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Report on Knox County Schools Dismissal Practices

By Sally Absher
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Last week a group of citizen journalists released a report on their investigation of Knox County Schools dismissal practices at the monthly meeting of Students, Parents, and Educators Across Knox County (SPEAK). Fifth District Board candidate Susan Horn was also in attendance.

The report, "A Review of Personnel Dismissals by Knox County Schools During May and June 2015," was researched and written by public school advocate Lance McCold; Jennifer Owen, former Knox County teacher and incoming KCS Board of Education member, and Amanda Sanders, a former Knox County school librarian. The authors hope the report generates renewed conversation, especially after the new school board members are seated September 1.

The investigation was initiated following public outcry last June and July, when it was learned that effective teachers in KCS were being dismissed by a practice termed "non-renewal." Parents and community members said the KCS Board of Education policies for terminating teachers were inconsistent and unfair. The report sheds light on KCS dismissal practices and recommends changes to these practices.

After a months-long effort, the authors completed a review and analysis of redacted personnel files of 72 KCS employees who were dismissed during the months of May and June 2015. Forty one of those files were for teachers, 18 were for teaching assistants, and the remainder included custodians, maintenance personnel, security guards, and an accountant.

The review process was designed to answer four primary questions:

1. Was there evidence that the employee had a performance problem?
2. Was there evidence that the supervisor worked with the employee to correct the problem?
3. Was there evidence that the Human Resources (HR) department reviewed termination recommendations to determine that the termination complied with Board policy before advancing them to the superintendent for approval? and
4. Was there evidence that the superintendent had access to information that would allow him to distinguish between justified and unjustified terminations?

Only five of 41 non-renewed teachers had any indication of possible performance issues. And of these five, only three files showed evidence that the supervisor had worked with the employee to correct the problem. The

Continue on page 2

No new taxes and more money for schools, Safety Center and zoo

By Mike Steely
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If there was a surprise in Knox County Mayor Tim Burchett's annual budget proposal last week it was for an additional \$200,000 for the Behavior Health Urgent Care Center, formerly called "The Safety Center." The mayor had already set aside \$2 million toward creation of such a facility.

"It's the right thing to do," Burchett told the audience of city and county officials and the general public, noting that by some estimates 50% of the homeless in Knox County are veterans.

"We can do a whole lot better," he said. "This is something Sheriff Jones had worked tirelessly on for several years, as has former District Attorney Randy Nichols, who continues working on this effort to this day."

Burchett's overall proposal is for an increase of \$17 million over last year. He indicated the natural growth in business and property taxes will support the increase



PHOTO BY DAN ANDREWS.

Mayor Tim Burchett following last week's budget address.

in the budget and do so without raising taxes even though he expects the county to lose half a million dollars with the changes in the state's Hall Income Taxes next year. The budget also includes an increase to the schools system, an expense that takes up the majority of the county budget, and includes a 3% pay increase for teachers. Burchett said the proposal

Continue on page 2

Small grants awarded to neighborhoods



PHOTO BY MIKE STEELY.

Several members of the neighborhoods that were awarded grants from the Office of Neighborhood attended Tuesday's City Council meeting and were asked to stand and be recognized. The grants were approved by the council and go toward entrance signs, gardens, newsletters, office supplies and much more.

By Mike Steely
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Neighborhood entrance signs, gardens, a cook out, and daffodil bulbs are just a few of the improvements and activities being funded by Knoxville's Small Grants Program. The call for applications went out last

December and those projects selected were announced this month.

All in all the grants totaled more than \$34 thousand. An independent, eight-person evaluation committee conducted site visitations with applicants and met to advise the Office of Neighborhoods; all of those projects

recommended were accepted.

Ten of the 15 applications were served by the East Tennessee Community Design Center acting as the fiscal sponsor. All of the grants went to organization projects meant to build community and strengthen the

Continue on page 4

Homeless Confrontation At City Council

By Mike Steely
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What began as a report by one city councilman regarding a homeless camp erupted in a shouting match in the hallway outside the assembly room Tuesday between another council member and several homeless people following the meeting.

The situation began early in the regular meeting when Vice Mayor Duane Grieve reported he visited homeless camps recently.

"What I saw at these places, in the creek and camps, was totally irresponsible," Grieve said, adding that when the camps were

finally cleaned up by the city, 169 tons of trash were hauled away.

The councilman showed slides of the camp before the cleanup and called on Police Chief David Rausch to speak. The Chief said that when the camps are raided the homeless there are normally given 72 hours to leave but added that the people are often given as much as a week to vacate the public or private property.

"All of us have been pushed about this Homeless Bill of Rights. If you really read it what it does is protect those who want to be homeless to stay

homeless," Grieve said.

"We really should not allow people to live in this manner, it's unconscionable," he said.

He said that police officers usually do "face to face" meetings with any present in the camps and pass out information on services provided by the city and other groups.

"It's a health and safety issue, no one should live in those conditions. Aside from trespassing on private and public lands there's also hazardous waste," Rausch said. He said the homeless campers had been digging in hazardous waste at the PSC Metals

site which had more than 50 encampments, adding "our officers are very cordial and one was arrested."

David Brace, Public Works Director, told the council he was contacted by the city Storm Water Department because of concerns of health by individuals on the site, a scrap recycling site that is heavily contaminated with heavy metals.

He said that camp residents were digging on the site for metal they could sell and that disturbs the soil and permits runoff into the creek and also exposes the camp to heavy metals

and other toxins.

The Storm Water officials contacted Brace and he and Chief Rausch about hazards at the homeless camp.

"That is what initiated this clean up," Brace said. He said his department works with the Homeless Coalition in trying to look for solutions for the homeless.

In the public forum at the end of the council meeting several homeless people lambasted the council and mayor over not considering the Homeless Bill of Rights. Several people mentioned they cannot qualify for public housing in the city

because of past felony convictions and one woman said she is homeless after being evicted from housing. Two speakers verbally attacked the mayor and Councilmen Nick Della Volpe and Nick Pavlis. Della Volpe had responded to an email about the homeless bill and his email response apparently offended some of the homeless.

Following the meeting Della Volpe and several of the homeless speakers became involved in an argument outside the assembly room with some shouting involved.

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Report on Knox County Schools Dismissal Practices

Cont. from page 1

authors found no evidence in any of the teachers' files that either HR or the superintendent had attempted to confirm that the teacher warranted dismissal.

In other words, 88% of non-renewed teachers had no evidence of a performance issue and 93% had no evidence that the teacher had the opportunity to correct possible performance issues. Yet, only one of the non-renewed teachers was rehired by KCS. Why such a low rehire rate, when 88% of the non-renewed teachers had an apparently spotless record? The authors searched existing Board, HR, and KCS administrative procedures and found no policy restricting the rehiring of non-renewed teachers.

Even more disturbing is the finding that six of the non-renewed teachers had received signing bonuses at the beginning of the year they were non-renewed. Some of these teachers were recruited from out of state. The signing bonuses ranged from \$3,000 to \$12,000. One recipient of a \$12,000 signing bonus also received a \$2,500 TAP

mentor bonus. Yet only one of these teachers had any evidence in their file that there was a performance problem. KCS spent over \$40,000 on bonuses for five non-renewed teachers who had no evidence of cause for non-renewal.

Personnel files of classified staff showed inconsistencies throughout, although they were much more likely to contain information regarding reasons for dismissal. For example, of 17 teaching assistants who were "not recommended for continued employment" (NRCE), ten showed evidence of a performance issue, and of these, seven showed evidence the supervisor had worked with the employee. This suggests supervisors are more likely to work with TAs with performance issues than with teachers.

The report recommends that the Board of Education take five specific actions to address the non-renewal of teachers:

1. Suspend the use of non-renewal for dismissing teachers until an independent review of HR practices has been performed;

2. Adopt policies stating that when approving employee dismissals, the superintendent shall provide written documentation that he has personally verified the dismissal is justified and that the supervisor made reasonable and appropriate efforts to correct problems before recommending the employee be dismissed;

3. Instruct the superintendent to direct principals not to consider non-renewal, in itself, as reason not to rehire non-renewed teachers;

4. Remove the "non-renewal" language from the record of each staff member whose file lacks evidence of performance issues; and

5. Direct the superintendent to instruct HR to give priority to hiring previously non-renewed teachers who do not have a record of performance issues.

Additionally, the report recommends that the Board establish a KCS audit function, comprised of individuals who do not report directly to the superintendent, to monitor and investigate school operations and report findings directly to the Board.

But more needs to be

done. Lauren Hopson, KCEA president, said there are three situations: the law, which KCS follows; Board policy, which is followed sometimes, and how to treat people, which is going above and beyond the law. She said, "We are looking at making sure teachers are not blind-sided, and the only way to know that for sure is to have some kind of documentation."

She added that it may not be practical to suspend the non-renewal process, but principals should be given options to allow a teacher to transfer to another school or resign to avoid the stigma of "non-renewal." And better documentation is absolutely needed.

The bottom line is that good teachers were let go, and those remaining are left intimidated by this process. If past patterns continue, between 40 and 50 good teachers will be notified this month that they have been non-renewed, in most cases ending a career based not on personal success or monetary gain, but genuine love of children and concern for the next generation of Americans.

No new taxes and more money for schools, Safety Center and zoo

Cont. from page 1

The mayor praised Zoo Knoxville and CEO Lisa New for efforts to refocus efforts there and improve exhibits. The budget proposal includes more than \$100,000 to support the improvements and Burchett said he will soon offer a resolution to commit \$5 million over the next five years toward realizing the Zoo's new master plan.

"This budget isn't sexy but that's the way it should be. We're committing our resources to the things government should focus on: safety, health, education and infrastructure. We're forging and strengthening partnerships in order to work more efficiently and to provide a high level of service to our citizens," he said.

The budget now goes to the Knox County Commission and a public hearing today, where it should pass without much opposition. The commissioners could act on it in their regular monthly meeting on Monday, May 23rd.

He also spoke of the recent approval of an employee incentive program for county employees and recognized Zach Johnson, Recycling Coordinator, for saving the county \$3,000 with a suggestion for his department.

Burchett said he's asking for an additional \$1 million for paving of roads on top of the expected \$1.6 million from the state.

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Neighborhoods urged to be active in schools

By Mike Steely
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The Community School concept is an idea to use public schools as a center for community activities involving health, safety, and student success. Two representatives of Greater Schools spoke with the Knoxville Neighborhood Advisory Council Wednesday about how neighborhoods can be a partner with local schools.

Mark Benson, Community Schools Field Supervisor and Adam Fritts, Site Coordinator at Dogwood Elementary School, addressed the council and answered questions about the program, which has now added New Hopewell and West View Elementary Schools to the growing list of Community Schools.

Community Schools stay

open in the evening and offer additional instruction time, recreation, arts, mental health, adult education and other services. A community school is managed by a steering committee made up of school staff, teachers, parents, and business and community leaders and funded by a blend of public and private contributions.

Elementary schools in Knox County within the Community Schools program include Beaumont Magnet Academy, Christenberry, Dogwood, Green Magnet, Inskip, Lonsdale, Northwest, Norwood, Pond Gap, Sara Green, and South Knoxville. Vine Magnet Middle School is also in the program.

"A school is a place that is good for a neighborhood," Fritts said, adding that

whether or not a neighborhood resident has children in school the local elementary schools are to be used by taxpayers. He said the schools should involve residents, churches and civic groups in school activities and use of the facility.

Benson said the idea of Community Schools is to "create a positive relationship with folks."

Fritts said the schools should offer students and neighbors what they need. For the children that means dental services, regular mental health services, food for children on weekends, etc.

"We don't do these things until we find out what is needed," he said.

The programs at Inskip and Pond Gap are a partnership with the University of Tennessee which

offers oversight, tutoring and other programs. All the other schools are programs by Greater Schools.

"We're in the business to fail," Benson said, explaining, "we create programs and if they run well the school system takes them over."

The ways neighborhoods can get involved include volunteering at the schools in such programs as listening to students read or helping with homework before the kids leave the school each day. Groups can also become active in school events like carnivals.

Asked about problems with some non-supportive parents of students Fritts said the schools can nurture relationships and become friends with the parents. He said that in some cases the Community

Schools meet with the parents, provide GED classes and even English classes for Hispanic parents.

"We need to be able to walk with them rather than coming down on them," Fritts said.

"Once you get them in the building it becomes easier to work with them for a principal or teacher," he said.

Benson again emphasized the need for neighborhood residents to become involved in their schools.

"Utilize them, use them, that's the purpose of the buildings," he said.

"So many adults see the schools as free day care and so it should be, we don't want to punish the kids for their parent's behavior," he said.

Fritts said many neighborhoods don't know where

to go for service and said it is his role as the Dogwood Elementary Coordinator to get the information out.

"Find out what you can do such as school supplies or listening to a student read. Offer your "sweet spot" to the schools and see what's needed," he said.

Both speakers suggested neighborhood residents go to the Greater Schools Partnership web site and click on the volunteer site there. Fritts said that Greater Schools is partnering with Volunteer Knoxville to post things at schools where people can volunteer.

The Greater Schools Partnership site is www.greaterschoolspartnership.com.

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Raising the Roof at St. John's Lutheran

By Mike Steely
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If you've driven up North Broadway from downtown recently you may have noticed some work going on at St. John's Lutheran Church. Workmen are busy on the roof of the beautiful church, replacing the roof's 103-year-old clay tiles in what is an ongoing restoration of the large church.

Senior Pastor J. Stephen Misenheimer has headed the church, which is on the National Registry of Historic Places, since 1988. When he arrived there he said the neighborhood was a "dark and dangerous" place but he adds "God had plans to transform."

"We were landlocked," he said.

Since then the pastor says the church has been able to buy nearby businesses and buildings and now occupies the entire block at 544 North Broadway and sits in a historic section of north downtown that includes Emory Place,

Old Gray Cemetery, the National Cemetery, Knoxville Area Rescue Ministries, Old North Knoxville High School, Regas Place, and Volunteer Ministries.

"We're going one step at a time," the pastor, said referring to the restoration there. The stained glass windows have already seen restoration, lighting has been changed, a new organ and other repairs and additions have been completed over the years.

Thanks to a successful "Raising the Roof" three-year campaign, work on the roof is now underway.

Rev. Misenheimer says the next improvement will be moving inside for paint and plaster repairs, a sandstone color resurfacing for the outside facing Broadway and he expects the roof tiles to be completed by the end of May.

St. John's Lutheran Church has about 650 members with many attending from Tellico Plains and Deerfield Village.

"People are really attracted to an inner-city ministry," he said. The church is active with ministries to the homeless and was involved in the creation of the Volunteer Health Clinic. He said the growth and efforts of St. John's provided a "ripple effect" in the neighborhood which helped it attract new business and organizations.

"There's lots of exciting things going on," he said.

St. John's was founded in 1888 as the first English-speaking Lutheran Church in Knoxville by members of the "German" Lutheran Church who wanted English services. Martha C. Henson donated a parcel of land and contributed the majority of funds for construction and the Gothic Revival-style building was completed in 1913.

Designed by architect R. F. Graf the church was one of the prominent buildings in early 20th Century Knoxville. Its pointed arches, buttresses and cut-out

decorations in leaf patterns is striking.

The interior reflects the Gothic style and features oak, stained dark, and the nine stained glass windows in the sanctuary have scenes from the Bible. The current pipe organ was installed in 1991 and ranks among the top concert instruments in Knoxville.

"We never intended to be a mega-church but we have a mega-ministry," Rev. Misenheimer said. He said the church is proud of the number of members there who have gone on to become ordained ministers and those who are in training now.

The main worship service begins at 11 a.m. each Sunday and other church services and special events are posted online.

You can get more information about St. John's Lutheran Church online at www.sjcknox.org and also find the church on Facebook or call (865)523-3330.



Pastor Stephen Misenheimer stands below the replacement work of clay tiles on the roof of St. John's Lutheran Church on North Broadway. The church is on the National Register of Historic Places.

THE CHALK BOARD

Bits of News About Local Education

By Sally Absher
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Incoming Superintendent Asks for Lower Salary

Putting his words from the May 4 Board meeting into action, Knox County Schools' incoming interim superintendent Buzz Thomas asked that his salary be reduced from \$195,000 to \$180,000. Board Chairman Doug Harris notified fellow school board members of the request last Monday.

At the May 4 Board meeting, Board member Mike McMillan expressed concern that the proposed \$195,000 salary plus \$3,350 monthly in benefits was too high for an interim position. Thomas proceeded to engage in a private conversation, mid-meeting, with McMillan to discuss the salary question, for which he was called out by Board member Lynn Fugate and reprimanded by Board member Karen Carson.

He told the Board, "I am honored to be asked to serve, and I will gladly do that work whether the pay is \$195,000 or \$185,000... The amount of money I make is not the point. So if \$185,000 or \$183,000 or \$180,000 is what you need to be able to do to bring the board together and feel good about this, and feel like you're not

going to get criticism from your constituents, then that is what I would like to happen."

Although several Board members thanked Thomas for his offer, no one offered a motion to lower the salary, and the contract was unanimously approved. But Thomas continued to struggle with the conversation for several days. He told several Board members that he felt asking for a lower salary was the "right thing to do."

KCS loses another student in fatal car crash

Wednesday a single vehicle crash on Lyons Bend Road in west Knoxville claimed the life of 16-year-old West High School sophomore Roberts "Brown" Smith. Smith was returning home after an AP exam when his vehicle went off the road and slammed into a tree. He was pronounced dead at the scene.

Smith was described as a "wonderful, beloved student... a very popular boy who had lots of friends." He was a member of the school's soccer team. His older brother, Boyette Smith, is the starting goalkeeper on the team, which was scheduled to play Bearden High last Wednesday.

The soccer game was postponed to 7 p.m. Thursday. A candlelight vigil followed the game.

Our heartfelt sympathies and prayers go out to Brown's mother, Tracy Smith, and brothers Boone and Boyette. The family lost husband and father Kenny to brain cancer just last summer.

South Doyle Middle Schools Trails to Open Tuesday, May 17th

After years of hard work and collaboration between Legacy Parks Foundation, local neighborhoods in South Knoxville, Knox County Schools, city and county government, the Tennessee Department of Transportation, and other public and private entities, the South Doyle Middle School Trails will open this week. These trails provide a new, safe walking and biking route to South Doyle Middle School for students and other community members, and connect the school into the Knoxville Urban Wilderness trail system.

There will be a brief program to commemorate the official opening of the trails on Tuesday, May 17th at 10:30 a.m. at 3700 Lancaster Drive in South Knoxville

Sacred Heart School Celebrates Cathedral Construction Project

Celebrates Cathedral Construction Project

In an innovative move, during the past year the Sacred Heart Cathedral School community brought the construction of the new Cathedral into the classroom, and often, brought the classroom to the construction site.

Through the school "construction project," students learned about the geology of East Tennessee, the equipment used in construction projects, the many different people who work in construction, city planning and zoning laws, the math and science used in engineering, and ultimately the role of the Cathedral and the lasting impact it will have on their faith community.

Mr. Daniel Breen, SHCS Principal, remarked that "this has really been a STEM project - science, technology, engineering and mathematics - and the students worked through real world problems and learned to collaborate." As a culmination to their research, each grade level created a student-produced video of their findings and conclusions to be shared with the full SHCS community. An all-school assembly was held on May 11, 2016, led by 8th Grade student leaders, where representatives from

each grade spoke about their research, answered questions about their project, and shared their video.

Reminder - KCS Summer Transfer Window Now Open

The KCS summer transfer window will conclude Wednesday, July 1, 2016 at 4 p.m. The summer transfer window provides an opportunity for parents and/or legal guardians to request transfers for their students who meet at least one of the following criteria:

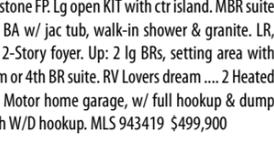
- Students who are new to KCS, including Kindergarten students;
- Students who have had a change in family circumstances such as custody/guardianship, or a change of address, since February 16, 2016;
- Students seeking to transfer to a magnet program where space is available.

More information on criteria and the application process can be found at knoxschools.org.

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American Legion appeals to City Council

By Mike Steely
steelym@knoxfocus.com

The Knoxville City Council passed on first reading Mayor Rogero's proposed budget during its meeting Tuesday night. The officials heard reports from the Historic Zoning Commission about saving historic properties and from Kim Trent, of Knox Heritage, about such efforts and her intentions to release the new "Endangered 15" list next week. The council also adopted a resolution setting electric standards for food trucks.

Vice Mayor Duane Grieve told the council he will introduce a resolution soon to move the meetings from 7 p.m. to 5 p.m. and

hold the Beer Board meeting at 4 p.m., probably starting in July.

But much of the meeting was spent hearing from American Legion Post 2 on a rezoning request for their facility on South Ruggles Ferry Pike just off of Asheville Highway. The members want to sell their building, a former school, in order to move closer to town.

The post had approached the planning commission to request a C-3 commercial zoning to allow the potential buyer, John Coker, to operate an auction house there. The MPC voted to zone the property for office use because of the surrounding residential area.

Attorney Arthur Seymour, Jr.,

representing the Legion, asked the council to refer the matter back to the planning committee where the request will be modified to C-4, which would permit the operation of an auction there.

Coker said the site, atop the hill overlooking Asheville Highway, is "ideal for an auction" because of the auditorium there and the large parking lot.

Marty Everett, Commander of the Legion, said the Patton Tank there will be moved and said the sale will permit the post to find a more central Knoxville location. Currently the legion has more than 700 members.

MPC Director Gerald Green told the council that changing

the zoning to C-4 would open up the area to commercial development and, once zoned, the property could be used in the future for things like an automobile sales lot. He said that even if the buyer agreed to a covenant about the use there the MPC could not hold him or future owners to it.

The council agreed to send the request back to the planning commission for consideration of the zoning change.

In other action the council passed, as an emergency ordinance, the rezoning of a lot on the corner of South Baker and Moody Avenues to "OS-2" Parks and Open Space. Councilman Nick Pavlis said the lot may be

used for parking at the old school there, now the Cecil Webb Recreation Center.

The council also heard from residents on Sheffield Drive who were demanding the sidewalks they say were promised years ago when annexed into the city.

"It is not a county road anymore," said one resident.

The council also approved funding a contract for the operation of sound equipment at Market Square events, funding of a portable ice rink for Christmas in the City, approved 24 requests for wine sales permits and funded the Office of Neighborhood Grants to various neighborhood groups.

Small grants awarded to neighborhoods

Cont. from page 1

capacity of the groups to better serve their communities. Each grant required a match in funds or efforts by the neighborhood groups.

The Carriage Lane Condominium Association gets \$1,970 to support its 50th Anniversary Celebration as the first condo community in the state. Part of the grant will also go towards the removal of an aging entry sign and construction of a new sign. Carol Poole said that the condos were built in 1965 and marketed as "luxury apartments with intercoms, wall to wall carpeting, dishwashers, disposals, air conditioning and wall hung toilets."

Pool said that about 15 years ago the condos were changed to an elderly housing complex and most of the residents are 55 years old or older and live on modest incomes.

"Some of the

maintenance has been ignored. We are trying to spruce the place up for our 50th birthday party, hence the Neighborhood Grant," she said.

Our Community Organization will receive \$600 for a community cookout, a community forum and towards efforts to increase attendance at neighborhood meetings in the area of Paul Hogue Park. Dave Massey of the Office of Neighborhoods said that Michelle Neal is active in that group and responsible for the grant being issued. The organization purpose is to build, connect and energize the Five Points area according to Ms. Neal.

Adair Gardens Residents Association's "Gateway to Adair" project will get \$2,950 for outreach efforts, construction and installation of neighborhood entrance signs and landscaping.

The Fountaincrest

Neighborhood Association gets \$600 to support the association's "Get the Word Out" project including a newsletter, meeting reminder signs, meeting supplies and potluck supplies.

The Green Hills Residents Association will receive \$2,100 for various youth programs including the Leadership Knoxville Scholars Program and an annual youth conference.

The Inskip Community Association receives \$3,100 to cover part of the construction and maintenance of a community garden as its part of "Nurturing Gardens to Nurture Families" initiative.

The Historic Holston Hills Community Club will receive \$3,100 to enhance the accessibility and usefulness of Holston Hills Community Park.

The Island Home Park Neighborhood Association gets \$3,100 for the

branding and beautification of the entrances to the neighborhood.

The same amount, \$3,100, goes to the Lindbergh Forest Neighborhood Association for its place making project including expansion of the volunteer base, new neighborhood signs, landscaping, clean ups, a neighborhood breakfast and a walking tour.

Timbercrest Neighborhood Association will receive \$3,100 for initiatives including printing fliers and newsletters, announcement signs, website hosting, folding tables, an inflatable movie screen, resurfacing a basketball court and supplies for events.

Morningside Heights Homeowners Association will get \$955 for office equipment for a newsletter and to help refurbish the gazebo at Odd Fellows Cemetery.

A grant of \$1,850 will go to the Oakwood-Lincoln

Park Neighborhood Association to create and promote a 2.29-mile sidewalk loop trail to showcase 200 differently styled homes, encourage walking and healthy living, and increase the neighborhood watch activity.

Old North Knoxville, Inc., gets \$3,000 to cover a portion of the cost of "Making Our Streets and Our History" project with new street signs that show both the street name and the neighborhood name and landscaping at each sign.

The Parkridge Community Organization receives \$2,000 for a beautification project to plant thousands of daffodil bulbs between the street and the sidewalks there.

The RiverHill Gateway Neighborhood Association gets \$3,000 to purchase and install picnic tables at a gathering spot, install a new neighborhood sign and to help fund a Grand Opening

Celebration. RiverHill is a new neighborhood group made up of residents from Promontory Point Condos, Riverside Condos and the Landings; the four major non-profits along East Hill Avenue (Blount Mansion, Legacy Parks Foundation, James White's Fort and the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame); and businesses such as Ruth's Chris Steakhouse, the Marriott, Volunteer Marina and the Three Rivers Rambler.

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Our Neighborhoods

Our Ghost Towns

By Mike Steely
 steelym@knoxfocus.com

Knox County and our surrounding area have several towns that got an early start but, for one reason or another, either disappeared or almost vanished. The pages of history don't always reflect these little places and some can only be found on older maps.

Some towns managed to survive as much smaller places than they once were, like Concord just south of Fountain City. Loveville disappeared in the progress of Knox County, ending up now only as the Lovell neighborhood.

Vestal, the town created by the growth of the now defunct Candoro Marble Works, still has some of the original buildings and some of those are used by current businesses, but the once huge marble complex is abandoned and only the main office remains.

There are, in our area, some truly "Ghost" towns, much as you would imagine in the Old West.

The coal towns to the north of Knox County, places like Habersham,



PHOTO BY MIKE STEELY.

The once thriving downtown of Limestone, east of Knoxville, now stands empty and abandoned. The long row of businesses face an old railroad depot and the town was bypassed by modern highways.

Morley, Proctor, Tally Town, Pruden, Anthrus and Eagan were thriving company communities from the 1880s until the 1950s. As coal mines closed and strip mining began, these towns didn't need the laborers and they

slowly disappeared except for a few miner cabins that stand yet today. The same is true for Campbell County's towns like Newcomb and Elk Valley. Some of the buildings remain but for the most part the "downtowns" have languished.

To our east there's Bull's Gap and Limestone. Bull's Gap, now not much more than a stoplight on Highway 11W and Route 66, has several businesses along the once-busy railroad, as well as a city hall, water tower, and Archie

Campbell's childhood home. It's off the main highway and goes unnoticed by most travelers.

Limestone is a true ghost town. Located near the entrance to the Davy Crockett Birthplace State Park, the little town has been bypassed by modern highways. Highway 11E runs north of the old town and Old State Route 34, which was once a heavily traveled road, serves the abandoned downtown where only a few historic homes continue to survive. One long row of former businesses exists next to the railroad there along with the long empty and rotting Limestone Depot.

Elkmont, in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, is abandoned and exists today as a cluster of cabins and buildings along both sides of the old road there.

Pressmen's Home, north of Rogersville, was a retreat and home to retired printers. It fell into disrepair and attempts have been made to revitalize the old community, founded in 1910.

Grantsboro, at the western end of Chucky Swan Wildlife Management Area in Union and Campbell Counties, was a town until the creation of Norris Lake. At low water you can still walk the streets. The community was moved north and the like-named community there was settled by those displaced Grantsboro residents. Lake waters have taken a lot of former towns including Rhea Springs in Rhea County, Morgantown in Loudon County, and old Loyston in Union County.

Cardiff, east of Harriman, was a planned community and today is just a crossroads with a few surviving buildings.

Fork Mountain was a mining town in Morgan County. Frozen Head State Park contains part of the ghost town with several building foundations.

Vonore, in Blount and Monroe Counties, continues to exist but the old downtown is mostly empty. Two old bank buildings are there just a few blocks off Highway 411.

Monuments proposed for Old Knoxville High School

By Mike Steely
 steelym@knoxfocus.com

A Knox County Commissioner may bring inspiration found at a National Association of Counties conference to the grounds of the Old Knoxville High School.

Commissioner Jeff Ownby talked with Vance Patterson of Foundation Forward, Inc., at the NACO event and took an idea back to Knox County Mayor Tim Burchett's office. Ownby is wanting to install three monuments by the former school and upcoming senior independent living facility's existing World War I Doughboy Statue.

Developer Rick Dover, who is also renovating the historic Farragut Hotel downtown, said he was contacted by the mayor's office about the monuments and is working with the city and the county and trying to

get all the components together. There would be no county or city funds going into acquiring the monuments.

Foundation Forward, Inc., was founded and operated by Patterson out of Morganton, N.C. and is a 501(c)3 corporation. He is apparently planning to join the Knox County Chamber of Commerce and raise the funds locally from chamber members, civil, service and other organizations. The cost may range from \$40 to \$75 thousand and could be installed at the entrance to the old school building by the end of the year, about the time that Dover says the building's transformation to senior apartments would be completed.

The monuments could be made of granite or limestone panels on a reinforced concrete foundation. Three monuments

are being proposed, each with etched bronze copies of the Declaration of Independence, the U. S. Constitution, and the Bill of Rights. Each document will be protected by a laminated glass panel.

Dover told The Focus that the placement of the monuments will create a small park at the former school and allow him to create additional on-street parking. He said work is underway at the building and he's working with the Knoxville Historic Zoning Commission on the replacement of windows and may be able to save 100 of the windows and duplicate those he cannot save.

He said that inside the building he's found he can use the former classrooms and should be able to use the existing doors.

"The rooms are of various sizes. When you walk into an apartment



The monuments proposed for the front of Old Knoxville High School would be similar to these but would be three individual exhibits. Photo from Foundation Forward, Inc.

it'll be like walking into English class," he joked.

"Once we finish with the (city) codes issues our interior design team moves inside. We're working with the school's alumni members on obtaining items for a display," Dover said.

"Each of the 90 apartments

will have its own heating and air system and we're adding two units to the roof, which you won't be able to see, for the rest of the building," he said. He added that he's converting the old library and cafeteria to become a common room.

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A Single Rosebud

Mother's Day has come and gone. I purposely didn't write about it then because I needed time to think. Moms across the country celebrated with families either with visits or long distance phone calls, Facetime, or Skype. All of us agree that those women who are mothers are a special group.

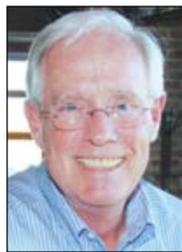
In the 1950s, Mother's Day was also a special time. My mother always took the day to heart. Her mother lived about a mile from us, and Mother seemed to be inspired and awed by her. I never understood that because Mamaw Balch always seemed to be a stick in the mud. She smiled rarely and spent her days listening to radio preachers and reading her bible. Still, she brought four children into the world. She worked to provide for her brood during the Great Depression. Never did the family go hungry, although they had little cash. She made sure their home was clean and warm, and her meals were the kind that gave energy that was needed for completing all the jobs on a dairy farm.

Mother celebrated her mother's love with visits and with acts of kindness. Both women were small in stature, but they were stronger than most in attitude and grit and determination.

Mamaw Rector was a complete opposite. She was a rotund little woman who worked outside the home for years. By the time we boys came around, she'd already retired. At home in Lonsdale, she cooked and doted on my grandfather, whom some say was far from a warm, engaging man. Her daughter and two grandsons also lived with her at some point, and later she opened her home to a great grandson. Mamaw was filled with the "Rector" pessimism. We carefully asked how she was because most of the time the answer came back with a litany of woes. Still, she loved her children and patted on them and spoiled them as much as possible during their early years.

Daddy called her "Momma," and he never failed to check in on her after his shift at Southern Extract was finished. He'd make sure the house was in order and that food was plentiful for the family. Even as he grew sicker with cancer, he dragged himself to her house until he no longer could drive.

Mother loved us boys. She stayed at home until we began school, at which time



By Joe Rector
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she began teaching and returned to college to earn her Bachelor's Degree. We made her Mother's Day gifts at church or school. One I remember was a potholder made with pink and yellow strips. The presents weren't much, and I feel sure the moms today would feel slighted with such trivial things. Still, Mother took them as if they were treasures.

On Mother's Day, she walked into the yard. We followed her to the rambling rosebushes. There, she searched for five perfectly formed roses. After cutting them from the branch, she pinned them to our collars, as well as to hers and Daddy's. Then we traveled a short distance to the old Beaver Ridge Methodist Church. During the service we sang "Faith of Our Mothers" (a small adjustment to the familiar hymn), and the minister spoke of the importance of all mothers, always giving special praise to Mary, the mother of Jesus.

As the years past, Mother made the same trek to the rosebushes to select buds for us. However, she made a second trip to pick a white rosebud for herself. It symbolized the loss of a mother. A tear would come to her eye before she turned herself back to the daily grind of her own life and responsibilities as a mother.

I still shake my head when I think of those old Mother's Days. Edna Rector rose before the rest of us on that Sunday, just like all of them. She'd get ready for church and then don her housecoat before making pancakes and bacon for breakfast. She'd already put a roast with potatoes and carrots in the oven or cut up a chicken for frying. When we returned from church, Mother changed clothes and returned to the kitchen. She'd finish cooking up a Sunday feast, and our family would sit together for at least a while. When it was over and we'd all waddle to other activities, Mother cleaned the kitchen. Only then did she sit down in her chair to read the Sunday paper. Sometimes she'd nod off for a while.

She's been gone for a long time. I miss her and wish I could give her a hug, a kiss, and a "thank-you" for all she meant to me. A single rosebud just doesn't seem big enough to say those things, but then again, it is a beautiful flower that grows and brings joy, just like mothers.

East Tennessee Historical Society Honors Twelve Knoxville Initiatives With History Awards of Excellence

The East Tennessee Historical Society's (ETHS) annual Awards of Excellence were presented at the organization's Annual Meeting on May 3, 2016 at the Foundry on the World's Fair Site in Knoxville. Since 1982, the Society has been annually recognizing individuals and organizations that have made significant contributions to the preservation, promotion, programming and interpretation of the region's history. Thirteen Knoxville initiatives and their leaders were among the 31 awards presented.

- Dr. John R. Finger, Emeritus Professor of History at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, received the Ramsey Award for Professional Achievement for his longtime support of local history through teaching at the University of Tennessee for 32 years, where he worked towards promoting, preserving, and educating the public on the region's history, with particular attention to Cherokee history. As a teacher, advisor, mentor, and administrator, he influenced thousands of undergraduate and graduate students. His nationally recognized research includes the 2011 book *Tennessee Frontiers: Three Regions in Transition*, two books on the Eastern Band of Cherokees, and countless articles and presentations.

- Belle Morris Elementary School received the Teaching Excellence Award for the school's centennial project. Faculty, volunteers, and students spent several years researching and collecting artifacts, documents, and photos to prepare for the school's centennial in 2015. Highlights included video restorations, a student-developed wall chronology of significant events, and a grand celebration that included the entire student body, faculty, dignitaries, officials, and alumni.

- Johnson Architecture, Inc. received the Preservation Award for their work on Anderson Hall at Maryville College. Built in 1870, Anderson Hall is an iconic anchor of Maryville College. In need of restoration, Johnson Architecture worked to maintain the integrity of the building while upgrading it to fit the needs of a present-day college campus, carefully protecting staircases, varied window styles, high ceilings, and the historical bell tower.

- Knox County Museum of Education and their Director Benna van Vuuren both received a Community History Award for their work in preserving and promoting Knox County Schools. The Knox County Museum of Education collects materials and artifacts from Knox County schools and catalogs, preserves, showcases, and makes them accessible to the public. Volunteer led, the museum welcomes both researchers and those seeking a trip down memory lane. A retired educator, Benna van Vuuren has worked tirelessly to collect and preserve the history of Knox County Schools for today and future generations and was the guiding force behind the establishment of the Knox County Museum of Education.

- Norman C. Shaw received the Community History Award for promoting the region's Civil War history. He was a founder of the Knoxville Civil War Roundtable (1983), and in 1987 founded the Association of Sultana Descendants and Friends to preserve the memory of the hundreds of Union prisoners of war who perished in the 1865 steamboat disaster. The 2016 Annual Sultana Reunion commemorated the 100th anniversary of the unveiling of the Sultana Monument at Mount Olive Cemetery.

- Tennesseans for Living History received the Community History Award for public education and interpretation of Tennessee's history. Tennesseans for Living History is committed to raising public awareness of the importance of Tennessee's role in the formation of the United States through interpretive programs and living history reenactments. The group contributes time and expertise to educational programs across the region, presenting 140 programs in the past two years.

- Girl Scout Museum at Daisy's Place



Representatives from Belle Morris Elementary School accepted the Teaching Excellence Award.

Volunteers received the Award of Distinction for their work with the museum. The museum and library that began 20 years ago as a collection of photographs, histories, and items from private collections has now grown into a program center for girls and a regional archive for Girl Scout history. A dedicated corps of volunteers has been and remains key to the success of this important resource.

- Lucinda Heatherly Detached Tent No. 3, Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War received the Award of Distinction for the Ancestor Information Project. The project has gathered genealogical data and family stories related to Civil War ancestors of its members, which have been donated to the McClung Historical Collection of the Knox County Public Library, where they are available to the public.

- Major William A. McTeer Camp No. 39, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and their Commander David H. McReynolds both received an Award of Distinction for preservation and promotion of the region's Civil War history. Founded in 2009, this very active camp preserves and shares the region's Civil War history through public events, as well as camp activities. The camp is an important community resource for reenactments, fairs, grave markings, memorial ceremonies, event organizing, and displays excellence in publications and their website. With a lifetime of interest in history, David McReynolds focuses his time on the region's Civil War history, especially through work with the Major William A. McTeer Camp No. 39, Sons of Union Veterans, where he has served as commander, webmaster, and newsletter editor, and participates in public events. He was recognized by the Tennessee General Assembly with a Tennessee Colonel Award.

- Nolpix Media, LLC/Cumberland Mountain State Park/Tennessee State Parks Interpretive Programming & Education received the Award of Distinction for their documentary *Cumberland Mountain State Park: A Civilian Conservation Corps Legacy*. The short documentary debuted in July 2015 for the park's 75th anniversary. The film uses vintage footage, dramatic aerial photography, and CCC reenactors to educate the museum's thousands of visitors about the Great Depression and the park's development.

- Tennessee Association of Vintage Baseball received the Award of Distinction for promotion and public education of baseball in the region in the 1860s. Since its start with two teams in 2013, the TAOVBB now consists of ten teams whose educational mission is to play base ball by 1860s rules - no spittin', no swearin', and no gloves. All four East Tennessee clubs carry the names of original teams - Lightfoot and Mountain City in Chattanooga and in Knoxville, the Holstons and the Emmett Machinists. Partnerships, diverse venues, and the sport's novelty are drawing a large attendance.

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FDR Comes to Tennessee

Pages from the Past



By Ray Hill
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President Franklin Delano Roosevelt came to Tennessee several times during his presidency. It gave local politicians the opportunity to bask in the glow of Roosevelt's magnetic presence and the people of Tennessee to actually see the jaunty tilt of FDR's large head, cigarette holder firmly clenched between his teeth. The popular image of Franklin Delano Roosevelt remains indelible in the minds of those remaining who were alive during his presidency. Many still remember his voice, frequently warm and compelling during his famous "fireside chats" with the American public.

Kenneth D. McKellar, Tennessee's senior United States senator, while promoting Roosevelt's candidacy for a third term, described FDR as "inordinately popular" in Tennessee. McKellar, having a strong distaste for privately owned utilities, was appalled by the candidacy of Republican Wendell Willkie, an attorney for Wall Street and the private power interests.

Franklin Roosevelt used the power of incumbency shrewdly, oftentimes making nonpolitical trips that were little more than campaign appearances. One such appearance was in Chattanooga, Tennessee in September of 1940 when the president came to dedicate Chickamauga Dam. The presidential motorcade included First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt, Governor Prentice Cooper, and Senator McKellar, who introduced Roosevelt to the crowd of some 30,000 persons. Roosevelt, McKellar and Cooper were all running for reelection in Tennessee at the time.

Roosevelt had visited the site of the dam two years earlier when construction had just begun on the Chickamauga Dam. The structure, running more than a mile and 125 feet high, was an impressive achievement, yet another marvel of the Tennessee Valley Authority.

The addresses were all widely carried over radio, which was the primary electronic medium of the time, as well as carried in newsreels, which played in movie theatres across the country.

Seventy-one years old in 1940 and running for a fifth term, Senator McKellar made a very brief introduction of the president.

"Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen," the senator cried, "it gives me the keenest pleasure and the greatest delight to present to you the great author of the Tennessee Valley Authority who is here with us today.

"He has always been the friend of Tennessee and Tennesseans, just as he is the friend of all the people of this country. I present

to you the President of the United States, Franklin D. Roosevelt!"

President Roosevelt, wearing the leg braces that enabled him to give the illusion he could walk, got up and spoke to the masses that welcomed him enthusiastically.

The President reminded his audience he had been there before, saying, "I am glad to come here today, especially because I took part in the laying of the cornerstone of this dam some years ago."

Roosevelt went on to describe the importance of the dam in the eloquent language the Squire of Hyde Park had mastered long ago.

"This chain of man-made inland seas may well be named 'The Great Lakes of the South'. Through them we are celebrating the opening of a new artery of commerce, new opportunities for recreation --- I see all these new powerboats right here, almost at my feet as I speak. We are celebrating relief from the desolation of floods, and new low-cost energy which has begun to flow to the homes and farms and industries in seven American states."

From the dedication of the Chickamauga Dam, President Roosevelt and his party moved on to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park for yet another dedication ceremony. The ceremony was set for 5:00 p.m., but cars had been gathering as early as seven that morning. Just hours later there was no parking for automobiles and those wishing to attend the ceremonies had to be shuttled in school buses. By that evening 10,000 persons waited for the arrival of the President.

The presidential limousine, with its top down, rolled slowly past the thousands lining the route as FDR held his hat above his head to acknowledge the applause and grinning faces.

There was security for the president, but it was a different age and FDR enjoyed the throngs of people, despite having survived an assassination attempt even before he took the oath of office. Few people seem to recall the attempt on Roosevelt's life, which occurred in Miami, Florida. FDR had just made a speech at the Bayfront Park when an Italian immigrant, Giuseppe Zangara, screamed, "Too many people are starving!" and opened fire.

The bullets missed Roosevelt, but Chicago Mayor Anton Cermak, standing near the president, was not so lucky. Wounded in the abdomen, FDR clutched Cermak to him and warned him not to talk and the mortally injured mayor was whisked away to the hospital where he died later.



FROM THE AUTHOR'S PERSONAL COLLECTION.

President Franklin Roosevelt in Knoxville, TN, giving a greeting to 30,000 people who came to see him.

Zangara had been overpowered by men in the audience and would likely have been pummeled to death had not FDR urged them to spare him and let justice take its course. The assailant later claimed he had no personal animosity for Roosevelt; he simply hated all public officials and the wealthy.

When Mayor Cermak died, the charges against Zangara included murder and he was strapped to the electric chair and executed March 5, 1933, one day after Franklin D. Roosevelt was sworn in as President of the United States.

At the Great Smoky Mountain National Park ceremonies, Governor Prentice Cooper and North Carolina Governor Clyde Hoey both spoke to the crowd, along with Secretary of the Interior, Harold Ickes. Senator McKellar, wearing a tan suit and black bowtie, sat behind the president as Roosevelt began his speech. Senator McKellar had conducted a bitter open feud with J. Ross Eakins, the Superintendent of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. McKellar's feud with the park superintendent seemed forgotten as he sat behind the president, one leg crossed over the other. The scene was saved for posterity and became a very popular postcard.

Once again, FDR's magnificent voice, never forgotten by those who lived through the days of despair during the Great Depression, rang out and mesmerized his audience. Deftly touching his listeners, which included a national audience via the radio, Roosevelt went on to describe the importance of the park to the multitudes.

President Roosevelt had been to Tennessee in 1936, yet another election year and FDR himself was seeking reelection. The presidential party left Washington, D. C. the evening of September 8 by train and arrived in Knoxville the next morning at the old Southern Railway Depot. Thousands of people waited to catch a glimpse of Franklin D. Roosevelt and among those waiting to greet the president were Tennessee's senators K. D. McKellar and Nathan L. Bachman, as well as Governor Hill McAlister and

J. B. C. Erhinghaus, governor of North Carolina. Once the president had eaten his breakfast, the party set out along Old Sevierville Pike towards Gatlinburg. It was likely during this visit Roosevelt saw and admired the massive Church Street Methodist Church.

The President supposedly said it was the prettiest church he had ever seen, quite a compliment from one who frequently fancied himself an efficient amateur architect.

In an age where television did not exist, one did not have the opportunity to see a president of the United States very often and Sevier County schools had closed to afford children the opportunity to stand by the roadside and wave as Roosevelt passed by. The town of Sevierville was appropriately decorated for the first president ever to visit the hamlet.

The presidential motorcade made its way to Clingman's Dome where the manager of Knoxville's Andrew Johnson Hotel (which now houses Knox County's own school administration) had filled a truck full of food to feed President Roosevelt and his party. FDR loved food, although his White House was notable for serving positively dismal meals. Some speculated the White House housekeeper, one Mrs. Henrietta Nesbitt, was some form of Eleanor's revenge upon her husband. In fact, many of those who dined at Roosevelt's White House frequently ate before attending soirees. Roosevelt plotted to rid himself of the hated Mrs. Nesbitt, which First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt would not countenance. The imperious Mrs. Nesbitt had no compunction in countermanding the Commander in Chief's orders; for one of his inaugurations, FDR asked for chicken ala king to be served to his guests. Mrs. Nesbitt snapped it would be impossible to keep the

food warm and announced, "He'll get chicken salad."

President Roosevelt complained about being served salt fish four times in one week for lunch and warned Eleanor he might "bite" a foreign power if he was served another sweetbread.

Mrs. Nesbitt's undoing came when she crossed the peppery Harry Truman when she insisted upon serving Brussels sprouts too frequently. The little man from Missouri sent an astonished Mrs. Nesbitt packing.

President Roosevelt was likely not disappointed by a luncheon fare that included fried chicken, crab salad, cheese sandwiches with caviar, and sardines and crackers. The president was observed contentedly smoking a cigarette in his famous holder after having eaten, enjoying the magnificent view.

Governor McAlister wondered what the President thought of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park and FDR replied that he thought it most impressive. The President went on to speculate there might be too many tourists to visit "before we are ready for them."

Following lunch, Roosevelt's car was rearranged, with the governor of North Carolina, J.C.B. Erhinghaus, taking Hill McAlister's place as the motorcade stopped in Cherokee. There the President was greeted by the Chief Jarret Blythe, who performed a ceremony making FDR an honorary chief of the Cherokee Nation, replete with feathered headdress. The presidential party went on through a number of North Carolina towns as it headed towards Asheville.

President Roosevelt had come to Nashville, Tennessee on November 17, 1934 at the invitation of Congressman Joseph Byrns, Speaker of the House. On the way to his

retreat in Warm Springs, Georgia, Roosevelt decided to stop off in Nashville. Apparently the biggest crowds ever assembled in Nashville poured out into the streets to view President and Mrs. Roosevelt. The President visited the Hermitage, the home of one of Tennessee's most famous native sons, General Andrew Jackson. President and Mrs. Roosevelt also stopped at Fisk University to hear the chorus perform a special concert, just after an ugly incident. A young black man had allegedly struck a white child with his bicycle and was later dragged out of his home and lynched.

Naturally, some Tennessee Democrats were appalled that the President would make a stop at Fisk University, while not visiting all-white Vanderbilt.

Franklin Delano Roosevelt remains one of America's most iconic chief executives. His visits to Tennessee were not only historic, but were numerous, especially when one considers he did not have the freedom of movement of other presidents.

Senator McKellar was right; FDR certainly was "inordinately popular" in Tennessee.

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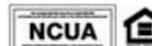
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Steamrolling Gibbs hopes to avoid a Black Monday this season

By Steve Williams

Gibbs High's softball team finished the District 3-AAA tournament with a roar.

Riding a 21-game win streak into the finals, the Lady Eagles, in fact, jumped on Powell right at the start and rolled to

a 10-0 title win Tuesday night at Anderson County.

"I'm just proud of the girls and the way they came out and played," said Coach Carol Mitchell after the mercy rule victory in five innings. "It's easy after a big emotional win last night to kind of overlook

this game, but they were hungry for a district championship and came out and played hard."

Mitchell was referring to the winners' bracket finals against Powell the night before when her team erupted for six runs in the bottom of the fourth inning

to break a 2-2 tie en route to a 10-3 victory.

Both teams - Gibbs (38-7-1) and Powell (29-9) - advance to today's (May 9) Region 2-AAA playoffs. The Lady Eagles will be at home against the District 4-AAA runner-up, while the Lady Panthers travel to play the District 4-AAA champion. Hardin Valley was scheduled to host Maryville in the District 4-AAA finals Saturday.

"We made it to Monday," said Mitchell. "That's what counts. We've got to be better than whoever we play Monday."

The Lady Eagles experienced the downside of that outcome last year, falling to Bearden and seeing their season come to an end. Mitchell doesn't want to see a repeat of that.

"Absolutely," said Mitchell. "We didn't come out and play well on that day."

It was a Black Monday. Gibbs took charge against Powell by scoring three runs in the bottom of the first inning. Leadoff

batter Leah Sohm drew a base on balls, stole second and moved to third on an error. She beat the throw to the plate on Olivia Wheeler's bunt single.

Wheeler moved to second on the play at home and then took third on a wild pitch. She scored on a grounder to shortstop. Sierra Hucklebee, who had walked, tallied the third run on Abby Hicks' double down the left field line.

"It's very important to jump ahead because it changes their body language and it gets our dugout fired up," said Hicks, "and it just shows them that we're in this to win it. We're not going to stop."

Wheeler's offensive production included a double and two triples and four RBI. Her triple to right center brought in Sohm with the game-ending run in the fifth. It was Sohm's fourth run of the game.

Hicks was 2 for 2 with two RBI in addition to being the winning pitcher.

Cont. on page 2

Q&A with Rashaan Gaulden

By Alex Norman

When the opportunity arises we like to have conversations with the playmakers around town. Recently we had the chance to sit down with Tennessee defensive back Rashaan Gaulden, and talked about, among other things, his return from injury, and those sky high expectations for the Vols...

Knoxville Focus: Certainly there has been a well-publicized change for the Tennessee defense with Bob Shoop replacing John Jancek as the Vols defensive coordinator. What is Coach Shoop like and what does he bring to the table?

Rashaan Gaulden: He is an aggressive coach. He's a great guy and knows what he is going to do. He is one of the smartest coaches I have ever had. I like his style of coaching.

KF: Are there major differences between Coach Shoop and Coach Jancek?

RG: The structure, the attention to detail... and there's more accountability in terms of film watching and getting in with the coaches.

KF: You are coming off an injury that cost you the entire 2015 season. Did that make spring practice even more important?

RG: You can say that. During (Outback) bowl prep I was able to get out there and get my feet wet. I just wanted to come out this spring and prove that I can progress from week to week and prove I am better than I was before my injury.

KF: How difficult was it last year watching from the sidelines?

RG: It was really tough watching my teammates put it on the line each down and watching fourth quarter games where they came up short. It was tough to watch and not be able to contribute, but I was a team guy. Coach (Willie) Martinez put me in a role to where I could help Malik (Foreman) who stepped in to the

Continue on page 3



PHOTO BY STEVE WILLIAMS.

With tourney MVP Abby Hicks on the mound in the top of the third inning, the scoreboard shows Gibbs halfway to its 10-0 win over Powell in the District 3-AAA finals at Anderson County last week.

Three CAK athletes sign college papers

By Ken Lay

Christian Academy of Knoxville celebrated as three of its high school athletes signed to continue their respective careers.

Cheerleader Courtney Ferren, girls basketball player Taylor Dodson and football player Phillip Nichols all signed National Letters of Intent Wednesday at a ceremony in the school's library.

Ferren and Dodson will both attend college in the Atlanta area while Nichols will pursue his education at Wheaton College in suburban Chicago.

Ferren signed with Kennesaw State while Dodson inked her National Letter of Intent with Oglethorpe University in Atlanta. Nichols, a three-sport athlete for the Warriors, signed to play football at Wheaton College. That's the alma mater of evangelist Billy Graham.

Continue on page 2



PHOTO BY DAN ANDREWS.

CAK student-athletes Courtney Ferren, Phillip Nichols and Taylor Dodson signed Letters of Intent at a ceremony Wenesday.

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Three Hardin Valley seniors sign with colleges

By Ken Lay

In its short existence, Hardin Valley Academy has established a tradition of academic and athletic excellence and recently, three more student-athletes have announced and finalized their respective plans to continue careers in college.

Football player Isaac Agüero, boys basketball player Tristan Neilson and girls basketball player Emily Stone all signed National Letters of Intent at a recent ceremony in the school's auditorium. Agüero, a two-time all-region player, who has the distinction of being the first Class 6A all-state standout in school history, will play at Lindsey Wilson College.

Neilson, a center for the Hawks basketball team, will attend Maryville College. There, he will major in biology. Neilson, who recently finished his high school career as the Hawks' second leading shot blocker, aspires to go on to pre-med.

Stone will travel just over the state line and play basketball at the University of the Cumberland in Williamsburg, Kentucky.

She's currently an AAU coach and will major in Physical Education and has aspirations to become a high school teacher and basketball coach.

Darden leads Farragut in Knox County Middle School track meet

By Steve Williams

When it comes to track, Ben Darden can go the distance.

The Farragut 8th grader swept the three distance events in the recent Knox County Middle School Championships and led the Admirals to the boys' team title May 5 at Hardin Valley Academy.

Darden broke the 5-minute mark in the 1600-meter run with a time of 4 minutes, 59.26 seconds and also won the 800 in 2:11.86 and the 3200 in 11:10.05.

Darden ran the 1600 and 3200 on May 3, the first day of the meet, and the 800 on May 5. During the regular season, he had run all three events on the

same day.

"Ben is an incredible athlete and leader of the Farragut track team," said Coach Chris Cavalaris via e-mail. "He has embraced the leadership role. He is one of the hardest working athletes I have coached. Ben organized conditioning for the students before track tryouts as well as organized distance practices on Saturdays."

The Admirals' 4x800 relay team also prevailed with an impressive time of 9:47.

Farragut finished with 132 points, comfortably ahead of runner-up Bearden, which tallied 83 points. Karns and West Valley tied for third place with 43 points and Halls

rounded out the top five with 42.

Farragut's girls, coached by Elizabeth MacTavish, also took top honors in the team scoring, tallying 92 points. Sixth-grader Lexi Foley won the 3200 run in 12:03.18 and the Lady Admirals also celebrated wins in the 4x800 relay (10:36.93) and 4x400 relay (4:31.59).

West Valley's girls came in second place with 60 points. Cedar Bluff (52), Karns (50) and Catholic (42) completed the top five.

Other individual winners in the boys' division included South-Doyle's Elijah Young taking first place in both the 100 dash (11.74) and the 200 (24.16).

Bearden's Sebastian LaTorre also was a double-winner as he prevailed in the 400 dash (55.37) and won the long jump with an impressive mark of 19 feet, 7 inches.

Devlin Jinkins of Webb dominated the shot put field with a 40-1 mark. Halls' Jacob Noel won the discus event with a throw of 135-0¾.

In the boys' relays, South-Doyle finished first in the 4x100 (48.46), while Bearden won both the 4x200 (1:40.56) and 4x400 (3:52.42).

In the girls' sprints, Cedar Bluff's Timaya Ray crossed the finish line first in the 100 dash (13.14) and 200 (26.64), while Blake Blakemore of Holston won

the 400 in 1:00.89.

Catholic runners won two of the three girls distance races as Ellie Wolski took top honors in the 800 (2:25.60) and Callie Tucker posted a 5:32.50 in the 1600.

West Valley girls stood out in the 4x200 relay (1:53.75) and Cedar Bluff carried the baton around the track in a winning time of 54.13 in the 4x100.

In the girls' field events, Gresham 7th grader Haley Ferrell had a big winning edge in the shot put with a mark of 36-¾. Another seventh-grader, West Valley's Kai Lanier, won the long jump with a 14-10 mark. Abby Taylor of Halls was best in the discus (87-11¼).

Duhamel runs from TSD to UT

By Steve Williams

Gashaw Duhamel has won a lot of races in his decorated prep career, but his greatest victory has been making Tennessee School for the Deaf very proud.

The announcement that TSD athletic director Luke Benson e-mailed to The Knoxville Focus and other media outlets last Thursday tells it all:

"Gashaw Duhamel is signing with the University

of Tennessee Track and Field/Cross Country Team! He's the first ever Division I Student-Athlete from TSD! #TSDVikings"

He signed with the Vols on May 6.

Duhamel first made noise on the high school track scene as a sophomore in the spring of 2014 when he set national deaf prep records in winning the 1600-meter run in 4 minutes, 25.98 seconds and the 3200 in 9:41.19 at the 7th Berg/

Seeger Classic, a national meet for deaf schools.

Gashaw went back to the 9th Berg/Seeger Classic this spring and won the 3200 in a record 9:37.65.

As a junior in the fall of 2014, Duhamel made his debut on the TSSAA state level. Participating with Oak Ridge High School in the TSSAA's cooperative program, he finished 11th in the Class AAA state cross country championships with a time of 16

minutes, 19.24 seconds as his team placed third.

He finished 10th at the state cross country meet as a senior last fall, posting a 16:20.01 and the Oak Ridge team took second place.

Again running with Oak Ridge during the indoor track season this past winter, Duhamel won the indoor 2-mile state title with a time of 9:38.97.

Duhamel will be trying to qualify for the TSSAA state outdoor meet in

the 3200 event Thursday in the Class A-AA East Sectional at Christian Academy of Knoxville. If he makes it to the TSSAA Spring Fling in Murfreesboro, the state 3200 run will be May 27.

And Benson, the TSD athletic director, ended his list of Gashaw's career highlights with this final note:

"Will be a member of the University of Tennessee Track and Field/Cross Country Team this fall!"

Steamrolling Gibbs hopes to avoid a Black Monday this season

Cont. from page 1

Kayley Kern was 2 for 3 with one RBI.

On the mound, Hicks allowed only two hits and struck out six. Brittney Franse got both of the Powell hits, a bunt single in the first and a double in the fourth.

Prior to the championship game, Powell blanked Halls 2-0 in the losers' bracket finals, an elimination game. Senior catcher Lexi Jones belted a two-run homer in the bottom of the fourth. Winning pitcher Allison Farr hurled a three-hitter.

"Emotionally, I think we were spent," said Powell Coach Jeff Inman after the title loss. "Gibbs is rolling and you can't go

out there not on top of your game and expect to win against them."

The tournament was marked by close games. Gibbs defeated host Anderson County 2-1. Halls eliminated the Lady Mavericks 2-1 Monday on a walk-off home run by McKenna Helton in the bottom of the seventh.

ALL-TOURNEY: Gibbs – Leah Sohm, Olivia Wheeler, Ashley Daniels, Kayley Kern, Abby Hicks (MVP). Powell – Allison Farr, Lexi Jones, Brittany Franse. Halls – McKenna Helton, Makayla Snyder. Anderson County – Hannah Bruce.

South Doyle's Wilson to play at Washington Prep

By Ken Lay

Dalton Wilson can't wait to begin the next chapter of his basketball life.

The South Doyle High School senior recently signed a National Letter of Intent to play at Washington Prep Academy in Greenville, North Carolina.

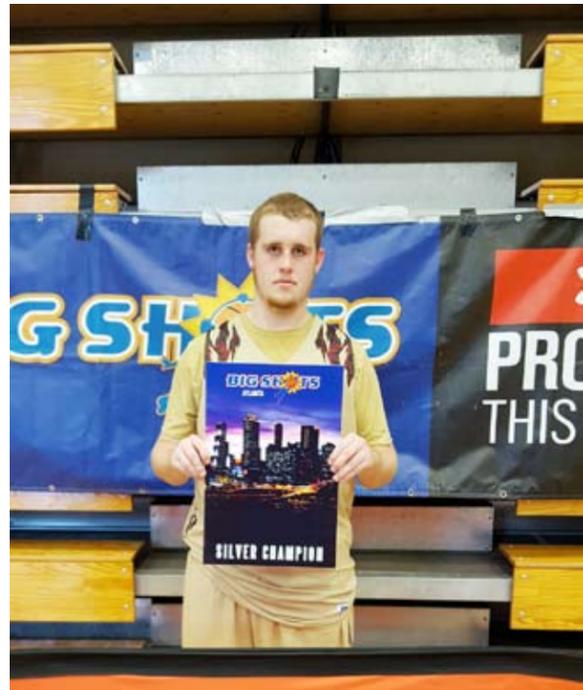
Wilson, who played both football and baseball for the Cherokees, signed with the school Tuesday in a ceremony at South Doyle.

His next basketball journey will take him far from home but that doesn't seem to be an issue for him.

"It's about six-and-half hours away but I can't wait to get over there," Wilson said. "I'm ready to get there and show what I can do."

"This is an opportunity for me to play basketball and get my ACT score up and I will look to get bigger, faster and stronger."

Wilson, who also plays hoops for the Tennessee Showtime basketball team, said that once he completes his stay at Washington Prep; he will have four years of college eligibility.



South Doyle basketball player Dalton Wilson recently signed to play at Washington Prep Academy in North Carolina.

Three CAK athletes sign college papers

Cont. from page 1

Ferren, who will major in communications, said that Kennesaw State was a fit for her because she could cheer competitively as well as be a member of the football cheer squad.

"I'm very excited," Ferren said. "I liked the atmosphere there and I chose to go there so I could cheer

in competition and cheer for the football team.

"The people there were really nice and I loved the campus."

Dodson, who leaves CAK as the second leading scorer, will attend Oglethorpe where she will play for the Stormy Petrels and coach Alex Richey.

"I love Coach Richey and I love the atmosphere there," said Dodson, who will enter the school as an undeclared major but is interested in studying biology. "I love Atlanta."

"I'm used to a smaller school and I can come home if I need to. I love my [future] teammates. They all made me feel at home. It's a good fit."

Nichols, who excelled in football, wrestling and soccer for the Warriors,

will join another former KIL standout at Wheaton College. Former Farragut High School running back Jackson Fain will begin his senior season there this fall.

"I really like Jackson," Nichols said. "I've worked out with him and he's a great guy."

"The things that appealed to me about Wheaton were the degree, the level of competition and the people. I liked the fact that you have small classes and a Christian environment. Billy Graham went to school there."

Nichols said that Chicago was a great sports town and noted that he looks forward to seeing the Cubs play at Wrigley Field.

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Bearden eliminates Rebels on emotional night 7-2

By Ken Lay

Bearden High School boys soccer coach Ryan Radcliffe admitted that soccer took a back seat Thursday night but he knew that his top-seeded Bulldogs had to play a District 4-AAA Tournament semifinal.

Bearden (16-3) did play and win as it eliminated fourth-seeded West High School with a 7-2 victory at Bruce Allender Field.

But the match, which was originally scheduled for Wednesday night, was postponed a day after a West High sophomore and junior varsity soccer player, Brown Smith, was killed in a car accident.

"It was just one of those mixed-emotion things," Radcliffe said. "It was one of those times when you don't want to let a sport get in the way of the day."

"But give West credit for even coming here and showing up to play. They have a good team. They have some good players and you can definitely say that West High soccer is back on the rise."

Smith's brother, Boyett,



PHOTO BY DAN ANDREWS

Bearden's Will Lewis heads the ball over West defender Ben Pietre and goalkeeper Boyett Smith in the Bulldogs' 7-2 win over the Rebels.

is the starting goalkeeper for the Rebels, who finish the 2016 campaign with an 11-6-1 record after struggling in each of the last two seasons. He played Thursday night and had a tough evening between the goalposts as Bearden scored five goals in the first 36 minutes despite having to shake off a little rust.

"I thought [the match] was a little rusty because we hadn't played in about two weeks," Radcliffe said. "It had been at least a week-and-a-half since we played our last game."

The District 4-AAA Tournament began with the quarterfinals on Monday, May 9. The Rebels opened tournament play with a 2-1

win over Hardin Valley Academy at Bill Wilson Field. Conversely, the Bulldogs (the regular-season champions) had a first-round bye because Lenoir City was ineligible for the post-season due to a brawl in its league match against Farragut earlier in the year.

Once Bearden found its touch, things were decided

in a hurry.

Kelvin Garcia, who had a first half hat trick and finished with four goals, gave the home side a 1-0 lead when he converted a penalty kick in the 14th minute.

Will Lewis extended Bearden's advantage to 2-0 when he beat Smith with a header in the 20th minute. The Bulldogs picked up

their third marker of the night when T.J. Seaman scored on another header approximately six minutes later.

The Rebels pulled to within 3-1 when Damian Meir tallied a goal on a direct kick in the 27th minute.

Garcia polished off his hat trick as he scored a pair of tallies to close out the scoring in the first half.

He and Lewis scored two goals after halftime for the Bulldogs, who played the championship match against Maryville on Saturday (results were unavailable at press time).

Both Bearden and Blount County's Rebels have advanced to Tuesday's Region 2-AAA Tournament.

Maryville (14-3-2) outlasted third-seeded Farragut 2-1 in the other semifinal Wednesday night at John Sevier Elementary School.

On Thursday, Knox County's Rebels got one more goal when Meir scored in the waning seconds of the game and of West High's 2016 season.

Q&A with Rashaan Gaulden

Continued from page 1

nickelback position and I helped him with pointers after games.

KF: What did you learn going through all that?

RG: I went back to basics. I told myself that I won't get complacent anymore as far as feeling entitled or taking a practice for granted because you never know when a season can be taken away or football can be taken away.

KF: This Tennessee secondary is deep and has experience across the board. How good can you guys be?

RG: Our secondary can be really good and one of the best units on our defense, but we want to play complimentary defense. Our (defensive) line will be really good, our linebackers are really good. All the competition at cornerback and the safety position elevates our game. All the guys pushing each other every day to reach your max potential as a secondary... it will be great battle and competition.

KF: Your roommate is (Tennessee safety) Todd Kelly Jr...

RG: He's picked up the torch from (recently departed) Brian Randolph and LaDarrell

McNeil. He's one of those really

cerebral guys. We have a close bond. I can ask him questions about playing safety now that I've moved to that position. He's filled that leadership role and is trying to make me a leader as well.

KF: Todd played at Webb School; you are an in-state guy too... Do the guys from Tennessee take even more responsibility to get the Vols back among the elite teams in the nation?

RG: Yes, we take a huge responsibility. We are very active in recruiting guys. Our job is to give a great pitch that we had one of best mid-state classes to ever come through here... this 2017 class coming up has real talent and I feel they can be up with us. We can start this pipeline and bring in championships for this program.

KF: Certainly the expectations are high for this Tennessee team heading into the 2016 season. How do you guys deal with the hype?

RG: We ignore the hype. We see what we have every day, and we know we are going to be special. It's just putting our best guys out there, follow the coach's plans and trust each other and bond.

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Andrew (Drew) Dixon,
Valedictorian

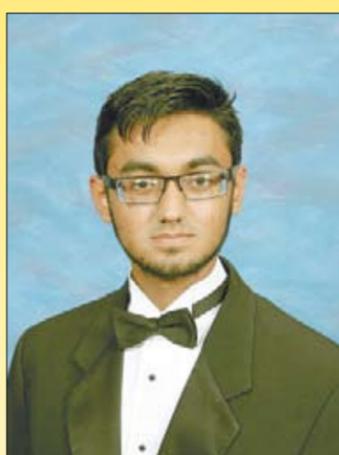


Tyler Pollard,
Salutatorian

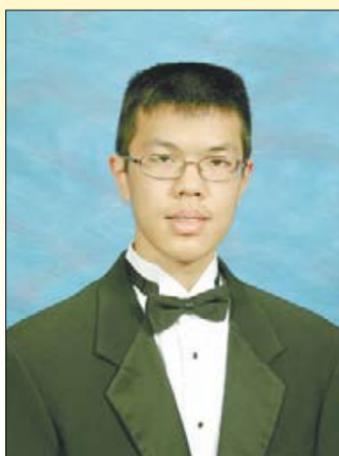
Farragut High



Liana Hu,
Valedictorian



Ronik Sheth,
Salutatorian



Daniel Yan,
Salutatorian

King's Academy



Danielle Quesinberry,
Valedictorian



Hanna Wilbourn,
Valedictorian



Samuel Rector,
Salutatorian

Competition at Alabama should push Powell's Tolson

By Steve Williams

A good kick is an asset for a distance runner as well as one skilled in martial arts. Brittany Tolson knows that as much as anyone.

The Powell senior has earned all-state honors in her high school career as a runner and also has a black belt in karate, according to her dad/track coach Doug Tolson, who mentioned his and Pam's son Brien, a 7th grader, also has a black belt.

Brittany set a new school record in the 1600-meter run at the KIL Track and Field Championships May 4 but said she "got jostled around a little bit in the first lap" of the 800 run, her second race that night.

"It was pretty tough," she said.

Apparently, those doing the jostling didn't know Brittany has a black belt. She took the rugged race in stride.

After competing in her final KIL meet, Tolson enjoyed talking about her 1600 time of 5 minutes, 8.98 seconds and signing with the University of Alabama earlier this spring.

"In the 1600 I ran my best time by six seconds," said Brittany, who came in third place. "I'm really happy with how it went and I felt good during it."

Strong competition may have been a key factor in Tolson posting her best time ever in the event. Rebecca Story, Christian Academy of Knoxville standout, and West's Megan Murray, a UT commitment, placed first and second, respectively.

Tolson frowned about finishing eighth in the 800 and running about four seconds slower than her PR. She first said she was a "little sore" from running the 1600 earlier, and then noted getting jostled around.

Tolson will run cross country and track at Alabama. She earned all-state honors in cross country last fall when she came in 11th place at the state in Class AAA.

"When I visited Alabama I liked the campus," said Brittany. "I thought it was a nice school. The coaches seemed supportive and they've got a good distance program they're building there right now, so I decided to be a part of it."

Even if she is from Big Orange Country, where her dad was a 3-time All-American distance runner in the 1980s.

"Most people actually have been supportive even though a lot of people around here are for the Vols," said Brittany, who visited ETSU and Tennessee before making her decision. "I've gotten a lot of support and I'm thankful."

Okay, Doug, what about your daughter going to Alabama?

"I know," he replied. "That sounds crazy doesn't it? I still have my Orange and White that I wear. But she chose a good school."

"They're one of the top in the SEC right now. Their recruiting class this year is going to include 11 or 12 freshmen distance runners from around the country, so she is going to have a really



PHOTO BY STEVE WILLIAMS

Brittany Tolson of Powell cut six seconds off her personal record in the 1600-meter event at this year's KIL meet. She'll be continuing her track career at the University of Alabama.

good core group of runners to run with for the next four years. That's huge for her since she really hasn't had anyone to train with since she has been at the high school. That will help her to further herself and improve."

As of May 13, Tolson's other PRs are 1:05.08 in the 400 dash, 2:24.59 in the 800 run, 11:08.49 in the 3200 and 18:51 in the 5K (cross country).

Coach Tolson was pleased with Brittany's 1600 run in the KIL.

"She ran well today," he said. "She continues to get better. We're just hoping that she'll take a couple more steps, and by the state meet hopefully she's ready to compete for the championship. We'll see."

Brittany said she plans to major in kinesiology, "the study of movement." Kinesiology is utilized in physical therapy, which she is considering for a career.

Locos made more noise than those cowbells

Starkville, mostly known for its cowbells, got a little crazier this past weekend. The Locos were in town.

That zany group of softball fans who make UT home games a hoot traveled to Mississippi to support the Lady Vols in the SEC tournament.

How do I know they were there?

I heard them on the radio broadcast as Tennessee played South Carolina Thursday afternoon.

"Aubrey Leach ... Reach" ... "Hit it down the line Vine, Hit it down the line" ... "G Money" ... "Fear the Geer" - their popular chants using players' names could easily be heard in the background.

Brian Rice, who was doing the play-by-play, even took a moment during the game to thank the Locos and express how much they are appreciated by the UT coaches and players, particularly at games on the road.

The Lady Vols are 22-1 in home games this season and the Locos have helped make that happen. Depending on their seeding in the upcoming NCAA tournament, Tennessee probably will host a regional tournament starting Friday and possibly a super regional beginning May 26.

The Locos will be there and probably in Oklahoma City too for the College World Series, if the Lady Vols make it that far.

The Locos are in their third season and include



By Steve Williams

eight "regulars," said Terry Blevins, serving as a spokesman for the group at a home game earlier this season. "We're a little bit of a mixed group. (Mixed-up

group may be more accurate) Some are graduates of UT and some are former softball players at a pretty high level.

"We're big Tennessee fans and season ticket holders of different sports. We tried out softball one time and loved it."

"We've kind of been embraced by the coaches and players and everybody. It's just been a lot of fun and has grown from there. We just love getting the crowd involved."

A news guy, said Blevins, gave them their name. No, it's not short for the locomotives that pass by Lee Stadium occasionally.

No, it just has to do with craziness, said Blevins.

"We started to be the 'crazies,' but Duke was that cornered. So somebody said Lady Vol Locos."

The two males among the "regulars" are Blevins and Michael Beeler, who lead the cheers with booming voices. The female regulars are Sharon Taylor, Debbie Barker, Debi Hyatt, Lora Fowler, Patty

Cawrse and Kelly Litton. Sometimes there might be as many as 15 Locos at a home game.

"The number fluctuates based on peoples' schedules," said Blevins. "A lot just come for the day and like to participate."

The Locos welcome all

orange hairs and fresh lungs.

"It's a little different," laughs Terry. "Obviously, we're adults. We're out here yelling and screaming like crazy with hats on, so it's not everybody's cup of tea."

The Locos' seats are at the top of the stands and there's a small patio-like area behind their section where they can place their many signs and props. The only negative is that visiting fans are pretty close to their section.

"Sometime they don't like what we do," said Terry. "Last year in the regionals, a Florida State lady threw a bottle of water at us. She was not happy."

It could have been worse. It could have been a spear.

Locos don't hassle the opponents.

"Very little if at all," said Blevins. "We try to be positive. It's mostly cheering for our team. Now in college baseball, fans sometimes scout out opposing players and say mean things about their mommas. We don't do that."

"But sometimes in the heat of competition, the yelling and cheering can get under your skin. Some people have gotten upset, but most people have received us well and complimented us as far as providing a good environment. We welcome the opponents."

One of these days, if they haven't already, the Locos should roll out a Big Orange carpet for their guests. Now wouldn't that be nice. Real nice.

The Knoxville Focus Health & Well Being

section
D
May 16, 2016

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The Doctor is in

a weekly column by
Dr. Jim Ferguson

Survivor

What a difference a day makes. Arguably, I was the same person the day before my latest PET scan cleared me of recurrent cancer. But that's logic speaking rather than the roller coaster of emotions associated with what I call the "beast."

I have mixed emotions about telling my story. Many have encouraged me to do so, but I've resisted for a variety of reasons. Privacy is an obvious issue, but more importantly is that I didn't want pity or to appear maudlin. There's a fine line between sharing your pain and dishonest stoicism. Sympathy is feeling sorry for someone else's trouble. Empathy is projecting yourself into the experiences of another with the belief that you understand and share those feelings. I decided to speak out, not in the hope of sympathy or empathy,

but in the hope that someone might gain from my insights and experiences.

A sign hangs at the M.D. Anderson Cancer hospital in Houston. It reads, "From the moment of your cancer diagnosis you become a survivor." I've found this to be true. I see myself as a member of the survivor clan. There's a separateness among this "clan" which is not bigotry. Once you've been diagnosed with cancer, the world is forever changed. Cures occur with modern medicine. And the tincture of time heals much of the anxieties of recurrence, even though it may not cure the memory of the "beast."

Though I remain engaged in the world of the living, those without cancer seem somehow different or apart from my clan, even though I would not wish membership

in this clan for anyone. Many days my wife Becky carries me emotionally. I'm more of a pessimist than Becky who usually sees the cup half full rather than half empty.

It may sound strange, but there are blessings in difficulties. My wife and I are known as Becky and Jim, or vice versa for the last forty-one years. I've often wondered why one name precedes the other when speaking of a couple. Perhaps the dominant personality is the deciding factor or one is better known. None the less, Becky and I are a pair in spirit and function, though each has gifts differing. We have become closer during this ordeal. Illness sometimes challenges a person's faith. Mine has become stronger (see Romans 5:3). And I can now more readily identify with Psalmist who sang in chapter 118: verse 24, "This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it."

In recent essays I've discussed alternate realities, higher dimensions and man's limited vision even with science. Perhaps some see this as too arcane or metaphysical and prefer the nuts and bolts of internal medicine. However, all will someday become sick and everyone will "pass-on." I like this phrase better

than passing-away. For me there's a better sense continuation and transition with passing-on.

An atheist or materialist would view my successful treatment as a result of science, surgery and innovative medication. He might ascribe my successful outcome to fortune, a word we get from ancient Rome and their goddess Fortuna. And while he may be right, he might also be completely wrong. A materialist demands objective proof of God and discounts even nature as a sign of Providence's handiwork.

Most of life is based on probability rather than possibility. It is possible the sun has just gone nova, exploded and we won't know of it for another seven minutes (it takes light eight minutes and twenty seconds to travel from the sun to the earth). This is so highly improbable that I'm not in the least worried and expect the sun to "rise" tomorrow. Which is more probable: the universe formed like some cosmic soap bubble from a non-measurable realm euphemistically referred to as the "quantum foam," or that which we call God imparted energy to something we now know as space and time, replete with physics and creatures now look up at the stars in wonder?

Soren Kierkegaard was a Danish philosopher and theologian who coined the term, "leap of faith." His logic is profound, but I'll caution you, dry as toast. Nonetheless, his concepts remain important. A friend of mine speaks of a "simple faith" which I see as analogous to Kierkegaard's leap. For me, faith is complex, though it is not blind. Science and knowledge, tradition and wisdom, reason and the Bible bring me to the doorstep or interface between what I know and what I can never know because the latter is outside my space and time.

Atheism is a militant denial of God. Apostasy is a falling away from God after hearing of and comprehending the Way. Agnosticism means that God is irrelevant in your life or you don't know whether God exists.

Our country and western civilization is at war with radical Islam whether our leaders and the politically correct can utter the truth. Make no mistake, ISIS and similar ilk either believe they are soldiers of God or they are using religion as a facade. I believe the rank and file Islamists, if not most of the leaders/Ayatollahs, hold to the former perspective. You should ask yourself what motivates our leaders.

William James is identified with the philosophy of pragmatism. He was an atheist, but became fascinated by those who had a religious perspective. After an exhausting study he concluded in his book that when there are two opposed perspectives and there is no incontrovertible evidence that either is right, a rational man is free to choose the system that works best for him.

The Russian novelist Dostoevsky once said, "If someone proved to me that Christ is outside the truth . . . then I should prefer to remain with Christ rather than with the truth." This would not be my perspective. However, since there is no incontrovertible proof that theism or atheism is correct, I am free to choose.

By definition, God is unprovable by human standards and I believe undeniable as well. I am a scientist and a theist. These two disciplines of exploring the universe are not as discordant as some might argue. I choose probability, science and the wisdom of the ages to bring me to the threshold of faith. It is there that I leap.

You may email Dr. Ferguson at fergusonj@knoxfocus.com

The fireflies are coming!

"In the foothills of the Great Smoky Mountains, a young boy enjoys the wonder of a hot, summer night catching fireflies. However, these are unique fireflies. It is the synchronous firefly. On the other side of the world, a young boy from Southeast Asia enjoys the same thrills of the fireflies on a hot, summer night, once



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

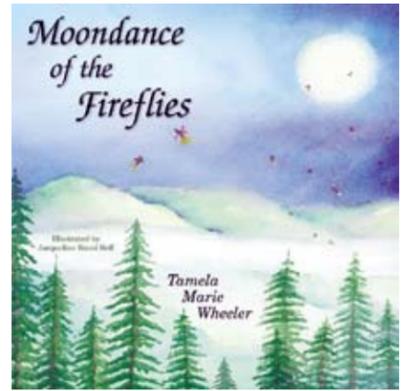
again showing us that no matter where children might live, they all experience the joys of nature and the excitement of discovering the natural world." The story of two little boys enjoying the spectacular light show of the synchronous fireflies sounds exactly like something a teacher would write. The teacher was Tamela Marie Wheeler. This amazing story is told in her book, "Moondance of the

Fireflies."

Sadly, Tamela passed away suddenly just before her book was to be published. Thankfully, her family went ahead with this entertaining and educational gem so that children could benefit from Tamela's years of teaching and her talent for writing. The display of fireflies in the Elkmont area of the Smokies draws thousands each year and seems much more magnificent than the lightning bugs my brother and I caught in the backyard on summer evenings many

years ago.

Now, I think of Tamela every year at the first mention of the synchronous firefly event. Focus readers may purchase "Moondance of the Fireflies" by e-mailing ralphine3@yahoo.com or by calling 865-679-2917. The cost is \$9.95 plus shipping and handling. What a great way to share with children the marvelous sights of nature in God's great world! This wonderful little book will be a treasure for children to enjoy over and over.



Cover of Tamela Wheeler's "Moondance of the Fireflies," provided by Jan-Carol Publishing, Inc.



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Piedmont Baptist Church Celebrates 125 Years

The citizens of Piedmont sensed more and more the need of a church in their community. That sense peaked in May 1891, when Baptist ministers issued a call for an assembly of citizens of Piedmont to organize a Baptist church. In answer to the call, the citizens of Piedmont met in Meadow Brook school house on Saturday, May 23, 1891 for the purpose of organizing a Baptist church. The church met in Meadow Brook school house until the church could be built. On April 7, 1894, a lot was purchased to build the church on at the cost of \$95.

During the life of the church, the church has been housed in three different buildings. The first was destroyed by lightning and the second was torn down to make way for the present building. When the first church burned, in July 1913, the bell was destroyed. As the men worked faithfully to rebuild the church in four months, the women went door to door to ask for eggs or chickens to purchase a bell. That bell still rings loud and clear in the present church.

On May 22, 2016, the congregation will be celebrating 125 years of faithful service and outreach to the Piedmont community for the cause of Christ. Part of this celebration will be the ringing of that same church bell, 125 times, remembering those faithful members and all members that have served throughout the years.

We would like to invite everyone to come be a part of our celebration. Piedmont Baptist is located at 1226 W Dumplin Valley in Dandridge.

Continued on page 4



Rosie's World

Did you ever stop and count your blessings? Name them one by one? In the dictionary the word blessing is defined as enjoying happiness, bringing pleasure and confer prosperity and well-being. That covers a lot of ground. It's also a short prayer before a meal or the act of one who blesses.

There are countless blessings surrounding us in our daily living. To be blessed with good health, to be surrounded by God's beautiful nature, friends are a bonus blessing, family is an every-day blessing. A roof over our heads, food on our tables each meal-- what a blessing these are.

Then there are people who

Count your blessings

say, I am not blessed. No home, not enough food, no job, I am ill-- but they have forgotten our blessings in disguise performed by angels in our communities. People who continuously help those who need it. Food banks, home builders, homeless shelters, used clothing stores, doctors and nurses--each in their own way are our blessings.

*Come, Thou fount of every blessing,
tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
Streams of mercy never ceasing,
Call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
Sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount--I'm fixed upon it--
Mount of Thy redeeming love.*

Written by Robert Robinson, an English minister and hymn

writer. When he was a small boy his father passed away. With no father to guide him he fell in with a group of rowdy young men. One day they harassed a drunken gypsy who told Robert he would live to see his children and grandchildren. He thought, "if I live to see my children and grandchildren, I'll have to change my way of living." At the age of twenty, he made peace with God and became a Methodist minister.

So many blessings come our way that we're unaware of at the time. As time goes by we realize that we're truly blessed and it's time to count our blessings!

Thought for the day: Those who bring sunshine into the lives of others, cannot keep it from themselves. J.M. Barrie, creator of Peter Pan.

Send comments to: rosemerr@att.net. Thank you.

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

FORECLOSURE NOTICES NOTICE OF SUBSTITUE TRUSTEE'S SALE

WHEREAS, default has occurred in the performance of the covenants, terms and conditions of a Deed of Trust dated January 24, 2006, executed by ROBERT A. LONGMIRE, TAMMIE L. LONGMIRE, conveying certain real property therein described to EAST TENNESSEE TITLE PROFESSION, as Trustee, as same appears of record in the Register's Office of Knox County, Tennessee recorded February 2, 2006, at Instrument Number 200602020065340;

and WHEREAS, the beneficial interest of said Deed of Trust was last transferred and assigned to U.S. Bank N.A., as trustee, on behalf of the holders of the J.P. Morgan Mortgage Acquisition Trust 2006-NC1 Asset Backed Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2006-NC1 who is now the owner of said debt;

and WHEREAS, the undersigned, Ruben Lublin TN, PLLC, having been appointed as Substitute Trustee by instrument to be filed for record in the Register's Office of Knox County, Tennessee,

NOW, THEREFORE, notice is hereby given that the entire indebtedness has been declared due and payable, and that the undersigned, Ruben Lublin TN, PLLC, as Substitute Trustee or his duly appointed agent, by virtue of the power, duty and authority vested and imposed upon said Substitute Trustee will, on **June 16, 2016 at 10:00 AM** at the City/County Lobby of the Knox County Courthouse, located in Knoxville, Tennessee, proceed to sell at public outcry to the highest and best bidder for cash or certified funds ONLY, the following described property situated in Knox County, Tennessee, to wit:

SITUATED IN DISTRICT SIX OF KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE, WITHOUT THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE, AND BEING KNOWN AND DESIGNATED AS LOT 3, BLOCK D, ECHO VALLEY, UNIT 2, AS SHOWN ON THE PLAT OF THE SAME OF RECORD IN PLAT 60-S, PAGE 431, IN THE REGISTER'S OFFICE FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE, TO WHICH PLAT SPECIFIC REFERENCE IS HEREBY MADE FOR A MORE PARTICULAR DESCRIPTION; AND ACCORDING TO THE SURVEY OF KENNETH D. CHURCH, SURVEYOR, DATED OCTOBER 26, 1998, BEARING WORK ORDER NO. 98-10-30. SUBJECT TO ANY AND ALL APPLICABLE RESTRICTIONS, EASEMENTS AND BUILDING SETBACK LINE AS ARE SHOWN IN THE RECORDS IN THE KNOX COUNTY REGISTER'S OFFICE.

Parcel ID: 132ED-003
PROPERTY ADDRESS: The street address of the property is believed to be **505 VILLA CREST DR, KNOXVILLE, TN 37923**. In the event of any discrepancy between this street address and the legal description of the property, the legal description shall control.

CURRENT OWNER(S): ROBERT A. LONGMIRE, TAMMIE L. LONGMIRE

OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES: CITIFINANCIAL, INC. The sale of the above-described property shall be subject to all matters shown on any recorded plat; any unpaid taxes; any restrictive covenants, easements or set-back lines that may be applicable; any prior liens or encumbrances as well as any priority created by a fixture filing; and to any matter that an accurate survey of the premises might disclose. This property is being sold with the express reservation that it is subject to confirmation by the lender or Substitute Trustee. This sale may be rescinded at any time. The right is reserved to adjourn the day of the sale to another day, time, and place certain without further publication, upon announcement at the time and place for the sale set forth above. All right and equity of redemption, statutory or otherwise, homestead, and dower are expressly waived in said Deed of Trust, and the title is believed to be good, but the undersigned will sell and convey only as Substitute Trustee. The Property is sold as is, where is, without representations or warranties of any kind, including fitness for a particular use or purpose.

THIS LAW FIRM IS ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

Rubin Lublin TN, PLLC, Substitute Trustee
119 S. Main Street, Suite 500
Memphis, TN 38103
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Tel: (877) 813-0992 Fax: (404) 601-5846

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SUBSTITUE TRUSTEE'S SALE

Sale at public auction will be on **June 13, 2016 on or about 11:00AM** local time, at the North door, Knox County Courthouse, Knoxville, Tennessee, conducted by the Substitute Trustee as identified and set forth herein below, pursuant to Deed of Trust executed by DANIEL BEASON AND TONYA G. BEASON, to MARY L ARONOV, Trustee, on October 1, 2004, as Instrument No. 200410110030566 in the real property records of Knox County Register's Office, Tennessee.

Owner of Debt: U.S. BANK N.A. IN ITS CAPACITY AS TRUSTEE FOR CSFB HOME EQUITY PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2006-FIX1 TRUST, CSFB HOME EQUITY PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2005-FIX1

The following real estate located in Knox County, Tennessee, will be sold to the highest call bidder subject to all unpaid taxes, prior liens and encumbrances of record:

BEING THE SAME PROPERTY LOCATED IN KNOX COUNTY: 7500 QUARRY RD. KNOXVILLE, TN 37938

SITUATED IN THE 6TH CIVIL DISTRICT OF KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE, WITHOUT THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF KNOXVILLE

and WHEREAS, the undersigned, Ruben Lublin TN, PLLC, having been appointed as Substitute Trustee by instrument to be filed for record in the Register's Office of Knox County, Tennessee, NOW, THEREFORE, notice is hereby given that the entire indebtedness has been declared due and payable, and that the undersigned, Ruben Lublin TN, PLLC, as Substitute Trustee or his duly appointed agent, by virtue of the power, duty and authority vested and imposed upon said Substitute Trustee will, on **June 16, 2016 at 10:00 AM** at the City/County Lobby of the Knox County Courthouse, located in Knoxville, Tennessee, proceed to sell at public outcry to the highest and best bidder for cash or certified funds ONLY, the following described property situated in Knox County, Tennessee, to wit:

SITUATED IN DISTRICT NO. SEVEN OF KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE, AND WITHIN THE 30TH WARD OF THE CITY OF KNOXVILLE, AND BEING KNOWN AND DESIGNATED AS ALL OF LOT 21, BLOCK B, HOLSTON HEIGHTS SUBDIVISION, UNIT 5, AS SHOWN BY MAP OF RECORD IN MAP BOOK 21, PAGE 44, IN THE REGISTER'S OFFICE FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE, AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: BEGINNING AT AN IRON PIN AT THE INTERSECTION OF THE NORTHEAST LINE OF TYNEMOUTH DRIVE WITH THE SOUTHEAST LINE OF EXEMOUTH DRIVE; THENCE FROM SAID BEGINNING POINT ALONG EXEMOUTH DRIVE, NORTH 19 DEG. 10 MIN. EAST, 67.76 FEET TO AN IRON PIN; THENCE SOUTH 82 DEG. 09 MIN. EAST, 139.9 FEET TO AN IRON PIN; THENCE SOUTH 28 DEG. 42 MIN. WEST, 20.0 FEET TO AN IRON PIN; THENCE SOUTH 34 DEG. EAST 75.0 FEET TO AN IRON PIN; THENCE SOUTH 68 DEG. 12 MIN. WEST, 142.3 FEET TO AN IRON PIN IN THE NORTHEAST LINE OF TYNEMOUTH DRIVE; THENCE WITH TYNEMOUTH, NORTH 33 DEG. 59 MIN. WEST, 108 FEET TO AN IRON PIN, THE PLACE OF BEGINNING, AS SHOWN BY SURVEY OF STANLEY E. HINDS, SURVEYOR, DATED MAY 26, 1986. MAP & PARCEL NO. 083H/D/016 PROPERTY ADDRESS: 4304 TYNEMOUTH DR, KNOXVILLE, TN. 37914 INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, 10 FT. EASEMENTS ON EXTERIOR LOT LINES WITH 5 FT. INTERIOR LOT LINE EASEMENTS AS WELL AS 15 FT. SEWER EASEMENTS WITH 7.5 EACH SIDE OF LINE. ANY AND ALL MATTERS OF RECORD, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, RESTRICTIONS, BUILDING SETBACK LINES, AND ANY EASEMENTS OF RECORD IN MAP BOOK 21 PAGE 44, IN THE REGISTER'S OFFICE FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE.

and WHEREAS, the undersigned, Ruben Lublin TN, PLLC, having been appointed as Substitute Trustee by instrument to be filed for record in the Register's Office of Knox County, Tennessee, NOW, THEREFORE, notice is hereby given that the entire indebtedness has been declared due and payable, and that the undersigned, Ruben Lublin TN, PLLC, as Substitute Trustee or his duly appointed agent, by virtue of the power, duty and authority vested and imposed upon said Substitute Trustee will, on **June 16, 2016 at 10:00 AM** at the City/County Lobby of the Knox County Courthouse, located in Knoxville, Tennessee, proceed to sell at public outcry to the highest and best bidder for cash or certified funds ONLY, the following described property situated in Knox County, Tennessee, to wit:

SITUATED IN DISTRICT NO. SEVEN OF KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE, AND WITHIN THE 30TH WARD OF THE CITY OF KNOXVILLE, AND BEING KNOWN AND DESIGNATED AS ALL OF LOT 21, BLOCK B, HOLSTON HEIGHTS SUBDIVISION, UNIT 5, AS SHOWN BY MAP OF RECORD IN MAP BOOK 21, PAGE 44, IN THE REGISTER'S OFFICE FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE, AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: BEGINNING AT AN IRON PIN AT THE INTERSECTION OF THE NORTHEAST LINE OF TYNEMOUTH DRIVE WITH THE SOUTHEAST LINE OF EXEMOUTH DRIVE; THENCE FROM SAID BEGINNING POINT ALONG EXEMOUTH DRIVE, NORTH 19 DEG. 10 MIN. EAST, 67.76 FEET TO AN IRON PIN; THENCE SOUTH 82 DEG. 09 MIN. EAST, 139.9 FEET TO AN IRON PIN; THENCE SOUTH 28 DEG. 42 MIN. WEST, 20.0 FEET TO AN IRON PIN; THENCE SOUTH 34 DEG. EAST 75.0 FEET TO AN IRON PIN; THENCE SOUTH 68 DEG. 12 MIN. WEST, 142.3 FEET TO AN IRON PIN IN THE NORTHEAST LINE OF TYNEMOUTH DRIVE; THENCE WITH TYNEMOUTH, NORTH 33 DEG. 59 MIN. WEST, 108 FEET TO AN IRON PIN, THE PLACE OF BEGINNING, AS SHOWN BY SURVEY OF STANLEY E. HINDS, SURVEYOR, DATED MAY 26, 1986. MAP & PARCEL NO. 083H/D/016 PROPERTY ADDRESS: 4304 TYNEMOUTH DR, KNOXVILLE, TN. 37914 INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, 10 FT. EASEMENTS ON EXTERIOR LOT LINES WITH 5 FT. INTERIOR LOT LINE EASEMENTS AS WELL AS 15 FT. SEWER EASEMENTS WITH 7.5 EACH SIDE OF LINE. ANY AND ALL MATTERS OF RECORD, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, RESTRICTIONS, BUILDING SETBACK LINES, AND ANY EASEMENTS OF RECORD IN MAP BOOK 21 PAGE 44, IN THE REGISTER'S OFFICE FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE.

Parcel ID: 083H/D/016
PROPERTY ADDRESS: The street address of the property is believed to be **4304 TYNEMOUTH DRIVE, KNOXVILLE, TN 37914**. In the event of any discrepancy between this street address and the legal description of the property, the legal description shall control.

CURRENT OWNER(S): BONNIE LEGRANDE, GERALDINE LEGRANDE

OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES: SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT The sale of the above-described property shall be subject to all matters shown on any recorded plat; any unpaid taxes; any restrictive covenants, easements or set-back lines that may be applicable; any prior liens or encumbrances as well as any priority created by a fixture filing; and to any matter that an accurate survey of the premises might disclose. This property is being sold with the express reservation that it is subject to confirmation by the lender or Substitute Trustee. This sale may be rescinded at any time. The right is reserved to adjourn the day of the sale to another day, time, and place certain without further publication, upon announcement at the time and place for the sale set forth above. All right and equity of redemption, statutory or otherwise, homestead, and dower are expressly waived in said Deed of Trust, and the title is believed to be good, but the undersigned will sell and convey only as Substitute Trustee. The Property is sold as is, where is, without representations or warranties of any kind, including fitness for a particular use or purpose.

THIS LAW FIRM IS ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

Rubin Lublin TN, PLLC, Substitute Trustee
119 S. Main Street, Suite 500
Memphis, TN 38103
www.rublinlublin.com/property-listings.php
Tel: (877) 813-0992 Fax: (404) 601-5846

Ad #97383:
2016-05-16 2016-05-23, 2016-05-30

SUBSTITUE TRUSTEE'S SALE

Default having been made in the terms, conditions, provisions and payments made and provided for in a Deed of Trust dated September 11, 2008, executed by Daniel R. Hodges, Single, to George V. Crawford, Jr., Trustee, and recorded in 20080912-0018262, and subject to an Assignment of Leases as Collateral in 20080912-0018263, Register's Office for KNOX COUNTY, Tennessee, to secure the indebtedness therein described, and the entire indebtedness having been called due and payable as provided in said deed of trust, and said payment not having been made, and the lawful owner and holder of said indebtedness having appointed the undersigned, David G. Mangum, as substitute trustee by written instrument dated April 26, 2016, recorded in Instrument No. 20160429-0062568, in the above mentioned Register's Office, notice is hereby given that I, the undersigned substitute trustee, or my authorized agent, under the power and authority vested in me by said deed of trust, and having been requested to do so by the lawful owner and holder of said debt, will on **Tuesday, May 31, 2016 at 11:00 a.m.**, Eastern Standard Time, at the front (revolving) door of the City-County Building on Main Street, Knoxville, Tennessee, sell at public outcry to the highest and best bidder for cash, free from the equity of redemption, homestead and dower, and all other exemptions and rights of every kind, all of which are expressly waived in said deed of trust, the following described tract or parcel of land situated and lying

in Knox County, Tennessee, and more particularly described as follows, to-wit:

SITUATED IN District Five of Knox County, Tennessee, and within the 39th Ward of the City of Knoxville, Tennessee, being all of Lot 5A and Part of Lot 5B, of the Resubdivision of Tract No.5 in Lee McClain's Subdivision, as shown on map of the same of record in Map Book 17, page 85, Cabinet B, Slide 220A, in the Register's Office for Knox County, Tennessee, and being more particularly bounded and described as follows:

BEGINNING on an iron pin on the north side of Victor Road (also known as Victor Drive), corner to property formerly owned by Miller and now or formerly owned by Joe Clayton, Trustee (as described in Deed Book 1933, page 676), located North 35 deg. 55 min. East, 231.2 feet from an iron pin set at the intersection of the north line of said Victor Road with the east line of U.S. Highway No. 25-W (Clinton Highway); thence with said Clayton, North 35 deg. 41 min. West, 335.28 feet to an angle iron in the line of land now or formerly owned by Loveday; thence with said line of Loveday, North 37 deg. 38 min. 49 sec. East, 136.91 feet to a nail in said Loveday's line and corner to property formerly owned by McClain and now or formerly owned by Harvey Jackson Porter (as described in Deed Book 1587, page 207); thence with said Porter, South 39 deg. 19 min. 28 sec. East, 327.18 feet to an iron pin in the north line of Victor Road, corner to said Porter; thence with the north line of said Victor Road, South 36 deg. 46 min. 14 sec. West, 159.35 feet to an iron pin, the point of BEGINNING, containing 1.09 acres.

DEED REFERENCE: Being the same property conveyed to Daniel R. Hodges by deed from Michael H. Fancher dated July 10, 2003 of record in 20030715-0006073, said Register's Office.

SUBJECT to any and all existing easements, setback lines and restrictive covenants of record in said Register's Office including but not limited to All Matters on the Plan of Resubdivision of Tract No. 5 in Lee McClain's Subdivision in Map Book 17, Page 85 and Cabinet B, Slide 220-A, said Register's Office.

The description was taken from the deed of trust being foreclosed on of record in 20080912-0018262, said Register's Office.

MAP/PARCEL: 068-K-A-062
PROPERTY ADDRESS: **809 Victor Drive, Knoxville, Tennessee 37912** as shown on the public records of the Assessor of Property for Knox County, TN.

This sale is subject to any and all unpaid real estate taxes; restrictive covenants, easements and setback lines; any and all redemption rights, including rights of redemption of any governmental agency, State or Federal; and any and all other prior liens or encumbrances against said real property. Said sale is further subject to matters that an accurate survey of the property might disclose.

The property sold pursuant to this notice shall be sold "AS IS" and neither the Successor Trustee nor the beneficiary of the Deed of Trust, nor any agent or attorney therefore, makes or shall make any warranty, whether express or implied, as to the condition, quality or quantity thereof, including, but not limited to, the enforceability of any lease affecting the property, the existence or absence of defaults under or the effect or this sale upon the rights of any party under such lease. The Successor Trustee shall make no warranty of title, express or implied, and will sell and convey the subject real property by successor Trustee's Deed only.

The Trustee may adjourn or postpone the aforementioned sale of real property by public announcement at such time and place of sale, and from time to time thereafter may postpone such sale by public announcement at the time and place fixed by the preceding postponement or subsequently noticed sale, and without further notice make such sale at the time fixed by the last postponement, or may, in its discretion, give a new notice of sale. If applicable, the Notice requirements of T.C.A. § 35-5-117 have been met.

The failure of any high bidder to pay the purchase price and close the sale shall, at the option of the Substitute Trustee, be cause for rejection of the bid, and, if the bid is rejected, the Substitute Trustee shall have the option of making the sale to the next highest bidder who is ready, willing, and able to comply with the terms thereof. The proceeds derived from the sale of the property will be applied as provided for in said deed of trust.

Terms of Sale: Cash
Substitute Trustee: David G. Mangum
2303 Franklin Road
Nashville, TN 37204
(615) 255-8690

Interested Parties: Estate of Daniel R. Hodges
Heirs of Daniel R. Hodges
Corporation Service Company,
UCC Financing Statement

Publish Newspaper: The Knoxville Focus
Editions dated: Monday, May 9, May 16, and May 23, 2016
DGM File #70345

NOTICE OF SUBSTITUE TRUSTEE'S SALE

WHEREAS, default has occurred in the performance of the covenants, terms and conditions of a Deed of Trust dated February 15, 2009, executed by BONNIE LEGRANDE, GERALDINE LEGRANDE, conveying certain real property therein described to ALAN E. SOUTH, as Trustee, as same appears of record in the Register's Office of Knox County, Tennessee recorded June 15, 2009, at Instrument Number 200906150082257;

and WHEREAS, the beneficial interest of said Deed of Trust was last transferred and assigned to Reverse Mortgage Solutions, Inc. who is now the owner of said debt;

and WHEREAS, the undersigned, Ruben Lublin TN, PLLC, having been appointed as Substitute Trustee by instrument to be filed for record in the Register's Office of Knox County, Tennessee,

NOW, THEREFORE, notice is hereby given that the entire indebtedness has been declared due and payable, and that the undersigned, Ruben Lublin TN, PLLC, as Substitute Trustee or his duly appointed agent, by virtue of the power, duty and authority vested and imposed upon said Substitute Trustee will, on **June 2, 2016 at 10:00 AM** at the City/County Lobby of the Knox County Courthouse, located in Knoxville, Tennessee, proceed to sell at public outcry to the highest and best bidder for cash or certified funds ONLY, the following described property situated in Knox County, Tennessee, to wit:

SITUATED IN DISTRICT NO. SIX (6) OF KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE, WITHOUT THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE, AND BEING KNOWN AND DESIGNATED AS LOT 3, BLOCK C, CONCORD WOODS SUBDIVISION, UNIT 2, AS SHOWN ON MAP OF SAME OF RECORD IN MAP BOOK 68-S, PAGE 4, IN THE REGISTER'S OFFICE FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE, SAID PROPERTY BEING BOUNDED AND DESCRIBED AS SHOWN ON MAP OF AFORESAID ADDITION, TO WHICH MAP SPECIFIC REFERENCE IS HEREBY MADE FOR A MORE PARTICULAR DESCRIPTION; AND ACCORDING TO THE SURVEY OF LARRY A. DOSS, DATED NOVEMBER 26, 1988.

Parcel ID: 153BE002
PROPERTY ADDRESS: The street address of the property is believed to be **11224 CONCORD WOODS DRIVE, KNOXVILLE, TN 37934**. In the event of any discrepancy between this street address and the legal description of the property, the legal description shall control.

CURRENT OWNER(S): EPHRAIM PHILLIPS, TRACI ANN WALDO

OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES: The sale of the above-described property shall be subject to all matters shown on any recorded plat; any unpaid taxes; any restrictive covenants, easements or set-back lines that may be applicable; any prior liens or encumbrances as well as any priority created by a fixture filing; and to any matter that an accurate survey of the premises might disclose. This property is being sold with the express reservation that it is subject to confirmation by the lender or Substitute Trustee. This sale may be rescinded at any time. The right is reserved to adjourn the day of the sale to another day, time, and place certain without further publication, upon announcement at the time and place for the sale set forth above. All right and equity of redemption, statutory or otherwise, homestead, and dower are expressly waived in said Deed of Trust, and the title is believed to be good, but the undersigned will sell and convey only as Substitute Trustee. The Property is sold as is, where is, without representations or warranties of any kind, including fitness for a particular use or purpose.

THIS LAW FIRM IS ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

Rubin Lublin TN, PLLC, Substitute Trustee
119 S. Main Street, Suite 500
Memphis, TN 38103
www.rublinlublin.com/property-listings.php
Tel: (877) 813-0992 Fax: (404) 601-5846

Ad #97702:
2016-05-16 2016-05-23, 2016-05-30

SUBSTITUE TRUSTEE'S SALE

Default having been made in the terms, conditions, provisions and payments made and provided for in a Deed of Trust dated September 11, 2008, executed by Daniel R. Hodges, Single, to George V. Crawford, Jr., Trustee, and recorded in 20080912-0018262, and subject to an Assignment of Leases as Collateral in 20080912-0018263, Register's Office for KNOX COUNTY, Tennessee, to secure the indebtedness therein described, and the entire indebtedness having been called due and payable as provided in said deed of trust, and said payment not having been made, and the lawful owner and holder of said indebtedness having appointed the undersigned, David G. Mangum, as substitute trustee by written instrument dated April 26, 2016, recorded in Instrument No. 20160429-0062568, in the above mentioned Register's Office, notice is hereby given that I, the undersigned substitute trustee, or my authorized agent, under the power and authority vested in me by said deed of trust, and having been requested to do so by the lawful owner and holder of said debt, will on **Tuesday, May 31, 2016 at 11:00 a.m.**, Eastern Standard Time, at the front (revolving) door of the City-County Building on Main Street, Knoxville, Tennessee, sell at public outcry to the highest and best bidder for cash, free from the equity of redemption, homestead and dower, and all other exemptions and rights of every kind, all of which are expressly waived in said deed of trust, the following described tract or parcel of land situated and lying

in Knox County, Tennessee, and more particularly described as follows, to-wit:

SITUATED IN District Five of Knox County, Tennessee, and within the 39th Ward of the City of Knoxville, Tennessee, being all of Lot 5A and Part of Lot 5B, of the Resubdivision of Tract No.5 in Lee McClain's Subdivision, as shown on map of the same of record in Map Book 17, page 85, Cabinet B, Slide 220A, in the Register's Office for Knox County, Tennessee, and being more particularly bounded and described as follows:

BEGINNING on an iron pin on the north side of Victor Road (also known as Victor Drive), corner to property formerly owned by Miller and now or formerly owned by Joe Clayton, Trustee (as described in Deed Book 1933, page 676), located North 35 deg. 55 min. East, 231.2 feet from an iron pin set at the intersection of the north line of said Victor Road with the east line of U.S. Highway No. 25-W (Clinton Highway); thence with said Clayton, North 35 deg. 41 min. West, 335.28 feet to an angle iron in the line of land now or formerly owned by Loveday; thence with said line of Loveday, North 37 deg. 38 min. 49 sec. East, 136.91 feet to a nail in said Loveday's line and corner to property formerly owned by McClain and now or formerly owned by Harvey Jackson Porter (as described in Deed Book 1587, page 207); thence with said Porter, South 39 deg. 19 min. 28 sec. East, 327.18 feet to an iron pin in the north line of Victor Road, corner to said Porter; thence with the north line of said Victor Road, South 36 deg. 46 min. 14 sec. West, 159.35 feet to an iron pin, the point of BEGINNING, containing 1.09 acres.

DEED REFERENCE: Being the same property conveyed to Daniel R. Hodges by deed from Michael H. Fancher dated July 10, 2003 of record in 20030715-0006073, said Register's Office.

SUBJECT to any and all existing easements, setback lines and restrictive covenants of record in said Register's Office including but not limited to All Matters on the Plan of Resubdivision of Tract No. 5 in Lee McClain's Subdivision in Map Book 17, Page 85 and Cabinet B, Slide 220-A, said Register's Office.

The description was taken from the deed of trust being foreclosed on of record in 20080912-0018262, said Register's Office.

MAP/PARCEL: 068-K-A-062
PROPERTY ADDRESS: **809 Victor Drive, Knoxville, Tennessee 37912** as shown on the public records of the Assessor of Property for Knox County, TN.

This sale is subject to any and all unpaid real estate taxes; restrictive covenants, easements and setback lines; any and all redemption rights, including rights of redemption of any governmental agency, State or Federal; and any and all other prior liens or encumbrances against said real property. Said sale is further subject to matters that an accurate survey of the property might disclose.

The property sold pursuant to this notice shall be sold "AS IS" and neither the Successor Trustee nor the beneficiary of the Deed of Trust, nor any agent or attorney therefore, makes or shall make any warranty, whether express or implied, as to the condition, quality or quantity thereof, including, but not limited to, the enforceability of any lease affecting the property, the existence or absence of defaults under or the effect or this sale upon the rights of any party under such lease. The Successor Trustee shall make no warranty of title, express or implied, and will sell and convey the subject real property by successor Trustee's Deed only.

The Trustee may adjourn or postpone the aforementioned sale of real property by public announcement at such time and place of sale, and from time to time thereafter may postpone such sale by public announcement at the time and place fixed by the preceding postponement or subsequently noticed sale, and without further notice make such sale at the time fixed by the last postponement, or may, in its discretion, give a new notice of sale. If applicable, the Notice requirements of T.C.A. § 35-5-117 have been met.

The failure of any high bidder to pay the purchase price and close the sale shall, at the option of the Substitute Trustee, be cause for rejection of the bid, and, if the bid is rejected, the Substitute Trustee shall have the option of making the sale to the next highest bidder who is ready, willing, and able to comply with the terms thereof. The proceeds derived from the sale of the property will be applied as provided for in said deed of trust.

Terms of Sale: Cash
Substitute Trustee: David G. Mangum
2303 Franklin Road
Nashville, TN 37204
(615) 255-8690

Interested Parties: Estate of Daniel R. Hodges
Heirs of Daniel R. Hodges
Corporation Service Company,
UCC Financing Statement

Publish Newspaper: The Knoxville Focus
Editions dated: Monday, May 9, May 16, and May 23, 2016
DGM File #70345

WHEREAS, default has occurred in the performance of the covenants, terms and conditions of a Deed of Trust dated February 15, 2009, executed by BONNIE LEGRANDE, GERALDINE LEGRANDE, conveying certain real property therein described to ALAN E. SOUTH, as Trustee, as same appears of record in the Register's Office of Knox County, Tennessee recorded June 15, 2009, at Instrument Number 200906150082257;

and WHEREAS, the beneficial interest of said Deed of Trust was last transferred and assigned to Reverse Mortgage Solutions, Inc. who is now the owner of said debt;

and WHEREAS, the undersigned, Ruben Lublin TN, PLLC, having been appointed as Substitute Trustee by instrument to be filed for record in the Register's Office of Knox County, Tennessee,

NOW, THEREFORE, notice is hereby given that the entire indebtedness has been declared due and payable, and that the undersigned, Ruben Lublin TN, PLLC, as Substitute Trustee or his duly appointed agent, by virtue of the power, duty and authority vested and imposed upon said Substitute Trustee will, on <

Finding God's Will in Prayer



By Mark Brackney, Minister of the Arlington Church of Christ

The best place to be in life is right in the middle of God's will. God's will for you simply is this: to give Him glory as you surrender your life to His Lordship and advance His kingdom. God tells us in His Word how to remain in His moral will. We are told the difference between right and wrong. But some things are not so clear. How do I know if it is God's will if I should stay with my current job or take a different one? How can I know if I need to stay in my current house or buy

a different one? How about where I should go to college or whom I am to marry? Well, there might not be a specific Bible verse attached to the decision you are trying to make, but God's Spirit will help make things clear if we ask in prayer.

One way God reveals His will is through peace: "Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful" (Col. 3:15). "And the peace of God, which transcends all

understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus" (Phil. 4:7).

If you have no peace about a particular decision, then don't do it. God brings peace, not worry.

Another tool God uses to show His will is by opening and closing doors. Note what Jesus revealed to the church at Sardis: "I know your deeds. See, I have placed before you an open door that no one can shut. I know that you have little strength, yet you have kept my word and have not denied my name" (Rev. 3:8).

Paul talked about

opened and closed doors as he was trying to figure where to take the gospel next: "Paul and his companions traveled throughout the region of Phrygia and Galatia, having been kept by the Holy Spirit from preaching the word in the province of Asia" (Acts 16:6). There are times the door is closed, and that may mean to stay right where you are. Other times Paul was given a green light to move on: "Now when I went to Troas to preach the gospel of Christ and found that the Lord had opened a door for me" (2 Cor. 2:12).

Keep in mind that the

open door God is giving you may not be the easiest choice. Sometimes the most difficult, fearful, or even painful path is the one God wants you to take. Jesus understood this well as the door God opened for Him led to the cross, yet Jesus prayed, "...not my will, but yours be done" (Luke 22:42).

The Holy Spirit is a huge help as well: "And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God" (Romans 8:27). The Holy Spirit helps us in accepting what our physical eyes may not

be able to see clearly.

A good prayer to pray when trying to make a decision is this: "Lord, what would please and honor you the most in this situation?"

Reserve your legal or public notice by emailing legals@knoxfocus.com or calling (865) 686-9970.

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

NON-RESIDENT NOTICE

To: DAVID NATHANIEL GOLDSTON IN RE: SARAH JANE LANGMAN vs. DAVID NATHANIEL GOLDSTON NO. 191397-2
IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE
In this Cause, it appearing from the Complaint filed, which is sworn to, that the Defendant DAVID NATHANIEL GOLDSTON, a non-resident of the State of Tennessee, or whose whereabouts cannot be ascertained upon diligent search and inquiry, so that the ordinary process of law cannot be served upon DAVID NATHANIEL GOLDSTON, it is Ordered that said Defendant DAVID NATHANIEL GOLDSTON file an Answer with the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court at Knoxville, Tennessee and with Jerry R. Givens, an Attorney whose address is 4706 Papermill Drive, Knoxville, TN 37909 within thirty (30) days of the last date of publication or a judgment by default will be taken against you and the cause will be set for hearing Ex-Parte as to you before Chancellor Clarence E. Pridemore, Jr. at the Knox County Chancery Court, Division II, 400 Main Street, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902. This Notice will be published in The Knoxville Focus newspaper for four (4) consecutive weeks.
This the 13th day of April, 2016.

/s/ HOWARD G. HOGAN
Clerk and Master
To be published 4/18/2016, 4/25/2016, 5/2/2016 and 05/09/16

NON-RESIDENT NOTICE

TO: HECTOR OROZCO VELA IN RE: MARIA ELIZABETH OROZCO PURULLA AND HECTOR OROZCO PURULLA JR NO. 191572-3
IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE
In this Cause, it appearing from the Complaint filed, which is sworn to, that the Defendant, HECTOR OROZCO VELA, a non-resident of the State of Tennessee, or whose whereabouts cannot be ascertained upon diligent search and inquiry, so that the ordinary process of law cannot be served upon HECTOR OROZCO VELA, it is Ordered that said Defendant, HECTOR OROZCO VELA, file an Answer with the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court at Knoxville, Tennessee and with Jerry R. Givens, an attorney whose address is 706 Papermill Drive, Knoxville, TN 37909 within thirty (30) days of the last date of publication or a judgment by default will be taken against you and the cause will be set for hearing Ex-Parte as to you before Chancellor Mike Moyers at the Knox County Chancery Court, Division III, 400 Main Street, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902. This notice will be published in The Knoxville Focus newspaper for four (4) consecutive weeks.
This 9th day of April, 2016.

/s/ HOWARD G. HOGAN
Clerk and Master
To be published: 5/16/2016, 5/23/2016, 5/30/2016 and 6/06/2016

NON-RESIDENT NOTICE

TO: ALVIN JEROME WATSON IN RE: JULIE ANNETTE SCOTT v. ALVIN JEROME WATSON NO. 191214-2
IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE
In this Cause, it appearing from the Complaint filed, which is sworn to, that the Defendant, ALVIN JEROME WATSON, a non-resident of the State of Tennessee, or whose whereabouts cannot be ascertained upon diligent search and inquiry, so that the ordinary process of law cannot be served upon ALVIN JEROME WATSON, it is Ordered that said Defendant, ALVIN JEROME WATSON, file an Answer with the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court at Knoxville, Tennessee and with W. Brian Starnes, an attorney whose address is 9041 Executive Park Drive #106, Knoxville, TN 37923 within thirty (30) days of the last date of publication or a judgment by default will be taken against you and the cause will be set for hearing Ex-Parte as to you before Chancellor Clarence E. Pridemore, Jr. at the Knox County Chancery Court, Division II, 400 Main Street, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902. This notice will be published in The Knoxville Focus newspaper for four (4) consecutive weeks.
This 15th day of April, 2016.

/s/ HOWARD G. HOGAN
Clerk and Master
To be published: 4/25/2016, 5/2/2016, 5/9/2016 and 5/16/2016

ORDER OF PUBLICATION

IN THE JUVENILE COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE
CURTIS AND MARANDA BOWNNESS, Petitioner v. KATRINA DAWN GHESQUIRE, Respondent
IN THE MATTER OF:

HOPE MARIE BUCKNER DOB: 1/8/14 A CHILD UNDER EIGHTEEN (18) YEARS OF AGE

Docket No. _____
It appearing to the Court from the sworn allegations of the Petition to Terminate Parental Rights and the Affidavit of Diligent Search in this cause that the whereabouts of the Respondent are unknown and cannot be ascertained by diligent search so that ordinary process of law cannot be served upon her, it is, therefore, ORDERED that Respondent be served by publication of the following notice for four (4) consecutive weeks in The Knoxville Focus, a newspaper of general circulation published in Knoxville, Tennessee. It is further ORDERED that if the Respondent does not enter an appearance or otherwise answer the petition, further personal service or service by further publication shall be dispensed with and service of any future notices, motions, orders or other legal documents in this matter may be made upon the Respondent by filing the same with the Clerk of the Juvenile Court of Knoxville County, Tennessee.

NOTICE
Curtis and Maranda Bownness have filed a petition against you seeking to terminate forever your parental rights to Hope Marie Buckner. It appears that ordinary process of law cannot be served upon you because your whereabouts are unknown. You are hereby ORDERED to file an Answer to the Petition for Termination of Parental Rights with the Clerk of the Juvenile Court of Knoxville County, Tennessee, 3323 Division Street, Knoxville, Tennessee 37919, and to serve a copy of that Answer upon Heidi Wegryn, Attorney for Curtis and Maranda Bownness, 6731 Lyons View Pike, Suite 211, Knoxville, Tennessee 37919, within thirty (30) days of the last date of publication of this notice, which will be May 16, 2016, and/or appear for trial on July 12, 2016, at 9:00 AM, at Knox County Juvenile Court. If you fail to do so, a judgment will be taken against you pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. 36-1-117(n), Rule 55 of the Tenn. R. of Civ. P., and Rules 1 and 39 of the Tenn. R. of Juv. P. for the relief demanded in the petition. You may view and obtain a copy of the petition and any other subsequently filed legal documents in the Juvenile Court Clerk's Office at 3323 Division Street, Knoxville, Tennessee 37919.

ENTER this the 21st day of April, 2016.
HONORABLE TIMOTHY IRWIN, JUDGE
Honorable Timothy Irwin, Judge

PREPARED BY:
Heidi Wegryn, BPR #017171
5731 Lyons View Pike Suite 211
Knoxville, TN 37919

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Estate of MAE ESTHER SUMMERS Docket Number 77636-1
Notice is hereby given that on the 5th day of May, 2016, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of MAE ESTHER SUMMERS, who died July 12, 2015, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred.

(1) (A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of this first publication; or (B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1) (A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death
This the 5th day of May, 2016
Estate of MAE ESTHER SUMMERS
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
MYRA PAIGE HOLT, Executrix
10707 Alderbrook Place
Louisville, KY 40299
SCOTT B. HAHN
Attorney at Law
5344 N Broadway, Ste 101
Knoxville, TN 37918
PUBLISH: 5/09/2016 & 5/16/2016

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Estate of CLYDE H. YOUNG Docket Number 77608-3
Notice is hereby given that on the 28th day of April, 2016, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of CLYDE H. YOUNG, who died Mar 30, 2016, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred.

(1) (A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of this first publication; or (B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1) (A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death
This the 2nd day of May, 2016
Estate of GWENDOLYN COBB WICKER
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
SARAH RUDISILL, Administratrix
CATHERINE W. WATSON, Executrix
5412 Inwood Rd
St. Petersburg, FL 33713-1722
PUBLISH: 5/09/2016 & 5/16/2016

actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1) (A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death
This the 28th day of April, 2016
Estate of CLYDE H. YOUNG
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
CLYDE T. YOUNG, Executor
832 Smoke Creek Rd
Knoxville, TN 37934
PUBLISH: 5/09/2016 & 5/16/2016

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Estate of DEBORAH KAY SURRETTE Docket Number 77573-1
Notice is hereby given that on the 21st day of April, 2016, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of DEBORAH KAY SURRETTE, who died Jan 27, 2016, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred.

(1) (A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of this first publication; or (B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1) (A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death
This the 21st day of April, 2016
Estate of DEBORAH KAY SURRETTE
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
KATINA HARSHAW, Administratrix
7618 Blacksberry Rd
Knoxville, TN 37931
PUBLISH: 5/09/2016 & 5/16/2016

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Estate of DENVER L. COLLINS Docket Number 77627-1
Notice is hereby given that on the 3rd day of May, 2016, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of DENVER L. COLLINS, who died Mar 14, 2016, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred.

(1) (A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of this first publication; or (B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1) (A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death
This the 3rd day of May, 2016
Estate of DENVER L. COLLINS
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
TERESA RUSH, Executrix
2031 Price Ave
Knoxville, TN 37920
PUBLISH: 5/09/2016 & 5/16/2016

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Estate of GWENDOLYN COBB WICKER Docket Number 77587-3
Notice is hereby given that on the 2nd day of May, 2016, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of GWENDOLYN COBB WICKER, who died Feb 7, 2016, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred.

(1) (A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of this first publication; or (B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1) (A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death
This the 2nd day of May, 2016
Estate of GWENDOLYN COBB WICKER
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
SARAH RUDISILL, Administratrix
2708 - 34th Ave N
St. Petersburg, FL 33713-1722
PUBLISH: 5/09/2016 & 5/16/2016

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Estate of PATRICIA CARLENE LAUDERDALE Docket Number 77594-1
Notice is hereby given that on the 26th day of April, 2016, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of PATRICIA CARLENE LAUDERDALE, who died Apr 6, 2016, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred.

(1) (A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of this first publication; or (B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1) (A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death
This the 26th day of April, 2016
Estate of PATRICIA CARLENE LAUDERDALE
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
SARAH RUDISILL, Administratrix
2708 - 34th Ave N
St. Petersburg, FL 33713-1722
PUBLISH: 5/09/2016 & 5/16/2016

Knoxville, TN 37921
PUBLISH: 5/09/2016 & 5/16/2016

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Estate of IRENE BERTHA SUTTON Docket Number 77413-3
Notice is hereby given that on the 27th day of April, 2016, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of IRENE BERTHA SUTTON, who died Jan 26, 2016, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred.

(1) (A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of this first publication; or (B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1) (A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death
This the 27th day of April, 2016
Estate of IRENE BERTHA SUTTON
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
STEVE DENVER SUTTON, Executor
7737 Martin Mill Pike
Knoxville, TN 37920
WILLIAM B. HICKMAN
Attorney at Law
PO Box 5415
Knoxville, TN 37928
PUBLISH: 5/09/2016 & 5/16/2016

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Estate of PATRICIA ANN BROWN Docket Number 77596-3
Notice is hereby given that on the 26th day of April, 2016, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of PATRICIA ANN BROWN, who died May 4, 2015, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred.

(1) (A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of this first publication; or (B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1) (A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death
This the 26th day of April, 2016
Estate of PATRICIA ANN BROWN
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
JUDITH ASHLEY THOMPSON, Executrix
7625 Saddlebrooke Dr
Knoxville, TN 37938
ROBERT W. GODWIN
Attorney at Law
4611 Old Broadway
Knoxville, TN 37918
PUBLISH: 5/09/2016 & 5/16/2016

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Estate of RUFUS L. LOMAX Docket Number 77582-1
Notice is hereby given that on the 3rd day of May, 2016, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of RUFUS L. LOMAX, who died Jan 25, 2016, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred.

(1) (A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of this first publication; or (B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1) (A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death
This the 3rd day of May, 2016
Estate of RUFUS L. LOMAX
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
JAN LOMAX, Administrator
1525 Hazen St
Knoxville, TN 37915
MITAL D. PATEL
Attorney at Law
PO Box 26072
Knoxville, TN 37912
PUBLISH: 5/09/2016 & 5/16/2016

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Estate of WANDA WYRICK Docket Number 77504-1
Notice is hereby given that on the 27th day of April, 2016, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of WANDA WYRICK, who died Feb 3, 2016, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred.

(1) (A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of this first publication; or (B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1) (A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death
This the 27th day of April, 2016
Estate of WANDA WYRICK
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
JAMES ROBERT WYRICK, Administrator
451 Tammy Dr, Apt 7
Powell, TN 37830
PUBLISH: 5/09/2016 & 5/16/2016

ROBERT W. GODWIN
Attorney at Law
4611 Old Broadway
Knoxville, TN 37918
PUBLISH: 5/09/2016 & 5/16/2016

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Estate of ROBERT A. PEAYS Docket Number 77544-2
Notice is hereby given that on the 26th day of April, 2016, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of ROBERT A. PEAYS, who died Sep 13, 2015, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred.

(1) (A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of this first publication; or (B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1) (A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death
This the 26th day of April, 2016
Estate of ROBERT A. PEAYS
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
KIM L. PEAYS, Administratrix
9601 Tallahassee Lane
Knoxville, TN 37923
PUBLISH: 5/09/2016 & 5/16/2016

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Estate of RWUFUS L. LOMAX Docket Number 77582-1
Notice is hereby given that on the 3rd day of May, 2016, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of RWUFUS L. LOMAX, who died Jan 25, 2016, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred.

(1) (A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of this first publication; or (B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1) (A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death
This the 3rd day of May, 2016
Estate of RWUFUS L. LOMAX
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
JAN LOMAX, Administrator
1525 Hazen St
Knoxville, TN 37915
MITAL D. PATEL
Attorney at Law
PO Box 26072
Knoxville, TN 37912
PUBLISH: 5/09/2016 & 5/16/2016

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Estate of WANDA WYRICK Docket Number 77504-1
Notice is hereby given that on the 27th day of April, 2016, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of WANDA WYRICK, who died Feb 3, 2016, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred.

(1) (A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of this first publication; or (B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1) (A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death
This the 27th day of April, 2016
Estate of WANDA WYRICK
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
JAMES ROBERT WYRICK, Administrator
451 Tammy Dr, Apt 7
Powell, TN 37830
PUBLISH: 5/09/2016 & 5/16/2016

PUBLISH: 5/09/2016 & 5/16/2016

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Estate of WILMA E. BROWN Docket Number 77619-2
Notice is hereby given that on the 2nd day of May, 2016, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of WILMA E. BROWN, who died Feb 28, 2016, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred.

(1) (A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of this first publication; or (B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1) (A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death
This the 2nd day of May, 2016
Estate of WILMA E. BROWN
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
BRADLEY C. DAVENPORT, Executor
566 Circle Dr NW
Pigeon Forge, TN 37863
LAWRENCE E. LITTLE
Attorney at Law
900 E Hill Ave, Ste 130
Knoxville, TN 37915
PUBLISH: 5/09/2016 & 5/16/2016

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Estate of CECIL FRANKLIN STEPHENS Docket Number 77583-2
Notice is hereby given that on the 22nd day of April, 2016, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of CECIL FRANKLIN STEPHENS, who died Mar 5, 2016, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred.

(1) (A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of this first publication; or (B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1) (A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death
This the 22nd day of April, 2016
Estate of CECIL FRANKLIN STEPHENS
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
DENISE STEPHENS HOWARD, Administratrix
7704 Kes

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Continued from page 2

PK Hope is Alive Meeting

PK HOPE IS ALIVE PARKINSON SUPPORT GROUP of East Tennessee would like to invite you to the monthly meeting on Tuesday, May 17 at 11:30 a.m. in Oak Ridge at Kern United Methodist Church in their Family Life Center, located at 451 East Tennessee Ave., Oak Ridge.

The speaker this month will be Justin Kullgren, Clinical Pharmacist and Teacher at South College School of Pharmacy. Kullgren will talk about how to treat and medicate the disease of Parkinson's, understanding the progression of the disease and looking at the different medications available.

For more information please see the website: www.pkhopeisalive.org or call Alan Zimmerman at (865)693-5721.

Powell Republican Club Meeting

The Powell Republican Club will meet on Thursday, May 19, 2016 at the Shoney's on Emory Road and I-75. The meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m. The guest speaker will be Willie Lane from the Knox County District Attorney's Office-Domestic Violence Unit.

United Daughters of the Confederacy Meeting

The Captain W. Y. C. Hannum Chapter #1881, United Daughters of the Confederacy will meet at The TN Bank in Maryville, 1311 W. Lamar Alexander Pkwy, Maryville, TN 37801 on Saturday, May 21, 2016 at 10:30 a.m. Maryville Mayor Tom Taylor will be the guest speaker. Visitors are welcome to attend. For more information, please call 856-9300 (Debra) or 531-1467 (Shirley).

Volunteer Driven Program - Is In Need of Volunteer Drivers!

CAC's Volunteer Assisted Transportation program is seeking volunteer drivers to assist seniors and people with disabilities to medical appointments, shopping trips, beauty appointments, and other fun activities! Professional training and vehicles provided.

Volunteers will drive agency-owned, hybrid sedans or wheelchair accessible mini-vans and receive training to include First Aid and CPR certification.

Volunteers are needed for weekdays, evenings and weekends. Drivers must be 21 years of age and have at least 3 years of driving experience. Thank you for considering to donate your time to help out Knoxville area seniors and people with disabilities.

Become a professional Volunteer Driver today! Call (865)673-5001 to help a senior out or email nancy.welch@cactrans.org.

Hobo Visits Cumberland Gap National Park

Hobo the Wonder Dog and I have joined in the celebration of the National Park Service's centennial year. The first stop on our tour is the Cumberland Gap National Historical Park in Middleboro, Kentucky. Growing up in the Cumberland Gap area enriched my life with memories, experiences, and a deeper appreciation of our National Park Service. True to my belief that life is better with a dog, I set out on a journey to visit the National Parks within a day's drive. I hope to inspire others to celebrate the Park Service's 100th birthday with us and your dog. The Cumberland Gap is rich in history— from the stories of legendary frontiersman Daniel Boone, the Cherokee and Shawnee Indians, to Dr. Thomas Walker to name a few. I am not a historian of Cumberland Gap history but a strong advocate of experiencing the beauty and history of the region. The park offers hiking trails from a quarter mile to adventures into the backcountry. Whether you come to hike or explore, the Cumberland Gap gives you the opportunity to step back in time and experience the beauty and the abundance of wildlife that enticed frontiersman and settlers alike to the Cumberland Gap. From the Pinnacle Overlook to the Iron Furnace, the park



By Howard Baker, RN BSN

offers something for everyone to explore.

Hobo and I had the pleasure of hiking the two-mile fitness trail with Park Superintendent Sula Jacobs and Park Ranger Carol Borneman. We traveled to the park to learn firsthand their policies for hiking with your dog in the Cumberland Gap National Park. Leashed dogs are welcome in the park. Remember, when you are in public with your dog you represent all dog owners and the park is no different. Dogs must be under control at all times, on a leash no longer than six feet, excrement disposed of in a trash receptacle or removed into the wood line at least fifteen feet from any public use area. Be good stewards for all dog owners. It is simple: control your dog and leave nothing on the trail except paw prints.

Hobo loved his experience in the Cumberland Gap National Historical Park. Hobo gives the park five wags for their pet policies and offering of dog-themed events or opportunities. We found the park staff enthusiastic about having dogs and their families enjoying the park. From hiking to camping, Fido is welcome to join in the adventure.

Shopping: The city of Cumberland Gap is one of the most pet friendly



Hobo the Wonder Dog, Howard Baker, Cumberland Gap National Park Superintendent Sula Jacobs

places we have traveled. Art galleries, specialty shops, souvenirs, and antiques offer something for everyone in this small historic town. Hobo prowled around Gertie's Commissary of antiques and old stuff—an interesting store with friendly staff.

Dining: Middlesboro and Cumberland Gap offer pet friendly dining in outside areas.

- Angelo's in the Gap—Italian Restaurant and Pub large outdoor deck area for dogs
- Gap Creek Coffee House—Coffee, Food, Ice Cream & More outdoor creek side area for dogs
- The Pineapple Tea Room & Coffee Shoppe outside area for dogs
- Shades Café & Steakhouse Downtown

Middlesboro outside courtyard pet friendly

Lodging:

- Cumberland Gap Inn, Downtown Cumberland Gap
 - Cumberland Gap National Park (campgrounds)
 - Pine Mountain State Park (limited pet availability) cabin rentals
- The Cumberland Gap National Park and the area offer great opportunities for you and the whole family to enjoy. Whether you live in the area or you travel to the Cumberland Gap National Park, there's an adventure. Visit www.hobothewonderdog.com for pictures of Hobo enjoying the Cumberland Gap National Park.

CLASSIFIEDS

SERVICE DIRECTORY

BULLETIN BOARD

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