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Randy Merritt named regional business development manager



Randy Merritt

Randy Merritt has been named regional business development manager for The Christman Company and will be responsible for seeking new business and project opportunities, as well as maintaining and developing relationships for the construction company.

Merritt, who previously held the title of project manager at The Christman Company, has handled projects in health care; K-12 education; industrial; hospitality and entertainment;

retail; religious structures; and public facilities. Recent projects include the Tennessee School for the Deaf high school and dining hall in Knoxville and The Foundry Hotel in Asheville, North Carolina.

His 36 years of industry experience include general contracting and construction management. His operations expertise covers surveying, highway construction, environmental services, fuel storage systems, and precast fabrication and installation.

He holds an associate degree in construction engineering technology from Pellissippi State Community College.

"Randy is exceptionally skilled at forming and maintaining client and community relationships," said Marty Gibbs, vice president and general manager for The Christman Company's operations in Knoxville. "His ability to build trust and unite teams, paired with a strong work ethic, make Randy a perfect fit for this position."

A native of Knoxville, Merritt

lives in the Luttrell community with his wife, Angie; daughter Callie and her husband, Bruce, who is finishing a degree at the University of Tennessee; and dogs, Louie and Jaxx. He gives back to the community by volunteering with the United Way of Greater Knoxville and Second Harvest Food Bank of East Tennessee and participating in church activities. In his spare time, Merritt enjoys playing bluegrass music, spending time in his workshop and caring for the family farm.

Sharing Christmas Memories

By Mike Steely
steelym@knoxfocus.com

The Knoxville Focus asked several people to share a Christmas Memory in one sentence. We asked all types of folks— office holders, community leaders and Focus Fans. We had such an overwhelming response that we cannot share each reply, but here are the ones we can fit:

Vivian Shipe: I remember all of us getting up at two in the morning on Christmas Day to have Family Christmas with our dad who had to work a 14-hour day at the post office.

Buzz Buswell: A couple of days before Christmas, my then teenage daughter and I gleaned extras from The Angel Tree, added food donated by Ramsey's Cafeteria, and helped a frail oncology patient at Children's Hospital and three generations of his family celebrate the holiday.

Marshall Stair: I remember Tom McAdams, my dad's law partner, giving us some sort of cow gift to remind my dad of his investment in a dairy farm which failed miserably.

Betty Mahan: I remember all four of us sisters sleeping in one bed like a slumber party on Christmas Eve so my grandparents could stay over and be part of Christmas morning with all five of us (I have a brother also).

Pete Gawda: I remember one Christmas when I was a poor seminary student and my wife and I lived in an old rented mobile home on a farm. There were many cedar trees growing on the property and the landlord said we could use one for a Christmas tree, so I cut the top off of one of them and we had a Charlie Brown Christmas tree.

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Clockwise from top:
Knoxville's 2012 Festival of Lights
remembered by Kaye Graybeal.

Marshall and Natalie Stair pick
a Christmas tree for daughter,
Stella.

Knoxville trolleys are spreading
the holiday spirit as they travel
the downtown streets.

Community leader Vivian Shipe
gets into the Christmas spirit.



Is the county's pension lawsuit finally over?

By Mike Steely
steelym@knoxfocus.com

Chancellor John Weaver agreed with a settlement between Knox County and three outside attorneys who represented several deputies. The attorneys had asked the county commission to pay their fees for services delivered for seven retiring sheriff department employees but the commission decided to hire the firm of Arnett, Draper and Hagood to negotiate a settlement.

Originally the three attorneys had requested about \$190,000 and, later, \$150,000. The final settlement that was approved by Judge Weaver as presented by Attorney Rob Frost was for about \$97,000 with a mediator getting \$3,150.

Finance Director Chris Caldwell told The Focus that the settlement amount for the attorneys falls below the threshold of \$100,000. Which county department's budget will be used for the payments isn't known yet and that may be up to the county commission; or the money may come from the county's general funds.

Altogether, from the beginning of the suit until the final payment agreement, the pension board and the county have acquired about \$800,000 or more in expenses. Some estimates are higher at about \$1.2 million.

Attorney Herb Moncier got a settlement of \$17,260. Attorney Al Holifield received the bulk of the settlement, \$78,490, because he represented a number of the employees. Attorney Steven Garrett received \$1,250.

Chancellor Weaver asked Frost if the settlement included the Class Action case and the reply was that portion of the case has been dismissed. Weaver then asked if there were any other types of claims expected other than the attorney fees and the answer was the county agreed to a complete release of all claims.

Continued on page 2

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What is eminent domain?

In the U.S., when you own property you have the right to use that property as you see fit.

Obviously, there are some notable exceptions to this. Cities and counties can enact codes that require you to mow your grass and keep your property clean. Homeowners Associations can require a whole bunch of things for you to do, including what kind of mailbox you can use. If law enforcement believes your residence is the ongoing source of trouble, they may shutter your home for being a nuisance or a house where crimes are consistently committed. And of course, if you do not make your mortgage payments or pay your property taxes, the bank or a governmental entity may come for your property for your failure to pay.

However, none of those are bad as the government's ability to take your property by means of exercising their eminent domain abilities. Your property can be in perfect condition, totally paid off, and you are minding your own business, and the government can decide that they need your property for some purpose. This idea is based on the premise that the use for which the government needs the property is superior to the needs of the individual.

In this part of the country, most people are familiar with individuals being



By Jedidiah McKeehan
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run out of their home so TVA could build a number of dams to control flooding in the Tennessee Valley. People certainly were not happy about it, but the federal government was deemed to

be taking these people's properties for the greater benefit of the public at large.

Similarly, if the government decides that a new road needs to be built and the best way for the road is to go across your property, then you may not have any choice in them using your property for that road.

It's important to note that the government is supposed to compensate individuals for taking their property. There are no guarantees that the amount of compensation provided will be fair or equitable, but it is supposed to be. And the land owner may say that they do not want to give up their property, for any amount of money. I am sorry, in all likelihood, you will lose that argument every single time.

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

Council discusses Trap Neuter Release program for feral cats

By Mike Steely
steelym@knoxfocus.com

Are there too many stray cats in Knoxville?

Tuesday evening the Knoxville City Council debated for over an hour over a possible policy to pick up stray cats, have them vaccinated, treated, neutered and then release them back to where they were found.

Currently, cats are brought in to Young-Williams where they are spayed or neutered and then held for adoption. Young-Williams Animal Shelter took in 8,735 cats in the past three years and 39% of those were ultimately euthanized.

The proper treatment of stray or feral cats in the community spurred much discussion, with Young-Williams Animal Shelter supporting the proposal and the director of Veterinary Public Health at the UT College of Veterinary Medicine opposing the idea. Both Janet Testerman of Young-Williams and Dr. Marcy Souza of UT are members of the City's Animal Control Board but had totally different opinions.

"We never have enough homes for these cats," Testerman said, explaining that the shelter would like to stop killing cats and asked the council to pass, on first reading, a resolution permitting the new spay/neuter and release program. The idea is to capture stray cats, fix them, get them in good health and then return the animals "to their place of origin."

The program, "Trap, Neuter and Release" or TNR, is being used in Nashville and Lauren Bluestone,



PHOTO BY MIKE STEELY

Councilwoman Lauren Rider tried to postpone the decision on picking up and neutering stray cats for 6 weeks but didn't have the votes. The matter sees a second reading at the next council meeting and may be referred to the Animal Control Board.

Nashville's Animal Control Director, told the council it has resulted in a 50% reduction in cats coming to shelters there.

Dr. Marcy Souza opposes the program and said the history of such programs sow "mixed results" and added that "community cats are not a pest." She said it was irresponsible that the program would come to city council without first going through the Animal Control Board.

Councilwoman Lauren Rider agreed with Souza and said that controlling the number of stray cats "needs to be a multi-pronged approach." She said she talked to veterinarians and found they oppose the TNR approach. Rider added that if the program is adopted it should include a follow-up on the treated cats.

Councilman Mark

Campen said the council should look at other opinions before adopting the matter.

"The current practice is not addressing the issue and this shows promise," said Councilwoman Stephanie Welch.

"I'm not a cat person," Councilwoman Gwenn McKenzie said, "But I'm not an advocate for euthanizing just because they don't have a home. There needs to be some continued conversation."

Councilman George Wallace called the proposed program "a step in the right direction."

"What we're doing right now doesn't work," said Councilman Andrew Roberto.

Rider asked to postpone for six weeks and ask the Animal Control Board to review and make a recommendation and Campen

seconded the motion.

"Let's go ahead and implement this and then talk about the Animal Control Board," said Councilman Finbarr Saunders.

Councilman Marshall Stair said the second reading of the policy would come back to council in their January 15th meeting and, at first, supported Lauren's idea to postpone.

"It's just curious to me it didn't go to the Animal Control Board before," Rider said. Campen asked this fellow members "Why rush this through?"

The vote on a six-week postponement failed with only Rider, Campen and Stair voting to postpone. The original motion of approving the first reading of TNR passed with only Rider and Campen voting "No."

Is the county's pension lawsuit finally over?

Cont. from page 1

Frost said the settlement was resolved in a meeting with the attorneys.

Pension Board Attorney John Owings told the board earlier in the week that the resolution was mediated the previous Wednesday and all of the cases involving the pension suit were going to be resolved.

He said he expected a brief hearing, which it was, and was asked by Commissioner Brad Anders during last Monday's pension board meeting if the matter, or

settlement, will come before commission.

Caldwell told the board the amount falls under the threshold and would stand without commission approval but that commission may want to weigh in on the matter.

"That's perfectly fine," the finance director said, adding that the commission may want to decide where the payment comes from. Some commissioners have indicated the amount should come from the law director's budget.

Caldwell said Thursday

that the pension board has insurance that protects it from lawsuits but that the county is "self-insured."

The matter began last year when the law director discovered that the Knox County Retirement and Pension Board had been adding unused vacation pay in retirement calculations in violation of the original voter-approved pension plan. Retiring sheriff's department uniformed employees receive 75% of their highest year's pay in retirement plus a 3% increase each year.

Calculating 43 days of unused vacation pay could bring the retirement percentage far above the retirement authorized in the county code.

The pension board was told of the discrepancy by the law department but did nothing to resolve it, resulting in the suit. The Knox County vs. the Pension Board drew lots of attention and the law director was forced to remove himself from the suit following a "settlement" approval by Mayor Glenn Jacobs and the county commission.



PHOTO BY MIKE STEELY

County Finance Director Chris Caldwell (right) speaks with Rob Frost prior to the ruling on the amount due to attorneys for county retiring deputies in the pension board lawsuit.

Judge Weaver at that time ruled that the law director's clients were the mayor and commission and the law department withdrew from the still unresolved suit.

The commission then realized the county would not be represented in the case and hired the outside law firm. That action led to a hearing and a negotiation. The agreement to the resolution of attorney fees that Weaver made

Thursday ends that suit.

The exception is that a ruling was never made on the pension board's actions to include the vacation days in the retirement calculation. Although the matter appears to be closed it could re-emerge if an outside county resident files a new suit involving the settlement on the original pension board inclusion of vacation days.

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2018 A Very Political Year

By Mike Steely
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May

Local Republicans were surprised to find that an outsider, Libertarian Glenn Jacobs, narrowly defeated both Brad Anders and Bob Thomas to grab their party's nomination for Knox County Mayor. Jacobs defeated Anders by only 17 votes and a count of provisional ballots confirmed the victory.

Jacobs would go on to face Democrat Linda Haney in the general election.

Many of the Republican supporters of Lee Tramel were also surprised to see former Interim Sheriff Tom Spangler walk away with a huge primary victory over Tramel. Former Sheriff J.J. Jones had strongly supported Tramel but primary voters chose Spangler with 65% of the vote and he would be unopposed in the general election.

The Democrats posed candidates in almost every race except for county sheriff. Only two of their state house candidates, incumbent Rick Staples and Gloria Johnson, would go on to general election victories.

The primary vote brought several new people to public office due to resignations and term limits.

Newcomers would include Commissioners Justin Biggs and Larsen Jay, County Court Clerk Charlie Susano, Jr., Nick McBride as Register of Deeds, and school board members Evetty Satterfield and Kristi Kristy.

The 2nd Annual Veteran Heritage Ridge Run was held at Sharps Ridge with 240 slots available for the fund raiser.

The Knox County Ethics Committee, reacting to pre-election complaints against Lee Tramel, Brad Anders and Bob Thomas, began changing their rules on when a complaint can be considered prior to an upcoming election. All the complaints were dismissed as the law department and the ethics group set about changing the dates a complaint can be submitted.

Knox County Mayor Tim Burchett, a candidate to replace Congressman Jimmy Duncan, suggested cutting the budgets for Project Grad, the magnet schools and the gifted and talented program.

Knoxville Focus writer Pete Gawda, an ordained Baptist minister, was accepted along with 15 others as chaplain for the Knoxville Police Department.

The Fountain City Town Hall neighborhood organization began putting final touches on their annual "Honor Fountain City Day" held each year on Memorial Day.

Remote Area Medical held a "Salute to Service" for the 15th year in a row at the Downtown Island Airport. Founder Stan Brock spoke but, later that year, Mr. Brock passed away.

Knoxville began tracking registered short-term rental homes with new regulations in place to authorize where and how the increasing home-rentals can be authorized.

Congressional candidate Jimmy Matlock opened his Knoxville campaign office in Downtown West. He would challenge Tim Burchett for the Republican nomination but lose to Burchett in the primary.

Burlington's future received a boost with the



Bystanders snap pictures with their phones as county officials and students cut the ribbon to open the new Gibbs Middle School on July 10, 2018. Pictured from left, Knox County 2nd District School Board representative Jennifer Owen, Law Director Bud Armstrong, 6th District BoE member Terry Hill, County Commissioners Bob Thomas and Charles Busler, BoE Chair Patti Bounds, 8th District BoE representative Mike McMillan, Mayor Tim Burchett, Gibbs Middle School principal Cindy White, Superintendent Bob Thomas and Commissioner Dave Wright. Photo by Rose King.



The Focus profiled Fountain City's Jane Allen, pictured with husband, Glenn, in July 2018. Glenn and Jane celebrated their 59th wedding anniversary in November. Photo by Steve Williams.

city allotting \$350,000 to help in revitalization efforts.

June

Knoxville unveiled plans for a Gateway Park at the end of the James White Parkway. The park would offer access to the Urban Wilderness trails and will eventually include a playground, parking area, restrooms, a rock climbing wall, etc.

The Friendly Readers Book Club took Boys & Girls Club members on an educational bus tour around town to various historic places.

The city council began looking at a way to limit amplified music by street vendors. The council also authorized \$135,955 in funds going to the Volunteer Ministry to hire two community outreach works for homeless people and continued to plan to convert the lot below the Broadway bridge into a day shelter location.

Candidates for public office were quizzed by The Focus and their answers published in the newspaper.

The board of education extended the contract of Superintendent Bob Thomas for a year based on his satisfactory performance evaluation.

The ethics committee began discussing a complaint against three commissioners and eventually dismissed all the charges.

A new statue of Febb Burn and her son, Harry, both instrumental in passing the Women's Right to Vote amendment to the U. S. Constitution, was dedicated at Knoxville's Market Square.

Knoxville Police Chief David Rausch was named by the governor to head the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation and Mayor Madeleine Rogero appointed Eve Thomas as the city's first female police chief.

The Twin Creek Road was closed to local use as the county went about cleaning up a huge roadside dump

there. Residents along the road and members of the Harris Chapel Church began working with the county to get the road back open. Church members eventually agreed to maintain the cleared dump if the road were reopened.

The county commission granted a five-year funding of \$5 million to Zoo Knoxville.

July

The dispute over a Historic Overlay for the Parkridge neighborhood continued with the city changing its proposal to a Neighborhood Conservation zone (NC1) which would still protect some of the historic homes but not be as restrictive. The Office of Neighborhood attempted mediation between historic overlay proponents and opponents of Parkridge in a meeting at the O'Connor Senior Center.

The annual July 4th events took place at the World's Fair Park and the county commission continued to wrestle with the trash cleanup at Twin Creek Road. The late Lynn Redmon was honored at city council and God's Place Thrift Store was featured in The Knoxville Focus.

Jane Allen Drive was named for Jane Allen, who served Fountain City and the City of Knoxville for more than 25 years. She and her husband, Glenn, celebrated their 59th wedding anniversary in November.

Eight candidates for state house attended a forum at the Burlington Library. Rick Dover, developer of Knox High Independent Senior Living in the old Knoxville High School, signed a conservation easement to preserve the Doughboy statue there.

The Hardin Valley and Gibbs Middle Schools opened with a ribbon cutting and early voting got underway with a large turnout expected. Hardy Johnson celebrated his 90th birthday at Dante Missionary

Baptist Church.

Citizens confronted the sheriff's department's policy on enforcing federal immigration laws in a meeting that included a spokesperson for the U. S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency. Next door to that meeting the county ethics committee heard claims against Chief Deputy Lee Tramel.

Ed Brantley and Bob Thomas continued their Night Out community meeting series with a visit to Chandler's Deli on Magnolia Avenue.

Republican Glenn Jacobs and Democrat Linda Haney spoke at League of Women Voters forum with the two candidates for county mayor differing on taxes and immigration enforcement.

The city council borrowed \$40 million for use in finding or creating a new police and fire headquarters. Initially the city had looked at old Knoxville College as a possible location but as the search continued the former St. Mary's Hospital, now Tennova, just off Broadway, became the focus.

Emerald Youth Foundation broke ground for its \$10 million Lonsdale Ministry Complex.

Congresswoman Marsha Blackburn kicked off her senate race with a campaign office opening on Kingston Pike.

"Uptown North," an idea spurred by George Bove, president of the North Knoxville Business and Professional Association, began to brand several North Knoxville neighborhoods. Bove

would later be featured in The Knoxville Focus as part of our "Getting to Know" popular feature.

Plans for a new senior citizen center in Farragut were announced by Farragut Mayor Ron Pinchok and Knox County Mayor Tim Burchett.

August

Gibbs Middle School opened with an "Eagle Fest" for students and parents. Sheriff-elect Tom Spangler announced he would put his pension plan payments on hold when he serves in the office.

The city government and the Metropolitan Planning Commission continued several public meetings on the proposed Recode Knoxville. The plans would eventually be altered somewhat but would not be completed by the end of the year.

The historic Airplane Filling Station on Clinton Highway opened after restoration and added authentic gas pumps. The campaign would eventually be deeded to Knox Heritage for preservation and upkeep.

Kelly Litton's Back Room dining and carryout was featured and the Magnolia Avenue Streetscapes Project broke ground. The board of education looked at the system's Kindergarten Portfolio.

A senior community was announced for the Whittle Springs area but was later abandoned in search of another location. Bernice Marie Cantwell Stevens,

Part Two of Three

founder of Stevens Mortuary, passed away.

The eventual sale of the Andrew Johnson Building was again on the commission agenda and would continue to be pushed back and remain unresolved by the end of the year. A location for the school administration offices remains in limbo with much of the attention looking at the TVA Towers downtown or possibly even the declining Knoxville Center Mall.

The county ethics committee voted to change the procedure on complaints, limiting a hearing on complaints filed close to a primary or general election if it regards candidates.

Pond Gap residents protested a large apartment complex in their community along Hollywood Drive. Their disagreement went unheeded but the residents continue to appeal. A similar affordable housing development in South Knoxville was also approved.

The sound ordinance was again revised by city council limiting the volume of amplified sound coming from downtown businesses and street vendors.

August 17th was declared "Sylvia Williams Day" in honor of Williams, the driving force behind the Fountain City Arts Center.

Retirement compensation that included unused vacation days resulted in a lawsuit between the Knox County Law Department and the Knox County Retirement and Pension Board and the sale of the Andrew Johnson Building was put on hold again.

The annual East Tennessee History Fair drew thousands to downtown Knoxville where County Clerk Sherry Witt and community leader Vivian Shipe unveiled the completed Burn Memorial.

Vietnam veterans were honored at the monthly community center breakfast in Powell and many were presented with their Vietnam service button. Windsor Gardens celebrated 18 years of service.

State and federal candidates began preparing for the November 6th General Election with much local attention focused on the fight between Republican Eddie Smith and Democrat Gloria Johnson for a seat in the state house.

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August 20, 2018

City Police and Fire not relocating to Knoxville College

By Mike Steely
steelym@knoxfocus.com

It may be that Knoxville College failed to fulfill an agreement within the memorandum of understanding with the city or successfully negotiate to alleviate the former school's debt but the City is back off an agreement.

The tentative agreement between Knoxville College and the city would have created space there, after much demolition, environment clean up and then construction to relocate both the police and fire headquarters. The city is now again looking for land suitable for that use.

Another factor in the proposal was money. Deputy Mayor David Brace notified the college that the school faces a \$6 million debt and the city's estimated cleanup and construction is estimated at about \$5 million.

Brace said the search for a new location will not delay the "much-needed renovation of the out-

With Central High seniors forming a human tunnel, Head Coach Bryson Rosser leads his Bobcats to the field for their 2018 season opener Thursday night against Tennessee High of Bristol. The visiting Vikings held on for a 19-16 victory in one of the first games in the state to be played this season. Please see Week 1 prep football coverage, including scores and schedule, in Sports & Recreation, Section C.

The Focus' August 20, 2018 front page featured a photo of the Central High School football team taking the field before their first game of the season. Although they lost this game, they would turn their season around and become state champions in December.

Sharing Christmas Memories

Cont. from page 1

Dan Andrews: As a child I would pretend a wooden block was a radio walkie talkie. So for Christmas, when I got real walkie talkies, it began my passion to become radio communications amateur radio operator KN4CTF.

Patricia Robledo: Christmas time in Colombia always involved a lot of family and fun. We had novenas: the nine days before Christmas we would go to different homes to visit the nativity scenes, pray and sing villancicos (Christmas carols). Traditional Colombian Christmas food includes buñuelos (cheese fritters) and natilla (custard dessert).

Charlie Busler: I remember the Christmas that all five of my grandchildren were together the last time.

Cherel Henderson: I remember the thrill when my daddy came in from the outside cold to tell us that he heard bells jingle and then looked up to see Santa and his reindeer and sleigh fly over.

Bob Thomas: As a kid one of the gifts I remember the most was the Dick Tracy Two-Way Radio that Santa brought me. Luckily he happened to bring my best friend down the street one too. Santa is a smart guy.

Gloria Johnson: Christmas makes me think of family... and smells, my favorite is

the smell of a live tree. It's not Christmas to me without it!

David Williams: Got a tricycle with a wagon bed attached and it was lots of fun hauling stuff. I believe it was the Christmas before I entered first grade.

J. C. Tumblin: Christmas 1938. Having just turned Boy Scout at the age of 12 in October, I was thrilled to get my Boy Scout uniform (shirt, pants and neckerchief) for Christmas.

Jamie Rowe: Sitting on our hearth with immediate family and aunt and cousins and only Christmas tree lights, singing Christmas carols- that has stayed with me as the best time ever.

Mike Cohen: In 1977 a friend asked me to dress up as Santa for his son and visit their house. And the kid totally believed I was Santa Claus...and the pure joy and excitement from that boy believing not just in Santa, but that I WAS Santa is a great memory. So is every Christmas morning with my own kids...and the year my parents gave my brother and I a tabletop hockey set. Best toy ever.

Indya Kincannon: I remember lighting real candles on our tree on Christmas Eve, dimming all the lights, singing Christmas carols together, and then carefully putting out all the candles with a snuffer.

Eddie Mannis: As a little boy I never knew when my



Little Lauren Rider visits with Santa.

mother was going to put the Christmas tree up. We would just come home from school one afternoon and as we walked down the street from school we could see the silver Christmas tree in the front window of the house.

Kaye Graybeal: I loved the Festival of Lights in Krutch Park during my first Christmas in Knoxville in 2012.

Chris Albrecht: Lights. It was and is all about lights

for me. Outdoor lights, lights on the Christmas tree, bubble lights, mini lights, lights that when one goes out, they all go out... Christmas lights of all shapes and colors!

Becky Roberts Harmon: As a young child, on Christmas Eve, I remember waking up in the middle of the night and going into the living room where I found my father busily trying to assemble a bicycle. He

said Santa was very busy and just left it with him in the box so he was doing this because Santa asked him to.

Lauren Rider: More memorable than any presents, my favorite part of Christmas was seeing my cousins at grandma's house. They were my best friends growing up and holidays guaranteed we'd see each other.

Rebecca Parr: The last Christmas that my parents

were still married was when I was four and my siblings and I got up on Christmas Eve and caught them dancing by the light of the tree in their PJs to Elvis music. We were discovered and sent back to bed, but still today it is the most beautiful memory I have of my parents together.

Charles Rhodamer: When Mom and Dad would let me open one present on Christmas Eve which wasn't underwear, socks, clothing or deodorant, that was when I knew it was Christmas. Now every time I see Mom and Dad it is Christmas.

Debbie Sharp: We woke up early on Christmas morning, went running down the hall, saw snow footprints in the carpet indicating that Santa had been there, and I screamed with delight! As I opened my presents, one of them was a watch with some Disney character, which I do not remember now, but I LOVED it. I looked up the chimney and said, "Thank you, Santa!" Fun memories!!

Eric Vreeland: My mom was Mrs. Christmas - tins of cookies, exquisite indoor and outdoor decorations, ribbon and a hand-tied bow on every present. My sisters and I hoarded Mom's bows and reused them for decades - that's how beautiful they were.



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Getting to know

South Knoxville's Unsinkable MOLLY GILBERT

South Knoxville's Molly Gilbert is one active lady. This wife and mother of two is active in many neighborhood and community organizations and proud of her community. Her efforts are recognized by all who know her.

Like the Titanic's "Unsinkable Molly Brown" Molly Gilbert successfully forges ahead and her efforts stretch far beyond her Lake Forest neighborhood.

She's held various positions with the Lake Forest Neighborhood Association, the Junior League of Knoxville, the Dogwood Arts Festival Chapman Highway Trail, the East Tennessee Quality Growth Board, the Chapman Recreation Center, the Ramsey House board, the Chapman Highway Garden Club, the Candora Arts and Heritage Center, the Neighborhood Advisory Council, the Knoxville Council of Garden Clubs, the Public Relations Society of America and the American Marketing Association.

How is your position working for you?

When I started looking

for volunteer opportunities out of the neighborhood I focused on South Knoxville. I decided that if I was going to dedicate time and energy to volunteering then it would be best to try to make a difference close to home.

Can you comment about your South Knoxville involvement?

Being involved in the South Knoxville community has given me the great joy of meeting and working alongside of so many people who are all so special. The renaissance of South Knoxville over the last few years that is still unfolding is due to the consistent dedication of some key business owners and volunteers who have donated countless hours to making the vision of what South Knoxville could be, a reality. Members of groups like the South Knoxville Alliance and the South Knoxville Neighborhood and Business Coalition have supported local businesses and neighborhoods. Exemplifying community leadership, the volunteers in these two organizations have worked in conjunction with former Knox County Commissioner Mike

Brown and now Knox County Commissioner Carson Dailey and former Knoxville City Council Representative Nick Pavlis and now Knoxville City Council Representative Stephanie Welch. Knowing that everyone is working towards the same goal of a better, stronger, more inclusive South Knoxville is encouraging.

Tell us a bit about your family.

In 2018, I celebrated 22 years of marriage to Scott Gilbert, who is a native of South Knoxville. He has taught English for more than 20 years on the college, high school, and middle school levels. He is currently homeschooling our two children (now ages 12 and 14) and teaching dual enrollment classes for college credit at River's Edge Christian Academy and Bryan College. He also teaches several homeschool middle and high school co-op classes at Thursday Connection. He is a freelance writer for several small business website blogs.

In 2007, we moved into my husband's childhood neighborhood (Lake Forest

Neighborhood), just around the block from his parents who were thrilled to have their only grandchildren so close by. Scott is an only child. His father, mother, grandparents and Gilberts for several generations back are also native Knoxvilleians.

His father, David Gilbert, is a well-recognized local graphic designer who created the World's Fair logo and just recently retired from Pellissippi after 30+ years of teaching and leading in the graphic design department. His mother recently retired as an elementary education teacher, who has worked for Knox County, private schools, and most recently for home-school co-ops. They moved to Lake Forest Neighborhood as a young married couple, more than 45 years ago. His grandparents also lived in the neighborhood at the time, and they were equally excited to have their only great-grandchildren in the neighborhood. When we moved, the kids were only 1 and 3 years old and the extra helping hands were a true blessing.

My two children, Audrey



The "Unsinkable Molly" Gilbert is a strong South Knoxville advocate, a wife and mother, and a talented community activist. (Photo courtesy of Molly Gilbert)

and Finnian, who are now in their teenage years, have a real sense of home and have benefited from being surrounded by so many people who love them. The idea of living so close to family was a concept I hadn't experienced because I grew up in a military household. My father was a fighter pilot in the U.S. Air Force for 23 years – we moved every three years of my entire life – even after I had gotten married, Scott and I still moved about every

three years because of job changes. We met in Rock Hill, South Carolina, and moved to Atlanta, Georgia, before deciding to move to Knoxville. To be completely honest, at first I was afraid that moving into the same neighborhood as his parents and his grandparents was going to turn out like the TV show "Everybody Loves Raymond" but my in-laws are the greatest people on earth and it's nice to know there's

Continue on page 4

Fort Kid, Christmas trash and Supreme Court building at City Council

By Mike Steely
steelym@knoxfocus.com

Mayor Madeline Rogero gave a reminder at last week's Knoxville City Council meeting concerning excess Christmas trash. Rogero said that bagged wrappings and cardboard can be left by home trash cans for pick up the week following Christmas.

She also said that bare Christmas trees can be left by the ditch with leaves for pickup or taken to the various

convenience centers.

She also invited the public to New Year's Eve at Market Square with music beginning at 10 p.m. and followed with fireworks.

Chief Operating Officer David Brace explained that Fort Kid has been closed by the Public Building Authority because the retaining wall there is failing. The park, at 1049 World's Fair Park Drive, also has damaged wooden timbers and playground

equipment. Brace said it could take \$900,000 to repair the playground and added that the city is working with the original fundraisers on the matter.

The council also extended the preparation time toward the purchase of the former Supreme Court building by Dover Development. Deputy Mayor Bill Lyons said that Dover is "proceeding as quickly as possible" and having to split parcels there and seeking planning commission

approval. Councilman George Wallace asked if the purchase could be completed in 90 days and Lyons said that "would be adequate."

Also approved was an agreement with Vaughn & Melton for a study of Phase II of the Magnolia Street Scape Project and \$2.87 million contract with McKinnon Construction Company for the same project.

Convention, Sports and Leisure International was hired to develop an

overall plan for future use of Chilhowee Park and Exhibition Center. Fred D. (Tony) Thompson, Jr. was again hired as the city's Nashville lobbyist for \$60,000.

Mayor Rogero was authorized to enter into an agreement with the state transportation department to extend the Riverwalk along the Tennessee River from Suttree Landing to Island Home.

Central High School's football team was honored

by the council for winning the state championship.

Tim Hill's nomination to the Metropolitan Planning Commission was approved. Other nominations by Mayor Rogero which were approved included Kati Sanford Goodner to the Better Building Board and Tolly Harris and Patrick Wolf to the Industrial Development Board. John Craig was re-elected to the Development Board.



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What presents are important

So, it's here again. Christmas will arrive on the same day as always, but the speed at which it comes seems to increase with each passing year. I used to dislike it when people said such a thing, but now I realize that with



By Joe Rector
joerector@comcast.net

age, everything speeds up. What is important also changes as the years roll along.

As children, we spent hours thumbing through Spiegel, Sears, and General Products catalogs. Every toy we saw was added to our Christmas lists. Our parents rarely had any idea what we actually wanted Santa to bring. Eventually, they finally made "executive decisions" as to what to buy. I never remember being disappointed on Christmas mornings; Mother and Daddy possessed those special powers that led to their picking just the perfect presents for us boys.

When my children arrived, I worried about choosing the right things for them, and after they'd opened those presents, I always tormented them with questions about how satisfied they were with the items they'd received. I continually asked them if they were all right until the question was met with furrowed brows and laser stares.

These days, I still hope we choose things that our children and grandson like. Of course, saving the receipts helps, and then they always appreciate some Christmas money. Amy declares that it is "always the right color and the right size."

For me, the presents aren't so important now. Sure, I want to be remembered, but I have no special items in mind for my own gifts. I have everything I need, and unless someone is interested in giving me a new truck or a leaf vacuum for my mower, I don't think I require much of anything else.

I'm more about spending time with family during Christmas. Having a few days with my grown children, son-in-law Nick, and grandson is a much bigger joy. We pile in on each other and celebrate the season. Sometimes, a person needs a bit of a respite from the noise and commotion, so he retreats to his bedroom. Before long, he returns for another round of chaos. By the time the holidays are finished, all of us are ready for a return to the normal life that is free of so much hubbub. It's not that we don't love each other; it's that too much closeness grates on anyone's

nerves.

Soaking in the season and all that comes with it is a blessing. The truth is everyone loves receiving gifts and spending time with loved ones. At some point during the holidays, I'll grow a bit moody and even teary-eyed. It happens when I think about those people whom I loved and are now gone.

I look at myself in the mirror sometimes and wonder how in the world I grew so old. My mind is still that of a young man, but the body that houses that mind is filled with aches and pains. I am at that place where my parents and grandparents were in years gone by. What I most need to do now is live in the moment and love my wife and children and grandson as much as possible. At some point they will have to continue Christmas without me. It would be nice if they remember me fondly and even have a few laughs at the goofy things I contributed to the season.

I hope you have the opportunity to spend times with the ones most dear to you this Christmas. Make sure you give them extra hugs and kisses and "I love you's." Most of all, bow your head and give a word of thanks to God for giving you these wonderful people. They are the presents that are most important.

Merry Christmas!



Rosie's
World

Along with most people, I watch the Christmas movies that abound at this time of the year. My favorites have always been the same: White Christmas, It's A Wonderful Life, A Christmas Carol, Miracle on Thirty-Fourth Street, and many others. And I still love Rudolph, the Red-Nosed Reindeer. However, since the movie Prancer came out, I have to admit that's one of my very favorites.

Prancer first came out in 1989 with Sam Elliot, (one of my favorite actors), Cloris Leachman, and a little girl named, Rebekkah Harrell. It's the story of a farm girl who nurses a wounded reindeer she believes is one of Santa's reindeer. It had fallen from a display that hung across the street. Her aim is to get him well enough to be able to fly on Christmas

Prancer

Eve with the other reindeer. Disillusioned by the girl's mother's death, her father doesn't think he's capable of raising a little girl and wants to give her to his sister. Naturally, the little girl doesn't want to leave her home and her father. He is unaware of the goings-ons occurring on the farm between the reindeer and his daughter. Many hilarious scenes are involved here.

This is a movie with a love story between two people who love each other and between a girl and an animal whom she learns to love. Of course, all ends well and Prancer does learn to fly through the air due to the ministrations of his little nursemaid. The father reads to his daughter near the end of the movie:

"You tear apart a baby's rattle, and you see what makes the noise inside. But there is a veil covering the unseen world, which

not the strongest man can push aside. Only faith, poetry, love, and romance can push aside that curtain and view the beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real? In all this world, there is nothing else real in the body. Santa Claus, thank God he lives and lives forever, a thousand years from now, ten times ten thousand years from now, and he will continue to make glad the hearts of childhood."

It is sad when one becomes an adult to lose the innocence they had when a child. To see things in a different light as they really are and to lose the dreams we had when younger. This movie makes it clear to us that you're never too old to dream.

Thought for the day: Merry Christmas to all and to all a good night!

Send comments to: rosemerrie@att.net or call 865-748-4717. Thank you.



Picture of (L-R) Wayne and Ralphine Major, Barbara Wheeler Tipton and Principal Aaron Maddox

Generous Donor Gives the Gift of Reading

By Ralphine Major
ralphine3@yahoo.com

"The staff and I feel that Corryton Elementary School is quite possibly the best kept secret in Knox County," Principal Aaron Maddox said about the rural school that sits at the base of House Mountain in the northeast part of the county. As I stepped through the doorway of the school, I began to understand his comment. I stopped in amazement at the scene that greeted us. It was like going back in time. The archway in the lobby adds architectural charm to the quaint school. It leads to the welcome sign high above the

tall, beautifully decorated Christmas tree in the hallway. The popular principal gave us a brief history lesson about the structure. Corryton Elementary was built in 1936, and the school still has the original hardwood floors.

It was "Pajama Day" on the Friday that we visited. Piddle Diddle, the Widdle Penguin, creator and co-authors Wayne and Ralphine Major invited Guest Reader Barbara Wheeler Tipton to share "Piddle Diddle's Lost Hat" with a roomful of well-behaved students. This is the first book of the series about the mischievous penguin, now a registered

trademark. It was an extra-special day of reading! An anonymous donor had purchased books for the entire kindergarten class so each of the nearly 40 students would get a book to take home!

Piddle Diddle, the Widdle Penguin, authors wish to thank Principal Maddox, his staff, and the children for a fun-filled morning in a very special place; Barbara Wheeler Tipton for lending her experience to share the story of how Piddle Diddle, the Widdle Penguin, found her favorite Santa hat; and a huge "thank you" to the anonymous donor for giving so generously the gift of reading!



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Celebrating
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Tennessee Governors & the Path to the US Senate Part Thirteen

Pages from the Past



By Ray Hill
rayhill865@gmail.com

Malcolm Patterson, twice elected governor of Tennessee, had attempted to make a political comeback by entering the first U. S. Senate race where the people nominated candidates for the general election in 1915. Patterson faced stiff opposition in the incumbent, Senator Luke Lea, and Congressman Kenneth D. McKellar. Neither Patterson nor Lea thought the McKellar candidacy would amount to much and pounded each other unmercifully throughout the campaign. McKellar surprised just about everybody, beating both Lea and Patterson.

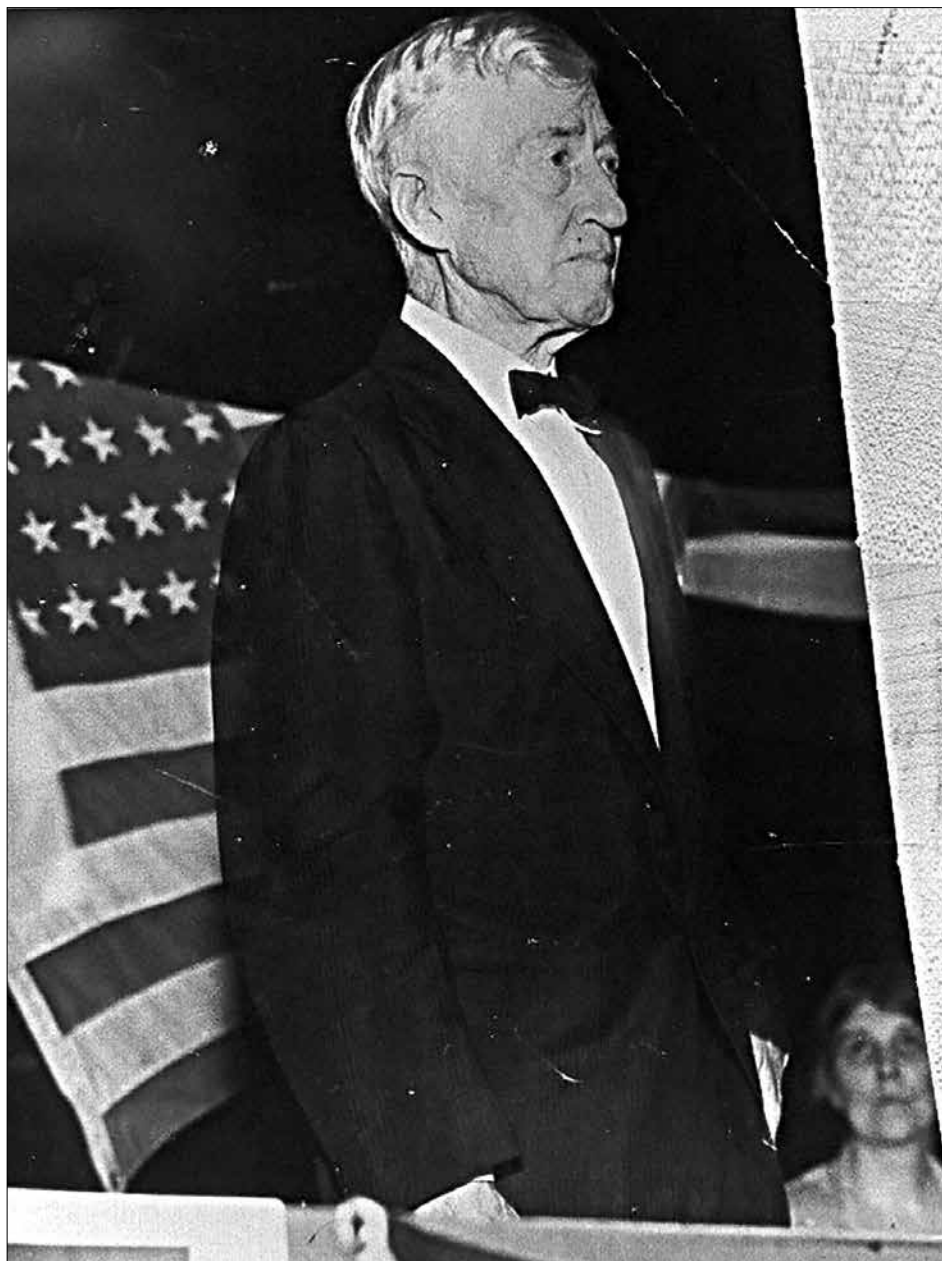
The former governor had lived through substantial tragedy, losing two wives and his son and namesake. Young Malcolm Patterson had been severely alcoholic, descended into a life filled with brawls, low companions, and had tried to kill a man while living in Washington State. Eventually, the younger Patterson had been adjudged to be insane and was confined to the Tennessee State Asylum for the Insane where he died. Patterson's own fondness for alcohol had led him to be the champion of the liquor interests in Tennessee, but in 1913 the former governor became a leading advocate and spokesperson for temperance. Many Tennesseans doubted the sincerity of Patterson's switch, especially as he traveled the country as a paid spokesperson, but considering what had happened to his son, as well as the fact the former governor had once been discovered in a house of ill repute while drunk, there is reason to believe Patterson's views might have legitimately changed.

Surprised by his defeat for the senatorial nomination by Congressman McKellar, Patterson resumed his former activities as a lecturer for the Anti-Saloon League. Apparently the former governor made quite a good living speaking on behalf of the Anti-Saloon League and on the Chautauqua circuit; in a letter to his wife, Patterson wrote he was averaging more than \$1,000 per meeting in 1918. That was quite a sum for the time.

Patterson, a gifted orator, spoke in small and large venues, giving his lectures in theatres and churches. Despite his decisive defeat by McKellar in the 1915 special primary, few Tennesseans believed Malcolm Patterson was done with politics. The former governor kept up a busy schedule speaking to throngs of Tennesseans in his work with the Anti-Saloon League, exposing him to thousands of

prospective voters. By the fall of 1921, there were rumors Patterson was considering challenging Senator McKellar inside the Democratic primary in 1922. Complicating the situation was the attitude of Tennessee's senior U.S. senator, John Knight Shields. A thoroughly crusty and curmudgeonly man, Shields had been an opponent of President Woodrow Wilson's League of Nations, while McKellar was an ardent supporter of both Wilson and the League of Nations. The Nashville Tennessean merrily reported Senator Shields had made "sneering" remarks about a speech given by his junior colleague on the floor of the Senate in support of Wilson and the League. The Tennessean, no admirer of either Shields or McKellar, admitted it was impossible to detect any open break between the senators, but reminded readers of what it considered to be Shields' duplicitous nature, noting "...McKellar's intimates are aware that Shields never breaks that way with political associates." The Tennessean opined, "It has been a practice with Shields, they pointed out, to wait until those with whom he has differences are in close quarters before wielding the stiletto." Patterson had indignantly insisted he had been "double-crossed" by Shields in the 1915 primary, claiming the senior senator had promised to back him. Instead, Shields had strongly supported McKellar. The Tennessean speculated Senator Shields might support Patterson in 1922 against McKellar.

Patterson duly announced his candidacy for the U. S. Senate in January of 1922. The former governor quickly agreed to a proposal by another candidate for the Democratic nomination, Noah Cooper, to limit expenditures in the primary campaign. That likely had less to do with Senator McKellar than another aspirant, Guston T. Fitzhugh, who was quite wealthy and could self-fund his senatorial campaign. The Nashville Banner, a strong proponent of Senator McKellar, had published a story stating Patterson was inclined to enter the gubernatorial race, which the former governor hotly denied. "This is untrue in every particular," Patterson said, "for I have not the slightest idea of offering myself as a candidate for governor. How the rumor originated I don't know, except in some over-heated brain wild over politics." Patterson said he had stated his intention to run for the U. S. Senate,



Former Governor Malcolm R. Patterson circa 1932.

adding, "...and this is what I intend to do."

Former Congressman Thetus W. Sims, who had badly wanted to run for the Senate in 1915, announced he, too, would enter the senatorial race. Few took Sims seriously, as he had been defeated by Gordon Browning for renomination inside his own Congressional district in 1920. Noah Cooper was never a serious candidate either, being little more than a vocal fringe candidate. Neither Thetus Sims nor Malcolm Patterson could sustain a race against a popular incumbent. Eventually, both withdrew from the race. Few Tennesseans even noticed Sims' withdrawal, but the former governor's announcement was widely covered by the Tennessee press. Citing "wholly personal reasons" for his leaving the senatorial race, Patterson's brief statement to the people of Tennessee said his friends were free to choose among the remaining candidates. The Clarksville Leaf-Chronicle likely came much closer to the truth when it noted many of the former governor's firmest friends felt there was little chance for Patterson to defeat McKellar. Patterson had last been elected to statewide office in 1908 and his defeat by McKellar in 1915 had been thorough. The Tennessean immediately predicted Patterson's withdrawal from the Senate race was "a blow" to McKellar's candidacy. Of course the Tennessean was still owned by former U. S. senator Luke Lea, who had been defeated by McKellar in 1915 as well. Lea and his newspaper still showed considerable animosity toward McKellar and noted the latter had been elected in a "three-way race" and was "a political accident." Suddenly, Lea's Tennessean was

full of praise for Malcolm Patterson. Lea had apparently forgotten the hatred between the two for the better part of a decade. Now Lea published an editorial telling readers Patterson was "head and shoulders above any other in Tennessee" as a natural politician. "He is a man of rare charm and magnificent intellect," the Tennessean opined. Moreover, the former governor had "at some time or other, but never simultaneously, had the support of about every Democrat in Tennessee." The Tennessean readily acknowledged Patterson's supporters in the state had deteriorated steadily through the years, admitting, "he could not gather an encouraging following" to make a serious bid against McKellar in 1922. Ruefully, the Tennessean concluded, "As a man, as an intelligent and conscientious force, Patterson today ranks high. As a politician he is passé." It was certainly true Malcolm Patterson was well beyond his political prime. His loss to McKellar in 1915 had virtually extinguished whatever remained of his political career, yet Malcolm Patterson could not stay away from politics or running for office.

Former governor Patterson caused a bit of a stir when he spoke in his home city of Memphis and was critical of the Crump regime. E. H. Crump had yet to fully master Shelby County, but Patterson told members of the City Club Memphis, "it is the only city whose politics is custom-made and handed down without alteration."

Senator McKellar demonstrated his own personal popularity when he crushed Guston Fitzhugh in the Democratic primary, beating his challenger by a two-to-one majority. Almost immediately following Fitzhugh's defeat, rumors began to circulate Patterson

would enter the general election as an Independent candidate. The former governor instantly denied the rumors, saying, "You may say for me that I never contemplated such action and under no circumstance whatsoever would I enter the field as an Independent candidate. I am a Democrat and I vote for Democratic nominees." Patterson later said he expected the entire Democratic ticket to win and offered to "take the stump" if necessary in support of his fellow Democrats.

Perhaps one sign that Crump had yet to exert full control over Memphis and Shelby County was Malcolm Patterson's election as a judge of the Circuit Court. Patterson would remain in office for over a decade, at least tolerated by the Crump machine. Patterson also wrote a newspaper column called "Day to Day With Gov. Patterson." Governor Austin Peay wrote Patterson in 1923, offering to appoint him to a judgeship; Peay was shrewd enough to realize he would surely be criticized for the appointment and assured Patterson he was quite willing to accept the criticism, but was prepared to make the appointment due to friendship for the former governor. Governor Peay appointed Patterson as judge of the First Circuit Court of Shelby County and the former governor was later elected in his own right.

Malcolm Patterson would make on final attempt at a political comeback. In 1932, Patterson declared he would once again run for the Democratic nomination for governor. One indication of just how much things had changed in the state was the fact Patterson had the full backing of Luke Lea, his newspaper, and the administration of Governor Henry Horton. State Treasurer Hill McAlister had the support

of Senator McKellar and Mr. Crump, while Lewis Pope campaigned as an Independent Democrat. Almost seventy-two years old, Patterson, once the "gamecock" of Tennessee politics, campaigned with some expectation of success. While the Horton administration had been gravely wounded by the collapse of Caldwell and Company, which took almost \$7 million of state funds with it, Luke Lea remained a force in Tennessee politics. Governor Horton could do little, aside from directing his appointees and patronage employees to support Malcolm Patterson, as whatever power he had once exercised had been broken when he had quite nearly been impeached. Only by using means both ruthless and desperate had Henry Horton avoided impeachment. The real power behind the throne of Governor Horton was Luke Lea. Lea was equally desperate to keep his hold on the governor's office and his political power and selected Malcolm Patterson as the best way to win the Democratic primary.

It was a humiliating end to a long political career. Patterson carried only a handful of counties in West Tennessee and Claiborne and Scott counties in East Tennessee. Patterson ran a poor third, well behind the eventual winner, Hill McAlister and Lewis Pope, winning barely over 20% of the vote.

In 1934, Malcolm Rice Patterson retired from the bench. Whether he retired because of age, illness or the belief he could no longer be elected in Shelby County because of E. H. Crump's control is unclear. Patterson was ailing and he went to Sarasota, Florida to rest. While in Florida, the former governor became increasingly ill. The Tennessean published a report Patterson had been admitted to Sarasota Hospital due to a heart ailment, although his "condition is not serious." The very next day a report in the Clarksville Leaf-Chronicle stated the former governor was quite ill and what had originally believed to be a heart condition was complicated by a serious kidney condition. Only a day later, the Murfreesboro Daily News-Journal reported Patterson was improving. The next day every newspaper in Tennessee reported the death of former governor Malcolm Rice Patterson.

The seventy-three year old former governor's body was brought back home to Tennessee where he was laid to rest beside his parents. Dr. T. K. Young, pastor of the Idlewild Presbyterian Church eulogized the former governor, saying, "His courage and faith in his convictions led him on to fight the battles of life." Right or wrong, what could be a better epitaph for anyone?

MOLLY GILBERT

Cont. from page 1

someone you can count on when you are wrangling two toddlers.

How did you become involved in Tennessee Pink Marble?

We had been living in our house for three or four years before I discovered that it was made from Tennessee Pink Marble. I attended a special workshop at Ijams where Dr. Susan Knowles of Middle Tennessee State University was interviewing anyone with connections to the industry. She was doing research on the marble industry because she was trying to get the quarries listed on the National Historic Register, which she was eventually able to do. I had a stone from my retaining wall that used to stand near my driveway and asked if anyone could tell me whether or not it was Tennessee Pink Marble. An elderly gentleman who used to be the quality supervisor at one of the quarries licked his thumb and swiped it across the rock sample I brought and said, "Yes ma'am. That's the good stuff. That's deep rose."

It was at that moment I realized how unique my house was. Although there are houses all over the city made from Tennessee Pink Marble, each one is special because they are all one-of-a-kind and no one is building like that with that stone anymore. We just don't have the level of craftsmanship that we used to – literally, they don't build them like that anymore. The story I heard from an older resident in the neighborhood was that a man named Roy Perry was a local builder and he would go over to the quarry. The workers would have pushed aside the crumbly leftovers from the larger chunks that were destined to be the lions in front of the New York Public Library, the National Gallery of Art in Washington D.C., or the Tennessee Supreme Court Building in Nashville. He built

houses, retaining walls, patios, and more. So, I don't know exactly which quarry the rock from my house came from – we had over 35 in the area during the peak of the industry, but anything made from Tennessee Pink Marble is special because the stone is unique to East Tennessee.

This connection inspired me to start volunteering at places I knew I would learn about Knoxville's history as the Marble City, such as the Ramsey House. And, in 2015 I created the Tennessee Pink Marble Trail brochure, website, and Facebook page.

Aside from your volunteer work what else do you do?

While I worked part-time, from home as the director of the Middle East Tennessee Tourism Council for the first nine years I lived in Knoxville, I was able to take on several freelance projects throughout the years and eventually transitioned to full-time work as the owner of Molly Gilbert Marketing. At the beginning of 2018, I took a full-time position as the senior marketing and communications specialist with a global company based in Knoxville, Dura-Line Corporation. While this has been a big change, every day I see how the projects I did as a volunteer provided relevant experience and connections that are serving me well in my new role.

Where were you born?

I was born in Tampa, Florida, and my parents almost immediately were transferred to Germany. Apparently I spoke German before I spoke English, but I don't remember any of it. My early childhood years were spent in Virginia Beach, Virginia; Mountain Home, Idaho; and Columbus, Mississippi. When I was a teenager, my family moved to Madrid, Spain – even after four years of Spanish, I only remember a little of it, but I have wonderful memories of Spain and really appreciated the opportunity to see another culture. We lived there

during Desert Storm and the Gulf War, and it was fascinating to see how little impact the events made on my stateside friends when it was so very intense on the American Air Force Base, called Torrejon.

The father of one of my good friends was taken as a prisoner of war and the base was under intense security as it was one of the major stop-through points for soldiers coming over from the East Coast. As the Gulf War was winding down, we got news that Torrejon would be closing and my father was transferred to Sumter, South Carolina, just in time for my junior year of high school. I finished high school in Sumter and then went to college at Winthrop University in Rock Hill, South Carolina. I got a BA in journalism and a minor in speech. Scott and I met while I was getting my undergraduate and he was working on his master's at Winthrop University.

What are your hopes for the city or county?

My hope and dream for Knoxville has been the same since I moved here and understood what it meant to put down roots. I started volunteering because I wanted Knoxville to be a great place for my children as they grew up. It takes all of us working together to help Knoxville be the best version of itself and to grow into a city for the future. I want Knoxville to continue to be a friendly, safe, vibrant city with lots of opportunities for employment and entertainment.

What is your main hobby or interest in your private life?

I have always loved classic movies from the 1930s and 40s like the Philadelphia Story, His Girl Friday, The Maltese Falcon, The Big Sleep, Shall We Dance, Follow the Fleet...anything Cary Grant, Katharine Hepburn, Ingrid Bergman, Fred Astaire, Ginger Rogers, Humphry Bogart, Jimmy Stewart, Judy Garland, Bing Crosby, Frank Sinatra, or any of

the big band musicals and anything by Alfred Hitchcock.

I love to garden, but I don't have quite as much time as I used to, so now I love traveling to botanical gardens across the Southeast.

I love family time – lots of fun traveling in the Southeast with my kids – we love to go to small local history, art, and science museums.

We got two new puppies in 2018 – they are small and fluffy (a million photos available upon request). Inky and Cotton are both a Bichon Frise and a Shih Tzu mix.

My mother was a professional backup singer from 1968-1978ish. She was part of a backup group called Southern Comfort and also as the Holladay Sisters (because her younger sister joined her). She sang with many well-known artists like Elvis Presley, Sonny and Cher, Ella James, Etta Washington, Percy Sledge, Otis Redding, Ray Stevens, Neil Diamond, Ronnie Milsap, Linda Ronstadt, Joan Baez (and more!) and recorded regularly with the American studio musicians known as the Memphis Boys, who played on more "hits" in Billboard's top 40 charts during a six-month period than any other rhythm section in history.

One of my favorite hobbies or side projects over the last several years has been doing research on the now defunct studios in Muscle Shoals, Ala., Memphis and Nashville. I have gotten to tag along to Elvis Week at Graceland a couple of times when she was a guest speaker/performer. I also helped her write a book and coordinate an interview with the BBC.

What do you see as your main accomplishments in life?

It goes without saying that I love being a mom to Audrey and Finnian – they are my absolute pride and joy. Beyond that, all I can do is my little part. I just try to fit in and help out where I can. I really don't see

that I have achieved any major legacy, but a neighbor of mine said that getting and moving the 5-ton Tennessee Pink Marble entry sign for Lake Forest Neighborhood was definitely an accomplishment. That project was a team effort by the City Public Works Department employees and many volunteers were involved (including my father-in-law who did the logo). I do feel pretty proud of the sign every time I enter and leave the neighborhood and see that monumental giant stone. I love that it honors the special architecture in the neighborhood.

If you had to do one thing over in your life what would that be?

I wish that when I was in my 20s and 30s I had made more of an effort to get to know my neighbors. I was so focused on my life that I didn't realize how much I was missing out on a sense of community by being more involved than just going to work and church and hanging out with people who are already my friends. Having kids definitely gave me a new perspective on how valuable it is to know your neighbors.

What's your favorite meal or place to dine?

As a family, we don't tend to eat out as much I would like, so we try to rotate when we do indulge. We love the friendly service at Szechwan Garden, a staple in South Knoxville, family dinners at Chop House and Ruby Tuesday's, and you cannot beat the dessert case at Gondolier's. SoKno Taco Cantina and Cancun have been the site for Candoro executive board meetings for the past year and a half.

How would you like to be remembered?

I hope that people will remember me as someone friendly enough to invite them to be involved and encouraging enough to inspire them to participate and join in making Knoxville a better place in whatever style suits them.



Rejoice!

With exceeding great joy, we wish you and your family much peace, love and harmony this Christmas season.

Merry Christmas!

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Spending time together brightens holidays for all



Karns High softball players and the Lady Beavers' staff center around 95-year-old World War II veteran during their holiday visit to the Ben Atchley State Veteran's Home. Pictured are Kate Swafford, Lexi Baker, Jennifer Bezark, Abbie McPherson, Tiffany Mitchell, Allysa Barger, Brianna Knight, Amanda Weaver, Gia Price, Emily Sieupersad, Morgan Simpson, Craig Webb, Keely Overbay, Madi Lamon, Karrigan Perry, Kelli Wyrick, Jessica Webb and Tammy Webb.

Karns softball team visits veteran's home

By Steve Williams

Members of the Karns High School softball team brought holiday cheer into the lives of many residents at the Ben Atchley State Veteran's Home Saturday, Dec. 8, and left with joy in their hearts as well.

"It was a great time of fellowship as songs were sung, stories were told and memories

were made," said Head Coach Craig Webb.

"I am extremely proud of our young ladies and I know they received a great blessing in helping to spread some holiday cheer."

Kate Swafford was one of three seniors on the team to talk about the visit to the assisted living facility in the

Karns community.

"A lot of them don't get a lot of visitors or get to spend time with people," she said. "Listening to them talk and seeing how happy they were when having conversations with us really brought me joy!"

"One of my favorite memories was for sure singing Silent Night and seeing how much it

touched one of the residents. It actually brought him to tears!"

Madi Lamon said the experience was exactly what she needed.

"The holidays are a very busy time for everyone, so this was a great way to focus on what really matters, giving back to the community," she said.

Continued on page 3

Raleigh returns to propel Ice Dawgs past Farragut, 9-0

By Ken Lay

For the first three games of the high school season, Bearden High School hockey club player David Raleigh could only watch helplessly as he sat nursing a broken hand.

But all that changed Wednesday night as the Karns High School senior returned to the ice at the Knoxville Civic Coliseum.

"It feels good to be back," said Raleigh, who scored four goals and dished out a pair of assists to lead the Ice Dawgs to a 9-0 victory over two-time defending state champion Farragut. "This was my first high school game [of the season] and my first game in two months."

"I broke my hand playing travel [hockey] and all I could do was sit around and maybe coach a little bit."

It didn't take long for Raleigh to find his way onto the score sheet against the Admirals (1-2-1) in Bearden's second win over Farragut this season.

His first goal came with 10 minutes, 18 seconds remaining in the first period. Seth Jenkins picked up an assist on the inaugural goal of the match. Raleigh tallied a short time later with the Ice Dawgs (4-0) on the power play. Jenkins also picked up a helper on that scoring play.

Farragut had its worst night of the season. The Admirals were called for four penalties in the first 12 minutes and didn't generate any early pressure against the Ice Dawgs and goaltender Jobe King.

Despite seeing his team grab a 2-0 lead out of the gate, Bearden coach Mike Raleigh wasn't happy at the end of the

first period.

"I wasn't happy with the first period," Coach Raleigh said. "Sure, we had a lead but we weren't playing good solid fundamental hockey."

"I had a talk with my guys during the [intermission] and we played better after that."

The Ice Dawgs scored three times in the second frame and extended their advantage to 5-0.

Jace Jenkins, Nick Knights and Seth Jenkins all scored in the period. Seth Jenkins' tally came on the power play and made it 5-0 with 57.9 seconds left in the period. Jace was credited with a helper on that tally. Jace scored the first goal of the stanza with help from Shon Dupree.

Continued on page 2

Area MS teams hit the hardwood in holiday tournaments

By Ken Lay

With the league's regular season now in the rear view mirror for Knox County Middle School Basketball Conference teams, preparation for next month's James A. Ivey Jr. Memorial Basketball Tournament will kick into gear.

But several local teams will close out the 2018 calendar year in holiday tournaments later this week.

Halls will host its annual holiday tournament at Halls High School. Play begins on Thursday.

Opening round games begin at noon with the host Lady Demons playing Westview. At 1:15 p.m., the Halls boys entertain KCMSBC rival West Valley. The West Valley girls will tangle with Fairview at 2:30. At 3:45, the Fairview boys will play Birchfield. The Birchfield girls will take on LaFollette at 5 p.m.

On Friday: The Westview girls will play Fairview at noon. The host Demons entertain Fairview's boys at 1:15 p.m. The Lady Demons will take on Birchfield at 2:30.

At 3:45, West Valley's boys play Birchfield at 3:45. The Lady Wolves play LaFollette at 5 p.m.

On Saturday: The LaFollette girls play Westview at 11 a.m. At 12:15 p.m., West Valley's boys tangle with Fairview. The Halls Lady Demons play host to Fairview at 1:30. The host Demons will entertain Birchfield at 2:45. At 4 p.m., The Lady Wolves play Birchfield in the final game of pool play.

The boys championship game will tip off at 5:15 with the girls title game to follow.

Powell and Gresham will be at the Maverick Middle School Holiday Challenge in Clinton this week. Games will be played at Anderson County High School.

The Lady Gladiators will open tournament play Thursday at 12:30 p.m. when they take on Lake City.

The Lady Panthers play Huntsville at 5:10 p.m.

The boys will also begin their eight-team tournament Thursday. Gresham takes on Clinton at 2:50 p.m. Powell tangles with Oliver Springs at 6:20. That three-day event concludes Saturday night.

The girls tourney continues Friday with Gresham playing Huntsville at 4:30 p.m. Powell plays Oliver Springs at 6:30. Play concludes for both boys and girls competing in consolation and championships on Saturday.

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By Ken Lay

Coach Darin Courtney saw his Powell Middle School boys basketball team do exactly what we wanted when it took the floor for its final regular-season home game early last week.

The Panthers got off to a fast start and cruised to a 52-18 Knox County Middle School Basketball Conference victory over Holston in Powell on Monday, Dec. 17.

The Panthers employed a stifling defense and kept the Hurricanes at bay throughout the contest on a night when Powell honored its eighth graders. The Panthers have made a habit of winning on eighth grade night since Courtney arrived at the school nearly two decades ago.

"We always want to leave with smiles on our faces on eighth grade night," Courtney said.

On this night, the veteran coach had plenty to



The Powell Middle School boys basketball team celebrate eighth grade night before last week's game against Holston. The Panthers routed the Hurricanes 52-18.

smile about as his defense worked to perfection against a Holston squad that has had its share of troubles this season.

"Our defense is playing the best it's played all year," Courtney said. "Our 1-3-1 is working. In the last three games, there haven't been a lot of shots going up from the other team."

"I'm proud of the effort that we've shown on defense."

The Hurricanes didn't manage too many shots as the Panthers (who won their conference finale at Karns Thursday night to improve to 16-2 overall and 13-2 in league play), darted out to a 11-0 lead when Cassen Huffaker made a pair of free throws just past the midway point of the first quarter.

Holston, which endured nearly four minutes of futility out of the gate,

finally scored when Eli Hubbs made a basket with 2 minutes, 21 seconds remaining in the opening frame.

When the dust had settled, the Panthers, who held a 14-4 advantage by first quarter's end, expanded their advantage to 33-10 at halftime. Powell was also hot after the break as it went on a 13-4 run in the third quarter to take a 46-14 lead heading

into the final frame.

The Panthers were also able to manufacture plenty of offense. Bryce Burkhart scored 14 points, all before halftime.

"His output has been as good as anybody who has ever played here for two years," Courtney said. "And we've had such comfortable leads that he hasn't played much in the fourth quarters of our games."

Ayden Greene added

11 points for the Panthers. Bryce Jardret scored 10. Ricardo Holston finished with seven. Huffaker had five points and six rebounds. Defensively, Emmett Burns was an inside force for the Panthers as he had four blocked shots.

Tavon Baptiste scored eight points to pace the Hurricanes.

Roadrunners hustle past Grizzlies in holiday tournament, 70-36

By Ken Lay

Austin-East High School boys basketball coach Marcus Stanton knows that he has an extremely small guard-oriented team. He also knows that his players aren't the most talented in Knoxville.

"We're not going to be bigger than anybody, so we're going to have to play fast," Stanton said after his Roadrunners notched a 70-36 victory over Grainger Tuesday afternoon in the inaugural 5Star Preps Christmas Classic at Farragut High School's Lynn E. Sexton Gymnasium. "We like to run and we like to play fast. We have a lot of guards and they're pretty fast."

"They're not the fastest guards but they're pretty quick. They're not the most talented so they have to play hard. And they do play hard. This is a good young team and they've come up together. They've been together for about six years. They've been together since middle school and they like to play together and they're all friends. They're not just basketball friends. They're real friends."

That was all on display Thursday when the Roadrunners (9-2) ran past the Grizzlies. Austin-East had eight players join the basketball team late thanks to its playoff run in football.

"Those guys have finally started to get in [basketball] shape and they've been working hard in the last couple of games," Stanton said.

The 'Runners put Grainger away early, despite arriving in Farragut just minutes before the scheduled 4:30 p.m. tip-off. But they certainly didn't appear weary from the cross-country trip.

Austin-East darted out to a 21-4 lead and never looked back in this one. The Grizzlies hit a 3-pointer as time expired. Josh Turley made it 21-7 at the buzzer. They never, however, sustained any momentum as The Roadrunners dominated the glass (despite being at a height disadvantage) and their pressure rattled and troubled the Grizzlies all game.

"Their coach told me that they were missing a point guard," Stanton said. "He wasn't their starter but I think it helped us with them not having him."

"That helped us do some things that we wanted to do. We want to run. We have to run because we're just not going to be bigger than anybody."

Austin-East four players post double figures in the scoring column.

Dereke Upton led the way with 18 points. Jaiohn Foster added 17. Joshua Harris had 11 and Ronney Pierson finished with 11.

Farragut's shooting, defensive rebounding sinks Campbell County

By Ken Lay

Farragut High School's girls basketball team dialed long distance to knock Campbell County from the ranks of the unbeaten Thursday night.

Farragut, which has its share of 3-point snipers, knocked down 12 long-range jumpers. The Lady Admirals made nine before halftime en route to cruising past the Lady Cougars 67-48 in the friendly confines of the Lynn E. Sexton Gymnasium.

Farragut coach Jason Mayfield was pleased to see his team come out with a hot shooting touch but pointed to another key for his team's success during the first night of the inaugural 5Star Preps Christmas Classic.



Farragut senior Morgan Carbaugh (22) defends Campbell County's Madison Brady in a game Thursday night. Carbaugh scored 24 points to lead the Lady Admirals to a 67-48 victory over the Lady Cougars.

"Our defensive rebounding was the difference in the game Mayfield said. "We've had games where we've shot like this but we didn't rebound like this."

The Lady Admirals got a huge early lift from senior guard Morgan Carbaugh against Campbell County (13-1) Thursday night.

Carbaugh, a four-year varsity player and undisputed team leader, has had her share of big offensive nights while wearing a Farragut uniform. But she was especially hot on this night as she helped the Lady Admirals improve to 11-3

on her biggest offensive night of the season.

She scored 18 of her game-high 24 points over the first 16 minutes of the contest. She made 7-of-9 shots from beyond the 3-point arc and buried the first five long-range jumpers that she attempted.

"I think she made her first five in a row," Mayfield said. "She's done that before."

"But our defensive rebounding was the difference, and then you shoot like that, and that obviously helps."

Carbaugh credited her teammates for her success against Campbell County.

"It was just my night," she said. "We had this game circled on the calendar because we know that Campbell County is good and we knew that they would be physical."

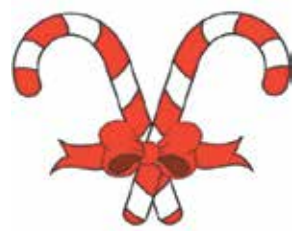
"I was getting in the right spots and my teammates were giving me good passes. It was just my night. When you feel it, you feel it. Next time it might be one of my teammates' nights."

Carbaugh was the big

star for the Lady Admirals but she got plenty of help from a veteran and talented supporting cast.

Freshman Ace Strickland, the two time defending Knox County Middle School Basketball Conference Player of the year, scored 12 points while senior Sydney Chapman finished with 10.

Chapman finished the game with three 3-pointers. Madison Hodge and Macy Barnes also had 3-pointers for Farragut, which led 17-6 by the end of the first quarter.



Raleigh returns to propel Ice Dawgs past Farragut, 9-0

Cont. from page 1

Knights' goal was assisted by David Raleigh and Seth Jenkins.

That style of play that Coach Raleigh wants to see from his team.

"It was good to see our guys work on their playmaking and not always scoring on breakaways," he said. "We'll take the breakaways, but we really need to work on our playmaking."

David Raleigh completed his hat trick with an unassisted marker early

in the final frame. Seth Jenkins and Jace Jenkins also scored before David Raleigh closed out the scoring inside the final minute of the game.

Farragut coach Ryan Gecawich was obviously disappointed with his team's effort.

"This was by far the worst game of the year," he said. "There's really nothing else to be said that's not obvious."

Warriors rout Knights: The

Knoxville Warriors improved to 2-1-1 as they toppled the Knoxville Knights 12-0 in the evening's first game.

Pete Bunch scored four times and had a pair of short-handed goals for the Warriors.

Jack Marston added a hat trick and Justin Stackhouse scored a pair of markers against the Knights (0-4).

Spencer Andes, Eric Williams and Clayton Kanner each also scored for the Warriors.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Buster Norton
Sevier County Commissioner

Talent and work ethic make Thomas Harper a Cowboy, too

Karns standout to join brother at Oklahoma State

By Steve Williams

When Oklahoma State head football coach Mike Gundy signed Devin Harper, a 2015 Karns High standout, he probably didn't figure he would be signing Devin's younger brother later on.

But Thomas Harper, who didn't start playing football until his sophomore season at Karns in 2016, also signed with the Cowboys Wednesday and will be joining his brother and Coach Gundy in Stillwater as an early enrollee in January.

The younger Harper, who developed into one of Knox County's top high school players as a wide receiver and defensive back, received 13 offers from other schools, but his decision wasn't a difficult one.

"When they offered me, I knew where I wanted to go,"

said Thomas, who got the offer last summer and committed to the Big 12 Conference school just before the start of his senior season.

His older brother was "a huge factor" in his choice, "because he told me from a first-hand account what it was like at Oklahoma State," said Thomas at a



PHOTO BY STEVE WILLIAMS

Thomas Harper and Head Coach Brad Taylor at Harper's signing ceremony last week. The two started together in Karns High football in 2016. Harper signed with Oklahoma State, where his brother Devin now plays.

signing ceremony in the Karns auditorium.

Thomas, who wore No. 10, was one of the state's top receivers this past fall, with 80 receptions for 1,279 yards and 18 touchdowns. The 5-11, 170-pounder also played defensive back for the Beavers.

"He has a lot of God-given talent," said Karns Head Coach Brad Taylor. "But he's very self-motivated, very driven, with high character. He enjoys working at football, whether it's in the weight room or doing football drills on the field."

That combination of talent and work ethic is

"kind of rare to find," added Taylor, whose first season at Karns in 2016 also was Thomas' first season in football.

"On top of that, he also takes that work ethic and goes in the classroom and makes very good grades as well. His GPA is almost a 3.4 and that's taking

honors classes and AP classes. He's just a great young man and has great parents (Alacia and Kevin). We're really proud of him."

Harper just played basketball growing up. His older brother and others encouraged him to play football and he was going to play his freshman year

but broke his thumb and decided to wait and start as a sophomore.

He played basketball at Karns until this year, when he decided to concentrate on football.

Devin Harper was a standout running back and linebacker at Karns but now is a redshirt sophomore linebacker in OSU's 4-2-5 defense.

"He's lovein' it," said Thomas.

Coach Taylor said Thomas was recruited as a defensive back, but there's been some talk the Cowboys may take a look at him as a slot receiver.

"Whatever they want me to play, I'm going to be happy to play," said Thomas. "I'm just happy to be able to play there."

Other things Harper said he liked about Oklahoma State were its family atmosphere and coaches that are down to earth.

"I like the campus as a whole," he added. "It's really in the middle of nowhere. There's not too much to do, so I will be focused in school."

Harper is considering a major in Engineering.

As for football, Harper said the "overall goal is to get to the NFL. The Lord willing, I hope that happens. I'll just keep working."

Late free throws lift Lady Panthers past Holston, 25-22

By Ken Lay

Some clutch late free throws spelled victory for Powell Middle School's girls basketball team early last week.

The Lady Panthers, after struggling from the foul line in their 25-22 Knox County Middle School Basketball Conference victory over Holston in Powell on Monday, Dec. 17, went 6-for-7 from the charity stripe and their effort was what propelled them to the win over a pesky Lady Hurricanes squad.

"We really work on our free throws," Powell coach Steve Waugh said. "We spend the last 10 minutes

of every practice shooting free throws. We didn't shoot well from the line in the first half.

"I think we were 5-for-12 in the first half but we did much better from there in the second half."

The Lady Panthers struggled out of the gate and it was apparent that points would be at a premium in this defensive bout.

The Lady Hurricanes held the Lady Panthers to just one field goal in the first quarter and held a razor thin 4-3 advantage at the end of the frame.

"I knew that this would be a tough game because Holston is a good team and they're well-coached,"

Waugh said. "This was a big win for us and I'm really proud of my girls.

"I'm really proud of my eighth graders."

Powell had just seven field goals in the contest. The Lady Panthers made just one shot from the floor in the final six minutes.

That opened the door for the Lady Hurricanes to make a late comeback attempt, which was all but thwarted when Powell's Adisyn Smith buried a clutch field goal with 1 minute, 27 seconds remaining in the contest. That shot gave the Lady Panthers a 25-19 lead.

The Lady Hurricanes

Continue on page 4



PHOTO BY KEN LAY.

Powell Middle's Aimee Flynn prepares to attempt a free throw in last week's game against Holston. Flynn scored two points as the Lady Panthers beat the Lady Hurricanes 25-22.

Brown's buzzer beater nets victory for Farragut boys

By Ken Lay

Will Brown is the lone returning senior on Farragut High School's boys basketball team and on Thursday night, he played the role of hero for the Admirals.

Brown, a guard who is one of only two players with varsity experience for Farragut, had his struggles at the free throw line. But he rebounded one of his own missed foul shots and scored the game-winning bucket in Farragut's 64-63 victory over Karns in the inaugural 5Star Preps Christmas Classic at the Lynn E. Sexton Gymnasium. "I'm happy for Will," Admirals' coach Jon Higgins said. "I'm glad he made that shot because he'd struggled from the free throw line."

Brown was just 2-for-7 from the free throw line. But he made a foul

shot with 7.8 seconds left in the game. He missed the second but grabbed the rebound. He missed the first putback attempt before making a second as time expired.

"I'm glad to see Will make the shot to win the game," Higgins said. But he missed free throws and he's going to have to make those.

"The way we count free throws, he was 2-for-9 because when you miss the front end of a one-and-one, we count that as two free throws."

After Brown's game-winner, the Farragut student body stormed the floor. It was the second consecutive victory for the Admirals, who defeated Heritage in a District 4-AAA showdown at home on Friday, Dec. 14.

Thursday night's victory also avenged a 74-55 loss to the Beavers on Nov. 23.

"That's a 20-point turnaround," Higgins said. "We lost to them by 19 last month and we won by one tonight.

"The effort tonight is what I've been asking them for over the last two weeks. It's good to do what you're supposed to do. I don't think [Karns] played all that badly. They played pretty well and they really shot the ball well. They hit a lot of those shots the first time and I think we just gave up. We didn't give up tonight."

The Admirals (4-10) were down 38-30 at halftime they stormed back and opened a 50-45 lead by the end of the third stanza. Farragut would lead by as many of four points twice in the fourth quarter before the Beavers would rally and retake the lead when Dalton Greer knocked down a 3-point

shot to make the score 58-57 with 2 minutes, 36 seconds remaining.

Karns then appeared to re-seize control when Traven Jackson gave it a 62-57 advantage with 1:38 to play. Farragut's Alec Keathley made a pair of foul shots to pull the Admirals to within 62-59 a short time later.

The Beavers appeared to seal the game when Tre Hawkins made another free throw to make 63-59 with 32.5 seconds to go.

Farragut's Robby Geron, the team's other varsity returner, made it 63-61 with a pair of free throws with 16.9 seconds. Still, the Admirals faced a tall order. They got the break they needed, however, when Karns committed a turnover with 8.6 seconds left.

Continue on page 4

Karns softball team visits veteran's home

Cont. from page 1

Madi will long remember hearing all the different branches of the military the men and women served in.

"One man we spoke to told us he was 95 years old and served during World War II," she said. "It is so incredible that we had the opportunity to hear his story.

"Our whole team was ecstatic to bring joy to these men and women who sacrificed their lives so we could be here today."

Lamon said she's always had a huge heart for helping others. "I love seeing the joy on their faces, and the happiness they get from just a short conversation. I'm very thankful for the time I spent with these amazing men and women.

"The visit really touched my heart. I loved getting to spend time with such loving people and getting to sing to them. The holidays are hard for some people and knowing I spread holiday cheer and made a difference really impacted me."

Jennifer Bezark felt "a sense of comfort" from knowing her team had brought happiness to others.

"They were so happy to know that we wanted to visit with them," she said.

Jennifer's "favorite memory" was breaking off and visiting one on one.

"One man, in particular, just wanted us to sing to him the whole time," she recalled. "It didn't matter if it was Christmas music or not. We touched that person's heart, singing everything from Christmas to country to even Christian gospel."

Bezark revealed she had lost her mom a few months ago and the holidays are especially hard for her.

"This visit filled the place in my heart that needed warmth and Christmas cheer," she said. "Just to make someone there smile and laugh with me was the best gift I could've received!"

Community Service Games raise \$5,000 for ETCH

By Steve Williams

This year's Community Service Games raised \$5,000 for the East Tennessee Children's Hospital, with the donation designated for the NICU program and specifically for infants born with Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome.

The seventh annual event, which is part of the Care 365 program, included three high school football games played at Grace Christian Academy on Thursday, Nov. 1, and Saturday, Nov. 3.

Six TSSAA teams from Nashville to upper East Tennessee participated. Volunteer High played Cosby on Nov. 1, followed by RePublic High of Nashville against Cumberland Gap and Unaka against Pickett County on Nov. 3.

Seth Linkous, Director of Marketing at East Tennessee Children's Hospital, opened the games with the coin toss for the first contest.

Gunner Smith, last year's beneficiary, did the coin toss for the RePublic vs Cumberland Gap game. The 11-year-old from Powell received his last chemotherapy treatment on Oct.



Callie Word and Angie Howell from East Tennessee Children's Hospital join Gregg Bostick and Dave Moore of the Community Service Games in holding the big \$5,000 check presented to ETCH from money raised in this year's post-season high school football games.

31 and has been declared cancer free. He was joined by his father, Brandon, and his uncle and grandfather who had flown in from Texas to celebrate his successful year of treatments.

Dave Moore, founder of the CAREactor Star Athletes program, which also is part of Care 365, said the Community Service Games are a "win, win, win" event, as teams compete but no score is officially kept.

"Everyone goes home

with a good feeling, knowing they have played to support a great cause in the game of life," he said.

HALLS SEARCH: Jeremy Bosken has resigned as head football coach after one season at Halls High and is now the new coach at Boyd Buchanan.

"Coach Bosken was offered an incredible opportunity with Boyd Buchanan and we wish him and his family the best in the

future," said HHS Athletic Director Meagan Booth, adding that the process to find a new coach for the Red Devils is underway.

"We are currently accepting applications for the open position. The hiring team will begin interviews this week with hopes to have a new coach in place in January."

ROAD TO FAME: Nomination ballots for the inaugural Halls High School

Athletics – Road to Fame are available through Jan. 31 and can be picked up at the Halls High school office, Hallsdale /Powell utility office and Phil Nichols State Farm Insurance office. The ballots, after being correctly filled out, will be turned into Halls High School's main office.

The submitted nomination ballots will be collected and the Selection Committee will begin the process of selecting the 12 athletes

for the first class of inductees into the Road to Fame.

For questions and more information, please email Jerry Julian at pnjjulian@comcast.net.

SCHOLAR-ATHLETES: Madison Vandergriff, a senior on the First Baptist Academy girls' basketball team, scored a 35 on the ACT, and Lucas McPherron, a senior on FBA's boys basketball team, scored a 34 on the ACT, reported Amy Stewart, the school's Director of Admissions.

Madison has been a student at FBA since the second grade and Lucas since the sixth grade.

CORRECTION: It was Austin Humphreys – not Allen Humphreys as mistakenly reported – who bowled the perfect 300 game for Knoxville Catholic in the recent District 4 tournament. Austin was one of the top bowlers in District 4 again this season and already has qualified for the individual competition at this year's TSSAA state tournament.

The Focus apologizes for the error in the Dec. 17 issue.

Vols ink most of 2019 Class

By Alex Norman

National Signing Day seems so ancient now.

In the olden days of 2017, everyone had to wait until the first Wednesday in February to find out who would encompass the recruiting class for that year. Sure, there were a few early enrollees, but the vast majority of that class would sign in February and head to campus in June.

But the early signing period has changed all that. For three days in mid-December, recruits can sign their national letters of intent, and not have to wait until February. On the first day (Wednesday, December 19) alone, Tennessee inked 17 players for a class that likely will finish with around 25.

"When you're looking for guys to help build your program, to me the first thing you're looking for is good people," said Tennessee head coach Jeremy Pruitt. "The guys

that we signed, they have character, they have competitive toughness... they're winners. Most of them were captains of their football team. They're used to playing in December which I think is important. We've talked about it here before is you want to play your best ball at the end of the season. We had an opportunity to see a lot of these guys play late in the playoffs."

Tennessee is a little better off heading into 2019 than they were in 2018 in terms of returning players. But some of the new Vols will get their shot to play right away. "What I think we are going to have is a lot of competition and lots of opportunity," said Pruitt. "Our players have done a fantastic job recruiting these guys because they want to play with good players. The guys that we have coming in this class realize that we have a lot of starters coming back but,

they are embracing the opportunity to compete and to build something at Tennessee... We wouldn't have recruited them if we didn't think they could contribute early. I think lots of times we put unrealistic expectations on freshmen, so I think they control that, they'll control how much they play. We'll see."

The quarterback position is always crucial for the development of a football team. Tennessee brings in 4-star Brian Maurer from Ocala, Florida.

"Brian's a guy that popped up on the radar late in the recruiting cycle for a quarterback," said Pruitt. "It's kind of interesting, the first day he shows up at Tennessee he works out for us and I'm in there meeting with him. His grandmother asks me, 'Coach, when did you watch Brian's tape?' and I said, 'This morning.' We ended up offering him a scholarship."

A huge get for Tennessee happened a day later, when Lausanne 4-star running back Eric Gray picked the Vols over Michigan and Alabama, among others. Gray has won three Mr. Football Awards in Tennessee, and led Lausanne to back to back state championships.

Some of these players that signed early will also head to the UT campus next month. But Pruitt doesn't consider that to be a deal breaker when on the recruiting trail.

"We were looking for the best players, the best fit for us, and if they happened to be early enrollees, then that was great," said Pruitt. "I can tell you this, if I was in high school, I probably wouldn't be an early enrollee, I loved being in high school, I wanted to play baseball in the spring. There are some guys that want to play basketball, some that want to run

track, and some that want to go to prom. We had several young men that asked us if we wanted them to be early enrollees, and we told them it was completely up to them. We want them to be happy. To me, if you look at the generation we're recruiting, sometimes they try to grow up too fast, and they want it right now. Does it help to have fifteen days of spring football? Probably."

Perhaps the biggest announcement had nothing to do with teenagers picking Tennessee. Strength and Conditioning coach Craig Fitzgerald turned down a job offer from Maryland to stay in Knoxville. "Craig came in this morning (December 19) and told me that he wants to finish what he started," said Pruitt. "We are excited to have him here. It was probably one of the top recruits that we got or at least to start the day."

Gift list includes ear plugs for Penny and a Big Orange sports coat for Rick

I'm getting in my letter to ole Saint



By Steve Williams

in memory of Russ Bebb, who traditionally wrote to Santa for The Knoxville Journal, where we worked together in the sports department from 1973-88.

With a cup of coffee at my side and the hustle and bustle in full force on this Saturday morning, three days before Christmas, here we go.

Dear Santa,
Give UT football coach Jeremy Pruitt applause for what seems to be a solid early signing class. Of course, we want really know until the new Vols get out there and we see them in action. But I like how Pruitt picks his players. He relies on what he sees for himself and not as much on the recruiting stars.

Give Tennessee Titans consistency and Derrick Henry more stiff arms.
Give Tiger Woods another major for coming back and trying.

Give the Bearden boys basketball team a long overdue state championship.
Give the Central football team our

congratulations!

Give women's basketball another Pat Summitt, golf another Lee Trevino, NASCAR another Dale Earnhardt, baseball another Lou Gehrig, NFL another Reggie White, NBA another Michael Jordan, Canada another NHL champion, horse racing another Secretariat, tennis another Connors vs. McEnroe rivalry, boxing another Muhammad Ali and sports broadcasting another Howard Cosell.

Give Penny Hardaway our thanks for stirring up the UT-Memphis rivalry and ear plugs to wear for his trip to Knoxville next season.

Give Rick Barnes a Big Orange sport coat to wear when Vanderbilt and Kentucky come to town this season. (Barnes is doing great with the Vols at the moment and the future looks bright. Rick in a Big Orange sport coat would honor the past and the late Ray Mears).

Don't give Carter High product Jordan Bowden a starting job. He's doing better without one.

Give UT basketball fans a men's Final Four.

Give UT football fans an 8-4 season and watch them jump for joy. (My how times have changed)

Give Phil Fulmer a B for improvement overall in UT athletics. Lady Vols soccer and volleyball really deserve an attagirl. (Track and cross country

are still not up to par)

Give UT separate coaches for men's and women's track.

Give Trey Smith an apple a day and wellness.

Give the Los Angeles Chargers a home.

Give the College Football Playoffs eight teams, so teams like this year's Big Ten champion Ohio State, Georgia, the Pac 12 champion and still unbeaten Central Florida don't have to be left out. (And don't wait years to do it)

Also give college football a playoff format without a selection committee. (Let it be settled on the field)

Give Central Florida a share of the national title this year anyway, if it beats LSU.

Give Nick Saban an occasional smile.

Give Alabama fans humble pie.

Give Notre Dame a conference.

Give Eric Berry our admiration.

Give TSSAA football a playoff format minus teams with losing records.

Take back 6-6 bowl teams and don't even consider 5-7 teams.

Finally, please give every child a sport to love, a coach who will teach good sportsmanship and the magic of Christmas morning.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all!

Brown's buzzer beater nets victory for Farragut boys

Cont. from page 3

Beavers' coach Lee Henson ordered his team to foul Brown, who previously missed three fourth quarter free throws. Brown made the first foul shot before missing the second, which set the stage for his last second heroics. Brown would finish

the game with 13 points. Keathley led the Admirals with 16 points, while Geron had 13. Freshman Dillon Atwell scored eight.

Tee Hodge-Harper scored 16 points to lead the Beavers (4-10). Hawkins added 15. Jackson scored 12 and Mark Vance finished with 10.

Late free throws lift Lady Panthers past Holston, 25-22

Cont. from page 3

hung tough and pulled to within 25-22 when Emma Hibben knocked down a 3-point shot with 33.2 seconds left in the game.

Powell, which led 19-13 after three quarters, got four free throws in the final frame from Shelby Stinnett. Smith also made a pair of foul shots in the third stanza.

Alaina Schroeder led the Lady Panthers with eight points. Reese Rolan added seven.

Holston's Keyera Watkins made a pair of 3-point shots and had 10 points to lead all scorers.

The Lady Hurricanes notched an upset victory over Vine Thursday while Powell lost to Karns.



Tis the season...

I believe you appreciate wellness, when you haven't had it in a while. I'm on the recovery side of a bad cold for which I can thank my wife Becky. Actually, it wasn't her fault; she was an innocent bystander of the "kennel cough" our dog Jack brought home from who knows where. I'm joking, of course, because humans don't get colds from dogs, and kennel cough is a smorgasbord of dog afflictions. However, it was recently reported that dogs and cats can be a source of influenza virus, at least in China. But, I'm skeptical of any Chinese research study.

By this time I hope everyone has had their annual influenza vaccination. The flu shot utilizes virus proteins, not live virus, to

stimulate your immune system to make protective antibodies against influenza infection. Since the vaccine is not made from live virus it cannot cause infection or illness, unless you're allergic to eggs or certain preservative antibiotics used in vaccine manufacture.

Unfortunately, the influenza virus regularly mutates and last year's vaccine contained the wrong proteins as the flu season approached. Influenza vaccine production is not perfect science. You may be surprised to learn that the proper vaccine cocktail is determined by analyzing influenza virus circulating in Asian aquatic fowl! Furthermore, the immune system ages like the rest of our body and

becomes less responsive to vaccination. As a result, the vaccine is only 60% effective at preventing influenza, but it is better than not taking precautions against such a miserable illness. Unfortunately, only a third of Americans get an annual flu shot, and since experts opine it is necessary to get 70% of the population vaccinated to prevent epidemics, the virus runs wild every year.

If you learn nothing else from this essay, the take home point is that influenza is NOT a cold. I once had a patient who told me he knew he had the flu because he was so miserable he was afraid he would not die.

So, how do you differentiate a cold from influenza? Partly, it's a matter of degree. Influenza causes the sudden onset of chills, malaise, and fever that is usually greater than 101°. This is accompanied by watery eyes, headache and aching so severe that some describe their myalgia like being beaten with a stick. People with influenza are so sick they even have trouble getting out of bed. Doctor lingo for this is prostrate (not prostate!).

On the other hand, the common cold is caused by a multitude of other viruses and produces nasal congestion, low-grade fever (if any), sore throat and coughing from drainage. Doctors sometimes utilize a nasal swab test to look for the proteins of influenza virus, but these tests are insensitive, though specific and reliable if positive. I believe these tests are most valid to establish an influenza epidemic in the community. Then if a patient presents with typical symptoms of influenza, I proceed with treatment without confirmation. There are antiviral medications for influenza, but these must be started early in the course of the illness to be of benefit. Unfortunately, there is no specific treatment for the common cold. (If had a cure for this scourge I would be rich and famous.) Lastly, antibiotics treat bacteria and are useless against viral infections. Furthermore, indiscriminate use of antibiotics promotes the emergence of resistant bacteria, exposes patients to needless expense and potential side effects of

antibiotics like rash and diarrhea. It is easy to write a prescription for an antibiotic, but sometimes it is best and loving to tell folks that an antibiotic is not in their best interest.

Since this is the season of love come down to earth, I've been meditating on love versus charity. In English we use modifying descriptors of love. Examples are love of grandkids or love of chocolate. These are obviously not the same notions of love. Greek was the language used by the writers of the New Testament and has words for different types of love. Examples are agape for sacrificial love, eros for erotic love and phila for brotherly love. Other Greek "love" terms are ludos, pragma, storge and philantia. Google them if you're curious.

Last week's Christmas message defined God as love and that love is God. The Master said that you are to "love God with all your heart, soul and mind...and your neighbor as yourself." Sometimes that's tough because some "neighbors" are at times a bit "unlovable."

In recent weeks I've

written about the theological virtues described in I Corinthians 13:13. In some versions, faith, hope and love are translated as faith, hope and charity. I asked Mr. Webster about the word charity and, among the many definitions, he described charity as kindness and tolerance of others. I like that. Even if I have trouble "loving" some people, as when I don't feel loving, I can still treat others with charity and kindness, and obey the Master's edict.

But it gets even deeper when you consider trying to love God. For me the words fall far short of the mark and the Ideal. However, the words I use and the actions I take will have to do. My best is what I can give in honor of God, by loving, showing kindness and by serving others.

The beautiful vision of Philip Yancey offers me comfort when my best doesn't seem enough. The safety net of God's Grace is our blessed reassurance. And it is more than enough.

Merry Christmas to all of you. And, keep looking up!

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

KCHD offers guidance this flu season

Includes knowing when to go to emergency department

With cold and flu season upon us and considering the upcoming closure of Physicians Regional Medical Center, the Knox County Health Department (KCHD) is encouraging the public to follow some basic precautions to reduce the spread of disease and avoid unnecessarily overburdening hospital emergency departments.

"It's the time of year when many hospitals report an increase in traffic in their emergency departments due to flu, respiratory illnesses and other conditions. Traditionally many of those seen in hospital emergency rooms could instead seek care at their regular health care provider or a walk-in clinic, which would free up hospitals for

emergencies," said KCHD Director Dr. Martha Buchanan. "With the upcoming hospital closure, it's more important than ever that residents know when to go to a provider verses the emergency room."

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, and 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 greatly concerned about the illness, he or she should first contact a medical provider or walk-in clinic before visiting the hospital, reserving 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

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, many of which are open in the evenings and on weekends.

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 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 are 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 help lower your risk of getting the flu or to keep from spreading the flu to others.

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.

Patients should go to the emergency room if exhibiting any of the following emergency warning signs of flu:

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 the signs on the left, seek medical help immediately for an infant who has any of

Continue on page 3



We Are Open!

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MorningPointe
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Around-the-Clock Care
Support Groups

9649 Westland Drive
Knoxville, TN 37922
(865) 223-6422
morningpointe.com

KCHD offers guidance this flu season

Cont. from page 1

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

It is not too late to get a flu vaccine. The CDC recommends vaccination as long as flu viruses are circulating. Flu vaccines are still widely available in the community at pharmacies and health care provider offices. They are also available at KCHD's offices: the main location, 140 Dameron Ave.; West Clinic, 1028 Old Cedar Bluff Rd.; and Teague Clinic, 405 Dante Rd. To reduce wait time, appointments at KCHD are recommended by calling 865-215-5070. KCHD clinics are open 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Flu activity generally peaks between December and February, but the exact timing, severity and length of the flu season varies from year to year. More information about influenza, including the current activity, is available at <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/index.htm>.

The Knox County 4-H Poultry Judging team represented Tennessee 4-H in the National 4-H Poultry Judging Contest at the North American International Livestock Expo in Louisville, KY on November 15th. This is a contest where 4-H members learn how to judge poultry and their products. The team has been studying for this contest since August and after winning the state contest in October, learned they would have to study even harder to compete at the national level.

The team consisted of Kendra Sellers (Corryton), Ethan Creech (Halls), Lane Atchley (Mascot) and Portia Sauerhoefer (Blaine). They placed 15th nationally and Ethan Creech was the 17th Overall High Individual.

The team was coached by Danny Bullington and



Pictured Left to Right: Kendra Sellers, Ethan Creech, Lane Atchley, Portia Sauerhoefer

Jeff Sellers, who are volunteer leaders with the Knox County 4-H program.

The members and coaches and their families had a

great time and learned so much from the experiences. The trip inspired them to begin a year round 4-H poultry project group and

their ultimate goal is to return to Louisville next year and compete in the Avian Bowl.

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE'S SALE

WHEREAS, default has occurred in the performance of the covenants, terms and conditions of a Deed of Trust dated June 28, 2007, executed by CLAUDE E KEITH and TAMMY A KEITH, conveying certain real property therein described to ROBERT M WILSON JR, as Trustee, as same appears of record in the Register's Office of Knox County, Tennessee recorded July 12, 2007, at Instrument Number 200707120003661; and WHEREAS, the beneficial interest of said Deed of Trust was last transferred and assigned to THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON FKA THE BANK OF NEW YORK, AS TRUSTEE (CWALT 2007-22) who is now the owner of said debt; and WHEREAS, the undersigned, Ruben Lublin TN, PLLC, having been appointed as Substitute Trustee by instrument to be filed for record in the Register's Office of Knox County, Tennessee.

NOW, THEREFORE, notice is hereby given that the entire indebtedness has been declared due and payable, and that the undersigned, Ruben Lublin TN, PLLC, as Substitute Trustee or his duly appointed agent, by virtue of the power, duty and authority vested and imposed upon said Substitute Trustee will, on **January 24, 2019 at 10:00 AM** at the North Side Entrance of the City County Building, 400 Main Street, Knoxville, TN 37902, proceed to sell at public outcry to the highest and best bidder for cash or certified funds ONLY, the following described property situated in Knox County, Tennessee, to wit:

SITUATED IN DISTRICT EIGHT (8) OF KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE, AND WITHOUT THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE, AND BEING MORE FULLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: BEGINNING ON AN IRON PIN ON THE CORNER OF ELIZABETH PRATT BEING AT THE END OF A 25-FOOT PERMANENT EASEMENT AND BEING NORTH 22 DEG. 17 MIN. WEST, 331.83 FEET FROM THE END OF ROSIE LANE; THENCE WITH THE PROPERTY OF ELIZABETH PRATT, CROSSING THE END OF A 25-FOOT PERMANENT EASEMENT, 25.07 FEET, SOUTH 76 DEG. 18 MIN. EAST, A TOTAL DISTANCE OF 246.6 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 72 DEG. 44 MIN. EAST, 119.0 FEET TO A PIN; THENCE NORTH 59 DEG. 39 MIN. EAST, 459.3 FEET TO AN IRON PIN, CORNER TO KENNETH LEE; THENCE WITH THE PROPERTY OF KENNETH LEE, NORTH 16 DEG. 53 MIN. WEST, 463.0 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 49 DEG. 41 MIN. WEST, 683.7 FEET TO AN IRON PIN; THENCE SOUTH 49 DEG. 58 MIN. WEST, 94.0 FEET TO AN IRON PIN; THENCE SOUTH 15 DEG. 30 MIN. WEST, 81.6 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, BEING 5.78 ACRES, AS SHOWN BY SURVEY OF W. L. (BILL) CLARK, LIC. NO. 107, 7745 KINGSMEADE ROAD, POWELL, TN 37849, DATED JANUARY 24, 1991.

THE COURT HAVING DETERMINED THAT ATTACHMENT LIES AGAINST YOUR INTEREST IN REAL PROPERTY COMMONLY KNOWN AS 3243 ASHLAND AVE, KNOXVILLE, TN 37914, PURSUANT TO TENNESSEE CODE ANNOTATED SECTIONS 21-1-203 & 204, YOU ARE HEREBY SERVED BY PUBLICATION AS TO YOUR STATUS AS DEFENDANT IN THE ABOVE-CAPTIONED LITIGATION WITH RESPECT TO ANY INTEREST YOU MAY CLAIM IN REAL PROPERTY IDENTIFIED ABOVE. TAKE NOTICE THAT ON FEBRUARY 28, 2019, AT 9:30 A.M. THE COURT WILL HOLD A HEARING ON THIS MATTER IN PART 2 OF THE CHANCERY COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE, THE HONORABLE CLARENCE E. PRIDEMORE, JR., PRESIDING, AND SHOULD YOU NEITHER APPEAR AT SAID HEARING, NOR OTHERWISE ANSWER OR DEFEND THE CAUSE OF ACTION AGAINST YOU, JUDGMENT MAY BE ENTERED AGAINST YOU BY DEFAULT FOR THE RELIEF DEMAND IN THE COMPLAINT.

HOWARD G. HOGAN

/s/ Howard G. Hogan
Clerk & Master

NON-RESIDENT NOTICE

TO: ALL THOSE CLAIMING ANY INTEREST IN, TITLE TO, OR POSSESSION OF THE REAL PROPERTY SHOWING IN THE RECORDS OF THE KNOX COUNTY ASSESSOR AS TAX PARCEL NO. 120P-B-012.00, GENERALLY KNOWN AS 8218 GLEASON DRIVE, KNOXVILLE, TN 37918;

IN RE: THE IDLEWOOD ASSOCIATION INC v. NEHAD S. ABDELNABI AKA NEHAD ABDELNABI
NO. 196607-1

IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE

In this Cause, it appearing from the Complaint filed, which is sworn to, that the defendant ALL THOSE CLAIMING ANY INTEREST IN, TITLE TO, OR POSSESSION OF THE REAL PROPERTY SHOWING IN THE RECORDS OF THE KNOX COUNTY ASSESSOR AS TAX PARCEL NO. 120P-B-012.00, GENERALLY KNOWN AS 8218 GLEASON DRIVE, KNOXVILLE, TN 37918, 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 ALL THOSE CLAIMING ANY INTEREST IN, TITLE TO, OR POSSESSION OF THE REAL PROPERTY SHOWING IN THE RECORDS OF THE KNOX COUNTY ASSESSOR AS TAX PARCEL NO. 120P-B-012.00, GENERALLY KNOWN AS 8218 GLEASON DRIVE, KNOXVILLE, TN 37918 file an answer with the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court at Knoxville, Tennessee and with Kevin A. Dean, an Attorneys whose address is, P.O. Box 39 Knoxville, TN 37901 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 John F. Weaver at the Knox County Chancery Court, Division III, 400 Main Street, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902. This notice will be published in The Knoxville Focus Newspaper for four (4) consecutive weeks.

Clerk and Master

NON-RESIDENT NOTICE

TO: THE KNOXVILLE FOCUS

ROCHELLE ALENA HELMS -Vs- KORAB (NMN) KRASNIQI
Docket # 142601

IN THE FOURTH CIRCUIT COURT OF KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE

In this cause, it appearing from the Complaint filed, which is sworn to, that the defendant KORAB (NMN) KRASNIQI is 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 KORAB (NMN) KRASNIQI.

IT IS ORDERED that said defendant file an answer to an action of COMPLAINT FOR DIVORCE filed by ROCHELLE ALENA HELMS, Plaintiff herein, with the Fourth Circuit Court in Knoxville, Tennessee, and with MICHAEL L. DEBUSK, Plaintiff's Attorney whose address is 5344 N. BROADWAY, SUITE 101 KNOXVILLE, TN 37918, within thirty (30) days of the last date of publication, and if you do not answer or otherwise respond, a Default Judgment may be entered against you on the thirtieth (30th) day after the fourth (4th) publication. This notice will be published in The Knoxville Focus for four (4) consecutive weeks.

This the 27TH day of NOVEMBER, 2018.

Mike Hammond
Clerk

Deputy Clerk

NOTICE OF ACCOUNTING AND SETTLEMENT

IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, PROBATE DIVISION

TO: Unknown heir of the estate of Michael David White, Sr.

IN RE: Estate of: Michael David White, Sr.
Docket Number: 79599-2

In this cause, it appearing that an accounting/settlement has been filed by the personal representative, which is sworn to, and it further appearing that the following beneficiaries and unknown heirs are non-residents of the State of Tennessee or whose whereabouts cannot be ascertained upon diligent search and inquiry, to wit: unknown heir, pursuant to TCA § 30-2-603 this notice is published to advise the above beneficiaries and all interested parties that the Clerk and Master will take the account of the personal representative on the 13th day of March, 2019 in the Probate Courtroom, Room 352 City County Building, 400 Main Street, Knoxville, TN 37902. The settlement may be continued from time to time as provided by TCA § 30-2-605.

This 28th day of November, 2018.

Martha Hutchens
Personal Representative

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF TERRY JOE LAW
DOCKET NUMBER 80935-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 7 day of DECEMBER 2018, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of TERRY JOE LAW who died Oct 20, 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 the 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 date of the 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 the 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 7 day of DECEMBER, 2018

ESTATE OF TERRY JOE LAW
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
VIVIAN L ENGLAND; EXECUTRIX
3694 SPENCE CIRCLE
MARYVILLE, TN. 37804
12/17 & 12/24/18

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF DARRELL WADE MCCLANAHAN
DOCKET NUMBER 80403-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 7 day of DECEMBER 2018, letters administration in respect of the Estate of DARRELL WADE MCCLANAHAN who died May 2, 2018, 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 7 day of DECEMBER, 2018.

ESTATE OF DARRELL WADE MCCLANAHAN
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
HEATHER RYAN; ADMINISTRATRIX
925 WHITLOCK AVENUE APT 1509
MARIETTA, GA. 30064
12/17 & 12/24/18

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF DONNA JO MILSAP
DOCKET NUMBER 81105-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 7 day of DECEMBER 2018, letters administration in respect of the Estate of DONNA JO MILSAP who died Jun 9, 2018, 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 7 day of DECEMBER, 2018.

ESTATE OF DONNA JO MILSAP
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
STEVEN E WIDNER; ADMINISTRATOR
8112 MAJESTIC VIEW WAY
CORYTON, TN. 37721

SUZANNE N PRICE ATTORNEY AT LAW
800 SOUTH GAY STREET, SUITE 2001
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37929

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF KATHERINE PETERS RUTHERFORD
DOCKET NUMBER 80498-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 13TH day of DECEMBER 2018, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of KATHERINE PETERS RUTHERFORD who died Feb 26, 2018, 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 13TH day of DECEMBER, 2018.

ESTATE OF KATHERINE PETERS RUTHERFORD
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
REBECCA N. MCBRIDE; EXECUTRIX
712 SUNNYDALE ROAD
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37923

BILL W. PETTY ATTORNEY AT LAW
705 GATE LANE SUITE 202
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37909

MISC. NOTICES

NOTICE OF LIEN SALE

The following described vehicles impounded/ repaired/towed will be sold at public and/or private auction in compliance with the Tennessee Public Acts 1967, Chapter 240, house Bill 379. The sale will be held at Jim's Garage & Wrecker Service Vehicle Impoundment Lot located at 5906 Waldon Street, Knoxville, TN 37919.

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 vehicle.

- 1)00 LINCOLN 1LNHM83W3YY769012
- 2)15 HONDA CBR MLHNC5104F5102225
- 3)05 VW PASSAT VVWAE63B95E079538
- 4)00 MAZDA 1YVGF22C1Y5134833
- 5)06 CHEVY UPLANDER 1GNDV23L86D102160
- 6)10 DODGE CHARGER 2B3CA3CV1AH126904
- 7)01 FORD TAURUS 1FAPP5UX1A269252
- 8)05 LINCOLN 1LNHM81W85Y601346
- 9)96 DODGE CARAVAN 1B4GP44R7TB337054
- 10)02 LEXUS JTHBN30F920090542
- 11)08 CHEVY IMPALA 2G1WC583081344414
- 12)99 FORD TAURUS 1FAP535XA039392
- 13)04 DODGE RAM 1D7HA16D34J100986
- 14)96 GMC YUKON 1GKEK13R5TJ744101
- 15)01 TOYOTA COROLLA 2T1BR12E51C512566
- 16)94 CADILLAC 1G6DW52P4RR717424
- 17)05 PONTIAC G.A.M 1G2NE52E65M218302
- 18) 01 NISSAN ALTIMA 1N4D0L1D01C147127
- 19)08 NISSAN MAX 1N4BA41E28C816201
- 20)97 CHEVY P.U. 1GCEC19M1VE128041
- 21)12 TOYOTA CAMRY 4T1BD1FK8CU019965
- 22)15 MITS.MIRAGE ML3244HJ3FH003448

NOTICE OF LIEN SALE

Public Sale to be held on January 9, 2018 at 11:00 AM at Your Extra Storage: Contents of the following units will be sold to satisfy owners lien for rent due.

254 Harry lane Blvd. Knox. TN 37923:

Jarrod Bintz, C28; Lacresha McKinney E32;

Ladonna Suttles N02; Michelle Duboi Fletcher G07

7144 Clinton Hwy.Powell TN 37849:

Daniel Bradford F06; Bronson Toliver E 13; Chris Boudreau D27; James Groner G44

4303 E. Emory Rd. Knoxville TN 37938:

Jerry Buhl D04; Logan Galloway B23; Peter Moore G08; Mark Ogle E 19; April Pollock H 05;

Roy Tollett D08; Melody Turner D08

Cash only, payment in full required, 865-691-0444

LEGAL SECTION 94

Knox County will receive bids for the following items & services:

Bid 2748, Pest Control Services, due 1/29/19

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.

Come worship with us

New Beverly Baptist Church

3320 New Beverly Church Rd.
Knoxville, TN 37918
Rev. Eddie Sawyer, Pastor
www.newbeverly.org
856-546-0001

Sunday School 10 a.m.

Sunday Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.

Sunday Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday Evening Prayer 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday Evening Youth 7:00 p.m.

Bus Ministry -

For transportation call 546-0001.



DROPPING OFF LUNCH TO A SENIOR COULD BE THE PICK-ME-UP YOU NEED.

Volunteer for Meals on Wheels
AmericaLetsDoLunch.org

Free Breakfast for Veterans and Guests

Elks Lodge #0160, 5600 Lonas Drive, Knoxville, TN 37909, is hosting a Veterans Breakfast January 5, 2019 with Knox County Mayor Glenn Jacobs as the guest speaker.

Breakfast will be provided by Knox County Circuit Court Clerk Charlie

Susano and Knox County Commissioner Larsen Jay. Doors open at 8:00 a.m. The chow line opens at 8:30 and plan to be on the way to take on the day at 9:30 a.m. Free food, fellowship and hot coffee – what could be better? Veterans of all branches of the U.S.

Armed Forces, all eras, all conflicts and their guests are welcome the first Saturday of every month. Sponsors of the month provide the meal at no-cost. If you are interested in sponsoring a month, please contact Buzz Buswell (865) 604-4443.



TN CHARTER #4410

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Call or email Ruthie at 865-254-3498 or ruthie@knoxfocus.com to place your Classified or Service Directory ad!

from Lillian's Bean Pot

SWEET APPLE QUICK BREAD

- 2 cups flour
- ½ cup butter, softened
- 1 cup sugar
- ½ cup milk
- 1 tsp. baking soda
- 2 tbsp. orange peel
- ½ tsp. baking powder
- 1 tbsp. corn syrup
- 1 cup apples, peeled and finely chopped
- 2 eggs
- ½ cup chopped nuts

Blend all ingredients except nuts. Beat 3 minutes then add nuts. Pour into greased loaf pan. Bake at 325° for 50-60 minutes or until toothpick comes out clean. Remove from pan to cool.

classifieds

EMPLOYMENT

OPERATIONS MANAGER (KNOXVILLE, TN) SOUGHT BY AUTO RECYCLING CO. WITH EXP. IN ALL OF THE FOLLOWING: (I) NEGOTIATING WITH SUPPLIERS AND OVERSEEING SALES AGREEMENTS, (II) OVERSEEING PRODUCTION OF RAW MATERIAL, AND (III) DEVELOPING OPERATIONAL BUDGETS AND MANAGING EQUIPMENT ACQUISITIONS. BA IN ALL FIELD OF STUDY + 2Y EXP. PLEASE SEND RESUMES BY POSTAL MAIL ONLY TO: HARRY HERNANDEZ, PRESIDENT, TENNESSEE AUTO SALVAGE RECYCLING INC., 7820 RUTLEDGE PIKE, KNOXVILLE, TN 37924.

EMPLOYMENT

Appalachian Arts Craft Center

appalachianarts.net
A 501(c)3 in Norris is seeking part-time **Executive Director**
Please email resume to: bocknekj@gmail.com

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**SOUTH KNOXVILLE /
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