



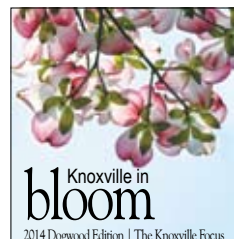
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INSIDE

March 31, 2014

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Bob Thomas Runs for District 10 Commission Seat



PHOTO BY DAN ANDREWS.

Robert Thomas and Wivick the Frog.

By David Klein

Robert (Bob) Thomas does not have an agenda in becoming Knox County District 10 Commissioner. In an interview with *The Focus*, he said many times that he is in favor of reducing the debt.

Thomas is the former co-host of the Ed and Bob show and is running unopposed for the Knox County Commission

at large seat for District 10, which covers the entire county. His friend Mike Hammond, the current seat holder whose term is expiring, told Thomas that he should consider running for his seat.

He said, "Bob, you really ought to consider running for my seat. I'd think you do an incredible job." Thomas' family said to go for it. Thomas is running unopposed for the seat in

the May 6 Primary.

Thomas hosted a midday radio program at WIVK from 1976-1996 and had the highest-rated midday radio show in America for 16 years. Thomas was also chairman of the Knoxville Christmas Parade and brought the Knoxville Cherokees hockey team to Knoxville, owning the team for eight years and expanded the minor East Coast Hockey

League from five to 22 teams. Thomas currently works in the sales department at WIVK.

In talking with voters, Thomas indicated some of their concerns. "They want the commission to act professionally. They want us to stop the waste. They don't want tax increases unless we can prove that they're necessary."

"We give about 70 percent of **Continue on page 2**

FOCUS Weekly Poll*

Recently the Obama administration announced plans for the US government to give up its oversight of the internet to an international organization.

Do you agree or disagree with this decision?

AGREE 12.84%
DISAGREE 87.16%

Survey conducted March 27, 2014.

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

Gold Star Highway, Proton Therapy, PPU

By Mike Steely
steelym@knoxfocus.com

The Knox County Commission last Monday voted on several items and heard from two groups of women being honored.

Following a video presentation focusing on the 911 attack and military, police and fire fatalities there and in service to our nation, the mother of fallen soldier, Ryan McGee, spoke and urged the governing

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School Board candidates debate

By Mike Steely
steelym@knoxfocus.com

Last Thursday, the League of Women Voters of Knoxville/Knox County and the Knox County Education Association hosted a moderated forum for the candidates for School Board from the 1st and 6th Districts. Early voting begins April 16 and voters were able to get a look at the candidates as a group for the first time. The small conference room of the Cansler YMCA was full with supporters, parents, and a few elected officials.

Of all the questions asked by host WATE Anchor Gene Patterson, one question placed the seven candidates for school board squarely for or against Superintendent James McIntyre.

The question was basically, "What do you think of his leadership?"

Gloria Deathridge, the incumbent in the 1st District, came down firmly in support of the superintendent saying, "He cares about kids, he's moving the system in the direction we'd like to go."

Her 1st District opponents, Robert Boyd and Marshall Walker, were not so supportive. Boyd said that McIntyre "might be a great administrator" but added, "something is wrong."

"I don't think he knows education," Boyd said.

Walker said that if he was hiring an executive CEO "then I'd hire him," but went on

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Walker Aims for Parental, Community Involvement in School Board Run

By David Klein

Marshall Walker is running for the open seat of Knox County School Board member, District 1. He has a background as a social worker in Knox County Schools, working there from 2001-2012. His specialty as a social worker was studying how family and children issues could affect attendance.

As a social worker, Walker said, "you work with the community, churches, and many different people in the community. You try to create an avenue for all kids to be successful in school," he added.

Walker also coached Austin East high school football from 2001-2005. "Coaching taught me what it takes to motivate students," he emphasized.

Last year, Walker decided to run for the seat on the Knox County School Board. "When I retired in 2012, I was really thinking about it at that time. I made that decision last year to run."

Walker wants to speak for District 1, if he is elected. "It is my goal to be the voice of District 1," Walker said.

He debated his opponents, Robert Boyd and incumbent Gloria Deathridge at

the Cansler YMCA on Thursday. "I got the impression that a majority of people that attended were pro-school, pro-teachers and pro-students," he said.

His first goal as school board representative would be to review the organization chart. "A lot of people are confused about the line of authority in Knox County. All that responsibility (for people to know the Knox County flow of authority) falls in the hands of the board members. A lot of people did not know the board member that represented District 1," Walker stressed. "I also want to give some credibility to the teacher's concerns," he said.

Getting the students off to a good start in early years is crucial, according to Walker. "It's important to start at the foundation (elementary schools)." Walker used an analogy. "A really good contractor will always make sure their foundation is solid, regardless of what takes place at other levels. Elementary schools at District 1 are performing poorly. If you don't give the students training, then they are going to have problems

Continue on page 2



PHOTO BY DAN ANDREWS.

Marshall Walker at the League of Women Voters of Knoxville/Knox County and Knox County Teachers Association's School Board candidate forum for Districts 1 and 6, held last Thursday.

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Focus on the Law

Unionization Of College Athletics

Federal law, namely the National Labor Relations Act, passed by Congress in 1935 declares it is the "policy of the United States to eliminate the causes of certain substantial obstructions to the free flow of commerce and to mitigate and eliminate these obstructions when they have occurred by encouraging the practice and procedure of collective bargaining and protecting the exercise by workers of full freedom of association, self-organization, and designation of representatives of their own choosing, for the purpose of negotiating the terms and conditions of their employment or other mutual aid or protection."

In the Northwestern University and College Athletes Players Association ("CAPA") case, CAPA filed a petition before the National Labor Relations Board ("NLRB") requesting a hearing on a question affecting commerce under the Act. The regional director found Northwestern to be an "employer" engaged in commerce giving the NLRB jurisdiction to decide



By Sharon Frankenberg, Attorney at Law

the question. Further, the director found CAPA to be a labor organization within the meaning of the Act because all football players at Northwestern University receiving grant-in-aid scholarships and who have not exhausted their playing eligibility are "employees" as defined by the Act and are therefore entitled to choose whether or not to be represented in collective bargaining. Non-scholarship football players are not included as employees under this decision. An election by secret ballot was ordered to determine if the football players want to be represented by CAPA for collective bargaining purposes. The players could choose to be represented by another labor union. The decision will likely be appealed by Northwestern to the full NLRB in Washington, D.C. NLRB members are appointed by the President and approved by Congress. The appeal can be appealed to federal district court and ultimately, the US Supreme Court could even hear the case.

The 24 page decision

has some very interesting facts about how collegiate athletics work at a big university. Northwestern University is a private, non-profit, non-sectarian, coeducational teaching university chartered by the State of Illinois. It is a member of the NCAA and the Big Ten Conference and competes against 11 conference schools in the Big Ten as well as non-conference opponents in various sports. There are currently 19 varsity sports in which Northwestern's students can participate at the Division I level, 8 sports for men and 11 for women. In total, about 500 students compete in these sports each year for Northwestern.

The football team at Northwestern is comprised of about 112 players of which 85 players receive football grant-in-aid scholarships that pay for tuition, fees, room, board and books. Players on scholarship typically receive grant-in-aid totaling \$61,000 each academic year. For the 2012-2013 academic year the football program at Northwestern generated \$30.1 million in revenue and \$21.7 million in expenses not including the one quarter to one half million dollars spent to maintain the

stadium. In addition profit from the football team's annual revenue is used to subsidize the non-revenue generating sports (everything except football and men's basketball) to assure compliance with Title IX.

The critical findings in the Northwestern case are that the players perform services for the benefit of the university for which they receive compensation and the players are subject to strict control over the performance of their duties. The hearing officer found that despite what Northwestern contended, players are not primarily students but actually spend 50 to 60 hours per week training and practicing. They often miss class during training camp and scholarship players testified that they did not enroll in classes that conflicted with their football commitments. The athletic department controls how and where they live. This is how the NLRB found an employer-employee relationship which led to possible unionization of scholarship athletes. The ultimate impact may extend far past the halls of Northwestern.

FOCUS Weekly Poll

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Do you agree or disagree with this decision?

AGREE 12.84%

DISAGREE 87.16%



By Age	AGREE	DISAGREE	Total
30-49	27.78%	72.22%	18
50-65	14.12%	85.88%	85
65+	10.39%	89.61%	154
Total	12.84% (33)	87.16% (224)	257

By District	AGREE	DISAGREE	Total
1	28.57%	71.43%	14
2	17.65%	82.35%	34
3	15.00%	85.00%	20
4	6.82%	93.18%	44
5	5.56%	94.44%	18
6	9.09%	90.91%	33
7	14.29%	85.71%	35
8	10.71%	89.29%	28
9	16.13%	83.87%	31
Total	12.84% (33)	87.16% (224)	257

By Gender	AGREE	DISAGREE	Total
Unknown	[None]	100.00%	11
Female	12.41%	87.59%	145
Male	14.85%	85.15%	101
Total	12.84% (33)	87.16% (224)	257

Survey conducted March 27, 2014.

Bob Thomas Runs for District 10 Commission Seat

Cont. from page 1

our tax dollars to the Knox County school system," Thomas said. "We could probably give 100 percent of our money to the Knox County school system, and you couldn't tell me a whole lot of difference between the two," he said.

"We have to make sure that we don't waste our money. We're giving the school systems the needed money they need in order to build a good infrastructure, but we also have to pay for 1000 sheriff deputies and 500 other people that work for the county. We have to make sure we

have money left over. The mayor is trying to pay 20 million down each year (of the county debt)."

Thomas emphasized the county has made good progress. "We're on a pretty good path," he said. "Our bond ratings are going up. "We are a county, I think, that is admired by lots of other counties across the state."

Thomas does not have an agenda he seeks when he comes in. "I don't have an agenda. I wanna make sure we don't waste our money, pay down the debt, and bring new jobs to this community. There's nothing

you can do immediately. You have to be a good caretaker and make good decisions."

Regarding jobs, Thomas mentioned technology as an idea for job growth. He told the story of a friend who had two friends in Nashville. The kids of one of the fathers said his kids told him that they weren't coming back to Knoxville to work after graduating college because they said there were no jobs here. "I think we're going to have to look at new technology," Thomas said. "Businesses need to have a reason to come here. We need to

attract young people that want to come and live here and raise their families. That's how communities thrive. We've got to have a reason for these businesses to come here to employ these people. We need to find out what those businesses are going to be in the future and how can we best attract them. Maybe it's high-speed internet all throughout the area. We've got to be forward thinking," Thomas emphasized.

"We need a labor force that is intelligent, well educated, and can do great things," he stressed.

Thomas started working

as a young man of 12 years old, doing a paper route. "I had 71 papers, and I was responsible for delivering them every single day. I wanted to buy a 10 speed bicycle. I decided I was going to work very hard and save up enough money to buy this bike. I just assumed that when people owed you money, they just paid you when you went by to get it. You would be shocked to see how many people would avoid the paperboy or wouldn't pay. I had to pay for those papers that I delivered to their houses. It taught me about business and people.

" He worked at Volunteer Ballpark before he had the paper route and has been working solidly since then.

The impression Thomas wants to leave voters with is, "I'm always going to make myself available to listen to everybody's concerns. I want to bring all parties together so we can get things done and can make Knox County one of the greatest places in East Tennessee, if not the entire South, to live."

For more information on Bob Thomas, go to elect-bobthomas.com.

Walker Aims for Parental, Community Involvement in School Board Run

Cont. from page 1

at the middle school and high school level. You can put the educational program in a building at the foundation level, but if it's not the appropriate educational program, then the schools' education and grade performance is not gonna improve." There is a great deal of involvement at the high school level, not necessarily at the foundation."

He outlined the responsibilities of a school board. "It's the school

board's responsibility to be transparent in their district, let their community know what else is going on. The school board needs to try to rejuvenate community and parental involvement in District 1 schools, and that's where I feel students can improve."

Walker talked about the unity of beliefs that were shared by prospective school board members. "Most of the people running for school board elect this time are of single note regarding taking the business tone out of the

educational system and making more educational decisions based on the education and needs of all students and to really, really treat their teachers like experts. If you don't want to do that, don't hire the teacher," he said.

When it comes to charter schools, Walker is not strictly for or against them. He said in some situations charter schools may be the right education system for their community. "I would be willing to listen to any creative program that's designed to impact the

students," he said.

Walker enjoys interacting with his three grandchildren who live and attend school in Alcoa and says they tell him about how the schools change. He also has a T-shirt business he had to put on hold because of the election.

The biggest thing Walker wants people to do is vote. "I am really, really a firm advocate for people coming out to vote." Early voting begins April 16 for the May 6 primary.



Mayor Burchett was the guest speaker at Gibbs Elementary School last Wednesday. He spoke to 2nd graders on how a bill becomes law. He then took many thought provoking questions from the students. Such questions included "can the mayor get a ticket from the police?" Other questions focused on why he ran for Mayor? What is his day like? One student asked, "Do you get followed by the paparazzi and have your picture taken for the paper?" Good question. Yes! - Dan Andrews reporting.



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Emerald plans to become a Charter School

By Mike Steely
steelym@knoxfocus.com

Will Knox County finally have its first Charter School?

With a high energy and receptive crowd packing the lunch room of the Emerald Youth Foundation on North Central Street, Executive Director Steve Diggs made it formal: The Emerald Academy will apply as a Charter School on April 1. This formal announcement was presented last Tuesday.

With temperatures dropping outside and snow falling, Diggs joked that it was the first day he felt they actually were a school and wondered if he should delay opening classes. Actually the school, if approved, won't open until August, 2015, but hopes are running high.

"We've been working with every department of the Knox County Schools," he said, adding there is even an understanding with the system's food service department to supply breakfast and lunch to the Emerald Academy. The idea is to give quality education to K-8 inner city youth.

Diggs said that the school will accept students including special needs children and said the Youth Foundation already has a long working relationship with Knox County Schools. He said the Academy hopes to have about 60 students

in every grade, with K-4 having no more than 15 students in any class. The school is planning a longer school day, 8 a.m. until 4 p.m., except Wednesday when students will be dismissed at 2:30. He said students will wear a uniform, basically a white shirt and black pants or skirts, and each student would have a life coach that follows them through their entire educational career, including college.

"There are two unknowns," he said, explaining the first is who will be principal, adding that applications will be accepted after the filing for Charter status. The second unknown is where the school will be located, but he said he would prefer the location be in the Northern part of Knoxville within the Fulton High School zone.

Diggs also said that the newly formed Board of Directors and others have asked that transportation be provided to and from school and he said he's added that to the application.

"We will call our students 'scholars,' not students," he said

"We will have a culture of high expectations," Diggs added, saying that teachers there will be certified and have competitive pay, preferably with urban teaching experience.

"By the end of the first



PHOTO BY MIKE STEELY.

Steve Diggs, President of the Board of Directors of Emerald Charter Schools, introduces three children dressed in the proposed school uniforms of the proposed Charter School. "Every child can succeed," was Steve Digg's main theme in announcing that Emerald Academy will apply to become a Charter School in Knox County.

ten years Emerald Academy will be a Reward School, in the top 5 percent of state assessment," Diggs pledged.

Student recruitment at the school would begin when approval is granted. He said that after the application is made it will go to a Charter Application Review Committee, probably in mid-April and,

in June or July, the Knox County system would announce a decision.

Preceding the announcement, the new Board of Directors met for the first time. During the ceremonies Diggs introduced them one at a time: Renda Burkhart, founder of Burkhart and Company; Cuille Cruze, Entrepreneur; Randy

Gibson, Chief Operating Officer of Lawler-Wood; Ed Hedgepeth, Principal in Residents at TNLEAD; Tim McLemour, Attorney and President of Gentry, Tipton and McLemore; Alvin Nance, Executive Director and CEO of KCDC; Sherra Robinson, Outreach Director of Western Heights Dental; and Daniel Smith, Director of Public Policy and

Education for the Knoxville Chamber.

Supporters of the Academy idea have been gathering feedback from parents, business leaders, educators, and community members in a series of public meetings.

School Board candidates debate

Cont. from page 1

to say that children are not property.

The candidates for District 6 also commented.

Terry Hill said that McIntyre has "always acted in what he feels is best in the best interest of the school system."

Sandra Rowcliffe seemed to defend the superintendent saying, "We're making huge strides, I think we have to give some credit in moving our schools." She also said that he is doing what the current board of education has asked him to do.

"He is not producing educational leadership," said Brad Buchanan. Buchanan had earlier commented that McIntyre's drafted budget looks at balancing the budget based on

teacher turnover and said, "That disturbs me."

Tamara Shepherd was the most critical of the superintendent, saying "McIntyre is a finance person" and that the superintendent takes a "business oriented tact" with the position.

"He's not a good match for us," she said.

When asked about their support of Charter Schools in Knox County, Deathridge, Rowcliffe, Walker and Hill said they would support the publicly-funded private schools with some reservations. Shepherd, Buchanan and Boyd voiced their opposition to Charters.

"We're farming our children out," said Boyd.

When asked their opinion on the use of Common Core in the school system, Hill, Deathridge, and Rowcliffe appeared to favor the

standards.

"It's of value to everyone," Deathridge said.

Buchanan said that some of the Common Core standards are not appropriate to some grade levels and called for "putting the brakes on."

Boyd said "It's just another form of testing. College students without testing in school are doing just as well."

Hill said, of Common Core, "We need to educate our teachers, give them training and support."

None of the candidates were in favor of a larger student body in classrooms.

When asked about the most important issue facing the school board today, Deathridge and Buchanan said, "Budget." Hill said "Better educating our kids on varying pathways."

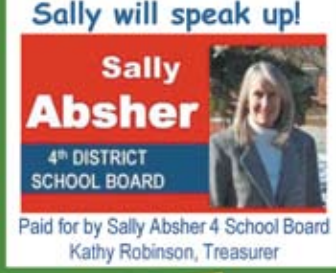
Shepherd said teacher evaluations and bonus. Boyd said it was "money" but said he wasn't sure how the budget would work. Hill said the most important thing was how much money from the budget is getting into the classroom. Walker said it was simply, "How

students learn."

The League of Women Voters posed a series of questions to all the school board candidates in all the districts and you can go on line at <http://lwvknoxville.org/files/lwv3.0.pdf> and read each question and answer.

The next debate between candidates for school board will be April 1st at 7 p.m. and will feature those candidates from Districts 4, 7 and 9. It will be held at Pellissippi State University on Magnolia Avenue.

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In case you missed it...

Knox County Commission votes to authorize audit of KCS \$15.4M Physical Plant Upgrade (PPU) account. Who is watching the budget?

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Seymour Chamber swears in new officers

The Seymour Area Chamber of Commerce (SACC) swore in its 2014 Officers on Friday, March 14, 2014 at its 11th Annual Chamber Banquet held at Valley Grove Baptist Church. This year's Officers include President, Linda Karam of AdvoCare; Vice President, John Linsenbiger of the Seymour Volunteer Fire Department; Treasurer, Melissa Frazier of Tennessee State Bank; and Secretary, Gayle Boyd of Bullet Boats, Inc.

The annual event, which featured Alan Williams of Local 8 News as the keynote speaker, was enjoyed by a crowd of 70 plus attendees. In addition to installation of new Officers for 2014, Ted Esch was recognized as 2013 SACC Person of the Year, and Thomas and Rebekah Hill were given special recognition for their contributions to the Chamber and its mission.

The Seymour Area Chamber's goals are: to promote commerce with and among its members in the Seymour/South Knoxville area; to stimulate the small business environment and attract new businesses to the area; to provide a forum for ideas that will stimulate the development of consumer-friendly business; to assist members in



Rebekah and Thomas Hill given special recognition for their contributions to the Chamber and its mission with Rachael Campbell 2013 SACC President

meeting high standards of good business practice and increase the trust of consumers in Chamber member business activities; to support its community by addressing the needs of Seymour and South Knoxville; and to increase business

support for the Seymour Volunteer Fire Department.

"I am very anxious to work with the Board of Directors and the Chamber members to brainstorm new ideas and quickly implement them, to grow the membership

and increase members' benefits. The more people you have working towards a goal the greater the reward for everyone. We want to continue to partner with new and existing local companies that want to grow their business while

supporting their local community. We want to increase the growth within the chamber and help promote action in the Seymour area to increase business revenue. After all, that is the main function of a chamber of "commerce," said Linda Karam, Chamber President.

"We are very thankful to Valley Grove Baptist Church and its staff for facilitating the banquet for its second year. We would also like to thank Alan Williams for his Tennessee Traveler stories which provided wonderful entertainment for the evening," continued Karam.

SACC 2013 outgoing Officers included President, Rachael Campbell of TNConnect Credit Union; Vice President, Thomas Hill of Computer Depot, Inc.; Treasurer, Shirley Clepper of Network Technologies and Melissa Frazier of Tennessee State Bank; and Secretary, Rebekah Hill of Computer Depot, Inc. Other Board Members include Knox County Commissioner Mike Brown and Bettina Kooijman.

Established in 2000, the Seymour Area Chamber of Commerce is comprised of volunteer Officers and Board of Directors. It is a non-profit organization. You may contact the SACC at info@seymourtn.org.

Gold Star Highway, Proton Therapy, PPU

Cont. from page 1

body to officially recognize Tennessee Highway One as "The Gold Star Families Memorial Highway."

Commissioner Dr. Richard Briggs, a retired Army physician, presented the video tribute and sponsored the recognition, which passed unanimously. He introduced the women, Sherrie McGhee and Martha Hunt, both Gold Star Mothers.

Sgt. Joseph Hunt was killed when two mines went off under his vehicle in Iraq and Ryan McGhee was killed during his 4th deployment.

Mrs. McGhee said the idea started in West Tennessee and she contacted Mayor Burchett and started gathering support to designate the highway. In Knox County, the highway enters from the west at Kingston Pike and Cumberland Avenue and through town and along Magnolia and then up Rutledge Pike to the county line. The length of the route begins in Memphis and ends in Bristol, spanning the Volunteer State.

During the presentation Mayor Tim Burchett asked all veterans present to stand with the mothers during the presentation.



PHOTO BY DAN ANDREWS.

Sherrie McGhee and Martha Hunt, at podium, gave a presentation on the Gold Star Families Memorial Highway at Commission last week.

The mayor presented the ladies with a certificate of recognition.

The Knox County Democratic Women's Club was also honored at the Monday meeting. The club is the oldest such organization in the United States, celebrating its 85th anniversary this year. First formed in 1928 the political club is also celebrating March as "Women's History Month."

Commissioner Amy Broyles introduced the club officials to the commission and Kathy Manning, president, called the celebration "a great milestone to have the oldest club right here in Knox County." Also present during the recognition were Deni Kidd, Margie Floyd,

and Democratic Party Chair Linda Haney.

The commission also supported, but on a split vote, a state bill that would include Proton Therapy in required medical insurance coverage. Commissioner Jeff Ownby sponsored the resolution and Dr. Briggs abstained from voting. The motion passed 8-2-1 after some debate about the cost of the therapy and whether it is any more effective than radiation or chemotherapy.

Added to the agenda and passing was the commission's authorization to have the Internal Auditor look into the school system's Physical Plant Upgrade (PPU) account. The inquiry

would investigate how the funds have been used, to whom funds were disbursed, and if the distribution was consistent and in compliance with the commission's budget resolution to the schools.

In a related school matter, Commissioners Sam McKenzie and Mike Hammond, members of the Joint Education Committee, said they would like to see the special committee, made up of commissioners and school board members, continue after their final official meeting with the outside facilitator on April 24. McKenzie said "a discussion of whether or not we go forward" was needed. He said that the

joint committee still needs to discuss several things, including teacher evaluations, budgets and property.

Hammond, who leaves the commission in August, said he would like to see the committee continue and he is willing to "step down" after the April meeting so someone else can be appointed.

Commissioner Tony Norman said the commission needs to "keep the eye on the ball."

"The subject is education and teaching, I hope you won't be diverted with real estate," he said. Much of the joint committee's discussion has been about what to do with abandoned schools.

Broyles "Freedom of Speech" for all county employees resolution

passed without debate in final reading. Consent items passing without discussion included an agreement with Helen Ross McNabb Center for construction of an 8-unit housing project at 4821 Coster and funding the county libraries "Saturday Stories and Songs" program.

In other action, Hammond asked the Finance Director when they would expect a budget from the mayor's office. "I'm in the middle of that process," said County Finance Director Chris Caldwell. "I'm waiting for one more month of sales and property tax reports."

"It is a fluid process. The mayor and I will meet about three times a week to go over it," Caldwell said.

Dr Bethany Thomas, DDS

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County Commission

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Our Neighborhoods

EAST KNOXVILLE

By Mike Steely
 steelym@knoxfocus.com

Every section of Knox County is unique and offers a variety of home styles, historic sites, restaurants, neighborhoods, and culture. East Knoxville has all that and more.

From downtown Knoxville to Interstate 40, the east side of the city may be the most diverse section in our region. East Knoxville basically is that portion along Magnolia Avenue, Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard, Dandridge Avenue and adjoining streets. Part of the area was actually a town, known as the City of East Knoxville in 1855 and was annexed into Knoxville in 1868.

Residential neighborhoods in that section, Park City and Mountain View, were also their own small towns until annexed into the city in 1917. Park City became the Parkridge neighborhood and Mountain View became Morningside.

In recent years urban renewal projects have and are changing the area of East Knoxville. Much of the renewal projects have looked at Magnolia Avenue and Martin Luther King with the idea of preserving buildings, stopping blight, and improving sidewalks.

County Commissioner Sam McKenzie said it takes public and private effort to revitalize a neighborhood and laments the fact that some government offices have moved out of East Knoxville, including the county clerk's office departure from Knoxville Center Mall. He said businesses are starting to relocate and that an urban format radio station there is helping restore spirit.

"The future is extremely bright, people are getting excited. East Knoxville is the most diverse area in Knox County, there's lots of movement back to there and a lot of pride," he told *The Focus*.

"I think it's important to keep schools in neighborhoods. It seems there's always a push to close down inner city schools, but the Stem Academy helps and Austin-East is doing well," he said. "What I'd like to see is the county making a larger connection with my district and I'd like to see it reconnect with the Beck Center."

PARKRIDGE

In its earlier days, Parkridge was known as Shieldstown, established in the 1850s. It was on the main route, then, between Knoxville and Asheville. By the 1880s neighborhood were added. In 1907 Shieldstown

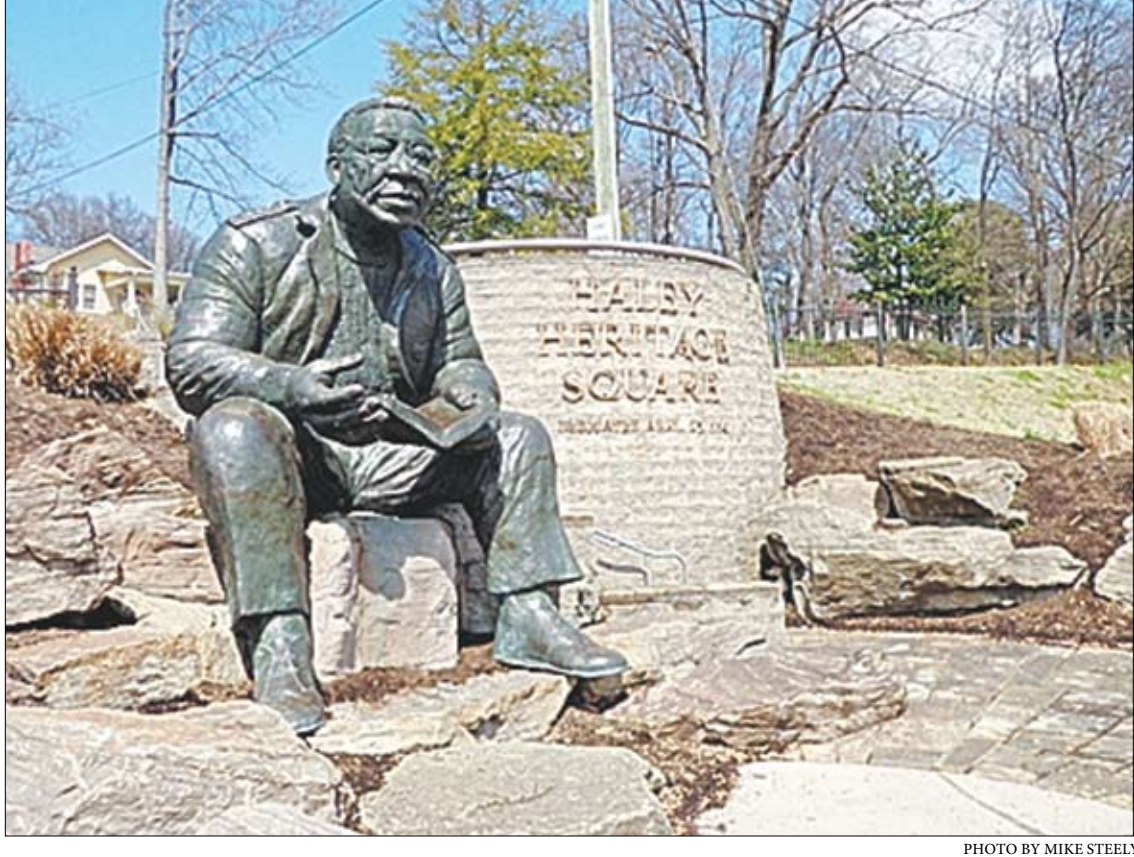


PHOTO BY MIKE STEELY

An oversize sculpture of Author Alex Haley holds a book and invites visitor in the Haley Heritage Square on Dandridge Avenue in East Knoxville.

was incorporated as the town of Park City. The neighborhood has many Barber designed homes and much of it today is within a Historic District.

Park City was a fashionable neighborhood of Knoxville, built before the automobile and thriving along the main route west to downtown and east toward Asheville. The construction of I-40 detoured much of the traffic away from Magnolia Avenue.

Fighting urban blight is the first priority of the Parkridge Community Organization. The idea is to develop housing rehabilitation, improve living conditions, and enhance the appearance of the neighborhood. The Organization assists the city in planning and development of city services and gives residents a forum.

The Parkridge Community Organization was formed in 1982 and serves residents in the northwest part of Park City. Monthly meetings are held the first Thursday of each month at the Parkridge Community Center at 2361 East Fifth Avenue.

This year two Parkridge residents were nominees for the Good Neighbor award: Calvin Chappelle and Travetta Johnson.

Jerry Caldwell, president of the Parkridge Community Organization, told *The Focus* that Parkridge is one of the largest neighborhoods in Knoxville. He said the population changes now and then but more and more are students or faculty at UT and many bike from there to

the campus.

The change in traffic patterns and the density in businesses along Magnolia has hurt the once thriving small businesses there, leaving little room for a mega-store or mall. He said, "Our best hope for an exciting new business would be a Trader Joe's on Magnolia, so we have to figure out how to make that dream happen."



PHOTO BY MIKE STEELY

Much of East Knoxville is Bike Friendly with lanes marked on Magnolia. Many UT teachers use their bikes to get to campus or visit downtown or Old Town.

"Blight is slowly receding as neighborhood residents restore more houses, but we recognize

the need to have a more concerted effort to manage the blight," Caldwell said. "Working with the city and MPC over the past two years has been a dream. David Massey and the Office of Neighborhoods provide inspiration and guidance and contact information for projects where the city involvement is desired or appropriate."

"Last year a neighbor suggested we do a mural in an ugly I-40 overpass on Sixth Avenue. With city permission and support, a n d coordination with TDOT, and lots of v o l u n t e e r support from Parkridge, Fourth and Gill, and Old North Knoxville, we created the Sixth Avenue mural. That garnered the Orchid Award and Spirit of Kristopher Award," Caldwell said.

"We are also participating in updates to the Central City Sector Plan and the Magnolia Avenue Corridor Redevelopment Plan. With these efforts we

hope to preserve the historic nature of the neighborhood and regenerate the vitality of neighborhood businesses and residences, he continued.

"We are supporting Abby Fields, a community supported agriculture effort on the site of the original Standard Knitting Mills buildings. The progress to date is a cause for pride among neighbors," he said.

Caldwell said that 2014 will be a banner year and there will be more parties and shrimp boils and occasions to assemble.

"If resources are programmed to support Magnolia Corridor redevelopment, new restaurants and small businesses will continue to come. More people are walking and biking downtown. Parkridge is a great place to live today. Socially it can't get much better than this. Economically we will work on restoration and hope," he said.

"Our neighborhood will be as good as we make it. The future looks bright," Caldwell said.

HOLSTON HILLS

Holston Hills was originally developed back in the 1920s, at the same time the Holston Hills Country Club was built. The club is doing well yet today with golf, tennis, and swimming.

The neighborhood has lots of nature and the houses are diversified as far as design. Most were built between the 20s and 60s, several before the stock market crash. Some are post-war ranchers and many have large lots and large trees.

"Holston Hills is one of the nicest neighborhoods in Knoxville," Commissioner McKenzie said.

The Ijams Nature Center's 25th Annual River Rescue is Saturday, April 5, from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. and one of the sites is the Holston River Park at 3300 Holston Hills Road. The Tennessee Valley Unitarian-Universalist church is sponsoring the clean up there. If you'd like to get involved with the clean-up you should contact Ijam's Nature Center at 577-5717 and find out where all the clean-up sites are for that day or find them on the internet at www.ijams.org.

DANDRIDGE AVENUE

Dandridge Avenue is a surprising place. You can stand at the Alex Haley statue and look

Continue on page 2

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Our Neighborhoods

EAST KNOXVILLE

Continued from page 1

up the hill to what was once Confederate Army headquarters. It's an odd feeling.

During the early days of the Civil War East Tennessee Confederate General Felix Zollicoffer occupied the historic home. Alex Haley, the African-American prize winning author of "Roots" and "Malcolm X," is immortalized in an oversize sculpture, sitting with a book in his hand. The Haley memorial is part of Morningside Park, which has a greenway, gazebo, two playgrounds, a picnic shelter, and a long greenway leading to a Frisbee Golf course.

The Haley Heritage Square part of the park was finished in 1998 under Mayor Victor Ashe and the sculpture is striking but warm in appearance. Haley moved to East Tennessee in his last years and bought a 157 acre farm near Clinton and the Appalachia Museum. Today the farm belongs to the Children's Defense Fund.

The Mabry-Hazen House is now a museum. The home was built in 1858 and was called "Pine Hill Cottage" by Joseph Mabry, Jr. He was a strong supporter of the Southern cause and outfitted an entire Rebel Regiment. During the conflict both sides occupied the house but when the Union took control they fortified the grounds. Mabry's granddaughter, Evelyn Hazen, kept many dogs and cats at the home and, before her death in 1987, she put in her will that the home should become a museum. The historic home opened as a museum in 1992.

The house has connections with literature and it is only fitting it should be up the way from the Haley sculpture. Mabry's daughter married Rush Hazen, a benefactor to Leonora Whitaker Woods, who's life was the basis for the book "Christy." Even Mark Twain wrote about a gunfight that killed the builder of the home and his son in "Life on the Mississippi."

Just beyond the Mabry-Hazen house is the Beck Cultural Center, a unique center and museum of African-American rotating exhibits.

BECK CULTURAL CENTER

No one anywhere has the vast collection of African-American history as Knoxville's Beck Cultural Center. Located at 1927 Dandridge Avenue the Beck Center has permanent and featured exhibits. The center is active in the research, collection, conservation and display of artifacts, photographs, books, films, writing and memorabilia of Black history in East Tennessee.

Permanent exhibits include the Hastie Room, featuring the life and times of William H. Hastie, Jr. the first African-

American federal judge in the United States. The Pioneer Stairway features an array of achievers, including Knoxville's first Black Mayor, Daniel T. Brown.

The Beck Center is open Tuesdays through Saturday 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. and admission is free. You can call 524-8461.

CHILHOWEE PARK, KNOXVILLE ZOO

The Chilhowee Park and Exposition Center is owned by the city of Knoxville and fronts onto Magnolia Avenue/Asheville Highway. The 81 acre park hosts a variety of events each year, including the Tennessee Valley Fair, concerts, exhibits, etc. There is a 3-acre lake, bandstand, 4500 seat amphitheater, 57,100 sq. ft. exhibition hall, barns, arenas and picnic shelters. In April alone there's a poultry exhibit, cattle fair and trade show. The National Hot Rod Association will be there May 2nd through the 4th.

Within the fairgrounds is The Muse, formerly the Discovery Center, which features exhibits and activities for curious children. In April The Muse has things for toddlers, kids art, yoga, and how solar energy works.

You can check out the activities and the calendar at themuseknoxville.org.

Founded in 1948 the Knoxville Zoo is the city's largest year-round attraction with more than 400,000 visitors each year. The Zoo is a leader in conservation and education and is known nationwide for the breeding of red pandas and playing a role in preserving endangered tortoises and turtle.

The Zoo will open an all-new play area in April called the Nature Play. It will feature thing like fairy houses, doors to nowhere, and teepees made of living vines. The play area invited kids to get "hands on" with making mud pies and building their own forts.

The Zoo gets nostalgic by bringing back the "Zoo Choo" train and offering rides to kids in the Nature Play area.

New animals are also part of the Zoo this spring with a new species of antelope and European White Storks.

On April 26th the Zoo hosts "Magical Makebelieve Saturday, an event that offer young guest a chance to meet some of their favorite storybook characters and take part games and activities. The event is free with the Zoo admission.

The Knoxville Zoo and Chilhowee Park may draw more people to East Knoxville than any other event, especially tourists and out-of-towners.

The Chilhowee Park neighborhood surrounds both the Park and the Zoo to the west. Originally part of two large farms



Jerry Mann tosses pizza dough at The Pizza Palace. The Magnolia Avenue restaurant has become even more popular since being featured on The Food Network. Photo by Roy Price

it developed in the late 1850s and was briefly part of the City of East Knoxville and Park City. The residential area, in the 1920s, saw residents move away to the growing suburbs and it became the home of textile workers and, later, many African-American homeowners moved there as urban renewal projects downtown uprooted them.

The park neighborhood has been nominated to be listed to the National Register of Historic Places.

UNIQUE PLACES IN EAST KNOXVILLE

Fifty-three years ago three brothers opened a pizza restaurant on Magnolia and today the Pizza Palace continues to pull in customers. Coming from Greece, the Peroulas brothers, Al, Gus and Arthur, worked as cooks and dishwashers until they opened the popular restaurant.

Although pizza and spaghetti was little known or appreciated in Knoxville way back then, the brothers' recipes soon became popular and they expanded at the same site. Arthur's son, Charlie, joined the restaurant.

The popularity became nation-wide in 2007 when the Food Network's "Diners, Drive-ins & Dives" visited. The Pizza Palace was featured again the following year in the All American road Trip book was published.

Today the little pizza spot on Magnolia thrives and past customers often come by and eat when in Knoxville.

Mountain Dew started on Magnolia! Pepsi owns Mountain Dew now, but

bet you didn't know that it was started at 1921 Magnolia Road. Two brothers, Barney and Alley Harman, operated Hartman Beverage and came up with the soft drink as a mixer for whiskey. They had trouble finding a good mixer in Knoxville so they invented their own. Their original formula was altered years later.

Initially Mountain Dew was sold only in East Tennessee and Southwest Virginia. Pepsi bought the brand in 1965. But the birth of Mountain Dew was in Knoxville.

Knoxville Botanical Gardens Only five minutes from downtown is the Knoxville Botanical Garden and Arboretum (KGBA), featuring garden paths, whimsical round buildings, terraced spaces, exotic trees, and horticultural splendors.

Located at 2743 Wimpole Avenue the Botanical Garden was founded in 2001 on the property of the historic Howell Nurseries. Several events are sponsored there each year, everything from weddings, classes and concerts. The gardens are open every day, 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. and have walking trails, a Dogwood Nature Trail, a bamboo forest, a visitors center, and thousands of feet of stone walls.

There's also fantastic views there and a Round House Courtyard, ivy-covered stone greenhouse, and clusters of old-growth trees in the Sunken Gardens.

The Howell Nursery was the oldest continually operated businesses in Tennessee until 2003 when it closed, having sold plants for more than 217 years. You can call the garden at 862-8717 or find them on the internet at www.knoxgardens.org.

KAT revenue, rider numbers up

By Mike Steely
steelym@knoxfocus.com

It's looking good for Knoxville's transit system even after the loss this year of bus service to and from the University of Tennessee and the loss of UT paid Charter service during ballgames. First Transit, the nation's largest provider of transportation services, now handles all on-campus buses. The City of Knoxville lost the UT campus service in June of last year.

Melissa Roberson, KAT General Manager, told the Knoxville Transportation Authority's meeting Thursday that ridership in February, despite some bad weather, increased by 2.3 percent. The increased number of riders was a result of adding 15-minute stops along the main corridors and 30-minute stops on some other streets.

She also told the KTA commissioners that while Mayor Madeline Rogero is asking for a budget request based on current budgets and one based on a six percent decrease that, "We're meeting our revenue and are well below

our budgeted costs."

"We think we are not going to be in a position of reducing our budget," she said.

After being asked what the six percent cut might affect, Roberson said they could drop the more frequent stops or possibly eliminate a route, adding, "It's better to have less frequent stops than no bus at all."

Lauren Roberson, Recording Secretary, responded to a question by KTA Commissioner Hubert Smith by demonstrating the new "Bus Stoppers" that have been installed at 16 stops around town. The devices, attached to the bus stop signs, are manual and a passenger simply pulls the lever up and down and the

reflective device catches the bus headlights and flashes a reflection back to the driver.

Robinson told *The Focus* that the devices have been in place several weeks and are working very well for passengers and drivers, adding that more are planned.

Smith also asked about the Shuttle stop at the Medical Arts Building, saying he had heard that the management wanted to put a sidewalk café there. Smith said that many people use that stop.

Roberson said that request has been received.

"We have a process, we looked at the request, and denied it," she said, adding that she was asked about

the "next step" to getting the stop removed and said she told them "to bring it before this body."

John Lawhorn, KTA attorney, said that the decision was final but Smith said that should it come before the Transport committee he asked everyone to support the decision.

One UT graduate student spoke at public forum and asked why free access to city buses was not available at UT, possibly as part of student fees. Commissioner Mark Hair, UT's Parking and Transit Service Director, said that is being discussed at UT.

"There are some activities going on to fully or partially subsidize KAT," he said.



Lauren Roberson, Recording Secretary for the Knoxville Transportation Authority, demonstrates how to use the 16 new "Bus Stoppers" installed around town.

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The Greatest Campaigner of Them All: Senator Estes Kefauver Part Twelve

Pages from the Political Past



By Ray Hill
rayhill865@gmail.com

Tennessee's Senator Estes Kefauver had once again bid for the Democratic presidential nomination in 1956. Unlike 1952, Kefauver had encountered stiff competition from various other candidates. Former Illinois governor and 1952 Democratic presidential nominee Adlai Stevenson had not been coy or hesitant as he had been four years earlier. Stevenson wanted the 1956 nomination and fought for it.

Kefauver had ended his presidential campaign before the 1956 Democratic National Convention and after yet another desperately hard fought floor fight, emerged as the vice presidential nominee. Exhausted, Kefauver and his advisors sadly concluded they were in serious debt; the tab for the Chicago convention was \$85,000 alone and did not account for the debt from the primaries. Noble Caudill, a wealthy Tennessee businessman, served as the financial angel for Estes Kefauver, as well as an important fund raiser for Tennessee governor Frank Clement. Caudill wearily made the rounds before the close of the convention, seeking money from prominent Democratic donors. He recalled for Kefauver's biographer Charles Fontenay that he had the necessary funds within hours.

Senator Kefauver and his wife flew home to Tennessee, landing in Nashville where they received a warm welcome from the home folks. Not every Tennessean returning from the Democratic National Convention was warmly received at the airport. Governor Clement had actually been booed by those awaiting Kefauver; perhaps even worse, Senator Albert Gore found the lobby quite nearly empty and only Nashville Congressman J. Percy Priest seemed to know who he was.

After resting briefly in Tennessee, Kefauver would yet again hit the campaign trail and according to his biographer Charles Fontenay, he would make appearances in thirty-eight states, two hundred and ten towns and cities, and make four hundred and fifty speeches.

Kefauver's style of campaigning, shaking every possible hand, spending time chatting one-on-one, visiting with anyone who crossed his path, made it virtually impossible for his advance team to keep

the senator on schedule. Stevenson, a nervous sort of person, recognized as highly intellectual, was frequently annoyed by his running mate's turtle-like pace, but the professional politicians inside the Democratic Party recognized Kefauver's effectiveness. Lyndon Johnson, Majority Leader of the United States Senate, and one of the best politicians in American history, referred to Estes Kefauver as, "the greatest campaigner of them all."

Senator Kefauver campaigned heavily in the Midwest and Western United States, where he was quite popular. More than a few Democrats grumbled that Kefauver should have been the presidential nominee. Kefauver dogged the incumbent Vice President, Richard Nixon, who lived in the same Washington, D. C. neighborhood as the Tennessean. The two traded verbal blows throughout the campaign and Nixon finally complained Kefauver was hitting "below the belt" and using "low-road tactics."

Kefauver was in Miami, Florida on the day of the election, personally working the polls before heading back to Washington to watch the results with family and friends. The Republican ticket of President Dwight D. Eisenhower and Richard Nixon easily prevailed. To Kefauver's dismay and horror, even Tennessee voted for Eisenhower and Nixon. Eisenhower had carried Tennessee in 1952, but Kefauver had not been on the Democratic ticket that year and losing his home state was an embarrassment to the senator.

Senator Kefauver himself attributed the defeat of the Stevenson - Kefauver ticket to a flare up in the Middle East, but the truth is Eisenhower remained the most popular person in the country and no Democrat could have beaten him.

It was the last time Estes Kefauver would run for national office.

Kefauver's failed 1956 campaign left him dispirited and his biographer Charles Fontenay relates that the primary contests had "eroded Kefauver's confidence in his direct appeal to the voters". Kefauver was also aware despite having crushed Congressman Pat Sutton's bid to replace him in the United States Senate, Frank Clement, running against the once formidable Gordon Browning, had



Senator Estes Kefauver and family, 1952

FROM THE AUTHOR'S PERSONAL COLLECTION.

run some forty thousand votes ahead of him.

Clement was the first governor in Tennessee history to serve a four-year term; before 1954, Tennessee governors could run for and serve three two-year terms. Few managed to secure the elusive third two-year term. Clement had been elected in 1952, served for two years, then was reelected in 1954 for a four-year term. Some Kefauver supporters had been nervous Clement would forgo seeking reelection in 1954 and instead run against the senator. Friends of Senator Albert Gore were even more nervous in 1958 as Clement's term as governor was coming to a close and it was readily apparent Clement did not relish the idea of private life. After some consideration, Clement announced he would not run against Senator Gore in 1958, but there was the possibility of his challenging Kefauver in 1960.

The contrast in appearance and style between Estes Kefauver and Frank Clement was significant. Tall, lean, bespectacled, and a poor speaker, Kefauver still managed to evoke almost fanatical loyalty from friends. Frank Clement, handsome, vital, and renowned for his ability as an orator, inspired no less loyalty from many thousands of Tennesseans. It was quite clear despite his retirement in 1958, Frank Clement was not through with elective office and a clash between the two seemed inevitable.

Many Democrats sincerely believed Estes Kefauver would run for the presidential nomination again in 1960. President Eisenhower could not be a candidate to succeed himself in 1960 and many Democrats thought Kefauver, should he run, would be the front runner for the nomination. Even Adlai Stevenson exclaimed, "He won't run again? Give me half an hour with him!"

Clement's successor as governor was Buford Ellington, who had served in Frank Clement's administration. Ellington had only barely won the Democratic nomination in a field of serious candidates and while Ellington and Clement "leap frogged" as Tennessee's chief executive, many did not realize the two men were growing apart. Ellington was considerably more conservative in his political outlook than the populist Frank Clement. Neither Governor Ellington nor his administration were especially friendly to Senator Estes Kefauver. Ellington also likely knew that Kefauver had actually briefly considered running for governor himself in 1958. Kefauver would have been able to hold his Tennessee base and compete for the Democratic presidential nomination in 1960 without having to run for office at home. Kefauver loyalists had supported Edmund Orgill, the Mayor of Memphis after the death of E. H. Crump. Orgill had been one of Kefauver's original supporters in his 1948 race, when defying the Memphis Boss had not been an easy thing to do.

Orgill fell only some ten thousand votes short of winning the gubernatorial nomination, which would have guaranteed Kefauver of a friendly administration. Yet in a field of eight contenders, Buford Ellington emerged the winner with slightly more than thirty-one percent of the vote.

Ellington's victory left Estes Kefauver little choice but to abandon any hope of running for president in 1960. Kefauver's term in the Senate was due to expire and he would almost certainly face serious opposition for reelection. Kefauver had long wanted to serve on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, one of the more prestigious assignments in the United States Senate. Many senators crave the opportunity to serve on the Foreign Relations Committee for its prestige

and membership on that particular committee brought a heavy social calendar with it, as foreign embassies fervently courted those senators in a position to help their own company. Despite the supposed prestige of the Foreign Relations Committee, it rarely ever boosted the popularity of any senator back home. In fact, it usually had quite the opposite effect. Tom Connally, senator from Texas, had long been interested in foreign affairs and served as Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee and as he aged and the 1952 election approached, an opponent appeared and began making speeches all over the Lone Star state and told folks old Senator Connally was more interested in Europe and Asia than Texas. Connally decided to retire. The very same thing happened to one of the most revered members of the United States Senate, Walter F. George of Georgia. As George prepared to run for reelection in 1956, he was Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Herman Talmadge, former governor of Georgia, was critical of George's interest in foreign affairs, intimating George was not focused on the needs of Georgia and Georgians. Walter George opted to retire than run against Talmadge.

Senator Kefauver, realizing the political realities, told Senator Majority Leader Lyndon Johnson, he was giving up his ambition to serve on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and would prefer an assignment on the Appropriations Committee. It was a far more practical assignment for a senator running for reelection. Tennessee's late Senator K. D. McKellar had enjoyed a long reign on the Appropriations Committee and he had showered Tennessee with billions of dollars in federal money. No Tennessean had served longer in the United States Senate than Kenneth D. McKellar (he

still holds the record to this day).

"It would help my situation down home," Kefauver told Johnson.

Kefauver's assignment to the Senate Appropriations Committee had an immediate effect on Tennessee politics. Frank Clement understood politics just as well as anyone and the enormously powerful Majority Leader's interest in Estes Kefauver meant that should he manage to beat Kefauver in 1960, he might find a displeased LBJ an obstacle too difficult to overcome. Soon Clement was sending signals that he would run for governor again in 1962 rather than seek Kefauver's seat in the United States Senate.

Still, Estes Kefauver encountered opposition inside the Democratic primary. Judge Andrew "Tip" Taylor announced he would run against Kefauver in 1960. Taylor had served on Tennessee's Public Service Commission, running successfully in 1946 with Governor Jim Nance McCord and Senator K. D. McKellar. Taylor had also served as a judge in Jackson, Tennessee and quite nearly beat Buford Ellington for the 1958 gubernatorial nomination. Taylor had run about a thousand votes ahead of Edmund Orgill to finish second.

Taylor went to see Governor Ellington who expansively offered his personal support and that of his administration. Ellington went so far as to say he would endorse Taylor before the end of the campaign.

Andrew Taylor had all the makings of a formidable challenger. The 1960 campaign would be the last of Estes Kefauver's long career.

Pay raise requested for election workers

By Mike Steely
steelym@knoxfocus.com

If you are an Election Day poll worker you haven't had a pay increase in years. Last Monday, Elections Administrator Clifford A. Rodgers asked the county for small pay hike.

Rodgers told those at the Commission Chairman's working lunch that Election Day workers are currently paid \$125 for the day and precinct officers are paid \$150. He wants to increase that a bit and asked that a pay

hike be considered.

During the lunch, Rodgers introduced his new assistant, Chris Davis, a former executive of the Red Cross in Blount County. He also announced that the polling place, formerly at the Old Carter Elementary School has been moved to the new school.

In requesting the pay increase, Rodgers explained that the Election Day job actually encompasses more than one day of work. "We ask them to come

down the day before the election and pick up supplies. They have to contact the janitor, make phone calls, etc. and none of that is compensated."

Rodgers said he's been in the position for three years and has no idea when the last pay increase was made. "It's high time to look at an increase," he said.

Since a member of each political party is required to ride with the ballots back to the election commission office after the polls

close, each of those party members are paid an additional \$10. Rodgers suggested \$175 for Election Day workers. There are 75 polling places in Knox County, each with an officer, and a total of 450 workers. Early Voting poll workers are paid an hourly wage of \$10 per hour.

Commissioner Mike Hammond asked what such a pay increase would cost and Rodgers said, for the upcoming primary, about \$15,000. He said the two elections later in the year would cost

about \$30,000. He said he is suggesting the pay increase on behalf of the workers.

"On Election Day these officers (and workers) are in charge of their polling place," he said, adding that he thinks the increase is fair.

The suggested increase was not on the agenda for Monday's regular meeting of the commission and, if considered, will need to be placed on the April agenda.

I'm an expert... in my own mind

I am an expert at, well, everything. At least that's what my wife and kids tell me. On so many occasions throughout the year, I've had to straighten them out on a multitude of issues.



By Joe Rector
joerector@comcast.net

Those whom I love so much have been misguided souls at times, and it was my duty to enlighten them and show them the error of their ways. I've reached beyond family boundaries and shared my expertise with others who didn't even know that they were in need of it.

During my dear daughter's teen years, my wealth of knowledge came in discussions of ancient history. I found myself lecturing

Lacey on the fall of past civilizations for their failure to overcome personal wants and needs. For the longest time, she held her tongue, but at some point I must have begun repeating myself. She looked at me with wide eyes, attempted to smother a snicker, and then burst into laughter. "Daddy, it's just a thumb ring!" The poor child just couldn't see the connection between that piece of jewelry and the crumpling of an entire society.

Poor Dallas suffered through years of my coaching him in baseball. It was necessary to school the boy in the proper methods of fielding, hitting,

and pitching. All of this came from my vast knowledge of the sport. Forget the fact that I was stuck in right field, the place for the worst player, throughout my child. I forced him to practice endlessly to develop skills I never had.

When he began driving, I instructed him on the proper way to drive a straight-shift vehicle. With just a minimal amount of training, I figured my son could be the next great driver. What happened instead was that he bowed his back and, in his passive-aggressive may, put an end to my goals for him by not studying for the driver's exam. He failed the test, but I was much more disappointed than he was.

Amy has listened to my tirades on so many

subjects. They've included finances, business decisions, and child-rearing strategies. Most of the time she's listen, but on occasion she has cocked one eyebrow and dropped a sarcastic "Really" on me.

My greatest expertise came on the subject of child rearing. Oh, I knew what all kids needed and when they needed it. I'd taught school forever, so I was an authority on children, or so I thought. My pronouncements about parenting came with a thunderous voice. The only trouble was that I'd roared so much and so often that Amy knew it was all bluff, and she ignored my demands. In spite of my actions, Lacey and Dallas appear to be well-adjusted individuals who aren't

too scarred by my great knowledge.

I've also voiced my opinions in groups, at work, and with friends over the years. I might have couched it with the phrase, "If it were me, I'd..." and then I would tell the truth of all things according to my perception of the situation. Somewhere in the back of my mind, I kept thinking, if folks would do as I tell them, their lives would be much better. More accurately, I was saying that folks who follow my lead and do as I do would be happy.

Most of the time, I've expressed my opinion and then sat down unaware that absolutely no one in my family heeded an iota of the wisdom that was offered. My friends politely pretend to listen to my

sage advice. Then they call me a dirty name and ignore all my wisdom.

In recent years, the fact that I wasn't always right has become apparent. I can see how my expertise on all subjects has been little more than my personal opinion, and we all know what opinions are like and what they resemble in smell. Maybe the greatest tidbit of wisdom that I've discovered from my years on this planet is that I'm nowhere near as right as I once thought.

For those of you whom I have approached with unwanted information and suggestions, I apologize for my ignorance. Also, thank you for remaining my friends and loving family, even though doing so has been a difficult task.



From State Representative Harry Brooks

The House of Representatives vetted two bills over the past week motivated by tragedies from the Knoxville area.

Two bills were passed in the House on March 27 that stems from the trials of a murdered couple in Knoxville. Another bill passed the House Agriculture and Natural Resources Subcommittee on March 26 that could prevent drowning due to electric shock.

Rep. Ryan Haynes, a fellow Knox County legislator, sponsored two bills stemming from the kidnap, torture and murder of Chris Newsom and Channon Christian in Knoxville in 2007.

Under old law, the sentencing judge must sign the unanimous verdict turned in by the jury to be named as the "13th juror." The "Chris Newsom Act" makes it unnecessary for the judge to sign the verdict.

In the Newsom/Christian cases, the presiding judge was arrested for purchasing narcotics before signing the verdict. This forced a new judge to grant four

retrials, although there were no errors from the original trials. This bill would have allowed the new judge to deny the request and keep the victims' families from sitting through retrials.

The next bill, known as the "Channon Christian Act," clarifies that unrelated evidence of wrongdoing meant to display character traits are not admissible in court for any person. Tennessee law currently states this, but the Tennessee Supreme Court ruled in State v. Stevens that "person" only referred to the defendant.

Defendants in Christian's case attempted to portray her negatively in the trial. They claimed she abused illegal drugs, even though the coroner and her former employer proved that the claims were false. These attacks of character are not admissible in court for defendants, but were allowed in the case of the victim. This bill creates equal protection from unrelated character attacks for the victim, defendant, a witness or any third-party involved in the trial.

House looks into electrical leaking in marina waters

Legislation that aimed at preventing electric shock injuries and drowning deaths near marinas and boat docks in Tennessee passed in the House Agriculture and Natural Resources Subcommittee this week. The "Noah Dean and Nate Act" requires marinas to install ground

fault protection, post notices about the danger of electrical leakage into waters surrounding a marina and requires annual inspections by the Tennessee Fire Marshal's office to ensure ground fault safety in the future.

On July 4, 2012, 10-year-old Noah Dean Winstead and 11-year-old Nathan Lynam were shocked by an electric current while they were swimming near a houseboat at Cherokee Lake. Noah died at the lake, and Nate died the following day - both from electric shock drowning. Electric current flowed through the children, as well as those who attempted to dive in and save the boys. The marina did not have Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters in place to stop the flow of electricity.

In 2012, eight children lost their lives because of electric shock drowning. On the same day that Noah Dean and Nate were electrocuted, two brothers in Missouri were killed after they suffered electric shock. They drowned near a private dock in the Lake of the Ozarks. As a result, states are taking notice of this problem and passing legislation similar to Tennessee's proposal.

I am excited about having the opportunity to serve the people of Tennessee and especially those of the 19th District. Please let me know how I, or my office, can be of service to you. I can be reached at my Nashville office at 615-741-6879 or rep.harry.brooks@capitol.tn.gov. It is an honor to be your representative.

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Hipsher's grand slam sets tone for Central win



PHOTO BY DAN ANDREWS.

Karns High's Alyssa Turner slides home past the tag of Central catcher Maleah Hipsher in a district game last week at Karns while Central pitcher Dakota Sise (12) rushes to back up a play. The Lady Bobcats prevailed 8-5 over the Lady Beavers to improve to 4-1 on the season.

By Ken Lay

Senior catcher Maleah Hipsher knows that she'll be expected to provide some offensive punch for the Central High School softball team and this a role she relishes.

Hipsher, the fifth hitter in the Lady Bobcats' batting order, came through big on Monday, March 24 in an 8-5 District 3-AAA victory at Karns.

Her grand slam home run in the top of the first inning gave Central a 4-0 lead and set the tone for a key early-season district road win over the Lady Beavers.

Hipsher parked a low pitch over the fence after Courtney Styles drew a one-out walk to load the bases.

She knows that most opposing coaches will pitch around Styles, a power threat in Central's lineup for

the last four seasons.

"I love low pitches and I know that they're usually going to pitcher around Courtney so I have to drive in runs for her," Hipsher said. "I learned early that they were going to pitch around her."

Leah Dailey, Central's first-year coach said that she feels confident that Hipsher can get the job done when called upon.

"That's why she's in that fifth spot," Dailey said of her senior catcher.

As it turned out, Hipsher wasn't the only Lady Bobcat to come through on this night. Central used a pair of big innings to outlast the young Lady Beavers (2-6 overall, 1-2 in the district).

Central (4-1, 1-1) scored another run in the top of the fifth Megan Whaley singled home Styles who opened

the frame by reaching on a two-base error.

Karns might have faced an early deficit but the Lady Beavers did anything but go quietly.

Trailing 4-0 in the bottom of the first, the Lady Beavers scored a run in the frame on an RBI double by Sarah Gordon that plated Miyah Beeler, who led off the inning with a bunt single.

Karns added two runs in the fifth to pull within 5-3. Alyssa Turner led off the inning with a double and took third on a single by freshman pitcher Nicole Wilcox. Turner scored on a wild pitch and Malin Nocera's sacrifice fly made the score 5-3.

Karns evened things in the sixth on a two-run double by Hanna Chapman.

"That Karns team showed

a lot of heart," Dailey said.

Central scored three runs in the top of the seventh. Styles had a leadoff solo homer. Caitlyn Rolan had an RBI single and Bailee Compton drove in a run when she reached on an error.

The Lady Beavers mounted a threat with a pair of hits in the bottom of the frame but Central pitcher Dakota Sise ended the game by inducing a popup by Turner.

Even in defeat, Karns coach Brittany Dunsmore applauded her team's effort.

"They showed a lot of heart battling back," she said. "We've got a young team. We don't have any seniors.

"We just have to keep fighting and eventually things will turn around and go our way."

Rally Falls Just Short... Vols Season Ends In Sweet 16

By Alex Norman

Tennessee's athletics program has had its share of gut punch losses over the years.

Add the events of March 28, 2014 to that growing list.

The Vols basketball team fell to Michigan 73-71 in the NCAA Tournament's Midwest Region Semifinals, in a game that will be remembered for a questionable call in the final seconds that went against Tennessee.

"Great effort by both teams... both teams played really well," said Vols head coach Cuonzo Martin. "(Both teams) competed, played hard... In a game like this, that's what you expect, to go down the wire."

The Vols, who entered the court at Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis winners of three NCAA tournament games by an average of more than 17 points per contest, did not play at that same level in the first half.

Michigan shot a blistering 61.5% from the field in the first 20 minutes, including 7 of 9 (77.8%) from three point range. Vols forward Jeronne Maymon picked up two quick fouls and barely played in the opening half, limiting what the Vols could do inside.

Tennessee trailed 45-34 going into the locker room.

Continue on page 3

Off-and-on play against Michigan mirrors Vols' season

Tennessee's play against Michigan in the Sweet Sixteen of the NCAA men's basketball tournament was like a microcosm of its season. The Vols fell behind, battled back and came up a little short.

Going into Friday night's game in Indianapolis, I thought Michigan, a team known for its 3-point marksmanship, would experience trouble in spacious Lucas Oil Stadium, while UT's inside power game wouldn't be affected at all.

Tennessee was even going to be playing in The House that Peyton

built.

Everything pointed to an upset win over the No. 2 seeded Wolverines in the Midwest Regional semifinals. A first-ever trip to the Final Four would be just one win away for the No. 11 seeded Vols.

Unfortunately for Tennessee fans, Michigan made 3-point shooting look as easy as dropping beach balls into Lake Erie and held on for a 73-71 win.

The Vols, who allowed an average of 65 points in NCAA tourney wins over Iowa, UMass and Mercer, were torched for 45 points in the first half.

When Glenn Robinson III connected at the 15-minute mark of the second half, the Wolverines (28-8) had made 8 of 11 from 3-point land and were pulling away 54-41.

Michigan's margin was 15 points (60-45) with 10:50 to go.

The Vols responded like they did entering the regular season's homestretch. They didn't quit.

With his team down by only one point and pressing, UT Coach Cuonzo Martin showed a rare burst of

Continue on page 2



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BOYS

Jordan Corvette, Halls
 Caleb Thompson, Farragut
 Aaron Dykes, Karns
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PHOTO BY JENNIFFER HUNTER

West Valley's Kendall Clark sets a screen for teammate Jalayah Manning in the girls championship game of the Knox County Middle School Basketball Tournament at Karns. Manning is being guarded by Cedar Bluff's Jah'niya Bussell. West Valley captured the tourney title with a 29-21 win.

Off-and-on play against Michigan mirrors Vols' season

Cont. from page 1
 Clark Kellogg noted the Vols will have two starters returning in 2014-15 in Stokes and Josh Richardson plus others, although Stokes reportedly said after the game he hasn't made a decision yet on whether or not he will forgo his senior season to turn pro.
 "This group will be another one to keep an eye on next season," said Kellogg.
 "Tennessee just didn't get off to a good enough start," added Barkley.
 The Vols definitely will miss McRae next season. The two-time All-SEC wing guard tallied a game-high 24 points against Michigan, although his five missed free throws came back to haunt his team.
 Most important for the Tennessee basketball program now is to make Coach Martin feel wanted and appreciated.
 There was a report last week that Martin had a new \$2.4 million contract offer on his desk that he was not going to consider signing until the end of the season.
 Martin would have become a hot commodity had Tennessee reached the Final Four. That the Vols lost short of the Elite Eight makes it much less likely they will lose their coach to another school.
 UT basketball at least comes away with that silver lining, if not One Shining Moment.

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 UT basketball at least comes away with that silver lining, if not One Shining Moment.

Chavanne to speak at GCA Champions Dinner

By Ken Lay

Grace Christian Academy will hold its second annual Champions Dinner and Auction on Saturday, April 26 at 5 p.m. in the middle school cafeteria. Tickets are \$10 and proceeds will benefit the Grace Christian Academy middle school and high school softball teams. There will be live music and the evening's speaker will

be former University of Tennessee and USA Softball standout Raven Chavanne. Chavanne played in the 2013 Women's College World Series, where she led the Lady Vols to a runner-up finish. She was also an NFCA All-American and an academic All-American. She's a native of Southern California and currently gives softball lessons locally.

She was also an All-Southeastern Conference performer for Tennessee. "We were able to get her because some of our players take lessons from her," said GCA middle school softball coach and event coordinator Brett Ellison. The event will also include a silent auction and Ellison, who is also an assistant coach with the GCA high school team,

promises that a good time will be had by all. "We wanted to get away from that stuffy atmosphere because we want people to come back," Ellison said. "The dinner alone is worth \$10. "We will also have live music and a silent auction. Raven will speak and sign autographs." For tickets and information, contact Ellison at 389-2478.

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Hawks notch 9-1 road win over Bearden

By Ken Lay

Hardin Valley Academy baseball coach Joe Michalski wanted to see how his team would respond Wednesday and he had to like what he saw when his team routed Bearden 9-1 in a District 4-AAA game at Phil Garner Ball Park.

The Hawks, who dropped a league game to William Blount 48 hours earlier, bounced back with a stellar effort in the road victory.

Hardin Valley (9-1 overall, 3-1 in the district) started fast and had the bases loaded with one out in the first inning before Bulldogs' left hander David Beam escaped damage by recording back-to-back strikeouts to end the inning.

Beam got out of that jam but the Hawks set the tone for the game.

"I would've liked to score but we were able to turn the lineup and any time you can do that, it's good," Michalski said. "I'm happy with the way we played."

"We played aggressive baseball."

Hardin Valley didn't stay off the scoreboard long. The Hawks did manage to plate a run in the top of the second.

The Hawks took a 1-0 lead when left fielder Dylan Harris had an RBI single that plated Vinny Gambuzza, who doubled early in the frame.

Beam, who finished with seven strikeouts but threw 102 pitches in five innings, retired the Hawks in order in the third, surrendered three runs in the fourth thanks to an RBI single by Harris and a two-run double by Sully Smoak to give Hardin Valley a 4-0 lead.

Things might've been tougher for the Bulldogs (7-5, 3-1) had center fielder Lane Thomas not gunned down Smoak at third to end the inning.

Bearden got on the board in the bottom of the inning when Thomas, who had two of three



PHOTOS BY DAN ANDREWS.

Bearden's Andy Beam (14) awaits a pitch in the Bulldogs' 9-1 District 4-AAA loss to Hardin Valley Academy Wednesday at Phil Garner Ball Park.



Hardin Valley Academy's Tyler Thompson fouls off a pitch and Bearden catcher Brock Vaughn attempts to find the ball. Thompson threw a three-hitter in the Hawks' 9-1 district victory over the Bulldogs.

Bulldogs' hits, led off that frame with a home run.

"Thomas is a great player," Michalski said. "He's definitely a top draft pick."

"We benefitted by having him lead off

[innings]. If he leads off an inning and hits a solo home run, so what? You move on and you get the next out."

Beam retired the Hawks in order in the fifth before giving way to

Hunter Henry, who had a rough outing. The Hawks touched him for three runs in 2/3 of an inning.

In the top of the fifth, Smoak had a two-run single and Anthony Gambuzza drove in a run

with a fielder's choice.

Hardin Valley added a pair of runs in the seventh off Therin McKenry, Bearden's third pitcher of the day. Anthony Gambuzza drove in a run and Seth Hunt's

sacrifice fly made it 9-1.

HVA pitcher Tyler Thompson closed out a complete game by retiring the Bulldogs in order in the bottom of the inning.

"They bounced back and we'll bounce back," Bearden coach John Rice said. "They hit the ball well and [Thompson] pitched well."

"The left side of their infield made plays. They lost to William Blount [on Monday, March 24] and we beat Farragut and that's important but our guys have to remember that Hardin Valley is just as important. If our guys didn't know that, that's my fault for not reminding them."

Thompson finished the game with six strikeouts and two walks. He hit two batters and surrendered singles to Thomas and Elijah Helton.

Rally Falls Just Short... Vols Season Ends In Sweet 16

Cont. from page 1

"I think the first half we were kind of playing soft defense," said Vols guard Josh Richardson. "We let them get through and get to the rack whenever they wanted. And I mean, it was creating open looks from the 3 because guys had to step down to help. But I think we did a better job settling down in the second half."

"We felt like going into the game we could drive the ball, attack the rim, make plays," said Martin. "We didn't do a very good job. We did it in spurts in the first half. I thought the second half we were very aggressive in getting to the rim and those were the results. So being assertive, taking the scouting report to the floor and it worked for us."

In the second half the Wolverines lead would grow by as many as 15 points, but the Vols (24-13) stuck with their game plan and never panicked.

The Vols were down 72-64 with 2:22 to play, but then senior Jordan McRae,

who led all scorers with 24 points in his final collegiate game, converted a three-point play to bring Tennessee within five. A Richardson basket brought the Vols within three with just under 25 seconds to go.

Tennessee then forced a turnover, leading to a McRae layup with 10.6 seconds to go, and the Vols were down 72-71.

On the ensuing inbound pass, another Wolverines turnover gave Tennessee the chance to win the game, setting the stage for the controversial finish.

The ball was inbounded to Vols forward Jarnell Stokes, who was guarded by Michigan's Jordan Morgan. Stokes moved towards the basket, contact was made with Morgan, who fell to the floor. David Hall, the official closest to the play, immediately called Stokes for a charge, and with six seconds to go the Wolverines had the ball back again.

Tennessee's chance to win the game, for all intents and purposes, was gone.

After the game, most

of the talk centered on the referee's whistle.

"Well, they set a screen for him (Jarnell Stokes) to come open, so I knew that the play was going to be for him," said Morgan. "And I just know he likes to play bully ball, he's in a stance ready. I don't know. I just was there. It's just something I do. I take charge. That's what I do."

"No. No, I don't think I fouled him," said Stokes. "But it was a smart play for him to try to take the charge. He pretty much anticipated it."

"They made a call," said Martin. "To give you an exact answer I have to go back and watch film. But he was moving. Both guys were moving. But with the new rule, I'm not sure."

Eventually, McRae took a three-quarter court shot for the win, but the miracle would not be answered.

Tennessee's season ended in heartbreaking fashion, denying them a chance to face rival Kentucky in the Regional Finals. The Wildcats edged defending national champion

Louisville in the nightcap.

Next year's Vols squad will look a lot different than this year's edition. McRae and Maymon have used up their eligibility... and Stokes

could decide to forgo his senior season for a shot at the NBA. Tennessee peaked at the right time this season... turning things around just in time to make

a run to the Sweet 16.

Unfortunately for the Vols... that memorable run has come to an end.

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Warriors remain perfect, Bearden wins at Invitational

By Ken Lay

A perfect record remained intact for the Christian Academy of Knoxville boys soccer team Thursday night.

The Warriors, the two-time defending Class A/AA Champions, downed Hendersonville 4-1 in the opening round of the 2014 Bearden Invitational at Bruce Allender Field.

CAK (5-0) scored the match's first goal in the third minute when Jacob Foncea fired the ball past Commandos' goalkeeper Drew Egan and into the back of the net.

Egan had a long first half as he faced nine shots.

The game was tight early. The Commandos (4-2) pulled even in the sixth minute on a

marker by Bryce DeGuira.

From there, however, the Warriors asserted control of the match. They outshot Hendersonville 9-2 over the first 40 minutes. CAK regained the lead when John Morse tallied in the 32nd minute to make the score 2-1.

"I thought we moved the ball well and I was pleased with the way the guys played," Warriors' coach Kurt Backstrom said. "I thought we came out strong in the first half but I think the second half was a little better.

"We were more organized and played better defensively in the second half.

The match was just one game on a tough schedule this season.

"We play a tough schedule this year and we play three tough teams this weekend," Backstrom said. "We knew this game wasn't going to be easy.

"Hendersonville is a good team and coach [Russ] Plummer always does a great job. But win or lose, we're going to play hard. We have a great group of kids."

CAK scored two more goals after halftime and defensively, the Warriors stiffened and didn't surrender a quality shot.

Stephen Neu tallied in the 56th minute to make it 3-1 before Wade Crutchfield closed out the scoring six minutes later.

Bearden wins tournament opener: The host Bulldogs nabbed a 3-2 victory over

Gallatin in Thursday's nightcap.

Bearden (2-2) came out strong and picked up its first goal in the third minute off a set play. The marker, scored by junior Nathan Stripling, was set up on a corner kick from Luis Garcia.

The Bulldogs extended their advantage to 2-0 when Jameson Elmore scored in the 38th minute. Bearden held that advantage at halftime and appeared to be in control. The Bulldogs applied constant pressure in the first half. They outshot the Green Wave (3-2-1) 7-0 over the first 40 minutes.

Gallatin goalkeeper Deonte Kensinger kept his team close by making several stellar saves. The second half was

a different story.

The Green Wave pulled to within 2-1 on a goal by Leart Hasani in the 54th minute. Gallatin got the equalizer a short time later when Hector Hernandez scored.

Stripling scored the game winner when Stripling scored off another corner kick from Garcia in the 65th minute.

Bearden coach Eric Turner was happy to get a victory.

"I'll take any win at this point," Turner said. "I thought we played well in the first half and then we fell asleep in the second half.

"We're still trying to find our identity. We're still learning and the good thing about is that we pulled off the win."

The Sixth Starter (Part II)

The coach often held No. 10 in reserve and called on him and his swift ball-handling skills to bail the Eagles out of trouble against the press. Not only did he call on him to do that, but he also called on No. 10 when



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

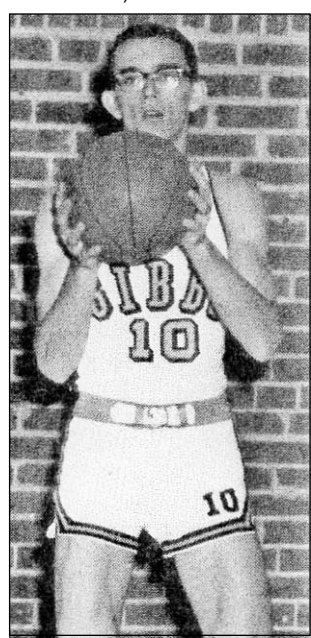
and fans knew how valuable to the team the role he played was." I am sure Eagles' fans still appreciate the player who was not afraid to go up against bigger players and bigger teams. Dagley continues, "I hope, after all

these years looking back, he can see what a valuable role he played as the sixth starter." There is no doubt the fans remember Butler's invaluable contributions to the record of the 1964-65 team.

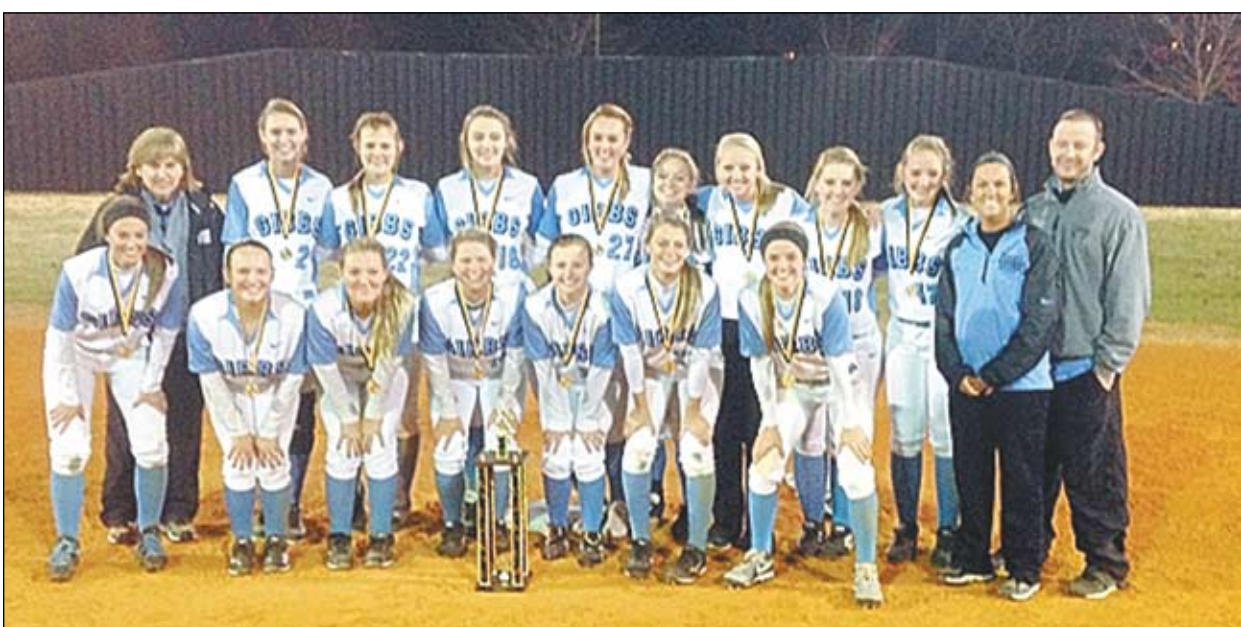
"Stanley, like the rest of the team, played the role he was asked to play, and he played it well," Dagley said. "He was the best sixth starter I have ever seen." (This is No. 28 in the Gibbs basketball series.)

The coach reflects on that time. "For me to try and tell a seventeen-year-old at the time he was considered a starter and how valuable he was to the success of the 64-65 team when he didn't start all the time would probably have been hard for him to understand. But, I knew, the rest of the players knew,

these years looking back, he can see what a valuable role he played as the sixth starter." There is no doubt the fans remember Butler's invaluable contributions to the record of the 1964-65 team.



Picture of Stanley Butler from the Gibbs High School yearbook



Gibbs Lady Eagles Softball recently became the 2014 HENDERSONVILLE COMMANDO CLASSIC TOURNAMENT CHAMPIONS. FR-Lexie Needham, Kaitlyn Trent, Kaitlin Beeler, Holly Moyers, Sydney Cope, Faith Lowry, Leah Sohm, Asst. Coach Kristen DeLapp. BR- Coach Carol Mitchell, Karri Byrd, Sarah McFarland, Ashley Daniels, Ansley Williams, Rachel Farmer, Anna Mershon, Abby Hicks, Morgan Overholser, Asst. Coach Alex Walker. Not pictured Cheyenne Boles

Great Smoky Mountain Annual Recognition Dinner

The Great Smoky Mountain Council Boy Scouts of America held their Annual Recognition Dinner on Friday, March 7 at Rothchild's Conference and Catering Center. The Council consists of 21 counties in East Tennessee with over 12,000 youth in Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Venture Scouts, and Exploring programs.

The evening honored nearly 200 young men, who attained Scoutings highest award, Eagle Scout. County Commissioner R. Larry Smith, an Eagle Scout and member of the Council Executive Committee, presented the honorees with



a special Eagle neckerchief and certificate.

The 2013 Silver Beaver Award, the highest honor a volunteer can received from the Council, was presented to Randy Boyd, Gail Davenport, Mike Haag, Peter

Lloyd, James S. McCrary, Tamsin Miller, Dr. Trent Nichols, Robert Randolph and Christina K. Siebert.

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The Doctor is in

a weekly column by
Dr. Jim Ferguson

Paradigm Shifts

"The questions never change, just the answers." Sometimes I don't remember if I've written something, read it somewhere, or just thought it. Perhaps my stories and life have merged into one composite. You need to pray for my wife, Becky, because she's my sounding board as well as my "editress." She's very patient with her contemplative husband. I trust her opinions, especially grammatical ones, and I trust her to tell me when I'm way off base.

I've repeated the quote above so often that I considered it mine. However, to be sure I Googled the quotation and found a similar quote by Albert Einstein. I've observed that very few thoughts have not been thought before. Case in point "my" quote that

was actually Einstein's.

The experts of hypertension have again spoken. For almost forty years the JNC or Joint National Committee on hypertension has published guidelines about every five years on the prevention and treatment of hypertension. JNC 8 is now belatedly here and replaces JNC 7 which we've used since 2003. The reason this is an important issue is because about 30% of Americans have hypertension, a persistently elevated blood pressure, that accelerates vascular disease and kidney failure.

I won't bore you with the science or the rigorous methodology behind the recommendations, but I will emphasize the word "guideline." The major take home points of the JVC 8 are simpler guidelines and

a somewhat more pragmatic approach to therapy goals. In this day of government mandated "metrics" that purport to define "best care," practitioners run the risk of treating the number instead of the patient who is, after all, unique. A fragile eighty year old does not need to trade perfect blood pressure readings for a fall precipitated by an excessive drop in blood pressure when she stands. Additionally, the experts now say a blood pressure of 150/90 instead of 140/90 is the threshold for treatment in those sixty or more years old. The guidelines also recommend that younger patients and those with diabetes and kidney disease begin treatment when blood pressure readings rise consistently beyond 140/90.

The academic phrase for a changing model or concept is a paradigm shift. This phrase does have a nice ring and is undeniably erudite phraseology. I thought I understood the modern concept of heart attacks. Apparently, I only understood the physiology of Type I myocardial infarction. This occurs when a fatty plaque within a coronary (heart) artery ruptures

and is complicated by a blood clot that occludes the vessel. Cardiologists now recognize Type II heart attacks which can occur in normal coronary arteries. The mechanism is a significant drop in blood pressure which leads to insufficient blood flow through the heart arteries, depriving the heart muscle of oxygen and nutrients. The same imbalance of supply and demand can occur with a sustained, rapid heart rate. I was certainly surprised to learn that perhaps 25% of heart attacks are of the Type II variety and not caused by the usual mechanism. I guess the answers do continue to change.

As I've said in previous essays, I'm a fan of the Seinfeld show. One of my favorite characters is George's father, Frank Costanza. I remember one show where Frank defended the twin beds in his bed room. Apparently, his wife, Estelle, has "the jumpy legs," which disrupts Frank's sleep. "OK, Ferguson, where are you going with this?" you ask.

Restless legs syndrome (RLS) is not an uncommon malady. As many as 7% of Americans and Europeans have this disorder that was

described in 1945 - or perhaps as early as 1672! Some doctors even doubted their patient's complaints until 2011 when RLS was codified as a true disorder and renamed Willis-Ekbom disease. The condition causes an urge to move the legs, relief when the legs are moved, and worsening symptoms with rest and at night.

No one understands the cause of this problem, but it has been associated with iron deficiency as well as problems of neurotransmitter dysfunction. Our nervous system is an interconnected neural net of 10 billion nerve cells. Imagine an octopus with eight arms. Now imagine a nerve cell, with a body analogous to an octopus, but possessing hundreds of arms all reaching out to touch the tentacle tips of its neighbor. The nerve cells signal each other by releasing chemicals (neurotransmitters) at the tentacle tips. There are five or more families of neurotransmitters including dopamine, the one thought to be dysfunctional in RLS, but also problematic in Parkinson's disease. Other neurotransmitter associated diseases include Alzheimer's disease and

depression.

Even the treatment for RLS is problematic. It is important to look for and correct iron deficiency as a prelude to other remedies. The mainstay of RLS treatment has been drugs that modulate dopamine function. These help, but strangely they can lead to worsening of the condition over time referred to as augmentation.

A new therapeutic option comes from a Johns Hopkins' study which demonstrates that the drug Lyrica (pregabalin), used in another enigmatic disorder, Fibromyalgia, is more efficacious than other agents. Unfortunately, Lyrica can also be associated with augmentation, so more work is necessary to understand the illness and hopefully design better therapies.

The final take home lesson is that you never quit learning. In fact, a friend of mine often quips that "you're either growing or you're dying." I suspect he's right, and there's no rest for me in these shifting paradigmatic times!

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

Community Health Council Announces New Members

The Community Health Council has elected eight new members and appointed a new chair-elect. New members begin service in April 2014.

"This exceptional group of new members will help further our vision to build a diverse, vibrant community that nurtures good health and quality of life," said Karen Pershing, chair for the Community Health Council. "After all, this is going to be a big year for the council. We are beginning our second phase of community health assessments, and as part of that process, we will be refining our strategic direction."

The Community Health Council evolved from the Together! Healthy Knox Leadership Team,

which was convened in 2010 by the Knox County Health Department with the mission: a community approach to better health. Since its inception, the partnership has assessed health and perceptions of health in Knox County and used the data to identify overarching strategic issues for health improvement. The initiative has also recruited representatives from more than 50 community organizations and agencies to develop and implement action plans to improve public health.

Elected in March, the new Community Health Council members are: Kindall Aaron, coordinator of the Knoxville Area Coalition on Childhood Obesity;

Gaye Fortner, president and CEO of Healthcare 21 Business Coalition; Ben Harrington, executive director of the Mental Health Association of East Tennessee; Melissa Knight, executive director of Interfaith Health Clinic; Laurie Meschke, associate professor of public health at the University of Tennessee; Eve Thomas, captain with the Knoxville Police Department; Lisa Wagoner, supervisor of Health Services and Coordinated School Health for Knox County Schools; and Carlos Yunsan, associate with Baker Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell and Berkowitz, PC.

The council also appointed Kristy Altman, director for client service for Mary

Beth West Communications, LLC, as the chair-elect. Altman is the Knox County Mayor's appointee and is currently serving a three-year term. She will serve alongside Karen Pershing, chair of the council and executive director of the Metropolitan Drug Commission.

The Community Health Council's vision is to build a diverse, vibrant community that nurtures good health and quality of life. It embraces and promotes a broad definition of health that includes physical, mental and social well-being and not simply the absence of disease. The council began as the Together! Healthy Knox Leadership Team, but became an independent

entity and officially the Community Health Council in 2013 with an ordinance from the Knox County Commission, a supporting resolution from the Knoxville City Council and a supporting ordinance from the Town of Farragut Board of Alderman. Together! Healthy Knox is now an initiative of the Community Health Council. The Knox County Health Department convened Together! Healthy Knox in 2010 and continues to provide staff support to facilitate both the council and Together! Healthy Knox. The council is made up of a combination of appointed and elected members. For more information, visit www.healthyknox.org.

Impact of Arctic Warming Discussed at UT Science Forum

Stan Wullschleger, project director of Next-Generation Ecosystem Experiments at Oak Ridge National Laboratory, will present "Arctic Alaska: Wild, Wonderful and Warming" on Friday at this week's Science Forum at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

The Science Forum is a weekly brown-bag lunch series that allows professors and area scientists to discuss their research with the general public in a conversational presentation.

The presentations begin at noon on Fridays in Room C-D of Thompson-Boling

Continue on page 2

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Faith

King of the Hill

As a kid, I recall many recesses playing "King of the Hill." I doubt any elementary school today would allow this game to be played with our culture of bullying. When we played it, I don't remember bullying, but I do remember a fierce battle to claim and keep the top of the hill. For those who have no clue as to

what I am talking about, the game would begin by boys pushing each other down until there was only one left standing on the top of the hill (growing up in the flatlands of Michigan, it was more of a small mound than a hill but it worked for our purposes). During my third and fourth grade years in school, I was the largest kid in my class so I was often the winner, that is, until Alden came along. Alden was faster and meaner than any other kid I knew. When he charged up the mound, most kids just gave up and went to the swing set. But one day, even Alden was dethroned as king, for there is always someone coming behind to take your place.

King of the Hill is not just a childhood game. Men and women of all ages try to push and claw and do whatever it takes to make their way to the top. The god of success is huge in our culture today. Culture defines success as the prestige that comes from attaining an elevated social status. Once you find the secret of doing this, you do whatever it takes to get there. Success today is not just about money. It involves

prestige, recognition, and respect. It is about having the right parking space and right label on your business card or office door. It is about having the office with the windows and the Rolex watch. It is about the promotion and the awards accumulated.

The sad reality is that much is sacrificed along the way to get there. Ethics and morals are compromised. The closest people in your life are put on hold so you can achieve your goals. I have observed several individuals who sacrificed spouses and children in order to achieve success. They thought they were pursuing their dreams in order to provide more for their families, when all their families wanted was more time with them.

Interestingly, the Bible does not use the word "success" very often. There is a close equivalent. It is the word "blessed." But there is a difference between these two words. Success speaks of something you have done, while blessed speaks of something that has been done for you. If I say, "I am successful," I am giving the glory to self. If I say "I am blessed," I am giving the glory to God.

Jesus redefines who are blessed. In the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5:3-12), Jesus says the poor in spirit, the meek, those who mourn, the pure in heart, and the peacemakers are blessed. The world says success means you are self-sufficient. God says true success is the one who realizes they can't do it on their own. They need God's help. Success is not about being King of the Hill, but trusting the One who went to a hill and died on a cross for everyone. True success is living and serving this King.

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



Impact of Arctic Warming Discussed at UT Science Forum

Cont. from page 1

Arena. Attendees can bring lunch or purchase it at the arena. Each presentation is 40 minutes long and is followed by a question-and-answer session. Science Forum presentations are free and open to the public.

Temperatures are increasing in high-latitude areas, bringing new complications to their ecosystems. Wullschlegel will discuss the landscape-scale consequences of the Arctic's further warming.

Here's list of future

Science Forums:

- Friday, April 4: Steven Wise, associate professor of mathematics, presenting "Simulations for Solutions: Solving Problems Through Scientific Computing"
- Friday, April 11: Stacy Clark, research forester for the U.S. Forest Service, discussing "American Chestnut Restoration: Can We Bring Back the Mighty Giant?"
- Friday, April 25:

Pete Claussen, founder and CEO of Gulf and Ohio Railways Inc. and Knoxville Locomotive Works, discussing "Green Locomotives"

The Science Forum is sponsored by the UT Office of Research and Quest, an initiative to raise awareness of the research, scholarship and creative activity happening on campus.

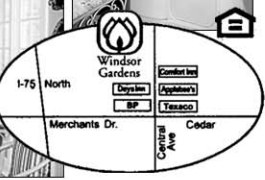
For more information, visit <http://scienceforum.utk.edu>.

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VMC Brings Author Pat Conroy To 2014 Carry The Torch Fundraiser

The Volunteer Ministry Center is honored to bring New York Times best-selling author Pat Conroy as the featured speaker for 2014 Carry The Torch fundraising luncheon, Knoxville's premier literary event.

The 2014 Carry The Torch luncheon will begin at 11:45 a.m., Wednesday, April 23, 2014, in the ballroom of the Knoxville Convention Center in downtown Knoxville. A Mission Fair, featuring agencies which serve the homeless along with VMC will be held from 10:00 a.m. until noon for those who are looking for volunteer opportunities.

Pat Conroy is a Southern writer whose award winning novels include "The Prince of Tides," "The Great Santini," "Beach Music," and "South of Broad." Two of these novels have been made into major motion pictures. Mr. Conroy's novels draw unabashedly on his own experience as an abused

child. His lyrical prose portrays his love of the South, as well as his confidence that, just as people hurt one another, they have the potential to heal one another.

"We are fortunate to have such an outstanding author for this year's 2014 Carry The Torch fundraiser," said Ginny Weatherstone, VMC CEO. "His novels have been read by millions and he has an international reputation as a wonderful story-teller whose themes reflect the best and the worst in us all."

"His writings illustrate the most intimate details of his family life as they traveled through the South from one military base to another. Conroy presents problems of physical abuse, alcohol addition and dysfunction in a way that is similar to the problems many of the neighbors coming through the doors of VMC have experienced in their lives. I hope that Knoxville will attend this event and

support the efforts of VMC to help end and prevent homelessness in our community," Weatherstone added.

Long-time community supporter Betsey Bush is the Honorary Chair for the 2014 Carry The Torch fundraiser. "This event helps to raise money for many of VMC's programs including the VMC Dental Clinic, utility assistance program and efforts at finding permanent supportive housing for homeless individuals," Bush said.

If you or your company would like to sponsor a table at the 2014 Carry The Torch luncheon, please contact VMC's Mary Beth Ramey at 865-524-3926, ext. 229. For more information on the luncheon, visit either www.carrythetorchknoxville.com or www.vmcinc.org.

All seats at the luncheon are reserved in advance. People attending will be asked to make a donation to VMC at the event.

Church Happenings

Beaver Ridge United Methodist Church

Beaver Ridge United Methodist Church, 7753 Oak Ridge Hwy., welcomes you to our annual Easter Breakfast and Egg Hunt on April 12. Bring the family and join us at 9:00 am for a Pancake Breakfast prepared by the Beaver Ridge United Methodist Men. The Easter Bunny will join us for pictures. There will be candy and crafts for the children. An Easter Egg Hunt for the kids will follow at 10:00 a.m.

Church office: 690-1060. See us on the web: www.beaverridgeumc.org.

Bells Campground United Methodist Church

FREE Clothing to anyone! Ladies, men's and children's clothes and shoes available. Shop free Saturday, April 5, from 10:00 a.m. -2:00 p.m. at Bells Campground United Methodist Church located at

7915 Bells Campground Rd, off Emory Rd and Old Clinton Hwy.

Glenwood Baptist Church of Powell

Glenwood Baptist Church of Powell, 7212 Central Avenue Pike is serving the children of our community with an Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 12 at 10:00 am. Hear the Easter story told. Snacks served afterward. Rainy weather won't stop this time of fun. 938-2611.

Seymour United Methodist

Tuesday, April 1, brings the meeting of the women's "Soul Sisters" fellowship group at 6:30 p.m.. Hostess is Gail Hyfantis and agenda subject is "Ask a Nurse."

The regularly scheduled fellowship meals continue this Wednesday evening, April 2nd at 5:15 p.m. Following, there will be various small group

studies beginning at 6:00 p.m. Dinner reservations required by Tues. noon.

On Saturday, April 5th, the youth will embark on their annual "Amazing Race." Volunteers for drivers and coordinators are still needed. See Mario Kee for details.

Also, on Sat., April 5th, is a "work day" at Camp Wesley Woods for anyone age 16 or over (under 16 if chaperoned) to volunteer for painting, landscaping, carpentry, etc.

Next Sunday, April 6th, will bring the sacrament of Holy Communion to both services, as well as the opportunity for making a special donation for the needs of the local CROSS Ministries.

Looking ahead, the 11th annual golf tournament scheduled for benefit of Camp Wesley Woods is scheduled for Green Meadows in Alcoa on April 28. Time to organize your team for this fun and beneficiary fellowship event.

Wallace Memorial Baptist Church

Wallace Memorial Baptist Church, located at 701 Merchant Drive invites children ages birth to fifth grade to a Kid's Easter Celebration. This free community event will include egg hunt, inflatables, crafts, games, popcorn and cotton candy. Bring your basket and join in the fun on Saturday, April 12, 2014 from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

We invite you to visit our new church

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Evening Worship - 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday Bible Study - 6:30 p.m.

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

It's Going to Be a 'Perfect 10!'

By Sylvia Williams

We are well under way with our plans for our annual Garden Party at the stunningly beautiful gardens at the home of Ginger and Bill Baxter. This year is actually very special because it is our 10th Annual FCAC Garden Party Luncheon and Auction Benefit! We're calling it "A Perfect 10!" and hope that many of you will be able to attend the May 10 event. Please come by the center for an invitation or call or email and we'd be glad to send you as many as you need..

We need lots of hostesses and table decorators for the Garden Party. If interested, please email me at fcaccenter@knoxfocus.com or call (865)357-2787. The tables seat eight guests. The cost per person to attend the party is \$40, still the absolute lowest cost for any event of this magnitude anywhere in Knoxville. If you have never attended, you will be in for a real treat!

The party begins at 11 a.m. with an opportunity to look at Silent and Live Auction items and socialize while the Ben Maney Jazz Trio plays for us, sponsored by FCAC Board member Linda T. Wise. Sample something from the cash bar while you enjoy the utterly incredible view of the Smoky Mountains. Guests are encouraged to explore the features of the Gardens after lunch: the lily pond, the lotus pond, the gazebo, waterfalls and running streams, a full-sized maze, statuary,



Baxter Gardens Gazebo overlooking the Smokies.

fountains, gardens and many other exotic shrubs and trees. Both men and women are encouraged to attend. There is no snobbery involved, just lots of fun, food, and beautiful views from under the big outdoor tent!!

Lunch sandwiches are provided courtesy of the very generous owner of the Fountain City Creamery Park Grille, Jeff Patin. We will also be serving salads and homemade cookies provided by the Fountain City Art Guild.

We will be awarding a prize for the "Best Table" as voted on by guests. Expect some amusing moments when Auctioneers Kenneth W. Clayton, Jr. aka Fabulo Frenzini, and Charles E. Williams, Jr. interact with a "surprise celebrity." Bring your mom for a Mother's Day Weekend treat or bring your best friends to share in this favorite Fountain City annual celebration!

House to Home

Classes for Children at the Fountain City Art Center

Summer Art Classes for ages 6-11. Instructor Jan Bolus. Art classes will be held for five weeks on Thursday mornings from 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m., June 26 - July 24. Students will do a pottery wheel activity, a sculpture, a weaving, a painting, and an airbrushed t-shirt. Cost including materials is: \$100 for FCAC members and \$120 for non FCAC members. Note: If we have enough students, the class will be divided into two classes with ages 6-8, 9:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m. and ages 9-11, 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

MUSIC: For a comprehensive listing of Andy LeGrand's Music Studio in the Fountain City Art Center, please go to <http://lmstudios.org/classes/5353>. Classes include folk and classical guitar, voice, children's classes in music, piano, dulcimer and music theory.

Children's Six Week Art Classes for Home Schoolers: Instructor Jen Austin Jennings; six weeks, \$90 including materials. These classes are offered on Thursday afternoons for home schooled students. We must have five students to schedule a class.

Ages 6 - 9: Through individual guidance and fun exercises, young children will learn to appreciate and utilize their own creative process. Children are introduced to basic elements of shape used in the drawing process. Gradually, they begin to see these shapes in the world around them and successfully express themselves

visually through art. At this stage, a child's own symbolic means of artistic expression is celebrated and encouraged as they gradually form the desire to draw more realistically.

Ages 10 - 13: An appreciation of visual arts is begun and fostered as participants study works of art by historic and contemporary artists. They learn to look at the world around them with more of a visual sense and to practice exercises in drawing that help them capture and translate their visions successfully. Accessing the creative "right side" of the brain not only helps kids express themselves artistically, but also encourages more creative means of problem solving.

Hand Building with Clay, Instructor Penny Berridge: four wks; basic techniques will be covered: coil, pinch, and slab. \$135/\$155; adults and youth; materials, tools, and firing included. Students may enroll even after a class has started. Minimum two students; maximum four students. Available for youth, 8 years of age and up, and adult beginners to intermediate levels. Please call the Center to schedule a class, or call Penny at 851-8560. Her schedule is relatively flexible.

Throwing Clay, Using the Wheel, Instructor Roger Bench (705-4683); \$155/\$175; five weeks, adults and youth eight yrs. and up. Minimum 2 students; maximum three students. Call the instructor to schedule a five wk. class. Roger is available for classes either Monday or Tuesday evenings from 6-8 p.m. Specify your level: beginner or intermediate.

Fun for everyone at Energy Day

"Energy Day!" is a Family Fun Day event that will teach kids 1 to 101 all about various aspects of energy and how it is used in our daily lives. The event is sponsored by TVA and its energy partners in our community on Saturday, April 12 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at The Muse Knoxville in Chilhowee Park.

The event will host a variety of activities, presentations and booths focused on energy and environmentalism. The event will also showcase the Dr. Energy Show: Circles of Energy! The show will explore how energy works and the future of energy in a fun, hands-on way!

Ticket prices are \$8/\$5 per person for non-members and members respectively. Families with 5 or more will pay no more than \$25. Light refreshments are included in the ticket price. Tickets may be purchased the day of the event or online at www.themuseknoxville.org.

"This event is part of an entire month of Energy related activities throughout April made possible by TVA and its energy partners. We are

thrilled to be working with them as a community partner." Ellie Kittrell, Executive Director of East TN Discovery Center

The Muse Knoxville is a nonprofit institution committed to inspire and empower generations at the intersection of science and art. Our facility is located in the historical Chilhowee Park directly across from the Jacob Building and next door to the Knoxville Zoo. Visitors can explore Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math exhibit and play experiences. Pre-school aged children can discover the fun of learning as they touch, listen, build and create in our Kid-space area. Kids and adults alike can explore the planets, stars and beyond inside our Akima Planetarium! The center also presents hundreds of programs, field trips, activities and events each year. To become a member, volunteer or donate toward our exhibit renovation efforts, please visit www.themuseknoxville.org, call (865) 594-1494 or email info@themuseknoxville.org.

Park Day to be held at historic Mabry-Hazen House

Since 1996, the Civil War Trust has sponsored Park Day, an annual hands-on preservation event to help Civil War battlefields and historic sites take on maintenance projects large and small.

This year Park Day will be held on Saturday, April 5, 2014, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Mabry-Hazen House. Activities will include leaf and brush removal, mulching, planting, and general spring-cleaning. Some tools will be provided, but volunteers are encouraged to bring rakes, pitchforks, tarps, and similar yard tools.

This year, Stanley's Greenhouse will offer a selection of plants that can be purchased in advance in preparation for Park Day. If you would like to donate towards the project, simply visit Stanley's Greenhouse and inquire about Park Day at Mabry-Hazen House. Plants will be picked up by museum staff and will be ready for planting on April 5th. Your support is greatly appreciated, and donations of any size

are welcomed. Mabry-Hazen House, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, is located on six acres atop Mabry's Hill. Housing three generations of the same family from 1858-1987, the Mabry-Hazen House served as headquarters for both Union and Confederate forces during the Civil War.

Park Day, now in its 18th year, is an annual hands-on preservation event created by the Trust to assist local groups with the maintenance of Civil War sites. In exchange for their hard work, volunteers receive t-shirts and will also be provided a free pizza lunch.

The nationwide effort is underwritten with a grant from History™, formerly The History Channel, and is recognized by the U.S. Department of the Interior as a "Take Pride in America" event.

Additional information about the event can be obtained by visiting www.mabryhazen.com or by calling (865)522-8661.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Farragut Republican Club

The Farragut Republican Club will meet Thursday, April 3 at 7:30 p.m. at Frullati's, 129 West End Avenue, Knoxville. Come early and enjoy their wonderful food and meet and greet.

HBPA Prayer Breakfast

The annual Halls

Business and Professional Association Prayer Breakfast will be held on Good Friday, April 18, beginning at 7:30 a.m., at Beaver Dam Baptist Church in Halls. The Keynote Speaker will be State Senator Becky Duncan Massey. Music will be provided by Anne Allen and Mike Bundon. Catering will be provided by

Shoney's. Tickets are \$10 per person and available for purchase at the UPS Store, Beaver Dam Baptist Church, and from Sue Walker at Tindell's. Tickets may also be purchased at the door.

Karns Republican Club

The Karns Republican Club will meet Tuesday, April 1 at 7:00 p.m. in the Karns Middle School Library. The speaker will be Ray Jenkins, candidate for Circuit Court Judge.

Knox County Democratic Women's Club

The oldest county Democratic women's club in the United States meets the second Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m. at Shoney's on Western Avenue in Knoxville. New members are always welcome! Call 742-8234 for more info.

Narcanon

Narcanon reminds families that abuse of addictive pharmaceutical drugs is on the rise. Learn to recognize the signs of drug abuse and get your loved ones help if they are at risk.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE:
Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization - Technical Committee Meeting, April 8, 2014.

The Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) Technical Committee will meet on Tuesday, April 8, 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, Presentations on Air Quality, MAP-21 Performance Measures and the Transportation Planning Work Program, Update on Transit Service Operations; 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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- 1/2 to 1 cup whipped topping

Remove cookie top from each sandwich cookie; crush and set aside. Place cream-topped cookies in foil-lined muffin cups, cream side up. In a bowl, beat cream cheese, sugar, cocoa and vanilla until fluffy. Beat in eggs until blended.

Fill muffin cups three-fourths full. Sprinkle 1/4 cup reserved cookie crumbs over top (discard remaining crumbs or save for another use). Bake at 325° for 20-25 minutes or until set. Cool completely. Cover and refrigerate for at least 2 hours. Just before serving, top each cheesecake with about 2 tablespoons of pie filling. Top with a dollop of whipped topping.

Yield: 12 servings.

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1 Knoxville in bloom

2014 Dogwood Edition | The Knoxville Focus

2014 Dogwood Arts Festival set to celebrate the natural canvas of the East Tennessee region

For more than 50 years, Knoxville has blossomed with the Dogwood Arts Festival, a celebration of the natural and cultural beauty of East Tennessee. Throughout the month of April, this vibrant festival promotes the history and future of the region's arts by featuring an exciting, fresh blend of gardens and trails, music, theater, crafts, film, dance, and culinary, literary and visual arts.

A contagious sense of pride fills the air as locals and visitors walk, run, and bike the nationally-recognized Dogwood

Trails. As the featured trail, Sequoyah Hills' Talahi Park will be adorned with lights to celebrate its 60th anniversary. For those ready to experience the natural canvas of the region, the festival encourages guests to bring their bicycles to ride through the Dogwood Trails during Bikes & Blooms on April 26-27.

The renewed excitement will be felt as the festival's Rhythm N' Blooms, set April 4-6 on downtown's hip and emerging Jackson Ave., infuses Knoxville with a unique variety of musical flavors. From

well-known, leading artists to locally-revered, emerging performers, festival goers will fall in love with the music and the community around them.

Visitors will also have the opportunity to interact in studios and around town, as artists of all ages showcase their work throughout Knoxville during Dogwood Art DeTour on April 12-13. Further events to highlight the month-long celebration include the Market Square Art Fair, NEXUS 2014, Open Gardens, Walking Trails, A Very Special Arts

Festival, Regional Fine Art Exhibition, Art in Public Places Knoxville, Chalk Walk, and the East Tennessee Art Educator and Student Art Exhibitions, which will feature the work of local K-12 school students and their teachers.

Dogwood Arts, presented by ORNL Federal Credit Union, is a 501(c)3 organization whose mission is to promote and celebrate our region's arts, culture, and natural beauty. For more information on Dogwood Arts, visit www.dogwoodarts.com or call (865) 637-4561.

Dogwood Chalk Walk to Paint Downtown in Style

Chalk in hand, more than one hundred professional and student artists will take to the streets of Downtown Knoxville once again for the 6th annual Dogwood Arts Chalk Walk. With a stretch of sidewalk serving as a canvas, artists will allow their creativity to take control, transforming gray asphalt into a beautiful, moving piece of art, all before the public on Saturday, April 5.

Dogwood Arts takes pride in revitalizing the 16th century Italian folk art of street painting, which became somewhat rare in the middle of the 20th

century. Dogwood Arts has continued to promote this event as a way to uphold the history of the lost art, as well as to unite the community with its artists.

In addition, original work by Chalk Walk participants will be available for purchase at the event. As with previous years, the best work will be recognized for individuals and groups at different age levels.

For information, visit www.dogwoodarts.com/chalk-walk. Chalk Walk is presented by Avanti Savoia and sponsored by Jerry's Artarama.

When: April 5, 2014
Where: Market Square and Krutch Park (Downtown Knoxville)
Time: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
How much: Free

For those interested in learning the art of street painting, Dogwood Arts will hold an instructional workshop in advance of the Chalk Walk. Amateurs are invited to attend the workshop on Monday, March 31 at the Knoxville Museum of Art, from 6 p.m. – 8 p.m.



Familiar Artist Creates Limited Edition Print for 2014 Dogwood Arts Festival

Each year, a limited edition print is selected to represent the Dogwood Arts Festival, and for 2014, organizers chose Sycamore Row, an oil painting by Tennessee native and University of Tennessee graduate, Kathie Odom.

Odom is an oil painter, however it was an early pastel work that began her affiliation with the Dogwood Arts Festival in 1982. "We're thrilled to have Kathie back as the creator

Continue on page 4



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A Very Special Arts Festival celebrates the arts with very special guests

A Very Special Arts Festival, a unique Dogwood Arts Festival event, celebrates the artistic achievements of Knox County school-aged disabled students, by providing an opportunity to showcase their talents in a welcoming, non-competitive environment.

Art touches us all, and A Very Special Arts Festival encourages feelings of creativity and self-worth for all students, regardless of ability, as the students express their creative talents through music, dance, drama, and visual arts.

The festival will feature a wide variety of activities including crafting workshops, demonstrations, various exhibits and performances. Students will also enjoy musical entertainment, a mobile exhibit from the Knoxville Zoo, "walk abouts" from local team and business mascots, and much more.

The event is made possible thanks to the efforts of the University of Tennessee's departments of Art and Special Education and Knox County Schools with support from the AKIMA Women's Club of Knoxville, West High School and West Knoxville Civitan Club.

Where: West High
When: Wednesday, April 2, 2014
Time: 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Cost: Free

Art on the Block Set for April 4

The third annual Art on the Block is back for 2014 with an exciting lineup of performers and artists. The event on the 100 block of Gay Street runs from 6:00-9:00 p.m. on Friday, April 4 and coincides with Downtown Knoxville's First Friday celebration, Rhythm and Blooms Fest and the opening of the Dogwood Arts Festival.

"Art on the Block is a wonderful opportunity for anyone who doesn't get downtown very often to experience everything that makes this part of Knoxville special,"

said publicity chair Christine Cinnamond.

Nashville recording artist Steff Mahan will perform on WDVX's 'Blue Plate Special' at noon and entertain guests with a live set later in the evening at Art on the Block.

Scheduled to perform are the Knoxville Aerial Arts group, Alpha Fleet club dancers, Stephanie Braeuner dancers, performance artist Sati Flow, Contra-mestre Avestruz Capoeira, Scorch, Singe and Torch Fire Team, Dance Inspiration, jugglers

along with clowns, Divot and Biscuit.

The public is invited to join in a Drum Circle to be held at Summit Hill Park. "If you're a drummer, we encourage you to bring your hand drums and be part of the event," added Cinnamond.

"We've assembled a wide range of artists and entertainers that will resonate with everyone who joins us on April 4. There will be lots of dancing but those who join the party will experience some very intriguing performers

who bring something new to the party," noted Cinnamond.

"Capoeira is an interactive dance that combines art, theater, sport and martial arts. The dance originated in Brazil and has a very interesting history. I'm sure our visitors will enjoy it. Frederic Leyd and Knox Aerial Arts will wow the crowd with acrobatics and Sati Flow's hoop dance and fire performance is absolutely incredible. There truly is something for everyone in the family," she added.

In addition to the Art

on the Block Festivities, visitors can also enjoy the 100 Block eateries, art galleries and retail establishments.

Attendees are encouraged to be part of the fun by sharing their artwork on social media using #100BlockKnox and #FirstFridayKnox.

Art on the Block will take place April 4 from 6:00-9:00 p.m. on the 100 Block of Gay Street in Downtown Knoxville. For more information please contact Christine Cinnamond at (646)942-0970, christine.cinnamond@gmail.com.

Dogwood Arts Exhibition: NEXUS 2014

NEXUS 2014 showcases contemporary sculptures and 3-D media from artists around the nation.

The cutting-edge indoor sculpture exhibition will take place in the heart of Knoxville at the University of Tennessee's Downtown Gallery on Gay St. The multifaceted styles and genres of sculptures were selected by juror Leticia Bajuyo.

Some of the exhibition entries will be for sale and attendance is free of cost.

Where: UT Downtown Gallery [106 South Gay Street, Knoxville, TN 37902]

When: April 4-19, 2014 (closed on Good Friday, April 18th)

Times: Monday-Friday, 11 a.m. – 6 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Cost: Free

Opening Reception: Friday, April 4, 5 – 9 p.m.

Award Ceremony: Friday, April 4, 6:30 p.m.



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Because of its firmness and strength it was selected as the timber for the cross, but to be put to such a cruel use greatly distressed the tree.

Sensing this, the crucified Jesus in his gentle pity for the sorrow and suffering of all said to it: "Because of your sorrow and pity for My sufferings, never again will the dogwood tree grow large enough to be used as a cross. Henceforth it will be slender, bent and twisted and its blossoms will be in the form of a cross two long and two short petals.

"In the center of the outer edge of each petal there will be nail prints brown with rust and stained with red and in the center of the flower will be a crown of thorns, and all who see this will remember." ~ Author Unknown

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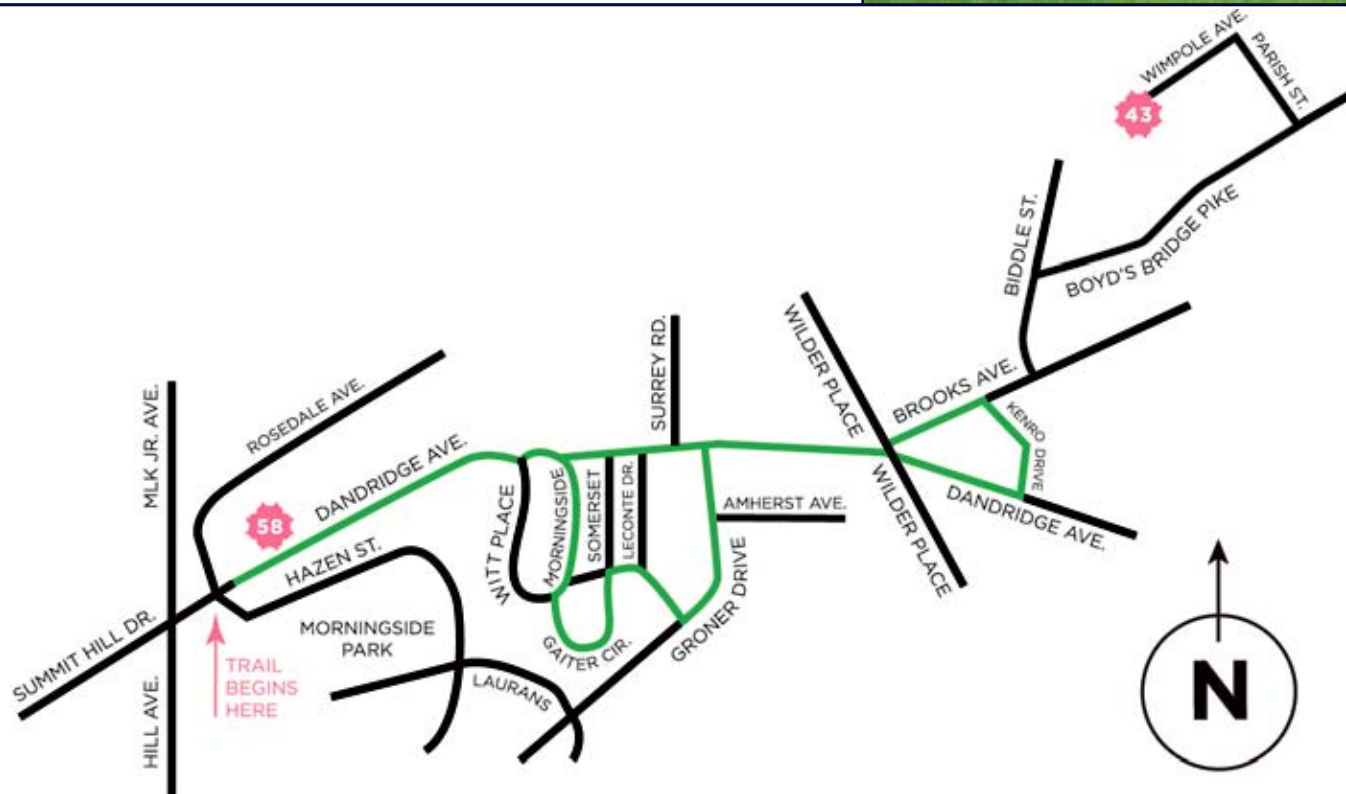
Familiar Artist Creates Limited Edition Print for 2014 Dogwood Arts Festival

Continued from page 2

of our Limited Edition Print this year," says Melynda Whetsel, the chair of this year's Dogwood Arts Limited Edition Print Committee.

"I love exploring and trying something new on canvas that draws out another bit of who I am," says Odom. The painter says she was particularly inspired one day while exploring Cades Cove with her husband. "We were halfway around the loop and after already having worked on two other canvases, some fluffy white weeds caught my eye. I turned and saw a line of Sycamores standing before the open cove," explains Odom. "A slight clearing was calling my name. Painting in the open air that evening felt like magic."

Prints can be purchased at The District Gallery, Fast Frame, and online at www.dogwoodarts.com.



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Art in Public Places Knoxville

The eighth annual Art in Public Places Knoxville exhibition, an outdoor sculpture exhibition presented by Dogwood Arts, will open on April 4, and local residents and visitors will be able to view these unique pieces in downtown Knoxville and McGhee Tyson Airport through March 20, 2015.

Founded in 2007, Art in Public Places was created to help establish Knoxville as an arts destination by supporting not only local contemporary artists, but also the creative culture of the city. Founders Edward Mannis and Bart Watkins took it upon themselves to turn this hope into a reality by spreading their

appreciation of impressive public art work into the annual exhibition. The Art in Public Places exhibition has since been viewed by 2.5 million people passing through McGhee Tyson Airport and by 13 million area residents visiting downtown Knoxville each year.

Kenneth M. Thompson returns as the Juror for the 2014-2015 exhibitions. Kenneth holds a Master of Liberal Studies in Sculpture from the University of Toledo and a Bachelor of Fine Arts in painting from Siena Heights College, in Adrian, MI. While many of his sculptures are in Ohio and Michigan, Thompson's work can

be seen in other states. He has done 41 pieces of public sculpture across the country. Ken has been making sculpture for over thirty years out of his car-dealership-turned-studio in Blissfield, Michigan. From this facility he operates Flatlanders Sculpture Supply and Art Galleries as well as Midwest Sculpture Initiative, which provides exhibitions that feature outdoor sculpture. Fourteen shows are planned for next year, he says. He also serves or has served on numerous arts-oriented boards.

Art in Public Places Knoxville is sponsored by Central Business Improvement District,

Chapman Family Foundation, Emerson Process Management, Gerda, Liz-Beth & Co., Metropolitan Knoxville Airport Authority, Mr. and Mrs. James Begalla, ORNL Federal Credit Union, Prestige Cleaners, Scripps Networks Interactive, The Bed Store.

WHERE: Downtown Knoxville and McGhee Tyson Airport

WHEN: April 4, 2014-March 20, 2015

HOW MUCH: Free Admission

Opening Reception: Friday, April 4, 5-9 p.m. in the Krutch Park Extension in downtown Knoxville. Award Ceremony: Friday, April 4, 5:30 p.m.

Hola presents 'Bittersweet Harvest'

Hola Knoxville, the Hispanic organization that promotes unity and communication between Latinos and the larger community, will host the "Bittersweet Harvest" exhibit during the month of April. This very special exhibit examines the experiences of bracero workers and their families and provides rich insight into Mexican American history. The exhibit will be displayed at Casa Hola in the Emporium Building on North Gay Street in Knoxville and will consist of six panels of freestanding, illustrated banners and photographs on loan from the Smithsonian, a poster

by local Lourdes Gaza, figurines and other art materials by Angel Luna, a Talamon mural designed by children of migrant workers, and audio and visual excerpts of a documentary on Cesar Chavez who organized the United Farm Workers union. Chavez's great-great granddaughter, Julz Chavez, will attend the reception.

The opening reception for this very special exhibit will be April 4 from 5:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. in suite 109 of the Emporium Building, 100 South Gay Street. The public is invited and refreshments will be served.

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Holston Hills Dogwood Trail

Welcome to the Holston Hills Dogwood Trail, in an area where native dogwood trees abound! To beautify the entrance to the Trail and busy Asheville Highway, many young specimen trees have been planted by the Garden Clubs of Holston Hills.

Follow the street markings on Chilhowee Drive to the top of a hill. Just beyond the crest the trail turns left onto East Sunset Drive that affords sweeping panoramic views of the

Great Smoky Mountains. A swift decent and a sharp curve to the right lead to Marilyn Drive and Green Valley Road, to new homes, lush green lawns, and an Open Garden filled with rare and beautiful wildflowers.

For a short distance, the route parallels the Holston River with its lovely riverside homes and then climbs quickly on Crestwood Drive where a forest of wild dogwoods form a white background for colorful foreground

plantings of azaleas.

When the trail turns right on Holston Hills Road, look left for a glimpse of Holston Hills Country Club. After two more right turns, the trail enters a curving valley that provides a woodland setting for attractive houses. It returns to Holston Hills Road (allowing a second glimpse of the clubhouse on the right) and turns left. Here many handsome residences overlook the Holston Hills Golf Course, which is famed for its excellence and difficulty.

Rounding a curve, the

road arrives at a bluff overlooking the Holston River. One and a half miles downstream, the Holston and French Broad rivers join to form the mighty Tennessee River. This "confluence of waters" is 3 miles east of downtown Knoxville.

The trail descends to river level, turning left to reach Green Valley Road again. It angles right on wooded Shady Dell Trail, dips down to cross Chilhowee Drive, and continues uphill on the other side.

After veering right onto the top of a ridge and then turning left, the

route meanders with a winding creek through a cove starred with wild white dogwoods. It turns sharply left, and zigzags upward to reach yet another overlook. Below in the foreground is the rolling green expanse of the Holston Hills Golf Course. Beyond it, the Holston River coils like a broad silver ribbon; behind the river are the foothills of the Great Smoky Mountains and in the distance, the mountains themselves.

Coming down from this high point, the trail passes the Holston Hills Community Club's

hillside park where dogwoods, azaleas, and flowering shrubs create a beauty spot. Here we invite you to "Stop and Stroll," or take a picture.

A final left turn onto broad Chilhowee Drive reveals gracious homes with well-established plantings; colorful rock gardens, drifts of violets, flowering crabapples, weeping cherries, and the ever-present dogwood.

The trail ends where Chilhowee Drive joins Asheville Highway. Turn left for downtown Knoxville; turn right to reach I-40.

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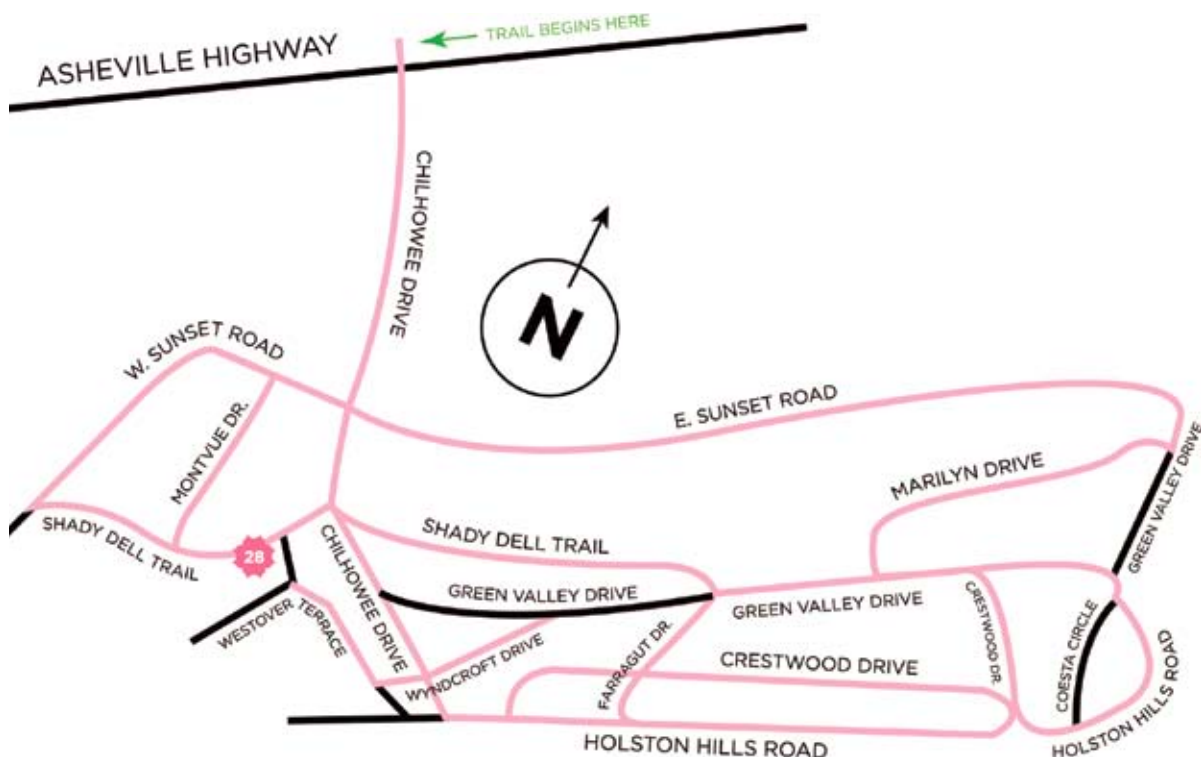
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Sequoyah Hills Dogwood Trail

MAP ON PAGE 8

Welcome to the Sequoyah Hills Dogwood Trail, which begins and ends on Cherokee Boulevard. This street was named for the Indians who were Knoxville's original "first settlers," and Knoxville's first Dogwood Trail opened here in 1955.

The route turns right beneath overarching trees on Kenesaw Avenue and returns to the Boulevard via Woodland Drive. Then a right turn leads to large azaleas of many colors on Iskagna, Kenesaw, and Talahi.

The trail dips down to Talahi Mall, skirting a tall ornamental fountain to pass an enclosed playground that rejoiced in the early-day name of Papoose Park. The mall plantings include azaleas (white and dark red), and a gigantic American holly; pink is the preferred color for lawn plantings

with redbud, flowering crabapple, and Japanese cherry trees abounding.

After a right turn onto Cherokee Boulevard at the large circular Talahi Fountain, be on the lookout for the Indian burial mound in the center of the boulevard. Sequoyah Hills was named for a Cherokee chieftain who was born a few miles from here on the Little Tennessee River. Although he could neither read nor write and knew no language except the Cherokee tongue, Sequoyah invented a phonetic alphabet for his people in 1820. Through its use, all Indian dialects have since become written languages. In his honor, the Sequoyah Hills Trail celebrated the Bicentennial Year by planting a young Sequoia tree at the base of the Indian Mound.

The trail turns right on Kenesaw Avenue, left on

Taliluna Avenue and left on Agawela with their views of the rolling hills that give this residential area the second half of its name.

Rejoining Cherokee Boulevard, the large building in the distance ahead is Cherokee Country Club seen from riverside.

The Trail leaves the Boulevard on South Garden Road to begin a meandering climb by way of Navaho and Cedarhill to the crest of Scenic Drive. Next, the trail turns right off of Scenic Drive onto Kenilworth Drive, then left on Oakhurst Drive to Glenfield where both pink and white dogwoods are old and very large.

Back on Scenic Drive, turn left onto Towanda Trail where Night Dogwood Trails originated. In 1957, six members of the Knoxville Garden Club living on this

street lighted their trees for viewing after dark. The effect was spectacular. Some residents still light their blooms at night from dusk to 10:00 p.m.

Take an immediate left turn onto Hiawatha, then left on Noelton Drive, right on Alta Vista Way, and left on Blows Ferry Road, returning to the Boulevard past brilliant azaleas and drifts of dogwood trees.

Here the boulevard parallels the shore of Fort Loudon Lake, one of the Tennessee Valley Authority's "Great Lakes of the South." Fort Loudon Dam, 25 miles below Knoxville on the Tennessee River, has the highest river locks in America and Knoxville, at the headwaters of this lake, is linked to the sea by a 9-foot shipping channel winding more than 900 miles to the mouth of the Mississippi. A city park

borders the lakeshore and a Stop and Stroll sign invites visitors to leave their cars and walk down to the water's edge for a closer view of the towering palisades across the lake.

The trail repasses the Indian Mound and the large round fountain at the entrance of Talahi Mall. One block ahead on the right is the red brick

Georgian style residence of the President of the University of Tennessee.

After a right turn onto Bluff Drive and Cheowa Circle and a descent through clouds of snowy dogwood blooms, the trail rejoins the boulevard and returns to Kingston Pike. Downtown Knoxville is to the right as Trail and Boulevard end together.

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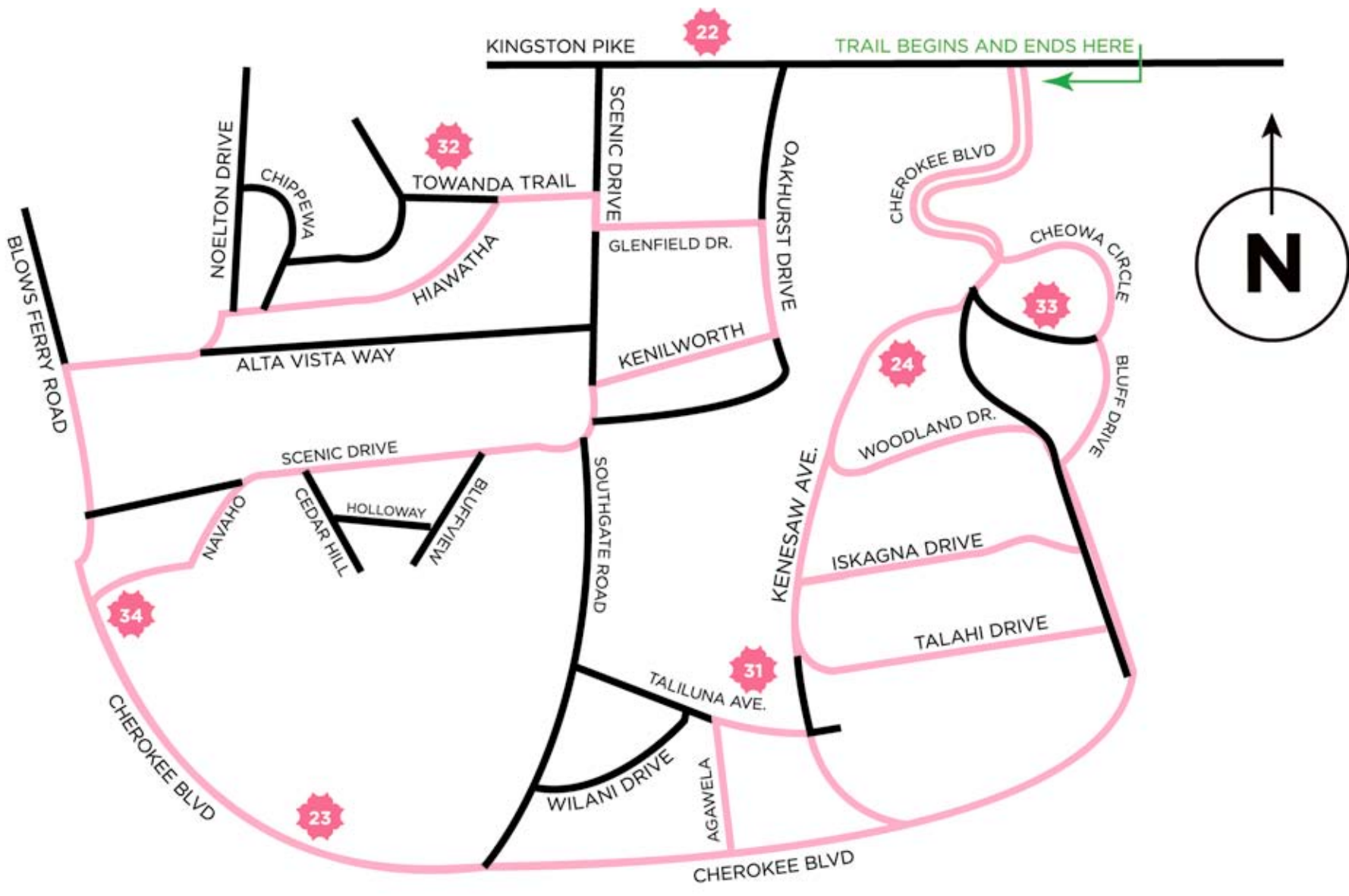
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