategy to maximize Republican strength in the South and intended to help candidates win in states that had largely been one party states since the Civil War.



Above, an autographed portrait of Albert Gore, Sr. Right, Senator Albert Gore literally campaigning on the stump.

Senator Albert Gore successor had also been his was targeted by the Nixon administration for defeat. Tennessee Republicans the famous "leapfrog" govwere energized and there were a host of serious candidates for the gubernatorial nomination. House Speaker Bill Jenkins, millionaire industrialist Maxey Jarman, and former Republican State to run against Gore in Party Chairman Claude the Democratic primary. Davis's old supporters Robertson all made deter- Ellington was far more con- the most populous in the nominated Harold Carswell. er and his personality on the Memphis, Winfield Dunn. There were two candidates facing off in the GOP senatorial primary as well; one was former movie star and country music artist Tex Ritter. The other was Congressman Crockett, a former newsman, William E. "Bill" Brock, III of was running to the senator's Chattanooga. right. Crockett's campaign It was Tex Ritter who chrisfor the Senate pressed Gore tened Albert Gore the "Old hard and he carried West Gray Fox" of Tennessee poli-Tennessee heavily. tics. By 1970, Gore was the over, there were several very essence of senatorial appearance, with a head surprises. Winfield Dunn of distinguished white hair. emerged from the heated Ritter explained Gore was a GOP gubernatorial contest shrewd politician, crafty and as the Republican nominee. hard to pin down. It was read-Dunn's opponents were relily apparent the Republicans egated almost to favorite were going fox hunting. son status as each carried Tennessee Democrats his home turf and little else. were not deterred from fight-Speaker Bill Jenkins carried upper East Tennessee, while ing amongst themselves as Claude Robertson carried the they faced a serious challenge from the Republicans. Second Congressional dis-There was a fierce primatrict surrounding Knoxville. ry contest for the guberna-Maxey Jarman did well in torial election where John the Third Congressional dis-Jay Hooker was the favorite trict and much of Middle candidate. Hooker had run Tennessee, an area where against Governor Buford there was a notable absence Ellington four years before of Republicans. and run a very strong race. John Jay Hooker was considered more liberal than many Tennessee Democrats, with an urbane appearance and folksy manner. Buford Ellington was considered to be far more conservative than Hooker, with close ties to President Lyndon Johnson. Ellington had first been elected governor in 1958 as an avowed segregationist; his

predecessor in office, Frank Clement, thereby beginning ernment in Tennessee.

Senator Albert Gore was himself the target of many inside his own party. Many encouraged outgoing Governor Buford Ellington

Once the primaries were

Winfield Dunn proved to be the second choice of many Republicans and he did surprisingly well across the state, but carried his home territory of Shelby County,

ONAL COLLECTION

had lined up behind Dan mined campaigns, as did servative than Gore and even state, by an amazing margin Senator Gore thought he campaign trail seemed less Kuykendall and a rising a little known dentist from the Nixon administration did of around 95%. would be able to support remote and reserved. Still,

practiced by his predecessor Kenneth McKellar, as well as Estes Kefauver. McKellar was renowned for his prompt response to every letter received in his office and the numerous favors he performed for constituents daily. It had helped to make him Tennessee's longest serving senator and in 1970 there were many who remember Senator McKellar very well indeed.

Estes Kefauver had perhaps even gone farther than McKellar, noting the various anniversaries, birthdays, and other happy occasions celebrated by his constituents, all of whom received a note from the senator. W h e n Senator Albert Gore suddenly started taking notice of such events, it drew not good will but suspicion and scorn as he had been in the Senate for almost eighteen years and found it to be beneath the dignity of his office.

Hudley Crockett had campaigned hard on the theme Senator Gore was out of touch with Tennessee, a theme naturally picked up by the Brock campaign. Gore enthusiastically picked up the "old gray fox" analogy bestowed upon him, claiming a gray fox was mighty difficult to catch.

The change in the way campaigns were being run

> in a modern age proved to be a challenge for some of Tennessee's most popular Democrats. Governor Frank Clement, widely acknowledged as a powerful orator, had fared poorly on television. Likewise, Albert Gore was an able and accomplished stump speak-

Gore found it difficult to meet the challenges of modern campaigning. There was no extensive entourage, which is a staple of campaigning to this day. Neither did Senator Gore have the benefit of the advance men who help shape a candidate's schedule for maximum benefit, attracting the local television news and encouraging supporters to attend various events. Gore would oftentimes arrive in a town or city without prior notice and simply visit from person to person. While it had been effective in the past, it was long outdated in 1970. Congressman Brock ran a tough campaign, stressing he believed and shared the values of most Tennesseans. Of course the inference was Albert Gore did not share those same values. It would be the theme of the fall campaign and Albert Gore's last race for the United States Senate.

not find the prospect of an Congressman Bill Brock Ellington candidacy unpleashad beaten Tex Ritter easily, unlike Senator Gore who ant. In the end, Ellington chose not to run, but he did came out of his own primary encourage the candidacy of battered and wounded. his press secretary. Hudley

Gore loathed Richard Nixon and the dislike between the two was quite mutual. Senator Gore also had little or no regard for Vice President Spiro Agnew, who at the time had become something of a political lightning rod. Agnew was adored by much of the right wing, while he was anathema to the left wing.

Gore and Agnew had traded insults publicly and Gore's opposition to the Nixon administration was taking its toll in Tennessee.

Senator Gore had opposed two of Nixon's appointees to the United States Supreme Court, Clement Haynsworth and Harold Carswell, both of whom had been Southerners. Gore was acutely aware of the political danger in rejecting the nominations and had initially been delighted when President Nixon had

the nomination, which would have the effect of diminishing the charge he was traitor to his own South. Much to his dismay, Carswell proved to be unfit for the high court and he voted against confirming Carswell's nomination. Despite Harold Carswell's being a poor choice, Gore's opposition to his nomination made the senator's path to reelection all the more uncertain. Senator Gore himself later confessed he suspected his "political life" might very well be at stake in deciding the Carswell issue, he could not bring himself to support Harold Carswell.

Senator Albert Gore was also afflicted with several other problems that affected his political standing. Many perceived Gore as aloof and aristocratic, although Albert Gore was anything but an aristocrat, having come from a very humble background. For years Gore had disdained many of the things incumbents do to generate goodwill, a practice scrupulously

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PAGE B4 The Knoxville FOCUS A Birthday Celebration

It was well underway when we arrived. With the hillside full of cars, it had the look and feel of a tailgating event---especially since the University of Tennessee was hosting the University

were coming outdoors to eat. Others were just inside where the tasty barbeque and all the side dishes filled the buffet table. The spread of food had the perfect backdrop – a collection of UT memorabilia in the corner. Early October was weather perfect for a college football



By Ralphine Major ralphine3@yahoo. com

of Georgia. Some guests wrote about earlier this year. The Mynatt Brothers came home to Halls to help with the celebration. For weeks, Emerson's wife, Cecil, and their four children–Carol, Butch, Randy, and Gina--had managed to keep the party plans a secret from the Navy veteran and retired postal employee. They got

game. It was per- help from a neighbor who complete without a cake. birthday party! Thepartywasin honor of Emerson Mynatt, a Halls resident and Brothers" that I

fect for a party, took Emerson to visit anothtoo---a surprise er friend in a neighboring county on a crisp Saturday morning. While they were gone, Butch and Pam and their children came up from Georgia, and Randy avid UT fan. He flew in from Louisiana. is also the father The Louisiana grandchilof "The Mynatt dren, Tyler and Caroline, could not make the trip; but Laura and Grant, the grandchildren who are University of Georgia graduates, were there sporting red bulldog shirts. It appeared somewhat of a house divided since Butch and Pam, as well as Randy, Gina, and Carol's daughter, April, are all UT grads.

A birthday party is not

To celebrate Emerson's 80 years, there was a huge cake and ice cream for guests to enjoy. When I went back inside for a piece of cake, there were two more grandchildren on hand for the special day-Gina's children, Jessica and Blake. Even the great-grandchildren, Macy and little Cooper, were at the party to wish their greatgranddad a happy birthday. They belong to the Mynatt's oldest granddaughter, April, and her husband. The day was a lot of fun spent with family and friends. The party was a huge success-but it would have been a more perfect day if the Big Orange had won!



the Mynatt Brothers' Dad Turns 80!

December 2, 2013

Emerson and Cecil and their children managed to break away from their guests to get a rare and special family photo in front of their beautiful rosebushes. (Left to right): Gina, Randy, Emerson, Cecil, Butch, and Carol--by Ralphine Major.

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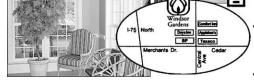
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ALOOK AHEAD, **A GLANCE** BACK Webb closing in on seventh state title **By Steve Williams**

Webb School is favored to win a seventh state championship since the TSSAA playoff system began when it goes against St. George's Independent School Thursday afternoon in Cookeville.

According to the Sonny Moore Computer Power Ratings, Webb is expected to defeat the Gryphons of Collierville by nine points.

Kickoff time is set for 4 o'clock (EST) for the Blue Cross Bowl's Division II-A title game, which will be played at Tucker Stadium on the Tennessee Tech campus.

The Spartans' current total of six state titles since 1969 is more than any other high school in Knoxville has produced.

David Meske, in his 29th season as Webb's head coach, has guided the Spartans to five state championships and two runner-up finishes.

Webb gave Knoxville its first state crown in the playoff era in 1981 when Ron Gratz was head coach.

"Our strengths this season have been a strong defense, excellent play out of our offensive line and running backs that have the ability to score," said Meske Monday via e-mail. "We also have a great kicker in Robby Strachan. Our quarterback, Johnny Chun, has also made the plays that he has needed to make." Todd Kelly Jr., a Mr. Football Finalist for the Tennessee Titans' Division II-A Back of the Year, which will be named today, carried the ball 16 times for 140 yards Continue on page 6

2013 KNOX METRO YOUTH FOOTBALL LEAGUE CHAMPIONS



PHOTO BY JON GUSTIN

The little guys (above) play the game just like the big boys in the Knox Metro Youth Football League. See the end result inside today's sports section -- team photos of all 15 league champions, from Junior Hoppers to Senior Midgets, plus the championship game scores and more.

Powell overcomes slow start to down Lady Pats

By Ken Lay

For the first quarter of its game Tuesday afternoon the Powell High School girls basketball team was sleepwalking.

But when the Lady Panthers finally answered their wake-up call, they were able to defeat Jefferson County 52-42 in the first round of the U.S. Cellular Basketball Tournament at Central High School.

"I don't think we were ready to play [in the first quarter]," Powell coach Caitlin Hollifield said. "We want to come out and start games like we finish them and we've been preaching about that all year.

The Lady Panthers (3-0)

first lead, an 18-17 advantage, with 5 minutes, 19 seconds remaining in the second quarter by senior Shea Coker, who scored a game-high 24 points in the contest and had many of her points when the Lady Patriots were on runs and attempting to get back in the game.

"Shea always hits big shots for us and she did it again today," Hollifield said. "She's like a dagger.

"She scored points for us when we really needed them. She scored when they were getting momentum and trying to go on runs."

Coker wasn't the only star for the Lady Panthers on this night. Senior center Damaiya Moore was a dominant force in the paint. After a sluggish



may have beaten the Lady Patriots (2-2) easily but early on, it didn't look like Powell was going to beat anybody.

Jefferson County hammered the seemingly slumbering Lady Panthers early and opened a 12-3 lead before Powell finally shook off its lethargy and pulled to within 17-14 by first quarter's end.

The Lady Panthers would eventually take their

Continue on page 4

PHOTO BY DAN ANDREWS.

Powell's Jill Gorman (12) attempts to shoot over a Jefferson County defender in the Lady Panthers' 52-42 win over the Lady Patriots Tuesday in the U.S. Cellular Basketball Tournament at Central High School.

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December 2, 2013



Junior Hopper NFC: Bearden



Hopper AFC: Halls



Hopper NFC: Grace



Hopper NFC No. 2: Baby Roadrunners

It's first and grin for Knox Metro Youth Champions Six Catholic Senior Midgets win fifth straight championship

By Steve Williams

Winning a championship in the Knox Metro Youth Football League is a thrill. Can you imagine doing it five years in a row?

That's happened for six youngsters, who were members of this season's Catholic Senior Midget team, which rolled past Halls 51-22 in the local youth league's title game for 13 and 14 year old players.

For Morgan Ernst, Jack Sompayrac, Roland Ryan, Joe Fluker, James Davis and Tyler Hayes, it was their fifth championship season in a row on the Catholic team coached by Dickie Sompayrac. They started their title string as 9 year old players in the Cutter division, then celebrated championship seasons in the Minor Pee Wee, Pee Wee and Junior Midget divisions.

Coach Sompayrac's teams also compiled a 73-0 record over the past five seasons, counting league play and "bowl" games.

players were on Sompayrac's team for four years

teams that will feed their future high school programs. Senior Midget players mainly consist of middle schoolers.

"Seventeen of the 21 players I had on this year's team will probably come to Catholic High," said Sompayrac, who is principal at Catholic High School.

In the finals, Catholic led by only 16-14 with three minutes to go in the first half. A strip and fumble recovery led to another Irish touchdown. The determined Halls team scored on its first possession in the second half, but Catholic eventually pulled way.

Cam Whaley had a "big day," said Coach Sompayrac, rushing for 160 yards and three touchdowns. Quarterback Jack Sompayrac passed for 185 yards and three TDs.

Ernst, a linebacker, made 19 tackles to lead the County. defense.

"He's our man-child out Another seven or eight there," said the coach. "He plays beyond his years."

Ernst is among a steady but began playing this stream of good talent Falcons had to overcome

Matthews' Fighting Irish high school program.

The Catholic youth program's 10 year old team also took top honors in the Minor Pee Wee NFC division this season, beating Bearden 16-6 in the title game. Catholic's 12 year old team was runner-up in the Junior Midget AFC division.

In the Senior Midget semifinals, Catholic defeated Farragut 35-14 and Halls eliminated the Falcons 40-20.

TITLE TEAMS: Fifteen in bowl games. teams won championships this season in the Knox Metro Youth Football League, counting all seven age groups and divisions. There were a total of 126 teams, including approximately 2,000 players, from 20 commissions throughout Knoxville and Knox the AFC title.

On the way to winning the Minor Pee Wee XFL crown, Coach Sammy Vaughn's

season for Senior Midget headed for Coach Steve the loss of their starting quarterback in the semifinals and get past Central 12-6 in double overtime.

> Ty Humphreys went out with a knee injury midway through the third quarter, pointed out Butch Ivester, the team's offensive coordinator. Backup QB Jay Riddle ended up scoring the winning touchdown on a bootleg on fourth-and-two.

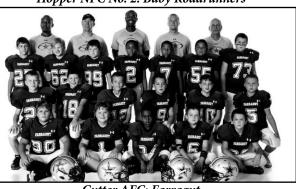
> The Falcons went on to blank Halls 6-0 in the championship game. It was the ninth shutout of the season for the Falcons, who were 10-0 in the league and 4-0

TURNAROUND: Coach

Todd Hazelwood called it "the story of the year." After having a won-loss record of 5-63 over the previous four seasons, Farragut's Junior Midget team knocked off Catholic 14-8 to capture

Farragut had lost to Catholic 6-0 in the regu-BEATING ADVERSITY: lar season. Farragut also avenged a 25-0 loss to Central with an 8-6 semifinal win.

Continue on page 6



Cutter AFC: Farragut



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Minor Pee Wee XFL: Falcons



Cutter NFC: Gibbs

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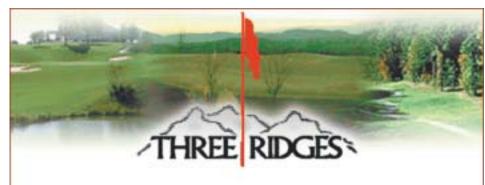
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Bam Bam and Bubba help lead Falcons defense in title win

By Steve Williams

On the youngest end of the Knox Metro Youth Football League, the Junior Hopper AFC division for 7-year-old players, the Falcons stopped Halls 26-0 in this season's finals at John Tarleton Park.

"Defense," said veteran youth coach Ricky Jones when asked what he thought was the key to the victory. "We didn't give up many first downs (only two).

"Our offense started out slow. But they spread their defense out wide, and we were able to hit some gaps and make some long runs on them."

Zion Stinson made a key block on a Halls defensive back as Demarcus Allen scored on a 10-yard run late in the first quarter the only touchdown of the first half.

Brandon Winton raced 47 yards in the third quarter to extend the lead to 12-0.

A 64-yard breakaway by Allen on the first play of the fourth quarter was big. Allen got to the outside and was gone.

Bubba Faulkner intercepted a Halls pass

Minor Pee Wee AFC: CAK



Junior Hopper AFC: Falcons

and returned it for a TD with 1:44 left. Stinson tacked on a 2-point conversion run to complete the scoring.

Jalen Hill, Bam Bam King and Steven Soles made stickout hits on defense for the Falcons.

King made a textbook tackle when the Red Devils' Gavin Harrop came his way on a reverse at the start of the second quarter. Bam Bam "stayed home" at his end post and dropped the Halls runner for no gain.

Halls got some key defensive stops from Riley Earle and Kamen Shown. Shown also ran hard against the tough Falcons defense. Michael Harrop had a 9-yard gain out of Halls' overload-right "beef" formation midway through the final quarter.

With the victory,

the Falcons finished undefeated in the league.

Halls coaches kept the mood upbeat and positive as the Red Devils came together for a post-game meeting, with parents looking on.

"Did you have fun tonight," asked Scott Tidwell, the team's defensive coordinator.

"Yeah," players responded.

"That's what it's all about," said Tidwell.

Offensive coordinator Tommy Heath then took his turn to address the squad.

"Your coach called some bonehead plays," he said.

"You still gave it everything you had. That's what counts. I don't care what the scoreboard says."

KNOX METRO YOUTH FOOTBALL LEAGUE 2013 Championship Games Scores

Junior Hopper (7 Year Old) AFC: Falcons 26, Halls 0 NFC: Bearden 38, Karns 6

Hopper (8 Year Old) AFC: Halls 30, Carter 28 NFC: Grace 28, **Hardin Valley 8** NFC No. 2: Baby Roadrunners 18, Grace 6

Cutter (9 Year Old) AFC: Farragut 26, Central 20 NFC: Gibbs 8, CAK 0

Minor Pee Wee (10 Year Old) XFL: Falcons 6, Halls 0 AFC: CAK 8, Carter 0 NFC: Catholic 16, Bearden 6

Pee Wee (11 Year Old) AFC: Central 54, Halls 0 NFC: West 18, South-Doyle 0

Junior Midget (12 Year Old) AFC: Farragut 14, Catholic 8 NFC: Carter 28, Falcons 6

> **Senior Midget** (13-14 Year Old) Catholic 51, Halls 22

Jake Bishop was head coach of the Red Devils, who finished the season with a 7-3 record.



Senior Midget: Catholic











Minor Pee Wee NFC: Catholic



Pee Wee AFC: Central

The Absence of Patience

By Alex Norman

On November 11th, Fennessee's men's

very close in 2012 and 2013, probably a win shy of the field of 68 each time. And I think people

Vols basketball program traditionally breaks even in that regard. Football and

Time Worst Coaches at Great Programs." Dooley was the exception when

Jeff Francis chose coaching over reporting football

basketball team opened the season with a road game against Xavier. A late Vols rally fell a bit short in a hostile environment, with the Musketeers hanging on for a 67-63 victory.

The next day on local sports talk radio, the large majority of callers talked about the future of head coach Cuonzo Martin. Some wanted him fired... others wanted former head coach Bruce Pearl brought back after his NCAA "show cause" penalty expires next summer.

Remember, the Vols were 0-1. They had played one game. On the road. Against a perennial NCAA tournament team.

This, of course, begs the question ... What is wrong with these people?

Maybe you are one of them, maybe you aren't, but the idea of wanting a coach fired after the first game of the season is asinine.

By my count the Vols will play a minimum of 32 games this season. So following the Xavier contest, Tennessee's schedule was 3.1% complete.

I realize that Tennessee hasn't been to the NCAA tournament since 2011, but they came

forget the roster was gutted following Bruce Pearl's firing, with seniors Brian Williams, Melvin Goins, Steven Pearl, Josh Bone and John Fields departing, as well as freshman Tobias Harris and junior Scotty Hopson choosing to turn pro.

But Bruce Pearl spoiled the Tennessee fan base with an exciting brand of basketball, and six straight NCAA tournament appearances. Before Pearl showed up, Tennessee had only been there 13 times in program history.

However the bigger issue is probably the fact that many fans have no patience anymore. We live in an immediate gratification society, and that translates to the world of sports. We want wins, and we don't want to wait for them. The University of Tennessee's athletic department (and departments across the country) has learned that the days have passed when you could just open the doors to your football stadium and basketball arena and have all the seats filled. This is most important in football and men's basketball, since these are the two sports that register a profit. The Lady basketball drive the economic engine of an athletic department, and most often, when a team is losing, the cash flow slows ...

Sometimes though, the most critical fans... the ones that stop buying the popcorn and making the donations, do have a point. Many Vols football fans were vocal and calling for then head coach Derek Dooley's firing after an embarrassing 10-7 loss to Kentucky at the end of the 2011 season. It was the first time Tennessee lost to the Wildcats in more than a quarter century. Dooley had lost the team, and players such as quarterback Tyler Bray and receiver Da'Rick Rogers reportedly told teammates that they didn't want to play in a lower-tier bowl game.

Instead, Dooley was given a third season... which turned into another disaster. Wasting a collection of offensive talent at the skill positions, many of which would find their way onto NFL rosters, the Vols finished with a third straight losing season. Athlonsports. com recently had Dooley at the top of a rather dubious list ... "College Football's All-

regarding pulling the trigger on a dismissal.

But he's not the rule. So depending on how this Vols basketball season turns out, the folks wanting a change at the top might get even more vocal. If the Vols fail to advance to the NCAA tournament, the pressure on Tennessee athletic director Dave Hart to make a change will be high.

Can't we at least get to the middle of December before everyone starts in with the "Bill Self has land in Union County" or "I saw Tom Izzo at McGhee-Tyson Airport" comments? That would be the basketball equivalent of Jon Gruden rumors... right? Take a deep breath people ... Please?

This season was Francis' ninth coaching youth football and it was highlighted by his West team of 11 year old players winning a championship in the Knox Metro Youth Football League.

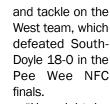
My guess is that title win was just as exhilarating for Jeff as the time he led Tennessee to a Liberty Bowl win over Minnesota in 1986 and was named the game's MVP as the Vols' sophomore quarterback.

resigned as sideline reporter for the Vol Network in 2007 to spend more time with his family. Much **By Steve** of that time has Williams been coaching

Jeff Francis

his sons' football teams.

Drew Francis, Jeff's youngest of three sons, was a linebacker, tight end



"He might be the first one in our family to play foot-

ball with his hand on the ground," said dad.

Francis' oldest son, Christian, didn't start playing youth football until around middle school age and was a three-year starter at guarterback for West High School. He's now a biology major at UT.

Middle son Ryan also played QB and in the secondary at West and is a freshman safety for Virginia Military Institute this fall.

Daughter Keeghan, however, is the toughest of all.

Cont. on page 6



fountain drink, ICEE, Gourmet coffee or Delicious cappuccino)





PHOTO BY DAN ANDREWS.

Farragut's Madison Maples drives to the basket in the Lady Admirals' 54-14 win over South-Doyle last Monday night in the Admiral Thanksgiving Tournament. Maples scored 15 points for Farragut.

Admirals out-net Cherokees

By Ken Lay

For two years Kristen Freeman has awaited her chance to make an impact on the Farragut High School girls basketball program.

That long wait came to an end on Monday, Nov. 25 as Freeman scored 12 points and helped the Lady Admirals nab a 54-14 victory over South-Doyle in the opening round of the first annual Admiral Thanksgiving Tournament at the Lynn E. Sexton Gymnasium.

"I've waited my turn," Freeman said. "We've had some great girls here over the last two years and we've had two great teams.

"I've enjoyed watching them and learning from them. I'm excited to get a chance and prove myself and to play with some great girls."

Farragut (4-0) kept its perfect record intact despite some early shooting woes. The Lady Cherokees actually had 4-3 lead early before the Lady Admirals scored the last eight points of the opening quarter to open an 11-4 advantage.

While Farragut's offense really got rolling in the second stanza, its defense remained stingy. The Lady Admirals didn't allow The Lady Cherokees (2-3) to score in the second quarter.

Farragut used a 22-0 run in the second quarter to open a 33-4 advantage by half-time.

Three Lady Admirals scored in double figures. Madison Maples finished with a game-high 15 points. Freeman had 12 and Madyson added 11.

Farragut also got a second-quarter lift from guard Anna Woodford, who scored the first eight points of the period and gave the Lady Admirals a 19-4 lead with 6:05 remaining before halftime.

Farragut went on to open a 49-8 lead by the end of the third quarter and the final frame was played with a running clock.

While Farragut boasted a balanced offensive attack Maples said that the Lady Admirals' defense was the difference.

"Our No. 1 goal was to come out and play with defensive intensity," she said. "We wanted to hold them to 35 points and we did that.

"We held them to 14."

Only two players scored on this night for the Lady Cherokees (2-3).

Karen Donahew led South-Doyle with eight points and Chattin Atchley scored six. including four in the first quarter.

Teamwork nets sixth win for Spartans

By Ken Lay

Webb School of Knoxville boys basketball coach Ricky Norris said his team plays its best when it shares the basketball.

The Spartans did just that in a 74-58 victory over Kingsport Dobyns-Bennett Tuesday night in the first round of the U.S. Cellular Basketball Tournament at Central High School.

"Our willingness to share the basketball is the key to our success and we've done that well to this point," Norris said after his squad used a big second half to rout the Indians.

"Our key to success tonight was the play of our post players and their willingness to battle inside.

"They [the Indians] had me concerned because of their size."

Dobyns-Bennett was much bigger than the Spartans but on this night, it didn't seem to matter.

Webb (6-0) and the Indians were embroiled in a see-saw affair early. The Spartans led 19-18 after the first quarter and held a 33-32 advantage at the half before blowing things open in the third stanza.

The Indians scored the first three points of the frame before Webb closed the quarter with a 23-9 surge to open a 56-44 lead when Justin Jenkins hit a field goal as time expired in the frame.

The Spartans boasted a balanced

attack. Austin Cox scored a game-high 26 points. Jenkins added 25 and Dean Miniard finished with 12.

Webb is off to a perfect start despite missing a few players who are still playing football. The Spartans will play for a second consecutive Division II-A State Football Championship Thursday night in Cookeville.

On the hardwood, Norris isn't about to throw away any of his team's six wins but he considers them a bit of icing on the cake.

"It may sound silly but right now, the wins aren't the biggest thing for us," Norris said. "It's great to get those wins.

"But right now, we're playing to get better later in the season."

The Spartans are certainly on their way to a successful season thanks to teamwork and a potent offense. A stingy defense certainly doesn't hurt matters either.

On Tuesday night, the Spartans held the Indians bigger post players in check. Reserve center Paul Gadson, a 6-foot-3 wide body, scored just eight points.

Junior John Fulkerson, a 6-7 forward, scored 18 points in the contest. But he was the only Dobyns-Bennett player to score in double figures.

Tournament play continued through Saturday but results were unavailable at press time.

Panthers can't shake 'funk' in loss to Tennessee High

By Ken Lay

Powell High School boys basketball coach Mike Ogan has seen just about everything in his long career with the Panthers and Tuesday night he saw his team start strong, fade and then put together a ferocious fourth quarter that nearly netted a victory.

But Powell came up short and dropped a 58-54 decision to Tennessee High in the opening round of the U.S. Cellular Basketball Tournament at Central High School.

"If you're around this game long enough, you'll see teams go through a funk as I call it," Ogan said. "We started strong and then we went into a funk.

"The post play broke down. The guard play broke down and the defense broke down and we just kept digging that hole."

Early on Powell (1-2) and the Vikings were involved in a back-and-fourth battle with Tennessee clinging to a narrow 14-12 edge at the end of the first quarter.

The Panthers faded in the second quarter. Meanwhile, Tennessee senior guard Adam Mitchell heated up and

Continue on page 6

Powell overcomes slow start to down Lady Pats

Cont. from page 1

start, Moore rebounded to control the boards and score 15 points. Her late bucket in the first quarter pulled Powell within 14-12. She also had a basket early in the third stanza gave the Lady Panthers a 33-24 lead with 6:43 left.

That basket all but clinched things for the Lady Panthers.

"Damaiya was big for us tonight," Hollifield said. "She's long and she always plays good defense down low.

"She did a great job for us on the boards and she played good post defense. Our defense is why we won this game. Our defense was extremely strong. Our guards pressured the ball well."

Junior Brooke Taylor led the Lady Patriots, who lost their second consecutive game Tuesday, with 20 points.

Hines sparks comeback for Lady Falcons in tourney

By Ken Lay

An early-season perfect record stayed intact for the Fulton High School but the Lady Falcons' latest win didn't come easily.

Fulton (2-0) erased a big fourth-quarter deficit en route to its 64-53 victory over Livingston Academy Tuesday night in the opening round of the U.S. Cellular Basketball Tournament at Central High School.

Fulton was hot early and had a 17-9 lead before the Lady Wildcats stormed back and outscored the Lady Falcons 20-5 in the second stanza. The surge helped Livingston Academy open a 29-21 lead by halftime.

"We got outscrapped there right before halftime," Fulton coach John Fisher said. "I told them in the locker room that we were going to have to respond.

"We were playing in our second game and in our first game in more than a week and it all comes down to how you respond in games and I'm proud of the girls for the way they responded."

The Lady Falcons continued to struggle in the third quarter. Fulton fell behind 37-23 early in the second half before rallying to pull to within 41-33 by the end of the frame.

The Lady Wildcats had a 44-41 lead before Fulton freshman guard Quay Hines went on a tear. She hit consecutive shots including a 3-pointer that helped Fulton regain a 46-44 lead with 6 minutes, 23 seconds remaining in the game.

Livingston Academy recaptured the lead on a 3-pointer by center Marlee Sells, who had a gamehigh 20 points and converted three long-range jumpers, Hines answered with a shot to give the Lady Falcons a 48-47 lead with six minutes remaining.

The Lady Wildcats would then knot things at 48 on a foul shot by junior Kailey Winningham a short time later.

Hines then scored four more points down the stretch to help Fulton go ahead for good. She scored 11 of her 13 points in the fourth quarter.

"You wouldn't know that she's a freshman," Fisher said.

Another freshman, KeKe McKinney also had a stellar night for the Lady Falcons. She scored 14 points.

"Those girls are big-time players," Fisher added.

Fulton also received big contributions from a pair of seniors. Forward/center Tyanna Castle matched McKinney's 14 points and guard Brittani Whiteside finished with 12.

Winningham had 10 points for the Lady Wildcats, who buried four 3-pointers in the contest.

Tournament play continued through Saturday but results were not available at press time.



Pat Summitt Plaza unveiled



was dedicated to UT's legendary Lady Vols coach. The Plaza, located on campus at the corner of Lake Loudoun Boulevard and Phillip Fulmer Way, boasts a nine-foot tall statue of Summitt, her career statistics and a sign replicating her signature. *Ground-level photos by* Ginny Byrd; Aerial photo by Bruce McCamish /Bruce McCamish Photography.

Benusches signs with Martin Methodist College



Central pitcher Michael Benusches (center, seated) signs to play baseball with Martin Methodist College. Pictured with Michael are his mother Chris, his father Matt and his Central High teammates.

By Ken Lay

Central High School pitcher Michael Benusches came a step closer to realizing his dream of playing college baseball recently when he signed a National Letter of Intent to play at Martin Methodist College in Pulaski, Tennessee.

"I just want to play college baseball," Benusches said. "I wanted to stay close enough to home where my family could see me play.

"I also wanted to stay close enough to home so I could come and visit my family on the weekends. That was really big because I wanted to stay within a four-hour radius [of Knoxville]."

At Martin Methodist, Benusches will play for coach Jonathan Byrd, who is the brother of new Bobcats' coach Matt Byrd.

Matt was hired at Central late last

season.

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Benusches said that playing for Jonathan Byrd wasn't a determining factor but noted that Byrd's staff welcomed him with open arms.

"The coaching staff [at Martin Methodist] made me feel welcomed and the atmosphere at the school is what brought me there," Benusches, a right-handed pitcher, said.

With the recruiting process behind him, Benusches has some unfinished business on the diamond for the Bobcats.

Central has a storied baseball tradition but the Bobcats have fallen on lean times recently. Benusches wants to do his part to restore the Bobcats to their past baseball glory.

"I just want to play and put Central back on the map," said Benusches, who summer to replace Brian Lovett, who will pursue a marketing career at Martin Methodist.

resigned midway through the 2013

Cherokees outlast Farragut to nab first win 70-69

By Ken Lay

South-Doyle High School's boys basketball team picked up its first victory of the season on Monday, Nov. 25.

The Cherokees had to come from behind late but a free throw from Joc Bruce with 16.5 seconds remaining in the game sealed a 70-69 victory over host Farragut in the opening round of the first annual Admiral Thanksgiving Tournament at the Lynn E. Sexton Gymnasium.

"It feels great to get this win but we still have a lot to work on," Cherokees' coach David Scott said. "I thought our kids played well tonight and they came out here and beat a good Farragut team."

South-Doyle (1-4) and the Admirals were embroiled in a shootout early and the Cherokees managed to open a 22-21 lead by the end of the first quarter.

In the second quarter, however, South-Doyle

outscored the Admirals (2-2) 15-9 in the frame to open a 37-30 advantage by halftime.

Entering the season, Farragut coach Chris Cool was wondering which players would provide the offensive sparks for his squad which opened the 2013-14 season with consecutive wins over Anderson County and Gibbs before losing back-to-back contests to McMinn County and the Cherokees.

The Admirals, however, didn't suffer from a lack of offense on this night. Farragut had three players score in double figures. Senior Brian Park scored 19 points while Cameron Turner and Billy Williams finished with 16 points each.

The defense, however, left Cool disappointed.

"We're not used to giving up 37 points in a half," Cool said. "We've just got to have a hunger.

"We played better in

the second half but right now, we're going through this process again where we're taking bumps and bruises."

The Admirals were in the same situation in each of the last two seasons and Cool was hoping not to repeat those performance this year with a roster of juniors and seniors who all went through those miseries.

"I thought going into the season that leadership was going to be one of our strengths but right now, it's a weakness for us.

The Admirals came out hot after the break, scoring the first six points of the third quarter. Farragut pulled to within 37-36 on a bucket by Williams with 6 minutes, 25 seconds remaining in the stanza.

After a timeout, South-Doyle responded by closing the quarter with a modest 19-13 run and pushed its lead to 56-49 going into the fourth quarter.



PHOTO BY DAN ANDREWS

Players from Farragut and South-Doyle battle for a rebound after Brian Park of the Admirals shoots a free throw. The Cherokees prevailed 70-69 for their first win of the season early last week.

In the final stanza, the Admirals rallied to take a 69-67 lead on a shot by Williams with 1:30 to go. Williams' basket would be Farragut's last points of the contest.

Keandre Edkins tied the game at 69 with a basket before Bruce had a steal, was fouled and converted the final free throw with 16.5 seconds remaining. The Admirals' Matt Odom missed a potential gamewinner at the final buzzer.

South-Doyle had a balanced attack on this night. The Cherokees buried 11 long-range jumpers and had two players in double figures. Bruce scored 16 points and Edkins added 10. The Cherokees got nine points from Brody Rollins, eight from Jaquese Goines, seven from Shoan Lebauer and six from Cody Cummings.

Tournament play continued through Saturday but results were unavailable at press time.

Six Catholic Senior Midgets win fifth straight championship

Cont. from page 2

Hazelwood became the team's head coach last year. "We had some kids come back to the team when they started seeing our improvement," he said. "This team earned everything they got this year. They kept believing. I'm very proud of them." In its last six games, Farragut gave up only 16 points.

Jeff Francis chose coaching over reporting football

<u>Continued from page 3</u>

"If I could make my boys as tough as her, they'd really be good football players," said dad. "You can quote me, too"

Keeghan earned all-state honors in soccer this fall as a junior at West. She'll have a chance to set the school's career scoring record next season.

George Ewart has been Francis' longtime assistant coach and still coaches even though his son, Alec, a good friend of Ryan's, has grown out of the youth program.

One football season, about six or seven years ago, Francis coached two teams in the Cutter division (9 year old players).

"That pretty much wore us out," said Francis.

"We had 40 some kids come out to play that season. That was too many for one team, so we split them up into A and B teams, We would practice together, but each team had its own schedule of games."

Francis came to UT from Park Ridge, III., and was a three-year starter for Coach Johnny Majors. He guided the Vols to a 10-2-1 record and a Peach Bowl win over Indiana as a junior in 1987.

Francis passed for 5,867 career yards, which still ranks sixth on Tennesee's all-time list, and 31 touch-down passes.

He was drafted by the Los Angeles Raiders in the 1989 draft and played briefly with the Cleveland Browns (1990-92).

Francis was the Vol Network's sideline reporter for eight seasons (1999-2006). When he stepped down from that position, he didn't leave football. Instead, he got closer to it. My guess is, his sons are glad he did, plus many other boys who have gotten to learn the game from a former Vol great.

The Knoxville FOCUS December 2, 2013 Webb closing in on seventh state title

Cont. from page 1

and three touchdowns in Webb's 28-15 semifinal win over previously unbeaten Evangedlical Christian School on Nov. 22.

"Todd Kelly is a wonderful young man who has a 4.0 grade point average at Webb," noted Meske. "He represents Webb in every area very well."

Strachan added 105 yards rushing and one TD on 20 attempts, while Matthew Melton had 79 yards on 12 carries.

Webb's Brant Mitchell, a junior linebacker, is a defensive standout and Mr. Football Finalist, who is in the running for Tennessee Titans' Division II-A Lineman of the Year.

Both Kelly, a senior, and Mitchell are UT commitments.

Webb has captured three of the past four Division II-A state titles, coming out on top in 2009, 2010 and 2012. St. George's took the title in 2011, after losing to Webb 42-7 in the 2010 finals. The Spartans also cap-

tured state titles in 1996 and 2006. "St. George's has a winning tradition, and they have an excellent running back and a quarterback that can make plays running the ball and throwing down field," added Meske.

The Gryphons (9-3) have won eight in a row since losing to ECS 34-14 on Sept. 13. Their two playoff wins came against Friendship Christian (42-14) and Donelson Christian Academy (35-28).

Webb beat Friendship Christian 36-7 and won at DCA 38-15 in the regular season. The Spartans have nine straight wins since opening the season with back-to-back losses to Maryville and Baylor.

COMPUTER LIKES: According to Sonny Moore's Computer Power Ratings,

West was favored by 10 points over Cleveland in last week's Class 5A. semifinals, Fulton by 36 over Catholic in Class 4A and Grace Christian Academy by 11 over eight-time state champion Trousdale

County in Class 2A. The Knoxville Focus went to press before these games were played due to an early deadline for the Thanksgiving holiday.

TITLE GAMES: The West vs. Cleveland winner plays the Clarksville Northeast vs. Henry County winner in the Class 5A championship game Friday night at 8 (EST).

The Class 2A finals, Saturday at noon, will match the winner of Grace Christian vs. Trousdale County against the winner of Trinity Christian vs. Adamsville.

The Fulton vs. Catholic winner goes against the Trezevant vs. Giles County winner Saturday at 4 in the Class 4A finals.

MONSTER MASH: Grace Christian can give its opponents two different looks on offense.

"Unlike most, we're a true Wing T team, but yet we're a spread team," said Grace Coach Randy McKamey, after the Rams' quarterfinal win over Oneida. "It depends on what the defense is doing. If they're taking some stuff away and we can't run it on them, then were going to throw it. So, it's pretty good. What we call a double-headed monster."

FLYING HIGH: Fulton has moved up to No. 2 in the state, counting all classifications, in Sonny Moore's latest computer ratings. The Falcons (153.91) trail only new No. 1 Maryville (156.25).

West is No. 9, Webb No. 23 and Grace Christian No. 41 in the ratings, which can be seen online.

Panthers can't shake 'funk' in loss to Tennessee High

Cont. from page 4 scored 10 points in the frame and helped the Vikings open a 32-25 lead by halftime.

Mitchell scored six more points in the third stanza to help the Vikings extend their lead to 49-36 heading into the fourth quarter.

The Panthers finally came back to life in the final eight minutes thanks to a stellar performance by sophomore guard Charlie Richards, who scored all 12 of his points after the break and had six points in the fourth period and pulled to within 56-54 with a basket with 39.4 seconds to go in the game.

"We came back in the fourth quarter and gave ourselves a chance to save face," Ogan said. "We have a lot of young players out there and I'm really proud

of Charlie Richards. "He's a little sophomore

and he'll get after you." Powell struggled in the second and third quarters. The Panthers couldn't find an answer for Mitchell, who finished with 21 points to lead all scorers.

Mitchell, who sealed the game with a free throw with 12.4 seconds to play, got plenty of help from Chase Branscomb, who scored 17 points and Caleb Easterling, who finished with 10.

Guard Dallas Fields led the Panthers with 16 points. He had a pair of 3-pointers during Powell's fourth-quarter comeback bid.

The Panthers put up a valiant effort late but when the dust had settled, it was too little too late.



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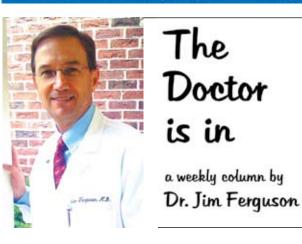
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Penance

I hope that Thomas three inches thick. At first Paine will not be offended I looked up a lot of words as I paraphrase his immortal words, "These are the times that try men's [waistbands]." The Thanksgiving cornucopia is past, but the Holiday Season has just begun and the pounds must be addressed if we are to button our slacks and zip our dress.

My patient came in and declared, "Doc, I'm on the 'Paleo Diet'." Fortunately, my Medical-ese saved me from appearing totally flummoxed. When you go to medical school you learn a new language, the language of science derived from Latin and Greek root words. In addition to text books I purchased Stedman's Medical Dictionary which was about

as I studied, but as time went by fewer and fewer words stumped me. I actually looked up a word last summer and noticed the dust on the cover of my old dictionary. I said, "Paleo means old, so I guess you're on a caveman's diet."

I was right. His "caveman" diet was based on what our hunter-gatherer ancestors were believed to have eaten. Their diet was meat, berries, nuts, whole grains and some plant vegetables. Our processed flour and sugar weren't yet invented and salt was scarce. I can understand the logic of this diet, but there is little science to support it. Had I

have pointed out the life less about what you eat expectancy was twenty-five years at the end of the last ice age (about 12,000 years ago), and a man five foot tall was a giant.

There are many reasons humans now live longer and grow taller than in the past. These include clean water, antibiotics, vaccinations, but also safe and better food. In fact, the food and drug regulatory agency (FDA) began in 1906 after Upton Sinclair published his sensational novel The Jungle, depicting the deplorable conditions in Chicago's meat industry.

It is true we have more processed food in our diet and often we leap to the conclusion that altering food from its natural state is bad. By definition a food that is frozen, refrigerated, dehydrated or prepared aseptically is processed. Pasteurized milk is therefore processed to kill bacterial contaminants. It is true that refined white flour, instead of whole grains, is often added to pasta and sodium is frequently used as a preservative and for flavor in canned goods. Obviously, Fruit Loops is not on the Paleo Diet.

Patients often ask me been argumentative I might about diets, and I say it's

and more about how much you consume. All diets work if they provide fewer calories than required by the patient's body, and result in weight loss and health benefits which justify the effort. Every year the US News and World Report reviews and ranks the numerous diets available. Also, Healthline. com offers a useful guide of the various options. The highest rated diet for cardiovascular health is the TLC (Therapeutic Lifestyle Changes Diet) developed by the NIH to lower the bad (LDL) cholesterol by restricting saturated fats. Also, the DASH diet receives high marks by lowering salt consumption and improving blood pressure control.

Every year the Weight Watchers program and Jenny Craig diet plans score very high marks through portion control, education and motivation. Diets like the Glycemic Index, South Beach and Nutri System focus on limiting sugar, and emphasize lean protein choices and lower caloric intake. Some believe that Americans can adopt the Mediterranean Diet of southern Italy, Greece and Crete and have the same improved outcomes. This

diet emphasizing vegetables, fruit, olive oil, fish and poultry is sensible, especially if washed down with the advised red wine! However, the ancestry of southern Europe is different than the southern US. Perhaps it's the moonshine instead of the wine.

Other diets include the high protein and low carb Atkins diet, the low fat and low carb Scarsdale, the low fat and vegetarian Dean Ornish, and many others including the goofy New Beverly Hills diet and the Grapefruit diet. My personal favorite for ridiculous is The Skinny Bitch Diet. The latter is essentially a vegan diet without dairy, caffeine, sugar or alcohol. I can see how this diet gets its name. The French have a philosophy that you are what you eat. All these diets say you are what you don't eat.

I remain fascinated by medicine and the wonders of The Creation. Basic science research arguably seems foolish at times, but sometimes it connects the dots. How did our hunter gatherer ancestors survive before the earth warmed, allowing farming and animal husbandry to provide us a more reliable food supply? In the paleolithic era a kill

of a large animal might provide food for a few days. A survival advantage would occur if those precious calories could be assimilated, stored and then carefully doled out during lean periods. The thrifty gene hypothesis holds that the insulin molecule evolved to give that survival edge.

A recent discovery adds to our knowledge of our ancestor's gluttony-starvation cycle. The intestinal Paneth cell has been described as "the most beautiful cell of the human body" because of its appearance under the microscopic lens. However, research suggests that the Paneth cell's beauty may also come from the explanation why cycles of fasting in our modern age seem to promote even more weight gain when dieting is discontinued. It appears that calorie restriction causes the Paneth cell to prime the intestinal cells for refeeding. When this occurs a burst of cellular growth results and the intestine is quickly transformed to greater absorptive efficiency.

As Spock would say, "Fascinating!"

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

Tennessee Valley Fair Raises \$6,050 for The Love Kitchen

The Tennessee Valley Fair, along with Food City, Wade Shows Inc., WBIR Channel 10 and the Knoxville News Sentinel presented the Love Kitchen with a \$6,050 donation Wednesday, November 20.

Funds were raised during Love Kitchen Day on Sunday, September 8, which was held during the 94th annual Tennessee Valley Fair, September 6-15. One dollar from each ride wristband sold was designated to benefit the Love Kitchen. In addition, proceeds from country star Chase Rice's concert contributed to the donation.



Health care systems around the world examined in Library program this week

One of the arguments for the Affordable Care Act, also known as Obamacare, has been how much better and cheaper healthcare is in other developed countries. Author T.R. Reid, with passport in hand, decided to find

Jerry Burgess, **President and CEO** of Community **Health Alliance to** discuss "The Healing of America" by T.R. Reid

out. He shares what he learned in "The Healing of America: A Global Quest for Better, Cheaper, and Fairer Health Care." Join Jerry Burgess, President and CEO of Community Health Alliance, for a discussion of Reid's findings in Knox County Public Library's Books Sandwiched In, Wednesday, December 4, 12:00 p.m. in the East Tennessee History Center auditorium, at 601 South Gay Street. "I think the book gives a clear overview of how health systems work in other countries," Burgess said. "There are lessons from other countries as we think about reforming the US Health System." In "The Healing of America: A Global Quest for Better, Cheaper, and Fairer Health Care," T. R. Reid visits industrialized democracies around the world--France, Britain, Germany, Japan, and beyond--to provide an insightful tour of working, affordable universal health care systems.

According to Helen, "these gift cards will make us work harder. This means we can feed more people. Our service continues to grow."

The Love

PHOTO BY DAN ANDREWS.

Scott Suchomski, CFE, Tennessee Valley Fair, presented Helen Ashe and Ellen Turner of the Love Kitchen with a donation of \$6,050 in gift cards the week before Thanksgiving.

and emergency services to ville area. Working together homebound, homeless and with other local agencies, Kitchen unemployed individuals the Love Kitchen provides

provides meals, clothing and families in the Knox- these services in the hopes of promoting self-sufficiency in our community.

Continue on page 2

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

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PAGE D2 The Knoxville FOCUS Health care systems around the world examined in Library program

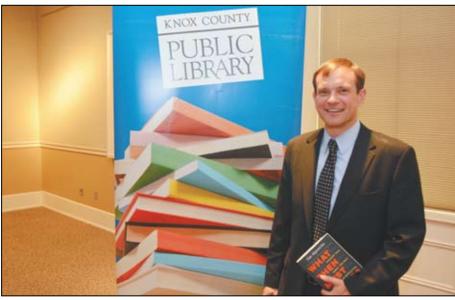
Continued from page 1

"The book demonstrates that health care is a difficult issue for any modern society, and the best solutions are a combination of government and the private sector," Burgess said.

As CEO of Community Health Alliance, Burgess is directing Tennessee's only health insurance co-op. He has more than 30 years of experience in the health care industry, including executive positions with three health care systems in Tennessee and Ohio: St. Mary's Health System of Knoxville, Methodist

Health Systems of Memphis and Christ Hospital of Cincinnati. Burgess founded two nonprofit organizations whose purpose is to improve the value of health care for employers and their communities. He holds a Master's of Business Administration and three undergraduate degrees.

The public is invited to join the conversation. Bring your favorite sandwich or pick up something from a downtown restaurant. Copies of the books are available at the Library if you'd like to read one before the program.



December 2, 2013

City

Councilman Marshall Stair discussed wealth equality in a review of "What Then Must We Do" by Gar Apperovitz in last month's Books Sandwiched In at the Knox County Public Library. Photo by Dan Andrews.

Faith

Finding Rest

This past week someone made a comment to me about my life. They said they were not sure how I could fit everything in since my life was so "full." I like to think that it is full of love and of Christ joy, and it is. But

looking at the demands of to seven children ranging in age from 18 to almost 4, coaching my kids basketball teams, and being involved in community outreach - yes, "full" would be a good way to describe it. There are days I wonder how I will "get it all done" rest in the Lord.

way to make us rest. I have heard numerous times a church member tell me the following in similar words, "Getting sick was the best thing that happened to me. It caused me to realize what was truly imporwith God, my family, and ented.

By Mark Brackney, Minister of the **Arlington Church** we can find true

we are not God, and times of weakness, sickness, and struggle remind us of our need and dependence upon God. It is in God alone that

rest for our weary souls and bodies. Jonah full-time ministry, a parent had to be totally crippled for three days and three nights to remember that his rest could come only from God. Jesus even alluded to the story of Jonah when He stated, "For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the whale, so will the Son of and still find some time to man be three days and three nights in the heart God sometimes has a of the earth" (Matthew 12:40)

When Jesus went into the tomb of Joseph of Arimathea, for the followers of Jesus, it was the end of hope. Their lives came to a crashing halt. Yet Jesus "in the belly of the fish" tant in life - my relationship (the tomb) is where we learn much from and about the people He has put in God. For three days all was my life." It's not about suc- quiet. For three days the cess, money, or personal disciples huddled together happiness. It is other's ori- in stillness and reflection. It is important to a virtual halt. But that time life.

remember that of rest was critical to wait and trust upon the Lord.

> Some may wonder why it takes a "visit to the belly of the fish" type of experience to get us to rest in God. Why don't we just practice formulaic spiritual disciplines? Because spirituality is not a mood you can create and the disciplines in and of themselves can't bring peace to your troubled souls. Worship and spiritual disciplines is not some cafeteria where we pick and choose according to our likes and dislikes. This is the result of the consumer mentality in our culture. What we really need is not some ritual or tradition to draw us near to God. We need to be reduced to nothing where we are completely at the mercy of God in order for Him to shape His will in our lives. Just ask Jonah about his time in the belly of the fish or Jesus in Joseph's tomb. Death turns to resurrection, new life. Jonah came out a changed man, ready to obey the voice of the Lord. Jesus came out conquering death and giving hope to all who will believe. Let your moment "in the belly of the fish"

Church Happenings

Revival Christian Church

A city wide day of repentance prayer will be hosted by Revival Christian Church on Sunday, December 8, 2013 from 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. at Bearden Middle School, located at 1000 Francis Road in Knoxville. Spiritual leaders from various denominations will be present. Music will be provided by Ronnie Brabson and Anointed Praise.

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 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.

Seymour United Methodist Church

Children's Christmas Program on Sun., 12/8 at 6:30 p.m.; Youth Ugly Sweater Christmas Party on Sun., 12/15 at 5:30

We invite you to visit our new church **Heritage Baptist** Church Come...with us, and we will do thee good." Numbers 10:29 Now meeting at the Clarion Inn behind Red Lobster on Merchants Rd. An Independent,

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p.m.; 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 and 11 p.m.

Wednesday evening, Dec. 4th, there will be a "Family Advent Crafts Night" beginning at 6 p.m.

Come worship with us New Beverly **Baptist Church** 3320 New Beverly Church Rd. Knoxville, TN 37918 Rev. Eddie Sawyer, Pastor www.newbeverly.org 856-546-0001

Sunday School 10 a.m. Sunday Morning Worship 11:00 a.m. Sunday Evening Worship 6:00 p.m. Wednesday Evening Prayer 7:00 p.m. Wednesday Evening Youth 7:00 p.m. **Bus Ministry** For transportation call 546-0001.



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SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15 3:00 P.M. & 6:00 P.M.



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December 2, 2013



Sweet Potato Biscuits

2 3/4 Cups self-rising flour 1/2 tsp cinnamon 1/2 tsp nutmeg 3/4 cup chopped nuts 3/4 cup sugar 2 cups mashed, cooked sweet potatoes (without butter or milk) 1/2 cup butter 1 tsp vanilla

In a large mixing bowl, combine flour, cinnamon, nutmeg and nuts. In another bowl, combine sweet potatoes, sugar, butter and vanilla. Add to flour mixture and mix well. Turn out and knead three or four times. Roll to 1/2inch thickness and cut with a 2 1/2 inch biscuit cutter. Place on a lightly greased baking pan. Rework dough and cut until all has been used. Bake at 425° for about 12 to 15 minutes or until brown.

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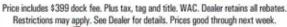
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PUBLIC NOTICE PUBLIC NOTICE:

PUBLIC NOTICE: PUBLIC **NOTICE: Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization** · Technical Committee Meeting, December 10, 2013.

The Knoxville Regional **Transportation Planning** Organization (TPO) Technical Committee will meet on Tuesday, December 10, at 9 a.m. in the **Small Assembly Room**

of the City/County Building, 400 Main Street, Knoxville, TN. Topics to be considered: Proposed Amendments to the FY 2014-2017 Transportation Improvement Program (FTA Section 5307 and 5339 Projects), Consideration of Multimodal Grant Projects to be Submitted to TDOT, Review of **Congestion Mitigation Air Quality** Program and Projects,

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. If you need assistance or accommodation for a disability, please contact MPC at 215-2500 and we will be glad to work with you in obliging any reasonable request.

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Friday, December 6, 2013 | 6:00 p.m.

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