

FOCUS Weekly Poll*

Do you support or oppose the curriculum for public schools?

SUPPORT 36.68% OPPOSE 63.32%

Survey conducted April 3, 2014.

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

Concerned Citizens' Candidate Town Hall

Knoxville Expo Center on Clinton Highway

Thursday, April 10, 2014

Doors Open at 4:00 p.m.

Debate begins promptly at 5:30p.m. - 8:30p.m.

Knox Countians Oppose Common Core

By Focus Staff

This week's *Focus* poll posed the question, "Do you support or oppose the Common Core curriculum for public schools?"

Better than 60% of Knox Countians say they oppose the Common Core curriculum.

The district with the most support for Common Core was the First.

Just over 46% of likely voters in the First District say they support the Common Core curriculum. The district showing the second most support for the Common Core curriculum was the Fifth District, which is composed of the Town of Farragut and West Knox County. Slightly more than 45% of likely voters inside the Fifth District say they favor the Common Core curriculum.

The district most strongly opposed to the Common Core curriculum was the Sixth, which is Hardin Valley, Karns and Northwest Knox County. Over 80% of likely voters say they oppose the Common Core curriculum.

More men than women say they support the Common Core curriculum.

Leuthold Running on Integrity, Leadership and Experience in Trustee Race

By David Klein

Knox County Trustee Craig Leuthold emphasizes that he has done things the right way since he was appointed trustee last summer. The trustee's office has had two perfect audits since Leuthold has been in charge.

Leuthold has a background as a realtor and has also served as a Knox County Commissioner of Knox County's fifth district. During his time on the commission, he served two years as Chairman of the Intergovernmental Committee and two years as Vice Chairman of the commission.

Prior to serving as commissioner, he worked in the trustee's office for several years. He also worked in the Knox County Property Assessor's office for over two years. This combined experience, he says, gives him a distinct advantage in understanding both sides of the property tax equation. "I'm the only one who's worked in both of these offices. I understand how that works from beginning to end, I'm the only one running for trustee



Commissioner Dave Wright, right, greets candidate for Knox County Trustee, Craig Leuthold at a Meet and Greet dinner last Thursday in Corryton.

that has that knowledge and experience."

The property assessor's office is responsible for determining the value of each piece of property and the tax each property owner pays, and the trustee's office collects and invests those property taxes.

"When someone calls in with a question," he

continued, "I can take a look at something and know where an issue may lie and how to resolve that issue because of my experience. Right now, the communication and the cooperation has never been better between the trustee, property assessor, and finance department," he emphasized.

Leuthold has also

worked diligently in his professional development and has achieved excellent certifications as a result. He has achieved Level 2 in state certification for property assessment. "Out of 95 trustees, I'm probably the only trustee that has that level of certification from the state," he said. He has also achieved CTAS

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Terry Hill Brings 30 Years of Knox County School Experience

By David Klein

Terry Hill, in an interview with *The Knoxville Focus*, spoke about her desire to make sure kids have a great educational experience. She is a retired school social worker and a current private therapist with a Knoxville



clinical group. She is running for the Sixth District seat on the Knox County School Board. Outgoing representative Thomas Deakins decided not to seek reelection.

Hill retired in December, 2012 after serving 30 years as a Knox County Schools social worker and lead consultant. Her children attended school in Knox County and one of her daughters, Cindy Buttry, was a former school board representative.

Hill said she made the decision last year to run over Labor Day weekend with the encouragement of her family and friends.

In her background as a social worker, Hill said she mediated and advocated on issues between schools and the parents. "It would be my role, as a school social worker, to bring the two sides together," she said.

Hill said during her 30 years with the Knox County schools that she has seen all aspects of the school system. "I get it," Hill said. "I get what the issues are."

District 6, which encompasses the schools of Hardin Valley, Karns, Ball Camp, Amherst, Norwood, Northwest, Byington-Solway Technology Center, and Pleasant Ridge is one the largest school districts in Knox County.

One area of improvement that is needed, Hill said, is to improve teacher morale. "We've got 70 percent of teachers who were surveyed that said they are unhappy with the way the system is being run. It's a very real problem."

As part of that, Hill said she feels there is too much testing going on. "At Knox County schools, we are going way beyond what is required by the state for testing. That needs to stop. We lose too much teaching time."

"As a school board member, I would leave more decisions to each individual school on any testing beyond

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Rountree shines at School Board Candidates Forum

By Steve Hunley, Publisher
publisher@knoxfocus.com

Candidates for the Knox County Board of Education met last week in a forum sponsored by the League of Women Voters.

Candidates in the Fourth, Seventh, and Ninth Districts answered questions at the Pellissippi State Community College campus on Magnolia Avenue. The forum was moderated by WBIR-TV news anchor John Becker.

Amber Rountree and incumbent Board member Pam Trainor are the candidates for the Ninth District, which is South Knoxville and South Knox County. Sally Absher and Jeffrey Scott Clark are running against incumbent Lynne Fugate in the Fourth District, which includes parts of West Knoxville and Sequoyah Hills. Patti Lou Bounds is unopposed in the race for the Seventh District seat, which is being vacated by incumbent Kim Sepesi.

Rountree's campaign has caught fire in South Knoxville and the spunky newcomer is running for office the first time. By profession, a librarian at Halls Elementary School, Amber Rountree does not hide her opposition to Superintendent Jim McIntyre, which is a stark contrast to the record of Trainor who has followed McIntyre's lead lockstep. Rountree points out she will most certainly not be a "rubber-stamp" for McIntyre and his administration.

Sally Absher surprised some, making an articulate and thoughtful presentation.

"I want to be a voice for students, teachers and taxpayers," said Absher. "They have concerns and the perception is that the Board does not take those concerns seriously."

Clark echoes many of the concerns articulated by Sally Absher.

"I have three major concerns. One is teacher morale. Another is the Common Core standards and the other is the teacher evaluation

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Focus on the Law Injunctions

Injunctions are orders made by a court to protect individuals from specific harm. Under Tennessee law, the Chancery Court has historically been the court of equity, undertaking to prevent harm rather than punish the wrongdoer. The statutes enacted by the state legislature and the interpretation of those statutes by the courts provide the basis to punish violators of the law. For example, the law in our society requires all drivers to maintain proper control over their vehicles so that they do not crash into and damage other people's vehicles. If they violate the law and fail to maintain control over their vehicles, they may be sued in a court of law to pay for any damages they caused. The law did not prevent the harm from occurring. It just allows for a legal remedy after the damage has been done. A writ of injunction is intended to prevent the harm, especially where that



By Sharon Frankenberg,
Attorney at Law

harm would be irreparable. Courts other than Chancery Court may also issue injunctions. In divorce cases the court may issue injunctions prohibiting spouses from incurring new debt or wasting marital assets. Orders of protection are restraining orders prohibiting an individual from harming or threatening to harm another individual. "Gag orders" issued by courts are merely restraining orders prohibiting comments to the public and/or the press on certain topics relating to an ongoing litigation case. Court may issue "stays" of garnishments to stop an employer from withholding wages pending a further court hearing. Courts may also require the posting of a bond to protect the enjoined party from monetary loss in the event that the application for an injunction was wrongfully brought by the applicant.

Rule 65 of the Tennessee Rules of Civil Procedure

limits the three ways injunctive relief may be obtained. These three remedies are a restraining order, a temporary injunction and a permanent injunction in a final judgment. A restraining order only restricts the doing of an act and does not mandatorily order the doing of an act. A restraining order may be issued without notice if it is clearly shown by verified complaint or affidavit that the applicant's rights are being or will be violated by an adverse party and the applicant will suffer immediate and irreparable harm before notice can be served. If it was issued without notice, the restraining order expires after 15 day unless it is extended by the judge for one more 15 day period. The judge must place the reason for the extension on the record.

A temporary injunction is used to keep the situation in a lawsuit from getting worse while the case is pending. If someone starts clear cutting the timber on a piece of old growth forest land and another person asserts that he or

she is the true owner of that property, a court will likely approve a temporary injunction to stop the cutting of trees until the ownership can be established. The court might also order that the trees which have already been cut must not be removed from the property. If the court did not act, the trees would all be gone, the value of the land would be greatly diminished and winning money from the lawsuit would be insufficient to make the true owner whole again.

For a temporary injunction to issue, the court must require that notice be given to the adverse party. A temporary injunction may remain in effect for the duration of the litigation. After the matter has been decided, the judgment may include a permanent injunction as part of the relief awarded by the court. Sharon Frankenberg is an experienced attorney licensed in Tennessee since 1988. Her office number in Knoxville is (865)539-2100.



Teachers speak again

By Mike Steely
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The audience at Wednesday's Board of Education was spotted with red clothing as Knox County Teachers and supporters again unified to speak during public forum at the close of the meeting's agenda, urging the elected Board members to increase county educators' pay in the budget in the works for next year while also throwing some barbs at Superintendent James McIntyre.

Wendi Lesmersis, librarian as Farragut Primary School, asked the board not to cut back on library funds or librarians.

Phil Claxton, a supporter, said "There is lots of posturing in the media about the budget." He asked the school board to consider a \$4,000 raise for each teacher, which he said would only be 3% of the school budget.

Tanya Coats, Knox County Education Association President, asked the board to carry the torch for raises. "You need to pitch a fit," she said. "When you revisit your budget ask for what we need and expect nothing less." Other teachers and parents focused on the school board and the superintendent in their remarks.

Christiana Graham, a teacher, told the board that "not just a few people are unhappy" with the director of Knox County Schools. She said testing for kindergarten students is "too fast" and that testing of those students is not a state mandate.

"Twenty five percent of our day is testing," she said.

Lance McCall, a parent, noted the upcoming school board election and said that if the board doesn't manage the superintendent new members would be elected. He urged the board to stop relying on McIntyre for outreach to the community. "The Superintendent has misled us time after time. The county judges the superintendent by his actions."

Becky Grindstaff, a school system computer tech, said that schools need more laptops and technical help. She said that the 78 Knox County schools must share 16 regional technicians.

One parent repeated the claim that students are stressed out from non-stop

testing and asked for parental notification of testing and posting of test scores.

One Knox County school librarian said that the Parthenon Group showed libraries as non-teaching staff and said that most librarians also teach class. Another teacher said that the Parthenon Group should not be making recommendations to the school system.

Lauren Hopkins, a supporter, spoke about Emerald Academy's application to become a charter school and told the board that the state may now override a county decision in granting approval of charter schools. She said the system is "spending thousands of dollars for Parthenon consulting when the money could better be used in the schools."

Jason Cooke, a father of three, said the board and the superintendent have doubled down and gone full speed ahead on the testing and were treating the protesting teachers and parents "like naughty children."

Cooke protested against this testing, calling it an "intolerable stress on children in a never ending series of practice tests."

Before the forum, the board zipped through the regular agenda after hearing McIntyre announce that Carter High School has been honored with the national 2014 Founder's Award from TAP which includes a \$50,000 prize. TAP is the Teacher Advancement Program, a national foundation.

Chairperson Lynn Fugate told the board and the audience that the school board will hold a called meeting on Monday, April 15 at 5 p.m. to work on the budget. She also said that the Joint Education Committee will meet Thursday, April 24 at 4:30.

Superintendent McIntyre will also host a Community Forum on the budget Tuesday, April 8, at 6 p.m. at Christenberry Elementary School.

The budget request for Knox County Schools will go to County Mayor Tim Burchett and he will make his overall county proposal to County Commission. The deadline for budget submissions is April 15th.

Terry Hill Brings 30 Years of Knox County School Experience

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state mandates. We need more autonomy at the school level and less from our central office."

"Common Core State Standards" is another issue of importance to Hill. "Common Core is something that the state has mandated and, at this point, we as a county have little choice about it. We need to take a very hard look at Common Core and keep our state legislators informed as to what changes may need to be made. Whatever the state decides, the state legislature and the central office needs to let teachers teach. They don't need to be micromanaged."

If elected, Hill would also support the continuation of the teacher advisory group. "It's a good start but the group needs to have representation from all parts of the school system. An oral report needs to be given to the school board after each advisory group meeting so that there won't be any breakdown in any communication as to what the advisory group is suggesting and recommending and what the school board actually

hears. We need to listen and start making changes if needed," she emphasizes.

She also said there are things the school board does, that if it has the ability to change, would make the teachers' jobs easier. Hill said teachers started coming to school board members individually two years ago, with issues about Common Core and teacher evaluations. "Nobody listened. Because of that, we are in the situation we are in now, which is a lot of discontent."

Regarding the decision of the school board to extend Superintendent Dr. Jim McIntyre's contract in December, Hill said she would have postponed the vote to extend his contract. She would have postponed having that vote, "and see if he was hearing the concerns presented by the teachers and see if he would be serious making some needed changes."

"No teacher in the school system has a guarantee of a job for the next four years," Hill stressed. "I feel like our superintendent should have the same standards as far as

job security that our teachers do. What's good for the teachers ought to be good for the superintendent."

When it comes to charter schools, Hill said those should be researched by the school board and held to the same standard and expectation that is required of public schools. "A school board member needs to be open and willing to embrace ideas and initiatives that will make educating our kids a successful proposition."

This week, Governor Bill Haslam made the decision to cut teacher raises from the state budget. Hill discussed the impact of that decision. "That was literally dropped on the current board as they were going in to present the budget to Knox County schools," she said. "It really has a devastating impact. The plan was to collectively give teachers a three percent raise with 1.7 percent of that coming from the state."

In the end, whether she is elected or not, Hill said, "I'm still going to be an advocate for our kids. I have no hidden agendas. I have a passion for doing what's going to be best for our kids."

FOCUS Weekly Poll

Do you support or oppose the common core curriculum for public schools?

Support 36.68%
Oppose 63.32%



| By Age | Support | Oppose | Total |
|--------------|--------------------|---------------------|------------|
| 18-29 | 100.00% | [None] | 1 |
| 30-49 | 32.26% | 67.74% | 31 |
| 50-65 | 26.87% | 73.13% | 67 |
| 65+ | 42.31% | 57.69% | 130 |
| Total | 36.68% (84) | 63.32% (145) | 229 |

| By District | Support | Oppose | Total |
|--------------|--------------------|---------------------|------------|
| 1 | 46.15% | 53.85% | 13 |
| 2 | 34.21% | 65.79% | 38 |
| 3 | 44.83% | 55.17% | 29 |
| 4 | 45.16% | 54.84% | 31 |
| 5 | 30.00% | 70.00% | 10 |
| 6 | 18.18% | 81.82% | 22 |
| 7 | 34.48% | 65.52% | 29 |
| 8 | 31.82% | 68.18% | 22 |
| 9 | 40.00% | 60.00% | 35 |
| Total | 36.68% (84) | 63.32% (145) | 229 |

| By Gender | Support | Oppose | Total |
|--------------|--------------------|---------------------|------------|
| Unknown | 40.00% | 60.00% | 5 |
| Female | 33.91% | 66.09% | 115 |
| Male | 39.45% | 60.55% | 109 |
| Total | 36.68% (84) | 63.32% (145) | 229 |

Survey conducted April 3, 2014.

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School Board candidates Patti Bounds and Amber Rountree at last week's public forum. Photo by Dan Andrews.

Rountree shines at School Board Candidates Forum

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system."

Fugate seemed nervous and her voice quivered frequently as she spoke. The incumbents acknowledged that communication has been an issue.

"It's about communicating with your community and we hear different things from different people and that makes it very difficult to make hard decisions," Fugate said. "We have to have more forums with our community. Knox County Schools has changed and we've addressed as many of those changes as we could but we have to talk to each other and to work together."

Amber Rountree noted in an interview the incumbents have been in office for four years and have had every opportunity to hold community meetings, but have not done so.

"I appreciate their sudden concern, but I can't help but feel the incumbents would have a better understanding of their own constituents' feelings had they realized they should be out in the community sooner," Rountree said.

Fugate is the Chair of the Knox County Board and despite her warm and fuzzy statements about cooperation and working together, some believe she has ruthlessly utilized the Chair's power to stifle opposition to McIntyre. Some teachers noted Fugate cut off one student who was speaking against McIntyre and his administration.

Mike McMillan, East Knox County's member of the Board of Education and recognized as McIntyre's lone critic on the Board, said, "It really does seem the folks appearing before the Board who are supportive of Dr. McIntyre are treated a little better than those who are critical. Perhaps that is just my own perception, but it's what I believe."

McMillan has been the source of ire from his colleagues on the Board, who have tried to not so subtly punish him for his refusal

to go along with the administration.

Every member of the Board of Education voted to extend McIntyre's contract for another year when it had three years left to run except for McMillan. The Board's action set off a storm of protest from many parents and teachers. Considering that McIntyre's current contract had three more years to run, even supporters did not understand why McIntyre insisted on seeking an extension.

"I suspect Dr. McIntyre wanted a vote of confidence from the Board," Mike McMillan says. "Of course he got it, but it was completely unnecessary."

Both Fugate and Trainor voted to extend McIntyre's contract to four years, which is the maximum allowed under state law.

Several candidates expressed concern about the excessive testing implemented by McIntyre and the Board.

"We are testing our children to death and I would roll back testing," Sally Absher told the audience.

Jeffrey Scott Clark agreed.

"We spend twenty days preparing for testing and that's about ten percent of the school year," Clark said. Clark is a former educator as well as a veteran of the United States Air Force. "We're taking time away from teaching our children and what I'm finding is that [the students] are starting to dislike education."

"I think the whole system is unfair. Our kids need to learn and play."

Amber Rountree, a professional educator, said she believes children are bothered by the excessive testing.

"The kids are nervous and they come in crying during the week of the TCAPS," Rountree said.

Patti Lou Bounds pointed out she would do her best to change the current teacher evaluation system, which evaluates many educators and educational professionals by people outside their own area of expertise.

"I would eliminate the K - 2 evaluations," Bounds flatly said. Bounds is a kindergarten teacher at Brickley - McCloud Elementary School. "We now have an academically-based kindergarten and some children are ready for that, but some aren't."

Both Trainor and Fugate were supportive of Common Core, while the challengers were skeptical of the program.

"I don't know if Common Core standards are good or bad, but I know that they were meant to be a road map and not standards," Patti Lou Bounds said.

Jeffrey Scott Clark said he is opposed to Common Core standards.

"It was a knee-jerk reaction because they knew something had to be done and they really didn't know what to do," Clark said. "They did it to get federal money."

McIntyre's leadership was the subject of discussion and some acknowledged growing discontent with the superintendent's direction.

Amber Rountree stated, "We have seventy percent of the teachers who distrust [McIntyre's] leadership and when you have seventy percent of your people on the ground distrusting your leadership, then something has to be done."

Many of those attending felt the challengers had made an impressive debut and the incumbents may well be crippled going into the elections by carrying the burden of a record of almost blind support for Jim McIntyre.

"That's their record," Mike McMillan said, "and now they have to defend it. They can talk about working together all they want, but that's not their record."

Publisher's Position Politics Alive and Well In the School System



By Steve Hunley, Publisher
publisher@knoxfocus.com

If anyone doubted that the school system and the appointed superintendent plays politics, two recent press releases should be enough to remove the rose colored glasses of his few supporters.

The school system recently sent out press releases for improvements at Mooreland Heights Elementary School, as well as a ceremony for the repairs to the stadium at the former South-Doyle Middle School. The superintendent apparently has several projects to approve, but the expansion of four classrooms at Mooreland Heights was evidently deserving of being placed at the top of the list and just coincidentally Board of Education member Pam Trainor

is facing a stiff challenge from newcomer Amber Rountree. Trainor's term of office has been notable for little else than her inability or lack of interest in getting anything for her home community. The improvements at Mooreland Heights and the fixing up of the stadium pale in comparison to the money going into other communities and Trainor herself gave the credit for the improvements to the stadium to someone else.

Genuine coincidence is rare in life and the timing of the announcements --- just weeks away from the primary election aren't likely coincidental. Pam Trainor has always voted as the superintendent wished and these announcements are calculated to help her reelection bid.

For those who think appointed superintendents are immune to practical politics, this should open your eyes.


Trainor is facing a formidable opponent who is articulate, well informed on the issues facing our school system, and free from being influenced by Jim McIntyre. A few paltry improvements may not be enough to save Trainor.

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Debate becomes heated over 2.5% annual raises

By Mike Steely
steelym@knoxfocus.com

Tuesday evening's City Council meeting saw some hot remarks during the first reading of a resolution that would stop the annual 2.5% pay increase for city employees. It became so heated that Mayor Madeline Rogero said, "I'm going to ask everyone to stay calm, please!"

The discussion began near the end of the meeting when Councilman Nick Della Volpe introduced an ordinance to do away with the annual increase for City employees making more than \$40,000 and place any pay increase in the hands of the administration. City employees have been guaranteed a 2.5% cost of living raise since 1981.

"Take it off automatic pilot," Della Volpe said, reasoning that the city's revenue has seen no real growth.

Councilman George Wallace agreed with Della Volpe but moved to end the automatic increase for all city employees. Wallace compared city government to practices in business and pay raises.

"Private enterprise is risk and reward, but government is a service provider, to insure tax dollars we collect are given back in services," Vice-Mayor Nick



PHOTO BY DAN ANDREWS.

Several city employees, including police and fire departments were in the audience and responded now and then with applause or groans.

Pavlis said, adding, "It's important for us to continue with the 2.5 percent."

"I'm disturbed we have nothing in place to cover cost of living increases," Council member Brenda Palmer said. "I'm not going to be supporting this."

"I'm not ready to support this at this time," said Councilman Finbarr Saunders.

"The mayor should have the option," Councilman Duane Grieve said, adding, "Who up here is representing the tax payers?"

Councilman Daniel Brown said, "I've spent my life as a working person

and recognize the value of these increases. It's not always about numbers, we're dealing with people."

Wallace said the idea wasn't "to push someone down, it's about giving authority back to the mayor." He went on to say that Pavlis was taking the proposal totally out of context. He referred to Governor Haslam's decision not to raise state employees' pay.

"We're putting flexibility into the system. I guess I could translate his (Pavlis') remarks into he doesn't trust the mayor to do the right thing, and I don't

believe that's correct," Della Volpe said.

"This (pay raise) is a 30 year old decision!" he said, adding "Putting your thumb on the scale isn't prudent."

Pavlis said they were talking about taking away a guarantee, adding, "I have all the faith and trust in the mayor and her administration and this council to do the right thing."

Councilman Marshall Stair called it a difficult issue and then said it was premature at this point. He said, "If we can afford it we should continue it."

Grieve said, "We are

concerned about the budget, we saw what the governor had to do. Just because we repeal it doesn't mean the pay raise wouldn't be there."

Mayor Rogero said she respected both sides of the debate. "If we were facing a situation with highly overpaid employees then we'd have a problem. Even with the 2 and one-half raise we're still trying to keep up (with other cities)," she said.

"I appreciate you trying to give me the authority, but I would still make the increase," she said, "We're not at a place that this is

unreasonable. I am not asking for this authority and I would ask that you not support this."

Several City employees then spoke in favor of keeping the automatic annual pay increase, including retired City employee Anita Cash. She said that until the annual pay raise was approved, "We had to run up here every year and beg!"

"I'm tired of people not getting the facts. Do the right thing, take care of these folks," she said, asking all the City employees in the audience to stand.

Della Volpe aimed a remark at her, saying, "Anita Cash, you don't live in Knoxville and don't pay taxes here!"

"We brought this to the table so we could have an intelligent discussion," Della Volpe said. "You have a council willing to talk about it and if you don't appreciate that then you're not thinking straight."

Then he removed his second to Wallace's idea to include all employees, leaving the pay increase motion to only affect those making \$40,000 or more each year.

The vote sided with keeping the pay increase, 6/3, with Della Volpe, Grieve, and Wallace voting to discontinue it.

Leuthold Running on Integrity, Leadership and Experience in Trustee Race

Cont. from page 1

certification as a trustee. One of the changes Leuthold made when he came in was conducting job evaluations for the first time in 10 years. He has also put together an organizational chart and placed people where he felt they could help the office the most and be successful.

This reorganization of employees, Leuthold estimates, will save Knox County over \$300,000 annually and has resulted in more revenue collections.

He said the challenge he faced coming into office was to restore faith in the trustee's office. "We're doing it right, one day at a time. Audits have proved that we're doing it the right way and we're going to continue to do it the right way."

If he's elected, one thing Leuthold will do is continue to enhance online payments and make them

more accessible and easier to use.

Another thing he'd like to do is create a system where property owners can receive their tax statements by e-mail.

Leuthold says he's always

looking for ways to make the trustee's office more efficient and save more tax dollars.

Leuthold attended a "Meet and Greet" Thursday in Corryton and has been steadily knocking on doors

all over the county.

"I'm running on my record," he stressed. "The

results are that we are collecting more money and I am doing it with fewer

employees. We're also doing it the right way."

"I appreciate your vote in the upcoming election."




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Sevier County Commissioner
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Our Neighborhoods

FARRAGUT

By Mike Steely
steelym@knoxfocus.com

It's the little town with a lot of muscle, the western end of Knox County that has lured newcomers and professionals alike, the shopping and commercial heart of suburbia, and the little engine that could.

Farragut did not exist as an incorporated municipality until 1980. It avoided the sweeping annexation of a growing Knoxville by becoming Knox County's second city. Today the town boasts of more than 20,000 residents within its 16 square miles of area. There are more than 6,500 households of which more than 70% are families with a higher medium income than most of the county.

While most local people think that all of the Turkey Creek shopping area is in Farragut, much of it is actually in Knoxville. The eastern end of Turkey Creek is in Knoxville and the middle and western end are in Farragut. The town stretches down Kingston Pike from about Lovell Road down to the Loudon County line at Dixie Lee Junction. The northern boundary actually goes across I-40 and the southern boundary reaches down to Fort Loudon Lake. What it does not encompass is its much older community to the south, Concord.

Although later named for Civil War Navy Admiral David Farragut, the community could have easily kept the name Campbell's Station, for the family of Captain David Campbell who settled there before statehood. The founder established a large fortified home, a stage coach stop, and an inn. The home was built in 1787 and stands yet today on 11409 Kingston Pike. The Pleasant Hill Cemetery in Farragut has a marker for Campbell, but it is only a memorial as Campbell moved further west in Tennessee later in his life.



The Campbell Station Inn, built by one of founders of the settlement that would become Farragut.

The cemetery does have Campbell family members buried there and also has the grave of Tennessee's second governor, Archibald Roane.

THE CAMPBELL STATION INN

Andrew Jackson slept there and so did John Sevier and many other early Tennessee and national figures. The Russell House, or Campbell Station Inn, was built in 1810 and has been acquired by the town of Farragut. It's on the National Register of Historic Sites and, according to Farragut's mayor, is

one of the last remaining connections to the area's historic past. A campaign is underway to raise \$ 1 million to restore the old home.

Farragut, then Campbell's Station, was the site of the Battle of Campbell Station during the Civil War.

Before and after that national conflict the area of Farragut was the main route for travelers, pioneers, politicians, and commerce going west. The wagon road led through the community to southwest Point (Kingston) and on across the Cumberland Mountains to Nashville and beyond.

THE FARRAGUT FOLKLIFE MUSEUM

Located inside the town hall, the Folklife Museum tells the story of the settlement of the area, from pioneer days until today. Many of the exhibits honor Admiral Farragut and the volunteers at the museum are happy to greet you and show you around the free exhibits.

The displays, uniforms, photos, artifacts and even a collection of scrimshaw are featured along with exhibits about the Civil War, local schools, and much more. There's a gift shop featuring historic books, children's toys, and handmade items from local crafts people.

The current special exhibit is "The Manhattan Project: Secrets Revisited," featuring items on loan from the American Museum of Science and Energy, Y-12 National Security Complex K-25, and the collection of Lloyd and Betty Stokes.

You can contact the museum at 966-7057 or find them on the internet at www.townof Farragut.org and select the

museum.

ART IN THE PARK

The town is home to the Farragut-West Knox Chamber of Commerce which takes an active role in the community. It is also the home of the Farragut Business Alliance. The Alliance has partnered with the town and the Dogwood Arts Festival to host the 4th annual Farragut Art in the Park, presented by TDS. The event this year will be Saturday and Sunday, April 26 and 27 at Campbell Station Park.

Paintings and photographs of various parks, greenways and other scenic Farragut locations will be featured. Kid's Art in the Park will be held that Saturday from 1-3 p.m. where children can participate in hands-on art projects.

The events are free and open to the public and you can get more information by calling 307-2486 or going to www.FarragutBusiness.com.

PARKS AND GREENWAYS

Several parks and greenways exist in Farragut including Anchor Park, Founders Park at Campbell Station, Mayor Bob Leonard Park, McFee Park, and greenways at Fox Fun, Grigsby Chapel, McFee, Parkside and Turkey Creek.

Founders Park is unique in that it circles back to the Knox County Library with walking trails, sculptures, benches, a Longstreet Pavilion and a Burnside

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5 questions with Farragut Mayor McGill

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

Pages from the Political Past



By Ray Hill
rayhill865@gmail.com

Estes Kefauver had been in the United States Senate for twelve years in 1960. He had quickly risen to national prominence, making two serious bids for the Democratic presidential nomination in 1952 and 1956. Kefauver had crushed a determined opposition to his 1954 reelection to the Senate from an ambitious Congressman who had ample financial resources. Kefauver won reelection with almost seventy percent of the vote and reestablished his political primacy in his home state.

By 1960, Kefauver seemed old beyond his years and his fondness for Scotch and heavy smoking had taken their toll. Kefauver's popularity in Tennessee was to be tested by Andrew "Tip" Taylor, a judge who had quite nearly won the gubernatorial nomination in 1958. Taylor entered the Senate race with the full support of Governor Buford Ellington and his administration. Ellington had even promised to endorse Taylor before the close of the campaign.

Ellington had not reckoned with Lyndon B. Johnson, the powerful Majority Leader of the United States Senate. LBJ had given Kefauver an assignment to the Senate Appropriations Committee and Frank Clement, Ellington's predecessor as governor, had quickly dropped his plans to challenge Kefauver in 1960. In fact, Clement endorsed Senator Kefauver, much to the chagrin of Governor Ellington. Despite Clement's potential challenge to Kefauver, the former governor's endorsement of his rival was not all that far-fetched. The Kefauver and Clement organizations overlapped in many respects, with many of the same supporters and financial backers. The political philosophies of the two men were not far apart. Kefauver was thought to be more liberal than most Tennesseans, but Frank Clement's own populist style was hardly less liberal than that of Senator Kefauver. Buford Ellington was genuinely conservative and his choice for the Democratic presidential nomination in 1960 was Lyndon B. Johnson of Texas. Kefauver was noticeably absent from the efforts of dissident liberals in the Senate who challenged Johnson's authority. Kefauver was also absent from the 1960 Democratic National Convention and the Tennessee delegation was led by Governor Buford Ellington.

The conservative wing of Tennessee's Democratic

Party was delighted by the candidacy of Andrew Taylor. Bolstered by Ellington's victory in the 1958 Democratic primary, they believed they might have found the candidate to help defeat the liberal element in their own party.

Kefauver had been presiding over another Senate investigation that had serious national implications for the drug industry, an investigation that was frowned upon by many doctors, as well as the Tennessee Chamber of Commerce. As recounted by Kefauver's biographer, Charles Fontenay, the Kefauver investigation revealed the "disclosures of excessive prices for ethical (prescription) drugs, concealment of adverse side effects of drugs, and conflict of interest in the Food and Drug Administration."

While Kefauver was winning plaudits for his investigation nationally, physicians and druggists in Tennessee were sending out literature to patients and customers in the tens of thousands labeling the senator as a socialist. Senator Kefauver was further distressed when a poll taken in the spring of 1960 showed him far behind Andrew Taylor in his reelection campaign. Kefauver lamented to at least one friend he probably should not have involved himself in the drug investigation. "Now I've gotten the drug people, the pharmacists and the doctors all stirred up," Kefauver concluded.

Soon, there were rumors that the drug manufacturing interests were funneling considerable cash to the Taylor campaign. Pamphlets appeared in Tennessee calling Kefauver a Communist. Kefauver's votes on civil rights legislation also came under fire and were the subject of fodder for Taylor's campaign. Taylor bitterly attacked Kefauver over his support for civil rights legislation and accused the senator of being "out of step" with other Southern senators. Taylor's campaign suffered a setback when eight Southern senators sent warm letters of support to Kefauver. John Stennis of Mississippi, Herman Talmadge of Georgia, Olin D. Johnston of South Carolina, Ralph Yarborough of Texas, John Sparkman of Alabama, Russell Long of Louisiana, Lister Hill of Alabama, and George Smathers of Florida all sent letters which Kefauver cleverly utilized in his reelection campaign. Kefauver also received help from his former running mate, Adlai Stevenson, who described Kefauver's reelection as "absolutely imperative."



FROM THE AUTHOR'S PERSONAL COLLECTION.

Senator Estes and Nancy Kefauver campaigning.

West Tennessee was perhaps the territory believed to be the most unfriendly to Senator Kefauver, due to the fact it was both Andrew Taylor's home as well as the area where race was perhaps the most sensitive issue. Charles Fontenay, Kefauver's biographer, recounts the senator's visit to Andrew Taylor's home city of Jackson. Appearing before a crowd of a few hundred people in the courthouse square, Kefauver brought up the civil rights legislation forthrightly. Going point by point, the senator told the folks what each meant and said, "Well, I'm for that. I think it's right. Is there anyone in this audience that's against it?" Each time Kefauver addressed a specific point, he was applauded by his audience.

Andrew Taylor's campaign received a blow when Lyndon Johnson came to Tennessee. By then the vice presidential nominee and John F. Kennedy's running mate, Johnson was thought to be far more popular in the state than the Catholic senator from Massachusetts. Johnson was in Tennessee to attend a campaign rally in Nashville while the senatorial contest was raging. Taylor scurried to greet LBJ as the vice presidential candidate's motorcade arrived. As a dismayed Andrew Taylor looked on, the big Texan saw Senator Kefauver in the crowd and walked past the challenger to enfold his colleague in a warm embrace. "Tip" Taylor then had to endure LBJ making a speech, which praised Kefauver's service. The Texan's talk was quite nearly a public endorsement of Kefauver's

candidacy for reelection; in fact, Newsweek flatly stated Johnson had come to Tennessee on behalf of Estes Kefauver.

As recounted by Charles Fontenay, Johnson, too, addressed the issue of race bluntly.

"Wherever I may go, I will never speak as a Southerner to Southerners, or as a Protestant to Protestants, or as a white to whites. I will only speak as an American to Americans," LBJ declared in remarks that were extemporaneous.

Johnson's statement clearly boosted Kefauver, as well as the Catholic Kennedy.

Before leaving, Johnson yet again hugged Kefauver while "Tip" Taylor had already departed.

Johnson's clear preference had also caused Governor Buford Ellington some anguish. After having promised Andrew Taylor his own personal support and that of his administration, Ellington did little or nothing to help. LBJ had successfully neutralized Buford Ellington. Ellington would run for governor again in 1966 and only barely turn back a fierce challenge from John Jay Hooker, who had the support of many former Kefauver backers. Ellington ran on the slogan, "The Man of His

Word." One wonders what Andrew Taylor thought of that.

Buford Ellington was wise to have forgotten his promise to "Tip" Taylor. Election Day brought Estes Kefauver a resounding victory, winning more than sixty-four percent of the vote. It was an especially gratifying win for the Tennessee senator after so bitter a campaign. Kefauver would easily win the general election, although there were signs of an emerging Republican strength in Tennessee. The Volunteer State had twice voted for General Dwight D. Eisenhower and Tennesseans preferred Richard Nixon to John F. Kennedy.

Kefauver was also gratified when he returned to Washington, coming onto the floor of the United States Senate quietly, only to receive applause from his fellow senators. Among those coming over to his desk on the Senate floor to offer congratulations on his reelection was John F. Kennedy.

Despite the demonstration from his fellow senators, Estes Kefauver was never really accepted by those senators who comprised the bloc who ran the institution. Kefauver's erstwhile enemy, the late Senator K. D. McKellar, had been one of the senatorial

barons who exercised enormous influence inside the Senate. McKellar was part and parcel of the Senate establishment, while Kefauver remained an outsider for his entire career inside the United States Senate. Much of the liberal establishment disliked Kefauver and according to Charles Fontenay, national columnist Stewart Alsop summed the disdain of many liberal elitists who frowned upon the senator from Tennessee.

Alsop concluded many of the liberal intellectuals believed Kefauver "lacks the elegance and eloquence liberals like in their heroes." Indeed, John F. Kennedy and the fabled "Camelot" of administration were defined largely by elegance and eloquence. Not coincidentally, those same traits were applied to Kefauver's old foe and running mate, Adlai Stevenson. Yet even Stevenson did not possess the casual elegance of the handsome young Kennedy and his strikingly beautiful wife, Jacqueline.

Unlike Senator McKellar, Kefauver never really built an organization around himself. Kefauver did have thousands of friends and supporters all across Tennessee who rallied to his aid each time he ran, but Senator Kefauver never concentrated on the patronage and machinery of politics. Kefauver never really openly supported other candidates in races, save for his friend Gordon Browning in 1952, but that was also largely because Kefauver understood what a toll was exacted due to Browning's help at the Democratic National Convention that year. The fact Browning lost decisively to Frank Clement likely did not encourage Kefauver in making future endorsements of other candidates.

Southern senators had for decades been renowned for their oratory; many of the acknowledged best speakers in the country hailed from the South. Yet, Estes Kefauver remained a shockingly bad speaker. Kefauver could manage to mangle the simplest of sentences and according to his biographer, "had a remarkable propensity for putting his foot in his mouth on the most serious issues." Fontenay also quoted a national reporter who covered a Kefauver campaign appearance in South Dakota. Clearly, the reporter was underwhelmed.

"It was a drab speech to a drab little audience. But afterward, they crowded around him with genuine enthusiasm. Something had happened. They got it. I didn't."

The mystery of Estes Kefauver's personal appeal was one many people didn't quite get.

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We're Making SEYMOUR Smile

BZA turns down variance on swimming pool

By Mike Steely
steelym@knoxfocus.com

Sometimes getting caught between regulations in the city government can be confusing and frustrating. Such was the case of a Sharp's Ridge couple who simply wanted to install a pool so the wife can get the water exercises she needs for health purposes.

Kyle and Donna Jones appeared before the Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) board Wednesday afternoon to plead their case to reduce the setback requirement to allow the already constructed above ground pool. The Jones used money from their retirement funds to install the pool, as well as for repairs to their home.

Before the Pool Place broke ground last year Kyle Jones went to the city, learning that he needed a permit. He spoke to Rodney Smith with the Plans Review and Inspections Division, and Jones said he was told to go ahead. After the pool was almost finished Smith told them they were in violation but said they should go ahead and complete the pool.

The home is located on 368 Hiwassee Avenue, at the southern foot of Sharp's Ridge, and suffers a runoff problem in the backyard. Therefore the Joneses had the pool installed in a side yard, but the deck extends beyond the front of the house, creating the violation.

"That's the only place in the yard it could go," Kyle Jones said, adding he didn't know it was in

violation when he had the deck installed.

Mrs. Jones said that someone had written a letter to the city complaining about the pool and that it came from the "so-called neighborhood association" which she had never heard of before.

During the appeal, chair person Robyn McAdoo called the situation unfortunate and said the couple were led down the path that was not correct.

Kyle Jones said that after the initial reply from Smith, "I thought it was alright, I had no idea the pool would go up that quickly."

When told by the city last year he needed a drawing of where the pool was going in his yard Jones paid to have a new survey done and that survey wasn't completed until January.

"We've got to drain the pool this week," Donna Jones told *The Focus* Thursday, explaining that the city told them the pool could endanger children in the neighborhood. She said the suggestion to drain the pool came from Scott Elder, Zoning Coordinator.

The Joneses were told at the BZA meeting that the board understands and sympathizes but Rodney Smith had no authority to grant a variance and that no permit was ever issued.

"I just did what Rodney told me," Kyle Jones replied.

The BZA told the couple that the pool creates an "eye sore" and that it doesn't qualify as a hardship under the regulations and thus

does not qualify for a variance.

"I'd hate to have to tear that pool down," Jones said, asking what he should do and the BZA replied that his remaining option is to take the denial to City Council. He and his wife were asked if they would stay after the meeting and talk with some of the officials present.

Kyle Jones said they have placed their life savings into the home repairs, pool, and survey.

Fifth District City Councilman Mark Campen represents the Hiwassee neighborhood and told *The Focus* Thursday that he will contact the Jones family and look into the situation and possibly bring it before the council at the next meeting.

"Sounds like an unfortunate situation," Campen said.

In other business, the BZA approved a variance request from Springdale Partners for setbacks to combine 10 lots to one on West Springdale Avenue for medical offices, permitted exterior wall signs for Provision Health Partners at 1400 Dowell Springs Blvd for two buildings, and approved parking lot changes at the Historic Sherrill House at 9320 Kingston Pike.

The appeals board also approved parking changes at the Locust Street Garage, requested by the city, widening the driveway and creation of one retail space fronting Summer Place in the 10-story garage.

From State Representative Harry Brooks

Many of the committees are finishing their business, which means a number of the bills we have been watching this session are being passed in the general assembly. This past week we had multiple bills pass that will improve Tennessee.

A great example is the legislation passed that will reform Tennessee's outdated annexation laws. Prior to House Bill 2371 passing, the law allowed municipalities the ability to annex private property without the consent of the property owner.

The 60-year-old law will be struck down once signed by Governor Bill Haslam. After the bill is signed, all future annexations will be subject to a referendum vote by the property owners who would be affected by the annexation proposal.

While this bill passed by an overwhelming vote of 85-4, the hard work put into this effort must not be overlooked. This effort was made possible by many community leaders and volunteers from across Tennessee meeting with local officials. The ground work laid by these individuals made the process of voting it into law an easier process.

The House also passed legislation that could potentially be the deciding factor for relocating businesses when choosing between Tennessee and other states.

Under present law, weekly insurance payments for eligible Tennesseans are paid by the employers who pay taxes on the wages they pay their employees. The tax rate that employers pay is based on how long they have been operating in Tennessee. New companies pay a higher rate because they have no prior

experience in the state.

House Bill 1386 allows new companies coming to Tennessee to base their unemployment insurance premiums on the history of their business practices in the state they are relocating from, potentially saving the company thousands of dollars.

If passed, Tennessee would become the first state to enact the policy. Proponents of the bill estimate this change will help recruit an additional five manufacturers to the state each year.

Legislation that legalizes the growth of industrial hemp in Tennessee passed the House of Representatives General Assembly by a margin of 88-5. Studies show this legalization would result in a multi-million dollar per year industry, creating thousands of jobs across the state.

There are many misconceptions about the hemp plant, many of which include its association with marijuana. The plants are two very different species, each cultivated in different ways and serving separate purposes. Hemp contains less than .3% THC, the ingredient that creates the "high" from marijuana, making it impossible to use as a mind-altering substance.

Not only are the uses for hemp plentiful - including clothing, insulation, and carpeting - its history in America is also deeply rooted. George Washington and Thomas Jefferson grew large quantities of hemp and encouraged others to do the same. Hemp, at one time a large cash crop in Tennessee, was also widely used by the United States to make the uniforms, canvas and rope used during World War II.

I am excited about having the opportunity to serve the people of Tennessee and especially those of the 19th District. I can be reached at (615)741-6879.

5 questions with Farragut Mayor McGill

Cont. from page 2

people who come through here or decide to move to Farragut say that you know immediately when you drive into Farragut. We have people from all over the country who do their research and choose to move to Farragut. That is a very common story that I hear."

4. Would you like to comment about the current Tennessee legislation about annexations?

"The legislature is the legislature. While we might not like what they do sometimes, it IS the law."

4. Anything else you would like to add?

"It has been the greatest honor in my life to be elected Mayor and serve the people of Farragut. We've made some great strides, and that does not happen without the support of a lot of people in the community. It's a humbling experience and I am grateful to have had this opportunity."

Hitch'n a ride

I've been doing a bit of driving to supplement my income. The job entails delivering a new car to one dealer and then returning with another from that lot. It's a good job; I only wish the drives came at least a couple of times each week. At any rate,

during these drives, I've noticed more and more folks standing on the side of interstate ramps with their thumbs stuck out. Yep, hitchhiking is still around today, although it's not quite the same.

Hitching a ride was common practice for teens when I was in high school. Most of us didn't have cars, so the only way to get from one place to another was to walk or get someone to pick us up along the way. Jim and I walked to the bus stop about a tenth of a mile from home. We'd stand around for a while until we grew bored. Then we'd strike off toward school with our thumbs out. Before long, someone, usually another teen or the parent of a friend, would stop and let us hop in the car.

The reason we chose hitchhiking instead of riding the bus was that



By Joe Rector
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we'd taken up smoking, and we couldn't light up on the bus. Of course, sometimes no one offered us a ride, and we trudged the entire route to school. Even when we did ride to school with someone, we often arrived after

our bus had emptied its load of students and left for another route.

On several occasions, I'd stick out my thumb in search of a ride to a girl's house or to a place where several teens had gathered. Grown-ups didn't much like seeing teens walk, so before long, a kind, older person would stop and yell, "Hop in." Some interesting conversations took place during those rides, and I met good people who saw the good in most everyone.

Jim and I left for college at Tennessee Tech, one hundred miles from home. Mother had purchased a Studebaker Lark for us to drive back and forth. The vehicle lasted only a couple of trips before throwing a rod on a trip up the mountain in Monterey. From that point on, the only way home was begging a ride from

a Knoxville-bound student or hitching a ride.

Jim was in love, but he couldn't leave for home until after football games because he was in the band. On occasion, he'd finish marching at the game, go to the room to grab a bag, and hitchhike at midnight. He always seemed to get a ride with someone.

Jim must have learned the art of hitchhiking from our older brother Dal, who stuck out his thumb every weekend for a year so that he could come home to see his future wife Brenda. Mother would sometimes buy a bus ticket back, but even when she didn't, she'd give Dal a quarter or a dollar so he wasn't caught without any money on his walk down I-40.

My one and only hitchhiking adventure from TTU to Knoxville came on a weekend in October of my freshman year. I began at the ramp in Cookeville, and for a long time I walked without successfully flagging down a ride. Then, a car sped by me but then abruptly pulled off the side of the road and drove in reverse toward me. Whether or not the driver intended to run me over wasn't clear, but he stopped, stuck his arm out the window, and waved

me up.

The man was in the service, or so he said, and he was driving from Texas to New Jersey. I didn't care where he was going as long as he let me out in Knoxville. The trip took forever. This guy insisted on finding every place that sold fireworks. He exited any time he saw a sign or thought a stand might be close. His trunk was filled with M-80s, Roman Candles, and other big explosive items. I deduced that he was selling them at huge mark-ups to folks at home or on the base where he was located. That was my last hitchhiking adventure. I left no one back home who pined for me on my way to college. If I couldn't find someone going to Knoxville, I stayed on campus for the weekend. Some might call me a coward, but I prefer to think of myself as cautious.

These days, the people who stick out thumbs for rides look a bit seedier, and few people want to run the risk of picking up a serial murderer. The days of sticking out thumbs and capturing free rides is over for the most part. Still, it's a bit sad young folks will miss the opportunity to hitchhike at least one time.

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‘Inexperienced’ Rebels nab soccer win at Halls

By Ken Lay

West High School’s boys soccer team has taken its share of lumps this season but the Rebels put together a solid effort at Halls Thursday night and came away with a 4-1 road victory over the Red Devils.

“We have a lot of inexperienced kids,” West coach Keith Robinson said. “They’re not just young, they’re inexperienced. “I tried to get a lot of them some playing time today.”

The Rebels (2-4-4), who dropped a match to Central

earlier in the week, got off to a fast start against the Red Devils (3-4) and that enabled Robinson to give his players some valuable game experience.

West wasted little time getting on the scoreboard against Halls, which was coming off a win over Carter on Tuesday night. The Rebels took a 1-0 lead in the fifth minute on a goal by Garrett Durbin.

And West was far from finished. The Rebels, who have tilts against District 4-AAA foes Bearden and

Hardin Valley this week, were far from finished.

They extended their advantage to 2-0 when Manny Ruiz converted a free kick from just inside midfield in the 21st minute.

The Rebels controlled the game from the outset. They constantly pressured the Red Devils, who managed just two shots in the first 40 minutes. Desmond Thompson, West’s starting goalkeeper stopped those scoring attempts and didn’t play after halftime.

He gave way to Boyett Smith, who surrendered Halls’ lone marker in the game’s final minute.

Meanwhile, the Rebels tallied two more goals before the break. Durbin scored again in the 24th minute and Mason Harrison found the back of the net in the 37th minute to make the score 4-0 before halftime.

Despite a losing record and early struggles, Robinson said he knows that his team can play.

“We’re capable of playing good soccer but since our

guys are so young, they don’t always know that,” Robinson said. “As far as character, this is the best group of guys that I’ve ever had.

“But they’ve got to play better soccer. We lost 19 seniors last year and you’ve got to make the pieces fit. That’s the fun thing about coaching soccer at the high school level. It’s a challenge. When we play the way that we’re capable, this is what happens. When we don’t, we get mediocre results.”

The Red Devils got their lone marker late when Sam Steffy score to help Halls avoid the shutout.

Robinson is hoping that his squad can turn things around in short order.

“It’s still early and if we play the way we’re capable, we can still have a good season,” he said.



Anthony Crowder, sophomore shortstop, applies the tag on an opponent in a game this season. The middle infield is one of the Knoxville Christian Knights’ team strengths.

Knoxville Christian baseballers are well on their way

By Steve Williams

Knoxville Christian School baseball is just in its second season, but the Knights have been holding their own in games against local teams with established programs.

After losing its season opener at Alcoa 10-5 on March 10, KCS won at Karns 6-4 the following day to raise an eyebrow or two.

A week later, the Knights notched a 6-4 victory at Class A state power Grace Christian Academy before dropping a 7-6 decision to Hardin Valley Academy, which currently has one of the best won-loss records on the local scene.

“We’ve been playing a tough schedule this year,” said Coach John Barry, whose 8-5 ball club

was scheduled to play Grace Christian again this past Saturday in the 11th annual Fighting Irish Spring Classic at Smokies Park in Sevierville.

Andrew Horn, Assistant Athletic Director at Knoxville Christian, which is located on Snyder Road in West Knox County, said “we’re excited” about the Knights’ fast-starting program.

“We’re looking into joining the TSSAA in the next two to three years,” said Horn. “Right now we’re in the preparation stage to fully apply.”

Horn said KCS has 80 students in grades 9 through 12 and 250 to 260 students in K through 12. As for athletics, the numbers are “aided by a lot of home school students.”

In its inaugural baseball season in 2013, Knoxville Christian posted a 20-6-1 record and was runner-up in the National Athletic Christian Association Division 1 tournament, which was played in Dayton. Faith Baptist Christian School Eagles of Brandon, Fla., were the NACA champions.

“That was the best high school

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Eagles pound out 14 hits in victory over Clinton

By Ken Lay

Gibbs High School baseball coach Geff Davis has been waiting for his team's bats to awaken from their season-long slumber. "We haven't hit the ball well all year but we got 14 hits tonight," Davis said after his Eagles routed Clinton 11-4 Wednesday night in a District 3-AAA game at Steve Hunley Field. "It's been a long time since we've had 14 hits in a game, so maybe this is the start of something special."

Gibbs (10-6 overall, 6-4 in the district) beat the Dragons handily but it had to come from behind twice to notch a key district victory.

Clinton took a 1-0 lead in the top of the first on an RBI double by designated hitter Jackson Jacobick and the Eagles answered in the bottom of the inning on Peyton Sawyer's triple that plated Brad Cottrill, who reached on a fielder's choice.

Clinton used a three-run second to retake the lead before the Eagles stormed back with a vengeance.

Trailing 3-1 in the second, Gibbs sent 12 hitters to the plate and scored seven runs in the frame.

Pierce Elliott led off the inning with a single and advanced to third on a double by Royce Mershon. Elliott scored on a sacrifice fly by Austin Breeden to make it 4-2.

Gibbs left fielder Andrew Willis then singled home Mershon to make it 4-3 before Cottrill's two-run single gave the Eagles a 5-4 lead. They would never trail again. Sawyer added an RBI double before Elliott's two-run single closed scoring in the inning and extended Gibbs High's advantage to 8-4.

The Dragons were all but stifled after their three-run barrage in the second. Gibbs pitcher Daniel McKee, who struggled early, rebounded to throw a masterpiece.

"The first inning was tough and the second inning was tough for Daniel," Davis said. "After that, he used his fastball and went right at them."

"Early, he tried to go around guys but after that, he went after them. He's at his best when he goes at hitters with his fastball."

McKee retired the Dragons in order in the third, fourth and sixth innings. He surrendered a lead-off walk to Riley Miller in the fifth



PHOTO BY DAN ANDREWS.

Gibbs High School catcher Trey Carpenter awaits a pitch in the Eagles' 11-4 District 3-AAA victory over Clinton Wednesday. Carpenter, the Eagles' leadoff hitter, had a hit in the game.

before getting the next three hitters.

Gibbs added to its lead with a pair of runs in the third to make it 10-4. In that frame, Cottrill had an RBI double and Sawyer drove in a run when he reached on an error.

Elliott's sacrifice fly scored Cottrill with the game's final run in the fifth.

Cottrill and Sawyer each had three hits in the game while Willis and Elliott had two apiece.

The Dragons threatened in the seventh but McKee escaped

damage when he retired the final two hitters with a pair of Dragons in scoring position.

McKee surrendered five hits and three walks. He struck out eight en route to a complete game win.

Knoxville Christian baseballers are well on their way

Cont. from page 1

team I've ever seen in my life," said Coach Barry, who played at Science Hill High School and East Tennessee State University. "They had three pitchers who could throw over 90. The (NACA) director decided not to have them back. They were too good."

Knoxville Christian also joined the Southern Christian Athletic Association this season

Eric Nolan is one of only two senior starters for KCS. The 6-foot, 180-pounder is the first baseman, bats cleanup and also is the ace of its pitching staff..

"He has a bulldog mentality," said Barry. "It blows my mind that no college team has picked him up yet."

"He pitches in the low to mid 80s, has a curve, change-up and a side-arm fastball. He gets stronger as the game goes on."

Nolan was the pitcher of record in the win over Karns and the loss to Hardin Valley. He also beat Hixson

5-3 and took the loss in a 3-0 setback at Anderson County last Monday.

The Knights' starting lineup/batting order: freshman catcher Logan Adams, sophomore second baseman Sammy Held, sophomore shortstop Anthony Crowder, Nolan, senior 3B-OF Tyler Cage, sophomore 3B-OF Brent Richey, junior C-OF Nathan Bailey, junior CF Leyton Adams and junior OF-1B Cas Willborn or junior OF Austin Nations.

In addition to Nolan, other pitchers for Knoxville Christian include Crowder, Richey, Willborn and Bailey.

Coach Barry is high on the young Adams.

"In my opinion he's the best freshman catcher in the city. Defensively, he blocks pitches, throws out runners and calls the pitches."

Logan was just an eighth grader in the NACA tourney last season, but made an impression.

"The other team's catcher was a senior," recalled Barry. "He told Logan, 'You block better than I do.'"

The 5-8, 155-pound Adams also is the Knights' leadoff man, a rare spot in the batting order for a catcher.

Top reserves for the KCS squad include sophomore P-1B Noah Dunlap, sophomore INF-OF Landon Turner, sophomore pitcher Joel Ash, sophomore 1B-P Drake Lahr and 6-foot-2 freshman P-1B-OF Braden Forrester.

Zach Sweeney is one of three seniors and a key member of the team also, said Coach Barry. "Zach will be attending Lipcomb University in Nashville next year. He's my right-hand man, unofficial team captain and co-pilot as we travel to away games."

Barry said the Knights possess good team unity.

"They're all best of friends. All team leaders, not to mention good Christian young men. They're always positive and pick each other up. Really good to be around."

In addition to its pitching depth, Barry said his middle infielders are a team strength, his players are "very smart" and base running is a plus.

"Before the season, I told them they've got to concentrate on small ball,



PHOTO BY DANNY DUNLAP

Senior southpaw Eric Nolan is the ace of Knoxville Christian School's pitching staff.

because we're not a power hitting team," said Barry. "They (Crowder and Willborn) hit two 2-run home runs in the win at Hixson and were giving me a hard time about not being power hitters. They got the long ball out that day."

To improve defensively, said the KCS coach, his players do a lot of "footwork with picks. I tell them they've got to have more reps."

Another reminder: "We lost a 7-6 game to Hardin Valley Academy. We made costly errors early in the game." KCS will get another

shot at the Hawks on April 18 at HVA.

One of the Knights' team goals is often tweeted by Coach Barry on social media. #Back2Back20Ws is one of Barry's hashtags. "It's always been a dream of mine to be a high school baseball coach," said Barry, who worked several years as a hitting instructor at Diamond Baseball.

Barry is employed at the Y-12 National Security Complex in Oak Ridge. In addition to the KCS varsity team, he's also head coach of its junior varsity team, its 6th and 7th grade

middle school teams and his 3-year-old son Ben's Tee-Ball team. His daughter, Brooke, 2, is not into ball-playing, yet.

Eric Hill, pitching coach for KCS teams, pitched in the Phillies organization. Patrick Wade is the varsity team assistant coach and John McSwain is junior varsity assistant coach.

"We're excited about finishing up the season, with the goals of a national championship and 20 wins," said Barry.

The Knights are well on their way. And others are taking notice.

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PHOTO BY DAN ANDREWS.

Oak Ridge's Luke Hebert is greeted by teammates as he crosses the plate in the Wildcats' 12-0 victory at Halls early last week. Hebert scored ahead of Stephen May on May's two-run homer in the sixth inning against the Red Devils.

Steen, Wildcats rout Halls in baseball

By Ken Lay

Kevin Steen, Oak Ridge High School's ace pitcher, made his first start against Halls on Monday, March 31 and he made life miserable for the Red Devils in the Wildcats' 12-0 victory at Bob Polston Field.

Steen, who joined the baseball team late and was a member of Oak Ridge's basketball team that recently reached the Class AAA State Championship Game, hurled a one-hit shutout against Halls (6-6 overall, 4-3 in District 3-AAA) in his first start of the 2014 campaign. He finished with five strikeouts and surrendered four walks. He also hit two batters.

"I felt great," Steen said. "I was just working my way through. It feels good to come out here and get the 'W'.

"This was my first start and it felt great to give up one hit and get that shut-out."

The Wildcats have struggled early this season as their record would indicate.

The victory improved their mark to 4-9 overall and 3-5 in the district. Oak Ridge, however, didn't have much trouble on this night.

While Steen stifled Halls' offensive attack, his teammates provided him plenty of runs.

The Wildcats took a 1-0 lead in the top of the second on infield hit by Austin Green that plated Stephen May, who led off the inning with a hit.

Oak Ridge scored single runs in the third and fourth before blowing things open with four runs in the fifth.

May, the Wildcats' shortstop, singled to open the frame. He stole second and third before scoring when Sebastian Alig singled. An error and a passed ball allowed Oak Ridge to score three more runs in the inning and take a 7-0 lead.

Red Devils coach Doug Polston was frustrated and succinct after his squad's loss.

"There's really not much to say," he said. "We're just not playing very good right now."

Oak Ridge continued to make things miserable for Halls with two more runs in the sixth. May, who went 4-for-4 with three runs, two stolen bases and drove in three, hit a two-run homer in the inning.

Oak Ridge, which had base runners in every inning, added three more runs in the seventh. Steen had an RBI double. May drove in a run with a sacrifice fly and Red Devil error allowed another run to score.

Halls had a few chances but couldn't cash in. In the bottom of the first, Bryce Hodge, the Halls lead-off hitter, reached on a passed ball third strike and reached third base before Steen wiggled out of the frame when Clay Walker flew out.

The Red Devils threatened again in the fourth. Walker got a one-out single and Zach Ross walked before Logan McMahan rapped into a double play to end the inning.

"We hit some balls well today but we didn't hit enough," Polston said.

A new chapter of Seymour High football just ahead

By Steve Williams

A new Seymour High head football coach will be walking the sideline of the school's new artificial turf field this coming season.

Jerry Cooper certainly isn't new to coaching, but he's looking forward to the new challenge.

"A lot of work to do football-wise. But I felt really good about it," said Cooper recently, recalling the task at hand when he accepted the Eagles' post in December.

Cooper, a three-time Ohio Coach of the Year with an overall 27-year record of 235-77, replaces Jim Moore, who resigned at the end of the 2013 season.

Applicants from the state of Washington to Florida sought the job. Seymour Athletic Director Gary Householder was impressed by Cooper's "enthusiasm and overall record" and said he had "great ideas on how to build a program."

Cooper coached at five different high schools in Ohio, including the past nine seasons at Lima Central Catholic, where the Thunderbirds were 87-21. From 2000-2004, he coached the Columbus Grove Bulldogs to a 58-9 record and a Division VI state championship in 2003.

His teams qualified for the OHSAA state playoffs 17 times in the 27 years.

"To be honest, it's not about wins, it's about the great players," said Cooper. "The relationship with the kids is what drives me. The feeling you get when you really help kids.

"Coaching is really secondary to me. It's about the people. The wins are a by-product of all the great kids."

Cooper retired as a teacher and coach at Lima on Jan. 30. That was a Thursday. He took off Friday and started at Seymour

that following Monday. He teaches an Algebra intervention class and two Geometry classes.

"I just turned 55," said Cooper. "I have great passion and will continue to do it (coach) as long as I have passion about these relationships."

Why Seymour?
"It came about in a funny way," explained Cooper. "My wife and I have always vacationed on Norris Lake over the years and spent time in the Great Smoky Mountains. We've enjoyed that area of the country.

"What really sold me were the nice people at Seymour. We fell in love with the place."

Householder as athletic director and the school's football tradition were major factors in Cooper accepting the Seymour job. He's aware the Eagles had considerable success in football under Householder, who compiled a 280-106 in 34 years (1975-2008), but were 15-36 the past five seasons.

"The community is hungry to get back," he said.

Cooper, who will call his own plays, has had passing teams and running teams. Tyler O'Connor, now a backup quarterback at Michigan State, threw for 1,995 yards and 18 touchdowns at Lima in 2011. At Grove, Cooper fed the football to Blaine Maag, who rushed for nearly 100 career TDs and over 6,000 yards.

"My offenses have been kind of wide open with a blend of running and passing out of some version of the wing-T," said Cooper.

"Defensively, we'll run either a 4-3 or 3-4. We'll always have four players in the secondary."

Former Seymour High great Scott Galyon, a linebacker at UT and in the NFL for seven years with the Giants and

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Lady Vols Gets Not So Sweet Ending

By Alex Norman

The Tennessee Lady Vols entered the NCAA Tournament trying to get to their first Final Four since 2008, and earn a trip to Nashville.

The wait continues.

On Sunday, March 30, the top seeded Lady Vols were stunned by fourth-seed Maryland 73-62 in their Sweet 16 matchup in Louisville.

"Well, I thought we came out just nervous, a little scared for whatever reason," said Lady Vols head coach Holly Warlick. "We didn't have that fight-back at the beginning, and then we got ourselves in a hole. We're a get the ball inside team, and we couldn't find a way to get it inside. It was physical, and we just couldn't, for one reason or the other, get the ball inside. When you turn the ball over 22 times, you're not playing very well. As this team has battled back all year, Maryland wasn't giving in. We dug ourselves in a hole too deep."

Tennessee (29-6) led in the first minute of the contest, but trailed the rest of the way, eventually falling behind by as many as 18 points in the second half. The Lady Vols fought back to trail by only 8 points with less than 8 minutes to go, but could get no closer.

"They don't give up. They don't have that in them, so I think that's what makes it tough," said Warlick. "It makes it tough for us to go out this way. Obviously all teams put in the time and effort; that should be a given. But this team has been really close-knit team and they'll take this pretty hard, as the staff and myself. But we just get down and we keep fighting and we keep battling, and that's what our MO has been. We've just had to prove our worth all year."

In a losing effort, Tennessee guard

Meighan Simmons played her last game as a Lady Vol, chipping in a team high 31 points. She finishes her college career with 2,064 points, good enough for fifth-best all time in UT history.

"It's always been a grind for us. We've had a heck of a year, and any game where we were down we found a way to fight back and Maryland just had the extra oomph today," said Simmons. "They pushed through even harder. We just didn't have it today. It was always a grind for this year. I mean, I think we showed that."

Tennessee certainly did not play its best basketball of the season in this NCAA tournament. In their first two games they struggled in the first half before eventually beating Northwestern State and St. John's. The Lady Vols won the SEC tournament this season, so there will be another banner to hang in the rafters at Thompson-Boling Arena. However, the drought continues in terms of returning this program to national prominence.

"A lot of people realized exactly what we could do out there on the floor and for the people that they have coming in, the freshmen who are coming in and the people who are returning, I would just say to any other team, just look out," said Simmons. "Because I know when I leave here I know everybody else that's going to be coming back is going to be pushing twice as hard to get back in this position and maybe even get over that hump and get to the Elite 8 and get to the Final Four."

Warlick added, "We're Tennessee, and we're not happy that we're not playing for a national championship. That's in our DNA. So we'll go back to work and we'll prepare for next year."

Mathieu could have set up Tennessee for a national title

It's hard to argue with a Sweet 16 showing, but Tennessee could have won the NCAA championship this season.

Point guard DeAndre Mathieu, a product of Knoxville Central High School who helped lead Minnesota to the NIT title last week, could have made the difference.

Cuonzo Martin passed on two opportunities to offer Mathieu (pronounced Matthew) a scholarship last spring, the first time at the completion of Mathieu's award-winning 2012-13 season at Central Arizona College and again in early May when Trae Golden left the UT program.

Mathieu could have been running the Vols' offense in tonight's (April 7) NCAA championship game. And it's my belief UT fans would have ended up with a first-ever national basketball title to celebrate until March Madness rolls back around on the calendar.

Coach Martin would never admit he made a mistake, because that would cast a negative light on the two point guards – Antonio Barton and Darius Thompson – who played for him this season. But if truth be known, Cuonzo probably wished more than once this past season he had Mathieu on his team.

Martin, a former Purdue player, has The Big Ten Network at his home. Days leading up to the Vols' first-round NCAA tourney game against Iowa, he told us he had watched quite a bit of Big Ten basketball this season. Surely he saw Mathieu do his thing. He had to be impressed.

DeAndre, or Dre as he is known by his former Central teammates and friends back in Knoxville, scored 13 points – all in the second half – and dished out seven assists as Minnesota defeated SMU 65-63 in the NIT title game last Thursday night at Madison Square Garden.

Martin, again, was probably watching and silently second-guessing himself as ESPN televised the finals.



By Steve Williams

Playing at Tennessee had been a goal of Mathieu's coming out of Central High. He was there for the taking, living just a few miles from Thompson-Boling Arena.

According to Mitch Mitchell, Mathieu's high school coach his senior season, Martin recruited Mathieu when he coached at Missouri State but stopped recruiting him after he took the Tennessee job in 2011.

Just like most Division 1 coaches, Martin was wrong about Mathieu. Dre may be 5-foot-9, but he can sky, and more importantly, he's fearless as he penetrates an opponent's interior.

Mathieu had to prove himself on the collegiate level and eventually did. After one season as a walk-on at Morehead State, he transferred to Central Arizona College, where he was a junior college All-American and Player of the Year in the Arizona Community College Athletic Conference.

UCLA began a parade of Division 1 programs that sought Dre's services. The Bruins changed coaches, opening the door for other major colleges to come calling.

UT assistant Tracy Webster had taken a look at Mathieu in the national juco tournament, but the Vols' interest stopped there.

Mathieu was just as well off landing at Minnesota, where first-year coach Richard Pitino would be playing an up-tempo brand of ball like his dad was using at Louisville.

Dre started all 38 games for the 25-13 Gophers and averaged 30 minutes playing time. He averaged 12 points and over four assists per outing, shooting 51 percent from the field and 75 percent from the line.

Mathieu's greatest contribution at Tennessee would have been penetrating inside and setting up its bigs for easy buckets. He could have been the piece the Vols needed to stay on the dance floor.

A new chapter of Seymour High football just ahead

Cont. from page 3

Dolphins, is joining the team this season and will "oversee" the Eagles' defense, said Cooper. But since Galyon can't be with the team everyday, Darrell Lauderdale and Matt Shular will be the official co-defensive coordinators.

Jon McBryer returns as offensive coordinator.

While Seymour's varsity team finished 2-8 last fall, its freshmen team posted a 9-0 record.

"As the season went on last year, they started playing more and more young kids," said Cooper. "We're going to be a pretty young football team this coming season. With the leadership of 12 to 14 seniors, we'll start to build for the future."

Seymour's spring practice starts May 1. The Eagles will have an intrasquad scrimmage on May 9 and conclude spring drills with a home scrimmage against Austin-East on May 16.

Jerry Cooper calls the plays for Lima (Ohio) Central Catholic High's football team in 2013. The new Seymour coach compiled a 145-30 record in his last two coaching stops.



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Dr. Jim Ferguson

The Theodicy Question

I plan to see the movie Noah despite the warnings of some fundamentalists. I believe my faith can handle a story not told by the King James Bible. I mean no disrespect to the fundamentalist perspective, which originated in the late 19th century, and holds that every word in the Bible is the literal truth. The hype over the movie has caused me to reconsider an even bigger question than the flood story. Several weeks ago I wrote that a Creator is an infinitely more plausible explanation for the universe than one which “just happened.” Even Aristotle said that something cannot come from nothing; there must be a cause for everything. The “void” described in Genesis 1:2 is defined as the absence

of anything. And a void is certainly in keeping with modern science’s notion of before the Big Bang. Science cannot answer all our questions. In fact, do you know the major non-theist explanations for the origin of life? One theory holds that primordial life began as molecules combining on the surface of coalescing crystal salts in the tide pools of early earth. That’s certainly a stretch of the imagination and doesn’t answer the question where the pools came from (Aristotle’s theory of causality). The second notion of life’s origin is that the building blocks of life fell to the earth from space carried by asteroids! But where did the building blocks and asteroids come from? However, the biggest

stumbling block for belief in a Creator is the problem of evil. Theists hold that God is omnipotent and omniscient. Logically, if God is all powerful and all knowing, why does He allow bad things to happen to good people? The story of Job dramatizes the theodicy question, the notion of divine justice. There are five classical explanations of this conundrum: there is no God and everything is chance and random; there exists a cosmological (and personal) struggle between good and evil (dualism); we are all imperfect creatures and get what we deserve; adversity builds perseverance, character and hope; lastly, if you don’t get justice now then ultimate justice will come in the next life. A sixth non-western explanation of divine justice comes from the eastern notion of karma. Admittedly, I don’t have a good explanation for the suffering of a child or why injustice seems so prevalent. You might ask why this topic appears in a “medical” column. My answer is that there is more to me than an M.D., and these questions resonate in the hearts and minds of everyone. The question of our origin is

fundamental to our curious nature. Similarly, the questions of purpose and plan resonate in illness and even in death. These questions are a part of our humanity. The great theologian, Augustine, once asked, “If there is a God, why is there so much evil? And if there is no God, why is there so much good?” Is it possible to have love (the acme of goodness) without its opposite, evil? C. S. Lewis explained that for something to be bad there must be a standard for comparison. He argued that we all have a sense of right or justice. Furthermore, sociological studies have shown that this conscience is transcultural, and I believe written upon the fabric of our being. Francis Collins was the head of the Human Genome Project. He was an atheist, but converted to Christianity and wrote a wonderful book describing human DNA as “The Language of God.” Ancient Greeks believed that wisdom only occurred through suffering. Hence, their tragedies were used as teaching tools to help their citizens learn from the mistakes of the characters in plays. I am currently

suffering from a seemingly endless cold. I know I will eventually get well, and I’m sure I will, at least for a time, be more appreciative of good health. It’s just a tough lesson for me now. My cold and the aches of an older physique are nothing by comparison with real suffering such as with cancer. The agony of cancer seems beyond any purpose or plan that I can comprehend. In this respect I am like Job who was baffled by his fate. Job’s friends echoed the wisdom of those days, and told him that he must have sinned because God rewards good people and punishes evil ones. We moderns no longer make this argument. Fortuna, was the Roman Goddess of good luck from whom we derive the word fortunate. I sometimes ask myself why I am so fortunate. I was blessed with good parents who encouraged excellence and helped me get a good education. Yes, I worked long and hard to succeed, but was my success from effort and fortune, or a result of purpose and plan? I will never know in this lifetime. I have not, like Job, asked for an audience with The Whirlwind. I’ve read

and studied Job’s story, and know when to keep my mouth shut. I will cut Job some slack because in his time there was no concept of an afterlife. This advanced perspective of human thought would come much later with The Good News. After observing many Asian statues of Buddha, the British pastor John R. W. Stott described Buddha’s persona as one “detached from the agonies of the world.” In this Easter season, how different is the comparison with Jesus, the so-called “man of sorrows.” What courage it must have taken to give up the power of the universe and live as a man. What strength it must have taken to acquiesce to torture and death to give hope to others. I once made a choice of purpose and plan over randomness and detached nature. I chose The Way over man’s way. Mystery and majesty are still infinitely preferable to detached suffering.

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

Physicians Regional Medical Center Names Associate of the Year

Physicians Regional Medical Center has named Diane Loher, RN, BS, Director of Case Management, as 2013 Associate of the Year. This award is the highest honor bestowed on a hospital employee each year. Loher was chosen from among 1,300 associates at Physicians Regional for the honor. “Healthcare requires a special blend of great people skills, tireless energy and the ability to work well under pressure,” says Karen Metz, Chief Executive Officer, Physicians Regional. “People who work in healthcare share the common desire to help others and make a difference in people’s lives. Diane represents one

of the many associates at Physicians Regional who strives for excellence in all facets of her work. It’s a pleasure to recognize our associates for their dedication to our patients and to providing outstanding care.” In January, Loher was named Physicians Regional’s Getting2Great Leader of the Year for 2013. Tennova Healthcare’s Getting2Great program honors a nurse, an associate and a leader each quarter that embodies our mission and guiding principles to provide compassionate and merciful experiences and interactions in each encounter with our patients and with each other. Nominations are

based on feedback from patients and fellow associates. Loher has also been named Leader of the Quarter three times. Loher began her nursing career more than 30 years ago, serving first as a nurse’s assistant before earning her RN and BS degrees and working in Emergency, Critical Care and Cardiology/Open Heart Surgery departments. She has served as director of Case Management at other facilities since 2006 before joining the Physicians Regional team in 2012. For the past year she has been actively involved in a hospital-wide process improvement project to improve the patient experience.

“I chose a career in healthcare because I love to take care of people. It is so rewarding being part of a team that gives excellent quality care and helps patients and their families during times of crisis,” said Loher, who lives in the Dandridge area of Jefferson County. “Diane is a ‘leader among leaders’. She is someone who thinks outside the box and always has a ‘can do’ attitude. She is a great representative of our organization and adds value in everything that she does,” said Rhonda Maynard, Chief Financial Officer, Physicians Regional, who is Loher’s supervisor.



Diane Loher

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Featured Speaker
Michael Howard, M.D.

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Faith



New Hope Baptist Church and Christian School

New Hope Christian School A 'God-initiated' place of learning

"and these words which I command you today shall be in your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, and when you lie down" (Deuteronomy 6:6-7).

These words from the Bible provide a foundation for the New Hope Baptist Church and Christian School. The school is one of the best kept secrets in the Corryton Community.

Nestled in the forks of Bud Hawkins and Shipe Roads, this rural church was founded in 1945. Ralph Waggoner, a Gibbs High School graduate and former pastor who served the church for 23 years, founded the school twenty years ago. "It was God initiated," Waggoner said. The plans were to build a fellowship hall, but Waggoner felt led to begin a Christian



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

school instead. The school started with nine students in the sixth, seventh, and eighth grades. Today, the school has 67 students in K4/K5 through eighth grades and ten faculty members. I am amazed at the success of this rural Christian school and marvel at its impact.

Waggoner's family has been and continues to be involved in the school. The three Waggoner granddaughters were Alpha and Omega students, meaning they completed all grades (kindergarten through eighth) at the school. One granddaughter previously worked at the school. Both of Waggoner's daughters currently work at the school. Alice Earl is a charter teacher who began there in 1993, and Crystal Ford is a teaching assistant. Teacher turnover is low. Emily Pursiful is the principal (12 years). Other

teachers include Sarah Stidham (3 years), Diane Wood (16 years), Melody Whitson (3 years), Ashley Sluss (3 years), Kim Smith (10 years), and teaching assistant Jami Mills (3 years). The school is a member of the Association of Christian Schools International and the Southern Baptist Association of Christian Schools.

Mark Large, current Pastor and Chairman of the School Board, has been at the church/school for six years. "He has a huge heart for the children and Christian education," board member Joan Troutt told me.

Gail Lay, another board member, said New Hope will be celebrating the school's 20th Anniversary on Sunday, April 13, 2014. There will be a luncheon for former members, staff, students, and their families after church. The public is invited to attend. New Hope is located at 7602 Bud Hawkins Road in Corryton. Visit www.newhopeccorryton.com or call Kim Smith, office assistant, at (865)688-5330.

Money, money, money

Money makes the world go round; at least this is what most people believe.

The singing group ABBA had these lyrics in one of their popular songs: "Money, money, money... it's a rich man's world." We definitely live in a world where the god of money is prevalent and attempts to work its talons into our hearts. Out of the thirty-eight parables Jesus tells, sixteen deal with the subject of money. Jesus knows that the god of money is one of God's main competitions for our hearts.

Remember that the problem is not money, but the love of money. Money is not good or evil, but it holds the potential to become a god substitute. When you pursue money and possessions in order to make you happy or give satisfaction, it has become a god.

Psychologists have studied what makes people happy. University of Illinois psychologist Ed Diener says, "Materialism is toxic for happiness." His research shows that people who are less concerned with accumulating stuff and spending are more likely to experience contentment. Christopher Peterson, a psychologist from the University of Michigan, has found that the trait most strongly linked to happiness is forgiveness. Peterson adds: "It's [forgiveness] the queen of all virtues, and probably the hardest to come by."



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

(Marilyn Elias, "Psychologists Now Know What Makes People Happy," USA Today, December 10, 2002, www.usatoday.com/news/health/2002-12-08-happy-main_x.htm).

When your pursuit is wealth, there is never enough. The writer of Ecclesiastes says, "If you love money, you will never be satisfied; if you long to be rich, you will never get all you want" (5:10). Jesus tells a story about man who never had enough. He also thought all he owned was by his own effort (Luke 12:16-20). The man refers to himself nine times in two verses. He speaks of my crops, my barns, and my grain. Who do you think gave him the crops, barns, and grain? The thought never occurred to this guy that the reason he had the abundance was because God gave it to him. This man thought that due to his abundance he could take life easy, yet that very night, he died. All his wealth brought him nothing but a nice funeral.

You don't have to teach this attitude of meism. A two-year-old does not have much of a vocabulary, but he knows how to say "Mine." We must keep money and possessions in its rightful place. Solomon reminds us in Ecclesiastes: "Everyone comes naked from their mother's womb, and as everyone comes, so they depart. They take nothing from their toil that they can carry in their hands" (Ecc. 5:15). "The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it" (Psalm 24:1). We must keep this perspective, for when we do, we worship the Lord and not the stuff He created.

Church Happenings

Faith UMC

Faith UMC will host an Easter egg hunt on Saturday, April 19, 2014 at 11 a.m. Bring your baskets and eggs and join in on the fun. Hot dogs and chips will also be served. Everyone is welcome.

Faith UMC will have an Easter Sunrise Service at 7 a.m. on Sunday, April 20, followed by the regular service at 11 a.m. Everyone is welcome! Faith UMC is located at 1120 Dry Gap Pike. 865-688-1000. www.faithchurchknoxvilletn.com.

Fountain City Presbyterian Church

Easter Services at Fountain City Presbyterian Church, 500 Road in

Fountain City, will begin with a special music program on Palm Sunday, April 13 at the 8:55 a.m. and 11:00 p.m. services. For children an Easter Egg hunt will be held at 4:00 that afternoon with parents and children gathering in Fellowship Hall. On Friday, April 18, a special Good Friday service will be held at 7:30 p.m. A highlight of this service will be communion at the foot of a tall cross draped with dark cloth. Easter morning worship services are held at 8:55 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. The Easter morning services feature the draped cross filed with Easter lilies as the congregation celebrates the resurrection of our Lord.

scheduled for Green Meadows in Alcoa on April 28th. Time to organize your team for this fun and beneficiary fellowship event.

Don't forget to pray about and fulfill your own personal financial pledges and commitments for 2014 to help support God's Kingdom and all of SUMC's many ministries.

Further information on any of the above items, or other church-related matters, please call the church office at 573-9711.

Wallace Memorial Baptist Church

Wallace Memorial Baptist Church located at 701 Merchant Drive will celebrate Easter 2014 with Living Pictures, a dramatic presentation of the Easter Story. This multimedia presentation will include celebration choir, celebration orchestra, and our celebrate Easter drama cast. This presentation will include still living pictures, live drama, and video to tell the story of the last days of Christ. There will be two free, but ticketed presentations for our community on Sunday, April 13, 2014 at 3:00pm & 6:00pm. Free tickets are available online at WMBC.NET, from Wallace church members, and in the church office during office hours.

Seymour United Methodist

On Saturday, April 12th, the Older Adult Council will hold its spring BBQ Luncheon. Signups held Sunday mornings or contact Harry Switzer for details.

Next Sunday, April 13th, brings the celebration of Palm Sunday - remembering the glory and honor with which Jesus entered Jerusalem, only to be tortured and ridiculed in less than a week.

Looking ahead, the 11th annual golf tournament scheduled for benefit of Camp Wesley Woods is

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Wednesday Bible Study - 6:30 p.m.

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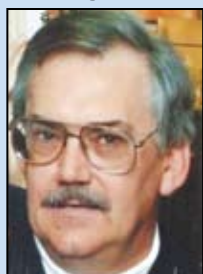
Those Drive-In Theaters

I don't know about you, but when I was a teen and had the use of the family car I often went to a drive-in theater, either with a bunch of other teens or with a date. Taking a date was my preference but it was seldom that a date would opt for a drive-in on the first date, for obvious reasons.

Most of the open-air theaters are long gone now. The twin screen on Clinton Highway is now the Walmart shopping complex. The River Breeze on Asheville Highway turned into a flea market and is now empty and for sale.

Back in the day, after you cruised the A&W or other places, you ended up at the drive-in. If you were with a bunch of other teens a couple of them probably hid in the trunk so they didn't have to pay. It wasn't unusual at all to see a car arrive, park, and the driver walk behind and let kids out of the trunk.

A Day Away



By Mike Steely

If you drove a pickup truck you might have backed into the parking space and watched the movies from the bed of the truck. Yes, I said "movies" because

there was almost always a double feature and sometimes there were three or four movies, so you could actually stay until the fog filled the road and get home after 3 a.m.

Remember "Wake Up Little Suzie" by the Everly Brothers? Not so far from the truth because many of us have fallen asleep at a drive-in. Often, when the film broke, the sounds of car horns would wake you up and the horns continued until someone fixed the film.

Nostalgic movies like "Grease" portray the more humorous side of drive-in theaters back in the 50s and 60s and make some of us remember those days fondly. Yes, it



The River Breeze Drive In Theater, one of Knoxville's "Passion Pits," has been closed for years and is now for sale. The Knoxville area may have only two area outdoor theaters left. Photo by Mike Steely.

was pretty much like that except when you went with your parents.

The movies were mostly "B" movies featuring aliens, vampires, beach teens, etc. But it was an inexpensive night out.

I believe the Parkway Drive-In of Maryville and the Midtown Drive-In near Harriman are still operating and, if so, should be opening soon for the season. I know there's a flea market at the Parkway on week-ends during the day.

I remember going once to the Twin-Aire on Clinton Highway with my family and

now and then I think of that old "passion pit" when I'm out that way.

Drive-In movies were part of the culture back then, in a time of hot-rods, pegged pants, ducktail hair, poodle skirts, and bobby socks. I'm not sure where teens go today to socialize other than school or school functions. My grandson is 17 now and is either at school or on his computer.

Back then when we were social and we were meeting people at places. Today if you're a teen and socializing it's probably online. Things change.

2014 Alzheimer's Tennessee WALK

Join more than a thousand people to show your support for Tennesseans living with Alzheimer's at the Knoxville Alzheimer's Tennessee WALK next Saturday, April 12 at Laurel Church of Christ on Kingston Pike.

Individual volunteers and WALK Teams representing families, area companies, churches, and organizations will take part in the signature FUNdraiser for Alzheimer's Tennessee along with members of legendary UT Football Coach Phillip Fulmer's family, who have served as Honorary Chairs for at least seven years.

Visit www.alztennessee.org/KnoxWalk2014 to register or donate online. Call (865)544-6288 for more information. Participants may also sign up Saturday at the WALK that features free food, live music and fun for families - including pets.

This year, sisters Courtney (Fulmer) Peace and

Allison Fulmer are serving as WALK Co-Chairs, along with Heather Haley, Publisher of the Senior Directory. Former UT Volunteer and retired NFL Player David Martin, an Alzheimer's Tennessee Champion for the Cause, is also expected to participate.

"My dad's mom, our 'Mema,' has Alzheimer's," Courtney shared. "And my husband has lost a grandmother to the disease while his other grandmother is living with it now. Alzheimer's has been hard on our family. It's heartbreaking. We WALK for today and for tomorrow."

Sometimes it's hard to know how to support someone who is living with Alzheimer's or dementia. This year, pick up personalized certificates at the WALK for family, friends or fellow church members and let them know you walked "in honor of" or "in memory of" someone special.

When legendary

Cont. on page 4

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You may tour the school, meet with teachers and view the curriculum. The PTF is hosting an Art Auction featuring exhibits by NHCS students.

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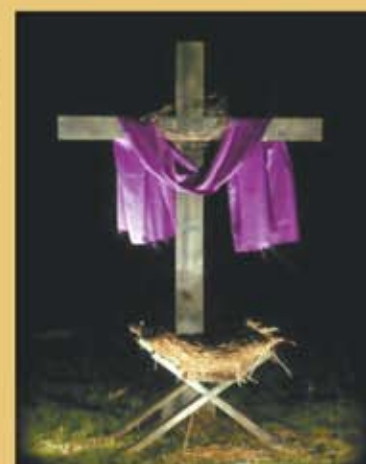
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2014 Alzheimer's Tennessee WALK

Cont. from page 3

Coach Fulmer's daughters think about their "Mema", they smile about her biscuits and gravy, how she played with their hair, and the way she laughed.

But those are memories of what their grandmother was like before Alzheimer's disease.

"Slowly, but surely, we're having to say good-bye every time we see 'Mema'", Allison Fulmer, Coach Fulmer's youngest daughter, shared.

"Mema" has been the inspiration for the entire Fulmer family to become Alzheimer's Tennessee Champions for the Cause. While Coach will be traveling abroad for a USO tour, his daughters are carrying on the family tradition.

"It gives us hope to know we're not alone," Allison said. "We are all walking to support one another and find a way to cure this disease."

While they're focused on the future, the Fulmer family recently enjoyed a rare glimpse of the past - and their Mema's love - when someone discovered a birthday card Coach's mother had written but never sent.

"My Dad got to experience the 'I love you's' and 'I'm proud of you's' that he may never hear again," Courtney shared. "To lose someone before they're really gone is especially hard, and that's why we walk."

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A Day for an AGventure. *The squeal of piglets and the laughter of children could be heard on the University of Tennessee's Agricultural campus on Saturday, March 29. Sigma Alpha Agricultural Sorority and Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity hosted the first annual AGventures, a fundraiser to support Ag in the Classroom. Ag related crafts and activities were available free for visitors as well as a raffle of donated items from various Ag related businesses. Area livestock producers supplied animals for the event. The first AGventures was successful at teaching young people about the importance of agriculture and the impact it has on their lives.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Call for Vendors

The Candoro Arts & Heritage Center is looking for artists, craft persons, food vendors, and creative types extraordinaire to rent booth space for the Festival on Saturday May, 10, 2014.

Vendors should have their own tables and tents. Look for an application online at Candoromable.org or facebook.com/candoromable. Email for more information.

Central City Democrats meeting

Central City Democrats District 1 April meeting will be on Monday, April 7th 6:15 pm at the Burlington Library. Speakers will be Daniel Kidd, Jim Berrier,

Cameron Brooks and Marshall Walker. Primary is on May 6th. Anthony Brown dribm2006@yahoo.com.

Fountain City/North Knox Republican Club Meeting

Fountain City/North Knox Republican Club meets the second Tuesday of each month at Shoney's 4032 N. Broadway. Dinner and fellowship at 6:00 p.m., meeting begins at 7:00 p.m.

This Month's Speakers are Michele Carringer, candidate for Knox County Commissioner At-Large seat 11; Ed Brantley, candidate for Knox County Commissioner At-Large seat 11; JJ Jones, candidate for Knox County Sheriff; and Bobby Waggoner, candidate for Knox County Sheriff.

Heiskell Community Center Seniors

The Heiskell Community Center Seniors Program will be held on Thursday, April 10 from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. The Center is located at 9420 Heiskell Road in Heiskell, TN.

All seniors are invited to wear their Easter Bonnets to participate in our Easter Parade. Prizes will be awarded in several categories. Entertainment will be by the Grace Baptist Church "Grace Notes" dulcimer group, led by Jane Bruhin. All seniors over 55 are invited to attend. Bring a dessert and a friend. For more information call Janice White at 548-0326.



Peanut Butter Cookie Pizza

1 package refrigerated peanut butter cookie dough
½ cup M&Ms ½ cup peanuts (finely chopped)
½ cup cinnamon candy ½ cup chocolate kisses

Roll refrigerated peanut butter cookie dough out onto a round pizza pan, top with chocolate kisses and nuts, spreading evenly. Bake according to directions on the cookie dough. Add M&Ms and cinnamon candy to the top.

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Legend of the Dogwood

As a child I heard this tale, Long ago during the days that Jesus was here on earth in the form of man there were many dogwood trees. The dogwood was comparable in size to the oak tree and other monarchs of the forest.

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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Opening of Dogwood Arts Festival Trails and Gardens April 9

Dogwoods Arts is starting off the 60th anniversary of Dogwood trails with an invite-only luncheon to celebrate the opening of Dogwood Trails and Open Gardens for the 2014 season. The luncheon will be hosted by Dogwood Arts, our Trails and Open Garden Committees at noon on Wednesday, April 9, 2014 at the home of Susie and Sam McCamy.

At the heart of the Dogwood Arts Festival

are the dogwood trees and each Dogwood Trail showcasing these spring spectacles. The seven trails and five garden byways encompass a total of 60-miles with breathtaking landscape, flowers and blooms and are available for touring and picture-taking, compliments of the homeowners. The public can tour the nationally-recognized Dogwood Trails by foot, bike, or car and will be able to observe

the wonderful nature up close. The trails will be open April 9-27.

Sequoyah Hills will be the 2014 featured trail celebrating 60 years as a Dogwood Trail. Preceding the luncheon, guests are invited to an open ribbon-cutting at 11 a.m. at the entrance of Talahi Park to mark the completion of the park's restoration and replanting.

All invitees of the luncheon must RSVP by April 4 to rsvp@dogwoodarts.com

dogwoodarts.com or call (865)637-4561.

WHEN & WHERE:
Wednesday,
April 9, 2014
11 a.m. Ribbon-Cutting (open to public)
Entrance of Talahi Park

12 p.m. Luncheon (invite-only)
Home of Susie and Sam McCamy

Dogwood Art DeTour Showcases Art in the Making

With each stroke of the brush or throw of clay, artists throughout the region will unveil their creative processes to the public during a unique two-day event, as a part of the Dogwood Arts Festival. Dogwood Art DeTour will take place on April 12-13. Artists

will open their individual, some of which may usually be private, studios and invite those interested in the artistic creation of their works to come inside for a behind-the-scenes look.

Take some time to enjoy a spring day (or two) with the arts. A

variety of artistic media will be on display showcasing the diverse talents that are present in this area. All studios will have completed works of art for sale! Visitors can find a full listing of artists and studios at www.dogwoodarts.com.

Where: Artist studio openings throughout the area

When: April 12-13

Time: 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

How Much: Free

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Regional Fine Art Exhibition

The Dogwood Arts Regional Fine Art Exhibition returns to showcase and award our region's finest artists. Artists, both emerging and established, from within a radius of 300 miles of Knoxville were able to submit fine art encompassing all styles and genres, with selections made by renowned juror, Dr. Julie Levin Caro, an art historian, professor and curator.

Caro specializes in African American art and material culture as well as American and European modernism and garden history. Caro received her Ph.D. in art history from the University of Texas at Austin. She has served at numerous museums, lectured at academic conferences worldwide, and is presently a professor at Warren Wilson College

in Asheville, NC. Caro's dynamic contribution to the art world includes frequent publications on African American artists and designed landscapes.

Pieces from the Regional Fine Art Exhibition are available for purchase at the event at the artists' discretion.

Where: Emporium Center for Arts and

Culture [100 South Gay Street, Knoxville, TN 37902]

When: April 4-26, 2014

Times: Monday - Friday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Saturday, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

How Much: Free

The Regional Fine Art Exhibition is sponsored by Cope Architecture.

Allergy Friendly Egg Hunt at the UT Gardens

The University of Tennessee Gardens is holding its annual Easter egg hunt "Eggstravaganza" on Saturday, April 12, 2014. Children's Easter crafts, spring activities and visits with the Easter Bunny will be held on the Gardens' Friendship Plaza from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

This year the UT Gardens is partnering with Food Allergy Community of East Tennessee (FACET) to help raise awareness about food allergies. The event will include two food-free egg hunts one starting at 10:15 and the second at 11:30. The final two egg hunts will include food, but will be peanut free. The peanut-free hunts will be held at 12:15 and 1:30.

Continued on page 4

SYNERGY: Student Art and East Tennessee Art Educator Exhibitions

New this year, Knoxville's budding artists and their art educators will display their talents during SYNERGY, a featured exhibit of the Dogwood Arts Festival. The Student Art Exhibition will feature work of the most gifted art students from local K-12 schools, and right by its side, the inaugural East Tennessee Art Educator Exhibition will promote the accomplishments of the region's teaching artists.

SYNERGY will promote creativity and offer the area's finest artists an outlet from which to pursue their artistic endeavors. The Student Art Exhibition was juried by Karen Kwarciak of Cheekwood Botanical Garden and

Museum of Art in Nashville. Awards and scholarships will be presented to students to encourage further development of their artistic aptitude, and Andrea Steele, peer juror and renowned artist, will select the works to be displayed in the Blackberry Farms gallery for the East Tennessee Art Educator Exhibition.

The Opening

Reception and Awards Ceremony will be held in the Grand Foyer of the Clayton Center for the Arts on the campus of Maryville College, and is open to all artists and the public.

The Student Art Exhibition is sponsored by Fast Frame, First Tennessee Foundation, and Sharpie.

WHERE: Clayton

Center for the Arts [502 E. Lamar Alexander Pkwy, Maryville, TN 37804]

WHEN: April 3-25, 2014

TIMES: Monday-Friday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

COST: Free

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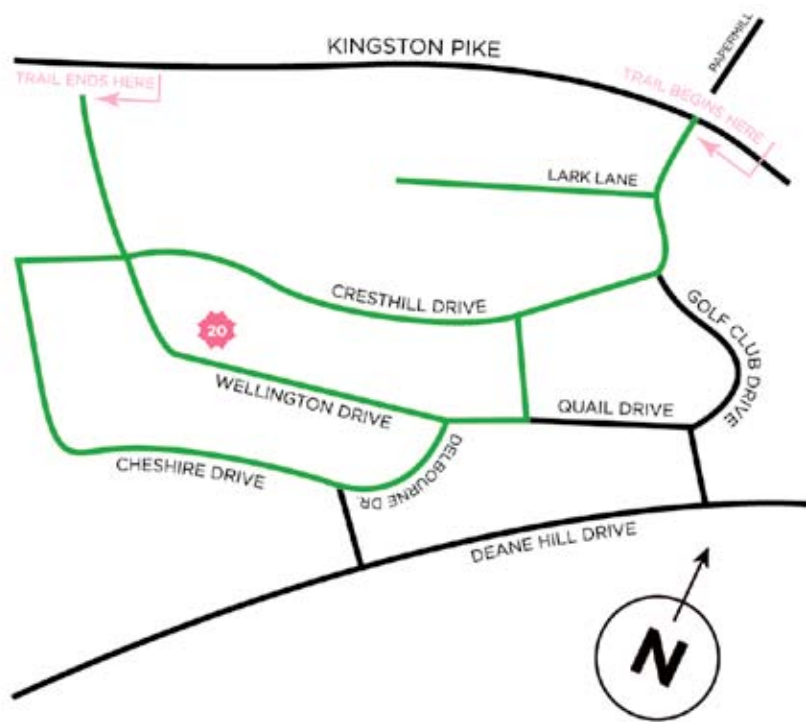
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DEANE HILL

TRAIL BEGINS AT KINGSTON PIKE AND GOLFCLUB DRIVE

Allergy Friendly Egg Hunt at the UT Gardens

Continued from page 3

The Eggstravaganza is a family friendly event and intended for children ages 12 and under. Bring your Easter basket and a camera!

The cost for Eggstravaganza is \$6 per child ages 12 and under. Due to limited capacity and to ensure that everyone has an opportunity for an enjoyable visit, advanced registration is required. Please reserve your child's space by visiting <http://utgardens.tennessee.edu> by 5 p.m., Thursday, April 10.

The UT Gardens includes plant collections located in Knoxville, Jackson and Crossville. Designated as the official botanical garden for the State of Tennessee, the collections are part of the UT Institute of Agriculture. The gardens' mission is to foster appreciation,

education and stewardship of plants through garden displays, educational programs and research trials. The gardens are open during all seasons and free to the public. For more information see <http://utgardens.tennessee.edu>

You can find the UT Gardens in Knoxville just off Neyland Drive behind the UT Veterinary Medical Center on the Institute of Agriculture campus. From I-40 take Exit 386B onto Highway 129 (Alcoa Highway south toward the airport). From Highway 129 take the exit for Highway 158 (Neyland Drive). Turn left onto Neyland Drive at end of exit ramp. Turn left onto Joe Johnson Drive and right at the next light onto Chapman Drive. Free visitor parking is available directly across from the entrance to the UT Gardens.

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UT Gardens Plant of the Month for April 2014: Variegated Solomon's seal

Submitted by Jason Reeves, research horticulturist, the University of Tennessee Gardens, Jackson

Chosen by the Perennial Plant Association as the 2013 Perennial Plant of the Year for its dependable performance, variegated Solomon's seal (*Polygonatum odoratum* 'Variegatum') is a must have for any shady garden. It is one of the finest and easiest-to-grow shade perennials.

In March and April graceful arching stems spring forth from the earth, ultimately reaching 12 to 24 inches tall. The young stems are tinged with maroon and are adorned with alternating variegated leaves. The bright green leaves are parallel veined and are edged in pure white streaks.

In late spring it produces small white pendulous, bell-shaped flowers. They dangle in pairs on short pedicels at each leaf axil underneath the curving stems. They are said to be sweetly scented,



but one must get down to their level to smell them. The flowers are followed by small spherical berries that mature to bluish black in the fall. The foliage turns a showy golden yellow in the fall.

Variegated Solomon's seal grows well in average to moist well-drained garden soil, but it performs its finest when grown in fertile organic rich conditions. It is happiest in part shade but adapts well to full shade. Slowly spreading by shallow rhizomes it forms colonies that are easily dug and divided in the fall or early spring just as they emerge.

This plant has much to offer a woodlands garden,

but one must get down to their level to smell them. The flowers are followed by small spherical berries that mature to bluish black in the fall. The foliage turns a showy golden yellow in the fall. Variegated Solomon's seal grows well in average to moist well-drained garden soil, but it performs its finest when grown in fertile organic rich conditions. It is happiest in part shade but adapts well to full shade. Slowly spreading by shallow rhizomes it forms colonies that are easily dug and divided in the fall or early spring just as they emerge.

This plant has much to offer a woodlands garden, naturalized area, shady border or rock garden. The arching habit and pendulous flower also make it a great choice for growing on top of a retaining wall. It combines well with ferns, hosta, lungwort, trillium, heuchera and many other shade perennials. The stems make excellent cut stems and add graceful beauty to arrangements even when not in flower.

Welcome to the Farragut Dogwood Trail, which begins in Fox Den Subdivision, travels a portion of Country Manor and ends in Village Green.

As you travel along North Fox Den Drive, you will see beautiful homes with rock gardens, dogwoods, azaleas, tulips and the ornamental Japanese maples.

Magnolia trees abound on Oakmont Circle, forming an archway over the street in one area. Keep your eyes open for squirrels, chipmunks and rabbits throughout this trail. You might even see a raccoon, opossum or fox.

After passing the Fox Den Country Club and climbing the hill, pause for a minute to see the beautiful view of the surrounding hills. As you descend the hill, you can get a view of the 18 hole Fox Den Golf Course. Even though the developer had to clear large areas for the course, he was very successful in preserving much of the original woodlands, especially the tall pines.

Smith Road will give you a good view of the golf course, a quick view of the lake and will lead you to East Fox Den Drive. Weeping willows and the "yellow" cypress intermingle with the dogwoods in this section.

In Country Manor, a newer subdivision, look for the beautiful

white pines and blue atlas cedars.

The trail enters the side door of Village Green on Cloverfork Drive. Village Green is the oldest of the three subdivisions, being the first planned community in Knox County. It was patterned after Colonial Williamsburg.

Pampas grass, nandinas with bright red berries, blue Norway spruce, acubas and ivy share this wooded area with the dogwoods as you make your way over "The Village" streets.

The large open area on Bellfield Road is owned by the neighborhood. The weeping willows are in evidence along the small creek. Bellfield Road leads into the earliest part of the neighborhood where the natural woodlands were preserved and many native dogwoods bloom each year.

When you top the hill at Russfield Drive, look straight ahead for a view of the mountains. Then you will turn onto Nassau Drive, a heavily wooded area that leads to the clubhouse.

As you circle around West Heritage Drive to Georgetowne Drive, you will see rock gardens and many flowering shrubs in these mature yards. Weeping cherry trees greet you on Georgetowne Drive and lead you to North Williamsburg Drive.



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Westmoreland Dogwood Trail

Welcome to the Westmoreland Dogwood Trail that begins on Lyons View Drive!

Knoxville's first golf course lies behind the tall hedge on the right of the road. It belongs to Cherokee Country Club, which was organized in 1907; the clubhouse is on the left at the mid-point of Fort Loudon Lake's magnificent horseshoe bend. Here the homes on both sides of Lyons View Drive command panoramic views of the curving lake with four tiers of smoke-blue mountains on the background.

On the left is Lakeshore Mental Health Institute. This site was chosen in 1883 for a mental hospital, and one turreted and crenellated building dating from that period still stands at the top of the hill. In 1994, a portion of this land was leased by the City of Knoxville to be managed by Youth Sports. The area will house youth sports fields as well as a lighted walking/jogging path. On the right is a new Veterans Cemetery opened by the State of Tennessee in 1991.

Past broad Northshore Drive and willow-bordered Fourth Creek, the entrance to Westmoreland is marked by colorful plantings and a rustic waterwheel. Originally, the tall wheel in its attractive stone housing was useful as well as ornamental; it furnished electric power for the early houses in this residential area.

In Westmoreland, open stretches of smooth lawns and bright gardens alternate with deeply wooded area carpeted with mayapples and violets. From homes along Sherwood Drive's highest elevation, the Cumberland Mountains are dimly visible toward the west.

Two new areas were added to the Westmoreland Trail in 1993. The first is the attractive Gate Head area. As you continue, travel down Sherwood Drive, cross Westland Drive and turn right to Westmoreland Hills. Homeowners in these newer areas have planted white dogwood trees, plants, and shrubs native to the East Tennessee area.

As the trail leaves beautiful Westmoreland Hills, you enter into the Hickory Hills area. Newer homes in this neighborhood boast beautiful lawns and plantings. Now you travel into Rothwood and cross Westland again onto Sherwood Drive. Trees overhang beautiful Stone Mill Road as you approach the waterwheel once more. Retracing Lyons View Drive, enjoy the sweeping view of Fort Loudon Lake and the Great Smoky Mountains.

The Westmoreland Dogwood Trail ends at the junction of Lyons View Drive and Kingston Pike. Turn right onto Kingston Pike to reach the Sequoyah Hills Dogwood Trail, The University of Tennessee and downtown Knoxville.

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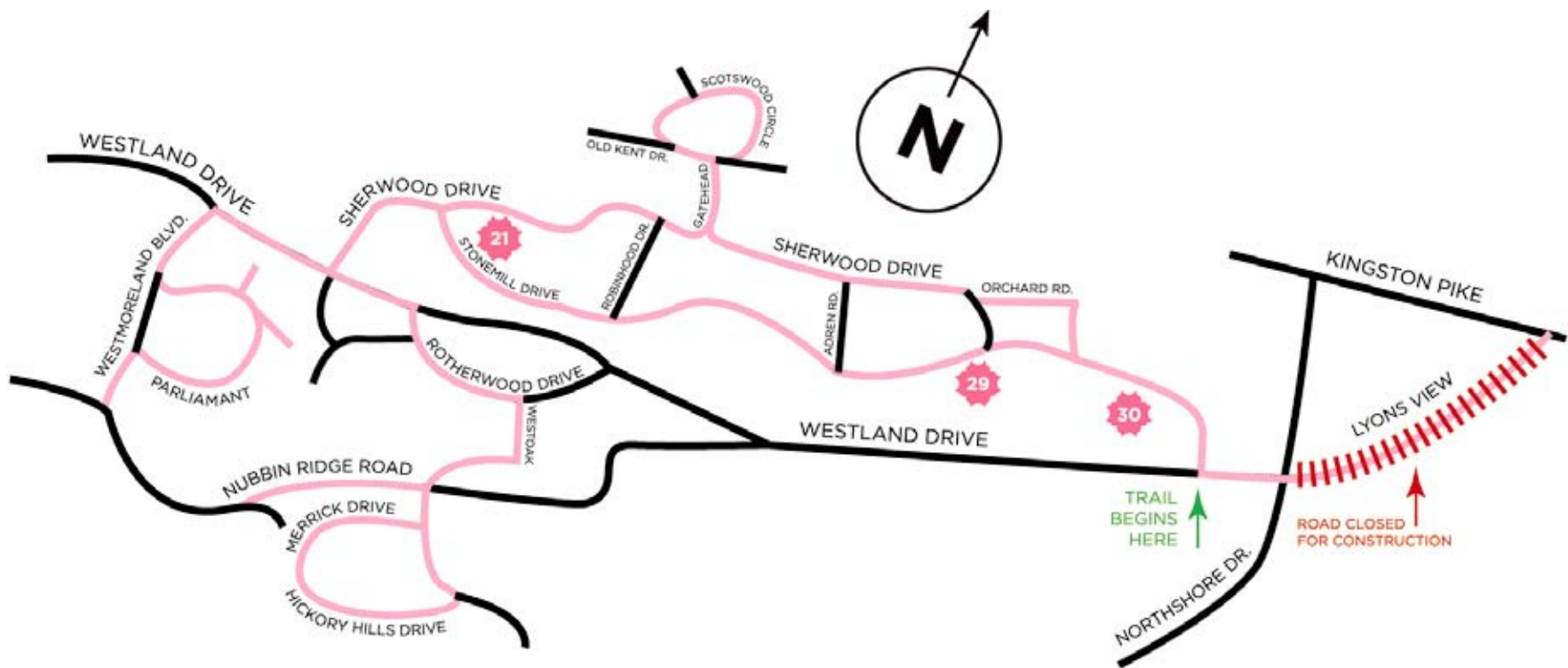
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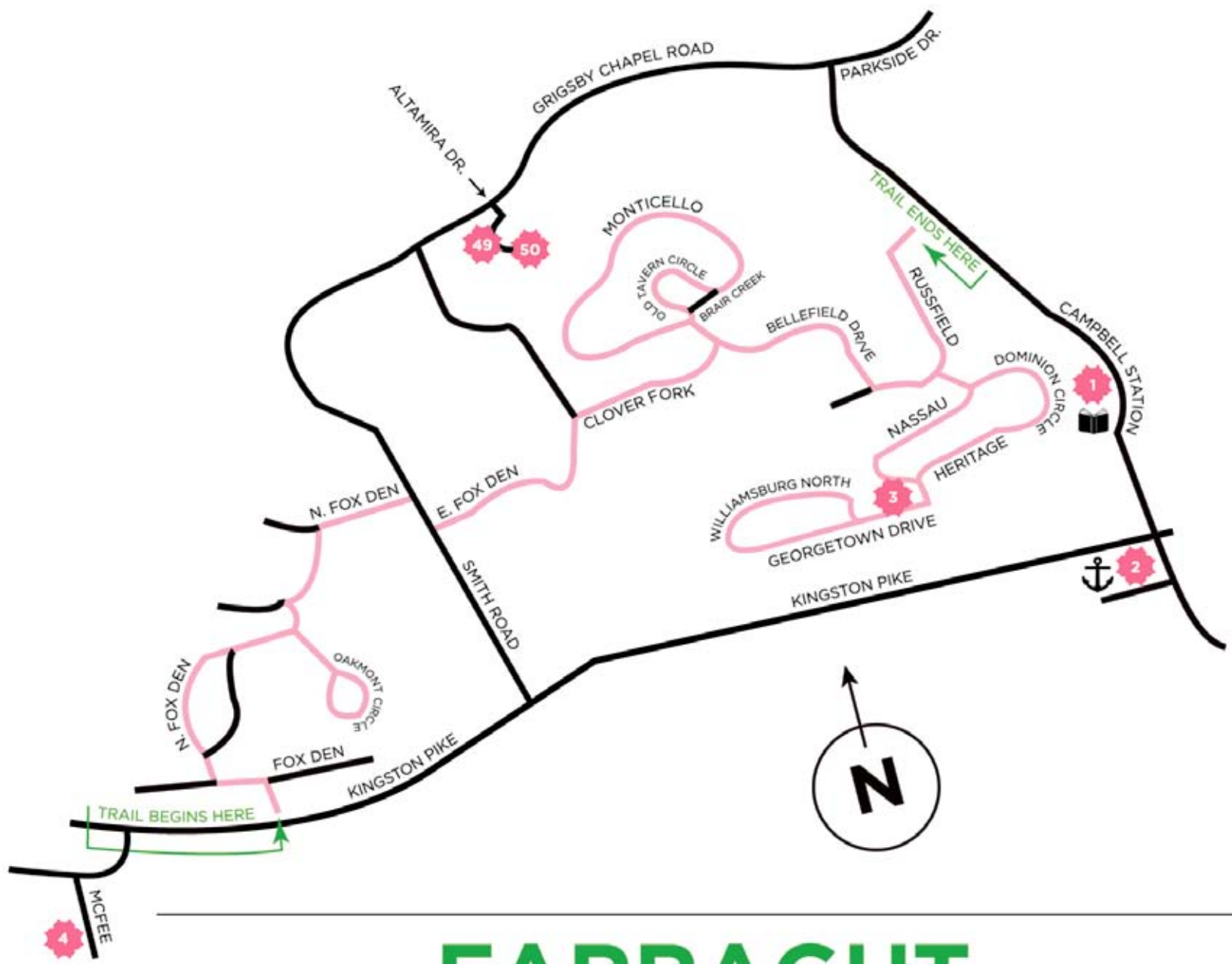
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