

Sheriff, mayor and commission condemn hate speech

By Mike Steely
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Knox County Sheriff Tom Spangler spoke last week before the Knox County Commission's Work Session and strongly condemned the remarks made by one of the department's officers against gay citizens. He took the podium as the first speaker and said the comments made by Detective Grayson Fritts "are not reflective of our people."

Spangler said that after he watched the video of a sermon

delivered by Fritts, who is also a preacher, he removed the deputy from answering calls because of the "hateful rhetoric."

"I certainly do not condone anyone calling for the execution of a person or group of people for any reason," Spangler said.

"I want to reassure our citizens they have nothing to fear from our officers or the Knox County Sheriff's Office."

Following his remarks the sheriff was given a standing

ovation by the commission members and the audience.

Later in the meeting a resolution condemning such remarks, including Fritts' sermon calling for the arrest, trial and execution of gays by the government, was passed along to the commission's meeting today.

Mayor Glenn Jacobs read the end of the resolution before the commission and also condemned the words of the sermon.



Sheriff Tom Spangler denounced hate speech at the Knox County Commission's Work Session last week, saying the remarks of a department detective, who is also a preacher, "are not reflective of our people." His words drew a standing ovation. Photo by Mike Steely.

Tiersha Adkins assists students as they mold planets from clay for a scale model of the solar system at last week's Fountain City STEAM Camp at Central High School. Adkins is a teacher in the county's Gifted and Talented Program. Photo by Ken Lay.



Students study outer space at Central Science Camp

By Ken Lay

In June, the halls at Central High School are normally quiet. No slamming of lockers and no rushing to class to beat the tardy bell.

And things were relatively calm Wednesday morning unless you made a visit to the school's science wing.

There, students were participating in

Fountain City's second annual Science, Technology, Engineering, Architecture and Mathematics camp.

This year's theme was outer space as students spent the week studying the solar system in both theory and practice.

The five-day event culminated Friday with students displaying a scale model of the solar system at Dan Y. Boring

Stadium.

Some students made the planets out of clay. Others designed survival colonies for Mars and still others did experiments with weighted backpacks to simulate various gravitational forces on the different planets.

The summer of 2019 marked the

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Questions continue on cuts to indigent care funding

By Mike Steely
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A reduction in funds to the Knox County Health Department was tentatively approved in a work session of the Knox County Commission. The cut in funding may come back up today in the commission's regular monthly meeting.

Although Mayor Glenn Jacobs' proposal is larger than the current county budget, it cuts funding to the health department's indigent care program that is handled by Cherokee Health. Health Department Director Dr. Martha Buchanan has said that Jacobs wanted even larger cuts but that her health partners said they couldn't live with the bigger funding cuts. She went back to Mayor Jacobs who increased the funding somewhat in his budget.

The funding reduction passed during the work session after Commissioner Brad Anders asked if the policy of qualifying for indigent care has been expanded from the 30-day county-residential requirement. Dr. Buchanan answered that it has not because the commission, in making the request, gave her no specific recommendations.

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Bearden's Everly Brothers Park dedicated

By Ronnie Collins

The City of Knoxville dedicated a new park last week to the Everly Brothers who once lived in Knoxville and attended West High School.

The Everly Brothers Park is located at the corner of Kingston Pike and Forest Park in the Bearden area.

"The Everly Brothers were not famous when they lived in a boarding house off Scenic Drive less than a mile from this park," according to City Councilman Andrew Roberto.

"They didn't have fans all over the world when they were students at

West High School. What they did have was a dream, a vision for where their determination and talents could take them," said Roberto.

The Knoxville park is the only park dedicated to the Everly Brothers in the United States and was not an overnight happening.

The idea for a pocket park and Christmas tree in the center of Bearden began in 2010 according to former Councilman Duane Grieve. Many meetings were held with TDOT and the City "to acquire the use of the land." The idea to dedicate the park



Councilman Andrew Roberto speaks at his district's newest park dedication last Monday. Photo by Ronnie Collins.

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Low barrier shelter, Behavioral Urgent Care Center funded by city

By Mike Steely
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The City of Knoxville is putting \$245,000 into creating a "low barrier" shelter for homeless people. The funding was approved Tuesday during a council meeting and goes to help renovate the former Salvation Army store beneath the I-40 bridge.

Working with the Volunteer Ministry Center and the Salvation Army the city is funding the initial physical renovation. VMC and the Salvation Army will be responsible for the project and the maintenance and operations of the shelter at 409 North Broadway.

"Low Barrier" means that homeless people will be sheltered there overnight. The renovation includes bathrooms and showers there to serve the homeless population and the portable toilets in the area will be removed.

Dr. Bruce Spangler, CEO of the Volunteer Ministry Center, told the council that the "build out" will take about 6 to 8 weeks. He said that people will not be permitted to use drugs or drink in the shelter but will not be tested in order to secure lodging. He said that couples, who are not permitted to be together in other shelters, will be permitted to

remain together there.

"This is more than just an emergency shelter, it is highly focused. Everybody who participates in the program has to be referred by a street outreach worker," Spangler said. He said those homeless within the shelter will be assisted by a housing case manager to find housing.

The former thrift store is beside the large day area created by the city for homeless to use as an open shelter and for camping there. The former camp was cleared out by the city and the day-use space created with places to sit, eat and socialize.

Initially the proposal for the low barrier shelter included 48 beds, a staff, and a secure place for homeless who were not permitted to seek shelter in other nearby overnight shelters. Spangler said the idea is to help meet the needs of the hard to reach homeless.

Councilman George Wallace noted that the city is the contributor to the initial operation and that the two non-profit agencies will be responsible to raise money to fund the operation.

The council also voted to give \$575,000 to Helen Ross McNabb Center for its effort to keep the Behavioral Health

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What is Guardian ad Litem?

A term that you may or may not have heard of is the legal term, "guardian ad litem." Often times, the term gets shortened to, "GAL." What does this term mean? A guardian ad litem is a person who is appointed by the court to investigate and inform the court of what the best interests of the child would be.

So, in what kind of cases would a guardian ad litem be present? Well, obviously, the case would need to involve a child. The most common type of case where there is a guardian ad litem are cases where the Department of Children Services ("DCS") is investigating allegations that children are not being properly cared for. When this occurs, the court obviously wants to find out information about the parents. The guardian ad litem is the person tasked with doing that. They visit



By Jedidiah McKeehan
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the home where the children are/were living, speak to the children about their relationships with their caregivers, ascertain whether the children's needs are being met, and most importantly determine if the children are being abused or neglected in any way.

The guardian ad litem is not someone from the general public, but an attorney. When DCS is involved in a case, the guardian ad litem is compensated by the state (meaning your and I's tax dollars) for the time they spend working on cases, performing their investigation, and participating in court proceedings. If there is a hearing, the guardian ad litem will participate in the hearing just like a regular attorney by asking questions of witnesses and giving an opening and closing argument. However, judges often rely on the guardian ad litem's recommendation

in making their decision because the guardian ad litem does not represent an adult attempting to get custody of a child, but they are there to advocate for what is in the child's best interests.

In some divorce and custody cases, if there is a concern about a child being safe with one parent or another, a court may appoint a guardian ad litem. However, in those types of cases, the court will order that one of the parents of the children be ordered to pay the guardian ad litem's fees associated with their work on the case.

Jedidiah McKeehan is an attorney practicing in Knoxville 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.

Central Science Camp

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second occasion that Central hosted a science camp. In 2018, the camp focused on general science according to CHS assistant principal Debbie Sayers, who began the camp with the assistant of former principal Mike Reynolds, who recently retired from the Knox County School System.

Sayers is no stranger to summer STEM and STEAM Camps. She collaborated on Knox County's first one at Hardin Valley Academy with the recently retired George Ashe, who served as the principal of the school's Science, Technology,

Engineering and Mathematics School since it opened over a decade ago.

The Hardin Valley camp remains today and Reynolds approached Sayers about a similar undertaking in North Knoxville.

"Mr. Reynolds came to me and expressed interest in starting an academic camp on this side of town," Sayers said. "I started the one with George out at Hardin Valley and we had a satellite camp at Farragut."

With that, Sayers solicited the help of several teachers throughout the school district, including her daughter, who is an elementary school teacher, Central High science teacher Tracy Pace and Tiersha Adkins, who teaches in the county's Gifted and Talented Program.

Sayers also enlisted help of Central High School students to serve as camp counselors, many of whom returned this year after working the inaugural camp in 2018.

"The teachers are all volunteering and we had some students come in and work as camp counselors and they all learned. They all liked working with the kids," Sayers said. "Our repeat counselors said they enjoyed it and they learned, so they wanted to come back."

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Publisher's Position

Will Recode Turn Knoxville Blue Through Social Engineering?



By Steve Hunley,
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You may be tired of hearing about Recode from The Focus, but the more the people of Knoxville hear and read about it, the better off we'll all be. One can call Recode just about anything but good. Victor Ashe, Knoxville's longest serving mayor, has labeled Recode a massive rezoning ordinance that will affect more than 70,000 parcels of property inside the City of Knoxville. I agree with former mayor Ashe, but what I would also like to point out it is, at the heart of it, Recode is a terrible marriage of rezoning and social planning. That

union proposes to socially engineer Knoxville into driving less; citizens would be expected to take public transportation, bicycle or walk to destinations as if Knoxville had suddenly become New York City or San Francisco. The core of this proposal aims to increase Knoxville's population by some 170,000 residents in a relatively short period of time. According to statistics from 2017, there are 187,347 people living inside the City of Knoxville, so the Recode proposal is looking to quite nearly double the present number of citizens. Last week, you read how Recode, intentionally or unintentionally, will likely drive up the cost to homeowners through insurance repairs when they are needed. The bottom line is it appears homeowners will pay more due to the requirements imposed by Recode that the insurance companies won't pay out of their own coffers. The very heart of Recode is POPULATION DENSITY. What that means is by nearly doubling the

population of Knoxville, there will be more public housing, more building up, rather than out. Ponder for a moment, if you will, how your neighborhood will change with five homes on an acre lot instead of one, or even two. A huge influx of new residents in a relatively short period of time will change everything about Knoxville, Tennessee. It will change transportation, the ability of those who still hope to drive having longer drive times, increase taxes, as well as crime and will surely affect the quality of life as Knoxville now know it. What the present administration anticipates is that it will change the political configuration of both Knoxville and Knox County. You can bet these folks aren't thinking a horde of retiring Republicans or even political Independents will settle in an ultra-urban Knoxville. The goal seems to be to turn Knoxville completely blue. If you think that means Knoxville will become some sort of utopia at the foothills of the Smoky Mountains, think again. Look at

the problems facing cities that are so blue it looks like melted midnight. The homeless problem in Seattle and Los Angeles, both governed by partisan leftist Democrats, is so acute it is rapidly becoming a crisis where people are living in cars in neighborhoods and relieving themselves on neighborhood sidewalks at will. Parks are no longer playgrounds, but refuges for the homeless who aren't trying to better themselves. Crime has skyrocketed. Used needles litter the streets of subdivisions. Despite increasing expenditures by local governments and higher and higher taxes, the problems are getting worse instead of better. Only one candidate for mayor of Knoxville in the coming election—Eddie Mannis—has forthrightly announced his opposition to Recode in its current form. Marshall Stair, an incumbent city councilman, has TWICE voted to eliminate the provision requiring the City of Knoxville to give property owners notice when local government is

trifling with an owners' property rights. To be fair, Stair wasn't alone in casting a vote that boggles the mind and stabs the notion of transparency through the heart; every member of the Knoxville City Council voted to eliminate that provision of the law. Come to think of it, just where are these 170,000 new residents supposed to find jobs? The Knoxville City Council has in the past few years been anti-business, seeming to think there is an endless pit of money to spend without generating new tax revenue. Keep in mind when a government cannot generate new tax revenue it levies higher taxes on existing business and property owners. The bottomless pit of money is your pocketbook. Indya Kincannon, a former member of the Knox County Board of Education, knows as much about budgets as a toddler knows about rocket science. Kincannon habitually supported the overspending of former superintendent Jim McIntyre which necessitated then-Mayor Tim Burchett

and the County Commission imposing the Memorandum of Understanding requiring the Board to live within its means. Kincannon is no more averse to taxing and spending than a skunk is to stinking. Like Marshall Stair, Kincannon strongly supports Recode. Several candidates running for city council are already supporting Recode and some have voted for it as members of the Metropolitan Planning Commission. To my mind, supporting the elimination of the rights of the people is an absolute disqualification for holding any office. It is the antithesis of representative government. There are logical, responsible ways to grow a city and it sure as heck isn't through an abomination of social planning and rezoning. Deep in the darkest part of the heart of Recode, it's all about a partisan, utopian vision that is nothing more than pure politics along with social engineering.

Questions continue on cuts to indigent care funding

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Some commission members told The Focus they had voted "Yes" on the resolution so they could bring it back up in the regular meeting for discussion.

Commissioner Evelyn Gill said the commission has additional questions about the funding reductions and Commissioner John Schoonmaker asked if Buchanan has met with commissioners over the past few weeks. She said she has not except for a few phone calls.

Commissioner Larsen Jay asked Buchanan about a promise she made to do a quarterly review of the indigent care policy and the health director said she is planning an "actual meeting" with their partners in the program.

In an agenda item discussion dealing with state funds for the Behavioral Health Urgent Care Center, Finance Director Chris Caldwell explained the addition of \$101,127 in state funding is "carry over funds." He said the state is permitting the leftover funding from this year to be rolled into next year. The governor did not include any funding for the program in his budget



PHOTO BY MIKE STEELY.

The Knox County Commission and the audience gave Sheriff Tom Spangler's remarks about hate speech and the remarks of a Knox County Detective a standing ovation during the commission's work session last week.

although, under the previous state administration, \$2.6 million was allocated for two years of construction and operation of the project. The county's match to receive the carry-over funds is \$25,282. Both the city council and the county commission have upped their funding of the care center but the budget compared to last year is greatly reduced, forcing Helen Ross McNabb Center to reduce in-patient care there from 72 to 24 hours and reducing patient follow up. A separate addenda item, the actual approval of the funding of the center, was passed on to be discussed at the regular meeting today. Commissioner Randy Smith commented that

the coming year's budget for the center, from the city and county, is only \$1.4 million. He also noted that the contract calls for "off site" services outside the Urgent Care Center. "We need to make sure we're doing the best with what we have," he said of the reduced budget. Gill questioned the reduced staff at the center and asked whether the center will track the patients for three or six months. Both the reduced funding and the annual contract for the care center may be on today's commission agenda. The commission gave tentative approval of a tax break for Rick Dover's Tennessee Supreme Court project. The

former court building downtown, empty for what Dover said is about 20 years, is a \$73 million renovation that has already received a city tax break. The project, at 719 Locust Street, would include a multi-family residential complex and a hospital facility. A second and final reading of defining Public Safety Facilities, dealing with where they can be located and when a use-on-review will be required, was passed on to today's meeting without recommendation. The commission may also approve the Audit Committee's recommendation to extend the outside audit agreement with Pugh CPA.

Knox County to share costs of prisoner monitoring

By Mike Steely
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The county may be saddled with about \$80,000 to make up for a state mandate for the monitoring of released prisoners. Commissioner Carson Dailey brought up the matter recently and asked Sheriff Spangler to talk about the unexpected expense.

Spangler said the 111th General Assembly amended the Tennessee Code and placed the expense, which the state had previously funded, on counties including Knox County.

"The state used to cover it 100%," the sheriff said.

Transdermal monitoring devices and other alternative drug and alcohol monitoring devices such as ankle bracelets worn by discharged county prisoners will now have to be administered and funded through the Knox County's Sheriff's Department.

Of the state program Sheriff Spangler said, "If we opt in it is \$100 per unit, if we opt out it is \$200." He said that pre-trial prisoners on the program that can afford it pay the cost of the monitoring, but about 51 indigent individuals are currently on monitoring devices. The state requires the participating counties to recoup the cost from program participants but if the court declares a person indigent and unable to pay the county is responsible for the cost of the monitoring devices.

When asked if paying \$80,000 for the year is "cheaper than keeping them in jail," the sheriff responded that it is.

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Low barrier shelter, Behavioral Urgent Care Center funded by city

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Urgent Care Center open. The facility opened 14 months ago just off Western Avenue to great fanfare as a 72-hour recovery center for minor offenders who need mental or addiction treatment that were apprehended by city and county officers.

Former governor Bill Haslam budgeted \$2.5 million to kick off the project along with funding from the city and county. Governor Bill Lee did not include any funding for the center or other similar centers in the state. The council approved increasing the city's contribution for the next year, up from \$400,000. The county has upped its contribution as well but the center will struggle with less than half the current year's budget.

As a result the center plans to reduce the stay there to 24 hours and relegate follow ups to other agencies after patients are discharged. A staff reduction is also planned.

Mayor Madeline Rogero noted that the law has changed about how to deal with mentally ill or addicted minor legal offenders. She said that now the person can be given a citation instead of jailed. She said the city has "lost the carrot" and

doesn't have the leverage to encourage people to seek treatment at the Urgent Care Center.

"I feel kind of gob-smacked," Councilwoman Lauren Rider said of learning the state was pulling out of the project. She said that many people on medication stop taking them and medication isn't the answer without treatment. She said that minor offenders, who are homeless or destitute, lose their TennCare, prescriptions, and other social benefits when jailed.

"We're not addressing the root cause," she said.

Councilman Marshall Stair questioned the outside facilities that would be involved in the care and aftercare of Behavioral Health Urgent Care Center patients. Some may be treated at the county's Roger D. Wilson Detention Facility on Maloneyville Road on an as-needed basis according to the resolution.

The council also voted to extend the closing date on the purchase of the former Supreme Court building for 90 days to give the developer time to get Central Business Improvement District approval.

Council candidates respond to St. Mary's as Police and Fire Dept. headquarters

What is your position on purchasing the former St. Mary's Hospital (Tennova) and relocating the police and fire departments there?

Bob Thomas: I personally think the hospital could be put to better use. I am concerned that it may be too expensive to convert it for use by the city police and fire departments.

David Williams: Architects and builders I have talked to agree. You restore old buildings not to save money but save something unique. I want to see cost estimates from several sources. The community so far has been involved and the city must continue to work with them not force anything on them. I do not want a repeat of what the city did to the Pond Gap community forcing an unwanted development on them. Let's involve the young people of Knoxville. I would love to have a senior architect class at UT look into this project and get their perspective.

Hubert Smith: In the beginning, I'm on record as being opposed to the purchase of land, and selection of the Tennova site. I opposed the PILOT on Middlebrook Pike attached to the deal. Now that's in the rear view mirror, unless something is discovered during the 120 day-period of discovery. My job as city councilman will be to make it work going forward. Without question, I support KPD and KFD, Municipal Court,

and other city departments that may relocate there. I also wholeheartedly support the neighborhoods that the relocation will help and the economic benefit and safety the relocation will bring. For financial reasons, I didn't believe it was the best use of over \$40M and the \$16M PILOT attached. I still believe that a new-build to specifications would have been the best decision, even if on the same location. However, elections are about the future, and I will do everything in my power as one of nine members of council to make it successful.

Amy Midis: I am still sad that both Baptist Hospital and St. Mary's Hospital closed. Not only did they serve a similar Knoxville patient population, but the decision to purchase Baptist Hospital was a leading factor that led to the future closure of St. Mary's Hospital. As president of my neighborhood association for six years, I know the importance of having stable development along your borders. The hospital is located adjacent to the Oakwood-Lincoln Park neighborhood and like many of their residents, I was concerned that a blighted and abandoned property would negatively affect the integrity of their community. I support the relocation of the safety building to the former St. Mary's site. The city has done a wonderful job encouraging reinvestment in the south waterfront where

the Baptist Hospital facility was previously located, and I am hopeful that the same will occur with relocating the police and fire safety building. As a city council member, I will actively engage the OLP neighborhood regarding any plans for the future development on that property, seeking input and guidance regarding the needs of their neighborhood.

Amelia Parker: I am not in agreement with the city's deal to purchase the St. Mary's site for \$1 in order to move police and fire there when that deal includes a \$16 million PILOT for Tennova's new Middlebrook site that spans 15 years and in some ways co-signs their removal of a vital hospital service in North Knoxville to the now PILOT-supported Middlebrook location. I believe that there are better uses for the St. Mary's site and find it unfortunate that a public safety complex, which is not subject to zoning regulations, would be located next to a residential area. In addition, more centralized locations should have been considered by the city such as reconfiguring the current location on Hall of Fame into a mixed use

space. It is not clear whether moving or renovating the current space would be the most cost effective for the city.

From the numbers that I have heard, preparing the site at the former St. Mary's Hospital may exceed the price tag of demolishing and rebuilding the public safety complex at its current location but the city would need to present those numbers for public scrutiny and this is something the city has yet to do despite calls from the community for it to do so. Now that city council has approved the move, however, the city must implement a comprehensive plan that includes expanding public transportation to ensure easy access to the municipal court, which will also be a part of the move. Discussion of adding an urgent care facility at that location would be a welcome addition and I hope discussions with the county health director continue in this direction. It would also be ideal to see the LMU nursing program continue in that space and any other amenities identified by the community as needed in that area of town.

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SouthEast Bank opening in Fountain City

By Focus Staff

A local bank will soon open its new Fountain City location. SouthEast Bank will open its fourth Knox County location when the new branch at 4924 North Broadway opens the beginning of July. SouthEast Bank has been in the Knoxville market for more than six years and is headquartered in Farragut with other Knox County locations in Hardin Valley and Bearden. SouthEast Bank also has locations in Lenoir City, Cookeville, Chattanooga, Ooltewah, Athens, Cleveland, Dayton, Decatur and Spring City. SouthEast Bank was recently ranked number 58 in the top 200 community banks nationwide by the American Bankers Association.

SouthEast Bank President Monty Montgomery shared that the new Fountain City location was part of SouthEast's growth plan. "We are excited to open this location in Fountain City. This new location allows us to expand our market presence and complements our existing Knoxville locations."



Three of the SouthEast Bank Fountain City staff Edward Weathers, Customer Service Representative; Cynthia "Cindy" Reeves, Branch Manager; and Heather Edlin, Head Teller. Photo courtesy of SouthEast Bank

Familiar Fountain City residents helped SouthEast in choosing the location. "We're fortunate that we have Tommy Schumpert, John Mays and Leo Cooper on various boards and all have been champions for Fountain City," said Montgomery. "They have praised Fountain City's commitment to local

businesses and felt that a locally-owned bank with a strong reputation to help local companies would be an asset."

SouthEast Bank has a history of supporting education and local community. SouthEast Bank provides financial literacy education to local students at no cost to the schools

or the taxpayer through the SouthEast Bank Financial Scholars program. The SouthEast Bank Financial Scholars program offers courses that bring a variety of financial topics to life such as credit scores, insurance, credit cards, student loans, mortgages, taxes, stocks, savings, and 401(k)s and other

critical financial concepts. The program has impacted over 75 schools, including Central High School, since its beginning.

SouthEast Bank also recognizes the importance of education through its SouthEast Scholars program which has provided almost a million dollars in scholarship to

students attending college in East Tennessee. Tommy Schumpert ran the SouthEast Bank Scholars program for the bank for several years.

"I enjoyed working with SouthEast Bank to help bright young people with the cost of higher education," Schumpert said. "My hope is that they will remain in East Tennessee and become leaders in the local community in the future. By being involved in our scholarship program, I have experienced firsthand how scholarships have made it possible for many of the recipients to go to the college or university. Education is the key to have a strong community and led by outstanding leaders."

Familiar Fountain City faces will staff the location. Cynthia "Cindy" Reeves will head up the team as branch manager. Cindy has spent the last 22 years of her career in Fountain City and is a member of the Fountain City Business and Professional Association. Joining Cindy will be Edward Weathers, Heather Edlin

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Regal Tuxedo celebrates 35 years in business

Ben Dobson of Regal Tuxedo deals in "happy occasions" and now that the business is celebrating its 35th anniversary, Dobson is seeing a new generation of repeat customers. Many who rented their prom and wedding tuxedos from Regal are now bringing their sons into the store.

Dobson related one particular story that is special to him. "I remember a young man I had fitted for prom about thirty years ago who brought his son in for his prom. I had done the father's prom, his wedding, and now his son's prom. He was happy to have had that father-son experience with the same person who had helped him so many years ago. It was a very happy moment for me as well."

Regal Tuxedo opened in East Towne Mall, now Knoxville Center, in 1984 and expanded to a second location in west Knoxville in the Windsor Square center in 1990.

Dobson, a native of Greeneville, TN, and graduate of the University of Tennessee, has now been in the formal wear/tuxedo business for thirty-five years. He started in business right out of college and later purchased what was then known as Gingiss Formalwear.

Dobson's first interest in tuxedos came when he himself rented a tux for a friend's wedding. Having always been interested in fashion and clothes, he was fascinated by the whole business. He believes that dressing up is an important part of the occasion. "When someone puts on a tuxedo or a suit, it elevates them and makes them feel special."

In the tuxedo business, more so than in many other field, the customer is trusting the provider with one of the most important days of their lives. The entire experience will be affected by the quality of the product and service. Each customer brings



Ben Dobson of Regal Tuxedo

a unique story and unique expectations. As customers share stories about families, about the wedding dress, about details of their special day, a personal rapport is created that often goes beyond the regular provider-clientele relationship.

Dobson stated, "Many of our customers have become my friends. I have had the honor of being invited

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Oakwood-Lincoln Park neighbors plead with city for help

By Mike Steely
steelym@knoxfocus.com

Several neighborhood residents in Oakwood-Lincoln Park pleaded with the Knoxville City Council for help last week. They cited the May 1st industrial fire at the Fort Loudoun Recycling Center as the cause of illness and property damage and complained that the facility is doing business as usual despite a stop-work order from the city.

Michelle Ivester, vice president of the neighborhood association, said the facility is not compatible with the residential neighborhood and is in violation of the I-3 zoning regulations. She said that cardboard is piling up there

again and as many as 50 trucks are present where only 12 are allowed.

Ivester said the company is operating illegally with no consequences and that people have respiratory problems as a result of the fire and smoke, there's still a smell of smoke and ashes in homes and that two elderly residents are in the hospital as a result.

Wes Breitenbach of Chickamauga Avenue said that the recycling company has been operating without a business license since 2011, has violations from the state and city and owes \$376,000 in back taxes to the city and county.

He asked what Fort Loudoun Recycling is

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Angela

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

I sat behind her in choir practice one Wednesday night. Our brief exchange was about her upcoming wedding. Angela was home for the summer from her position at Georgetown College where she taught voice. It was a few years before when I first heard Dr. Angela Easterday sing. She was in town on a week-end visit and was the featured soloist one Sunday

morning. The late Bruce Forlines introduced her and said that when he first came to Wallace Memorial as minister of music, Angela was only five years old. Her beautifully trained, strong voice belted out the lyrics to "Were You There" as her mother accompanied her on the piano.

Our family was more acquainted with Jack and Carol Easterday, Angela's parents. Once, when we raved about Angela's

amazing voice, Jack--displaying his usual humor--told us that it cost him \$10,000 a note! We were delighted to attend the July wedding of Dr. Angela Easterday and Dr. Tim Holder at Wallace Memorial Baptist Church in 2003. Over time we cultivated a friendship with the music professor and the history professor, though at times our paths seldom crossed at all. After our mother's heart attack, a

friend shared with us that Angela had inquired about her health. We learned that was typical of Angela. Christmas cards have always been right on time from the Holders, whether I got ours mailed or not.

Several years ago on a Saturday morning, my brother and I were at Barnes & Noble for a book signing. Our very first children's picture book featuring our trademark character, "Piddle Diddle,



Picture of Jack and Carol Easterday with Angela Easterday Holder and Tim Holder on their wedding day, provided by Tim Holder

the Widdle Penguin" had just been published. It was a most unexpected surprise when the Holder and Easterday families showed up at our table!

Angela even made a picture of Carol and Jack with a "penguin" that day! Their presence and time spent visiting meant the world to us. (To be continued)

Oakwood-Lincoln Park neighbors

Cont. from page 1

allowed to do now and when is the city going to make the company clean up their property.

Heath Gaines, a neighborhood resident, said he was evacuated for two days after the fire and said he has witnessed "rodents as big as cats" run through people's yards. He also mentioned trash and noise pollution and had spoken to city officials and the fire department about the situation.

Councilman Mark Campen told the residents, "We will get with you and talk to Mr. (David) Brace to see if we can't get the answers." City operations are led by Chief Operating Officer and Deputy to the Mayor David Brace. Mayor Madeline Rogero echoed Campen's comments.

Good Eyes



By Mark Brackney,
Minister of the
Arlington Church
of Christ

My vision is horribly blurred, thus my need for glasses or contacts. The Bible talks about having healthy eyes: "The eye is

the lamp of the body. If your eyes are healthy, your whole body will be full of light. But if your eyes are unhealthy, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light within you is darkness, how great is that darkness!" (Matthew 6:22-23). Jesus words actually have nothing to do with healthy physical eyes. Jesus is saying that if his followers had a "good eye," their

lives would be brightened from within. They would be full of light. We find this happening in Acts with Jesus' first Jewish disciples (2:44-47). They knew what he meant by the kind of "eye" they should have. The believers overflowed with generosity caring for each other's needs.

"Eye" is actually used as an idiom or figure of speech in the Hebrew language to describe a person's attitude toward others. Jesus was likely comparing the idea of having a "good eye" with having a "bad eye." Having a "good eye" is to look out for the needs of others and be generous in giving to the poor. To have a "bad eye" is to be greedy and blind to the needs of those around you.

In the parable about the farmer hiring workers

throughout the day whom he pays all the same wage at the end of the day, Jesus uses the "bad eye" idiom to describe the stinginess of the hired workers. At the end of the work day, the employer paid the same wages to everyone, even if they only worked a few hours. When the workers who worked longer grumbled about this, the farmer responded, "Don't I have the right to do what I want with my own money? Or is your eye bad because I am generous?" (Matthew 20:15).

Both the "bad and good eye" expressions appear in Proverbs. "The stingy are eager to get rich and are unaware that poverty awaits them" (Proverbs 28:22). In this line, "the stingy" is literally a "bad eye." These idioms are still used by

Hebrew speakers today. If you were living in Israel, a person raising funds might knock on your door and ask that you give with a "beautiful eye".

So, having a "good" or "bad eye" comes from how Hebrew expands on the concept of "seeing," using it to describe one's attitude and response toward others. Think back to the story of Abraham when he was about to sacrifice Isaac. God provided a ram just in the nick of time. Abraham went on to name the mountain "The Lord Will Provide," which is literally, "The Lord Will See" (Genesis 22:14). Abraham was saying that when God sees our need, he will certainly respond because God has a very "good eye." As God's people, we get to have a "good eye" towards others by giving of our time,

treasures, and talents to those in need.

Having a "good or bad eye" also address an important issue. What is your primary motivation in life? Is it for your own comfort or do you look beyond yourself? Today, we mostly want to hear: "What's in it for me?" Many people love to shop and find the best deal so they can brag about it. You can feel a real sense of pride at how cheaply you can buy something at a garage sale or flea market. What we sometimes call being frugal, however, is actually stinginess. When we deny what is due others by tipping poorly or underpaying hired help, then we are selfishly saving money at the expense of others. Have a good eye!

That Good Old Music

Amy and I sat on the couch the other night and watch a program we'd saved from PBS. No, we weren't viewing the latest "Downton Abbey" program, nor were we watching another Ken Burns documentary. My wife and

I sat mesmerized as the Doobie Brothers rocked the stage. It was a good night to settle in and listen to some of that good old music.

The audience at this concert consisted of my generation. Plenty of silver-haired



By Joe Rector
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women and bald-headed men filled the seats. A smattering of young folks also managed to snatch up some tickets, much to the dismay of other old people who were too late to buy them.

I'm sure many of the television

viewers were appalled to see grandmotherly types dancing in the aisle. With their heads back and their eyes closed, they gyrated at times and swayed at others as the band played from the nearly 50-year-old repertoire. The camera

spotted one energetic granddad who danced on one leg as he balanced his cup of beer.

What Gen Xers and Millennials don't understand is that those concerts serve as drinks from the fountain of youth to us Baby Boomers. We purchase tickets and sit in arenas or halls so we can listen to the sounds of our teenaged years. The hard beat of one song might recall times when carloads of us cruised drive-in restaurants in search of the opposite sex or chased young people from other schools with which we exchanged insults or, sometimes, punches. The

slow tempo of another song might remind us of those slow dances with partners during high school or college affairs.

Years ago, when our children were young, we attended a Beach Boys concert as a family. The show began, and before long, Amy and I were on our feet and dancing as we sang lyrics to the songs we'd grown up with. Our children ducked their heads in shame and embarrassment; they didn't get the good feelings that came with hearing those songs again.

My wife and I saw Chicago when they came to Knoxville a year or so ago. The early songs

brought back memories of high school and the good friends with whom I spent so much time. One song brought back the time when I traveled to Livingston to help my brother Jim move. Chicago's newest album at the time had just been released, and we listened to the record on his stereo while loading a U-Haul truck. The group began singing its best song, "Just You and Me," and immediately my mind turned back to 1973 when Amy and I first dated. It became our song, and with each playing of it, I once again became a young man who was lucky to have married a 19-year-old beautiful girl.

These days, most of my generation live with aches and pains; some have more serious, debilitating conditions. However, when "our music" comes over the airways or pours over geriatric concert crowds, our bodies are once again young, at least in our minds. We return to the days of our invincibility with the confidence that we are immune to any ills. If you're of a younger generation, try to understand all of this and the effects of this wonderful elixir of good old music on us who carry many years. Someday, you, too, will ride the tunes and rhythms of your music to your youth.



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By Ray Hill
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Edward H. Crump, leader of the Shelby County political machine, had decided to go to Congress in 1930. The incumbent, Hubert Fisher, had not been ready to retire despite the fact he was quite nearly entirely deaf. Relations between Crump and his long-time friend Senator Kenneth McKellar were strained as the Memphis Boss navigated official Washington. McKellar was one of the more senior Democrats in the Senate and a real power in Washington, D.

C. Crump was a junior congressman without any real influence outside Shelby County. Crump was likely jealous of the prestige and power McKellar commanded in the nation's Capitol and resented the fact the senator had done little or nothing to impeach Governor Henry Horton. McKellar had been reportedly irritated by Crump's callous treatment of Hubert Fisher in unceremoniously dumping the congressman. Personal relations between the two continued to deteriorate over the next year.

Crump backed Memphis mayor Watkins Overton in a bid to be elected as a delegate-at-large to the 1932 Democratic National convention perhaps in the belief Overton's candidacy might forestall that of McKellar. If so, the Memphis Boss was disappointed as Senator McKellar publicly announced his own candidacy for a delegate-at-large seat on March 25, 1932. Crump admitted he had not been consulted prior to McKellar's announcement. Senator McKellar clearly had no intention of seeking Crump's blessing before declaring he would be a candidate. Both Crump and McKellar knew the Boss's influence was confined to Shelby County, while the senator commanded an organization that ranged from the eastern most part of the state to Memphis, which was also McKellar's home. Crump realized that in a show down with McKellar, he would likely be the loser. McKellar was extraordinarily personally popular with most Tennessee Democrats and had been effective in the U. S. Senate.

Obviously, Watkins Overton did not command the kind of allegiance and respect from Tennessee Democrats that K. D. McKellar did. The Nashville Tennessean, owned by Luke Lea, chorled McKellar's candidacy was a direct "challenge" to Crump's authority. The political reporter for the Tennessean speculated should the fight continue all the way to the ballot box, Senator McKellar could easily "double the vote cast for Mayor Watkins Overton..."

McKellar's announcement he would seek one of the delegate-at-large positions at the Democratic

National Convention was followed by a statement from Tennessee's junior U. S. senator, Cordell Hull. Senator Hull said he, too, would run for a seat as a delegate-at-large. Both McKellar and Hull, as well as every member of the Tennessee Congressional delegation, was present to discuss the need for "proper hospital facilities in Middle Tennessee" for veterans of the World War. The only congressman absent from the meeting was E. H. Crump.

Congressman Crump introduced his first bill on April 8, 1932, a year after having been sworn into the House of Representatives. Crump's bill sought \$3 million for "special public health services and studies and demonstration work in rural sanitation." Crump hastily dropped his congressional work to return to Memphis when his elderly mother was hospitalized for a major operation. The rumors of the break with Senator McKellar continued to waft all across Tennessee as Crump was reportedly considering backing a comeback bid by former governor Malcolm Patterson. Patterson, then a judge in Shelby County, had been one of the most polarizing figures in Tennessee's long political history. Patterson's pardoning of the late senator Edward W. Carmack's killers had forced him out of the governor's office. Patterson tried to get himself elected to the United States Senate and had lost to K. D. McKellar in 1915. Patterson announced he would seek the Democratic gubernatorial nomination in April of 1932 and while his announcement was greeted with silence by Crump, some believed the Memphis Boss was inclined to support his former foe. McKellar was openly supporting the candidacy of former State Treasurer Hill McAlister, once again seemingly putting the senator at odds with Crump. Congressman Crump issued a terse statement, indicating he would "say something before I leave for Washington again, which will be soon."

Patterson quickly received the support of Luke Lea and the Horton administration, making it very unlikely Ed Crump would back him. Crump quickly realized the situation would allow Senator McKellar to ally himself with machine opponents. When McKellar was selected to keynote the 1932 Tennessee Democratic convention, the Memphis Commercial Appeal, friendly to Crump, said McKellar's selection would give Crump supporters "plenty to worry about." The Commercial Appeal noted relations between Senator McKellar and Crump had gone from an attitude of "coolness" to positive "frigidity" and

stated there had been no contact between the two men since Crump went to Congress.

Crump's chief lieutenant, Frank "Roxie" Rice, not surprisingly issued an announcement in May 1932 the rift between Senator McKellar and Congressman Crump was "healing." Rice had made a visit to Washington and said, "Senator McKellar, Mr. Crump and myself had a very friendly luncheon together." The machine followed Rice's statement with a public declaration Shelby County would heartily endorse McKellar's election as a delegate-at-large to the Democratic National Convention. McKellar and Memphis mayor Watkins Overton were endorsed to serve as delegates-at-large, while Crump was selected as a delegate from Shelby County. At least on the surface, the Shelby County gathering was completely harmonious. Crump, usually a highly practical politician, realized there was nothing he could do to prevent McKellar from being named a delegate-at-large. The Memphis Boss quickly concluded feuding with the powerful senator would do nothing to improve his political situation in either Shelby County or Tennessee.

By the time of the state convention Senator McKellar was ill and Congressman Gordon Browning made the keynote speech instead. With McKellar, Cordell Hull and Crump all announced as being strongly in favor of the nomination of Franklin D. Roosevelt as the candidate of the Democratic Party, all twenty-four of Tennessee's delegates to the national convention were pledged to support the New York governor. Another sign of the improving relations between McKellar and Crump were the strong rumors the Memphis Boss was moving behind the gubernatorial candidacy of Hill McAlister, a favorite of the senator. Evidently the rumors had some validity as Malcolm Patterson, speaking in Memphis, railed against McAlister as twice the recipient of the "fraudulent negro vote of Shelby County..." Congressman Crump retorted the former governor was "trying hard to divert the public mind

from his corrupt backing by jumping on me." As former governor Malcolm Patterson celebrated his seventy-first birthday Crump joined his ally Senator McKellar and announced his support for Hill McAlister for the gubernatorial nomination.

As Crump headed off to Chicago to attend the Democratic National Convention, the Tennessean complained there were "26,000 Negroes registered to vote for the Crump machine" in Shelby County. Crump was running for reelection to Congress, although it was abundantly clear he was less interested in national issues than state and local matters. Crump also disliked being in Washington, much preferring his home on Peabody Avenue in Memphis. Unlike the bachelor Senator McKellar, who lived in hotels in Washington and Memphis, Crump enjoyed the company of his wife and sons. Nor did Crump especially enjoy being the whipping boy of the Patterson campaign. Newspapers ads all across Tennessee proclaimed "A Vote For Patterson Is A Vote Against Crump." The aging former governor enjoyed the all out support of the Horton administration and Luke Lea's Nashville Tennessean. The Tennessean heralded Patterson had drawn a "record crowd" in Bolivar, Tennessee when he spoke there. According to the Tennessean, Hugh Williams, editor of the Bolivar Bulletin, estimated some 1,800 people came to the courthouse to hear the former governor speak. Patterson charged that Crump was attempting to gain control of the state through the candidacy of Hill McAlister. Nor did Patterson ignore the local machine in Davidson County headed by Mayor Hilary Howse, which was also backing McAlister. Patterson took less notice of the third candidate competing for the gubernatorial nomination, Lewis Pope, who had served in the administration of several Tennessee governors. When Patterson spoke in Somerville, Tennessee, the Tennessean once again claimed it was before yet another "record crowd."

The Tennessean, noting Crump was denouncing

supporters of Malcolm Patterson as "gangsters and crooks", went after "Roxie" Rice, flatly saying the generalissimo of the Shelby County machine owned "block after block of property" in Memphis which was "rented almost exclusively to prostitutes, gamblers and bootleggers." "Do the police ever raid these joints?" the Tennessean wondered. "Of course not; they are protected by Crump and Rice and their controlled police and sheriff." The Tennessean then proceeded to call names, citing "Dutch Mary's joint at 214 Mulberry Street, a house of prostitution", noting the operator of the house of ill reputation also ran "a beer joint in Northeast Memphis called the Hill Top." The Tennessean complained Dutch Mary had never been arrested as "she has been Crump - Rice guaranteed protection." Another low brow enterprise singled out by the Tennessean was Peraccini's, a "policy gambling house and saloon" located at 202 South Second Street. The Tennessean claimed the Shelby County machine "taxes each policy game \$200 per month", which was collected not for graft, but campaign expenditures. Despite being operated by Italians, the Tennessean said the patrons were "mostly negroes, whom Landlord Rice votes for Crump political purity at each election." Near "a negro restaurant run by a Greek" was a pawnshop and an "alley about four feet wide." Evidently the alley way led to the "back door of the negro dice house" where visitors could gamble and enjoy whisky. Once again, Frank Rice owned the building. The Tennessean reporter noted walking beneath a banner proclaiming, "Crump for Congress - - - McAlister for governor. Run the crooks off capitol hill!"

Increasingly both Malcolm Patterson and the Tennessean raised the issue of black participation in the coming Democratic primaries. It was a theme Lewis Pope would hammer home in the general election after refusing to accept the verdict of Tennessee Democrats. The very idea that African-Americans would be allowed to vote rankled many Democrats,

especially in Middle Tennessee where the Tennessean's influence was the greatest. The complaint was extended to the Howse machine in Nashville, as blacks were also permitted to vote in Davidson County. A headline in the Tennessean two weeks before the primary trumpeted, "Crump's Negro Votes Would Destroy Democracy In State."

Congressman Crump engaged in a bitter exchange with Idaho U. S. senator William E. Borah who had charged the Shelby County machine was distributing "red Cross flour in exchange for votes." The accusation was made in spite of the fact a national employee said "there was no foundation" to Borah's accusation. The Red Cross had also quickly insisted "Crump's organization had nothing to do with this relief work." Crump immediately wired Borah demanding an apology. After not hearing from Senator Borah, Crump sent another wire stating, "Your silence in not correcting a dastardly falsehood forces one to the inevitable conclusion that you are big and mighty enough to commit a low and despicable injustice and get away with it."

"If you had an ounce of real manly courage in your makeup, you would at least try to tell the truth and acknowledge your error and I say to you in a most positive way you will do it some day."

The Memphis Boss knew he had been wounded by the charge made by Borah and acknowledged it. "You have done me an irreparable injury all over this country, and common decency on your part should have made it unnecessary to call it to your attention more than once." Irascible and contrary, the independent-minded Borah then immediately publicly refused to apologize. Crump retorted Senator Borah had most certainly done him an injustice but "just isn't big enough to admit" it. The Memphis Boss might well have had a legitimate complaint, as there was no real evidence to support Borah's charges.

The campaign would only grow more bitter.



FROM THE AUTHOR'S PERSONAL COLLECTION.

E. H. Crump of Memphis.

Following Knoxville's unsung hero, Horace Maynard

A Day Away



By Mike Steely

If you've walked in Knoxville's Old Gray Cemetery you may have noticed a concrete bench just as you enter. The elaborate bench is part of the grave of Horace Maynard, a historic figure often overlooked in our history.

Despite being the son of an abolitionist father, Maynard owned four slaves as an adult. He was an avid supporter of maintaining the Union before and during the Civil War. The Unionist served as U.S. Postmaster General and Congressman.

Maynard's life began in Massachusetts and, after Amherst College studies in 1838, he moved to Knoxville to begin his career as an educator at East Tennessee College which later became the University of Tennessee. He became principal of the prep school there and later an instructor in math and ancient languages.

While in Knoxville he also studied law and in 1844 was admitted to the bar. When Union County pulled away from Knox County, Maynard defended the Union residents. Union County is named for the union of five different pieces of adjoining counties that formed the new county in 1850. Other opinions have Union County named for its support to stay in the Union in days



leading up to the Civil War.

In appreciation of his efforts the new county named its county seat "Maynardville."

Elected to Congress first in 1861, Maynard ran successfully in 1861 as a Union Party candidate in support of Tennessee remaining in the Union as the Civil War broke out. He went about the state in an effort to get the population to vote against leaving the Union and his efforts in East Tennessee were successful but West and Middle Tennessee voted to leave and join the Confederacy.

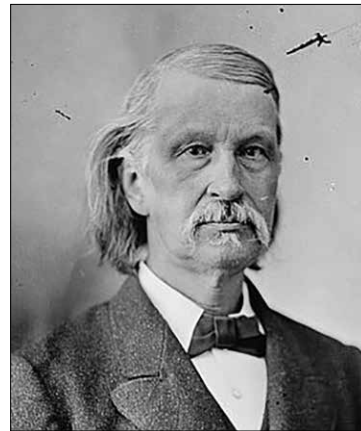
Under Andrew Johnson, who served as military governor, Maynard served as Attorney General. He returned to

Congress following the war and President Ulysses Grant appointed him ambassador to Turkey. Following that assignment he returned to the country and was appointed Postmaster General.

Maynard returned to Knoxville following that service and died here in 1882.

Maynardville owes much to its namesake. Originally known as Liberty the county chose to change the name after Maynard successfully defended the new county's formation in court. Today Horace Maynard Middle School carries his name there as well.

The county seat named for Maynard annually hosts the Union County Heritage Festival



Knoxville's Horace Maynard was a Union leader, a Congressman and diplomat, and his efforts to represent Union County led to the naming of the county seat there "Maynardville."

The bench at the Horace Maynard grave in Old Gray Cemetery is one of the most noted monuments in the historic burial ground. Maynard was an active supporter of the state staying in the Union and had a distinguished career in state and national politics.

each fall. The town also has the Union County History Museum and Genealogy Library, the historic Snodderly House and Big Ridge State Park and Norris Lake are nearby. Maynardville holds a farmer's market each Saturday during the season. There are no property taxes in Maynardville.

Maynardville is about 15 miles north of Knoxville on aptly named "Maynardville Highway" or Highway 61.

You can learn more information about Maynard and Maynardville online. Maynardville has a web site, www.maynardvilletn.com or you can call (865) 992-382. Two prominent Union County natives include Roy Acuff and Carl Smith.

SouthEast Bank opening in Fountain City

Continued from page 1

and Jena French. Eddie is the customer service representative for the branch. He lives in Fountain City, and all of his four children attend local schools. Heather Edlin is the head teller. Heather had been in banking 15 years with seven of those years in Fountain City. Jena French will assist Heather with teller duties.

SouthEast Bank offers a full suite of banking products, from checking accounts that pay CD-like rates along with high-interest savings accounts to competitive certificate of deposit rates to banking solutions for businesses. SouthEast Bank also offers personalized business services through its Treasury Management options, which allow companies to facilitate and improve routine financial processes. In addition, SouthEast Bank's mortgage department can help turn houses into homes with competitive mortgage options. The bank also offers home equity options and mortgage refinancing.

SouthEast Bank offers student loan refinancing with its Education Loan Finance division. A student loan can be overwhelming, but Education Loan Finance (www.elfi.com) provides a state-of-the-art technology experience for refinancing and consolidating student loans. ELFI customers also receive personal loan advisors to guide them through the process, and ELFI's rates are among the lowest in the industry.

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Regal Tuxedo celebrates 35 years in business

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to weddings over the years. People used to bring us pictures of their wedding and proms. Now with social media, they are tagging us on Facebook, Instagram, and texting pictures to me."

Rather than running the business from a remote location, Dobson has remained very hands-on. He enjoys keeping in touch with the customers by working in the stores. Employees, some of whom have been with him for over twenty-five years, are an important part of Regal's success. "I believe customers continue to choose us because we are committed to customer service. People are so hungry for good service and a personal touch." As the owner and operator of a local business, Dobson

feels that it is important to serve the community in any way possible and to support other local business. His stores have helped school and church productions as well as other local organizations.

Customer service is a priority, but providing top-notch merchandise at reasonable prices is a vital key to Regal's longevity. Regal maintains its uniqueness in the tuxedo business by carrying everything in stock. Dobson explained, "This provides an invaluable service to our customers. They are able to see the actual product and try it on to see how it looks on them rather than choosing from pictures online or in a catalog. Since we do not have to ship items in and out of warehouses and pay

for shipping, this helps us pass the savings along to our customers."

Both Regal locations in Knoxville provide onsite alterations, assuring that a perfect fit can be attained quickly and expertly when necessary. There have times through the years when distraught wedding parties or prom goers who have ordered online or through a shipped-in service have turned to Regal for last minute help. Dobson smiled as he observed, "It gives us great satisfaction to see the customers go away relieved and happy!"

Tuxedo and suit preferences are constantly changing and Regal keeps abreast of popular trends, making sure to carry the latest designs and colors,

and at the same time continuing to offer traditional, timeless styles.

After decades in the tuxedo business, Ben Dobson is still intrigued by the art of addressing each individual customer's desires, needs, requirements, preferences and using his skill and expertise to help orchestrate some of the most exciting, personal days in their lives. There is immense satisfaction in this process and perhaps that is another key to Regal's success in the Knoxville area. There is something very special about making a positive difference in people's lives and Dobson has been doing this for thirty-five years and counting!

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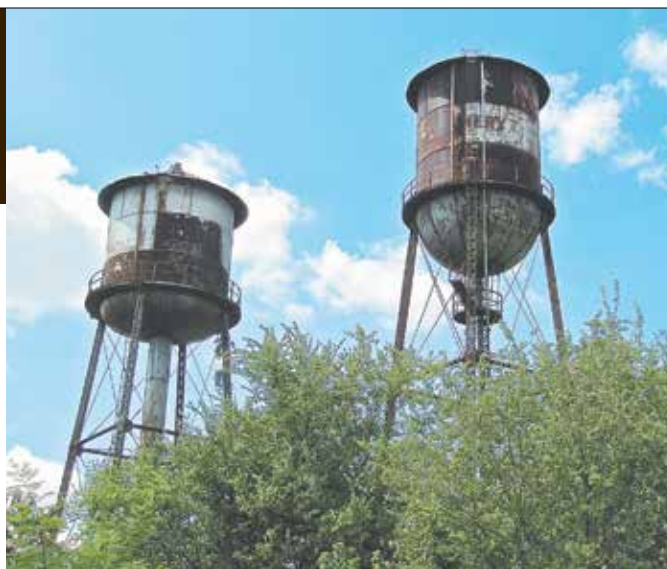
All around Knoxville the city's history is winking at you although you may not have noticed. Here and there on some of the older buildings, if you look closely enough, you can see the past appearing as faded or painted-over business names or advertisements on the brick walls.

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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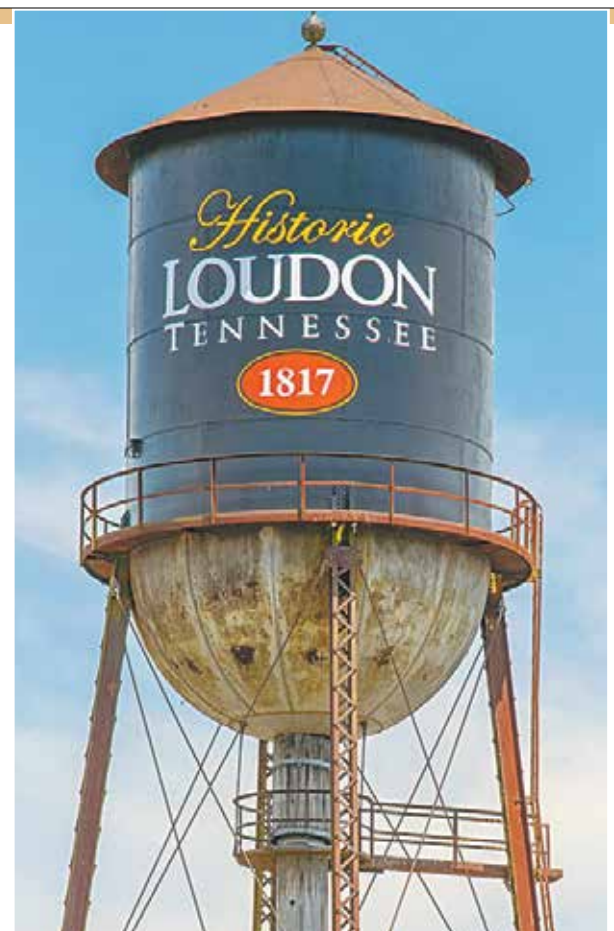


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These two old water towers sit near Highway 11 between Loudon and Sweetwater. The towers, once used for a manufacturer there, stand above the small incorporated town of Philadelphia. (Photo by Mike Steely)

The town of Loudon had an old water tower that the community has transformed into a advertising for their community. The tower sits downtown near the river and can be seen for miles. (Photo from the Loudon website)



LEADING THE WAY! STUDENT-ATHLETES OF THE YEAR

Ruth finishes high school in impressive fashion

Jefferson had positive impact on teammates, coaches

Wormsley retires from coaching at Webb School after more than three decades



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LEADING THE WAY!

Narayani's senior year starts and ends with state titles

By Steve Williams

Niki Narayani had a perfect ending to the athletic portion of her high school career at Webb School.

The Vanderbilt signee anchored the victorious 4x800 relay and swept the 3200-meter, 1600 and 800 individual events May 22 in the TSSAA Division II-A state track meet at MTSU.

"Niki is a great kid, and I'm thrilled for her that she could put an exclamation point on a fantastic high school career with such a remarkable performance at the state meet," said Coach Adam Braude. The

four wins also played a huge part in the Lady Spartans claiming the Division II-A state team title.

Narayani, Webb's female Student-Athlete of the Year, also started the 2018-19 school year with state titles as she captured the individual crown in cross country and led the Webb girls to their seventh consecutive state championship.

Narayani, in fact, won every cross country meet she competed in during the fall of 2018, including the KIL meet and the Greater Louisville Classic, where she broke both

course and meet records.

Niki was named the Girls Cross Country Runner of the Year by the Metro Knoxville Cross Country Association.

Narayani also was the recipient of Webb's Joyce Hunter Award for scholastic and athletic excellence. "What I have enjoyed about coaching Niki is that she's a fantastic student of the sport," said Bobby Holcombe, Webb's head coach in cross country. "She's willing to embrace changes, ask questions and execute any game plan we set out to accomplish without



Webb School's Niki Narayani will continue her cross country and track career at Vanderbilt.

hesitation. "She's a true competitor and always willing to go up against the best. Even if the outcome is not in her favor, she rallies back. She's always willing to chase her goals."



Tytiara Spikes, a basketball standout for Bearden, had perfect attendance from kindergarten through 12th grade.

Ruth finishes high school in impressive fashion

Cont. from page 1

school in her K-12 career.

Tytiara is a member of the National Achiever's Society and also participated on the Senior Committee this year.

Spikes has volunteered to tutor elementary school students in her community and takes time to visit their school and classrooms to lead academic activities.

She was a finalist for the I AM SPORT Award sponsored by The Knoxville News-Sentinel.

In the classroom, Tytiara was one of Bearden's "very best," said Tate, both in GPA and classroom performance and participation.

This fall, Spikes will continue her education and basketball career at Lincoln Memorial University.

Area baseball players earn all-region honors

By Ken Lay

The Knoxville Area had plenty of star players who showcased their respective talents on the baseball diamond in 2019. Several of those players had their accomplishments recently when they received all-region honors from Tennessee Baseball Report.

In Class AAA: Farragut High School won its first state championship since 2015 and the 10th in the program's storied history. The Admirals had four players named to the website's All-Region Team including Parker Noland, Owen Kovacs, Ryan Hagenow and Ashton King.

Those players all contributed to Farragut making a return trip to the Spring Fling in Murfreesboro after a two-year absence.

District 4-AAA Runner-up and Region 2-AAA Champion Hardin Valley Academy had two all-region selections in Cam Fisher and Bryce Jenkins. Catholic's Cooper Whitt and West High's Jake Wilhoit also made the team from District 4-AAA.

Hall's High's Caleb Berry, Powell's Matt Grim and Karns High's Jonathan Nelson were each selected from District 3-AAA.

Seymour, which competes in District 2-AAA, had Andrew Ott and Dylan Dickert selected to the squad.

In Division II-A: Christian Academy of Knoxville won its second consecutive state title (and third overall). The Warriors, who claimed the Division I Class AA State Championship in 2017, were represented on the squad by Jacob Tate, Connor Jurek and University of Tennessee signee Zane Keener, who posted a solid pitching performance in the Division II-A State Championship Game against Nashville's Christ Presbyterian Academy despite suffering from a hamstring injury.

Webb School of Knoxville won the Division II East Region Championship and Jackson Musrock, of the Spartans, was selected to the squad.

Grace Christian Academy's Eli Nordhorn was named to the team. He was also the Division II-A East Region District 1 Offensive Player of the Year as the Rams posted another solid season under first-year head coach Jonathan Byrd.

Gibb's High School's Michael Lowe was the area's lone representative on the team from Class AA.

Local two-way baseball players honored for accomplishments

By Ken Lay

Several area high school baseball players were honored by Tennessee Baseball Report recently.

The website, which annually honors top performers with all-region and all-state teams, reserves a special team for those who flourish as two-way players in high schools across the Volunteer State.

A two-way player is one who flourishes as a pitcher and a position player.

To make the first team, a player must have seven or more wins on the mound and an earned run

average under 2.00. The player must also hit at least .350.

Second-team standouts can have a varying win total with an ERA between 2.00 and 3.00. Those players must hit at least .300.

Players may earn Honorable Mentions by hitting at least .300. They may have less than seven wins as a pitcher. Their ERA may be over 3.00.

Three area players received first-team honors. Powell had two selections in Matt Grim and Walker Trusley. The panthers won both the District 3-AAA regular-season title and tournament championship.

Christian Academy of Knoxville's Jacob Tate was also named to the first team after helping the Warriors win a third consecutive state championship.

CAK's Hunter Loyd and Connor Jurek were both named to the second team.

Seymour sophomore Elijah Galyon and Farragut senior Ashton King received Honorable Mentions. King was a clutch reliever and swung a big bat for the Admirals, who won the Class AAA State Tournament in their first Murfreesboro appearance since 2016.

CAK's Tate Named PBR's Tennessee's Player of the Year

By Ken Lay

The 2019 high school baseball season may be over but the honors keep rolling in for recent Christian Academy of Knoxville graduate Jacob Tate.

Tate, who had a stellar career with the Warriors as a pitcher and first baseman, was recently named Prep Baseball Report's Player of the Year in Tennessee.

The 6-foot-7, 214-pound baseball player can add that honor to a pair of others that he

earned this season, his senior campaign at CAK.

He was also Tennessee's Mr. Baseball for Division II-A. He was also the Division II-A East Region District 1 Player of the Year.

Tate hit .343 for the Warriors in 2019, clubbing eight home runs and driving in 51 runs. He also had 16 doubles.

On the mound, Tate, a left-hander, was nearly unhittable. He posted a perfect 12-0 record and had 116 strikeouts. He

finished the season with a 0.91 earned run average as he helped CAK win its third consecutive state championship.

CAK won Division II-A Titles in 2019 and 2018. The Warriors also claimed the 2017 Division I Class AA State Championship.

Now that his high school career is in the rear view mirror, Tate will take his talent to the Southeastern Conference where he'll play for the University of Kentucky.

In addition to being

one of the county's most feared hitters, he stopped some tough opposing offenses. Hitters batted just .156 against Tate, who threw 76 1/3 innings in 2019.

Tate's 2019 season also earned him a spot on Tennessee Baseball Report's All-2-Way Team, which honors high school players who flourish as both pitchers and position players.

He also earned a spot on the website's All-State and All-Region 2 Teams.



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LEADING THE WAY! STUDENT-ATHLETES OF THE YEAR

Sophomores shine at L&N STEM Academy

By Steve Williams

A couple of sophomores stood out in athletics and academics at L&N STEM Academy in 2018-19.

Grace Brison was the KIL discus champion and set a school record with a throw of 107 feet, 6 inches in the event. She also went on to place seventh in the TSSAA Class Small state track and field meet.

L&N's female Student-Athlete of the Year also took third place in the District 4 bowling tournament.

In academics, Grace finished the school year with straight A's. She also was president of the sophomore class.

Classmate Evan Carr excelled in tennis and track in being named the school's male Student-Athlete of the Year.

Carr, also a straight A student, led the Gryphons' tennis team to the TSSAA Class Small state

co-op player with the Carter golf team. Palmer said Berean will be adding boys and girls golf to its list of sports in 2019-20.

SEYMOUR: Senior Andrew Ott, who was selected the IMAC Baseball Player of the Year, is the male Student-Athlete of the Year, while the female honoree is soccer standout Abbie Biddle, who was an All-Region and All-State selection, said Athletic Director Gary Householder.

GIBBS: Kaleigh Caldwell (soccer, basketball, and softball) and Zach Meyers (football and wrestling) are the female and male Student-Athletes of the Year, announced Athletic Director Jeff Thomas.

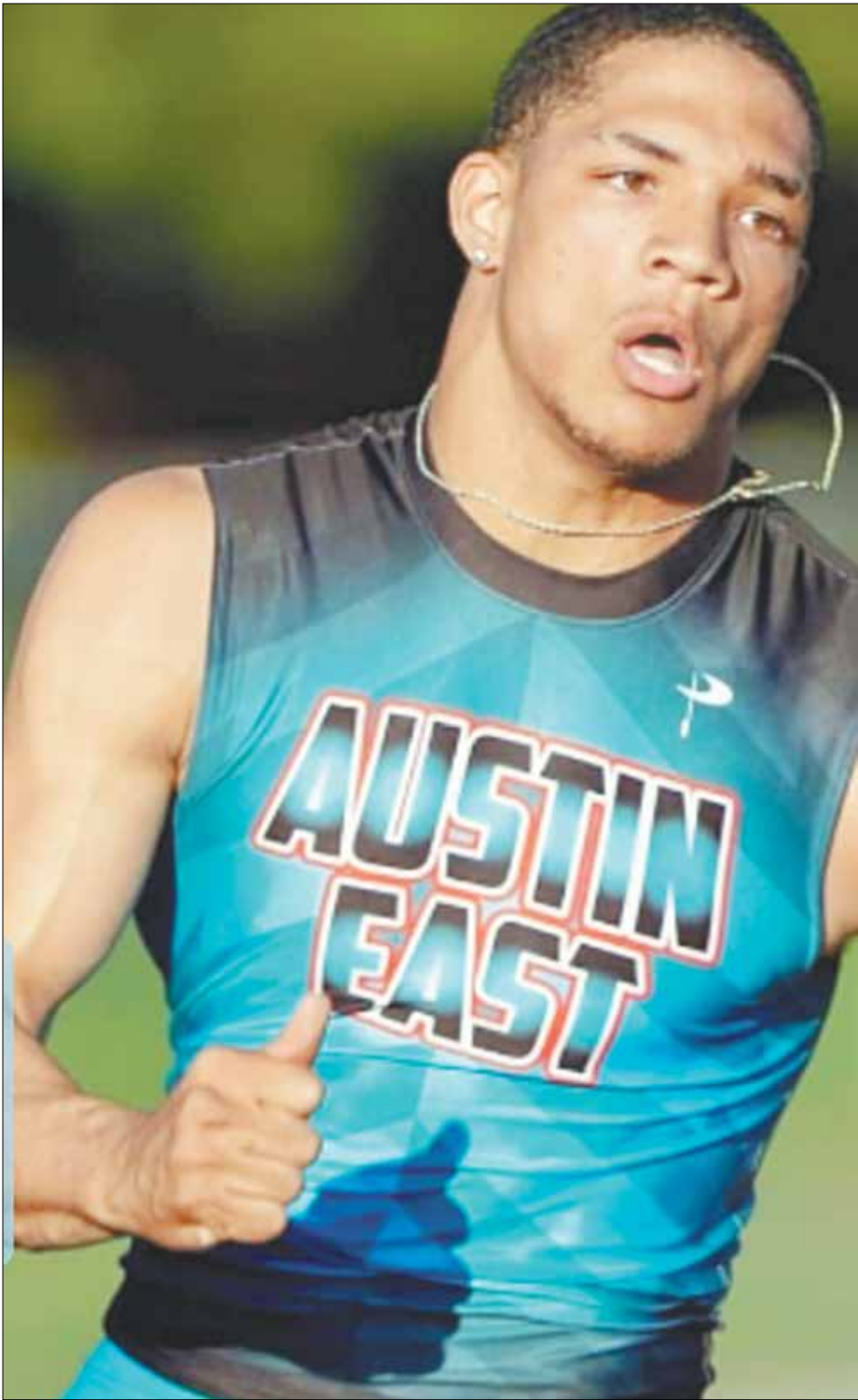
WEST: Seniors Caroline Lewis (cross country and track and field) and Xavier Davis (football and basketball) are the female

and male Student-Athletes of the Year, said Athletic Director Chris Caruthers.

HARDIN VALLEY ACADEMY: Emily Aycock, who was the KnoxNews' female Swimmer of the Year, is the female Student-Athlete of the Year, while Bryce Jenkins (All-District in both basketball and baseball) is the male honoree, said Assistant Athletic Director Bryan Brown.

Both were seniors this year and will compete at the collegiate level, with Emily going to Oakland University and Bryce to Cleveland State Community College.

FARRAGUT: Seniors Parker Noland (baseball) and Lakyn Moore (softball) are the Student-Athletes of the Year, according to Athletic Director Donald Dodgen.



Chris Stevenson ran on the Roadrunners' record-setting 4x100 relay and was a big part of A-E's second place showing in state track.

Stevenson and Bullard are Austin-East honorees

By Steve Williams

Chris Stevenson, who excelled in football and track, is Austin-East's male Student-Athlete of the Year.

Stevenson led the Roadrunners' football team to a 9-4 record and a state quarterfinal berth in Class 3A last fall and signed a full scholarship with Tennessee Tech University.

Chris earned All-State honors and also was a first team linebacker on The Knoxville Focus / Coaches' 2018 All-Knox County team.

This past spring, Stevenson was a key figure in Austin-East taking second place in the TSSAA state track and field meet in the Class Small division at MTSU. He led A-E's two state championship relay teams, including the 4x100 that posted a school record time of 41.62.

"He is a great athlete but an even better person," said A-E head track coach Sam Anderson.

An honor student, Chris plans to major in engineering at TTU.

Basketball standout Larrianna Bullard is Austin-East's female Student-Athlete of the Year.

The 5-7 point guard topped the 1,000 point mark in her prep career and had 10 30-point games and two 40-point games, said Coach Anthony Anderson. "Over her four years, she averaged 18.9 points per game."

Anderson also noted Bullard averaged five steals, 3.5 blocks and at least six



Larrianna Bullard has the ability to play anywhere in college, says A-E Coach Anthony Anderson.

rebounds per game.

"She signed with Austin Peay, but has to go Walters State first," said Anderson.

"She has meant a lot for girls' basketball at A-E. She was the backbone of our team. When she came to play, the team followed and we were tough to beat.

"She will excel on the college level if she buys in to the system. Larrianna is extremely talented and could play anywhere."

Softball takes Weekly to third state title and Dartmouth

By Steve Williams

At high schools with small enrollments, many athletes play more than one sport. But that wasn't the case with Regan Weekly at The King's Academy.

"Regan specializes in softball," said TKA Headmaster and Athletic Director Matt Mercer in announcing Weekly last month as the school's female Student-Athlete of the Year.

It's really not surprising that she focused on softball. It came about rather naturally in fact.

Regan's grandparents, Ralph and Karen Weekly, have been co-head softball coaches at the University

of Tennessee for 18 years and her dad, Marc, was a volunteer assistant coach at UT for nine years prior to starting the TKA softball program.

Regan was introduced to the sport probably when she was about as tall as the bat she now swings.

It's no wonder she turned into one of the nation's top prep softball players.

As a hard-hitting second baseman and outfielder this past season, Weekly led The King's Academy to its third Division II-A state championship in four years.

She was one of 15 players on MaxPreps' midseason Watch List for National Player of the Year.

Weekly finished the season with a .566 batting average and 41 extra-base hits, including 21 home runs. She also had 70 RBI and a .623 average with runners in scoring position.


Mercer pointed out Regan's impressive stats were compiled against "the state's toughest schedule."

No problem.

The King's Academy finished with a sparkling 37-6 record and defeated nine eventual district champions and four others that were district runners-up.

Weekly's post-season honors were topped by being named the Tennessee Gatorade Player of the Year.

Continued on page 4



Softball is Regan Weekly's game and Dartmouth is the next stop.

Tennessee's Big NBA Draft

By Alex Norman

Thursday, June 20, 2019 will be remembered as one of the biggest days in Tennessee men's basketball history. They didn't get to a Final Four that evening, or win a conference championship, but the Vols proved they can recruit and develop some of the best players in the nation.

Three former Vols, Grant Williams, Admiral Schofield and Jordan Bone, heard their names called at the NBA draft. It was the first time since 1977 that three Tennessee Volunteers were picked in a single NBA draft.

Let's start with Williams, and what a ride it has been for the Charlotte native. He came to Tennessee as a mostly overlooked recruit, and left three years later as a first round NBA draft pick. Williams was taken 22nd overall by the Boston Celtics. Twice named SEC player of the year, he brings versatility to one of the NBA's historic powers.

"Super smart. A guy I look at as a guy with a point guard's mind," said

Boston Celtics head coach Brad Stevens. "You can run offense through him at the elbow, on the block... at the top of the key. He really thinks the game. He's a tough, tough guy and a versatile player who can shoot the ball. He didn't shoot it as much from 3, they (Tennessee) didn't need him to do that. But his shot looks good and that should be an easy transition for him. Very intelligent. We are looking forward to having him. We think that translates well. You couldn't be more impressed with a kid when you sit down with him."

Williams averaged 18.8 points and 7.5 rebounds per game for the Vols last season.

In the second round, Schofield was picked 42nd overall by the Philadelphia 76ers, and was immediately dealt to the Washington Wizards. Like Williams, there wasn't a big push in recruiting circles for Schofield. But during Schofield's four seasons in Knoxville, he transformed his game, and his body, to become a future pro.

"I've been watching him the last three or four days because I knew we were trying to get involved in the second round," said Washington Wizards head coach Scott Brooks to a DC radio station. "The two things that I really love about him are his athleticism and his toughness. He brings it. He's a strong kid. He's a strong athlete. He's a nice kid. I spoke to him last night and he's just so excited. When you get drafted, it's one of your favorite nights of your life."

Schofield averaged 16.5 points and 6.1 rebounds per game as a senior. Listed at 6-6 and 240 pounds, he already has the physique to battle in the pro ranks. His inside game, plus the ability to shoot from long range, gives the Wizards some options going forward.

As for Bone, for a while on draft night it looked like his decision to forgo his senior season was the incorrect one. In fact, a popular video online shows the scene at his draft night party in which Jordan's brother (and fellow former Vol) Josh is addressing a

crowd in a somber tone. The Bone family thought Jordan's chance to hear his name called had passed.

Instead, a mob scene ensued when friends and family jumped the stage to celebrate with Jordan after he was taken 57th overall by the New Orleans Pelicans. Following a flurry of proposed trades, Bone eventually signed with the Detroit Pistons.

Bone averaged 13.5 points per game in 2018-2019, and tied for the SEC lead with 5.8 assists per contest. His freakish athleticism was on display at the NBA draft combine, and that led to his future pro career getting a significant boost.

That trio will be remembered for helping the Vols return to the national stage, after a very uneasy period following the dismissal of Bruce Pearl in 2011. Rick Barnes and his coaching staff got the most out of those guys, and helped them achieve great things.

Should be fun to watch them in the NBA in the years to come.

Area underclassmen named to Super Freshman/Sophomore Team

By Ken Lay

The Knoxville area is home to some of the Volunteer State's top high school baseball teams and during 2019, some young talent really flourished.

Recently, 15 local underclassmen were named to Tennessee Baseball Report's Super Freshman and Sophomore Team. And not surprisingly, many of those young players helped lead their respective teams on deep postseason runs.

Farragut High School had three players, Hunter Merrick, Hudson Seigler and Tanner Kim, make the team. All three of those youngsters made significant contributions on a magical 2019 run for the Admirals that was capped by a Class AAA State Championship; the team's 10th in school history and first in several years.

Hardin Valley Academy won the Region 2-AAA Championship and the Hawks had Jaylen

Jones and Archer Wong-Shasteen named to the squad, after both players emerged as dangerous hitters in 2019.

Also in District 4-AAA, Catholic's Kaden Marti made the team. He was also the district's Rookie of the Year for the Irish, who finished third in the district standings.

The Powell Panthers won both the District 3-AAA Tournament Championship and regular-season title. Powell had two selections including Logen Sutton and Coltin Reynolds.

Webb School of Knoxville led area teams with five selections as Ford Wagner, Jackson Musrock, Austin Kirkland, Lucas Butero and Riley George were all selected after the Spartans claimed the Division II-A East Region Championship for the second consecutive season.

Seymour's Elijah Galyon and Halls High's Matthew Wrinkle were also selected after solid seasons.

Softball takes Weekly to third state title and Dartmouth

Continued from page 3

Year, which is based on athletics, academics and character.

Regan was in the Top 5 academically in her senior class. She scored over a 30 on the ACT and has over a 4.0 GPA. She also had a perfect score on the Chinese Fluency test after taking Chinese 4.

Weekly had offers from Tennessee, Duke, Arkansas, Toledo, ETSU and Furman, but signed with Dartmouth in November.

"She always wanted to be an Ivy League graduate," said her dad and head coach at the signing ceremony.

Tilley, 3-sport athlete, TKA's male honoree

Zack Tilley, a rising senior who stood out in football, basketball and

track in 2018-19, was selected the male Student-Athlete of the Year at The King's Academy.

Tilley had over 800 all-purpose yards as a receiver / back in his first season of football, leading the Lions to the first round of playoffs, according to Athletic Director Matt Mercer. Last week, he took a football visit to Centre College.

In basketball, Tilley, a 5-9 guard, averaged 28 points per game his junior season, topping the 1,000 point mark in his career.

Zack also was a sprinter in track and finished fourth at the Sevier County Championships in the 100-meter dash in April. His best time in the 100 this past season was 11.48 seconds.

"Zack is considered by all staff and students as a leader because of how he lives his life," said Mercer. "Tilley is



TKA's Zack Tilley uses his speed and athleticism in football and basketball as well as track..

beginning to get looks from small colleges in both basketball and football due to his speed, skill and character."

Wormsley retires from coaching at Webb School after more than three decades

Cont. from page 1

Wormsley said.

But he's proud to forever be a Spartan and he's also had to chance to coach both Jordan and Parker both on the gridiron and on the baseball diamond.

"All 35 years of my career have been spent at Webb

School and that's special because it's a special place," Clark said. "I've coached great players and I've worked with some great coaches."

"I've also got to coach both my sons in both baseball and football and that was special. Jordan

played football for three years because he wanted to concentrate on baseball. Jordan played football all four years at Webb. He knew what I was going to call before I even called it and when Dave sent it in, Parker would know what it was."

Clark won't have much trouble staying busy as Jordan has a daughter.

"Jordan has a two-year old, so I'm going to spend time with my family and my granddaughter," Clark said. "I live on the Clinch River, so I'm going to fish as much as possible."

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Ablation

You might not be aware that your heart operates by electricity. No, not like an electric lamp or a hybrid car’s battery. But, nonetheless, the heart functions by electromagnetism, utilizing one of the four fundamental forces of the universe as defined by physics.

The heart is comprised of muscle, blood vessels and nerves. Blood vessels deliver oxygen and nutrients to muscle cells whose contraction is controlled by a pacemaker through a neural network. Actually, all cardiac cells have the inherent potential of acting as pacemakers. However, normally the primary pacer, sitting atop the upper atrial chambers of the heart, controls heart rate and rhythm.

Imagine a battery with trailing wires connected to your car’s engine. When the battery “fires,” an electrical signal is sent down the wires to spark the engine. The same happens when the cardiac pacemaker sends a signal down the neural wires of the heart

causing the muscle to contract in a coordinated sequence. Problems occur when the pacemaker ages or becomes dysfunctional. This can necessitate implanting an artificial pacemaker to prevent pathologic slowing of the heart rate and syncope (passing out).

Problems can also occur when the conducting wires become “frayed” through disease, resulting in other pacemaker cells taking over. I’ve written about atrial fibrillation where hundreds of pacemaker cells in the upper atrial chambers all begin firing at once. As a result, the lower pumping chambers are bombarded with signals producing tachycardia (rapid heart rate). This can be treated with medications to slow the heart rate or used to restore normal rhythm. Frequently, cardiologists combine medication with cardioversion to treat atrial fibrillation, utilizing an electrical shock to the chest to restore normal rhythm.

Lastly, an ablation procedure can be used to treat arrhythmias.

The word ablation derives from the Latin word ablatum and means “to remove or destroy, especially by cutting” or cauterizing. Cardiologists sometimes ablate a congenitally abnormal neural pathway that is causing PSVT or paroxysmal supraventricular tachycardia (sudden bouts of rapid heart rate). One of my patients with PSVT had her problem successfully treated with an ablation procedure several weeks ago. Atrial fibrillation is more difficult to treat with ablation because numerous areas must be treated/cauterized rather than one abnormal pathway.

While abnormal neural pathways can be removed by ablation, I find it necessary to also discount obvious disingenuous news reports and polls taken eighteen months before the 2020 election. Both have been proven biased, manipulative and unworthy of further consideration. A friend of mine said she has turned off the “news.” Intermittently, I have done so as well, especially when overt hatred reveals deceit and causes me visceral disgust. However, I feel it is my duty to stay informed, so I sacrificially listen and read and then use reason and common sense to discern the truth.

In last week’s essay, I discussed sacrificial listening

as an alternative to the standard choices of fight, flight or surrender. Though Jesus had very harsh language for elitist reproaches of his day (see Matthew chapter 23), he nonetheless forgave them. He calls me to consider WWJD (what would Jesus do) and then interact sacrificially, even with those I consider misguided or lost to reason.

I’m not a psychiatrist, but I am often the first doctor a troubled person contacts. Consequently, I have emphasized the proper evaluation of depression and more serious psychiatric disorders with the medical students I teach. And though I have considerable experience treating mild to moderate depression, we all have “gifts differing” as Paul said, and we must recognize and respect our limitations.

Hatred is a destructive emotion and the antithesis of love. I can recognize/diagnose hatred, but I don’t have the wisdom, medication or words to overcome this terrible emotional disorder. I have respectfully tried to engage progressives and Democrats, but apparently many have written me off as “lost” to conversion. I realize it takes considerable effort to present a reasoned counter-thesis to what you consider as another’s mistaken or misguided thesis, but that’s the sacrificial alternative to the trilemma of

fight, flight or surrender.

Several weeks ago I wrote about modern word usage in a column titled Verbiage. I no longer fish, but as a boy I learned that trolling was a fishing technique of trailing a lure behind a slowly moving boat. In the 21st century, trolling has been redefined as using provocative statements to lure someone into a response. Perhaps this is the ploy of AOC whose comments show she’s either incredibly stupid or just trolling like NY Governor Cuomo, who lit the World Trade Center in celebratory pink after extremely liberal abortion laws were passed.

Maybe leftists think I’m trolling them in this column. If that’s what you think, you’d be wrong, but you’ll never know without sacrificially engaging in reasoned and respectful consideration or debate (Hegelian dialectic).

So where do we go from here and what do we do in our strife torn country? I choose to embrace the perspective of the opening lines of A Tale of Two Cities, “It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness.”

As a student of history, I can tell you that we do not have “the worst of times” despite our current problems. Truly hard times were the Civil War, the Depression and WWII. We Americans have grown

accustomed to the affluence produced by capitalism which socialism/communism has never produced.

It is not reported, but much is being accomplished. I watched President Trump’s speech at his reelection rally, and was impressed by all the promises he has made and actually kept, including growing the economy, lowering unemployment, strengthening the military and improving America’s position in the world. The biggest remaining issue is the broken immigration system. Unfortunately, comprehensive immigration legislation will not be done before the 2020 election principally because Democrats hate Trump. However, the wall is slowly being built, and Mexico is now helping to stop illegal immigration.

I will watch the upcoming Democrat debates, and I challenge you to watch Trump’s reelection speech, if you missed it. Then, I ask you to make up your own mind rather than listen to what the experts say, especially since so many of them are ruled by hatred rather than reason. And I trust the common sense of the American people to “fly over the cuckoo’s nest” rather than following the tune of deranged pied pipers.

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

Fountain City Presbyterian Church Says Goodbye—Hello

Fountain City Presbyterian Church is saying goodbye to interim Pastor Reverend Gradye Parsons who has faithfully and enthusiastically served the church for the past twenty-one months.

At the same time, the church is saying hello and welcome to new the pastor, Reverend Andy Morgan, who will begin his ministry in Fountain City on July 1 and preach his first sermon on July 7.

Pastor Morgan has spent the past four years as minister of UKirk, the collegiate ministry of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) at the University of Tennessee. Andy holds degrees from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and Union Presbyterian Seminary, and is currently a doctoral student at Emory University. It was at Union Seminary that Andy met

his wife, Sarah, who currently serves as associate pastor at Second Presbyterian Church here in Knoxville.

Andy and Sarah have a toddler son, Robert, and they live in Fountain City.

Andy is excited to begin his ministry at Fountain City Presbyterian. Andy brings a youthful perspective, humor, and a unique capacity to connect with a variety of people to his ministry.

Andy looks forward to helping church members grow in their faith, teaching, preaching faithful and relevant sermons, and bearing witness to Jesus in the community.

The community is invited to Fountain City Presbyterian Church, 500 Hotel Road, to join Pastor Andy Morgan as he begins his ministry in the pulpit on July 7. Sunday worship service begins at 10:30 a.m.

In Memoriam Carrie Anna Pearce

February 16, 1944 - June 19, 2019

Carrie Anna Pearce passed away June 19, 2019 after a brief battle with lung cancer. She was reared in East Tennessee and is the granddaughter of Albert Franklin Mahan, minister of Central Baptist Church. Carrie Anna is a graduate of Carson-Newman College and Baylor University. Her career in education spanned 40 years, culminating at Samford University Brock School of Business for 26 years where she established the Academic Internship Program. Professionally, it was the mission of her life to lead students to consider significant career decisions via hands-on



experience. Her greatest joys in life were motherhood and family, as well as her university students.

She was predeceased by her husband, Scott Pearce, and is survived by children: Jefferson Scott Pearce (Jennifer); Susanna Elizabeth Warnock (Emery); and Andrew Scott Pearce (Cameron). Grandchildren: Benjamin Pearce, Stuart Pearce, William Warnock and Georgia Pearce.

A memorial service at Vestavia Hills Baptist Church was held June 22, 2019. Memorials may be given to Vestavia Hills Baptist Church Missions Fund, 2600 Vestavia Drive, Vestavia, AL 35216.



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LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF BETTY JEAN BYERLEY
HILL DOCKET NUMBER 81815-1**
Notice is hereby given that on the 12 day of JUNE 2019, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of BETTY JEAN BYERLEY HILL who died Mar 12, 2019, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:
(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of this first publication; or
(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death
This the 12 day of JUNE, 2019.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF BETTY JEAN BYERLEY
HILL PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
ALAN LYNN HILL; EXECUTOR
315 ANGUS CROSSING
CORRYTON, TN. 37721**

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF EVELYN B KING
DOCKET NUMBER 81811-3**
Notice is hereby given that on the 12 day of JUNE 2019, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of EVELYN B KING who died May 28, 2016, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:
(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of this first publication; or
(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death
This the 12 day of JUNE, 2019.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF EVELYN B KING
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
CLINTON R KING; EXECUTOR P.O. BOX 6662
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37914**

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF JESSE T KIRBY
DOCKET NUMBER 81820-3**
Notice is hereby given that on the 13 day of JUNE 2019, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of JESSE T KIRBY who died Apr 3, 2019, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:
(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of this first publication; or
(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death
This the 18 day of JUNE, 2019.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF NEIL EDWARD OLIVER, SR.
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
CAROL OLIVER PUDELEK; EXECUTRIX
1324 WINDAMERE ROAD
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37923**

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF JESSE T KIRBY
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
CYNTHIA K DUNSMORE; EXECUTRIX
3320 MILLER ROAD
POWELL, TN. 37849**

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF RICHARD ALFRED LORAH
DOCKET NUMBER 81816-2**
Notice is hereby given that on the 12 day of JUNE 2019, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of RICHARD ALFRED LORAH who died Feb 1, 2019, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:
(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of this first publication; or
(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death
This the 12 day of JUNE, 2019.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF RICHARD ALFRED LORAH
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
STEPHEN W LORAH; EXECUTOR
12334 PITTMAN DRIVE
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37932**

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF NEIL EDWARD OLIVER, SR.
DOCKET NUMBER 81838-3**
Notice is hereby given that on the 18 day of JUNE 2019, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of NEIL EDWARD OLIVER, SR. who died May 11, 2019, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:
(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of this first publication; or
(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death
This the 18 day of JUNE, 2019.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF RICHARD ALFRED LORAH
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
STEPHEN W LORAH; EXECUTOR
12334 PITTMAN DRIVE
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37932**

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF RICHARD ALFRED LORAH
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
STEPHEN W LORAH; EXECUTOR
12334 PITTMAN DRIVE
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37932**

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF RICHARD ALFRED LORAH
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
STEPHEN W LORAH; EXECUTOR
12334 PITTMAN DRIVE
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37932**

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF RICHARD ALFRED LORAH
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
STEPHEN W LORAH; EXECUTOR
12334 PITTMAN DRIVE
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37932**

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF RICHARD ALFRED LORAH
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
STEPHEN W LORAH; EXECUTOR
12334 PITTMAN DRIVE
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NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF RICHARD ALFRED LORAH
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STEPHEN W LORAH; EXECUTOR
12334 PITTMAN DRIVE
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NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF RICHARD ALFRED LORAH
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
STEPHEN W LORAH; EXECUTOR
12334 PITTMAN DRIVE
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37932**

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF DARRELL GENE PERMELIA
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
MARK PERMELIA; ADMINISTRATOR
5057 MEDLAR ROAD
MIAMISBURG, OH. 45342**

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF CLYDE ELMER RICKETTS
DOCKET NUMBER 81840-2**
Notice is hereby given that on the 18 day of JUNE 2019, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of CLYDE ELMER RICKETTS who died May 23, 2019, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:
(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of this first publication; or
(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death
This the 18 day of JUNE, 2019.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF CLYDE ELMER RICKETTS
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
KIMBERLY C STEPHENS; EXECUTRIX
6823 HUNTERS TRAIL
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37921**

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF CLYDE ELMER RICKETTS
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
KIMBERLY C STEPHENS; EXECUTRIX
6823 HUNTERS TRAIL
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37921**

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF CLYDE ELMER RICKETTS
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
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6823 HUNTERS TRAIL
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37921**

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF CLYDE ELMER RICKETTS
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
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NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF CLYDE ELMER RICKETTS
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NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF CLYDE ELMER RICKETTS
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NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF CLYDE ELMER RICKETTS
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NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF CLYDE ELMER RICKETTS
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NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF CLYDE ELMER RICKETTS
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
KIMBERLY C STEPHENS; EXECUTRIX
6823 HUNTERS TRAIL
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37921**

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF HUGH LYNN SMITH
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
ANTHONY HINES; EXECUTOR
6510 HUGHWILLS ROAD
POWELL, TN. 37849**

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF HUGH LYNN SMITH
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ANTHONY HINES; EXECUTOR
6510 HUGHWILLS ROAD
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NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF HUGH LYNN SMITH
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NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF HUGH LYNN SMITH
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
ANTHONY HINES; EXECUTOR
6510 HUGHWILLS ROAD
POWELL, TN. 37849**

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF WAYMAN WHALEY
AKA RUFUS W WHALEY
DOCKET NUMBER 81844-3**
Notice is hereby given that on the 19 day of JUNE 2019, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of WAYMAN WHALEY AKA RUFUS W WHALEY who died Apr 20, 2019, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:
(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of this first publication; or
(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death
This the 14 day of JUNE, 2019.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF WAYMAN WHALEY
AKA RUFUS W WHALEY
DOCKET NUMBER 81844-3**
Notice is hereby given that on the 19 day of JUNE 2019, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of WAYMAN WHALEY AKA RUFUS W WHALEY who died Apr 20, 2019, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:
(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of this first publication; or
(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death
This the 19 day of JUNE, 2019.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF WAYMAN WHALEY
AKA RUFUS W WHALEY
DOCKET NUMBER 81844-3**
Notice is hereby given that on the 19 day of JUNE 2019, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of WAYMAN WHALEY AKA RUFUS W WHALEY who died Apr 20, 2019, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:
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