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Recode meeting long, confrontational

By Mike Steely
steelym@knoxfocus.com

The year of 2019 may well be remembered as the year Knoxville City Council struggled with Recode.

A second marathon session on Recode became exhausting and labored as the city council once again tried to correct the

working changes to zoning and building standards. The special called meeting began at 3 p.m. and went well beyond 9 o'clock Thursday evening.

"Expect a protracted meeting," Mayor Madeline Rogero told the council as the meeting started.

Several citizens,

including representatives of neighborhoods, reality groups and members of the Community Forum, spoke on changes to the regulations.

Well into the meeting the council continued to make major and minor changes to the proposed revamping of regulations. At one point

Councilwoman Seema Singh-Perez confronted representatives of Community Forum, the umbrella group representing West Knoxville neighborhoods, for its continual suggestions and corrections of the proposed regulation.

Singh-Perez said the city council and Community

Forum is rewriting the rules while other neighborhoods and citizens are being left out of the process. She asked about Community Forum's diversity and income level. She asked if anyone in the group made less than \$25,000.

Community Forum's Carlene Malone had been

doing most of the Forum's speaking but Attorney Larry Silverstein stepped forward to reply to Singh-Perez. He said the Forum represents a variety of members of neighborhood groups.

"We need more opinions here," Singh-Perez said.

"I understand your
Continued on page 4

LEADING THE WAY! STUDENT-ATHLETES OF THE YEAR

The Knoxville Focus' annual series recognizing local TSSAA member high schools' female and male Student-Athletes of the Year starts in today's Sports section and will continue in the month of June.

Each high school chooses a girl and boy who stood out in academics and athletics during the school year and athletic directors are requested to send in the information.

In the spotlight this week are honorees from Career Magnet Academy, Carter High, Christian Academy of Knoxville and Concord Christian School.



Luke Simpson,
CAK's male
Student-Athlete
of the Year, was
a valuable wide
receiver for the
Warriors last fall.

Behavioral Health Urgent Care Center loses state funds

By Mike Steely
steelym@knoxfocus.com

It's crunch time for the Knox County and Knoxville budgets and one item on both budgets getting some attention is the funding of the Behavioral Health Urgent Care Center. The Helen Ross McNabb operated facility, hailed as a victory in treating mentally ill and addicted minor law offenders when it opened, is facing a total state funding cutoff. The center's treatment policies are changing and Jerry Vagnier, director of the McNabb center, is looking to local governments for support.

The city upped its contribution to the center from by \$183,950 to \$583,950 and the Knox County budget, which last year gave \$615,000, has increased to \$840,000 for the Behavioral Center.

Vagnier spoke recently at the commission's work session and said that the previous state funding accounted for about 75% of the Urgent Care Center's budget. He said the new governor stopped the funding and that is pressing the Center to look to local government. He said the judicial process has also changed as many of the minor offenders with mental health or additions are now being arrested rather

Continued on page 3

Nicholas Gibbs family assembles Saturday

By Mike Steely
steelym@knoxfocus.com

More than 100 descendants of Revolutionary War veteran and Knox County settler Nicholas Gibbs will assemble Saturday at the patriot's original home on Emory Road. The event, sponsored by the Nicholas Gibbs Historic Society, will feature a tour of the home, a meal, a business meeting of the group, a historic presentation, and live music in the shelter behind the old home.

The Gibbs log cabin, built in 1793, may be the oldest standing log structure in the state and society member Joe Longmire took The Knoxville Focus on a tour recently. The original claim of Nicholas Gibbs was for 450 acres and other acreage was later added. Gibbs was a German immigrant who migrated to what is now Knox County and settled just east of Harbison Crossroads. The entire community there is also known as Gibbs and the elementary, middle and high school carry the Gibbs name.

Longmire said he hopes

the gathering will generate enough money to continue restoring the old two-story house. He said it needs some new chinking as well as new logs although most of the logs are original, and the house has a groundhog problem. He said the society membership fee goes a long way in helping the continual restoration. Membership in the society is open to anyone who is a descendant of the Nicholas Gibbs family.

The old home was occupied until 1985 which is when the historic society bought it. Since then the later additions to the home have been removed and the structure cared for and nursed back to its historical appearance. Longmire, a Gibbs descendant, said that many people in the area are also descended from the settler.

Inside the home are period pieces and relics unearthed by archeologists from the yard. Two of the items are original to Nicholas Gibbs including a small cast iron pot used to melt lead and a grandfather clock. The clock is only in



Joe Longmire stands in front of the historic Nicholas Gibbs House where descendants of the Revolutionary War volunteer and early Knox County resident will gather this Saturday.

the home during the annual Gibbs family homecoming.

Back then there wasn't another home nearby on

the stretch of the historic Emory Road and many people, including Andrew Jackson, may have stopped

there Longmire said. The society is still piecing the patchwork of history together for the home.

Longmire said that descendants from across the country come in for the
Cont. on page 3

Memorial Day Honored in Knoxville

By Mike Steely
steelym@knoxfocus.com

Memorial Day in Knoxville saw numerous events honoring American veterans, those lost and those who survived. Ceremonies were held at all three veterans cemeteries, at the East Tennessee Veterans Memorial at the World's Fair Park, and at Fountain City Park. Other events were held here and there in Knox County and East Tennessee.

The Knoxville Focus attended three events beginning with the ceremonies at the National Cemetery downtown, the reading of the names of military veterans lost in action at the Veterans Memorial, and Honor Fountain City Day in Fountain City.

Hot weather saw most people seeking shade at each event but the turnout was good and honorable.

At the National Cemetery, founded in 1863 by Union General Ambrose Burnside, the Major William A. McTeer Camp # 39 Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War began the event by marching through the rows of gravestones to the East Tennessee Union Monument. David McReynolds, national treasurer of the Sons of Union Veterans, opened the ceremony. Various speakers talked of the cause including greetings by Alice Brosey, Doug Fidler and Cynthia McReynolds. Taps was played by William Beard.

Other groups taking part included the Sons and Daughters of Union Veterans and the Cavett Station National Society of the American Revolution.

Four names of fallen United States military from East Tennessee were added to the walls of East Tennessee Veterans Memorial. The motto of the memorial at the World's Fair Park is "Remember, Honor, Educate and Inspire" and the service there did just that.

Added to the list of honors were Corporal John R. Bowman of World War I, Sergeant James R. Gamble of World War II, Sergeant Major James H. Dunlap and Technical Sergeant Roy D. Prater, both lost in Vietnam.

The reading of more than 6222 names began at sunrise with more than sixty volunteers and the event, sponsored by American Legion Post 2, saw one local veteran honored for his service to his fellow veterans and the memory of those lost.

Dan Chipman of the Sons of American Legion and American Legion Riders was honored for his local service and presented the annual honors. Chaplain Steve Sword gave the prayer. Within it he said, "We owe a debt to the lost and their sacrifice was not in vain."

The 44th annual Honor Fountain City Day featured a "Senior" theme and lifelong resident Jamie Rowe



Photos by Mike Steely and Ronnie Collins. Clockwise from top left: Dan Chipman of American Legion Riders was honored in ceremonies at the Veterans Memorial at the World's Fair Park. The Major William A. McTeer Camp #39 began the Memorial Day services at the National Cemetery by marching from one end of the historic burial ground to the East Tennessee Union Statue. Winning Central High School Coach Bryson Rosser was chosen as "Man of the Year" by the Fountain City Town Hall during ceremonies at Fountain City Park. The patriotic music at Honor Fountain City Day was provided by the Tennessee Wind Symphony at the park's gazebo. Hundreds of people found shade or sun as the annual event took place. Fountain City's Jamie Rowe was the featured speaker at Honor Fountain City Day and told humorous stories about getting old as the event honored senior citizens and American veterans. Tom and Sue Wright appeared as Mr. and Mrs. Abraham Lincoln during the Memorial Day Ceremony at the East Tennessee Veterans Monument in the National Cemetery.

was featured as speaker, telling humorous jokes about getting older. Veterans of each military service present were recognized as the Tennessee Wind Symphony played the songs related to that service.

The Colors were presented by Boy Scout Troop 55

who also led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Congressman Tim Burchett spoke briefly about his father and uncle and their service to the nation.

The event was attended by various candidates for mayor and city council. Several community

organizations had booths and the hot weather didn't spoil the occasion.

Tyler Pavlis, Honor Fountain City Day chair, hosted the event and Lynn Bennett sang "The Star Spangled Banner." Various awards are presented each year and the 2019 winners

included Starbucks for Fountain City for Commercial Restoration, David and Lori Hensley for Residential Restoration, Angela Freeman and Hunter and Derrick Freeman were named for the Chairman's Award.

Penny Kleinschmidt and Bryson Rosser were

honored as Woman and Man of the Year.

WBIR's John Becker spoke of "Service and Sacrifice" and a 21-gun salute was presented by the East Tennessee Veteran's Honor Guard.



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Publisher Steve Hunley
Editor, Art Director Marianne Dedmon
editor@knoxfocus.com, design@knoxfocus.com

Lisa DeMarsico staff@knoxfocus.com
Mike Steely steelym@knoxfocus.com
Sales sales@knoxfocus.com
Pam Poe phpoe2000@yahoo.com
Bill Wright wrightb@knoxfocus.com
Andrea Owens owensa@knoxfocus.com
Valorie Fister fisterv@knoxfocus.com
Darrell Keathley keathleyd@knoxfocus.com
Legal, Public Notice ads legals@knoxfocus.com

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Publisher's Position Our Focus is Local



By Steve Hunley, Publisher
publisher@knoxfocus.com

things that makes a community worthwhile is having a sense of community. That is something we try to do here at The Focus, as our focus is almost entirely local in scope and nature. The Focus has a reporter at every meeting of the Knox County Commission, the Knoxville City Council, the county's Pension Board, and on down the line. Our articles aren't written in the thirty second sound bites of local television. Things have changed and are continuing to change. I never

thought I'd live to see the day when friends of mine don't even watch cable television any longer. I have friends in my age bracket who only watch streaming TV. Newspapers, especially dailies, are now largely the creatures of conglomerates and big corporations, which rehash canned news that is obsolete by the time it reaches the printed page in an age where news runs on cable television twenty-four hours per day, seven days a week. The Focus tries to offer

up the best of what's going on in Knox County, Knoxville and Nashville, as state government certainly does affect our daily quality of life.

One of the local radio stations here, 92.3FM on your dial, is trying to do the same thing: emphasizing what's going on locally. The early morning program is dedicated to local happenings and events, stressing what's happening in our local governments. The radio personalities are dynamic and

offer up an interesting commentary. The callers and those posting on social media offer their own opinions and having a dialogue about issues is very important in a free society.

One reason City of Knoxville officials haven't been able to sneak through the terrible "Recode" changes is because entities like The Focus and 92.3 have tried to shine a light on it.

One reason the Left wants to control social media is to stifle all conversation, dialogue and

stamp out opposition. It's the same tactic used by authoritarians everywhere throughout history, whether the regime was communist or fascist in belief. The Left wants to keep the center and the right of center from being heard.

In a free society, everyone must have a voice and everyone must be heard. Here at The Focus, we will continue to speak out and The Focus will always be on the lookout for those things that affect you, your family and our community.

To my mind, one of the

Behavioral Health Urgent Care Center

Cont. from page 1

than taken to the center.

He said the center received state funding for 15 months and noted that similar projects in Tennessee are losing state funds.

Asked about care at the center Vagnier said that 500 people have been treated there. He said the care center, because of funding, is cutting the mandatory 72-hour stay there to 23 hours.

"We're going to follow them up and make sure they have treatment," he said but added there are no resources to follow a patient beyond six months.

Vivian Shipe, an early proponent of the care center, responded to The Knoxville Focus: "The new governor's stance on not refunding to the original level was a disappointment. The number of people who need help is growing and this was a cut across the state. Thankfully the city and county are helping. I would like to see these types of funds be set in budgets as recurring funds; not only for jail diversion and stabilization, but wrap around care back into the community with more permanent supportive housing options."

Vagnier said Friday that the cuts are causing a staff cutback. He also said the 23-hour stay is not in stone and, if needed, more time will be given to patients. He also said that the past year has been successful but added that success does not equal funding.

He said the Urgent Care budget this current year has been \$2.9 million which ends July 1st. He said the current budget for 2019-2020 is \$1.4 million.

"We're engaging people in other places of care," he said.

More legal problems with Recode?

By Steve Hunley, Publisher
publisher@knoxfocus.com

Recode Round 2 was held on Thursday, May 30 and it exceeded the six and a half hours of Recode Round 1 on May 14 with a marathon nine and a half hour comedy where city council tried to fix over fifty errors in Recode. It was another very long session of "may, shall, and will" legal verbiage corrections in the two and a half year old effort to change all zoning for the City of Knoxville by the process known as Recode Knoxville. How many more errors are left? City council and the mayor declared Recode was almost fixed at the end of the meeting. Yet the Recode Draft 5 Map is not available, so all that work was done on Recode Draft 5 text only.

City council and the mayor were stung last week on Tuesday when two local newspapers including this one showed how city council had tried to hide Recode from the public with the December 2018 Ordinance O-187-2018 that stated that only an advertisement in a paper of record was needed to inform property owners of the 425 page zoning overhaul for all Knoxville property. Even though city council later instructed the planning commission to send out a mailing on Recode to all 50,000 property owners it is estimated that less than five percent of Knoxville property owners know what Recode is today. The main reason for this is that the mailing on Recode was so poorly worded that it conveyed very little information about what Recode is. Responsible government is about transparency. There is little transparency here.

At the meeting city council bent over backwards to seek forgiveness by offering free coffee and pizza to everyone in the audience. Approximately seventy-five citizens attended the meeting but many left after the mayor stated there would be no vote on Recode that evening.

It was ironic what city council focused the most time on. A great deal of time was spent on kennels for dogs and maybe cats, how many people could work in a home office, how many cars could be at a home. The discussion of property people's property rights was not so lengthy. Michael Stinson of Holston Hills asked a question which caused discomfort to city council, the mayor, and the city law department. Stinson asked, "Will residences and businesses have protection from Recode if their property is zoned into a nonconforming use?"

While this was a simple question it created an intense discussion with conflicting responses from the city law department, council, and the mayor. Stinson asked where the Grandfather Clause was in Recode. Council member Lauren Rider said, "Grandfather is not a legal term, it is a layman's term." Yet "Grandfather" is cited 14 times in Tennessee Code Annotated but has no citing with reference to zoning. Knoxville City Attorney Christina Magrans-Tillery spoke of state law that pertained to Recode and said, "What we have done is use our local terminology to make it more user friendly and readable."

Oh really? Council member Marshall Stair read what he thought would shut down the Grandfather discussion with Recode Draft 5 Section 17.1 paragraph two:

"A nonconforming building, structure or use of land lawfully existing at the time of the adoption or amendment of this ordinance may be continued and maintained as provided in this article; provided, however, that nothing herein may be construed to authorize the continuation of any illegal or nonconforming use which was illegal prior to the adoption of this ordinance."

Mr. Stair claimed that was the protection people needed. That wording is more user

friendly and readable? That is written in the negative. Was it done on purpose to make it more difficult to understand?

As an attorney, Mr. Stair failed to notice that this paragraph was not written clearly. It should have been written like this:

"A lawful prior non-conforming building, structure or use of land existing at the time of the adoption or amendment of this ordinance may be continued and maintained."

It took me five minutes on the internet to find that. I am not an attorney, but I can read. So why after two and a half years was this critical property rights issue written so poorly in Draft 5 of Recode? It is often said; never attribute to malice what can be attributed to incompetence.

To be fair to council member Marshall Stair, he soon told council even he was confused by Sections 17.1 and 17.2 after there was more discussion and Mr. Stair made a motion that 17.1 and 17.2 be revised by the planning commission. Mayor Rogero said, "We don't need a vote on that...okay...let's have a motion that we come up with the appropriate language" and it passed unanimously. Is this circus what you what to determine your future property rights?

This is what you get when the Knoxville Planning commission arrogantly tries to re-write sixty plus years of zoning case law in two and half years and then passes on an incomplete flawed zoning product to the city council. None of those on council have training or experience in creating zoning law. Not a single person on city council has a degree in Urban Planning, Architecture, or Civil Engineering. Yet they feel they have the right to change the law that controls the property rights of every single person in Knoxville.

After debating briefly with Mr. Stinson, Mayor Rogero said, "We're all learning a lot in this process." The city and county taxpayers pay over six

million dollars a year to Knoxville-Knox County Planning to do this. So why are council and the mayor doing the work of the planning commission? Especially since they have no idea what they are doing?

There is no reason for Recode.

We already have two of the supposedly brilliant Mixed Use apartments in Knoxville and they were done without Recode. The first is the Evolve apartments at 1913 Cumberland Avenue. The second is Crozier building at the corner of Central and Willow Avenues. Both of these Mixed Use apartments have reduced parking requirements just like in the Recode plan. Not that that is a good thing or a smart thing.

In the past two weeks two more supposedly magnificent Mixed Use apartments have been considered and approved by city council. City council unanimously approved two payment-in-lieu-of-tax (PILOT) agreements for a 237-unit Mixed Use apartment complex and an Airbnb-styled boutique hotel next door on Henley Street. Not just one PILOT, it was so good it got two. Seriously, it had to have two PILOTS? When has that ever happened in the city of Knoxville? More importantly, why did it happen?

The Kerns Bakery Mixed Use redevelopment will break ground in July. Isn't it something all of these new Mixed Use apartments being done without Recode? Makes a reasonable person wonder why Recode is worth all this risk, headache, and trouble?

If you are a city of Knoxville resident or a person who works in the city you need to ask yourself an important question. Is this the representation you deserve? Recode serves no purpose other than to erode the property rights of people in Knoxville. Demand from your elected city council members that it be voted down. Protect your property rights.

Nicholas Gibbs family assembles Saturday

Cont. from page 1

society meeting including people from Texas, Alaska and Washington.

Nicholas Gibbs was a volunteer in the Battle of King's Mountain and served as a Justice of the Peace. He had seven daughters and six sons and several sons served in the War of 1812. Gibbs was killed in the Battle of Horseshoe Bend in Alabama and a relative found this shot bag which contained Coffee Tree seeds which were planted at the Gibbs home and continue to live yet today. The log home stands at 7633 East Emory Road and was held

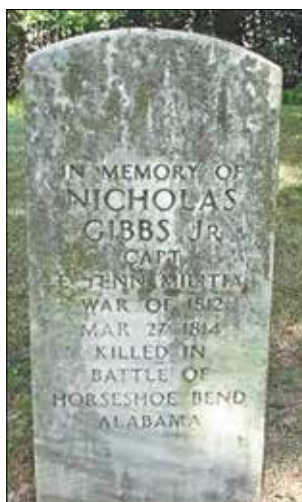
in the family for more than 200 years.

Longmire is urging visitors to bring chairs to the event, which begins at 11 a.m. The home will be open for tours at 9 a.m. The home is located one-half east mile of the Tazewell Pike and Emory Road intersection. He said that a nearby church lot may be used for overflow parking.

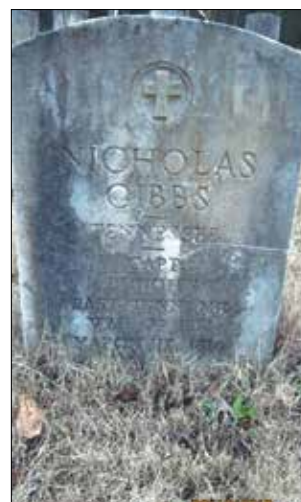
You can get more information about the event and Nicholas Gibbs on Facebook. Descendants unable to attend are urged to mail the membership fee, \$40 per family, to Ms. Sonja Collins, 9822 Emory Road NE, Corryton, Tn. 37721-3001.

Two headstones mark the memory of Knox County's

Nicholas Gibbs



The Gibbs marker at historic home.



The headstone of Gibbs in Alabama

The marker of Nicholas Gibbs Jr. has a story to tell. Gibbs, a German immigrant, migrated to what is now Knox County and acquired land near what is now Harbison's Crossroads, also known as Gibbs. He built his home on Emory Road and raised a large family. Gibbs volunteered and served in the American Revolution and the War of 1812. In that last struggle Gibbs was killed during the Battle of Horseshoe Bend.

A family legend has his brother, John, finding his body with some Coffee Tree seeds. He brought the seeds home, along with his brother's cap, and planted the seeds at the Gibbs home where the trees that grow from them are still today. The Nicholas Gibbs home is said to be the oldest still-standing home in the state.

The grave of Captain Nicholas Gibbs is actually located in the Fort Williams Military Park in Fayetteville, Alabama.

Getting to know CARSON DAILEY

By Mike Stealy

Carson Dailey is serving the 9th District on the Knox County Commission. He retired from Applied Industrial Technologies for Dixie Bearing Inc after 38 years. Prior to the commission Dailey served on the Board of Zoning Appeals and as a member of the Knox County Ethics Committee.

Very active in community organizations, especially in South Knox County, Dailey serves on various boards including Ijams Nature Center, Candoro Marble, Vestival, South-Doyle Neighborhood Association and as a director of the Mission of Hope and Toys for Tots Drive. He is the founder of Boy Scout Troop 36 and Cub Master of Pack 236.

Dailey is recovering from two knee surgeries but is up and walking without a cane on the advice of his doctor.

The Knoxville Focus sat down with Commissioner Dailey recently for an informal chat.

How is your position working for you?

The position is working great, I love helping people. That was the number one goal when I ran for office. Getting phone calls and emails and helping people is what it is all about. That's what a county commissioner does.

How is it affecting your family, business or other interests?

Well, my wife leaves to go to work at 7 a.m. and I leave to go to meetings, groundbreakings and



Commissioner Carson Dailey sits down with The Knoxville Focus for a chat about his family, his hopes for the county, and the problems in South Knox County. Photo by David Buuck.

other events. I usually don't get home until 7 or 8 o'clock at night sometimes even later. I don't get to see her much because of the homeowner associations that I'm attending, learning what is going on in their neighborhoods

Tell me a bit about your family.

My wife's name is Tammy. We've been married since October 4th, 1980. Our son is Jeremy and our daughter-in-law is Elizabeth. Our granddaughter is Victoria and our grandson is Vincent.

I was born in Madisonville, Tennessee, in 1959 and moved to Knox County in 1961. I went to Bonny Kate, then to Doyle Middle and Doyle High School. We don't have the

population in South Knox County to have two (high) schools. We only average 69 new homes in South Knox County each year. As we grow hopefully we can have two middle and high schools once again.

What are your hopes for Knox County?

My hopes is to make our South Knox County Schools better, make sure our patrol deputies have the right equipment and that I can make Knox County better tomorrow than it is today. That's my goals.

What do you see as your main accomplishments in life?

Well I have two besides my marriage. My work accomplishment is that I spent 38 years at Applied

Industrial Technologies and was top account manager for many years. Since on commission I am proud I have worked with the Attorney General to have anybody applying for plea bargaining must do 24 hours litter pickup. Former Mayor Burchett put in his budget to hire two new trash pickup employees.

What are your hobbies or interests in your private life?

Travel and sightseeing. Tammy and I love to go out west and see historic sites. We've been to 49 states and Hawaii is our last one. We did a cruise in Alaska.

How do you think people see you?

A person that is willing to help them to succeed in whatever problems they may have or something

they may need. They see me as a person that wants to help.

If you could do one thing in your life over again what would that be?

I had an '88 Ford Ranger and a '90 Bronco. I decided to get rid of the Ranger, which was in good shape and then had to replace the motor in the Bronco. That cost me 3 or 4 times what I got out of the Ranger. I look back and see that and think I should have kept the Ranger.

What's your favorite meal or where do you dine?

An Outback steak with a Blooming Onion or a Love That BBQ smoked bologna sandwich. At home Tammy will make a salad with fish or chicken with green beans and all the fix'ns.

Recode meeting

Cont. from page 1

frustration," Silverstein said, who noted the income of members "probably skew higher."

"We are not represented well when it is just a conversation between two groups," Singh-Perez said.

Mayor Madeline Rogero interceded and said the Recode "has been a long process" and an attempt was made to reach out to all the communities. She then told the council member, "It now comes down to you as representatives of those communities. We represent and think about people who are not here. We need to remember who is not in the room."

The first hours of the prolonged council meeting went over the changes made during the first meeting and changes the planning staff was suggesting. Rogero told the council and the public that a final vote would not be taken until a meeting on July 16th or 30th. She said that if no decision is made in July that the meetings in August would be called.

Revisions in the proposed zoning map are still being made and need approval along with two final readings of the Recode revision now called "Draft 5."

Within the bowels of the proposed regulations were discussions on what constitutes a family, where accessory buildings may be located, what is a public safety facility, occupancy numbers in single family homes, hillside protection standards for all structures, where outdoor events can be permitted, the height of commercial buildings, the definition of half-way houses, storage sheds, restaurants in office parks, and home occupations.

Some of the proposals were approved by the council and many more changes were left to the planning staff to suggest or include in the final Recode regulations. Council members Andrew Roberto, Lauren Rider, Gwen McKenzie and George Wallace were most active in the discussion.

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City reduces speed limit on stretch of Chapman Highway

Following an in-depth City Traffic Engineering study of portions of Chapman Highway, the speed limit has been reduced on a stretch of the road that is inside the city limits.

The speed limit has been lowered from 50 to 45 miles per hour on a 1.7-mile section from Ellis Road to the city limits, near Majestic Grove Road.

The change makes the speed limit a uniform 45 mph on Chapman Highway inside the city limits. The speed limit on Henley Bridge is 35 mph, and the speed limit from just south of the bridge (near the Kern's Bakery building) to Ellis Road was already 45 miles per hour. That speed limit will remain the same, and additional signs will

be added that remind drivers of the uniform 45 mph speed limit.

"Speed is a factor in many crashes and also a factor in the severity of crashes," said Jim Hagerman, City Director of Engineering. "By slowing down traffic, we aim to reduce the number of crashes and the extent of injury and damage that occur."

The Traffic Engineering study included a section of the highway from Ellis Road to Majestic Grove Road. The study involved measuring and analyzing current actual speeds, frequency of driveways and intersections, and other factors. The study reviewed both northbound and southbound speeds on Chapman Highway.

Following analysis of the study, traffic engineers proposed the decrease in speed limit.

"There is a standardized procedure to make the evaluation, and the Tennessee Department of Transportation concurred with our proposed change," Hagerman said.

City crews have posted the signs for the speed limit

changes.

Additional safety improvements, completed or underway:

The City has made recent safety improvements to the Chapman Highway corridor, with more improvements in the works:

- Realigned the Fort Dickerson intersection with improvements to signals

Continue on page 4

Commissioner Dailey proposes better way to study South Knox roads

By Focus Staff

Commissioner Carson Dailey wants to set the record straight about his wanting to delay a traffic study last week.

"I'm not against the study," he said adding, "I'm just trying to save the taxpayers the costs of an unnecessary study."

Dailey is talking about a proposed resolution calling for a road study in South Knox County that could have cost the county about \$148,000. At-Large Commissioner Justin Biggs had proposed the study and Dailey had encouraged delaying any action as a larger study is in the works.

"The Transportation Planning Organization has received a grant of \$400,000 with a 20% match by the county to do a county-wide mobility study," Dailey said. "A resolution to ask for a South Knox traffic study can be combined with the TPO study and save taxpayers anywhere from \$70,000 to \$100,000. We can take that and apply it toward Knox County's South Knox Road Study."

"I've been quoted in some stories that I oppose a study and that's not true," he said, adding, "I don't think it is right for another commissioner to reach into a district and interfere."

Dailey said the TPO study will cover two thirds of the South Knox Study with taxpayers only having to pick up the extra cost. "The larger scope of work can be leveraged to lower the cost for the taxpayers," he said. Senior Director of Public Works Jim Snowden confirmed Dailey's

Continue on page 4



PHOTO BY AMY BOX FELLHOELTER.

Eight classes of kindergarten and Pre-K students proudly show off their new library cards after receiving them from Mayor Jacobs and Superintendent Thomas.

Possibilities Open as Sam E. Hill Students Receive First Library Cards

By Amy Box Fellhoelter

Usually the last day of school doesn't get any better than the class parties and fun activities planned, yet some 7,000 students received their very first library card too thanks to an initiative started by Mayor Glenn Jacobs and the Great Schools Partnership which supports seventeen community elementary and middle schools throughout Knox County. For those children who attend Sam E. Hill Primary School, May 23, 2019 presented a visit from the mayor himself and Superintendent Bob Thomas who both passed out library cards to the students of four kindergarten and four Pre-K classes and encouraged them to read this summer.

Before welcoming their special guests in the school library decorated in "The Hungry Caterpillar" decor, the 45 students of Sam E. Hill Primary School sang a song and listened to Librarian Rachel Nichols begin to read the book "The Pigeon Wants a Puppy."

Students were complimented on their excellent behavior by the superintendent after Sam E. Hill Primary School Principal Wendy Laman introduced him and Mayor Jacobs to the students.

"Guess what you get today? It's really cool, it's really important ... a library card and you get to check out books for free," explained the mayor holding up his own library card.

"We are so happy to be with you this morning! I'm so proud of you," said Thomas. He encouraged the students to "check out books and read. We want you to be successful in school. You need to be able to read, and read efficiently. They give a test in third grade to check that, and right now only four out of ten students are reading on grade level. So we would like ten out of ten, and for all of you to come back and to be reading on grade level in the fall."

After the two men finished their talks, the students shouted a loud "Promise!" provoked by the mayor, when asked if they will

use their new cards to check out books and read this summer. "I'm so proud of you for having a library card," repeated Thomas.

When asking one kindergarten student what she thought about having her own library card, she cried, "Excited!" "Because I can read. I can go buy a library book," she said showing off her new card. Buying books with a library card is unattainable but having free access to more than a million books at eighteen libraries in Knox County is absolutely possible and very exciting.

"That's a book I haven't read yet, but I have read this one," she added pointing to books on the library shelves in hope of now checking several out. Although many of the students were too shy to speak to the media, their big smiles told a story of excitement on their faces.

The mayor's Read City USA Initiative was created to help raise literacy awareness and encourage families to make reading

Continue on page 2

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Ecclesiastes 3:11

'He hath made every thing beautiful in his time . . .'



Picture of "Spring" courtesy of Bryce Williams.



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

The image reminds me of one that could have been in a children's Sunday School class during the sixties. Colorful, poster-size pictures were often shown to us to illustrate a memory verse from the Bible. The above scripture from the Old Testament is such a verse. These bright red tulips against a white flowering tree is such a picture. It is another in the incredible collection from our hometown meteorologist from afar,

Bryce Williams. Bryce is with the National Weather Service in Boston, Massachusetts. In his travels, Bryce has captured breath-taking landscapes and sunsets, beautiful beaches, and spectacular snow-capped mountains. His photography often includes a single leaf or an entire field of flowers. Early in the season, Bryce spent hours "looking for spring." This photo capturing the beauty he found at Christopher Columbus Waterfront Park in Boston is

his favorite.

While this seems the perfect picture to pair with Ecclesiastes 3:11, the verse has deeper meaning about life. But just for a moment, I will reflect on this simple picture with flowers and trees and know that it correlates closely with the newness of life a Christian finds upon accepting Christ. As the care-free scenes of summer replace the beauty of spring, enjoy the many gifts from our Heavenly Father each day!

What is 'Medical Payments Insurance Coverage?'

Medical payments insurance coverage, or "Med Pay" is something that you may have never heard of, but it is an important part of most car insurance policies.

So what is medical pay coverage? Med pay coverage is coverage

that will pay for medical costs related to an auto accident regardless of who is at fault. How does that work exactly?

Say that you and I have an accident and I am driving the car that hits you. You contact my insurance company and they open up a claim. Even before my insurance company has made an assessment on liability (who caused the accident), if I have med pay coverage as part of my policy, they may offer it to you. Remember, med



By **Jedidiah McKeehan**
attorneyknoxville@gmail.com

pay coverage is usually paid out regardless of who is eventually determined to be liable for causing the accident.

So, again, you and I have been involved in an accident and you have gone to the emergency room or to physical therapy as a result of the accident. My insurance company may offer to pay those medical providers directly or they may offer to write you a check for the total amount of the med pay coverage amount. The most common amount of med pay coverage is \$5,000.00.

In the scenario I have laid out, my med pay coverage has been paid to you or your medical providers, and let's say the full \$5,000.00 has been paid. Let's continue our hypothetical, and assume that I am eventually

found to be at fault for the accident and my insurance company offers to pay you a settlement amount of \$20,000.00. That settlement amount is almost always reduced by the amount of med pay that has been thus far paid out. So, the settlement check you will receive will be \$15,000.00 instead of \$20,000.00.

If you have medical insurance and the other driver causes an accident, you may decide to decline to accept med pay money from his insurance company.

Why would you do that? Well, you may get more money in to your pocket by declining the med pay money. Often, healthcare providers will negotiate what they are owed, but if they are paid directly with med pay funds, your ability to negotiate a reduced payoff with the provider has been taken away.

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.

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KNOXVILLE'S TALK YOU CAN TRUST



Members of the Norwood Baptist Church stand with Commissioner Michele Carringer following the church's 100th Anniversary recognition at the Knox County Commission meeting last week. The church celebrates 100 years on June 9th with special services and events. Photo by Mike Steely.

Dream vacation turns into a nightmare

This vacation was going to be a good one. Amy and I had looked forward to another trip to Isle of Palms, South Carolina, our favorite vacation destination. We'd even upgraded our accommodations and were staying in a place in Wild Dunes. We left early on Saturday morning to beat the traffic that zooms up and down I-40. Before long, we were on I-26 and looking forward to a week of fun.

Our condo was beautiful. It offered views of the ocean from the living room and the bedroom. Below us was a pool large enough to keep folks from being crowded. A stretch of beach almost 100 hundred yards wide separated us from the ocean. Reaching its edge, we discovered few other vacationers, another plus of staying at that location.

The weather was perfect. The highs reached only into the middle 80's, and on a couple of nights, the temperatures dipped into the 50's. No brutal heat ran us back inside, and the constant breezes kept us comfortable.

Our plan was to eat at three or four seafood restaurants and to stroll the streets of Charleston. We discovered a water taxi that ferried us from Mt. Pleasant to the shore of the city, and we were only a couple of blocks from

the most famous sites.

We struggled to find the pier from which the taxi left, and my insistence to cut across a construction site was ill-advised. Amy's footing slipped, and she fell on her bottom. Her arm and shin were scraped, bloody, and sore, and we both knew her hip would be covered with black and blue places. Still, my dear wife carried on to make sure the day was a good one.

That day, the third of the week, included a five-hour walk in the old city. We returned home that evening and decided to eat sandwiches instead of dragging our weary bodies out for dinner. Both of us agreed that this vacation was one of the best we'd ever taken, and we were excited about the four days that were left.

At 4:00 a.m. the next morning, our vacation turned sour, along with Amy's stomach. She felt lousy for a couple of hours before the real pain and nausea set in. We abandoned the beach for a trip to the hospital. Before long, the ER doctor came in and announced that my sweet wife was suffering from acute appendicitis. She received pain medication and was admitted to the hospital. The surgeon came in to tell her that removal of her appendix would be delayed for 5

days until the type of blood thinner she took was out of her system. Antibiotics and pain medication would be administered, and her new diet would consist of liquids only.

We stayed at the hospital until Friday. By then, Amy was no longer in pain nor was she nauseated. We talked with the doctor and told him that we were going home. He agreed that it would be okay. I packed the car and returned to pick up Amy. The six-hour trip was extended by a couple of hours because of traffic-blocking wrecks.

Amy and I arrived at the Park West ER at 11:30 p.m. The surgeon there announced that removing a bad appendix was not an elective surgery and that he would perform the procedure the next morning at 8:00 a.m. By Saturday afternoon, Amy was sore but on the mend.

Our dream vacation turned into a nightmare. We left the beach, ocean, seafood, and Charleston behind for another time. Now, we wait for our part of the bills from two hospitals and two doctors. Vacations will be experienced in our dreams for a while.

The adage that "Man plans, and God smiles" might fit this situation. Before we go on vacation again, I might have my appendix removed, even if it's not bad. That's because it might be, "better to be safe than sorry."

Possibilities Open as Sam E. Hill Students Receive First Library Cards

Cont. from page 1
and communications for a family activity. The initiative, having partnered with Knox County Schools, was declared quite an accomplishment as Nelda Hill, KCPL's assistant director for public services, explained, "We made 6,863 cards in five days, 22 people worked, for four or more hours a day." Mary Pom Claiborne, director of marketing, development,

reading yet to get a library card. They can be any age and go to any Knox County library to receive one. For more information about the library's summer reading programs, the mayor's initiative, or the seventeen community schools, visit Readusa.com, great-schoolspartnership.com, and knoxlib.org.

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Louis Rabaut of Michigan

Pages from the Past



By Ray Hill
rayhill865@gmail.com

There were several Congressional districts across the country largely populated by immigrants. There were districts in New York City with a heavy Italian population, while similar districts in Illinois and Michigan were inhabited by Polish citizens. Across the Midwest there were states where German-Americans were an important constituency. Most of the Congressional districts heavily populated by immigrants and the children of immigrants belonged to labor unions. They were an integral part of the local work force and were extraordinarily patriotic. Indeed, it was Congressman Louis C. Rabaut who was responsible for inserting the phrase "under God" in the Pledge of Allegiance. Rabaut was also the sponsor of the "Pray for Peace" postage cancellation, which, I believe, is still used today.

An eloquent speaker, when the debate about adding the language "under God" to the Pledge of Allegiance was being held on the floor of the House, Congressman Louis Rabaut told his colleagues, "You may argue from dawn to dusk about differing political, economic and social systems, but the fundamental issue which the unbridgeable gap between America and Communist Russia is a belief in Almighty God. From the root of atheism stems the evil weed of communism and its branches of materialism and political dictatorship. Unless we are willing to affirm our belief in the existence of God and his creator-creature relation to man, we drop man himself to the significance of a grain of sand and open the floodgates to tyranny and oppression."

With the onset of the Great Depression, many citizens who were the product of immigration or the children of immigrants were hit especially hard by the faltering economy. Like millions of other Americans, they were drawn to the candidacy and Democratic Party of Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

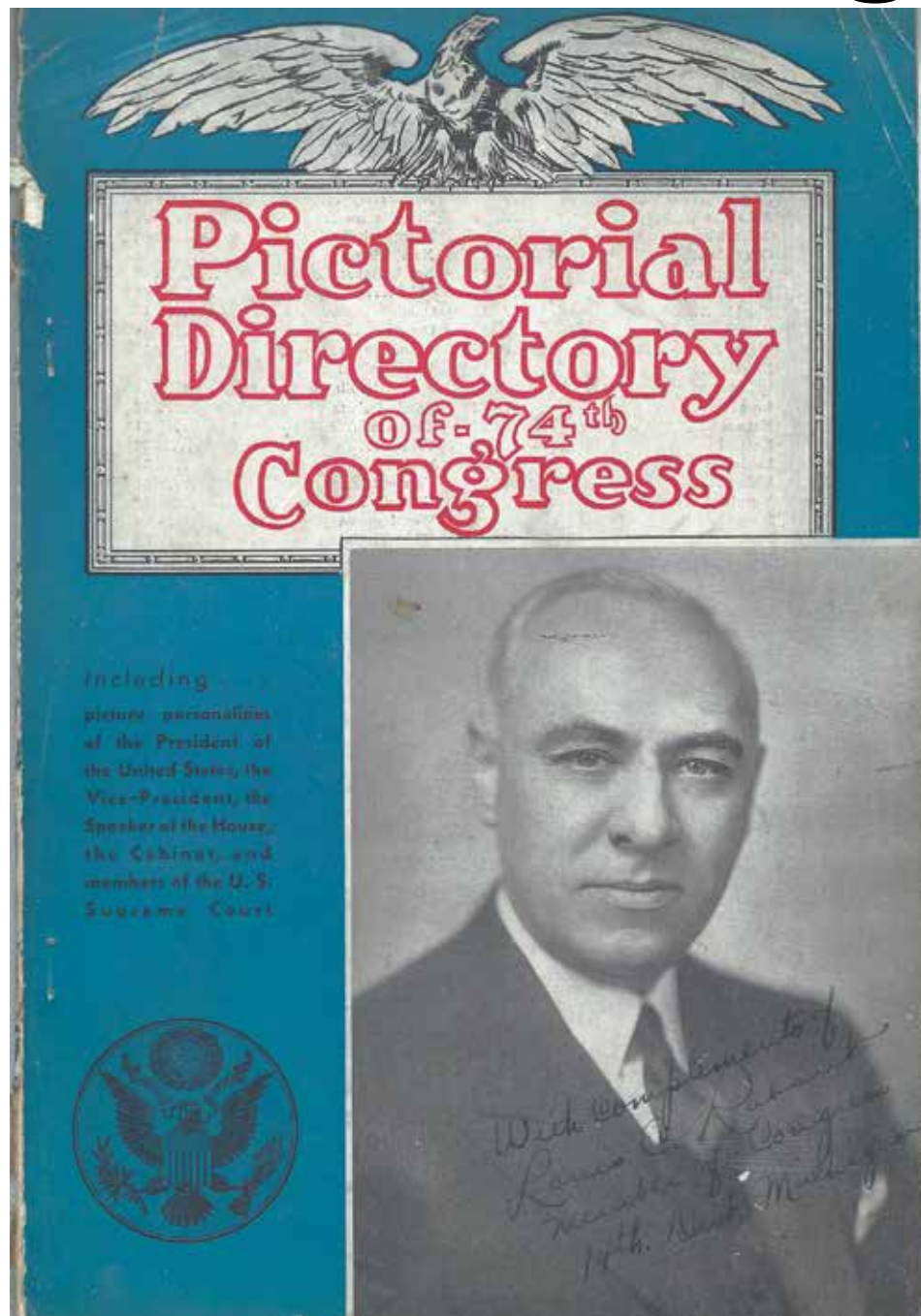
Louis Charles Rabaut was himself the son of immigrants, who had come to the United States from Flanders. Rabaut ran for Congress the first time in 1932, facing Carl Weideman in the Democratic primary along with at least five other candidates. Weideman and Rabaut fought for the nomination inside a district in Michigan's Wayne County, running from the east side of Detroit toward Hamtramck. Weideman won a comfortable, albeit a distinct plurality of the vote with just over a third of the vote inside the Democratic primary. Rabaut ran a somewhat distant second,

polling slightly more than 23% of the vote. Weideman went on to win the general election against incumbent Congressman Robert H. Clancy, an enterprising politician who had first been elected to the U. S. House of Representatives in 1922 as a Democrat. Clancy lost his reelection bid in 1924 to Republican John B. Sosnowski. Evidently not one to give up easily, Clancy switched parties in 1926 and managed to defeat Congressman Sosnowski in the 1926 GOP primary. In the 1926, 1928, and 1930 elections, Robert H. Clancy faced the same opponents in the primary and general elections; beating John Sosnowski in the Republican primary and William Donnelly in the general election. Sosnowski was not a quitter either and ran for Congress an astonishing twelve times, although he only won the 1924 general election.

Congressman Clancy's district had been slightly altered due to redistricting following the 1930 election and the Democratic tide, as it did with so many GOP congressional candidates and incumbents, doomed his candidacy, although he won a very respectable 47% of the vote in what was a dreadful year for Republicans. The Fourteenth Congressional District was, according to the Detroit Free Press "as varied as one can find in Michigan", which "took in the eastern portion of Detroit from Field and the river up Van Dyke to Eight Mile and east to the city limits" and also included the Grosse Pointes.

Carl Weideman went to Washington, D. C. to take part in the first Hundred Days of FDR's New Deal. Congressman Weideman's support for President Roosevelt did not prevent him from being challenged once again inside his primary in 1934. Evidently Weideman did not suit everyone inside his district as the Detroit Free Press recorded the congressman was "particularly a thorn in the flesh of the organization Democrats." Rabaut was a colorful lawyer, a Catholic with nine children, four of whom joined religious orders. One son became a priest, while three daughters became nuns. The Free Press thought Louis Rabaut made the most of a "good singing voice and an affinity for God." A staunch Catholic, Rabaut was horrified in the 1950s when a birth control proposal was being considered by Congress. "My views are known," Rabaut barked. "I'm dead against it. It would create a bad example to a lot of little towns."

The fight between Rabaut and Weideman, according to the Detroit Free Press was especially hard fought with "no



Autographed picture of Michigan Congressman Louis Rabaut from the cover of the Pictorial Directory of the 74th Congress.

quarter asked" by either side in "the stand-up-and-fight battle" between the opponents. The primary election was a photo finish, with Rabaut winning by 471 votes. Not surprisingly, the primary election was close enough that Congressman Weideman demanded a recount, which confirmed Rabaut as the winner. The general election was easier with Rabaut polling over 62% of the vote against Republican John McPherson. Louis Rabaut became a fixture inside Michigan's 14th Congressional district and would remain in the U. S. House of Representatives until his death in 1961 with but one two-year interval.

Like his predecessor in Congress, Louis Rabaut had a habit of bucking the party leadership when it suited him. The Detroit Free Press readily acknowledged Rabaut "frequently displayed an independence in Congress which at times must have annoyed Democratic leaders in Congress." Yet the Free Press believed it was Rabaut's political independence that helped him with the folks back home, although the newspaper thought the key to the longtime congressman's success with the voters was due to his personality and demeanor. The Detroit Free Press described Louis Rabaut as "a warm, friendly man who possessed the common touch", which the newspaper was convinced was "the chief ingredient of his political success."

Not a shy man, Louis Rabaut apparently had a fine singing voice and was a soloist in the House of Representatives in 1946 for a service to commemorate those members of Congress who had recently died in office. Rabaut was accompanied by his daughter, Joan Marie. That same year, Rabaut's son Vincent and

daughter-in-law made him a grandfather for the first time.

Providing excellent constituent service to the people of his congressional district, Louis Rabaut was routinely reelected with large majorities until 1946. The Democrats had enjoyed majorities in both houses of Congress since Franklin Roosevelt's election in 1932; by 1946 Roosevelt was dead, World War II over and soldiers were returning home to their families. Harry S. Truman had succeeded FDR and the scarcity of some products and the economy irritated many voters. 1946 proved to be a banner year for Republicans, who swept Democrats out of both the House of Representatives and the United States Senate. Republicans picked up 11 seats in the Senate and 55 seats in the House. One of the Democratic districts lost in the 1946 election was that held by Louis C. Rabaut. Congressman Rabaut was stunned to lose to plumbing contractor Harold F. Youngblood. The Detroit Free Press summarized the new GOP congressman as "a rough diamond type who works hard, follows the party line in Congress, and preaches small-business man's doctrine."

There was little doubt in anyone's mind the sixty-two-year-old Louis Rabaut would run again in 1948 to reclaim his seat in Congress. Rabaut was certainly acting very much like a candidate, serving as the principal speaker at the Annunciation church in the heart of his former Congressional district to honor a popular priest who had died and dedicated his life to helping homeless children. Mrs. Rabaut was certainly doing her part for her husband, hosting a tea at their five-bedroom home for the Peter and Paul unit of the local Jesuit

Seminary.

Running again in a presidential election year (albeit one which Harry Truman was expected to lose to New York Governor Thomas E. Dewey), Louis C. Rabaut handily defeated Congressman Harold F. Youngblood, winning by almost 57% of the votes tallied. Youngblood proved to be a determined candidate and ran again for Congress in 1950, 1952 and 1956. Evidently many Republicans inside the Fourteenth Congressional District did not believe Harold Youngblood would be the strongest candidate they could field in a general election, as he lost the GOP primaries in 1950 and 1952. Finally in 1956 Harold F. Youngblood barely managed to scrape past his nearest competitor inside the Republican primary to win a rematch with Congressman Louis C. Rabaut. Unfortunately for Youngblood, despite the highly popular President Dwight D. Eisenhower running at the top of the ticket, he fared little better against the deeply entrenched Rabaut than he had in his losing 1948 reelection campaign. Eventually, apparently having tired of Michigan's frequently brutal winters, Harold Youngblood retired to the warmer clime of Arizona and he ran for Congress inside the GOP primary in 1962, only to lose badly.

By 1959, Louis Rabaut was ailing. The Congressman was taken to Bethesda Naval Hospital after becoming ill in his office. Doctors diagnosed Rabaut as suffering from cerebral ischemia, a spasm in the small blood vessel in the brain. Rabaut's stay in the hospital varied, depending upon which news outlet one believed, but it seems reasonably certain the Congressman was out of his office for several weeks. According

to one source, Rabaut returned to Capitol Hill after only two weeks, but the Detroit Free Press reported Congressman Rabaut needed seven weeks to recover from his illness. As with every aging incumbent, Rabaut's office attempted to minimize the episode. A spokesman for Rabaut was quick to say the Congressman was "in wonderful physical shape" and there was no reason to believe there would be any recurrence of his ailment. The spokesman added there was certainly not any permanent damage to the Congressman's brain.

The seventy-three-year-old Louis Rabaut was easily reelected in 1960, winning roughly 63% of the vote against Republican challenger Lois V. Nair and several other candidates in the general election. Death finally found Congressman Rabaut while he was doing what he loved best: meeting and greeting people. On Sunday, November 12, 1961, Congressman Louis Rabaut was attending a testimonial dinner honoring Thaddeus M. Machrowicz, who had just been appointed to serve as a federal judge. Machrowicz had been a congressman from Detroit before being appointed to serve on the federal bench. More than 1,000 people had gathered in the Knights of Columbus Hall in Hamtramck, Michigan to fete the former congressman. As Rabaut started toward the podium to make his speech, he collapsed from a massive heart attack. Dr. Raymond Suwinski jumped up and tried to revive the stricken congressman while paramedics rushed to the location. Although Dr. Suwinski later said Rabaut's breathing was restored when oxygen was administered, the Congressman was pronounced dead at 10:40 p.m. when he arrived at St. Francis Hospital in Hamtramck. Doctors at the hospital had made every effort to save the life of the seventy-four-year-old congressman, massaging his heart and giving him oxygen for an hour and fifteen minutes before sadly concluding it was to no avail.

Although a lawyer by trade, Louis Rabaut had worked in real estate for some years before winning election to Congress. A rough and tumble campaigner, who enjoyed people, Rabaut represented, according to the Detroit Free Press, "a weird hodgepodge of the rich, the well-to-do and the poor of the 14th District." While Rabaut had been largely invulnerable at the polls, there was to be no political dynasty in his family, although his son and namesake Louis, Jr. tried. The younger Rabaut had lost a campaign for the Michigan State Senate precisely because voters were wary he was attempting to position himself to succeed his father in Congress. Louis, Jr. ran in the 1962 special election to replace his father and lost the Democratic nomination.

Knoxville City Council candidates speak out on Recode

By Mike Steely
steelym@knoxfocus.com

Knoxville's current administration and the current city council has been wrestling with Recode, a total revamp of zoning regulations, and that effort may end up being passed to a new mayor and city council as four of the nine seats will change this year.

The Focus asked the candidates for that office their feelings about Recode. The five candidates for At Large Seat C responded and their replies appeared in a previous Knoxville Focus story.

Only two candidates face each other in the primary and will go on to again face one another in the general election. Their answers to the Recode questions are varied and informative.

What is your opinion of Recode?

At-Large Seat A candidate Charles F. Lomax Jr.

I am the only candidate running for City Council that has hands on experience with, and a voting record on Recode. I served on the Knoxville-Knox County Planning Commission, formerly known as the Metropolitan Planning Commission (MPC), for seven years and sending Recode to City Council was one of my final votes prior to my departure. In essence, I love the idea of Recode. Our city's

zoning ordinance is extremely antiquated and in need of overhaul. It was designed for a time that has long gone by, and is not adequate for what we need now.

Over the three-year span that Recode has been in motion, there were multiple avenues for public input and conversation. Many citizens took advantage of that and Recode is the better for it. The fear I have of Recode is that it potentially offers blanket solutions for individualized problems. Every sector of our city is unique, and sometimes should be considered in isolation. Additionally, there are fears of increased displacement and a lack of density in certain areas. Once these issues are addressed and resolved, I believe Recode will be of great benefit for our city for years to come.

At-Large Seat A candidate Lynne Fugate

I do agree that our zoning needs to be reviewed and changes made where needed. I also agree that the rezoning of commercial properties to allow for mixed use along Broadway, Chapman Highway, Kingston Pike, and Magnolia Avenue needs to be passed to help increase housing options. Increasing our housing stock should help with affordability. However, as I talk to neighborhood groups

across the city, I know that not all neighborhoods are happy with the proposed changes. Knoxville needs to have a variety of neighborhood types and choices and I support a code that allows for that. The latest draft of the code as written now does not really allow for that so I believe there should be some more work done.

At-Large Seat B candidate David Hayes

Residents and neighborhood organizations deserve a say in how the property in their community is zoned. While highly ambitious, recode has been characterized by insufficient community engagement and oversight, as well as an insufficient analysis and understanding of the long term effects of recode on Black, Brown, and working class residents.

Knoxville is in need of a plan to strategically deal the coming growth, but more residents must be at the table to ensure our city zoning ordinances reflect equity and sustainability.

At-Large Seat B candidate Janet Testerman

Our present zoning code is outdated and in need of major revision. We must encourage quality development while protecting the character of our

neighborhoods. I've met with neighborhood groups across the city and have listened to very divisive views on the issue of Recode. I believe, as with any living, breathing document, there will never be a proposal that will support the views and feelings of 100% of the city's constituency. However, I feel the current city council is taking the time to think thoughtfully and methodically through every line item of the proposal and taking into consideration all of the feedback and recommendations they have received from stakeholders across the city. As with any monumental change, there are always pluses and minuses, and Recode will be a long-term fluid effort that will be revisited as exceptions and situations arise that could not have possibly been knowingly considered.

I trust that the current council and incoming council will continue to review, listen and recognize that modifications will likely be a part of the process and be open to molding Recode to the needs of Knoxville as the evolution of our city takes place.

District 5 candidate Charles Al-Bawi

I would like to see the Recode process have more input from our neighborhoods. We need to give those most affected by the zoning changes more say into the Recode effort. Also, I

think there is a balance that has to be struck on all zoning issues: the expectations of personal property rights against our neighbors' expectations of privacy.

The best way to achieve the proper balance is by ensuring that every neighborhood has a fair and equal opportunity to participate in the process.

District 5 candidate Charles Thomas

As of this writing, the process is still on going and incorporating public input. The current draft has two things in particular that I feel benefits my district, and would like to see kept.

One provision "down zones" areas of Oakwood and Lincoln Park, which presently allows apartment complexes in the heart of these neighborhoods, and would instead allow only single family residences and duplexes, similar to our current R1-A category, and more consistent with the "down zoning" that occurred in large parts of Inskip several years ago.

The second would allow more "mixed-use" on Broadway and major corridors throughout the city, which would allow for increased density and residential use in areas where public transit, infrastructure, access to grocery stores and retail, and more employment opportunities are already available.

City reduces speed limit on stretch of Chapman Highway

Continued from page 1

and pedestrian crossing facilities (completed in 2015 at a cost of \$1 million);

- Completed sidewalk construction on Young High Pike, including pedestrian facility improvements at the intersection with Chapman Highway (completed 2017; \$260,000);

- Under construction: The reconfiguration of the Chapman Highway intersection with Blount Avenue, improving safety for all users. This is part of the Blount Avenue Streetscapes Project that includes \$300,000 for signal improvements at this intersection;

- Currently in the right-of-way acquisition and utility coordination phase: Signalization improvement for the entire Chapman corridor (project cost estimated at \$2 million);

- Collaborating with the Tennessee Department of Transportation to improve bicycle/pedestrian

infrastructure on Chapman Highway by creating 3,200 feet of greenway between Stone Road and Woodlawn Pike and 525 feet of sidewalk from Woodlawn Pike to the existing sidewalk near Young High Pike. The project will also create pedestrian crossings at three intersections with Chapman Highway (Stone Road, Fronda Lane and Woodlawn Pike) and improve four Knoxville Area Transit bus stops. The state grant is \$950,000 and the City is providing \$858,000 in local funds (total project cost, \$1.8 million); and

- Completed a concept plan for bike and pedestrian improvements from Henley Bridge to Lippencott Street.

Meanwhile, the Knoxville Police Department is conducting enhanced enforcement along Chapman Highway. Officers are focusing on citing motorists who speed, do not

wear seat belts or are distracted.

In April, more than 130 people attended a community workshop on the Chapman Highway Implementation Plan, held at South-Doyle Middle School. This was the latest in a series of workshops and a survey involving the people who regularly drive Chapman Highway to help prioritize among roughly 50 proposed Chapman Highway safety improvements. Better intersection alignments and adding dedicated turn lanes or landscaped medians are among the proposed safety upgrades.

The Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization and the City will forward a final report this summer to the Tennessee Department of Transportation for its consideration. TDOT has committed \$45 million to improvements along the Chapman Highway corridor from the Henley Bridge to Seymour.

Commissioner Dailey proposes better way to study South Knox roads

Continued from page 1

conclusion, saying the larger study funding can be leveraged against the consultant fee.

"Short answer, yes we think we can get the price down for the primary roads in South Knox. TPO is slated to vote in October so we can work on the scope during this lag time," Snowden wrote to Dailey.

"A grant for a Walkability Ride Study was approved by the commission and will include a section of South Knoxville. The first meeting for South Knoxville will be June 12 at 5:30 at the Bonny Kate Elementary School," Dailey said.

"By using the information from TPO, Parks Mobility, Alcoa Highway, Chapman Highway and the Governor John Sevier Corridor studies will save taxpayer money. During the lag time the Engineering Department can define the scope of the work for the primary roads in South Knoxville," Dailey said.

"Hard to believe this smaller study would cost \$148,000," he said, adding, "when we can use the \$400,000 study to save tax payers over \$100,000."

"It was a premature resolution that should have waited for the Mobility Study in October," Dailey said.

HISTORY peeking at YOU

All around Knoxville the city's history is winking at you although you may not have noticed. Here and there on some of the older buildings, if you look closely enough, you can see the past appearing as faded or painted-over business names or advertisements on the brick walls.

Our readers are invited to send photos of historic building signs, unique advertising signs and signs that have been repainted and restored. Photos and information should be sent to steelym@knoxfocus.com and the submitter will be credited with the photo.

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Indian Cave near Blaine was once a thriving tourist attraction. With the death of the latest overseer the historic cave has been closed. The sign remains, however, on Magnolia Avenue near Chilhowee Park. The cave is mentioned by early settlers and explorers and the skeleton of a Native American was discovered there many years ago. (Photo by Mike Steely)

This old Coca Cola sign is almost hidden by the law firm building on Gay Street. Many cola signs, for Coke, Pepsi, Mountain Dew and Royal Crown appear here and there throughout East Tennessee, often painted over or fading in the sun and weather. (Photo by Mike Steely)



LEADING THE WAY! STUDENT-ATHLETES OF THE YEAR

Hurst goes about his business, stays 'humble and hungry'

By Steve Williams

Ty Hurst has been in the spotlight for different reasons as a basketball player at Carter High. But what his head coach, Spencer Beaty, sees and admires in him the most has been his ability to stay "humble and hungry."

A 6-2 shooting guard for the Hornets as a junior, Hurst averaged close to 17 points per game as he earned All-District 3-AA and All-Region 2-AA honors.

Ty has also attracted attention from reportedly having alopecia universalis (AU), a condition

characterized by the complete loss of hair on the scalp and body. It is an advanced form of alopecia areata, a condition that causes round patches of hair loss.

Over the years, Ty has managed to handle some of the ribbing and teasing he has received from having this condition.

Hurst is Carter's male Student-Athlete of the Year for 2018-19 and Coach Beaty says he is "an ideal candidate" to receive the award.

"Yes, he seems to receive a lot of attention on the court, but it is not stats

and awards that he has received throughout his career that makes him the right choice," said Beaty via email. "His integrity, character, relentless work ethic, leadership and willingness to put others first is what makes Ty an exemplary student-athlete that makes Carter High School and the Carter community proud to call him one of ours."

"Ty has received numerous honors from All-District team to All-Region Tournament team, along with KIL Honors and 5Star Preps. Through all the recognition, Ty maintains to stay humble and hungry, continuing to

improve every day, and more importantly, taking care of his academics."

Hannah Branam, a junior softball infielder and utility player, is Carter's female Student-Athlete of the Year.

Branam earned All-District 3-AA and All-Region 2-AA honors and was named the district's Defensive Player of the Year at first base.

"Hannah is first and foremost a great teammate that makes everyone else better," said Assistant Principal Jeff Browning.

Branam also could hit. Her batting average was .455, with 34 runs batted



Ty Hurst was an "ideal candidate" for Carter's male Student-Athlete of the Year. Carter's Hannah Branam was a team player for Lady Hornets.



in and 33 runs scored through 35 games. She also had two home runs.

In a district tourney play-in game, Branam had six

RBI to lead a 17-4 win over Gatlinburg-Pittman. The Lady Hornets went on to finish second in the district.



Ben Hurst earned 30 college hours before graduating from Career Magnet Academy and wants to come back next season to help with the CMA bowling team. Savannah Price maintained a 4.0 GPA in addition to being on the bowling team at Career Magnet Academy.

Jackson and Sherrill are 'Mr. and Miss Lion' at CCS

By Steve Williams

Sidney Sherrill, who earned a full ride Division 1 scholarship to East Tennessee State University in volleyball this fall, is Concord Christian School's female Student-Athlete of the Year for 2018-19.

Also given the "Miss Lion" distinction at CCS, Sherrill compiled a 4.3 grade point average, noted Athletic Director Bruce Johnson.

As a senior, Sidney was named All-District for the fourth time in her prep volleyball career.

Sherrill also was involved with Mission of Hope, taught Sunday School, National Honor Society and other charity works, including toy delivery at Christmas and food drives, according to Johnson.

Concord Christian's male Student-Athlete of the Year is Troy Jackson, a senior baseball player.

"He was named Mr. Lion for his role in keeping baseball alive at CCS," pointed out Johnson.

Jackson was a five-year letter winner and captain of the team for four years.

Troy had a 3.9 GPA, was in the National Honor Society, and a Graduate with Honors.



Sidney Sherrill and Troy Jackson are Concord Christian School's Student-Athletes of the year for 2018-19.

Hurst and Price are CMA's first Student-Athlete honorees

By Steve Williams

Career Magnet Academy, the newest TSSAA member in Knox County, had athletics for the first time in the 2018-19 school year, offering cross country and bowling. This coming fall, golf will be added to the list.

Ben Hurst and Savannah Price consequently were the first ever to be named Student-Athletes of the Year at CMA, according to Rocky Riley, the school's athletic director. Both were bowlers and excellent

students.

Hurst graduated on May 15 with 30 college hours, said Ann Orpurt of the CMA Guidance office.

"He will finish his degree at Pellissippi and continue to bowl in various local leagues," said Orpurt via email.

Price is a rising junior.

"She maintained a 4.0 GPA while taking high school classes as well as two college classes," added Orpurt. "She is very active in the school's theater

Cont. on page 2



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SPRING FLING XXVI

Tennessee Spring Sports Championships

BOYS TENNIS

Gryphons, Spartans claim tennis titles

By Ken Lay

MURFREESBORO --- L&N STEM Academy's boys tennis teams made a little history Wednesday, May 22 at the Adams Tennis Complex at Old Fort Park.

The Gryphons notched a 4-0 over Signal Mountain to claim the Division I Small Schools State Championship.

It was the first championship in the program's history.

The Gryphons clinched the title after singles competition.

Walker Lee defeated Grant Gilbert 6-2, 6-1. David Rogers picked a win when he downed Ryan Griggs 6-1, 6-1. Campbell Maben and Kieran Maben also notched victories Wednesday for the Gryphons, who advanced to the championship match with a 4-0 win over Trinity Christian in

the semifinals on Tuesday.

Evan Carr, Lee, Kieran Maben and Campbell Maben all won their matches Tuesday.

Webb Claims third consecutive team title: Webb School of Knoxville claimed its third straight Division II-A State Title with a 4-2 victory over Cedar Bluff Area Rival Christian Academy of Knoxville.

The Spartans (13-5) took an early 3-0 lead in the match thanks to singles wins by Harrison Williams, Ben Aikens and Austin Rhea.

Williams downed Cole McDaniel 6-2, 6-0 at No. 2 Singles. Aikens defeated James Webster 6-2, 6-0 at No. 4. At No. 5, Rhea downed Austin Dunn 6-3, 6-1.

The Warriors (10-5) notched victories at No. 1 and No. 3 Singles as Reed Bristow beat Ohm

Sharma in three sets 6-7, 6-3, 6-3 and Davis Brady downed Webb eighth grader Wilder Dewhirst 2-6, 6-3, 6-1.

The Spartans clinched the championship when Dewhirst and Sharma defeated McDaniel and Webster in doubles.

For the Spartans, it was a third consecutive title and eight in 10 years and Spartans' coach Jimmy Pitkanen gave all the credit to the players.

"It's all about the kids and I've been extremely blessed," said Pitkanen, who has coached both of the school's tennis programs for more than two decades.

Webb reached the title match by defeating Notre Dame 4-0 on Tuesday, May 21. Williams, Aikens, Dewhirst and Rhea all won singles matches for the

Spartans.

CAK notched a 4-2 victory over St. George's in the semifinals as McDaniel, Brady and Dunn won in singles.

McDaniel and Webster teamed to win a doubles match and send the Warriors to the championship match.

In Division I Small Schools Singles: Carr claimed the title when he downed Trinity Christian's Ben Sidwell 2-6, 6-4, 7-5 on Friday, May 24.

In Division I Small School Doubles: The Gryphons nabbed another championship when Lee and Campbell Maben won the title Friday.

In Division II-AA Doubles: Williams and Aikens (Webb) downed Bristow and Brady 6-2, 6-0 to win another championship for the

Spartans.

In Division II-A Singles: Bristow (CAK) qualified for the tournament but was eliminated in the quarterfinals. Sharma (Webb) reached the semifinals.

In Division 1 Large School Singles: Catholic High School's Davis Clem, a sophomore, knocked off Station Camp's Carter Ramthun before falling to eventual State Champion Donovan Janicek (Brentwood) in the semifinals.

In Division I Large School Doubles: West High's tandem of Stefan Steiger and Oliver Bonovich lost to Tennessee High's Hagan Oakley and David Beiger in the quarterfinals. Tennessee's duo would go on to win the championship.

GIRLS TENNIS

Lady Spartans claim 10th team tennis title

By Ken Lay

MURFREESBORO --- Jimmy Pitkanen feels extremely blessed to coach tennis at Webb School.

And he was good reason. Pitkanen's Spartans and Lady Spartans lift the Midstate with team titles while two of Webb's girls doubles teams reached the state championship match. The Spartans brought a doubles title and junior Audrey Yoon captured a singles state championship when she downed Silverdale's Addison Horton 6-2, 6-1 early Friday May 24 at the Adams Tennis Complex at Old Fort Park.

At first glance, this appeared to be another typical trip to Spring Fling for Webb.

But it wasn't and it never is. The Lady Spartans won their 10th consecutive state team

championship. The boys have won eight state team championships over the last decade.

"I have a great group of kids. They pull for each other and I'm just extremely blessed to be coaching here," Pitkanen said after watching Yoon win her first-ever state championship and seeing Webb's doubles tandem of Caroline Ross and Carina Dagotto defeat teammates Lili Roth and Delaney Bone 6-0, 6-0. "They all work hard and they're all friends."

And that's what made watching the doubles championship so difficult and Pitkanen has been in that position many times before with both the boys and the girls.

"I'm not going to say anything except that it's great because we win it. But it's bad because we

also lose it."

Dagotto agreed with her high school coach.

"It was great that we won a state championship, but it was bad because we had to beat them," she said. "They're great players and we're all great friends and that makes this really hard."

The match was the last for Ross, who will attend Clemson University but not play tennis for the Lady Tigers.

"I've cried all week down here because I knew that this would be my last match in this uniform," Ross said. "I've played here for five years, since I was in the eighth grade."

Yoon said that she bonded with her teammates while the Spartans and Lady Spartans were in Murfreesboro last week.

"I just enjoyed getting to play with my friends," she said. "Winning this is amazing but we also really bonded."

That's what makes things special for Pitkanen.

"These kids really pull for each other," he said. "Every team is different and every team is special. Every year is like a new beginning and all of these teams have been gifts from God."

The Lady Spartans won their latest team title Wednesday, May 22 when they beat St. George's 4-0.

Roth, Dagotto, Yoon and Ross all had wins in that match as well as in the semifinals against Christian Academy of Knoxville in a 4-0 victory.

In Division I Small Singles: L&N STEM Academy sophomore

Maddie Maben made the tournament but lost to M. Middle College's Britney Combest, who would win the state championship.

In Division I Small Doubles: The Lady Gryphons had a team reach the semifinals. Abbey Lee and Ansley Parker lost to Summer-town's Alexis Perry and Haley Caperton, who would eventually be crowned state champions.

In Division I Large Singles: Catholic's Keileen Cullen qualified but was eliminated by Hendersonville's Lucy Sims in the quarterfinals.

In Division I Large Doubles: The Lady Irish's duo of Sara Allen and Vivian Schroeder lost to Brentwood's tandem Alex Torre and Georgia Fischer, who would go on to be crowned champions.

Hurst and Price are CMA's first Student-Athlete honorees

Cont. from page 1

program as well." Jamie Pennell, bowling coach at Career Magnet Academy, said Hurst was the captain of the boys' bowling team and ranked No. 13 in Region 2. He had an average of 161 and a high score of 217, she noted.

Hurst was awarded the

Careacter Star Athlete of the Year Award for boys' bowling and recognized as a John Mauer scholar by the Optimist Club of Knoxville.

"Ben has volunteered to return next year to help high school bowlers on the lanes," said Pennell.

Price also was ranked No. 13 in Region 2, had

an average of 114 and a high score of 156. She was awarded the Careacter Star Athlete of the Year honor for girls' bowling and received the MVP bowling award from CMA.

"We are excited about everything she will bring to the lanes next year," added Pennell.

Coaches name all-District 3-AAA Team

By Ken Lay

Karns High School recently completed a historic soccer season. The 2019 campaign saw the Beavers win 14 games and claim the District 3-AAA Tournament Championship and make a trip to the Class AAA State Tournament in Murfreesboro for the first time in school history.

So it's no surprise that members of the Beavers claimed of the league's postseason honors from the district's coaches.

Edson Castro was named the league's Most Valuable Player and Matthew Brummett shared Defender of the Year Honors with Halls

High's Reed Taylor after the Red Devils had a successful season.

Halls had Attacker of the Year in Andy lachetta and Goalkeeper of the Year in Hayden Crittenden. Crittenden also won the award as a junior in 2018.

The Beavers (14-4-3) who dropped a 5-0 decision to eventual runner-up (and previous two-time defending state champion) Station Camp in the quarterfinals, had five additional players named to the all-district team including: Francisco Martinez, Carlos Andres, Cole Johnson, Trevor Grussing, Sergio Matta-Rangel and Michael Delgado. Grussing punched Karns High's ticket

Continued on page 4



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Career Magnet Academy - Ben Hurst
Central - Dillon Bunch
Halls - Brett Durfee
Hardin Valley Academy - Aiden Corum
Knoxville Catholic - Pete Bunch
L&N Stem Academy - Stefan Norris
Seymour - Chandler Mullins
South-Doyle - Farrell Scott
The King's Academy - Matthew Mikels

Webb School - Kyle Fletcher

GIRLS BOWLING
(Honorees for 2018-19 Season)
Bearden - Kena Homes
Career Magnet Academy - Savannah Price
Central - Alyssa Montgomery
Halls - Bridget Glann
Hardin Valley Academy - Cori Planker
Knoxville Catholic - Sibeal McGrath
L&N Stem Academy - Destiny Large
Seymour - Kara Wyatt
South-Doyle - Ava Mosadegh
The King's Academy - Lona Rhodes
Webb School - Sophie Gregor

Longtime coach shares basketball with area's youth

By Ken Lay

Catholic High School boys basketball coach Mike Hutchens always looks forward to the first week of summer vacation.

And it's not because he's taking a break --- quite the contrary.

It may be his busiest work week outside of the high school hoops season.

Hutchens, his assistant coaches and a few of his Irish players take the time to teach the game to Knoxville's younger basketball players at the Catholic High School Youth Basketball Camp.

The three-day event opened its doors Tuesday to area youth players. Each day has two sessions with elementary school student athletes coming in the morning.

The camp staff, including Hutchens, then took a break for lunch before returning to the gym where they share the game with middle school players.

As if that weren't enough, Hutchens and his staff hold late-afternoon tryouts for the 2019-20 Irish boys basketball team.

"This is my one of my favorite times of the year because these are our future Irish," said Hutchens, who was greeted by approximately 50 campers at Thursday's morning session. "We teach the fundamentals of the game and



PHOTO BY KEN LAY.

Catholic High School boys basketball coach Mike Hutchens teaches defense at last week's Catholic High School Youth Basketball Camp. Hutchens has run the summer camp for three decades.

we want to make sure that our younger players are having fun.

"We want their early memories of basketball to be a fun and pleasant experience."

That seems to be working as Hutchens has built one of the area's top programs in his three-plus decades at the helm at Catholic.

"We've got about 50 young kids out here today and I'm pleased," Hutchens

said. "This is year 31 for me [as the Irish's coach] and this is the 30th year of the camp.

"I got hired late in the summer, so we didn't have one my first year. I've had kids who came to this camp from the time they were seven years old and then come and play for me. We had 50 kids for the first week of vacation and that's great. I always have my camp early because we

have one gym and other teams have camps. Our girls [basketball team] have one and then wrestling has one."

One such player was Catholic High graduate Luke Smith. Smith was a top KIL player during his high school days with the Irish. He went on to star at Sewanee. He has now transferred to Belmont University.



PHOTO BY KEN LAY.

Grace Christian Academy football coach Rusty Bradley oversees an agility drill at the school's football camp Wednesday morning. The Rams' third-year coach will host another camp later this month.

Hot weather doesn't zap spirits at GCA football camp

By Ken Lay

The morning was hot and the turnout was a bit small Wednesday but that dampen spirits at a Grace Christian Academy youth football camp.

The youth camp was the first of two that the Rams and coach Rusty Bradley will host this summer.

"This is a fun time for me and it's a fun time for us to teach fundamentals and the basics of football to our youth," Bradley said. "Most of these kids are already in school here and I wanted to take this time to get to know them and for them to get to know me.

"This is a fun time because it gives me a chance to teach the game."

The second camp will be June 18 at the Disney Family Sports Complex and Bradley said it will take place at night.

"The camp on June 17-18

will be a big one and the sessions will be evening sessions," he said. "We have 85 kids signed up for that one and it should be a lot of fun.

"We're still looking for kids. We want as many kids there as we can get."

At Wednesday's session, Bradley was joined by some of his assistants including his father, Mark, who worked with offensive and defensive linemen.

Quarterbacks coach Charlie High, Rusty Bradley and others worked with

skill players including quarterbacks, running backs and receivers.

Rusty Bradley, who coached High and other standout quarterbacks at Christian Academy of Knoxville before spending a year at University School of Jackson, will soon begin his third season as head coach of the Rams.

Anyone interested in attending the two-day camp later this month can e-mail Bradley at rusty.bradley@gcarams.org.

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Vine's Heyward takes boys' assistant post at Fulton

By Steve Williams

Jerel Heyward is moving into the high school basketball coaching ranks.

After three strong seasons as head coach at Vine Middle School, Heyward will become Fulton High's boys assistant coach, replacing Jonathan Cox, who left FHS to take the head job at First Baptist Academy in Powell.

Heyward said it was a "tough decision" to make.

"Vine Middle School is a very special place. The fans and parents care about the success of the basketball program. I was lucky enough to have the most supportive administration. The support I've received over the years has really made a tremendous impact on my life."

Heyward's Golden Bears were 68-7 over the last three seasons, winning the Knox County tournament championship in 2017 and the Knox County regular season league title in 2019.

Vine also was the 2018 Knox County league runner-up. In 2019, Heyward's Bears also were Knox County tourney runners-up and Sectional runners-up in Knox County's first season of competing in the Tennessee Middle School Athletic Association.

Vine also captured county junior varsity tournament championships in 2016, 2017 and 2019 and was runner-up in 2018.

"The program is in a good place," said Heyward. "It's filled with talented student-athletes that have a lot of experience. My quest to become a high school head coach led me to make my decision. I'm hoping to learn as much as I can from Coach Wright. I have a tremendous amount of respect for what he's done at Fulton."

"We share some of the same principles about team defense and player development. It's exciting to think of what the future may hold."

Jody Wright, Fulton's longtime and highly successful head coach, said: "We are excited to have him join our Fulton family. Coach Heyward has an excellent reputation as a basketball coach and has done an outstanding job at Vine. We are looking forward to him bringing his strong skill set to our basketball program."

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LEADING THE WAY! STUDENT-ATHLETES OF THE YEAR

CAK's Brock made her point before state tournament

By Steve Williams

A stomach virus unfortunately limited Claire Brock's playing time in the TSSAA Division II-A state girls' basketball tournament in March, but Claire had shown what she could do on the court throughout the season and particularly in a sectional win over University School of Jackson.

Christian Academy of Knoxville's 5-8 senior point guard, the school's selection for female Student-Athlete of the Year, scored 31 points in the 62-59 overtime win over USJ, which propelled the Lady Warriors to their second-ever state tourney appearance. Her performance included two clutch free throws with 20 seconds to go that gave CAK a 3-point lead.

USJ Coach Tony Shutes was impressed with Brock and after the game said: "She's a tough player. From the scouting report, we knew we had to try to make her work and we did. She's just a good player. But they had other players to step up."

With Brock ailing, teammates helped pick up the slack and CAK took runner-up honors at state. When Claire wasn't playing, she was supporting her team from the bench.

Brock was a member of the CAK team for five years and finished with over 1,500 points - second most in school history. She averaged 19 points her senior year.

She was named the Co-MVP of District 1, MVP



Claire Brock, CAK's female Student-Athlete of the Year, drew praise from University School of Jackson Coach Tony Shutes after her 31-point performance against his team.

of the East Region All-Tournament team, a 5Star Preps first team selection and a PrepXtra Player of the Year finalist.

"Claire is a natural born leader in so many facets of life," said Abby Williams, CAK Assistant Athletic Director and Head Girls Basketball Coach. "She leads through her character, her attitude, her actions and her spirituality. Her desire to work hard and be successful was instrumental in this season's success. Emory University is lucky to be receiving such a strong willed student-athlete."

Emory is located in Atlanta and is a NCAA Division III member.

Multi-sport athlete Luke Simpson is CAK's male Student-Athlete of the Year.

In football, Simpson was a "first team" selection as a wide receiver on The Knoxville Focus / Coaches' 2018 All-Knox County team, a four-year letterman and a two-year captain.

"Over the three years that I

coached Luke, I watched him grow to become a better athlete, a better

leader, and most importantly, a better Christian young man," said CAK

Head Football Coach Travis Mozingo.

"Luke has a level of dedication that is rare in team sports nowadays. I'm eager to see him flourish in the Carson-Newman University football program, as I am certain that his growth will continue into a future of influence in our community."

Simpson also was a defensive back on the football team, as well as the punter the last eight games of the season.

He also was a lacrosse player and a captain in that sport, too, said Mozingo.



CAK honoree Luke Simpson was a captain in both football and lacrosse.

Head Football Coach Travis Mozingo.

"Luke has a level of dedication that is rare in team sports nowadays. I'm eager to see him flourish in the Carson-Newman University football program, as I am certain that his growth will continue into a future of influence in our community."

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Help a Teacher Smile

By Mike Steely
steelym@knoxfocus.com

The Knoxville Dream Center hopes to supply at least 300 teachers and staff with packets of school supplies for the new school year and you can help. Pastor John Unthank and his crew are also planning to supply every Title-One School with a washer and dryer.

Sometimes, Unthank explains, children have accidents and parents may need a place to do laundry. Unthank is Title-One School Coordinator for the Knoxville Dream Center.

"Some schools that we serve don't even have a PTA to help with supplies," Pastor Unthank said. Often teachers have to spend up to \$500 out of their own pockets.

The KDC is asking for monetary donations to help purchase supplies for the teachers. It takes about \$40 to fill a bag. The deadline for monetary donations is July 23rd but don't wait to contribute. Checks should be made out to the Knoxville Dream Center or made

online at www.knoxvilledreamcenter.org and click on "Invest in KDC." Select "Make a Teacher Smile" to designate your donation.

The KDC can hold donated items If you choose to donate items to fill a bag your retail cost is about \$70 so a monetary contribution is much less. Items needed for the upcoming school year include 10 packs of 24 Crayola Crayons, 3 of the 10 pack #2 Ticonderoga Pencils, 5 of the 5 pack of Expo Markets in multicolor, 2 boxes of Kleenex Tissue boxes, 2 boxes of Clorox Wipes (10 oz.) and 1 twelve pack of Elmer's Glue Sticks. Donations can be dropped off at the KDC warehouse at 1444 Breda Drive, Knoxville, TN, 37918.

The KDC and Lost Sheep Ministry also collect and distribute clothing and medical supplies to the homeless in our community.

For more information you can call Rev. John Unthank at (865) 688-9636 or email him at pastorjohn@knoxvilledreamcenter.org.

Coaches name all-District 3-AAA Team

Continued from page 2

to the Spring Fling when he scored the lone goal in a 1-0 victory over Science Hill in a state sectional match in Johnson City last month.

The Red Devils had three additional

all-district standouts. Bryson Landing, Clayton Campbell and Hayden Sobas were all honored by the league's coaches.

Powell's Carson Sneed was the other area player named to the team.

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<p>Big Value T-Bone or Porterhouse Steaks Family Pack \$3.99 Lb.</p>	<p>Boston Butt Pork Steaks Jumbo Pack \$1.79 Lb.</p>	<p>Boneless Chicken Breasts Jumbo Pack \$1.79 Lb.</p>
<p>California Red Cherries \$1.99 Lb.</p>	<p>Sweet & Juicy Georgia Peaches 99¢ Lb.</p>	<p>Bi-Color Tray Pack Corn 5 Ct. \$1.99</p>
<p>Low Prices On Great Items!</p>		
<p>Ready To Serve Gluten Free Turkey Bacon 12 Oz. \$1.79</p>	<p>Ready To Cook Chicken Tenders 10 Lb. \$4.99</p> <p>Corn Dogs 10 lb. \$9.99</p>	<p>Name Brand Laundry Detergent 134 Oz., 5 Varieties \$5.99</p> <p>Spring Fresh Fabric Softener 120 Oz. \$2.99</p>
<p>EXTREME 2/\$1 DEALS! Over 25 items priced at 2/\$1.00 store wide</p>		
<p>Good For You Protein Ice Cream 16 Oz., 3 Rich Flavors 2/\$1</p>	<p>Instant Mashed Potatoes 4 Oz., 3 Flavors 2/\$1</p>	<p>Marshmallow Creme 7 Oz. 2/\$1</p>
<p>MORE GREAT 2/\$1 DEALS!</p>		
<p>FROZEN ITEMS</p>		
<p>MEAL OF THE WEEK!</p>		
<p>20g Protein Pasta 12 Oz. \$1.00</p>	<p>Pasta Sauce Mix 1.37 Oz. 3/\$1</p>	<p>Spaghetti or Elbow Pasta 16 Oz. 69¢</p>
<p>Crescent Rolls 2 Pk., 16 Oz. \$1.79</p>	<p>Spaghetti Sauce 23.5-24 Oz Assorted \$1.79</p>	<p>All Natural Grass Fed Ground Beef 1 lb. \$3.99</p>

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The Doctor is in

a weekly column by
Dr. Jim Ferguson

Memorials

My stories always find me, eventually. However, this week's inspiration surprised me. I don't mean to be disrespectful of our military, but this Memorial Day essay has a slightly different focus. I just hope everyone used the holiday weekend to remember those who made and make our freedom possible.

For many years my homage to our military heroes was to watch the WWII drama Saving Private Ryan and remember that "Freedom is not free." This quote comes from a friend's military father and is carved into the stone of the Korean War Memorial in Washington DC. All the memorials to our military heroes stir my soul, but for me the Korean Memorial is most evocative. Washington is a beautiful city. If it were not occupied by denizens of the swamp I would visit there more often.

In more recent years, my focus on Memorial Day has been to shake the hands of veterans or use email to thank them for their service. I have often lamented that I never served in the military. When I graduated from high school in 1969 we were at the end of the Vietnam War era and fewer troops were needed. I was in the military lottery and drew a high enough number that I was not needed and was able to continue my college education. I never burned my draft card or marched in protests and certainly never disrespected our country, the flag or a veteran of any stripe.

This week's essay comes in a roundabout fashion because school is out and that's when grandparents, who are on perpetual active duty, are deployed to care for and entertain "cute-ones." Our Knoxville

contingent is a seven and four year old who has far more energy than a 68-year-old seasoned citizen.

Our original thought was to go to Dollywood, but they have been there with their parents, and the prospect of roller coasters which take you upside down and jerk you to and fro was not high on my list. But we also knew that a hike in the mountains and a picnic would not be well received by our young charges. The solution? A morning riding on a ski lift up to the new Gatlinburg Sky Bridge, and after lunch, in the heat of the day, an afternoon at Ripley's air-conditioned Aquarium.

Gatlinburg is eye candy for a seven and four-year-old, and to get there you pass through Pigeon Forge, a town like no other in our area. Seeing Pigeon Forge through the eyes of my grandchildren and walking the streets of Gatlinburg is very entertaining. Actually, I think the "People of Walmart" have all gone to Sevier County to partake of the many entertainment venues. My favorite vision was in Gatlinburg where I observed a woman drive her mobility scooter into the Earthquake simulator. I asked myself, what could possibly go wrong?

As we drive out of Knoxville, instead of counting buses or trucks in the usual road game, we counted American flags. However, by the time we got to Pigeon Forge we stopped at 100 and just appreciated seeing Old Glory festooned on innumerable establishments.

We used to have a small cabin near Pigeon Forge, but we sold the place because of the traffic and crowds and moved to Townsend's "peaceful side of the mountain." The cuties liked Pigeon Forge's eye candy replete with King Kong hanging onto the side of a "skyscraper" and another building turned upside down. We drove on instead of playing miniature golf on a course which featured flying pigs on a merry-go-round turning high above.

Mount LeConte rises impressively above Pigeon Forge. I've always been struck by the analogy of comparable elevation change and distance between Pigeon Forge and LeConte, and Jerusalem and Jericho. By rough calculation, LeConte is perhaps fourteen miles from Pigeon Forge and is 5000 feet above the Parkway. By comparison, Jerusalem is fourteen miles and 3000 feet above Jericho. You get

some sense of what it was like to traverse that ancient road as depicted in Luke's Gospel and the story of the Good Samaritan.

Since Becky and I are locals and prefer the more peaceful side of the mountain, we don't often visit Gatlinburg. However, by my memory it hasn't changed much in five decades. Perhaps the town's effort to eschew go-kart racing venues is paying off. After all, there are plenty of these in Pigeon Forge. I don't have much of a sweet tooth, so the ubiquitous candy stores don't do a lot for me. But all of us love Krispy Kreme donuts. Gatlinburg doesn't have a Krispy Kreme shop, but it has funnel cakes! And if it weren't so hot and I wasn't shepherding cute-ones, I'd be content to sit on a bench with a funnel cake and watch people.

However, if I had parked my keister under a tree I would have missed the memorial above Gatlinburg. Most of us remember the horrible fires in 2016 which caused severe damage to Gatlinburg with considerable loss of life and damage to the surrounding forest. I'm happy to report that the city and the forest are recovering and thriving.

Years ago Becky and I

went to Yellowstone National Park about a year after the terrible fires there. Predictions were that Yellowstone would never recover. But again, the experts were proved wrong. A decade later we returned to Yellowstone and found it better than it ever was. Though the Gatlinburg fire was not a natural phenomenon, fire is nonetheless nature's way of clearing detritus and ultimately promotes regrowth just as a phoenix rises from the flames and ashes.

I do my part on Memorial Day honoring our military heroes, but too often I forget our first responders, police and firefighters. Post Memorial Day this year, I honor those other heroes who fought the Gatlinburg fires and rescued folks in 2016.

The Sky Bridge is a fun venue with a breathtaking view of the Smokies, Gatlinburg and a somewhat unnerving clear walkway suspended several hundred feet above the ground. But for me the tattered and rescued flag now preserved at the summit is an inspiring metaphor for our country. We need such beacons of hope.

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



Rosie's World

Seven ups guaranteed to lift up your day

1. Wake up! Decide to have a good day.

Today is the day the Lord hath made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it. Psalms 118:24

2. Dress up! The best way to dress up is to put on a smile. A smile is an inexpensive way to improve your looks.

The Lord does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart. 1 Samuel 16:7

3. Shut up! Say nice things and learn to listen. God gave us two ears and one mouth so He must have meant for us

to do twice as much listening as talking. He who guards his lips guards his soul. Proverbs 13:3

Gossip betrays confidence. Avoid men who talk too much. Proverbs 20:19 Listen to advice, accept instruction and in the end, you will be wise.

4. Stand up! For what you believe in. Stand for something or you will fall for anything. Let us not be weary in doing good, for at the proper time, we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Galatians 6:9- 10

5. Look up!...To the Lord. I can do

everything through Christ who strengthens me. Philippians 4:13

6. Reach up! For something high. Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not unto your heart and lean not into your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him and He will direct your path. Proverbs 3:5-8

7. Lift up! Your prayers. Do not worry about anything, instead, pray about everything. Philippians 4:8

Nice endeavors to live by. Let me also leave a positive thought.

If God had a refrigerator, your picture would be on it. If He had wallet, your photo would be in it. He sends you flowers every spring, and a sunrise every morning. Whenever you want to talk, He'll listen. He could live anywhere in the universe and He chose your heart. What about the Christmas gift He sent you in Bethlehem? Not to mention that Friday at Calvary. Face it! He's crazy about you!

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

Opioids and older adults

Thursday, June 13
 2:30 p.m.
 O'Connor Senior Center
 611 Winona St.

More information about the program is available at knoxseniors.org.

Come to VBS

Come learn about forgiveness with the Bert brothers!

Emory Valley Missionary Baptist Church at 6124 E Emory Rd, Knoxville, TN 37918

June 2nd, 6-8 p.m.

& June 3rd - June 6th, 7-9 p.m.

Commencement Celebration Friday, June 7 at 7 p.m.!

All ages welcome, no registration required

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