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Remote Area Medical kicks off 2018 with medical clinic

Remote Area Medical, the largest nongovernmental provider of mobile medical clinics delivering free high-quality dental, vision and medical care to underserved and uninsured individuals, children and families, is coming back to Chilhowee Park's Jacob Building located at 3301 East Magnolia Avenue in Knoxville, Tennessee. RAM's 900th clinic will operate from Wednesday, January 31 through Sunday, February 4. All services are free and no insurance or ID is required.

"We are facing a serious crisis and it is not just poor folks who are suffering," said RAM Founder and President, Stan Brock. "Washington continues to debate the cost of health care, the costs continue to rise, and our numbers are not getting any lower."

Patient parking for the Knoxville clinic will be located on-site and will open at 12 a.m. midnight on Wednesday, January 31. Ticket distribution will begin at 3 a.m., and patients will be seen in chronological order according to their ticket number as clinic doors open at 6 a.m. This process will repeat each clinic day. Services available include dental cleanings, dental fillings, dental extractions, dental x-rays, dentures (on a limited basis), eye exams, eyeglass prescriptions, free eyeglasses made on-site, women's health exams, and general medical exams. Patients of the Knoxville RAM clinic will be able to register their unaltered household pets for free spay/neuter surgery. Pets should not be taken to the RAM clinic.

Data from the Appalachian Regional Commission shows that Appalachian communities, like Knoxville and other nearby areas, face serious disadvantages that negatively affect the health of their residents. In Knoxville alone, poverty rates typically exceed the national average, and there is a disproportionately higher prevalence of poor health and chronic health conditions, as well as a general lack of access to health services and health insurance. Due to these factors, RAM and its corps of volunteers expect to treat more than 2,500 people during the five-day clinic.

Scholars' Bowl begins tonight on PBS

By Mike Steely
steelym@knoxfocus.com

What happens when you have top students from area high schools competing to see who knows the most Literature, Science, Art, Math, Geography, Government, Music, Sports and History trivia?

See for yourself when the East Tennessee PBS Scholars' Bowl kicks off its 34th season tonight at 5:30 p.m. on East Tennessee Public Television. This season 57 teams will represent 47 high schools from East Tennessee and Southeast Kentucky. Ten schools

have two teams taking part this season. The first show features Rockwood High School against East Tennessee State University School. The four-member high school teams' battles will air Monday through Friday at 5:30 on the local public television station.

The "Smart 16" round will begin airing on March 7 and the "Educated 8" on March 19. The final round, beginning on March 23, sees the "Fortuitous Four" face off to ultimately compete for the Frank Miller Memorial Trophy and a \$1,000 cash prize.

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PHOTO COURTESY OF ERNIE ROBERTS.

Students from Alcoa and Temple Baptist High School will face off on Thursday during the first week of the East Tennessee PBS Scholars Bowl.

Little Ponderosa Holds Memorial



PHOTO BY PETE GAWDA.

Charlie the dog and his goat friends are temporarily living in a tent after a fire destroyed the barn at Little Ponderosa Zoo and Rescue.

Area zoo mourns loss, plans for rebuilding

By Pete Gawda

Like a phoenix rising from the ashes, Little Ponderosa Zoo and Rescue is coming back to life after a devastating fire on December 4 that resulted in the death of over 40 animals. The facility, located in nearby Clinton, serves as a refuge for exotic animals that have been abused or abandoned. Owner James Cox plans to reopen March 1. He also said he will continue to provide field trips for school children.

The fire, which was attributed to accidental electrical causes, spread

so quickly there was not time to rescue many of the animals that were housed in the barn. Among the fatalities were seven monkeys including Mikey, who had been there over 20 years, and everyone's favorite, George. George had come from an abusive situation in a drug house and was learning to be friendly with humans. Only two monkeys, who were housed in a separate building, survived. All parrots and a 122-year-old tortoise were also among the fatalities. Even though many of

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Mayoral candidates speak in Karns

By Mike Steely
steelym@knoxfocus.com

Although all three candidates who have announced for Knox County Mayor agree on many things, they do have differences on a few items. The three Republican candidates drew a large audience to the Karns Community Club Tuesday as local citizens and sixteen other local candidates packed the warm house on a very cold evening to hear their platforms.

Terry Hill, school board member and candidate for reelection to her District 6 seat, hosted the meeting and asked half a dozen questions submitted by citizens of Commissioners Brad Anders and Bob Thomas and Glenn Jacobs.

In opening statements, Anders promised to "keep the momentum going" in county government while Jacobs said the biggest threat is big government, and Thomas said he wants to bring the same success to county government as he's had in his professional life.

When asked about growth and the Metropolitan Planning Commission all three candidates said the county should have its own planning commission. Anders said the county has a 28-year-old road plan and has "grown into a rush hour."

When the subjects of raising taxes came up Jacobs and Thomas both said they would not raise property taxes. Anders said that if the county continues to grow at the current rate then no tax increase would be needed but hedged by saying that the county is spending more money than it takes in.

Jacobs said the county "needs to learn to live within our means."

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PHOTO BY MIKE STEELY.

Brad Anders, Glenn Jacobs and Bob Thomas answered questions at the Karns Community Club last week.



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If I Make Homemade Beer, Are There Any Laws in Tennessee That Apply to Me?

Making your own beer has become a hip and trendy thing to do in this day and age. If you fall in to the category of people who are brewing their own beer, are there any Tennessee laws



By Jedidiah McKeethan
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that apply to what you are doing?

Yes, there are. Tennessee Code Annotated section 57-5-111 is actually titled, "Homemade beer."

It states that "homemade beer," is beer made by a person's own efforts and not made for a commercial purpose. No license or permit is

required to make the homemade beer, possess it, transport it, or store it. Someone who makes homemade beer is not allowed to make more than 100

gallons of beer per year if one adult lives in the household, and 200 gallons if two adults live in the household.

Homemade beer made in compliance with the statute may be consumed by the person who made it, their family, neighbors, and friends at any private residence or other private location.

Homemade beer can be used for exhibition, demonstration, judging, tasting, sampling, contest or competition.

Most importantly, the government cannot tax individuals who make homemade beer in compliance with this statute!

Jedidiah McKeethan is an attorney practicing in Knox County and surrounding counties. He works in many areas, including criminal, personal injury, landlord-tenant, probate, and estate planning. Visit attorney-knoxville.com for more information about this legal issue and other legal issues.

Area zoo mourns loss, plans for rebuilding

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the animals in the barn were lost, about 300 animals survived including all those housed in pens outside the barn. Some of the animals escaped with singed fur and a dog named Dolly had stitches after being injured by falling metal during the fire. A truck was also destroyed in the fire.

On Saturday, December 30, a memorial service was held to remember those animals. Cox and his staff wore blue hooded sweatshirts that had the logo of the Little Ponderosa on the front and the names of the deceased animals on the back. Cox's longtime friend, Criminal Judge Don Elledge, was the speaker. He spoke of how Cox started out with pony rides and people began bringing him exotic animal that had been abused or abandoned. Over the time more and more animals were brought in and the facilities were expanded. Elledge also spoke of Cox's friendship with Dan Hagerty, television's "Grizzly Adams. He said they shared a love for animals.

At the appropriate time a cage of white doves was released in memory of the deceased animals. Cox later told The Focus



This concrete slab is all that is left of the barn at Little Ponderosa Zoo and Rescue after a devastating fire killed over 40 animals. The fire spread so quickly there was not time to save the truck seen on the right.

that he grew up watching Grizzly Adams and that was how his love for animals began. He was thrilled years later to be able to meet his childhood hero. Adams had visited the Little Ponderosa not long before he unexpectedly passed away due to cancer.

Until a new barn can be constructed, the zoo is using a temporary building and two tents. The small temporary building will be used for souvenir sales and as an entryway to the undamaged part of the zoo. The smaller tent is used to store produce and animal food. The larger tent, which is equipped with heaters and lights, houses camels, goats,

the two surviving monkeys and other animals that were displaced by the fire. Since there is no backup to the electric heating system, Cox fears a power outage in frigid weather.

Cox is waiting on an architect to draw up plans in order to begin rebuilding. So far \$203,000 has been donated to the nonprofit facility, including about \$200 donated by the students of Halls Elementary School. Cox predicts it will take close to one million dollars to rebuild. Anyone wishing to make a tax deductible contribution can do so through the zoo's website, littleponderosazoo.com.

First District School Board Race draws interest

By Mike Steely
steelym@knoxfocus.com

Almost lost among the numerous county office candidates vying for positions in this year's election is the race for Knox County School Board. The non-partisan election already has numerous candidates but much of the focus is on the race in District 1.

School board member and former Vice Chairperson Gloria Deathridge is leaving office after eight years and, thus far, three people have picked up petitions for that seat. The 1st District is Knox County's most "urban district" and includes East Knoxville from the river all the way through downtown Knoxville and ending just east of Pond Gap. It includes the neighborhoods of Lonsdale, Fort Sanders, Downtown, Holston Hills and Chilhowee.

Deathridge's term on the board sided her usually with Chairman Lynne Fugate, who is also leaving office. Fugate, the current 4th District member, served as chair twice during her eight years. So far only Virginia Bibb has declared for the 4th District seat.

Picking up petitions for the 1st District are Andre Canty, Dametraus Jagers and Evetty Satterfield.

The Focus asked each of the District Candidates what they see as the largest issue facing The Knox County School Board.



Andre Canty

"One of the things that will affect the next school board is how to transition from a punitive culture to restorative for administrators, teachers, students, and parents. For that culture to form, it

will be up to the board to work with all components of the system for buy-in and uplifting investment through the budget for support. In the past, the mind state was just to get rid of the "disruptive" students and not explore the root causes that include analyzing implicit bias that has been institutionalized and internalized for decades. The punitive culture of dealing with discipline feeds into the 2.2 million prison population and recent gun violence in the last three years. They will have to deal with grappling with a change in shifting funding to allow faculty to full transform Issues related to this shift in culture deal with cultural competency, the principal academy, PBIS, restorative justice, and the Memorandum of Understanding with law enforcement and schools. The board will have to recognize all people involved as humans and not cogs in a machine. Literacy will continue to be a looming issue to deal with as the gap ever increases. The board will have to deal with innovative and proven systems to increase literacy, particularly in the more rural, lower-income districts.

"The influx of immigrant families in the county will also be an issue the next board will have to deal under a political climate that demonizes them. The passing of the 287 (G) law from the Sheriff department with ICE and attacks towards DACA have caused families, who include native, immigrants, and refugees black and brown, to live in fear and concern. The new board would have to tackle language justice with ELL students, an increase of suspensions of Latinx students, and scarce resources to support their transition in our system. The board will have to embrace our immigrant neighborhoods fully.

"The drug epidemic and mental health in East Tennessee have been affecting the community in all facets, including the families in schools. The board will have to deal with a whole generation addicted through treatment and support instead of criminalization of black youth from the crack epidemic of the 80s and 90s. Recent suicides at Farragut High School is evident

that depression transcends race and class, so the board will to shift resources for more mental health services for students and faculty. As competition and standards for achievement climbs, the pressure students and teachers receive also climbs.

"The push for privatization of schools through some in the state legislature and the federal education secretary has the potential to trickle down locally. School choice will be on the horizon with families having to choose between their home community school and a school perceived a better due to lack of resources. There will be more applications for charter schools from organizations that will call for more autonomy. The emphasis of the importance for public schools will be a constant issue.

"Lastly, the board will have to prepare for a teacher shortage from the Baby Boomers transitioning out and Millennials who are hands on about their teaching future, which is leading to most teaching prospects to choose other places than Knox County. The hesitations for some to come teach here include salary, upward mobility, and a perceived lack of culture. The Board will have to work with other government officials, particularly the county mayor and the commission which approves the budget, to make this county enticing for new teachers, while supporting the great teacher base we have now. "



Dametraus Jagers

"The main issue facing the next school board is the managing of resources to ensure that funding is not allocated in ways that increase current disparities and widen gaps in personnel, programs and student services that our schools, students and families need to be successful. The board will have to be creative, strategic and intentional to make certain that we do the most with what we have while addressing needs across the district," Jagers said.

"The board will also have to work collaboratively with county commission and other local officials to see that Knox County schools are funded at levels that will allow the district to provide all of our students with educational opportunities that are second to none," he said.



Evetty Satterfield

"The main issue before the next school board is the lack of faith in Knox County School system due to unfavorable decisions that have been made in the past. To establish a new sense of trust, there is a need for a cohesive communication system that provides transparency and accountability," said Satterfield.

"A system that includes parents, teachers, students and other stakeholders voices before decisions are made. It will be my objective, as District 1 School Board Representative, to collaborate with said stakeholders to figure out the best method to disseminate information. It is known that having collective input ensures a sense of much-needed ownership from the community," she said.

The qualifying deadline in the local county races, including school board, is February 15th and the withdrawal date is February 22nd. Early voting starts April 11th and the Primary Election Date is May 1st.

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AT LARGE SEAT 10

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Publisher's Position

Bias Against Trump Is Real



By Steve Hunley,
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The basic sense of fair play has to be chaffing a great many Americans, as it is more and more obvious the mainstream media is simply not going to give President Donald Trump anything even resembling fair treatment. Former President Jimmy Carter told the New York Times, "I think the media have been harder on Trump than any other president certainly that I've known about." Carter pointed to reports that have questioned Trump's mental state as going too far. "I think they feel free to claim that Trump is mentally deranged

and everything else without hesitation," Carter said. Of course the American Psychiatric Association and American Psychological Association have time and again reminded folks it is highly unethical for mental health professional to offer opinions, much less pretend to diagnose, people in the public spotlight whom they have never personally examined. Yet thousands of psychologists and psychiatrists signed a petition, which stated President Trump "is mentally ill and must be removed."

The media have been hysterical ever since Trump defeated Hillary Clinton to win the presidency, something they predicted simply could not happen. The media has never been able to accept Clinton's loss, much less admit half the American people rejected the policies of Barack Obama. The press has barely acknowledged the ground lost by ISIS. Ross Douthat, a severe critic of President Trump, wrote in an article for the New York Times, "This is also a

press failure, a case where the media is not adequately reporting an important success because it does not fit into the narrative of Trumpian disaster in which our journalistic entities are all invested."

The media continues to be infuriated by the president gloating at its all too frequent mistakes, which usually occur because news outlets refuse to check facts in the rush to get a story thought to be harmful to Trump on the air or in print. The breathless story about Donald Trump, Jr. being sent an encryption key to view secret Wikileaks emails proved to be untrue. Trump, Jr., as it turns out, received the information after it had already been made public. The Brian Ross case was especially egregious, more so because Ross apparently has done the same thing over and over again. The Washington Post's Dave Weigel posted a photo of a sparsely attended event, which was in reality packed to the rafters for Trump's speech in

Pensacola, Florida. Weigel's post included a snide comment, but when forced to admit the truth cheerfully confessed it was a "bad tweet" and that he should have been called out on it. The fact he posted it in the first place, obviously with the intention of leaving a false impression, lends nothing to the credibility of the news media. CNN has suggested the term "fake news" be banned, yet it certainly does exist.

The FBI has been proven to be certainly more political than anyone would have imagined. Hillary Clinton could get away with calling the Whitewater Investigation as nothing more than a "vast right wing conspiracy", yet there is good reason to suspect the Mueller investigation is biased. The exchange of texts between Peter Strzok and his mistress, surely don't reveal an open and objective mind. It is clear both the investigation into Hillary Clinton's emails and the alleged Russian collusion have been tainted by politics. Nor is it any

coincidence Peter Strzok was involved in both investigations. Strzok actively promoted dissemination of the sordid Fusion GPS dossier, which was paid for by the Clinton campaign and the DNC. That highly question document, which was a perfect fraud, was the source for authorizing government surveillance of the Trump campaign. Strzok, trade some 10,000 texts with his mistress, Lisa Page, an FBI attorney who was also connected to Robert Mueller's Trump investigation. Many of those text messages were anti-Trump in nature.

Bruce Ohr, a deputy attorney general, was quietly demoted for having contact with key figures involved with the Fusion dossier. The notion an official in the Obama administration might be connected to an effort to destroy the GOP presidential nominee would be something of a scandal one would think. Aaron Zebley, oftentimes referred to as Robert Mueller's "right hand man" represented Hillary Clinton's IT

person, Justin Cooper, who set up the unsecure server in her home and took a hammer to her Blackberry. Another Mueller appointee is Andrew Weissman, who praised Acting Attorney General Sally Yates for attempting to defy President Trump's travel ban. Nor was Weissman non-political, as he was in New York City to attend Hillary Clinton's election night party. No less than nine members of Robert Mueller's team have made contributions to either Hillary Clinton's campaign or that of other Democrats. Deputy FBI Director Andrew McCabe is now apparently the target of an investigation for potentially having violated the Hatch Act when his wife ran for a state senate seat in Virginia in 2015. Mrs. McCabe received over \$700,000 in contributions from PACS with connections to Bill or Hillary Clinton.

All in all, it sounds like a vast left-wing conspiracy, but I'll bet you've not read or heard much about it.

Scholars' Bowl begins tonight on PBS

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When the popular academic contest began in 1985 Jefferson County High School won the competition. Since 2008 Oak Ridge and Farragut High Schools have taken the most wins, with Farragut taking the latest honor.

Produced by Ernie Roberts of East Tennessee PBS and hosted by Frank Murphy of Classic Hits 93.1 WNOX, the show is fast paced and features bonus questions for some answers. A winner is declared at the end of each show.

Murphy said that past Scholars' Bowls have seen some close games and noted that one school team lost on the final answer by only five points.

Asked about the most unusual answers he's heard Murphy said that occasionally a student will answer in the form of a question as if they were on Jeopardy and noted that recently he was recognized in a local library by someone who knew him as "the guy on High School Jeopardy."

"That cracks me up," he said.

He also said the show had one team who, when they didn't know the answer, always answered "Smith." That answer was actually correct during a two-part question which surprised the team and the host.

Murphy said it takes about 50 minutes to film the 30-minute show and noted that one show took much longer because a TV monitor malfunctioned and the game had to start all over again.

"But for the most part the show is in real time," he said.

"These are really smart kids and a diverse group," Murphy said.

Questions asked during the show come from a pool of questions submitted by various people including students and professionals.

Roberts said that math questions tend to be the hardest because there are only 6 seconds allowed to respond and 10 seconds for bonus questions. He said that cell phones and smart watches have been banned from the show.

"We have tons and tons of questions," Roberts said, adding, "but we always consider what is reasonable to expect from kids."

"One of the funniest answers came when they were asked what President Andrew Johnson asked to be buried with him. One

of the students answered 'Impeachment Papers.' The correct answer was a copy of the U. S. Constitution," he said.

"The students appear to be very well rounded this year. Recently it seems the

majority of wins are not decided until the final minutes," Roberts said.

"The kids are, for the most part, engaged and the scores are better," he said of the past few seasons.

"Academics don't usually get the praise that athletics does," Roberts said.

Knox County Schools will begin to take part beginning in the January 16 show.



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Legislative lunch speakers critical of short-term rentals

By Mike Steely
steelym@knoxfocus.com

Only one day after the City of Knoxville announced that permits are being issued for owners of short-term rental homes in residential neighborhoods the Greater Knoxville Hospitality Association hosted local state representatives at the Knoxville Museum of Art. The elected representatives heard a spokesperson for the American Hotel and Lodging Association say that the in-home rentals should be restricted to business districts. Attending the luncheon were both Knox County State Senators, several House members, both county and city mayors and staff, and several people running for election.

Keynote speaker Isabela Dorneles told a large audience of elected officials that short-term rentals have "become something we didn't expect." She said that STRs are "no longer a mom and pop

organization" and pushed the legislators to require transparency from Airbnb.

Dorneles asked the legislators to at the least require a basic business registration, collect local and state lodging taxes, and require a commercial license. She charged that STRs are a "multi-million dollar industry" and make more money than any national hotel chain.

She also said that STRs have a lack of safety and transparency and called the in-home rental business "illegal hotels."

Greg Adkins, president of the Tennessee Hospitality and Tourism Association, asked the legislators to make sure short-term rental property owners pay the same taxes and be regulated. He said that a "preemption bill" is in the state legislature now that would be "detrimental to tourism."

He also asked the legislators to consider an extended summer vacation



PHOTO BY MIKE STEELY

The Greater Knoxville Hospitality Association's Legislature Lunch Thursday was packed with elected state and local officials. The "Tourism" event featured various speakers including one who asked the state delegation to limit short-term rentals.

bill for public schools that would add hours to the classroom time and give a couple more weeks of vacation to the students, which he said would help tourism.

Knoxville's new STR regulations allow rentals in residential neighborhoods for owner-occupied homes. Non-owner occupied rentals are allowed downtown and in other commercial areas that permit

residential use. Existing non-occupied rentals that apply for permits in residential areas and have been in operation prior to March 1, 2017 are eligible for a one-year permit.

Applicants are being required to have a business license and pay the same tax rate as hotels and motels. Permits are being issued through the Business Tax Office.

Deadlines this month for neighborhood workshop, awards

By Mike Steely
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Are you involved or want to be involved in your community? If so there are two different events coming up sponsored by the Knoxville Office of Neighborhoods you may find of interest.

January 12th is the deadline to register for an 11 week session on Thursdays, starting January 18, for the "Engaging Neighbors to Develop Stronger Neighborhoods." The sessions pause between March 15 and 22 and resume March 29, ending on April 12.

The sessions are designed for all active members in residents-led, resident controlled neighborhood organizations or for any resident who wishes to start or revive a neighborhood group.

Anyone interested or want a copy of the application can contact Hannah Freeman at "hfreeman@knoxvilletn.gov" or call (865) 215-3456.

If your neighborhood organization has been outstanding, creative, innovative and thinking "outside the box" over the past two years

you might want to enter the Office of Neighborhood's Neighborhood Achievement Awards contest.

It doesn't matter how large or small your neighborhood group is or whether it's a long-established organization or brand new, your group should apply. The awards will showcase neighborhood achievements during the last two years.

The Awards are announced at the Neighborhood Conference on March 24th at the Marriott Hotel and recognized groups will receive \$75 for their organizations for future projects.

To apply you can get an application from Debbie Sharp at dsharp@knoxvilletn.gov or contact her at (865) 215-4382.

Examples of achievements include beautification and place-making projects, green spaces and gardens, projects, events, activities, and new or ongoing communication efforts like newsletters, social networks or phone efforts.

The deadline is Friday, January 26th before 5 p.m.

Inskip funding on county agenda

By Mike Steely
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It has taken a few years but it now appears that the Knox County Commission will approve just over \$5 million for additions and renovations to Inskip Elementary School. The funding is on the agenda as part of the school system's asking approval of a contract with Evans-Ailey Construction, Inc. The north Knoxville elementary has operated for several years with modular classrooms to handle a growing student population.

The commission meets in Work Session on Tuesday, February 16th, at 2 p.m. Their normal meeting would be Monday but the City-County Building will be closed for the Martin Luther King Day Celebration.

The commissioners may also discuss the school system's request for a \$ 37,500 agreement with Millsaps Gowan Government Relations for school lobbying in Nashville as part of the Coalition of Large Area Schools Systems. The matter was deferred from December when some commissioners and a school board member questioned the need for a separate lobbying group at the state legislature.

The Knox County Sheriff's Department is asking the commission to approve overtime funds from the Appalachia High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area, the FBI and US Marshall's Service. The sheriff's

department would be receiving just over \$99,000 from the three funds.

Merit Construction, Inc. is being recommended by Solid Waste for a contract of \$913,700 for construction of the Carter Convenience Center.

The commission may also discuss the sale of surplus properties and fixing an offering price.

The planning commission is asking the commission to approve adding an RP Rural Preservation Zone to the categories in the county. The matter was postponed from December. Commissioner Charles Busler is asking the MPC to appear before the commission and explain its agenda. Some commissioners have been critical of the planning commission and its staff over who has the power to regulate subdivision and sidewalks in the county.

Commission Chairman Randy Smith may appoint two commission members to the Agricultural Extension Committee and reappoint Rachel Samulski and Skip Turner to that group.

The school system is also asking the board to approve \$25,000 to lease the Thompson-Boling Arena at UT for May high school practice and graduation ceremonies over six days in May.

The commissioners may also consider a request from the Libraries for a contract with Gallaher and Associates for security system monitoring.

Mayoral candidates speak in Karns

Cont. from page 1

Thomas said the city of Knoxville raised taxes and added, "I never saw anything change." He opined that there are "things we can cut and save money."

All three candidates spoke of the rapid growth in the Karns area and of public and private sponsorship of county and school projects. All three said the county needs a better educated work force and called for more focus on technical education in schools.

Anders said that public and private sponsorships could be applied to county park development. Jacobs said that jobs are the Number One thing a mayor does, and Thomas said more money needs to go directly to classrooms.

The candidates also discussed the changes along the Pellissippi Parkway Corridor and the growth in Karns and Hardin Valley. Anders said the corridor has developed more commercial and residential since its inception. Jacobs said the "free

market is going to work out" what happens along the route and Thomas said the future of the corridor is up to "what the commission wants to do."

In closing their evening with the Karns community Anders called for closer county-state cooperation. Jacobs cited the opioid epidemic which he said the county cannot solve alone. Thomas said that success is what he's bringing to the office.

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PHOTOS BY MIKE STEELY

Homeless people sleep on the sidewalk beneath the I-40 bridge on Broadway, bundled up against the below freezing temperature. A drive got underway last week to get sleeping bags donated for those homeless who won't seek warmer shelter.

Freezing weather draws homeless to KARM

By Mike Steely
steelym@knoxfocus.com

Last week's below freezing weather played havoc with the homeless in Knoxville and strained the resources of the Knoxville Area Rescue Mission. The Broadway KARM center reported that about 360 people sought overnight shelter there on Wednesday. The mission has some needs but is stressing that it's open and welcoming to the homeless.

Social media posts were reporting that two homeless persons were found dead in the cold and another online effort was attempting to collect new or used sleeping bags to distribute to those homeless who refused to seek warm shelter during the winter blast.

Knoxville Police Captain Don Jones told The Focus Tuesday that he had heard of the deaths but could not confirm them. He said a homeless man was discovered dead near a church downtown, but the death was before the freezing weather and apparently was from natural causes.

"If we find a homeless person dead we try to identify them and notify their next of kin," he said, adding that until the body is identified it remains in the morgue. If not identified then the state takes possession and is responsible for interment.

"Sleeping bags are a whole lot better than a tent," he said, adding that sleeping bags are superior to regular blankets in keeping the body heated.

Jones said that the police

department checks on known locations of homeless twice a day and invites homeless to KARM. In some cases the police provide transport to the shelters.

"We can't force them to go. Last night under the (Broadway) bridge I noticed that KARM had the white flag out," he said, noting that signal indicates that everyone is welcome into the shelter.

Denita McCartney, KARM's vice president of development, told The Focus that the mission is seeing an increase in overnight stays and a jump in the number of meals served each day. She also noted that "a couple of families are staying with us."

"Our resources are being stretched, especially utilities and food cost," she said.

"We're not ever going to close, it's not a space issue," McCartney said. "If we get to capacity we can reach out to our partners, like the Salvation Army."

"We're here and available with an amazing staff and volunteers," she promised.

"KARM gives them an awesome opportunity to come in and get organized," she said referring to the services the mission offers to the homeless.

Of those homeless that don't take shelter, McCartney said, "It's dangerous."

"We have a current needs list to help KARM provide. We need things like twin sheets and washcloths. And



The white flag flies outside the Broadway Knoxville Area Rescue Ministries building just across the street from the Salvation Army store. KARM was welcoming in any homeless person during the extreme cold weather in our area.

increasingly our needs are financial.

"Please keep KARM and the homeless men and women in your prayers," she said.

Tabernacle and Highland Baptist Churches were also taking in homeless people.

Anyone interested in helping can call KARM at (865)673-6540 or find them on the internet at www.karm.org.

KCHD offers infection control guidance, free flu shots

Protect yourself and your loved ones during flu season

With seasonal influenza activity high in Tennessee and especially in East Tennessee, the Knox County Health Department (KCHD) is encouraging everyone to follow some basic precautions to slow the spread of the influenza virus and stay healthy.

"Many area hospitals are reporting a sharp increase in traffic in their emergency departments due to flu, respiratory illness and other conditions," said KCHD Director Dr. Martha Buchanan. "First and foremost, it's important for the public to know it's not too late to get a flu vaccine if they haven't already this season. It's also important that our community have information on both how to avoid infection as well as what to do if they get the flu, including when to go to the emergency room."

KCHD is providing free flu vaccinations while supplies last at all three of its locations: the main location, 140 Dameron Ave., West Clinic, 1028 Old Cedar Bluff Rd., and Teague Clinic, 405 Dante Rd. To reduce wait time, appointments are recommended by calling 865-215-5070. Clinics are open 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Free flu vaccinations only apply to the standard flu shot, not the high-dose version recommended for those over 65 years of age.

Flu symptoms can include fever, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, body aches, headache, chills, fatigue, and sometimes diarrhea and vomiting. Most people with the flu do not need medical care or antiviral drugs. In most cases, those with flu symptoms should stay home and avoid contact with others. However, if someone in a high-risk group has symptoms of the flu or if someone is highly concerned about the illness, he or she should first contact a medical provider or walk-in clinic and save the hospital emergency department for actual emergencies.

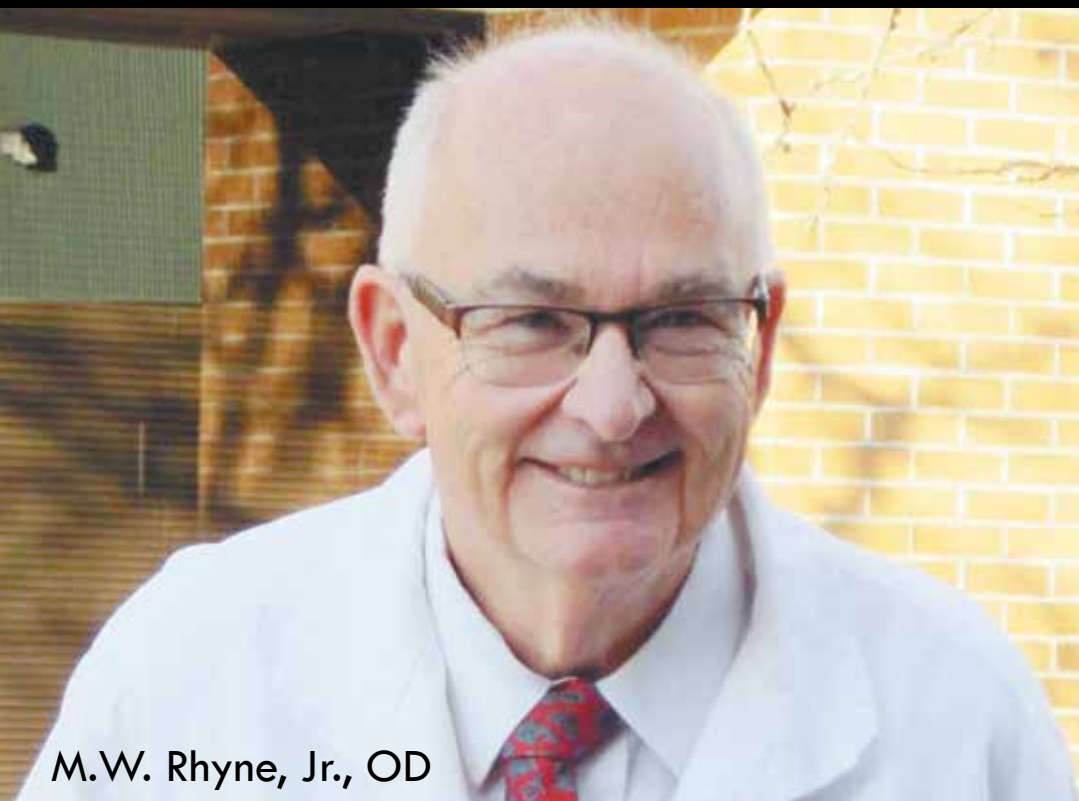
Young children, people aged 65 and older, pregnant women, and people with certain medical conditions, including asthma, chronic lung disease, heart disease and diabetes, are considered high risk. A comprehensive list of high-risk groups is available on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) website.

Influenza guidelines include:

- If someone is mildly ill with flu symptoms, he or she should not go to the emergency room. Hospital emergency departments should be reserved for those who are severely ill or injured.
- The following mild flu symptoms usually do not require treatment at an emergency room: runny nose or nasal stuffiness, low-grade fever for less than three days, mild headache, body aches, or stomach upset. Instead of visiting the emergency room, call your health care provider or seek care at a walk-in clinic.
- Limit visits to friends and relatives in the hospital. Postpone visits to the hospital to protect patients, staff and yourself from the flu. If you must

Continue on page 2

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KCHD guidance, flu shots

Continued from page 1

visit, check with the hospital first to see if any visitor restrictions have been established.

- Stay home and away from others, especially the elderly, children or those with chronic health conditions, if you're sick. If you must leave home, to get medical care for example, wear a facemask if you have one or be sure to cover your cough and sneeze.
- Wash your hands thoroughly and often to keep from spreading the flu to others. Washing your hands properly and frequently can also lower your risk of getting the flu.
- The CDC recommends those with flu symptoms stay home for at least 24 hours after the fever is gone without the use of fever-reducing medicines. Staying home includes avoiding work, school, travel, shopping, social events and public gatherings.

Those with the emergency warning signs of flu, should go to the emergency room. These signs include:

In children:

- Fast breathing or trouble breathing
- Bluish skin color
- Not drinking enough fluids
- Not waking up or not interacting
- Being so irritable that the child does not want to be held

• Flu-like symptoms improve but return with fever and worse cough

- Fever with a rash

In addition to these signs, seek medical help immediately for an infant who has any of these signs:

- Being unable to eat
- Has trouble breathing
- Has no tears when crying
- Significantly fewer wet diapers than normal

In adults:

- Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath
- Pain or pressure in the chest or abdomen
- Sudden dizziness
- Confusion
- Severe or persistent vomiting
- Flu-like symptoms that improve but then return with fever and worse cough

Flu activity generally peaks between December and February, but the exact timing, severity and length of the flu season usually varies from one year to another. According to the CDC, all national key flu indicators are elevated and about half of the country is experiencing high flu activity, including Tennessee.



Lake City officially became "Rocky Top" back in 2014 but the promise of a huge entertainment venue faded. What's happening now in the little town just off Interstate 75 north of Knoxville?

Has Rocky Top's name change helped?

By Mike Steely
steelym@knoxfocus.com

Three years ago the excitement in a small town between Knoxville and the Kentucky state line was huge. The long fight to change the name of the old community was successful and the town fathers finally voted to adapt a new name: Rocky Top, Tennessee.

It had been a long battle since a promoter had promised Lake City that if it would change its name, a large entertainment venue would locate there and boost the economy of the 1,800 residents. Rocky Top was officially adopted in June of 2014 in a ceremony and things were looking up.

Unfortunately the grand promise of a huge attraction, complete with an indoor-outdoor water park, a theatre, museum, etc. Has yet to be fulfilled.

Has the name change helped any?

"The original people that were involved with the attraction are no longer involved," Town Manager Michael Foster told The Focus. "We're still working to get some development done in the city."

"The name change has helped with tourism and the city has also worked to get legislation passed to allow ATVs on certain roads in town," he said. The use of ATV's downtown is unique to the town.

Rocky Top is only 2.3 miles from Wind Rock Park trailhead, one of the largest off-road areas in the world.

"This allows people who are riding the trails to come eat, get gas and stay in our

city," Foster said.

Wind Rock Park is a privately-held mountain region of 72,000 acres headquartered in nearby Oliver Springs. The park has more than 300 miles of trails for off-roading, hiking and camping. Visitors and riders to Wind Rock Park must have a permit which can be purchased in Rocky Top at the Shop Rite Market.

Rocky Top's history is interesting and tragic. The community was settled in the early 1800s following the Treaty of Tellico with the Cherokee. The first name, Coal Creek, came from a stream there and the area boomed with the development of the coal mines in the area. A lockout of miners over a labor dispute in 1891 found Coal Creek being occupied by the state militia after miners revolted because the state was using convicts in the mines.

The labor and shooting war was settled in the miners' favor and Tennessee stopped convict labor.

Coal Creek became "Lake City" during TVA's completion of the dam and the creation of nearby Norris Lake. Most of what is now "Rocky Top" is in Anderson County. It has two exits from Interstate 75, several local and chain restaurants, and most of the businesses are located next to the interstate.

Downtown remains more or less unchanged. Between downtown and the interstate the town boasts of a Cracker Barrel, dollar store, two pharmacies, a thrift shop, antique store, boutique, furniture store, and an auction gallery.

Fort Anderson, atop Militia Hill, is a historic site where the state militia camped during the Coal Creek War and has a historic marker.

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Willa Blake Eslick

The First Woman Ever Elected To Congress From Tennessee

Pages from the Past



By Ray Hill
rayhill865@gmail.com

Willa Blake Eslick was the first woman ever to be elected to Congress from the State of Tennessee. Mrs. Eslick served only an abbreviated term in the U. S. House of Representatives and was elected following the death of her husband, Congressman Edward E. Eslick.

Willa Blake was born on September 8, 1878 in Fayetteville, Tennessee, the daughter of G. W. and Eliza Blake. Willa was the eighth child born to her parents. Evidently the Blake family was rather well-to-do, as Willa received quite an education for a young woman of the time.

Willa Blake attended private schools before enrolling in Dick White College and later Milton College. Miss Blake also attended the Winthrop Model School, which later became the Peabody Demonstration School and eventually the University School of Nashville. She went on to study briefly at the Metropolitan College of Music in New York City, which was the first time Willa Blake had ever left Tennessee.

Apparently, Willa Blake was not only an accomplished young woman, but an unusual one, as she became quite interested in politics.

Miss Blake was a member of the Tennessee Democratic Committee. She met and married Edward E. Eslick, a young attorney from a prominent family in Pulaski, Tennessee, in 1906. Eslick was thirty-four years old when they married and Willa was twenty-eight. It was very unusual at that time for a woman to marry that late in life. Willa Blake Eslick was clearly not a woman to be bound by tradition.

During World War I, Edward Eslick, a tall and scholarly man, worked as an appeal agent for the federal government in Giles County.

By 1924 he challenged incumbent Congressman William C. Salmon for his seat in Congress. It was a heated race with at least three serious contenders; Congressman Salmon, E. E. Eslick, and Clarence W. Turner, who had served a brief term in Congress. A fourth candidate, F. S. Hall, ran, but the real race for the Democratic nomination came down to Salmon, Turner, and Eslick. The Seventh Congressional District in Tennessee in 1924 was comprised of ten counties: Dickson, Giles, Hickman, Humphreys, Lawrence, Lewis, Maury, Wayne and Williamson.

The district was largely agricultural and sprawled from what are now the Nashville suburbs through Middle Tennessee to West Tennessee.

F. S. Hall managed to carry only his home county of Dickson; in fact, each of the candidates did well in his respective home county.

Congressman Salmon carried his home county of Maury, although not by a huge majority. Salmon also carried Lewis and Williamson counties.

Clarence W. Turner carried his home county of Humphreys by a healthy majority, as well as Hickman and Houston counties by lesser majorities. Edward E. Eslick won only Lawrence and Giles counties, but his majority in his native Giles County was 3,278 votes against his three opponents combined. It was enough to give him the Democratic nomination with 7,988 votes.

Congressman Salmon ran a poor second with 5,646 votes, barely beating out Clarence W. Turner with 5,291 votes.

Willa Blake Eslick went to Washington, D. C. with her husband and theirs was very much a political partnership, as well as a marriage.

Willa Eslick was deeply involved in her husband's career. Congressman Eslick was strongly supportive of the veterans of World War I. Those same veterans, with the onset of the Great Depression, were clamoring for a "bonus" to be paid out by the federal government.

Congressman Eslick was on the floor of the House of Representatives on June 14, 1932. It was a typically humid and hot day in the nation's Capitol. Willa Eslick made herself comfortable in the gallery reserved for family members of congressmen. E. E. Eslick intended to speak in support of the veterans' bonus bill.

Sponsored by Texas Congressman Wright Patman, the bill called the "World War Adjusted Compensation Act," provided payments of \$1.00 for each day a veteran had served stateside, while those veterans who went overseas were to receive a payment of \$1.25 for each day of service. The payments were capped at \$500 for those veterans who served stateside and \$625 for those who fought overseas.

The Patman bill provided for immediate payment to those veterans who were due less than \$50 and the estates of deceased veterans would receive immediate payment if the



FROM THE AUTHOR'S PERSONAL COLLECTION; ORIGINAL FROM THE TENNESSEE STATE ARCHIVES.

Congresswoman Willa Eslick.

total owed was less than \$500. Wright Patman had been trying to pass one version or another of his bill for years and in some instances, veterans were able to borrow against the value of the bonus. By the summer of 1932, some 2.5 million veterans had borrowed almost \$1.4 billion.

Opponents of the bill cited the enormous cost to the federal treasury, but like millions of other Americans, many veterans were desperate and in need of money.

Congressman Eslick took the floor of the House and began an emotionally charged speech.

Speaking from the well of the House, Eslick thundered, "Mr. Chairman, I want to divert from the sordid - - - we are hearing nothing but dollars. I want to go from the sordid..."

Eslick tottered and swayed for a moment, clutching at his high and stiff shirt collar. Then dramatically reaching out a hand in silent appeal, fell over.

Congressman Eslick collapsed in mid-sentence from a heart attack. Mrs. Eslick promptly fainted when she witnessed her husband tumble to the floor.

Reviving quickly, Willa Eslick hurried down from the gallery to an anteroom just off the House floor where her husband lay and attempted to revive him. Dr. George Calver, the Capitol physician arrived and rapidly concluded there was nothing to be done to save Congressman Eslick, who died moments later.

Mrs. Eslick was still in shock over the death of her husband when only days later Democrats inside her district suggested she become a candidate for Congress in a special August election to fill out the remainder of Congressman Eslick's term.

William Fry, nominally a Tennessee lawyer and active Democrat who had been the Secretary to Congressman Lemuel P. Padgett (and would later work for Senator McKellar as a staff member), was especially active in attempting to recruit Mrs. Eslick to become a candidate. Finally, Willa Blake Eslick agreed to run.

Three opponents challenged Mrs. Eslick in the primary, but she won with an absolute majority to become the first woman ever elected to Congress from Tennessee.

Congress was not in session when Mrs. Eslick was elected and her official swearing-in ceremony did not take place until December 5, 1932 when the House reconvened. It was not unusual for the Congress to be in session following the November elections for "lame duck" meetings. That year Congress was faced with a national debt that was skyrocketing and the deteriorating economy.

Congresswoman Eslick did not merely accept her paycheck and wait for the expiration of her term on March 3, 1933. She was deeply concerned about the suffering of her constituents, especially the many farm families in her district.

Mrs. Eslick strongly back a plan that would prevent the foreclosure on family farms. Congresswoman Eslick actually spoke on the floor of the House in favor of the plan.

"There are few comforting words that we who represent agricultural districts may give to our people," Mrs. Eslick said. Yet she concluded, "everybody now recognizes that something should be done for them without delay."

Congresswoman Eslick criticized what she considered the predatory special interests who were hardly the friends of the farmers. She noted that even the makers of farm equipment "brazenly ask for more tariffs, so that no one can force a moratorium for their excessive costs. They are the source of much corruption in some parts of the land. The farmer cannot continue to buy in a protected market and sell in a free one."

Mrs. Eslick voted for every measure she thought would aid the farmers in her district and was an active member of Congress during her short term of office. Congresswoman Eslick was especially delighted by President-elect Franklin D. Roosevelt's proposed plan for the Tennessee Valley.

"For our immediate section of Tennessee, much of the gloom has been lifted by the hope which the President elect has given us," Mrs. Eslick said.

Congressman Eslick had served on a special

committee to investigate subversives and Mrs. Eslick tried to continue her husband's work. She advocated harsh penalties for those who sought to undermine the government of the United States.

Willa Blake Eslick's term had ended before legislation invoking those same harsh penalties was passed by Congress, but approved it was and Mrs. Eslick was delighted when the bill carried her late husband's name.

Willa Eslick might very well have continued running for Congress, but her husband's death came after the filing deadline had passed and his Seventh Congressional District had been significantly altered following redistricting. Clarence W. Turner had filed to run against Congressman Edward E. Eslick in the new Sixth District and won the Democratic nomination without opposition.

As Willa Eslick prepared to end her short time in Congress, Congressman Fritz Langham of Texas paid her special tribute. While Langham had known Mrs. Eslick as the wife of a colleague and friend, he noted her own accomplishments as a Member of Congress.

Willa Eslick would outlive her husband by almost thirty years. After completing her term in Congress, Mrs. Eslick returned home to Tennessee. She continued to live in Pulaski until her death on February 18, 1961 at the age of eighty-two.

Exhaustion

The Christmas trees have been taken down; ornaments and other decorations are once again safe in boxes and bins. Supplies of fireworks are expended, and the remnants of

them have been removed from yards and streets. The holiday season is finished, and for many folks, that end couldn't have come soon enough.

Parents love their children, but they can take them only so long before the fuses of tempers shorten and explosions occur in households. It's not that adults or children don't love each other; it's just that they are stuck in the same



By Joe Rector
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cramped spaces. Teens miss their friends at school and would much rather spend free time with them. To be honest, parents have that same wish. We all know how tough the teen years are and

how much people of that age are irked by the "simple stupidity of parents." Adults, on the other hand, are weary of dealing with confrontational youngsters who draw from moms' and dads' limited energy pools.

Men and women suffer exhaustion from different things. Dads are in charge of playing "Chey Chase" as they hang lights on the house, and they pray that the job is completed

without suffering serious physical injuries from falls. Males also lose plenty of sleep the night before Christmas as they wrestle assembling using directions written in Chinese or French. At the end of the season, all of those decorations must be taken down and stored until next year.

Moms lose their energy through many ways. They are the ones who are in charge of buying presents for every person on the list. They are the ones who make multiple trips to the store for menu items, and they know that someone will point out the item they forgot to get. The women of the family spend hours wrapping presents. They cook up a feast for bunches of family members who come on Christmas Day;

additionally, they work to keep a lid on the small skirmishes that break out between children and in-laws.

Many individuals, adults and teens, arise the day after Christmas and travel the roads back to jobs. It's a shock to the system to so quickly return to the grind. Parents need to go back to work to pay off the debts they've incurred from overly indulgent Christmas spending. Young workers go back to jobs where they work with the public. They won't be there long before the frustration and exhaustion of the season are expressed through angry words and overbearing demands.

Parents are excited for the school doors to open once again so that they

can turn over their testy, moody children to teachers. Few ever acknowledge that those who work in classrooms are feeling the same way. In addition, teachers must turn young minds back to subject matter that is of little interest to them. The dark, cold, bleak days of winter make the task even more difficult, and students and teachers alike hope that at least of couple of snow days are around the corner.

The season of hope and light and expectation somehow is obscured by all the other events and chores that folks pile upon themselves. In the end, they are exhausted; their thoughts drift to warm weather and vacations to beaches or other destinations. We all know how easy it is to

relax during vacation time and how refreshed we feel upon our return.

It seems that this whole loss of energy and the impending dread of the Christmas seasons might be mitigated if we worried less about presents and food and decorations and focused more upon the spirit of the season and the gift of time we have to spend with the ones we love. Yes, that sounds so easy, but somehow we probably will continue to wear ourselves out and struggle through the holiday.

Let's hope the coming year is one where we worry less about what awaits us in life. Perhaps our best choice is to live in the moment and enjoy it.



Picture of an East Tennessee snow, by Ralphine Major

Brrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrr!!!

It is definitely winter! Much of the nation---including the South---has seen frigid temperatures the last few days. Even some parts of the Southeast

which seldom see snow, such as Georgia and Florida, are experiencing record snowfalls. Many schools are closed, as children can be seen sledding, throwing snowballs, and building snowmen. Some offices are closed, and interstates



By Ralphine Major
ralphine3@yahoo.com

are at a standstill. While our area dodged the snow, East Tennessee got hammered with a blast of cold air that keeps on lingering. There is something almost magical about a snowfall. It arrives quietly, transforming a colorless winter landscape into a sparkling blanket of white. From tree branches laden with snow to snow-capped mountains in the distance, a snowfall is a sight to behold. I

have often taken a walk after an early morning snowfall---untouched and perfect---as snowflakes quietly drift downward, disturbed only by the flutter of a beautiful redbird or the sound of a lone motorist chugging up the road. The silence of snow brings to mind a favorite scripture that is often quoted. Standing still in the silence of snow is a perfect setting to be reminded, yet again, of Psalm 46:10 (KJV): "Be still, and know that I am God."

May winter's chilly

days and flurries of snow bring you quiet moments of reflection, beauty, and inspiration.

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OUR VETERANS NEXT DOOR

CHOSIN: Cold, So Cold

By Randall Baxter

We Knoxville experience so much cold this past week, as we entered into the new year.

I happened at this same time to be an attendee of a wedding on New Year's Eve in Neenah, Wisconsin.

The highs for the day were averaging 1 degree down to the negative teens at night with wind chills down to -20 to -30. I wanted to experience the real winters our northern cousins experienced every year. But, I had another motivation. I wanted to feel what our soldiers felt during the battle at the Chosin Reservoir in late November and early December of 1950. The only way I knew how to do this was to try and partially re-enact the situation.

I wanted to feel the bite of the cold air, and experience it for longer that common sense would recommend. I ventured outside. I wrapped myself up in several layers of clothes and gloves and head gear and ventured outside into the frigid air. First thing I did as I began my walk, I removed my gloves, after about 100 yards my fingers were hurting from the cold. I put my gloves on, but not before removing my scarf, and hat, it did not take long for my face to hurt from the cold. The next thing I did when I got to a street corner, was I stopped to feel the wind.

It cut through my clothes, and as the velocity of the wind began to grow the cold reached down into my very being, warning me to stop the experiment and to go inside. Looking at my watch, I was outside for 35 minutes.

These were the conditions the American and Chinese soldiers were forced to endure in the Battle of the Chosin Reservoir. Many

of the American Soldiers were caught sleeping with their shoes off, and fought for hours in socks or bare feet.

I was also fortunate enough to get to go onto the frozen Winnebago Lake. Many of the American Soldiers in order to escape the Chinese onslaught had tried to cross the frozen Chosin. There is nothing to slow the cold air on a frozen lake. BRRRRRRRR!

Chapter 32 of the book "CHOSIN THE HEROIC ORDEAL of the KOREAN WAR" describes the soldiers on day 5 of the battle like this. Yes, five days, and my experience lasted only 35 minutes.

There was the soft crunch of rubber-soled feet on the hard packed snow. The soft jingle of metallic equipment. The soothing shirring sound of cloth-encased thighs rubbing together in mindless rhythm. The muted oaths and sighs of tired, struggling men. The labored, whistling rasp of breath drawn painfully between clenched teeth. The freezing saliva upon the roof of the mouth. The burning of cold number ears. The painful clinching of fists and toes. The boring mindless pace. The heightened sensation of imminent danger and the progressive grip of underlying terror. The throbbing discomfort of overtired eyes darting swiftly upward to check progress. The bobbing gait of seven hundred frozen men struggling against the worst nature could hurl into their faces.

I never was a soldier,

No frozen feet

Nor Bombs ever fell on me.

I will stand and place my hand on my heart when I hear the National Anthem.

What say you?

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Halls High School to host holiday weekend wrestling

By Ken Lay

The Martin Luther King Jr. holiday weekend is traditionally big for the Halls High School wrestling program. And 2018 will be no exception.

The high school wrestling community regularly turns its attention to Halls in mid-January as the Red Devils and coach Shannon Sayne host three days of prep wrestling.

Action begins on Friday, Jan. 12 when Halls hosts Brentwood Academy in a dual meet that will mark the first time that the Red Devils wrestle at home this season.

“We look forward to wrestling at home,” Sayne said. “We’ve traveled just about everywhere and this will be a good time to get our guys some matches at home.”

On Saturday, Jan 13, the Red Devils will host the annual Halls Invitational, a 16-team tournament that is one of the biggest events in Knoxville and East Tennessee.

Teams slated to be in this season’s tournament field include; the host Red Devils, Brentwood Academy, Cookeville, Daniel Boone, Farragut, Grace Christian Academy, Maryville, Morristown East, Chattanooga McCallie, Smyrna, Summit, West Creek, William Blount and Walker Valley.

One coach will have a homecoming at Halls this season as former Red Devils standout Alex Cate brings his Maryville squad to North Knox County. Cate, who formerly coached at Seymour High School, has coached the Rebels for the last few seasons.

Holiday weekend grappling action concludes on Monday, Jan. 15 with the Halls Freshman/JV and girls tournament.

Sayne said that he always looks forward to the annual event.

“It’s a great weekend of wrestling and it’s an opportunity to wrestle at home,” he said. “But it’s a long an exhausting weekend.”

Halls will also host the Region 2-AAA Duals on Jan. 25.

Bearden is 19-1 and the future may be even brighter

By Steve Williams

Bearden High’s boys basketball team is 19-1 overall and 7-0 in District 4-AAA yet has played only two games on its home court all season.

What’s also really scary good about the Bulldogs is the fact they have only one senior on their 12-man roster.

So will this be the year Bearden makes a run in the TSSAA state tournament or will it be next year or maybe both?

A very young Bulldog squad went one and done in Murfreesboro last season but at least got their paws wet.

Bearden notched one of its biggest road wins of the season Friday night, pulling away from Knoxville Catholic in the second half for an 81-68 victory.

Junior guards Ques Glover and Trent Stephney led the Bulldogs with 26 and 24 points, respectively. Junior post Kordell Kah came off the bench to contribute 11 points for founl-plagued Bearden.

Senior guard Jack Sompayrac fired in 25 points to lead Catholic. Brock Jancek, senior power forward, added 18 points before fouling out midway through the final period.

His brother Jack Jancek, a sophomore, chipped in 12.

The loss broke Catholic’s 33-game home court win streak that dated back to December of 2015 and also snapped the Irishmen’s 12-game win streak this season. Catholic (5-2, 12-1) hadn’t lost since its season opener at Maryville.

A big turnout was on hand for the showdown that matched teams with contrasting styles. Strong and physical Catholic had the tempo going its way for most of the first half and led 13-10 after the first period. The Fighting Irish trailed by only one (25-24) at halftime.

The slow tempo changed in the second half as Bearden outscored Catholic 56-44.

“After the first quarter or two it was just survive,” said Bearden Coach Jeremy Parrott. “We didn’t adjust very well to the way the game was being officiated and we ended up in a lot of foul trouble.”

Starting junior wing Drew Pember fouled out and junior post Shamarcus Brown spent much of the second half on the bench in foul trouble.

Parrott said Kah and



Bearden’s Ques Glover secures the basketball in the Bulldogs’ 81-68 District 4-AAA win at Knoxville Catholic Friday night. Glover scored a game-high 26 points, The Irishmen are Jack Jancek (left) and Jackson Rowan.

London Stephney contributed valuable playing time in reserve roles.

“We need to hit those free throws against them,” said Catholic Coach Mike Hutchens, whose team was 10 of 17 at the line. “You can’t have missed free throws and errant passes. We turned the ball over more tonight than we have all year in any game. That was a big difference. Their speed turns you over.”

Parrott was very surprised his team scored 81 points.

“That game just never had a flow to it,” he said. “It didn’t feel like it ever got into that up-and-down action that we like and maybe some of that was due to them and some of that was due to us. It was a game that we’ll take because it was a conference road game.”

LONE LOSS: Bearden lost to Columbus, Mississippi 58-55 at the buzzer in the semifinals of the Arby’s Classic holiday tournament in Bristol. The Bulldogs bounced back to beat Webb for third place.

BEARDEN ROLLS: The Lady Bulldogs (4-3, 11-6) raced to a 28-5 lead in the first period en route to a 65-19 win over Catholic. Jakhya Davis led the way with 19 points. Grace Van Rij and Trinity Lee chipped in 13 apiece.

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Lane, UT signee, carries on family tradition of ‘gentle giants’

By Steve Williams

High school football signings are a festive occasion, filled with cheers and tears plus memories and expectations.

Ollie Lane's signing with the University of Tennessee was that kind of day in December. Family and friends were there for the occasion in Gibbs' gymnasium lobby. And at least one was there in spirit.

Memommie, Lane's grandmother on his dad's side of the family, was there and glad to talk about her grandson when this reporter asked if she could share some stories and information.

"Oliver is a wonderful kid," began Memommie (pronounced Me-Mom-Me). "He always has been. He's always loved UT and this was a dream come true for him.

"He has family scattered all over the United States and we're all just very, very proud of him."

Memommie also is known as Linda Lane when her grandchildren are not around.

"Ollie grew up in Clinton and Cookeville, wherever his dad's job took him (Chris Lane is a manager for Lowe's), but they ended

up back in Knoxville 12 years ago and have been Gibbs community people ever since. He went to Ritta Elementary, Holston Middle and then he came to Gibbs High School."

Memommie shared one funny story in particular about her grandson.

"Oliver always liked to eat," she said. (That was n't exactly Earth shattering news as Lane has packed on some good weight since the end of football season and is up to 6-6, 310 pounds).

"My husband (Curtis Lane) and I used to take him to buffets. Ollie never had a quit on his stomach. He just wanted to keep going.

"Oliver would say,



Ollie Lane leads the way on a running play during the 2017 season. He is a big addition to the Tennessee football program.

'There's more food up there' and my husband said, 'Oliver, you are done,'" laughed Memommie. "'It's okay Big Daddy. I'm done.'"

Big Daddy is what Ollie called his grandfather.

"He was a big football fellow from California and he played football at La Verne College, which is near Montclair," said Linda, her eyes now noticeably

moistening.

"A widow seven years now," she said.

"Oliver loves fried chicken and Chinese food. He's a gentle giant. My husband was a gentle giant. His dad (Chris) is a gentle giant and my dad was a gentle giant, so he comes by it naturally."

Names and nicknames indeed were prominent in

conversations at the signing.

"My name is Oliver, but I like to go by Ollie, just a shorter nickname," said Ollie.

"I call him Big O, but most of the time I call him Oliver," said Memommie. "I don't shorten their names.

"I like football," she continued. "My husband absolutely adored football. I still

don't understand all the processes of it, but when I make a mistake, my son tells me, 'Mom, that's not right.'"

Linda has traveled to a lot of games. Oliver's older brother, Hunter, plays at Austin Peay and will be a senior this coming fall.

"Wherever the car goes, I go with it," she said. "Sometimes it rains, sometimes

it's freezing and sometimes it's burning up, so you have to take your whole wardrobe with you."

Tennessee opens the 2018 season Sept. 1 at Charlotte against West Virginia. It's possible Ollie may get to see his high school teammate, Dalton Widner, on that trip. Widner, who signed with the Charlotte 49ers the same day Lane signed, will have a home game that Saturday against Fordham.

Oddly enough, Widner and the 49ers also will play the Vols in Knoxville on Nov. 3.

Memommie said Oliver also has grandparents (Barbara and Sid Reed) on his mother Barbara's side of the family and a step-grandmother (Pat).

"They live in St. Louis and come as often as they can. They would love to be here today."

The Reeds will definitely be close to Ollie when he and the Vols play at Missouri in 2019 and 2021.

Looking ahead, Memommie summed up, "He will be referred to as Ollie by many, but I'll always shout for Big O. That's after my husband, because they called him Big Daddy, so we call him Big O."

Fulton uses solid second half to down Hawks 52-44

By Ken Lay

Heading into its game against Hardin Valley Academy, the Fulton High School boys basketball team was in the midst of a two-game losing streak. And it looked like the Falcons' woes would continue early Wednesday night.

But Fulton would reverse its fortunes after halftime and notch a 52-44 victory over the Hawks at Jody Wright Arena.

Fulton (10-4) played a lackluster half and fell behind 16-8 in the first quarter. While the Falcons sleepwalked for the first 16 minutes, Hardin Valley took advantage of the situation. Tristen Waite scored 11 of his 13 points in the opening quarter and knocked down three 3-pointers to help the Hawks get off to their fast start. Waite gave HVA a 9-4 lead with 3 minutes, 6 seconds remaining in the opening frame.

Hardin Valley (7-9) continued to hold the upper hand throughout the first half. The Falcons, however, managed to pull to within 28-23 by halftime.

"I think, for us, the first half was characterized by poor shot selection and a bunch of standing around on defense," Fulton coach Jody Wright said. "Hardin

Valley was just working and playing harder than we were on both ends of the floor."

Wright's pep talk during the break fixed the Falcons' problems. They were a different team after halftime.

Fulton dialed up the defensive pressure and got an offensive boost from guard James Davis.

Davis scored 10 of his 16 points in the third quarter and buried three consecutive long-range jumpers. He helped the Falcons take a 34-33 lead midway through the third stanza. His last triple extended Fulton's edge to 37-33 a short time later.

The Hawks, who endured an offensive slump in the third quarter, pulled to within 37-35 when Aaron Dykes scored the final basket of the frame.

Dykes scored all seven of HVA's third-quarter points.

Things would only get worse for the Hawks in the fourth period.

They committed turnovers on each of their first four possessions and Fulton point guard Edward Lacy knocked down a 3-pointer midway through the quarter to push the home team's edge to 44-36. Trey Davis made a pair of foul shots to extend the Falcons' lead to 46-36 with 3:18 left.

For Hardin Valley, the script was all too familiar. The Hawks have performed well and been in every game this season. But they've faltered as well and those lapses have cost them dearly.

"We scheduled this game as our first in 2018 because we knew that it would be tough and we knew that it would get us ready for the second part of our district schedule," Hardin Valley coach Shane Chambers said. "We had that stretch in the third and early in the fourth where we just didn't execute.

"We're still putting the pieces together and we're working toward mid-February. Fulton is extremely aggressive and when we decided to pick up our aggressiveness, we were able to get back into the game. I was proud of our guys for fighting back and doing that."

Wright said that Davis stepped up big for the Falcons.

"He came out and played good defense and he hit three or four 3-pointers in a row," Wright said of Davis. "He's a solid player on both offense and defense and he's what you expect from a senior."

Lacy had 15 points for the Falcons.

Dykes had 13 for the Hawks.



PHOTO BY LUTHER SIMMONS.

Fulton guard James Davis (2) launches a shot as Hardin Valley's Anders Cook attempts to defend, Davis scored six points as the Falcons notched a 52-44 comeback win over the Hawks Wednesday night at Jody Wright Arena.



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The Return of Derek Dooley

By Alex Norman

It was a typical Friday night in the Norman household. The Smith's came over for a rousing game of pinochle and we had the meal catered by Denny's. Then it happened. Missouri announced that Derek Dooley was their new offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach.

Oh Lord take me now I've seen it all! The former Tennessee head coach is back in the Southeastern Conference.

"I am excited to be a Mizzou Tiger and look forward to helping Coach (Barry) Odom carry out his vision for the program. I am grateful for this opportunity, and am ready to get to Columbia and go to work," said Dooley in a press release.

"I'm excited for our football program, Derek brings tremendous energy, knowledge and experience to our staff," said Missouri head coach Barry Odom in the same press release. "He will do a great job of mentoring our student-athletes in all areas of their lives, and I know he will add great benefit and loyalty to our staff room with his experiences he's gained over his career. His football knowledge and offensive beliefs are in line with what will make Mizzou very successful. We have a great foundation to build on and along with the rest of the offensive staff we will put our kids in position to be their very best. I'm very happy to welcome the Dooley family to our organization!"

Press releases are fun. It's like statistics. You can always find some numbers to back up your point. So, Mizzou was promoting the record breaking Tennessee team that Dooley coached that lit up the scoreboard in 2012.

First of all, the offensive coordinator was Jim Chaney, who has proven to be one of the great offensive minds in college football. He was the guy calling the plays, not Dooley.

Also, that Vols team had quarterback Tyler Bray, wide receivers Justin Hunter, Cordarrelle Patterson, and Zach Rogers, plus tight end Mychal Rivera, running backs Marlin Lane and Rajion Neal and an experienced offensive line. They had talent in spades. It was so good that Dooley kicked receiver Da'Rick Rogers off the team before the 2012 season.

Over the past five years Dooley has served as the wide receivers' coach for the Dallas Cowboys. In that time Dez Bryant has gone from being one of the league's dominant receivers to one of its most overrated.

This is not a coincidence. So, what does Missouri have to look forward to?

Well you better hope that quarterback Drew Lock doesn't want to throw beer bottles from his apartment onto parked cars in their complex. History has proven that Dooley won't discipline him a bit, thus causing issues in the locker room.

You better hope that the Tigers know how to shower properly... and that they can grow bamboo in Columbia... and that they are up on their D-Day history.

Derek Dooley continues a tradition of falling into good opportunities, and this might be another one. The Tigers offense averaged over 51 points a game in their last six games of the 2017 regular season.

Either way, November 17th will be a scene when Missouri comes to Neyland Stadium.

Derek Dooley is back.


An 8-team College Football Playoff would be better

Sometimes you just have to stand up for yourself.

The University of Central Florida did that last week and proclaimed its football team the 2017 national champion.

The Knights had a parade in Orlando, put the "We're No. 1" news on billboards, hung a banner in their stadium and no doubt printed up a T-shirt or two.

UCF had the right to do all that. After all, it was the only undefeated team in the nation following its 34-27 win over No. 7 Auburn, a 9-point favorite, in the Peach Bowl.



By Steve Williams

Auburn had even beaten both Georgia and Alabama, who will play in the official national championship game tonight.

Deep down in their hearts, the Knights and their fans probably know they aren't America's best team. But not getting the opportunity to compete in the College Football Playoff hurt them far more than a whipping by top seed Clemson would have.

UCF, which was No. 12 in the CFP rankings, deserved better. I blame it on the system and those who run it.

The College Football Playoff has been fundamentally flawed since its inception in 2014. Four berths won't hold five conference champions.

If your argument is five conference championships aren't worthy, then you're not letting the players decide it on the field. Instead, you're putting it in the hands of a 13-member selection committee made up of athletic directors and former coaches and players, whose choices are highly subjective.

An eight-team bracket would allow for the five champions from the Power 5 conferences and room for three at-large berths, like a couple of Power 5 conference runner-ups and a Group of 5 team like this year's Central Florida.

The CFP committee could make those final three selections or a formula combining the media's ranking, a coaches' poll and computer ratings could be used.

Those who oppose an eight-team bracket argue it would devalue regular season games and make the season even longer for student-athletes.

But the conference's regular season games and title games would remain as important, since conference champs make the playoffs and non-conference games would still have an impact on those three at-large berths.

The length of the season would include just one more weekend, with only two of the eight teams being affected.

Then there's the argument that the No. 9 team would still be upset and wanting in. Well, the No. 9 team has a much better chance of getting in an eight-team bracket than a four-team bracket.

So why are we stuck on a four-team bracket through 2025-26?

As always, the answer is money. The Power 5 conferences will rake in some \$369 million dollars from the CFP and affiliated bowl games this year for their league members to divide up.

Even Tennessee, 4-8 and home for the holidays, will pull in around \$5 million from the SEC's take, which is \$1 million more than Central Florida earned in the Peach Bowl for the American Athletic Conference.

Look at it this way. Currently, the playoff pie has four big slices and college football's fat cats don't want to slice those pieces in half and share.

Not even for the betterment of the sport.

Low-Cost Exercise Program for People with Type II Diabetes Offered at YMCA

"Move Well Today" designed specifically for people with Type II diabetes

The Bob Temple North Side YMCA is offering a low-cost exercise program designed specifically for people diagnosed with Type II diabetes. "Move Well Today" is a 12-week fitness intervention program to help people manage their condition and track changes in their HbA1C levels and fitness parameters. The next session will begin Feb. 6 and will be held from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Tuesdays and Fridays.

An exercise program is designed for each participant's beginning fitness levels and is modified as the participant progresses through the program. The cost is only \$50 for YMCA members and just \$100 for non-members. (Financial assistance is also available.)


"The Centers for Disease Control says that of the approximately 30.3 million Americans with diabetes, 90 to 95 percent have Type II diabetes," said Vickey Beard, Vice President of Healthy Living for the YMCA of East Tennessee. "This is very disturbing because Type II is preventable and often reversible if people proactively manage their lifestyles. The Y's 'Move Well Today' program is a way to help them learn how to manage their condition."

Each class begins with participants checking their blood glucose levels. After blood readings are taken and recorded, participants hear a brief educational component, then go the North Side Y fitness areas where they go through three rounds of cardio work and two rounds of strength training.

They return to the classroom to check blood glucose levels again. While each person's reaction to exercise may differ, blood glucose levels almost always go down during exercise. "Exercise has an insulin-like effect on diabetes," said Beard. "That's why people need to have a consistent exercise program for their entire lives. And it's never too late to begin."

For more information or to enroll in the program contact Vickey Beard at 865-406-7328, vbeard@ymcaknoxville.org or visit www.ymcaknoxville.org.

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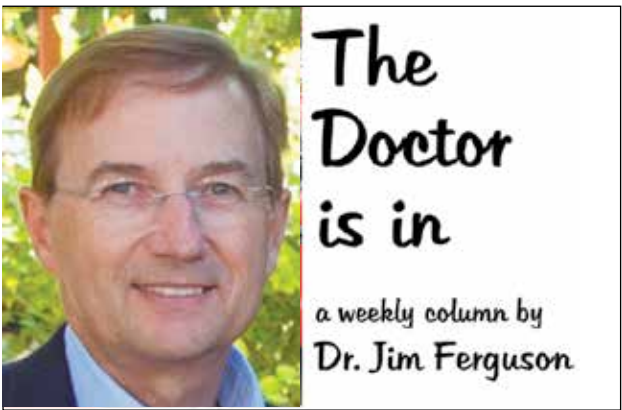
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Boys' basketball honorees for the first two weeks of the 2017-18 season will be published in the Jan. 15 issue of The Knoxville Focus.	MOLLY JAMES Seymour	HALEY SCHUBERT Powell
The award is based on attitude, careacter, grades, community service and performance as a person.	SOPHIE JEFFERSON Gibbs	JENNIFER SULLIVAN The King's Academy
	KIYAH LATHAM Fulton	REAGAN TOLLESON Concord Christian School
Weeks 1 and 2 Honorees	ISABELLA MCANALLY South-Doyle	MADDIE MOZINGO Christian Academy of Knoxville
OLIVIA BAKER Karns	JAIME NARED Tennessee Lady Vols	AMANDA SINGLETON Berean Christian School
SYDNEY CHAPMAN Farragut	MADDIE NORRIS Hardin Valley Academy	LAUREN STUCKEY Bearden
CASEY COLLIER Webb School	SYDNEY REDNOUR Tennessee School for the Deaf	CAMIAH WILSON Austin-East
RACHEL DEBAAR Knoxville Catholic	PANDA RIGGS Halls	CARLEY WEBSTER Carter
KELSEY HOLLIFIELD First Baptist Academy		KIANA WELCH , West



Reflections

They say Christmas is for children, and I would agree, unless being around kids at Christmas makes you younger at heart. I have four grandchildren ages fourteen to one year old. The teenager is in a “galaxy far, far away,” and a bit too cool for Christmas morning exuberance. And the one and two year olds are too young to comprehend Santa Claus as the Spirit of Christmas. But the five year old is in the zone of wonder, and he brings me into his magical kingdom as I experience Christmas vicariously through his eyes.

I remember magical Christmases such as Ralphie in the quintessential Holiday movie, A Christmas Story. It’s never quite the same when you grow up, at least not until you have grandchildren and you get to relive childhood experiences through them.

I was eight years old

when I first questioned the existence of Santa Claus. Sitting in the school lunchroom among other urbane sophisticates of Mrs. Thompson’s third grade, I was informed that Santa Claus is my parents. I can’t remember what my mother said when I confronted her with this revelation. However, I soon received a gift that surpassed the bazooka which “Santa” brought me that year. You see my parents arranged for a man dressed as Santa Claus and carrying sleigh bells to come to my parent’s Christmas Eve party. My eyes and ears told me Santa Claus was real, and I believed again - for many years.

Togetherness during the holidays, contributes to what I call the “Christmas crud.” I’m not referring to “Humbug,” but to one of the numerous viral “bugs” already so prevalent, and the year is barely

begun. In the last few days I’ve treated three patients with cough and congestion, my wife with the same cold symptoms and another patient who undoubtedly has influenza; and my dog just threw up on the floor in front of me. Fortunately, my grandkids, aka the cute ones, have thus far escaped, but they go back to preschool tomorrow. You realize that “younglings” go to school to learn social skills and to stimulate their immune systems.

I am ordinarily not a fan of year end retrospectives, but 2017 was like no other for me. Becky and I built a smaller retirement home, sold our homestead of thirty-seven years, gave away lots of cargo and then moved only what we really treasured. We further simplified by selling our rental property and the land contiguous to our small farm in South Knoxville. And if I include the fall of 2016 and the birth of my fourth grandchild, the last fifteen months have been a whirlwind.

Of course the world does not revolve around me, so I’ll include November 8, 2016 in this retrospective because the election of Donald Trump changed everything. Whether you love Trump and his Make America Great Again campaign, hate him or just wish

he were more genteel with his Tweets, the direction of our country and the world is experiencing tectonic shifts.

In the last year even our lexicon has changed. We were introduced to terms such as “snowflakes,” and The Swamp (aka The Sewer) of Washington DC. We learned of the embedded Deep State led by non elected bureaucrats in the myriad government agencies who, despite their oath, act politically. Examples are James Comey, Jim McCabe and Peter Strzok who have sullied the reputation of the FBI. Bruce Orr tarnished the Justice Department by colluding with his wife who worked for Fusion GPS, the agency hired by Hillary Clinton and the DNC to create the scatological and fraudulent Trump “golden shower dossier.” If you’ve never heard of this screed while watching CNN or reading the NY Times, Google it, and do your own research. As agent Mulder says, “The truth is out there.”

Hillary Clinton and the elite media (and the rest of us) learned of politically motivated polling data which is often wrong. The unprecedented election of Donald Trump against all odds (and polls) proved this. We learned that the media is no longer to be trusted

and the notion of fake news came into everyday usage. Donald Trump did not coin the term “fake news,” but he has showcased dishonest reporting by the Washington Post, New York Times, CNN, MSNBC and a host of others. George W. Bush was pilloried by the elite media and did nothing to defend himself or his administration. Trump takes his case directly to the people in his Tweets.

Wikipedia defines fake news as propaganda or deliberate misinformation spread through traditional print or broadcast media or through online social media. Perhaps the media has always been dishonest and politically motivated, and I was just unaware. I used to listen to and support NPR, but not anymore. And I resent that NPR is still subsidized by my tax dollar. Adolf Hitler in his book “Mein Kampf” said that the average man will believe a big enough lie if told boldly enough because the average man cannot conceive that someone would be so disingenuous. Joseph Goebbels took that perspective and made propaganda an effective and negative term.

The word of the year for 2017 was collusion. After more than a year of searching by thousands of people, even the Democrats have

given up hope of finding that Trump colluded with the Russians to defeat Hillary Clinton (HRC). Actually, the only collusion was the Democrat party and Clinton coordinating efforts to deprive the socialist Bernie Sanders the party’s presidential nomination. Since collusion is now passé, the tainted special counsel, Bob Mueller now seeks to indict people on process crimes rather than collusion. Recall that it was a process crime that sent Martha Stewart to jail. HRC’s unsecured server and her conflict of interest arrangements at the State Department to enrich The Clinton foundation are far worse than General Flynn’s process crime of lying to the FBI.

I was ready for 2017 to end. How interesting the passage of one day changes one’s perspective. Unfortunately, I don’t believe a sense of comity will return to our country in 2018, yet I still have hope. Hope is the focus of my New Year’s resolution based upon Hebrews 11:1 which I’ll share with you: may we all live in the assurance of things hoped for.

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

‘Preparing the Way of the Lord’

We know very little about the growing-up-years of Jesus. One brief story is of a family trip they took to Jerusalem to celebrate Passover, as they did each year. Joseph and Mary were traveling with a large caravan of people, likely friends. They assumed, wrongly, that Jesus was with them on the return trip. They journeyed back and found their twelve-year-old boy in the temple. Keep in mind that Jerusalem is packed with people during the week-long celebration. It would be easy to get lost among the thousands of



By Mark Brackney, Minister of the Arlington Church of Christ

worshippers.

As a practical matter, where would Joseph and Mary have stayed during their days in Judea? Talk about a “no room at the inn” situation. They likely would have stayed with family or kinfolk. Some of Jesus’ family lived in Ein Karem, a town close to Jerusalem.

This was the hometown of Elizabeth, Zechariah, and their son John (the Baptist). Remember that as soon as Mary discovered she was pregnant, she left Nazareth to journey to Ein Karem to tell Elizabeth the news. Mary ended up staying there for the next three months, assisting Elizabeth in her pregnancy until she gave birth. John and Jesus were six months apart, age wise.

Luke goes on to tell us that when John was older, he went to

live in the wilderness or desert of Judea.

Here we find John, around the age of thirty, going to the common people and calling them to repentance (Mark 1:1-7). He was preparing the way for the Messiah who would usher in God’s kingdom on earth. John believed the Messiah to be his relative, Jesus. The place where John taught and baptized was at the Jordan River, likely close to the city of Jericho. This was the very place Israel crossed the Jordan as they entered into the Promised Land. Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John all begin Jesus’ public ministry at the Jordan with John, an important figure in preparing the way for Jesus.

Why did John encourage his hearers to wade into the Jordan to be immersed? The idea of

baptism being used for cleansing and of God’s work in forgiveness was nothing new to John’s hearers.

The Law of Moses encouraged the regular use of water for cleansing: after childbirth, after the monthly menstrual cycle, after sexual intimacy, and cleansing before entering the Temple courts. The washing was not just to clean the body, but it was also a means of expressing a desire to be clean before God. For John and his followers, baptism was an expression of repentance and God’s forgiveness.

John’s message was urgent. They must turn from sin and to God. The Greek word for repentance is metanoia. In the gospels, it means to have a change of mind that leads to a change of heart and a change of values

that leads to a changed life. John wanted people to repent from sin. The Greek word for sin is hamartia. It means to stray from the path or miss the mark. The Bible shows how all have missed the mark and how to get back on the right path to God.

How do we know what the right path looks like? John said, “The man with two tunics should share with him who has none, and the one who has food should do the same” (Luke 3:11).

The evidence God was looking for of true repentance was found in being generous toward the poor and showing a concern for others. John’s message continues to serve as a reminder for us today of what God desires from our lives as we live out His kingdom.



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Hobo's Cold Weather Survival Tips

Hobo the Wonder Dog and I love the winter season filled with it's cold nights with its crisp air—and snow! Hobo the Wonder Dog never complains and he doesn't



By Howard Baker, RN BSN

seem to mind our outings even on the coldest and wettest of days. Many of us are well aware of the dangers our pets face in hot weather, but what about the hazards cold weather brings to our four-legged family members. Hobo trust me to make the best decisions and his happiness and wellbeing hang on me making the right choices. Hobo's Cold Weather Survival Tips will help you navigate the dangers of cold weather while offering suggestions for enjoying winter with your pet.

Chips and Identification: Winter weather snow and ice can present challenges for our pets to recognize landmarks and scents that otherwise help them find their

way home. Make sure your pet's identification tag and microchip information is updated and working properly.

Hot and Cold Cars: We know automobiles can become mini ovens quickly in hot weather posing serious injury and even death during the summer months. Solar energy in cold months can cause an automobile to become too hot for your pet. It is never safe to leave Fido in an automobile unattended.

Paw Protection: I use and highly recommend

Musher's Secret to protect Hobo's paws throughout the year—but I strongly advocate its use during the winter months. Musher's Secret conditions paws and prevents ice and snow build-up. Musher's also protects paws from chemicals used to de-ice sidewalks that can cause injury. Musher's Secret is a must-have product for Hobo and all our dogs. Learn more www.musherssecret.net.

Dress Appropriately: I recommend if you are taking your dog out into extreme cold, wet, snow, and icy conditions dress your dog appropriately. Our dogs have coats to protect them from rain, snow, and cold. We use Musher's Secret for pad protection from the elements natural or man-made. A properly dressed dog enjoys their time outside while keeping them safe and dry.

Healthy Weight: I have heard a little extra weight on a dog during the winter helps them keep warm. Extra weight is never a good idea the health risk do not outweigh any benefit. However, cold weather does cause us to burn extra calories to keep warm so adjust and monitor your pet's caloric intake.

Cold weather is here and we love the opportunity to revisit destinations of summer. Every season offers a new perspective—new experiences; like the seasons of our lives they are ever changing offering us new adventures to enrich our lives. Hobo the Wonder Dog encourages you to enjoy the winter season. Be wise—be safe and we will see you on the streets and trails this winter.

Winter is better with a dog—Woof!



Hobo the Wonder Dog's day trip to The Cumberland Gap National Historical Park cut short due to snow.

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

SUMMONS (FAMILY LAW) NOTICE TO RESPONDENT:

Frank Leahy Renner Jr.
You have been sued.
Read the information below.
Petitioner's name is:
Grace Moranda Alegria Renner
CASE NUMBER: 17FL04805.
You have 30 calendar days after this Summons and Petition are served on you to file a Response (form FL-120) at the court and have a copy served on the petitioner. A letter, phone call, or court appearance will not protect you. If you do not file your Response on time, the court may make orders affecting your marriage or domestic partnership, your property, and custody of your children. You may be ordered to pay support and attorney fees and costs.

For legal advice, contact a lawyer immediately. Get help finding a lawyer at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courts.ca.gov/selfhelp), at the California Legal Services website (www.lawhelpca.org), or by contacting your local county bar association.

NOTICE-RESTRAINING ORDERS:
These restraining orders are effective against both spouses or domestic partners until the petition is dismissed, a judgment is entered, or the court makes further orders. They are enforceable anywhere in California by any law enforcement officer who has received or seen a copy of them.

FEE WAIVER: If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the clerk for a fee waiver form. The court may order you to pay back all or part of the fees and costs that the court waived for you or the other party.

The name and address of the court are:
Sacramento County Superior Court
3341 Power Inn Road,
Sacramento, CA 95826.

The name and contact email address of the petitioner's attorney, or the petitioner without an attorney, are:

Grace Moranda Alegria Renner
Grace.Renner@yahoo.com
Date: August 18, 2017. Clerk,
by /s/ Donnitia M. Deputy

(INSERT Dates the notice will be published January 8, 15, 22& 29, 2018)

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF JO H ANDERSON, JR.
DOCKET NUMBER 79758-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 2 day of JANUARY 2018, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of
JO H ANDERSON, JR.
who died Nov 29, 2017, 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 2 day of JANUARY, 2018.

ESTATE OF JO H ANDERSON, JR.
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
JO ANDERSON; CO-EXECUTOR P.O. BOX 751
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37901

ERIC SCOTT ANDERSON; CO-EXECUTOR
1861 MCKELVEY ROAD
GREENBACK, TN. 37742

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF KENNETH C DRINNON
DOCKET NUMBER 79677-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 19 day of DECEMBER 2017, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of
KENNETH C DRINNON
who died Jan 3, 2017, 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 19 day of DECEMBER, 2017.
DENA DRINNON FOULK; CO-EXECUTOR
7350 HODGES FERRY ROAD
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37920

JONATHAN DAVID FOULK; CO-EXECUTOR
2825 BLUE HEARON LANE
LOUISVILLE, TN. 37777

C DAN SCOTT ATTORNEY
AT LAW P.O. BOX 547
SEYMOUR, TN. 37865

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF ETHEL P CHAMBERLAIN
DOCKET NUMBER 79738-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 18 day of DECEMBER 2017, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of

ETHEL P CHAMBERLAIN
who died Nov 15, 2017, 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 18 day of DECEMBER, 2017.

FRANK WINEGAR; EXECUTOR
5226 VILLAGE CREST WAY, APT #376
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37924

DAVID B HAMILTON ATTORNEY AT LAW
1810 MERCHANT DRIVE, SUITE 1
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37912

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF ROSA LEE RUSH
DOCKET NUMBER 79739-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 18 day of DECEMBER 2017, letters administration in respect of the Estate of

ROSA LEE RUSH
who died Nov 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 18 day of DECEMBER, 2017.

WILLIAM GLENN RUSH; ADMINISTRATOR
176A TAZEWELL PIKE
LUTTRELL, TN. 37779

DAVID B HAMILTON ATTORNEY AT LAW
1810 MERCHANT DRIVE, SUITE 1
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37912

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF LILLIAN EDNA WINBORN
DOCKET NUMBER 79741-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 19 day of DECEMBER 2017, letters administration in respect of the Estate of LILLIAN EDNA WINBORN who died Dec 5, 2017, 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 19 day of DECEMBER, 2017.
Estate of Lillian Edna Winborn
Personal Representative
Brian Walker; Administrator
206 GAYVIEW DRIVE #67
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37920

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF HORACE LEE WINBORN
DOCKET NUMBER 79742-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 19 day of DECEMBER 2017, letters administration in respect of the Estate of

HORACE LEE WINBORN
who died Nov 24, 2017, 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 19 day of DECEMBER, 2017.
Estate of Horace Lee Winborn
Personal Representative
Brian Walker; Administrator
206 GAYVIEW DRIVE, #67
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37920

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF VNORA SPROUSE
DOCKET NUMBER 79752-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 20 day of DECEMBER 2017, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of

VNORA SPROUSE
who died Nov 8, 2017, 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 20 day of DECEMBER, 2017.

ESTATE OF VNORA SPROUSE
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
LINDA M IRIK; EXECUTRIX
195 CEDAR LANE

MAYNARDVILLE, TN. 37807
SCOTT HAHN ATTORNEY AT LAW
5344 N BROADWAY, SUITE 101
KNOXVILLE, TN 37918

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF JOHNNY W CANNON
DOCKET NUMBER 79732-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 15 day of DECEMBER 2017, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of

JOHNNY W CANNON
who died Sep 16, 2017, 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 15 day of DECEMBER, 2017.

ESTATE OF JOHNNY W CANNON
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
CHARLOTTE ANN CANNON; EXECUTRIX
5131 SHIPE ROAD
CORRYTON, TN. 37721

A NICOLE TROUTT ATTORNEY AT LAW
101 DALTON PLACE WAY
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37912

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF RUBY A FEE
DOCKET NUMBER 79750-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 20 day of DECEMBER 2017, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of

RUBY A FEE
who died Nov 16, 2017, 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 20 day of DECEMBER, 2017.

ESTATE OF RUBY A FEE
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
BETSY THOMAS; EXECUTRIX
8402 STABLE LANE KNOXVILLE, TN. 37938

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF JOAN WALLACE CROWDER
DOCKET NUMBER 79746-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 20 day of DECEMBER 2017, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of

JOAN WALLACE CROWDER
who died Nov 26, 2017, 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 20 day of DECEMBER, 2017.

ESTATE OF JOAN WALLACE CROWDER
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
LINDA M IRIK; EXECUTRIX
195 CEDAR LANE

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 20 day of DECEMBER, 2017.

MICHELLE R WILLIAMS; EXECUTRIX
817 KEVIN ROAD
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37923

HAROLD C WIMBERLY ATTORNEY AT LAW
6759 BAUM DRIVE KNOXVILLE, TN. 379

ESTATE OF DANNY C HUFFMAN
DOCKET NUMBER 79719-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 19 day of DECEMBER 2017, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of

DANNY C HUFFMAN
who died Oct 3, 2017, 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 19 day of DECEMBER, 2017.

LORA KOVAL; EXECUTRIX
3820 PROFFITT LANE
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37931

TO: JAMES LOCKHART GREENE;
IN RE: BRUCE GREENE, JR. v.
JAMES LOCKHART GREENE
NO. 194826-2

IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE

In this Cause, it appearing from the Complaint filed, which is sworn to, that the defendant JAMES LOCKHART GREENE 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 JAMES LOCKHART GREENE it is ordered that said defendant JAMES LOCKHART GREENE file an answer with the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court in Knoxville, Tennessee and with R. SETH OAKES, an Attorneys whose address is, 1111 N. Northshore Dr., Suite N-290, Knoxville, TN 37919 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 a The Knoxville Focus Newspaper for four (4) consecutive weeks.

This 11th day of December, 2017.

Clerk and Master
12/18/17, 12/25/17, 01/01/18, 01/08/18

ORDER FOR PUBLICATION

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR SEVIER COUNTY, TENNESSEE
IN RE:
The Adoption of a Minor Child, whose name for the purpose of this proceeding is:
BRAXTON NATHANIEL INGLE, DOB: 8-11-2015

MARY DELORIS INGLE,
and husband, CHARLES FRANCIS INGLE,
(Maternal Grandparents) Petitioners,
And

MISTY MICHELLE BREEDEN,
(Mother), Co-Petitioner,
v.
DEMICHAEAL CHIGANO, (Alleged Father)
and
UNKNOWN FATHER,
Respondents.

ORDER FOR PUBLICATION
IT APPEARING TO THE COURT that from the verified matters set forth in the Petition filed in this cause that service by publication pursuant to T.C.A. § 21-1-203 is appropriate, it is therefore

ORDERED that publication be made for four (4) consecutive weeks as required by law in the Knoxville Focus, a newspaper published in Knox County, Tennessee, notifying the Respondents that they are required to answer and make defense to the Petition to Terminate Parental Rights Coupled with Petition for Adoption in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court for Sevier County, Tennessee, located at 125 Court Avenue, Room 204, Sevierville, TN 37862, within thirty (30) days after the fourth weekly publication of this Order and that, upon their failure to do so, the Petition will be taken as admitted by them and the case set for hearing without their presence.

ENTER this _____ day of _____, 2017

Judge
Sevier County Circuit Court

APPROVED FOR ENTRY:
Felisha B. White, BPR #022590
Attorney for Petitioners
WHITE & WHITE
216 Phoenix Court, Suite D
Seymour, TN 37865
(865) 577-1644

MISC. NOTICES

LEGAL SECTION 94

Knox County will receive bids for the following items & services:
Bid 2640, Sarah Moore Greene Roof Upgrades, due 2/12/18
For additional information call 865-215-5777, stop by the Procurement Division, 1000 North Central St., Suite 100, Knoxville, TN 37917, or visit our website: www.knoxcounty.org/procurement. To bid on Knox County surplus items, go to www.govdeals.com.

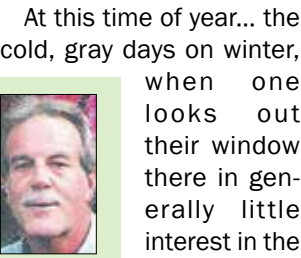
NOTICE OF AUCTION

THE OWNERSAND/OR LIEN HOLDERS OF THE FOLLOWING VEHICLES ARE HERBY NOTIFIED OF THEIR RIGHTS TO PAY ALL CHARGES AND RECLAIM SAID VEHICLES BEING HELD AT THE STORAGE LOT OF RICK'S AUTOMOTIVE CENTER. FAILURE TO RECLAIM THESE VEHICLES WILL BE DEEMED A WAIVEROF ALL RIGHTS, TITLE AND CONSENT TO DISPOSE OF SAID VEHICLE AT PUBLIC AUCTION ON JANUARY 8TH, 2018 AT 10AM AT 8609 NORRIS LN, KNOXVILLE, TN 37938.
1989 Pontiac sunbird 162J51K0K7569571

NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

The following described vehicles have been impounded/ Repaired/ or towed and will be sold at public auction in compliance with the Tennessee Public Acts 1967, Chapter 240, house Bill 379. The sale will be held at Sam's Automotive Vehicle Impoundment Lot located at 701 Cooper St, Knoxville, TN 37917. on January 19th, 2018 at 9 AM. These vehicles have been checked through the files of the Commissioner of Revenue, Title Section, Division of Motor Vehicles, Department of Revenue, State of Tennessee. In appropriate cases, the vehicles have been checked in other states and the owners and/or lienholders have been notified by certified mail. In those instances where no vehicle identification/serial number or license number was available, this Public notice in the newspaper will comply with the law. The failure of the owner / lienholder to exercise their rights to reclaim any vehicle listed below, not bearing a Vin/Serial number, shall be deemed a waiver of all rights and title and authorization to sell said described vehicle(s).
1. 2003 Mazda 6 VIN# 1YVFP80C335M02854
2. 1967 Ford F250 Vin# F26YR833017
3. 2011 Toyota Corolla Vin# JTDUB4EE489134548
4. 1988 Chevy Celebrity Vin# 1G1AW51W3J6126878
5. 2000 Honda Accord Vin# 1H6CG3256YAQ30971
6. 1997 Ford Mustang Vin# 1FALP47V4VF104423

Foliage is the focus



By Mike Cruze, Master Gardener

At this time of year... the cold, gray days on winter, when one looks out their window there in generally little interest in the garden. Of course, if you have planned ahead, you can have plenty of winter interest in the garden. By focusing on foliage, you can enjoy splendid color, even in the dead of winter. Evergreens and conifers can provide an array of color from blue, silver-blue, pale green to the deepest shade of green. Not only do these trees and shrubs provide color but also texture and depth.

A stunning evergreen for the winter garden is the Silver Korean Fir. The needles are shiny dark green above and the needles twist upward to reveal a silver (almost white) underside. These trees are very slow growing (10 feet tall and 6 feet wide in ten years) and mature to 20 feet. They grow in a neat upright pyramid form and do not need pruning. They thrive in full sun and will tolerate partial shade. They like acidic, moist, well-drained soil. These beautiful evergreens produce an abundance of large, showy cones. When the tree is young it produces attractive purple cones growing upward. In the winter the cones make the tree very decorative and turn it into an instant, natural Christmas tree.

Another great addition for winter interest is the Blue Atlas Cedar. Its silvery blue to bluish-green needles are eye-catching in the landscape. The architectural, irregular outline provides great year-round interest. It also is slow-growing; reaching 8-10 feet tall and 5-6 feet wide in 10 years. Beware, however, that at maturity, this tree

can reach 50 feet high and 35 to 50 feet wide. You can, however, keep it pruned to the size and shape you desire. This tree also comes in a weeping form which makes a tremendous specimen tree for the landscape. The branches are stretched facing downward with a waterfall effect. This conifer is low maintenance. They like an ample amount of sunlight and can withstand heat and drought. They do not grow well in extremely wet soil.

Within the "blue" realm of evergreens, another consideration is the Colorado Blue Spruce. It is a good addition to the landscape and is one of the most common trees used as Christmas trees. The needle-like evergreen foliage of the Colorado Blue Spruce has a very stiff appearance. They make good screens or borders. They like full sun tolerating partial shade. They are one of the most popular conifers and are a

magnificent sight. Donald Culrose Peattie described it best saying, "This insistently pretty tree displays its charms of tier on tier of branches graduated in This tree grows at a slow to medium rate and can grow to a height of 50 to 75 feet at maturity.

Two others that really stand out are the Hinoki Cypress and Japanese Cedar (Cryptomaria). Both have these elegantly layered branches that give so much texture to the plants and each have cultivars that include variegated or golden varieties. Hinoki can grow 80 feet tall but grows slowly. However, there is a "Slender Hinoki Cypress" that grows about 15 feet tall and 5 feet wide at maturity that is great for most landscaping needs. The sprays of the Hinoki curl down slightly and the top has arching branches which also droop at the tips. This is an outstanding feature, giving the tree

a soft appearance. The Japanese Cryptomaria or Japanese Cedar is a splendid evergreen that becomes even more handsome as it matures. The Yoshino cultivar is typically a light forest green and sometimes become slightly bronze during the winter. The trunk is also ornamental with gorgeous cinnamon bark which peels in long strips. It can be used as a dramatic focal point in the landscape. It likes full sun to light shade.

These are a few of the more interesting colorful and textured evergreens to add winter interest to your garden. This not an all-inclusive list as there are many others such as American hollies, magnolia, Fraser fir, Canadian hemlock, balsam fir, white pine weeping white pine and the list goes on and on.

As you can see, your winter garden doesn't have to be dull, drab and gray... it can be filled with

vibrant greens, blues, and silver and filled with texture galore. Add some evergreens to your garden and enjoy a colorful, interesting winter landscape.

"The evergreen! How beautiful, how welcome, how wonderful the evergreen! When one think of it, how astonishing a variety of nature!"—Jane Austen

"You mustn't rely on your flowers to make your garden attractive. A good bone structure must come first, with an intelligent use of evergreen plants so that the garden is always clothed, no matter what time of year. Flowers are an added delight, but a good garden is the garden you enjoy looking at even in the depths of winter."—Margery Fish

Wishing each of you a Happy, Healthy, and Prosperous New Year 2018!

UT Gardens' January 2018 Plant of the Month Parney cotoneaster

Submitted by Richard Gibson, Assistant Horticulturist with the UT Gardens, Jackson

This time of year many of us seem to get a little "down in the dumps." The temperatures are cold, the skies are gloomy, and the garden is taking a rest. We have a tendency to stay cooped up inside and not explore nature. However, if you can bring yourself to venture into the garden, Mother Nature has a lot to offer. You might be surprised at the beauty you come across. Take a look at a public gardens or even a friends for inspiration for you own.

Many plants provide winter interest. Winterberry holly (Ilex verticillata) shows off clusters of cheerful red berries, red-twig dogwood (Cornus sericea, C. sanguinea, and C. alba) reveals bright red stems, and 'Florida Sunshine' anise (Ilicium parviflorum) displays vibrant chartreuse foliage. These plants become the center of attention in the winter garden. One particular example I have grown fond of is Cotoneaster lacteus (syn. Cotoneaster parneyi), commonly known as parney cotoneaster. The genus Cotoneaster contains at least 70 species, but unfortunately, their use is limited in much of the United States due to several factors. As Dr. Michael Dirr notes, most species are susceptible to excessive heat, heavy wet soils, lace bug, mites and fireblight, which contribute to their relatively short life in the landscape. With that being said, C. lacteus is truly the exception to the rule – it is virtually pest free.

Parney cotoneaster was introduced to the U.S. in 1930 from western China. Growing to between 6-ft and 8-ft tall and wide in 10 years, its habit is somewhat upright and spreading, with graceful arching branches. This evergreen produces

2-in. to 3-in. clusters of small white flowers in mid May to early June. The flowers give way to beautiful bright red berries that remain on the plant through winter, making this cotoneaster a show-stopper. The dark green, deer-resistant foliage provides the perfect backdrop and contrast to the berries. This cotoneaster grows well in full sun to part shade and, while it is very drought tolerant, it performs best in moist, well-drained soils. The specimen at the UT Gardens, Jackson, flourishes beautifully with virtually no care along the parking lot curb near the gazebo. C. lacteus works well in groupings or as a mass planting and is a wonderful addition to any mixed shrub border where additional winter interest is desired.

For a plant that is resistant to drought, diseases and insects as well as very low maintenance, tolerant of a wide range of growing conditions, and interesting in winter, parney cotoneaster is surprisingly underused.

I encourage you to visit the UT Gardens in Jackson or Knoxville to admire parney cotoneaster at its peak at a time when many plants are taking a rest. Consider adding this cotoneaster, and other winter beauties, to your own garden landscape.

The UT Gardens includes plant collections located in Knoxville, Jackson and Crossville. Designated as the official botanical garden for the State of Tennessee, the collections are part of the UT Institute of Agriculture. The Gardens' mission is to foster appreciation, education and stewardship of plants through garden displays, educational programs and research trials. The Gardens are open during all seasons and free to the public. For more information, see the Gardens website: ag.tennessee.edu/utg.



Many plants provide winter interest in the landscape. Parney cotoneaster stands out in the winter landscape at the University of Tennessee Gardens, Jackson. Photo by J. Reeves, courtesy UTIA.

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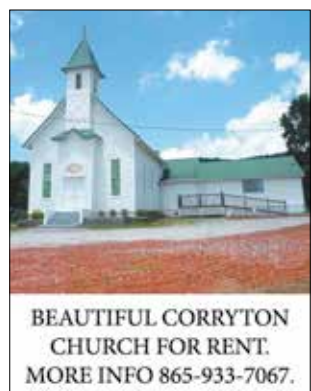
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