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Wanda Moody honored with naming of bridge

By Mike Steely
steelym@knoxfocus.com

"Tough but fair and never afraid to speak her mind" was the description given Friday at the dedication of the Wanda Moody Overpass on North Winston Road. Those words were from Knoxville Mayor Madeline Rogero who served with Moody on the Knox County Commission.

Moody stood between Rogero and Congressman Tim Burchett prior to the unveiling of the bridge sign. Burchett said Moody is "a lifelong friend" and said she's the only person he allows to call him "Timmy."

Moody, who served the county for 20 years in commission, told the audience of past and present elected city, county

and state officials how much she appreciated the honor. The former Bearden High School teacher recalled her family history in the West Hills area and remembered how difficult it was to get to Kingston Pike before the bridge was constructed.

She also served on the State Board of Education on an appointment by then Governor Lamar Alexander. Burchett read a letter from now Senator Alexander honoring Moody. Alexander called the naming "a recognition well deserved."

Congressman Burchett had suggested the naming of the bridge to the Public Property Naming Committee and Councilwoman Lauren Rider oversaw the passage

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PHOTO BY MIKE STEELY

Former Knox County Commissioner Wanda Moody is joined by, from left to right, Commissioner Michele Carringer, granddaughter Emma Grace, Knox County Clerk Sherry Witt, Moody (at sign), Joan Ashe, former Knoxville Mayor Victor Ashe, former Knox County Executive Tommy Schumpert, former Councilman Larry Cox and Congressman Tim Burchett.



PHOTO BY MIKE STEELY

Commissioner Randy Smith, at left, stands under an umbrella as the building that houses the Norwood Library is dedicated to the late Lynn Redmon. Dozens of office holders, citizens and friends turned out Wednesday morning for the dedication.

Community leader Lynn Redmon memorialized

By Mike Steely
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Lynn Redmon, a Norwood and Knoxville community leader, passed away last year and was memorialized Wednesday as the Norwood Public Library building was named for him. Redmon was known

and respected for being a spokesman for neighborhood causes, a political consultant, and an all-around nice gentleman.

Former Knox County Chairman and current Commissioner Randy Smith hosted the meeting which drew dozens of city

and county officials, neighborhood leaders, former officials, and friends of Redmon. On hand for the ceremony were Redmon's daughter, Renee, and his long-time companion Sue Rickabaugh.

Commissioner Smith noted that Redmon's late

wife, Ann, worked for 30 years at the library and he called Redmon a "guiding star" that helped him get elected. He noted that Redmon was a strong supporter of the library, active in the Norwood neighborhood, and was a local historian.

"His efforts made the community and the county better," Smith said.

Knox County Mayor Glenn Jacobs spoke briefly and said that it is "fitting that the library be dedicated to Mr. Redmon."

Also present were Knoxville Mayor Madeline

Rogero, Commissioners Evelyn Gill, Carson Dailey, Michele Carringer, Brad Anders and Larson Jay, and a representative of Congressman Tim Burchett. Many other officials were also present. The library has a plaque to Redmon inside the building.

Knox County School Board honors retirees

By Anne Primm

School Board Chair Terry Hill called the Wednesday, July 17, 2019 meeting to order promptly at 5:00 p.m. Several members arrived late but shortly all nine board members were in attendance.

Hill asked that Consent Agenda item 6C be moved from the consent agenda to the regular agenda. The board members agreed to this request. Next, a motion to approve the agenda was made by Fourth District Representative Virginia

Babb.

With great appreciation and joy, Chair Terry Hill, began recognition of Knox County Schools' 2018-2019 retirees. At the end of this school year 311 people retired from Knox County Schools. Of those, 27 were present at Wednesday evening's meeting to be recognized. Those present received a certificate and a photograph with Hill and Superintendent Bob Thomas.

Next, all items and contracts were approved

without discussion. Board Policies, however, presented some disagreement. Specifically, board members had differing views on item 7G, "Use of Personal Communication Devices in School." Third District Representative Tony Norman advocated a strict policy of "no cell phone use between 8:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m." This became known as "version two" of the proposed policy. Student Representative Noah Kelley interjected that this policy is too confining because

students often need to use their phones for legitimate reasons during lunch or class change. First District Representative Evetty Satterfield feels student desire for constant cell phone usage is reflective of a societal problem. Nonetheless, several of the school board members have previously been teachers themselves and know first hand what a disturbance cell phones can be in class. They definitely interfere with the

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Pond Gap Repairs, use of a logo and tax break approved by council

By Mike Steely
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Despite more than six hours spent wrestling with Recode Tuesday night, the Knoxville City Council actually managed to do some other business including approving construction to the Pond Gap wall and street.

Although the Pond Gap Neighborhood Association had asked for a

postponement Commissioner Andrew Roberto said a proposal to repair a holding wall, repairing sidewalks, and raising the road was acceptable. The repairs, at no cost to the city, will be funded by Elington Capitol Group subject to final city approval.

The project is part of a large apartment complex being built at the top of **Continued on page 4**

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Recode passes first reading in split vote

By Mike Steely
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After more than two years, dozens of meetings, many changes and much community discussion, the Knoxville City Council passed Recode on first reading Tuesday. The marathon session ended with a 7-2 vote at 11:20 p.m. after Councilman Andrew Roberto reversed his position and successfully removed Accessory Dwelling Units from Established Neighborhoods.

The "EN" designation is used in the new regulations to designate "Established Neighborhoods" and refers mostly to upper-income areas like Kingston Pike and Sequoyah Hills.

Roberto told the council that allowing ADU in all residential neighborhoods "separates me from support of Recode" and pushed to exclude them in EN unless a special use request is made and the neighborhood homeowners agree.

In the end only Councilmembers Mark Campen and Seema Singh voted "No."

Singh had supported the adoption Recode and appeared with



PHOTO BY MIKE STEELY.

Councilman Andrew Roberto, left, successfully pulled upper-income neighborhoods from Recode, permitting Accessory Dwelling Units in EN-zoned areas only when the homeowners approve the structures.

Mayor Madeline Rogero in a pro-Recode news conference earlier in the day, but when Roberto managed to remove ADU from EN she changed her vote and opposed the zoning changes. Singh said allowing a wealthier neighborhood to opt out of the program is "not fair to the rest of the city."

Councilman and mayoral

candidate Marshall Stair, who had earlier indicated he may oppose adopting Recode, told Roberto he'd support excluding those neighborhoods "if that supplies comfort."

Councilman George Wallace quizzed Roberto and Planning Director Gerald Green about how an Established Neighborhood could be polled on permitting the

dwelling to be built behind single family homes.

Roberto replied, "I have absolute faith in neighborhoods."

Commissioner Campen moved to postpone a vote for two weeks but the motion failed.

Final adoption may come in the council's meeting on July 30 when the 4th revision of the new zoning map will also be discussed.

Other Recode edits approved in the long meeting included a motion by Councilwoman Stephanie Welch to apply hillside protection to all zoning districts including commercial and industrial. This change passed 7-2 with Wallace opposing including commercial zones in the requirement.

The council also voted to permit "short term" storage at some businesses, to designate halfway houses as special use, to revise the pathway for zoning applications and appeals, and to ask the planning agency to redefine "functional family."

Changes in the 5th draft of Recode included not only alterations submitted and approved by the council but also changes in language made by Knoxville-Knox County Planning staff. Mayor Rogero noted that while many residents may object to the changes in zoning designations, the long effort, both in years and in hours Tuesday night, was an exercise in compromise.

Rogero promotes Recode at press conference



Mayor Madeline Rogero called out critics of her Recode effort at the end of her press conference address Tuesday morning. At the end of the day Recode passed first reading with a 7-2 vote by city council.

By Mike Steely
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Prior to the Knoxville City Council marathon meeting on Recode night, Mayor Madeline Rogero held a press conference that morning on the 6th floor of the City-County Building. Some of the council members attended but the crowd was mainly made up of media, bloggers and city staffers.

Rogero said that the Recode effort to update Knoxville's zoning ordinances is a "massive engagement with people" and added, "This is not a massive rezoning." She explained that most property use will remain unchanged and only the zoning names will change.

"Recode has been the most transparent and thorough process," she said. Rogero said the intent is to protect neighborhoods, change no property use and raise no taxes.

"Now the city council is

responsible," Rogero said. She described Recode as a "living document" that can be amended as needed. She said that over the two-year evolution of Recode, there have been nine public work sessions, two planning hearings, seven council work sessions and two council meetings concerning Recode.

"Good and reasonable people can disagree," she said. Rogero also said that the Recode Stakeholder Committee will be extended for two years to deal with problems or changes in the proposed zoning regulations.

At the end of her press conference she called out two unnamed critics of her Recode effort saying, "They don't attend meetings and haven't picked up the phone to call me, the council, or Gerald Green, about this process but again they write column after column that are negative and dog the process. That's really lame."

What is Loss of Consortium?

A term that is heard in the world of personal injury law, that will occasionally draw a snicker, is the term, "loss of consortium."

Let's dive in to what this term means. First, the word, "consortium,"

means companionship

with one's spouse. How

does that fit in to a personal injury case though?

If a husband is driving down the road, gets rear-ended by another vehicle, experiences significant damages, has to have surgery, is out of work, and may be on bed rest for a while, this certainly would alter the wife's lifestyle. She would transform from a companion in a marriage, to a caretaker. To take the husband's damages even further, perhaps the wreck is so bad that the husband ends up on life support permanently. Then the wife would never stop becoming anything but a caretaker for her husband.

In this situation, the husband obviously has a claim for damages against the other driver for the injuries he sustained. However, pursuant to Tennessee Code Annotated section 25-1-106, the wife has her own separate claim against the other driver for a "loss of consortium," even though she was not in the car when the wreck happened.

Why does the spouse have her own claim against the other driver



By Jedidiah McKeehan
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for damages? Because she has experienced a loss of consortium, or loss of companionship, as a result of her husband's injuries.

Now why would people snicker about this term? Well, some people

hear that term, and associate that with the husband not being able to have sexual relations with his wife anymore; and the wife, is making a claim for that loss of marital intimacy. That is a misnomer, however, because, while the claim does include that part of a couple's relationship, the claim includes so much more than that. A loss of consortium claim encompasses all acts of companionship, love and affection that the wife no longer gets to experience.

So, in our scenario, if the husband, is in fact, in a vegetative state for the remainder of his days, or he had died, the wife's loss of consortium claim will be significant, because she will have forever lost his companionship, love and affection.

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

Knox County School Board honors retirees

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learning process.

With that in mind, Fifth District Representative Susan Horn recommended that teachers and principals enforce the cell phone policy that is already in place. Seventh District representative Patti Bounds agreed with Horn and went further to say that teachers and administrators need to be consistent across the system. When the vote was taken, Norman's motion to

accept version two failed.

The meeting continued with discussion of regular Agenda Item 10D regarding a MOA with the Knox County Sheriff's department for school security. Superintendent Thomas said that the school system has had a MOA with the sheriff's department for the nine years though that has currently lapsed. Thomas added that the school board does not have to have a MOA with

the sheriff's department but that is his recommendation. Second District Representative Jennifer Owen reminded the board that there are sixty sheriff's office employees that are dedicated to Knox County Schools and that these officers are highly trained to deal with student-related issues. Even with that said, Owen proposed a substitute motion to delay the vote on the MOA for thirty days so that more specifics can be fleshed out in the proposal. The substitute motion failed.

The final item up for discussion on the regular Agenda was 10E which involved use of handcuffs on students. Chief of Security for Knox County Schools

Gus Paidousis reported that there have been only seven arrests made in Knox County Schools population of over 60,000 students over the past two years. The school board did, however, approve a resolution discouraging the use of handcuffs on students in grades preK-5 in a 5-4 vote.

Wednesday's Public Forum speaker was Kim Kredich, a volunteer advocate for parents of special education students. Ms. Kredich implored Knox County Schools to communicate with special education parents about details of meetings instead of inconveniencing parents and lawyers of the special education student.

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Publisher's Position

We found the Recode maps And Madeline's Meltdown



By Steve Hunley,
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The first of two votes on the zoning and code process upheaval known as Recode in Knoxville City Council has happened. Recode was approved by council by a vote of 7 to 2 (Voting for Recode were: Stair, Saunders, McKlenzie, Rider, Roberto, Welch and Wallace. Campen and Singh voted against.) on Tuesday, July 17 very late in the evening. That is not the biggest story of last week. The approval vote in council was expected and the only small surprise is that it was not unanimous. The biggest story was a press conference held by city Knoxville Mayor Madeleine Rogero that same morning. The press conference was an example of the Chicago political doctrine of socialist political radical Saul Alinsky. Alinsky was most famous for his short work called "Rules for Radicals" which was celebrated by Wellesley college student Hillary Clinton when she wrote in her 92-page senior thesis, "There is Only the Fight . . . : An Analysis of the Alinsky Model." What is possibly the best way to put Hillary's philosophy is what she told the Black Lives Matter movement, saying, "I don't believe you change hearts, you change laws, you change allocation of resources, you change the way systems operate."

Welcome to Recode. The fifth rule of Alinsky's "Rules for Radicals" is "Ridicule is man's most potent weapon." There is no defense. It's irrational. It's infuriating. It also works as a key pressure point to force the enemy into concessions.

Mayor Rogero used the fifth rule in her short press conference to say, "Those who are extreme critics of the process, everybody disagrees with this and that and that's what we work through. There are some extreme critics of the process, they're not the ones who have been in the meetings, the ones crafting the compromises. They're not the ones who've been actually sitting down and debating what this is all about. It's very easy to cast aspersions on a public process that as I've said is by its very nature is continuous, and I've said this often as the mayor the easiest thing is to criticize and to tear down, that is so simple and it is so lame. The hardest thing is to make something new happen. The hardest thing is to build community, and through this process we are building community, we are preparing our community for the future. We are holding on to that which we know that works and we care about, that we value, and we are also changing our regulations so that we can address

the needs of others for that stuff that's not working and we can address the future needs of our community and our children and grandchildren, our future generations, so those who have been at the meetings if they criticize something then I'm like okay I hear you, you know let's talk about this, but those who don't attend the meetings, who haven't once picked up the phone to call me or to call council or to call Gerald (Gerald Green, executive director of Knoxville-Knox County Planning) about this process, but yet they write column after column after column that is negative and dogs this process, that's lame. That's really lame. Thank you."

Do you know what is really lame? Using the Chicago socialist radical tactics of Saul Alinsky to ram through the Recode process and try to criticize factual reporting as well as editorial columns on Recode.

Mayor Rogero said in her press conference that, "Recode is the most thorough and transparent public engagement process Knoxville has ever had." The truth is, in my opinion, that Recode has been one of the biggest political missteps in recent history.

Two days after Mayor Rogero's press conference digital newspaper CompassKnox editor Jesse Fox Mayshark was on the Halterin Hill radio program talking about the upcoming city election. Mayshark told Hill that there are 180,000

people in Knoxville, with 90,000 registered voters, and in the last mayor's election 30,000 people voted. There were over 90 public meetings on Recode but 30 of those were stakeholders meetings. 1,800 people attended the Recode public meetings. That is one percent of the city population, two percent of the registered voters, and six percent of the voters who voted in the last mayor's race. Is that anywhere close to being inclusive and transparent? Is that anywhere close to the mayor's claim of being the "most thorough and transparent public engagement process Knoxville has ever had?"

The city polled a neighborhood that should have been favorable to Recode. Only 18% of the neighborhood approved of Recode. The poll was never released due to bad results. Is that being transparent?

Recode has used an Alinsky-style public relations campaign for over two years. Over and over citizens have been told that unless they went to the public meetings they have no say in Recode. No right to have an opinion. Only information from the city can be used to form an opinion. News reporters who have been to the meetings cannot be considered with their reporting. Only positive comments about Recode can be considered. What Rogero inferred is that the media cannot be trusted unless they stick to the city administration's script

that Recode is wonderful and won't raise your taxes or change the use of your property. But Gerald Green of the planning commission has repeatedly said that all properties will conform their use to Recode. So which is it? Recode is anything but transparent. They are talking out of both sides of their mouth.

So what was it like to attend those public Recode meetings? It was obvious Recode wasn't ready to be voted on as they spent hours fixing it on the fly. Three to four hours of PowerPoint presentations to have ten to twenty minutes for the public to ask questions which were often dismissed by Knoxville planning commission representatives.

An example was the Deane Hill Recode public meeting where a gentleman who works at UT asked Knoxville-Knox County Planning head Gerald Green how Recode would affect quality of life in Knoxville. Green dismissed the question with a nonsensical statement of how the quality of life was good in West Knoxville but not as good in East Knoxville and Recode would somehow change that. You can see that public meeting here: <https://vimeo.com/297785241> (minute 38:35).

From the very beginning two and a half years ago Recode has been based on an inaccurate position that the zoning codes in Knoxville have not changed in fifty years. Even last week local

television stations were saying that same incorrect meme. In last week's press conference Mayor Rogero said, "The current code was adopted more than 50 years ago. It has been amended, added to and tweaked ever since." So the Mayor herself finally acknowledged that the basis on which Recode was built is false.

The next big story of last week was during the city council meeting on the vote on Recode when Knoxville resident Constance Every spoke to the issue of Recode and brought down the house. Every told the council that there was no way she would be convinced that the planning commission and council had combed through fifty years of documentation of blueprints, maps, and other information on zoning in two years. Every said, "what this whole agenda hides behind is extending downtown Knoxville and being deceptive about it. There's nothing bad about that but don't lie about it, tell the truth about it...Recode is not the answer right now."

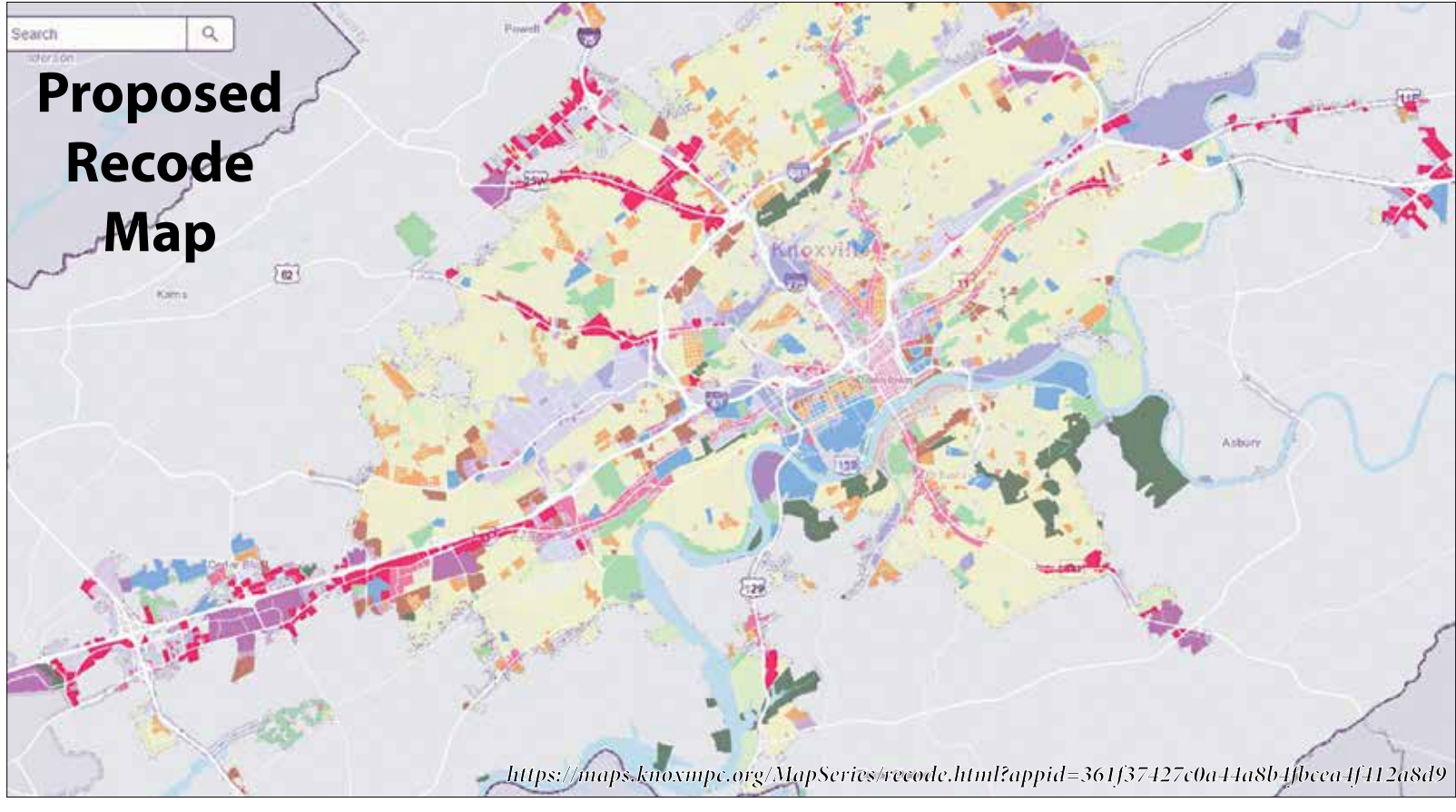
The next Knoxville City Council meeting is July 30. Council will have the second of two council votes on the text of Recode and the first of two votes on the Recode zoning map. Last week I believe the mayor and city council ignored state law and the city charter by not sending the amended Recode text back to Knoxville-Knox County Planning to be approved. State law

requires that if any substantive changes occur in council by amendment it must go back to the planning commission for their approval. Council added all city commercial property to the Hillside and Ridgetop codes in Recode, which could be construed as a taking and could result in many lawsuits for restraint of trade and tortious interference. Council also excluded Accessory Dwelling Units for established neighborhoods like Sequoyah Hills and West Hills. Those are enormous substantive changes. As council and the mayor have done several times before in their obsession to approve Recode before early voting for the city election they have again ignored the people they represent, proper procedure and possibly the law.

Will the real fate of Recode be decided in court? How many laws can be ignored? Have Sunshine Law violations occurred? Planning violations? And now procedural violations? The lawsuits that will come from this will likely be paid for by the taxpayers. While all of this happens Mayor Rogero keeps telling us Recode is a living document that can be changed and amended.

Then why the mad rush to approve it before the upcoming city election?

Note: Find the current zoning map and the proposed Recode zoning map below. Take a look and you decide if the maps have changed.



<https://maps.knoxmpc.org/MapSeries/recode.html?appid=361f37427c0a44a8b4fbcca4f112a8d9>

Does Downtown Knoxville have too many hotels?

By Mike Steely
steelym@knoxfocus.com

The Knoxville Focus has been asking candidates for At-Large Seat C their stances on several topics to be shared with our readers. We've been focusing on the five candidates for the seat currently held by Councilman and Vice Mayor Finbarr Saunders because only two candidates will emerge from the August 27th primary and advance to the November general election.

Following the primary The Focus will be asking all the Knox County Council candidates questions as well. Here's this week's question to the five Seat C candidates:

Does downtown have too many current and proposed hotels?

Amy Midis: I have been surprised with the number of new hotels that have been built in downtown and in the Bearden area where I live. Only ten years ago, the former Holiday Inn at Papermill and Lonas was the most desirable and convenient place for friends and co-workers

to stay when visiting town. Staying in a new or recently refurbished hotel heightens the overall experience for visitors to Knoxville. Large hotel chains like Marriott, Hyatt, and Hilton wanting to invest their development dollars in Knoxville is a positive sign for the future of tourism to Knoxville. We are fortunate that the University of Tennessee, TVA, and the many other businesses operating downtown provide a constant demand for hotels, however, our job is not done. As your City Council member, I will prioritize initiatives that continue to build demand for occupancy of these hotels and future tourism to our area. We need ensure that Visit Knoxville and SMG, two entities who work with the City to promote tourism, have the needed resources to attract reoccurring events each year. I want to continue the focus on creating a master plan for Chilhowee Park. There is a significant amount of greenspace at Chilhowee Park that is currently being underutilized. I would like to see the redevelopment of this site to benefit the East Knoxville community as well as increase Knoxville tourism

dollars.

David Williams: High quality hotels are always in demand. Banks are lending money to build them. Too many or too few? The marketplace not government will decide. We are blessed with fine hotels downtown. For Knoxville to get big events and bigger conventions more hotel rooms are needed.

Amelia Parker: Visit Knoxville has stated in the past that they would be able to book larger vendors and gatherings at the Convention Center if more hotel space were available downtown. Booking larger vendors brings revenue to the city through not only the Convention Center rental fees but also through increased sales tax revenue which in turn is used to pay off the city's highest debt—the Convention Center itself. Hotels can bring a lot of perks to a city beyond the tax revenues they can generate - iconic architecture, rooftop bars, meeting and conference room spaces, and a more vibrant downtown. However, hotel amenities tend to be high priced and can be restricted to hotel guests only so should not be considered public

goods worthy of public subsidy. Therefore, my concern is with the tax incentives that continue to be granted by the city to downtown hotel development. Downtown Knoxville is a federally-designated opportunity zone. Any development downtown could be used as a capital gains tax shelter, which should be enough incentive for developers to invest and begin turning a profit as soon as possible in order to maximize benefits offered through the time limited opportunity funds. High-end hotels have become a go-to investment for opportunity funds because of their high rate of return. Each TIF, PILOT, or facade improvement awarded to a hotel proposed for development or renovation in downtown after 2017 is unnecessarily shortchanging the residents of Knoxville. The city should not continue to provide tax incentives for hotel or any other development downtown moving forward without an extensive community benefits agreement in place.

Hubert Smith: Knoxville does not have too many hotels. These are all privately owned and if the owners want to make the

investment in our city, I'm all for it. Most hotels within the core of the city, including downtown, operate on average of a 70% occupancy rate. The new hotels see the future and are making an investment in our city. However, I'm not so much in favor of the tax breaks to the new hotels, and not making the same or similar offer to existing hotels. I don't believe that government should pick winners and losers. Let the free market decide, from start up to operation. As a sitting councilman, I will bring more scrutiny to the process of giving tax breaks. Knoxville is facing double-digit growth within the next 10 years and I expect that hotel occupancy will grow with it. I welcome the new hoteliers and I look forward to being a part of it.

Bob Thomas: I am actually encouraged by the investments being made and proposed by respected brands in Knoxville. These companies would not be doing so without extensive research regarding the future of our great city and the potential success not only for the city, but for their businesses.

Wanda Moody honored with naming of bridge



Mayor Madeline Rogero and Congressman Tim Burchett listen as Wanda Moody thanks the crowd before unveiling the new sign for the North Winston Road Overpass over Interstate 40.

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of the name.

Now 88 years old and an active member of the Bearden United Methodist Church, Moody was a Karns High School and UT graduate and, among other things, served on the Transportation Regional Planning Organization.

Congressman Burchett said Moody was a great help in his first run for Knox County Mayor.

"I appreciate you, congressman, and you mayor, for being here and all the former office holders who I've worked with for many years. I really appreciate this," Moody said.

"It's good to see all of you and thank you," she concluded.

The crowd followed Moody, Rogero and Burchett to the sign and then grouped together as city, county, and other elected officials for photos of the honored former county commissioner.

Pond Gap Repairs, use of a logo and tax break approved by council

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Hollywood Road between the Pond Gap neighborhood and Pond Gap Elementary School and road construction will also include fencing the historic pond beside the road. David Williams, president of the Neighborhood Association there, asked for a postponement until his neighbors could meet on the issue. The association remains opposed to the apartment project and cites traffic increases and a larger number of children that will attend the school.

"Very disappointed the Pond Gap community was denied the basic courtesy of being allowed to examine the resolution before a vote," Williams told The Focus. "I do not think a two-week delay was unreasonable," he said.

The council also approved \$50,000 in an agreement with Robin Easter Design for professional services for the Urban Wilderness wayfinding and branding for one year. Councilman George Wallace noted the agreement includes the use of the "leaf" the city has been using as part of Legacy Park's signage.

Also approved was a zoning change for 114 Cedar Lane, a former dental office, from O-1 Office to C-3 Commercial.

When discussing the mayor's appointments to the Public Stakeholder Advisory Group, a body

that was involved in the creation of Recode, Councilwoman Seema Singh moved successfully to also include a tenant representative. Mayor Madeline Rogero said she would do that and the Stakeholder Group has been extended for two years to help in adjustments to Recode if adopted.

The council also approved \$118,000 to Volunteer Ministry Center for homeless people services at the Day Resource Center, the Bush Family Refuge, the Foyer Low Barrier Shelter and the center's Dental Clinic.

The Community Action Committee was given \$140,000 in Emergency Solutions Grant money for its Homeward Bound Program.

A tax break was approved for 835 North Central Avenue. The parking lot of the existing building will be valued once the agreement is finalized and Deputy Mayor Bill Lyons told the council that the renovation of the building there by Blueprint Group LLC could lead to 350 new jobs. The in lieu of taxes is a 15-year agreement. Councilwoman Lauren Rider said the structure there is the largest available building in the area and will become a corporate headquarters.

In separate action, as the city's beer board, approval was given to various UT locations and events for

the sale of beer with several stipulations. Signage will be required, no one may purchase no more than two beers at a time, staff will make sure no beer leaves the event, designated drivers will not be allowed to purchase beer and vendors or UT employees will be given intoxication training. That vote was 8-1.

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Minor changes made to commission meeting rules

By Mike Steely
 steelym@knoxfocus.com

The old joke asks, "What should a preacher preach about?"

If the Knox County Commission gives the punch line, it'd be, "Three minutes."

(The actual joke's answer is "about fifteen minutes.")

All joking aside, the Knox County Commission is changing a few procedural rules regarding their regular and work session meetings and one of those has to do with the

length of the devotional. As amended the rule change states: "Devotionals, whether delivered by a Commissioner or his/her designee, shall be limited to three minutes in length."

Occasionally a pastor or other person designated to deliver the message takes much more than three minutes. Devotionals are not always prayers; some are simply inspirational or a statement of belief.

Commissioner Brad Anders suggested that the devotional should at least be the same length

as public forum speakers who are permitted to address the commission for five minutes during the Rules Committee meeting last week.

Other changes to the commission's meeting rules include moving the Amendments in the agenda to earlier in the meeting after the Public Forum. During a regular full commission meeting the Public Forum is held near the beginning and again at the end of the agenda. The public may also be heard

Continue on page 4



PHOTO BY MIKE STEELY.

Knox County Commissioners Larsen Jay and Brad Anders had some disagreements on rule changes for the procedures of that body during a Rules Committee meeting last week.

HonorAir Sponsors Flight to Honor Women Veterans

HonorAir Knoxville announced the April 2020 flight will honor East Tennessee women veterans giving them an opportunity to see the Women in Military Service for America Memorial in Washington DC built to honor their service. The Women's Memorial is the only major national memorial honoring all women who have defended America throughout history.

According to Eddie Mannis, Chairman of HonorAir, "This will be our 30th flight. I wanted to focus on women veterans as 2020 marks the 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment that guaranteed and protected women's constitutional rights and gave them the right to vote." The flight will also honor Avonia B. Thress of Hamblen County whose estate made a significant contribution to HonorAir.

Women have always been a part of the military since the Revolutionary War. A prohibition on women serving in combat was in effect during the Vietnam War and beyond. It was not until 2015 that all combat positions were open to them. Consequently, the flight is open to women veterans with priority given to those serving their country through 1992.

The flight is free of charge and includes a roundtrip flight to Washington DC on American Airlines, a bus tour of the military memorials, meals and snacks. Interested veterans can go to honorairknoxville.com and download, complete and return the specific April 2020 application. Veterans can also call Jim Cundall at 865-719-8868 for more information.

Morning Pointe Veterans Selected for HonorAir Knoxville Virtual Flight

Morning Pointe of Knoxville residents Bob Chadwick, Jean Carson, and Charles Dempsey (left to right, first row) and Norman Watson, John Huff, and Jim Thompson (left to right, second row) take a minute to remember their fallen comrades during HonorAir Knoxville's virtual flight.

Founded by local business owner Eddie Mannis, HonorAir Knoxville provides free flights to Washington, D.C. for World War II, Korean War, and Vietnam War veterans in East Tennessee and "virtual flights" for veterans who are unable to participate in the standard flight due to health or other concerns. Chadwick, Carson, Dempsey, Watson, Huff, and Thompson are all World War II veterans, who, thanks to HonorAir Knoxville, were able to see the World War II monument with their own eyes.

"We are so grateful to HonorAir Knoxville for selecting Morning Pointe residents to participate in this prestigious event," says Pat Anderson, the life enrichment director at the assisted living community. "Our veterans have done a tremendous service for this country, protecting our freedom, and they deserve our utmost gratitude."



Prisoner monitoring, grants and funding on county agenda

By Mike Steely
 steelym@knoxfocus.com

More than 900 Knox County prisoners are currently wearing monitoring devices while on release pending trials or sentencing according to Sheriff Tom Spangler. He spoke before the Knox County Commission's work session last week and requested \$80,000 to make up for monitoring funds no longer available from the former state-supported program.

Spangler said that the number of people being electronically monitored has increased from about 800 last month to over 900 this month. The approval to make up the funding passed

during the work session and will appear on the commission agenda again today when the commission meets in regular session at 5 p.m.

The sheriff and commission received some sharp words from three citizens who spoke in public forum about the number of Hispanic children who have died in U.S. custody. Noah Nordstrom of Jefferson Avenue attacked the sheriff's participation in the "287(G)" program permitting deputies to arrest and hold illegal aliens for ICE officials. The public forum session at the beginning of the meeting ended with Nordstrom shouting at the commission for not

replying to his plea and the three being escorted out of the main assembly room by police.

An agreement between Knox County's Board of Education, the Knoxville Police Department and the Knox County Sheriff's Office was approved addressing the roles and responsibilities of all three entities involving law enforcement at Knox County Schools.

The commission also voted approval to pass along several funding programs to their meeting tonight including \$180,000 in block grant money that includes the Breakthrough Corporation, Helen Ross McNabb Center, the Public Defender's

Office, Academy of Medicine Foundation, HomeSource of East Tennessee, The Urban League, Volunteer Ministry Center and Neighborhood Housing.

Also approved were defined service contracts with the Arts and Cultural Alliance, Beck Cultural Center, CASA of East Tennessee, Catholic Charities, ChildHelp Tennessee, Helen Ross McNabb's Shelter Services and Victim Services, Innovation Valley, Interfaith Health Clinic, Knoxville Chamber, Legacy Parks, Zoo Knoxville, Volunteer Emergency Rescue Squad and the Development Corporation.

Finance Director Chris Caldwell

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Night Swimming

The last few weeks have been scorchers. They came after weeks of rain and soggy ground. I like the heat, but sometimes, the temperatures feel as if they'll melt me. In the evenings, just the thought of a dip in the pool is enough to cool me off. It's the perfect thing to do at the end of a day.

Kids on vacations always love to swim at night. Before the Interstate opened up traffic to traveling speeds of 80-plus miles per hour, folks traveled state highways that wound through towns and the countryside.



By Joe Rector
joerector@comcast.net

Air conditioning wasn't a standard feature in those old cars; instead we used the 4-40 system: 4 windows down as the car traveled 40 mph. The entire family sweated and, kids' legs stuck to the clear plastic that covered the seats.

Long trips required overnight stays at travel lodges or motor lodges. Families piled out of cars and ran to their rooms. Shortly, they exited in bathing suits and made a B-line to the pool. Night had come, the lights around the pool were burning brightly, and bugs were

attacking the bulbs and human flesh.

Children jumped into the water with squeals of delight and sighs of relief. Dads might hop in as well, but only under the pretense of keeping the children safe. More than once, parents shushed the children as they got too loud, and before long, the groups walked back to rooms. Parents smiled with the knowledge that pool time would sap little one's energy enough to make them fall asleep quickly.

When we were young, vacations consisted of a week's stay at King's Cottages, located on the other side of the road from the Greenbrier entrance to

the Smoky Mountain Park. For the next seven days, we lived in the water. Days started with breakfast, and then we walked to the swimming hole. For the next few hours, we swam under water, dove from the large rock on the other bank, and skimmed rocks on the water's surface. After lunch the bunch of kids walked to different areas and rode the rapids back down to the cabin. Instead of inner-tubes, we wore cut-off jeans and old canvas tennis shoes. Our backsides were sometimes bruised and sore, but the fun of scooting down the white water was worth it.

At night, we returned to the river. The cooling temperatures of the evening

made the water feel warmer, and we swam by the light of the moon before walking back home carefully so as not to stub toes on rocks. We rarely moved in our sleep because the sun and water had wrung out every ounce of energy.

These days, Amy and I spend as much time as possible by the pool every day. If the day demands too much of our attention, we know that the evening will allow time for swimming. I don't enter the water as quickly as I used to do, but I still take a modified "Rector plunge." My interests are no longer in diving or swimming. Instead, I let go and try to become as weightless as possible. Floating

as I watch the traffic on Ball Camp Pike or watch the stars come out of hiding is the perfect end of a day. That dip in the pool is where I lose the aches and pains that this body of mine offers at the end of the day.

Whether I was in a motel pool, the river, or the pool in my back yard, one thing has remained the same: my night's sleep is always better after visiting the water. Oh, these days, I still crawl from the bed too many times during the night, but the sleep is still sweeter after the pool. I'll be there again tonight and every night until the weather turns too cold or the leaves become too plentiful to keep out of the water.

Becky's Hen House

It was her vision in retirement. Becky and Ron Calfee opened The Hen House several years ago, and it has been a vital part of Gibbs Community.



By Ralphine Major
ralphine3@yahoo.com

Sadly, Becky passed away in April after a brief battle with cancer. (See Focus columns 4-15-19, 4-22-19, and 4-29-19). It was her wish that The Hen House remain a fixture in the community.

The Calfee family has remained resilient during Becky's sickness and death, relying on their faith, family, and friends. They have been working very hard over these last few weeks to honor Becky's

wish.

Managed by Bridget Calfee, Becky's Hen House will open on Saturday, August 3, from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. It will feature antiques, home goods, and creations. Some of the homemade items include goat milk honey soap, goat milk lavender and honey soap, and goat milk lavender and lemon soap.

The store is open on Saturdays only.

Other times, shoppers may visit the online store at www.beckyshenhousecorryton.com. The Grand Opening is scheduled for September 7 from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. with free hotdogs and Snow Cone Eddie from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. Becky's Hen House is located at 7917 Emory Road, NE, Corryton, Tennessee 37721, phone 865-216-4334.

Becky would be so proud that her family is continuing



Picture of the sign for Becky's Hen House, provided by Bridget Calfee.

what she started with their mission "to provide a country home feel with unique items and gifts."

Look for the sign at the road and stop in for a fun time at Becky's Hen House! As mentioned on the website, "her hen house store is as unique as she was."

Come to the Grainger County Tomato Festival, July 26-28, Rutledge, Tennessee! "Piddle Diddle, the Widdle Penguin" authors will be there!



PHOTO BY MIKE STEELY.

Noah Nordstrom lambasted the Knox County Sheriff and County Commission during the commission workshop last week for the sheriff taking part in the ICE 287(G) program. Nordstrom and two others spoke about children who died while in ICE custody along the U.S. border. After shouting at the commissioners he and several other people were escorted from the main assembly room by police.

Prisoner monitoring, grants and funding on county agenda

Cont. from page 1

told the commission that the funding is about 1/3 of the defined services contracts issued by the county.

The commissioners also tentatively approved tax breaks for 30 acres of land at the intersection of Oak Ridge Highway and Schaad Road and properties at 835 North Central, 117 Pruett Place and 141 Pruett Place.

A utility easement for KUB including temporary construction was approved for the I.C. King Park property at 2625 Maryville Pike. The project involves water, gas and electric for the expanded park.

Three properties taken for taxes due were approved

for sale on Bluebell Lane, College Street and Landon Park Way. In a related item the commission approved a policy for real estate sales contracts for delinquent tax surplus properties sold online and at live auctions.

Today's meeting may also include further discussions on changing the procedure rules of meetings, the commission's summer retreat, a report from the Tennessee County Services Association's Transportation Committee, and a the Tristar and Smoky Mountain Classic LPGA golf tournament.

The commission may also honor the retirement of Sandra Sexton and memorialize Budd Childress.

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Walter Chandler

Pages from the Past



By Ray Hill
rayhill865@gmail.com

Walter Chandler enjoyed a long and productive political career, serving as a state legislator, congressman and mayor of Memphis. Chandler was also a highly successful attorney and was responsible for the Baker vs. Carr lawsuit that guaranteed Americans the right of one man, one vote.

A native of Jackson, Tennessee, Walter Chandler taught school and worked as a reporter for the Knoxville Sentinel before earning his law degree and moving to Memphis. Chandler was elected to the Tennessee House of Representatives in 1916 and the State Senate in 1920 and reelected in 1922.

Walter Chandler was referred to by some as "Captain", as that had been his rank while fighting in the First World War. Chandler had been part of the 114th Field Artillery unit, which had been comprised entirely of Tennesseans. That unit had been commanded by former U. S. senator Luke Lea and included future governor Gordon Browning in its ranks.

By 1928, Chandler was chosen as the president of the Tennessee Bar Association and it was also the same year he became city attorney for Memphis. Chandler, a balding man with sharp features, was also an authority on things Tennessee, as well as historical documents, rare books and stamps.

Walter Chandler remained the city attorney for Memphis until 1934; E. H. Crump had displaced the long-time congressman in 1930 when the Memphis Boss decided he would go to Congress himself. Crump was elected in 1930 and reelected in 1932.

Finding Washington, D. C. was not Shelby County, he disliked being away from his family, nor did he especially enjoy being one of 435 representatives. Crump also noted he was just not that important in the nation's Capitol, especially when compared to his friend Senator McKellar. The senator was one of the Senate's more senior Democrats, a ranking member of the powerful Appropriations Committee, and it was McKellar who mattered in Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal. It was no surprise when Crump decided he would not seek a third term in Congress in 1934.

Crump decided Walter Chandler would be the new congressman from Shelby County. It was one of E. H. Crump's better picks, as Chandler proved to be a diligent and effective congressman. Chandler enjoyed the work and was the author of the Chapter Thirteen bankruptcy law.

Congressman Chandler loyally backed President Roosevelt and the New

Deal.

Higher ambition occasionally flickered in the breast of Walter Chandler and he made a surprise announcement he would be a candidate for governor of Tennessee in 1938.

E. H. Crump had fallen out with incumbent Gordon Browning whom he had backed in 1936 and Browning was waging all out war with the Shelby County machine.

Senator McKellar had not supported Browning in 1936, correctly suspicious Browning had designs on his seat in the Senate. McKellar and Crump were gearing up to remove Browning from office by defeating him in the 1938 Democratic primary. Walter Chandler had no objection to being the instrument of Gordon Browning's political demise. Although Senator McKellar issued a perfunctory endorsement of Chandler's gubernatorial candidacy, Crump was reportedly uneasy with the notion the gubernatorial candidate would come from his domain of Memphis. Also, McKellar was thought to be lukewarm about Chandler's prospective candidacy. Almost as quickly as he announced he was running for governor, Walter Chandler declared he was withdrawing from the gubernatorial contest and seeking another term in Congress.

It was a somewhat embarrassing situation for Chandler, who had to defer to the candidacy of Prentice Cooper, a largely unknown state senator from Shelbyville. Chandler was the indirect beneficiary of Crump's falling out with Mayor Watkins Overton. The mayor had served in office for twelve years and had helped Crump stamp out the last of the political opposition inside Memphis and Shelby County when he was first elected in 1927.

Overton resigned in 1939 and the Memphis Boss ran as an "elector" for Walter Chandler, who was the personal choice of the Memphis Boss to become mayor of Memphis. Crump stood in for Chandler on the ballot in November of 1939, supposedly because President Roosevelt needed Chandler's vote in Congress for important lend-lease legislation.

Crump took the oath of office while standing on the back of a train headed for the Sugar Bowl and just as quickly resigned, allowing the City Commission to appoint Walter Chandler mayor.

Although Chandler did not view becoming mayor of Memphis as a promotion from having served in Congress, he resigned his seat in the House of Representatives and went home.

Chandler gave Memphis an able and honest administration for the next seven years and he easily won



FROM THE AUTHOR'S PERSONAL COLLECTION.

Mayor Walter Chandler (left) of Memphis with Edward Hull Crump in 1940.

election to a full term in his own right in 1943. The Nashville Tennessean amused itself by frequently promoting the notion of breaks in the ranks of the Shelby County organization. In November of 1945, the Tennessean reported there had been a "break" between Mayor Chandler and the Memphis Boss.

Chandler described the report as "absurd and wholly untrue", saying his relations with Crump and the machine were "most pleasant." The Memphis Boss was startled when asked about a break with Chandler.

"I can't believe it," Crump said. "I know there is no break of any kind."

Reports of Walter Chandler retiring from office persisted in the Tennessee press that same month and in spite of the denials issued by the mayor and Crump, there was some truth to the rumors. While some news reports stated Chandler had long wished to return to the private practice of law, the truth was Walter Chandler apparently still harbored higher political ambitions and hoped Senator Kenneth D. McKellar would retire in 1946. McKellar was Tennessee's first popularly elected United States senator and had been in office since 1917. The seventy-seven year-old McKellar showed no signs of slowing down, much less retiring. President Franklin D. Roosevelt, anticipating the post war world and the influence of K. D. McKellar in the U. S. Senate, asked E. H. Crump to visit Washington, D. C. in 1945.

The President was due to leave for his retreat in Warm Springs, Georgia soon and the topic of conversation was McKellar. President Roosevelt urged Crump to withdraw the support of the Shelby County machine from Senator McKellar should he run again in 1946. The President believed if the Shelby County organization refused to support McKellar again it would force the senator to retire. Crump, who distrusted Roosevelt and did not much like the President, told FDR McKellar would run again in 1946. Roosevelt barked if McKellar ran again, he would be defeated.

The Memphis Boss calmly told the President he was wrong; McKellar

would run again and win an unprecedented sixth term. Weeks later, Franklin Roosevelt was dead and McKellar was poised to run again in 1946. Walter Chandler wanted to run for the United States Senate as well and hoped the Memphis Boss would convince McKellar to retire gracefully.

Crump, who had no trouble telling a President of the United States, he was backing McKellar once again, had even less compunction about telling his hand-picked mayor the same thing. Chandler, a sensitive man, was so deeply hurt he abruptly resigned as mayor of Memphis, which shocked E. H. Crump.

Crump and the Shelby County machine would flounder a bit, losing the 1948 election due to the Memphis Boss' serious political miscalculations and Memphis went through a couple of mayors before Crump called Watkins Overton back into service. Overton remained mayor for four years before he, too, resigned. Frank Tobey, who some say personally betrayed Watkins Overton, was mayor until he died unexpectedly. Crump had died in October of 1954 and such was Walter Chandler's standing in Memphis that he was elected to serve as mayor in 1955 for the remaining year of Tobey's term of office. It was Walter Chandler's last elective office.

Chandler's interest in redistricting had been due to his election to Tennessee's Constitutional Convention in 1953. Chandler, along with former governors Prentice Cooper, Ben W. Hooper, and Jim Nance McCord had been elected as delegates to the Constitutional Convention. Rural interests in Tennessee had refused to redistrict according to population, meaning some districts had ten times the population of more urban districts, yet had the same representation.

Chandler joined with Hobart Atkins, a Republican state senator from Knoxville, who had long been vexed by the failure of Tennessee's legislature to legitimately redistrict. The case went all the way to the U. S. Supreme Court and the Tennessee General Assembly was placed under a federal court order

requiring it to meet the one man, one vote standard of representation.

Finally, Tennessee would redraw its congressional and legislative districts on the basis of population. The legislature was dragging its feet and asking for an extension on the order to redistrict just before Walter Chandler's death on October 2, 1967.

One of Chandler's last public statements involved the decision as to whether he would join the motion to ask the court not to grant the Tennessee legislature an extension.

Walter Chandler still retained an interest in Tennessee government and politics and he issued an endorsement that surprised some in 1966. Chandler gave his blessing to the candidacy of thirty-five year-old John Jay Hooker, who was making a surprisingly strong bid for the Democratic gubernatorial nomination against former governor Buford Ellington. Chandler disliked the "leapfrogging" between Frank Clement and Buford Ellington, which had lasted since 1953.

Walter Chandler told Hooker, "I'll do anything I can to help you get rid of 14 years of machine control in state government."

"I agree with you it's time for a change," Chandler added.

There was some irony in Chandler's denunciation of machine politics when he was entirely the political product of the Crump machine.

Quite likely, Chandler's endorsement of John Jay Hooker was motivated by his belief Ellington would do little to reapportion the legislative and congressional districts. "I believe as you do that it's time for an independent legislature, and it's time the cities of Tennessee got their fair share of the representation in the legislature and in constitutional conventions," Chandler said to Hooker. Walter Chandler likely saw Buford Ellington as yet another representative of an agrarian society that no longer existed in Tennessee.

Both Walter Chandler and former governor Gordon Browning strongly backed Hooker over Ellington. Still, the former governor managed to eke out a win inside the Democratic primary.

Despite his advancing

years, Walter Chandler still practiced law and seemed to be in good health. Shortly before his eightieth birthday, Chandler made an extensive trip that took him to New York City, Washington, D. C. and Providence, Rhode Island. Chandler was looking forward to a "huge party" that was planned to celebrate his coming birthday when he suffered a heart attack while at home. The former mayor had another attack later that day and died.

Walter Chandler did not live to see his adopted son, Wyeth, given his late wife's maiden name, elected to the Memphis City Council. Wyeth Chandler would go on to serve for ten years as mayor of Memphis before being appointed to the Circuit Court bench by then-governor Lamar Alexander.

Although he revered his late father, Wyeth Chandler was quite unlike Walter; tall, stately, with a full head of white hair, Judge Chandler had his portrait made in his judicial robes with his beloved poodle, Millie, who was resplendent with bows in her hair. Chandler was so fond of Millie, he held court while holding her in his lap.

Yet Wyeth Chandler was a man's man, who at one time bore a striking resemblance to the late movie star Tyrone Power, occasionally got drunk in redneck bars and thought little of engaging in fist fights. Judge Chandler died of a heart attack while mowing his lawn in the Memphis suburbs.

Both Walter and Wyeth Chandler would be exceptionally proud of Louise Chandler, daughter of John Wyeth Chandler, Jr., who became a lawyer and joined a Germantown law firm.

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Number of registered voters increases prior to city election

By Mike Steely
steelym@knoxfocus.com

Only one week is left to register to vote in the upcoming Knoxville City Council and Mayoral primary election and, as of last week, it appears many more people have already taken that opportunity. Thousands of people.

In the last city election that included the mayor and council there were 63,738 registered voters. The Knox County Election Commission, which administers the city election, confirms that more than 91,613 people have registered to vote in the city per last week's total. That's a huge increase in the number of possible voters. The reasons are multi-fold including registration when getting or renewing a driver's license, registering online, and the fact that candidates and other organizations are pushing for people to get involved in the election process.

Chris Davis of the

Election Commission told The Focus that much of the increase in local registration came prior to the 2016 Presidential Election but added that 4,000 new voters have also been added this year.

The city election has six candidates for mayor and 11 candidates seeking the four council seats. One of those races, At-Large Seat C, has five candidates. Obviously each candidate is outdoor canvassing neighborhoods, speaking at forums and debates, and pushing online not only to register voters but also to get their votes. The primary election is August 27.

But there's other efforts out there including the League of Women Voters, which has sponsored candidate forums and set up registration booths at various functions.

LWV's Communications Director Kathryn King told The Focus her organization partners with other organizations to register voters

and, in September 2018, LWV extended the National Voter Registration Day for an entire week and registered 4,000 new voters. Some of those voters would be county voters and some would be city voters.

With July 29th as the registration deadline a person wishing to vote in the primary and general elections can go online to <https://ovr.govote.tn.gov/> and do so. Information on registering is also available at GoVote Knoxville (www.KnoxVotes.org) and both political parties have information as well.

Surprisingly you don't have to be a resident of Knoxville to vote in the city election if you own property inside the city. There are some restrictions, like one person per property, and that information is available along with lots more local information at the Knox County Election Commission or www.knox-county.org/election. You may also call the Election

Commission Office at (865) 215-2480.

If you'd like to hear the candidates in person before you decide to register there are several events coming up.

Several candidate forums are planned, one for the six mayoral candidates this Tuesday, from 5:30 until 7 p.m., being held by the Mayor's Council on Disability Issues in the main assembly room of the City-County Building at 400 Main Street.

On Thursday there's another mayoral candidate forum at the Mount Cavalry Baptist Church, 1807 Dandridge Avenue from 6 until 8 p.m.

Beyond the registration deadline there's a mayoral debate planned for Tuesday, August 6 at 7 p.m., by the Knoxville Chamber and Jewelry Television. The television station is located at 9600 Parkside Drive in Knoxville.

Minor changes made to commission meeting rules

Cont. from page 1

Anders suggested putting a hold on some of the Jay amendments to the rules and appointing a "committee on committees" which would produce a report.

Jay suggested there are some unnecessary committees that do not meet or meet only occasionally. Commissioner Smith told Jay, "You're kind of new; these are there for a purpose."

The Rules Committee also discussed what it takes to remove a commissioner from a committee. Jay had attempted to remove Evelyn Gill from the Joint Education Committee earlier this year but failed.

Attorney David Buuck said removing someone must be for "good cause" and Jay asked that that term be defined with "bullet points." Gill responded that, in her case, there was "no due process" and that an independent, outside person should be added to the process.

Buuck suggested using the rules adopted by the Ethics Committee.

Apparently rule changes will be discussed at the regular meeting tonight and even more changes in the procedures will be made when the full commission reorganizes in August and committee appointments are made.

ALL4KNOX hosts summit on substance misuse

The 2019 Mayors' All4Knox Summit on Substance Misuse will be held 9 a.m. to noon, Friday, Aug. 2, at the University of Tennessee Student Union, 1502 Cumberland Ave., followed by a networking lunch.

The event is free, and advance registration by July 26 is requested.

Registration and more information can be found at All4Knox.org. Breakfast and check-in will be provided 7:30 a.m. to 9 a.m. the morning of the event.

Knox County Mayor Glenn Jacobs and Knoxville Mayor Madeline Rogero, along with the Knox County Health Department, Metro Drug Coalition and the Knox County District Attorney General's Office, invite community members and organizations with an interest in substance misuse, including opioids, to participate in the event.

The Mayors' All4Knox Summit is held in partnership with the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) 360 Strategy Knoxville and the University of Tennessee System.

The Summit will include remarks from Mayor Jacobs and Mayor Rogero, a presentation on "The Science of Addiction" by Dr. Stephen Loyd, the Medical Director at JourneyPure, and key data and background from local officials.

Keynote speaker Heather Starbuck of the Matt Adams Foundation

will share her journey and address issues of stigma as related to addiction. Starbuck helped create the foundation in memory of her fiancé who passed away as a result of an opioid overdose.

In October 2018, the Mayors brought together community leaders to discuss and inventory ongoing efforts related to substance misuse in the community. The event also identified gaps that need to be filled.

The Aug. 2 event follows up on the October 2018 meeting and provides the framework for developing a community-wide strategic plan.

The strategic plan will address community goals by sector, as follows: business, education, faith, family/community, government, healthcare, justice systems, non-profit/service and treatment/recovery/harm reduction. Participants may sign up for a sector when they register online or in person at the Aug. 2 event.

Free parking is available at the University of Tennessee in the G-10 parking garage, 1500 Phillip Fulmer Way, between Thompson-Boling Arena and Neyland Stadium.

As part of the partnership with All4Knox, the University of Tennessee System is coordinating the Summit for Opioid and Addiction Response (SOAR) on Aug. 1.

SOAR will bring together stakeholders of all

backgrounds and areas from across the state to talk about the opioid-driven addiction and suicide problem in Tennessee and identify solutions that can be used across the state.

Aug. 1 (day one) is hosted by the University of Tennessee System. The local Knox County-focused

All4Knox Summit will be on Aug. 2 (day two). The public is encouraged to attend both events. Both summits will complement each other but can also stand alone.

For more information and a detailed agenda, see All4Knox.org.

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FALL FOOTBALL PREVIEW YOUR GUIDE TO HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

Look for Eagles to run faster on offense and gamble on defense

By Steve Williams



GIBBS FOOTBALL 2018

PHOTO BY STEVE WILLIAMS

As the rain pours and drips off a sideline tent last Wednesday morning, Gibbs Head Coach Brad Turner comes off the field, while his players come together for a final huddle. "Not a worry about tearing up the field," said Turner of the school's new turf. "Our kids embrace it (the rain). They have fun with it. Sometimes it creates a little energy just because they are having fun. We got done what we needed to get done today."

Gibbs High football fans should notice more speed and an increase in depth at the skill positions for the Eagles in 2019.

"We do have more speed than we've had," said second-year Head Coach Brad Turner last Wednesday. "That doesn't mean we're blazers out there, but we're excited about our skill positions ... obviously, you got to block and tackle more than you do anything."

And in case you're wondering, the Eagles have not changed their offense.

"Yeah, we're (still) a triple option football team," said Turner. "As long as we can run the ball, we're going to run it."

They may just run it a little faster this season.

Running back Clytavious Barnes, Freshman of the Year in Region 2-5A last fall, joins senior fullback Ethan Humphries in the backfield for an interesting 1-2 punch.

"Ethan has gotten faster, bigger and stronger over the winter," said Turner. "He's a 4.0 kid and loves football."

Gibbs currently has a three-way battle going on at quarterback between Troy Davis, Bryson Shown and

Colton Qualls. Davis returns with the most experience. Despite how it shakes out, Coach Turner says all three will play somewhere.

Other leaders on offense include senior right guard

Nick Odeneal and senior wide receiver Jonathan Pursiful.

"Jonathan is a leader and tough guy who works hard," said Turner.

While Tyler Kitts is the

offensive coordinator, Turner is in charge of the defense. Now in his 12th season overall at Gibbs, Turner had been defensive coordinator before being elevated to the head post.

He says the Eagles' 4-2-5 defense will be a "high risk / high reward" unit. "We're going to take some chances. We're going to be aggressive and try and put pressure on people."

It should be a defense that's exciting to watch.

"The kids love it," said Turner. "Not as much thinking - just going after it."

Garrison Albino returns at defensive tackle as a three-year starter. Luke Warwick is a linebacker and "coach on the field," says Turner. Defensive end Justin Summers was an All-Stater last year.

Qualls also will play in the secondary. George Gillman is one of three All-State wrestlers on the team and one of the safetymen.

John Aiden Pittman is another All-State wrestler who will handle all of the team's kicking and punting duties and also help out defensively.

Gibbs finished 6-5 overall last year after starting 0-3 and lost at Daniel Boone in the first round of the playoffs.

"It was an OK season but not where we want to be," said Turner.

The Eagles' 2019 opener will be Aug. 23 at home against rival Halls. One addition to Gibbs' schedule this year will be a trip to Rhea County.

"Every game on our schedule is a tough game," said Turner.

Area high school tennis players receive all-state honors

By Ken Lay

There are sports dynasties and then there's Webb School of Knoxville tennis.

The Lady Spartans recently won their 10th consecutive Division II-A State Team Championship while the boys won their eighth state title in the last decade in 2019.

The Lady Spartans also had an individual state champion in Audrey Yoon and a champion doubles tandem in Caroline Ross and Carina Dagotto.

Webb's girls doubles team of Delaney Booth and Lili Roth came in second after losing the state title match to their teammates.

For the boys, the doubles team of Harrison Williams and Ben Aiken claimed the doubles championship and Ohm Sharma reached the state tournament.

Ross/Dagotto and Booth/Roth were named to the Tennessee Sports Writers Association's Division II-A All-State Doubles Team. Williams and

Aiken also received all-state honors along with Christian Academy of Knoxville's Davis Brady and Cole McDaniel, who finished second in the doubles tournament.

Yoon and Sharma also received all-state honors.

In the Division I Large Schools Division: Catholic High School's

Davis Clem was named to the all-state boys team.

In Division I Small Schools

Division: L&N STEM Academy's Evan Carr was named to the all-state team along with the Gryphons' doubles tandem of Walker Lee and Campbell Maben.

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FALL FOOTBALL PREVIEWS

YOUR GUIDE TO HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

Austin-East's Hurdle in 2019 – Who Else? Alcoa

By Bill Howard

By any metric, Austin-East High School's football team has had a good four-year run. In that time, the Roadrunners have won 40 games, a 10-game average that many coaches would eagerly accept.

There's one slight problem: A-E is in the same region (2-3A) with state-power Alcoa. That's the Alcoa team that has won a state championship a ridiculous 12 times in the last 15 years.

"Our expectation is to continue to compete in our region," said Roadrunners' head coach Jeff Phillips. "We hope to be playing in the state championship game. Beating Alcoa and winning a title....we have a lot of work to do."

A-E's turnaround, according to Phillips, is due to various factors. "Consistency with the coaches," he said. "One of the big things is we've been able to really hone in and teach the concepts. And we're not losing as many kids as we were to transfers."

When A-E has the ball this year, scoring shouldn't be a problem. The Roadrunners averaged 31 points a game last year in the regular season (more if the playoffs are included), and that includes a total of eight against Alcoa and Fulton.

Trey Foster, a dual-threat second-year starter converted from running back, will lead the offensive attack. In 2018, Foster threw for over 1800 yards and ran for over 1000.

Phillips is confident in his senior leader.

"Trey's a hard worker," said Phillips, who's entering his seventh season at A-E's helm. "He's really matured in understanding defenses and understanding what teams are trying to do to him."

Senior Isahia Ligon, (5-9, 185) will carry the load at running back. The four-year starter also plays safety on defense and catches passes out of the backfield. Backing up Ligon in the backfield will be senior Ahmad Warren, who also starts at linebacker.

"Last year Trey got a thousand rushing," said Phillips. "Isahia got a thousand multi-purpose. This year he's gonna try to get a thousand on the ground."

Anchoring the O-line for A-E will be senior left tackle Kalen Jones (6-4, 280) and junior center Jeban Batey (6-0, 235).

"They have gotten stronger, and they have improved," said Phillips about his offensive line-men.

Phillips's approach to the offense goes by the acronym "wit": whatever it takes. "Whether we're a spread, power-I, wing-T... that's just really kind of how we are," he said.

Phillips's confidence in the offense is tempered by his concerns on the other side of the ball. The defense returns only three starters.

"Our defensive line will be very young," he said. "We're still trying to find

AUSTIN-EAST FOOTBALL 2019

who's gonna be an anchor there. It's gonna be a new line and a very inexperienced line. There'll be a lot of guys trying to win some spots."

One starter on the D-line will be senior defensive end Jerret Kyle (6-1, 215). Senior Amari Adams (6-1, 190) and junior Tayon Wright (6-2, 180) will join Warren in the linebacking corps.

Junior safety Keon Smith (5-10, 175) will help Ligon in defending the pass.

The kicking game? Forget it. Phillips decided last year that every kickoff will be an onside, and the team will go for a two-point conversion attempt after every

touchdown. "We recovered 35 percent of our onside kicks and 52 percent of our two-points," he said. "So they didn't hurt us."

The Roadrunners' 9-4 record last year ended with a 24-6 third-round playoff loss to.....Alcoa.

Phillips knows that the Tornadoes will likely again be their measuring stick.

"It's Alcoa and then us," he said. "I think that's the way it is in the whole state of 3A. I believe if we were in the west, we would play Alcoa for a state championship. But we're in the east, and I think it's us and Alcoa. We're trying to get there."

Catholic's division change means new challenges

By Alex Norman

Times have changed in high school football across the state, and those changes certainly can be felt at Knoxville Catholic High School. This year, the Fighting Irish join private school programs across the state in the move from Division I to Division II. Knoxville Catholic will play this season in Division II-AAA, which means matchups against traditional powerhouses like Brentwood Academy.

"It'll be a challenge but when you are a competitor, you want to play at the top level against the best," said Knoxville Catholic head coach Steve Matthews. "As a program we are excited about the opportunity. We know it will be tough, but we are looking forward to it."

"Higher competition. It'll bring out the best in us, I'm pretty sure," said Knoxville Catholic offensive lineman Cooper Mays. "I'm happy about the challenge. It's the best football in all of Tennessee. We are all happy about it here at Catholic."

Cooper is one of a handful of Fighting Irish players that will take their talents to the college game a year from now. He recently verbally committed to Tennessee. Earlier this year, fellow offensive lineman Bryn Tucker verbally committed to defending national champion Clemson. Like those two, strong-side defensive end recruit Tyler Baron is ranked in the top ten players in the state by 247Sports. Baron, who transferred to Knoxville Catholic from Ensworth, has yet to make his college decision known. Baron's father is Patrick Abernathy, who holds the title of Player Development with Tennessee's football program.

Each of those Knoxville Catholic student-athletes is a four-star recruit.

KNOXVILLE CATHOLIC FOOTBALL 2019

"We have some very good players," said Matthews. "It's just one of those deals, they come in cycles. But it shows that we are developing our players. The colleges know that when they come here, the players know how to act and their academics are in order. I'm proud of those guys and proud of their achievements."

In addition, three-star wide receiver prospect Chancellor Bright has verbally committed to Marshall. Inside linebacker Cody Duncan will also likely find himself on a college roster next season.

In terms of the skill positions heading into the 2019 season, dual threat quarterback Jack Jancek is the returning starter from a year ago. He will be pushed in Fall camp by Kaden Martin and Caden Buckles.

Knoxville Catholic welcomes back leading rusher Keondre' Jarmon, as well as top receiver Tommy Winton. Both are only going into their sophomore seasons, but that hasn't stopped colleges from already looking their way. In fact, Winton has an offer from Tennessee in the Class of 2022.

"We feel really good about our skill positions in the future and hope to continue developing lineman," said Matthews.

Offensively the Fighting Irish bring back up to nine starters from a year ago, including all five offensive linemen. Defensively, they return seven starters.

Knoxville Catholic opens the 2019 season at home on Friday, August 23 against Chuckey-Doak.

Young battle-tested Warriors have high expectations despite lack of depth

By Ken Lay

As Travis Mozingo prepares to begin his fourth season as Christian Academy of Knoxville's football coach, he will have a young team.

But the Warriors, suffered through some adversity in 2018 and a rash of injuries forced some young players into action as CAK played one of the area's toughest schedules that included Bearden, Greenback and Christ School, a top team from North Carolina.

"Depth is going to be a concern for us because it always is," said Mozingo, who guided the Warriors to a 4-7 record last season. "But these kids have a great work ethic and a great attitude and they really care about each other."

"Last year, we had so many injuries and we had guys playing out of position. Those guys were willing to do what was best for the team. They made a personal sacrifice and gave up playing positions that they wanted to play to do what was best for the team."

Mozingo noted that while the schedule remains difficult for the Warriors in 2019, CAK still can't afford

CHRISTIAN ACADEMY FOOTBALL 2019

to look past an opponent or take anything for granted.

"Our schedule is a little more favorable this year because we don't have Greenback and we don't have that game against Bearden anymore. They were a rival and they were kind of like a big brother for us."

CAK plays in an ultra-competitive region. Division II-AA features several teams with winning football traditions including the Warriors (who won consecutive Division I Class 3A State Championships in 2011 and 2012). Webb School of Knoxville, CAK's Cedar Bluff rival has won 10 state championships and Grace Christian Academy, now coached by former Warriors' coach Rusty Bradley, also has a solid program.

The region also features Silverdale Academy, Chattanooga Christian (which won the region championship last season), Notre Dame and Boyd Buchanan.

Mozingo said that CAK must play well if it wants to make the playoffs and continue its long streak of postseason appearances.

"Our guys are going to have to execute if we want to play past Week 11," Mozingo said. "Last year, we probably played more freshmen than we have with any team I've coached. If you look in our class column, you see a lot of 10's and 11's. You don't see a lot of 12's. We only have about 11 or 12 seniors."

"We're young and the bulk of our team is sophomores and juniors but they got a lot of playing time last year. It's tough when you go through the things that we did last year. But we have high expectations. You don't do this if you don't have high expectations and you try to really help these kids do the best they can to reach their potential. That's why you have the title of coach by your name."

Key players for the Warriors include: Ryan Degges (junior, wide receiver/defensive back); Jarvis Stockton Jr. (sophomore, running back/defensive back); Zander Tonkin (senior, kicker); Denzel Jackson (sophomore, running back/defensive back); Colten Gaines (sophomore,

Continued on page 4

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HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS NOTEBOOK

Volunteers work to get Inskip Field ready for fall softball

By Steve Williams

Central High softball coach James Swaney and a team of volunteers have been working to get the Inskip ball field in shape for Gresham Middle School's softball team to use this fall season.

Swaney and his wife Patricia, along with other coaches, parents and players, and friends first spent three hours recently removing rocks from what used to be the Little League baseball field at Inskip so the Gresham team could begin practice.

After that, they removed rotten wood from the bleachers and replaced it with new wood, so fans will be able to have a safe place to sit when games get underway early in August.

Gresham, which is a feeder program for Central, will be joined in the fall league by middle school teams from Anderson County, CAK, Campbell County, Carter, Clinton, Gibbs, Hardin Valley, Karns, Oak Ridge, Powell, Seymour, South-Doyle and others.

Each school will be hosting their own home games and Gresham will be playing its games at Inskip.

Gresham is scheduled to play its first game at Carter Aug. 5 and its first home game on Aug. 7 at Inskip, starting at 6 p.m.

KNOXVILLE CLASSIC: Catholic took top honors in the Knoxville 7-on-7 Classic last week at Powell High, defeating South-Doyle in



PHOTO BY STEVE WILLIAMS

Volunteers repaired the bleachers and added new wood at Inskip ball field, where Gresham Middle School will play its fall softball games starting in early August.

the championship game 14-3.

Catholic Coach Steve Matthews said Tommy Winton, Jack Jancek, Caden Buckles and Taylor Shannon all had "excellent days" in the tournament that included eight teams.

LOGAN DALTON: Powell High's head baseball coach the past two seasons is moving into the college ranks at Campbellsville, Ky., a NAIA member.

Dalton, who has been hired as the Tigers' recruiting coordinator and assistant coach, led the Panthers to the Region 2-AAA semifinals each of his two seasons at Powell and a District 3-AAA crown and 14-0 district record this past spring.

SOFTBALL CHANGE: Marc Weekly has resigned as head coach at The King's Academy and replaced by Dayna Carter, a former head coach at Seymour High and CAK. Weekly guided the Lady Lions to their third Division II-A state title in four years this past spring.

JOSH SOBOTA: The former Bearden High graduate was slated to represent the United States in this past weekend's U20 Pan American Games in Costa Rica, competing in the shot put and discus events, according to Jack Tate, BHS Sports Information Director.

Josh was a four-time state champion at Bearden and is now a member of the track and field team at the

University of Kentucky.

ATHLETES HONORED: The Greater Knoxville Sports Hall of Fame proudly announces the High School Athletes of the Year honorees for 2019. They will be recognized at the Hall of Fame ceremonies Thursday night at the Knoxville Convention Center.

Female Athletes of the Year: Brittany Bishop, Anderson County (Track); Casey Collier, Webb School (Basketball); Jada Guinn, Oak Ridge (Basketball).

Male Athletes of the Year: Stanton Martin, Anderson County (Football); Jake Renfree, Knoxville Catholic (Cross Country and Track & Field); Deshawn Page, Fulton (Football & Basketball).



Coach and players from The King's Academy football team participate in an interview at the KFOA High School Media Day July 12 at the Three Ridges Golf Course pavilion. Representatives from 33 area teams attended the 13th annual event.

State sportswriters honor top track and field athletes

By Ken Lay

The 2019 high school track and field season was a banner campaign for area athletes and several were recently honored by the Tennessee Sports Writers Association.

The TSWA named its all-state teams recently and Webb School of Knoxville and Christian Academy each had athletes named to the Division II-A All-State Team in multiple events.

CAK rising sophomore Ariya Rice was an all-state selection in the high jump and the 400-meter run. Rice is also a top player for the Lady Warriors softball team.

Also for CAK, McKinley Blackburn was all-state in the pentathlon and the

300-meter hurdles.

Webb distance specialist Niki Narayani closed out her high school career in May and she was named to the all-state team in the 800-meter run, 1600-meter run and 3200-meter run. Lindsay Holiday was also all-state in the 1600 and Taylor Cosey was all-state in the 3200. CAK's Olivia Rodgers was named to the all-state team in the 800.

Webb's Kai Lanier was all-state in the in the pentathlon, 300-meter hurdles and 110-meter high hurdles.

Webb's Jasmine Jefferson was all-state in the 100, 200 and 400 respectively.

Stephani Franks of the Lady Spartans was an all-state selection in the pole vault.

CAK's Maya Weaver was all-state in the triple jump and Grace Christian Academy's Savannah Lee received all-state honors in the high jump.

In the Division I Large Schools Class: Halls High's Kendall Medders was all-state in the high jump while Catholic High's Eleanor Mancini claimed all-state honors in the 800-meter run.

In the Division I Small Schools Class: Austin-East's Blake Blakemore was named all-state in the 200-meter dash.

Meanwhile, several boys were also honored by the TSWA.

In the Large Schools Division: South-Doyle's Elijah Young was named all-state in both the 100 and 200. Young, who will be a senior this year, is also a football star for the

Cherokees. He recently made a verbal commitment to play Southeastern Conference football for the Missouri Tigers.

Catholic's Jake Renfree, a Notre Dame signee, was named all-state in both the 800 and 1600-meter runs. Hardin Valley Academy's Miguel Parrilla was also named all-state in the 800.

West High's Shea DeGraaf received all-state honors in the pole vault.

In the Division I Small Schools Class: L&N STEM Academy's Evan Carr was all-state in the 3200-meter run. He was also an all-state tennis player for the Gryphons. Seth Jinks (1600) and Jackson Sparks (800) also received all-state honors for L&N STEM Academy.

Austin-East's Kiyontae

Warren was named all-state in the 300-meter hurdles.

In Division II-A: CAK's Luke Etherton received all-state honors in four events including the decathlon, the 400-meter run, the pole vault and the discus.

Gabel Fulford was named all-state in 110-hurdles, the 300-hurdles and the 200.

Grace Christian Academy's Jackson Bostick was all-state in the 300-hurdles. Benji Bash of the Rams was all-state in the high jump.

The Warriors' Josh Whitaker also made the all-state team in the pole vault and Concord Christian School's Nikolaj Murasov received statewide recognition in the 800.

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Knoxville accountant pedals her way to national recognition

By Steve Williams

Cycling has taken Kaysee Armstrong to India, Chile, Canada and Africa and her climb as a mountain bike racer has been like a dream come true.

The No. 1 ranked female stage racer in the United States in 2018, who also is a local accountant and South Knoxville resident, will be honored as the Chad Pennington Professional Athlete of the Year at the Greater Knoxville Sports Hall of Fame ceremonies Thursday night at the Knoxville Convention Center.

A major victory in 2018 for Armstrong came in the Trans Andes Challenge through the mountains of Chile. The five-day stage race covered 186 miles including more than 5.6 miles of pedaling uphill.

Coming back from a broken hand injury and her first race in over two months, the Liv athlete finished first in the Pro Women Solo in every stage and accumulated nearly an hour lead by the final stage.

"This year my team made me venture out from the stage racing to do other styles of racing on the calendar," pointed out Armstrong recently. "Next year we are going back to focusing on the Stage Racing calendar."

Kaysee has always been a competitor, starting on the family farm in East Tennessee. She remembers being outside on summer evenings, chasing lightning



Kaysee Armstrong, wearing her Liv pro mountain bike racing uniform, was asked: 'What would you tell a young kid who wants to do what you do?' 'Keep it fun, never say no to opportunities even when they seem scary!' answered Armstrong.

Kaysee Armstrong races on a mountain trail in the Absa Cape Epic in South Africa. The local accountant and South Knoxville resident will be recognized as the Chad Pennington Professional Athlete of the Year Thursday night at the Knoxville Convention Center. Pennington is a former longtime NFL quarterback who played high school ball at Webb School.

mountain, broke through the clouds, and then came out on one of the most spectacular views ever," she recalled. "There were multiple volcanoes in view in the distance, and the landscape looked more like you were in Iceland than Chile with all the green covering the ground and waterfalls everywhere.

"Then we dropped into an Aspen tree line with a trail that felt fluffy beneath my tires from all the pine needle and gave me the sense that if fairies existed they would live here."

Armstrong trains over 30 hours a week, counting cycling, time in the gym and stretching.

She also helps coach the Tennessee Bears, a NICA (National Interscholastic Cycling Association) team in Knoxville that has close to 100 youngsters from 9 to 18 years old.

One of her first pupils, Hunter Connell, just graduated from high school and received a cycling scholarship from Milligan College.

"I feel pretty proud of being a part of that!" she said.

bugs and fighting with her twin brother.

"I didn't know boys thought they were supposed to win back then," she says. "I was always looking for a challenge and was a tumbler and competitive cheerleader in school."

The Morristown East High graduate discovered her love for cycling late in college.

"While I was getting my masters in accounting at King University," she said, "I was able to race with the cycling team and win several national championships. I settled on cross country mountain biking after flirting with several other disciplines. It appeals to my rough and tumble side. It

rewards hard work but is often unpredictable and always exciting.

"It's a life dream to be able to race as a pro for Liv bikes and has allowed me to travel the world and become friends with like-minded people."

Kaysee, 29, has encountered many interesting sights and sounds along the racing trail.

"This is what drives me to be a professional athlete in cycling," she admits. "I get to travel around the world inspiring others and going to places that others will never get to go to. In mountain biking, you don't just take a road that almost anyone can drive up, you get to go in the belly of the

mountain, up trails that most wouldn't hike up, see people that have never seen a bike race before or maybe even a bike."

In India, Armstrong remembers encountering hundreds of people in the middle of nowhere – kids handing out high fives with shock on their faces from seeing a bike race in the middle of the day during a break from school and yelling 'Hi!'

India also was a "special race" for Armstrong as she was the first woman to ever compete and complete the stage race.

"Men didn't believe a woman was that strong, but by the end of the week minds were changed," she

said. "There were multiple times I battled the stares of confusion and disgust from men, but then there were a lot of times I would see women and girls sharing encouragement to me."

"One time before the race, when we were doing photos with fans, a mom asked if I would take a photo with her and her daughter. Then as we posed for the photo she said, 'This is women power!' Moments like that will always outweigh top steps in my opinion and still give me chill bumps to this day."

In Chile, Kaysee experienced one of her most favorite days ever on a bike.

"We spent over 30 miles climbing to the top of a

TSWA honors area wrestlers

By Ken Lay

Gibbs High School had seven wrestlers named to the Tennessee Sports Writers Association's All-State Wrestling Teams recently.

The state's sportswriters honored the sport's top high school athletes earlier this month.

Six Eagles grapplers were named to the Class A/AA squad last week.

They included: Josh Pittman (126 pounds); George Gillman (138); Isaiah Brooks (170); Michael Myers (195); Joel Griffin (220) and Garrison Albino (285).

Gibb's High's Kaylee Hayes, who

competes in the 125-pound weight class, was the lone area girl to receive all-state honors.

Fulton's Elijah Davis (160) and Josh Gardner (170) made the team.

In Class AAA: Bearden's Matheson Meade (145 pounds) and Hardin Valley Academy's Josh Pietarlia received all-state honors.

In Division II: Christian Academy of Knoxville had a pair of selections in Keyveon Roller (106 pounds) and Gavin Cagle (160) were named to the squad along with Webb School of Knoxville's 145-pounder Zack Tieng.

Young battle-tested Warriors have high expectations

Cont. from page 2

quarterback/defensive back); Walker Strange (sophomore, quarterback/linebacker); Gabel Fulford (senior, wide receiver/defensive back); Max Smith (senior, wide receiver/defensive back); J.D. Presley (junior, wide

receiver/defensive back); Caleb Sparkman (wide receiver/defensive back); Grant Sterchi (sophomore, wide receiver/defensive back); Jaqueze Turman (sophomore, offensive lineman/defensive lineman); Malachi Harrison (sophomore, offensive lineman/defensive

lineman); Cole Howell (senior, offensive lineman/defensive lineman) and Noah Olsen (junior, tight end/defensive end).

The Warriors open their 2019 campaign at home against Volunteer on Friday, Aug. 23.

Kickoff is scheduled for 7:30 p.m.



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The Doctor is in

a weekly column by
Dr. Jim Ferguson

Terminated

"Dr. Ferguson you were terminated in December 2018." I was informed of my "status" while trying to refill a patient's medication with a mail order pharmaceutical company. I asked the lady how I could be terminated from an organization I had never joined. She had no answer and referred me to her supervisor. After holding for twenty-seven minutes, I asked for a return phone call, but I never received one.

I'm sure many of you have experienced similar interactions with any number of bureaucracies such as the cable company. Some years ago a patient remarked that I looked ill. I told her I had a bad cold and she credulously said, "I didn't think doctors got sick." I assured her I bleed just like everyone, and I assure you that I struggle against mindless bureaucracies just as you do.

Termination has happened to me over and over

since I left traditional medicine in 2014 and started my concierge practice. By necessity my practice is "off the grid" because Medicare does not allow doctors they cannot control to participate.

I lost a patient about six months ago because she did not receive her lab results. Weeks before I had given her orders for lab work and asked her to notify me when she went to the outpatient hospital lab. She did not notify me and when I investigated the situation, I discovered that the hospital had relabeled me as "unknown physician," though I had used that hospital's system for twenty-five years. Worse than that, the tests were done, but never reported to the "unknown doctor." Thankfully, the patient's tests were normal. It took me five calls and six weeks to get the errors out of the hospital's computer system and reverse my

"termination."

I've practiced and taught medicine for forty-five years. And I still regularly encounter caring physicians, nurses and support personnel, but the computerization and compartmentalization of medicine are making things more impersonal and problematic.

Doctors used to know their patients, their conditions and family situations, and when they met their patients in the emergency room, they participated in care decisions. Last year one of my patients was being treated in an emergency room. When I spoke with the ER physician and gave "additional" medical and social information, he commented that such nuanced patient information was unusual and "refreshing." And now, strangers (hospital doctors) are given the responsibility of caring for patients, often without complete medical records or additional family and social information. It was hoped that electronic medical records (EMR) would fill informational gaps, but these expensive systems have only burdened doctors and made care more compartmentalized. ER doctors are now often accompanied by scribes whose responsibility is to take notes and complete the complicated computer record. I once lamented, "There's no

keystroke for caring," and I still believe this is true.

Is there a difference between termination and being deemed obsolete and replaced? I remember watching a Twilight Zone episode as a kid and learning the word "obsolete" chanted by an unfriendly mob. Will Christianity, patriotism or American ideals like freedom of speech and assembly soon be deemed obsolete, by the politically correct mob, and be terminated? It has already happened on college campuses where words cause such anxiety among snowflakes that safe zones and counseling centers are needed to shore up the psychologically effete. And will the ideals of western civilization be deemed obsolete and terminated with a "pink slip" from Omar and the Squad?

The latest and perhaps the most inane brouhaha arose last week when the crowd at a Trump rally began chanting for Omar to return to her country of origin. Perish the thought that someone who doesn't like our country would want to stay here. After all, how many Holly-weird's have said if such and such happens they would leave America and go to Canada? I have yet to see a mass exodus. As a knee jerk reaction, I would rather see this unhappy individual go somewhere else than try

to ruin the country that has befriended her and given her so much.

Folks, at the risk of being contentious, it is time to stand up for our country, the Constitution, the rule of law and oppose the radical leftist-progressive-socialist policies now embraced by the New Democrat Party. This current mob is not the Democrat Party of FDR and John Kennedy. And by the way, it is not the Democratic Party. Bernie Sanders should know this after his run against Hillary Clinton. However, the old socialist/Marxist is all in with the rest of the twenty Democrat presidential candidates who espouse Medicare for everyone, health-care for illegal aliens paid for by raising the taxes of citizens, reparations, and a \$100 billion housing gift to people with brown skin. Someone with courage should ask Kamala Harris how her proposal is not racist.

Terminations occur all the time and everywhere including foreign policy where the odious Iran nuclear deal got Trump's pink slip and the destructive NAFTA treaty is on the way out the door. Termination of residence in the US for illegal aliens is occurring after claims of asylum have been adjudicated. Freedom is terminated when laws are broken, except perhaps inside the Washington DC

belway.

And last but not least is perhaps the most fractious and contentious issue regarding termination, pregnancy. As Hillary Clinton once said, "Abortion should be "legal, safe and rare." The latter is not the case. The Democrats are for women's rights regarding decisions about abortion. Someone should speak for the nascent human life within the womb, and so I will, despite the attacks I will receive for my advocacy. You see the only way that abortion can be defended is with the dehumanization of unborn babies. Those politically incorrect words will "hurt" the ears of some who will want to terminate my freedom to speak.

I don't believe Omar and the Squad will destroy America. In fact, I want Omar, AOC and the Squad to stay and remain spokesmen of the New Democrat Party. They have pulled back the wizard's curtain to reveal the true nature of modern Democrats, often hidden from the American people.

So bring on the debate. If the American people side with the Squad, then so be it. I can accept a termination pink slip at this time in my life.

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

Judging Others

Jesus' words, "Do not judge," have been a source of contention and debate for centuries. What did Jesus mean when he uttered these words? First of all, what did ancient Jews think about "judging." Yehoshua ben Perachia was a rabbi who lived in 120 BC. He stated the following: "Judge each person with the scales weighted in their favor." This



By Mark Brackney, Minister of the Arlington Church of Christ

saying brings to mind the marketplace where a merchant would measure out grain by pouring it into a pan of a hanging scale until it swings level with the weighted side. A shopkeeper who took care of his merchants would add a little extra to the pan so it tilted in their favor. The idea in this rabbinic expression is that you should "weigh" the deeds of others on the side of generosity. We might say today, "Err on the side of generosity."

Jesus used a similar metaphor about judging. He said, "A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap.

For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you" (Luke 6:38). Jesus says that we should let our scales of justice go way past the balance point. We are to give to others more than they deserve. My mom would often use a phrase about certain relational situations that appeared on the surface to be wrong: "Let's give them the benefit of the doubt." You can either look for a good or bad motive in the behavior of others. How you choose to interpret the motive of others will affect the way you react to them. When you do your best to "judge favorably," it will make you a kinder person and your attitude will grow

more loving about the people around you.

The problem with our "scales of judgment" about situations or events is that we are often incorrect. We tend to weigh heavily toward guilt rather than innocence. This is dangerous because often we are wrong in how we size others up. Judging negatively takes the shape of being critical of others, constantly complaining, and making light of the faults of others. John Gottman, the well-known marriage counselor, identified what he has labeled the "Four Horsemen" that trot on the scene when a relationship is in trouble: defensiveness, stonewalling, criticism, and

contempt. The most dangerous of these is contempt. This toxic emotion shows itself in ridicule, mocking, insults, and name calling. Contempt is really nothing more than declaring condemnation. You have judged that someone has nothing good in them.

So, what did Jesus mean by not judging? Jesus did not teach to ignore wrongdoing, nor the apostle Paul (Matthew 18:15-17; I Cor. 5:12-13). But Jesus does warn about showing contempt to others (Matthew 5:22), which is condemnation. You can discern another's sin, but you don't have full knowledge of the person's life experiences. Only

God knows the motive of the heart. We should discern outward wrongdoing, but we are not qualified to declare condemnation; only God is qualified to do that. Paul reinforces this idea in I Cor. 4:5 as well as James: "There is only one Lawgiver and Judge, the one who is able to save and destroy. But you - who are you to judge your neighbor?" (4:12).

We judge mercifully because we know we are sinners just like everyone else around us. The only person I can really judge is my own sinful heart. If I want God to have mercy on me, I had better extend it to others.



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FOREST TREES

By Doug Anderson

The peeling bark of birch trees swinging in the breeze; vibrant scent of evergreens; misty, if you please. Moss covered rotted trunks strewn across the way; Pointy, broken branches turned a pale oyster grey.

Single strand of spider web clinging to a fallen leaf, catching foreign, straying objects like a hidden thief. Burdon bearing forked limbs never say a single word, unless those creaking windswept sounds are wordless words we've heard.

Upwards to the blue they shoot; wooded poles of beauty; bedecked in multi- colored garb; content to do their duty. At their base like clinging toes, rounded roots take hold, so this massive structure can endure the winter's cold.

It seems a shame to cut them down to use for home and heat; To lay them low, watch them fall, humbled at man's feet. I'll worry not. Content I'll be each time I tend to ponder those precious trees we love so well and often see up yonder.



Windsor Garden's residents Mildred Stooksbury, Joyce Goodson, Karen Dyer and Lettie Jo Hubbs breaking fresh, locally grown beans to enjoy this summer!!!

New Harvest Park to celebrate 2019 Corn & Tomato Day

The New Harvest Farmers' Market will celebrate 2019 Corn and Tomato Day from 3 to 6 p.m. on Thursday, July 25 at New Harvest Park with Knox County Mayor Glenn Jacobs ringing the opening bell. This free, family-friendly event will feature a kids' zone with crafts and games; youth corn eating competition (4 p.m. in the Picnic Pavilion); Cornbread Cook-off; Tomato Tasting; corn and tomato education, giveaways and more! In addition to the free programming, the New Harvest Farmers' Market also will have a wide

variety of vendors with corn and tomato products for purchase including roasted corn from Huff Farms! Other locally grown, raised and produced products such as fruits, meats, eggs, vegetables, pastries, soaps and more will also be available. "We can think of no better way to celebrate summer than by honoring two stars of the garden: corn & tomatoes," says Ellie Moore, Markets Manager with Nourish Knoxville. "It'll be such a fun day for the whole community at an amazing venue! Between the free

programming, the robust selection of vendors to shop with at the farmers' market, and the family-friendly infrastructure of New Harvest Park including the walking trails, playground, and splash pad, there is truly something for everyone!" Don't forget: Nourish Knoxville, managers of the New Harvest Farmers' Market will be providing their SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, formerly known as food stamps) doubling program, Double Up Food Bucks (DUFb), every Thursday during the farmers' market season, including during festivals! The DUFb provides SNAP customers with up to \$20 per market day in matching tokens to spend on fresh produce at participating farmers' markets. Funding for the DUFb program is provided by Truck2Table, Humana and Three Rivers Market.

Washington Pike. For more information about the festival or the farmers' market, please contact Nourish Knoxville at markets@nourishknoxville.org or (865) 805-8687, Ext. 1 or https://www.facebook.com/



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HISTORY OF CORRYTON by Joe Longmire

CONTESTS:
HOMEMADE PIE CONTEST (blue ribbon to winner)
WATERMELON EATING CONTEST (trophy to winner)

BoatRides4Vets

The 6th Annual BoatRides4Vets will take place on Saturday, August 17 (9 to 5) at the WindRiver marina on Rt. 321 just outside Lenoir City. Veterans and active military and their families will be able to enjoy a free day on nearby lakes. Tellico Village VFW post member JJ Jorgensen said veterans come from all over East Tennessee every year for this chance to enjoy the water on a hot day. Some spend all day on a boat while others enjoy the morning, the afternoon or just an hour to two. Come out and join them! For additional information, send a message to tellicovfwpost@aol.com.

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9/11 Flight 93 Memorial an emotional experience

Recently on our vacation my wife and I had a chance to visit the crash site of United Airlines Flight 93 and remember those brave souls who crashed the plane instead of letting terrorists use it for a fourth

More Than A Day Away



By Mike Steely

After making farewell cell phone calls to their families the passengers and crew fought with the terrorists until the airplane crashed head on into a former strip mine near Shanksville, Pennsylvania.

attack on our nation's capital on September 11. The National Park Service has preserved the site and constructed a museum, a wall of names, and other remembrances of the heroes that died that day.

Just 46 minutes after takeoff from the Newark Airport four terrorists took over the flight and turned it away from its destination of San Francisco back toward Washington, D. C. The passengers, using their cell phones, learned that terrorists had already crashed passenger jets into the Twin Towers of the World Trade Center in New York City and the Pentagon in Washington, D. C. They knew if they did nothing they would die as their plan crashed into the White House or some other landmark.

The families of those passengers decided to place a single large boulder in the field where the plane crashed. That boulder is still there, at the end of a mowed field and you can see it from a tall fence below the museum.

That effort by the 40 passengers and crew was beyond brave and more patriotic than most of us will ever accomplish. Some of the passengers' bodies were never recovered and exist today in that crash hole, now covered over with earth near the boulder.

The Flight 93 National Memorial, with grand walls and a museum, is well worth a visit for everyone. Information on each passenger and the four terrorists are displayed in photos and biographies. A visitor



PHOTO BY LETTIE STEELY.

The names of each of the 40 passengers and crew are on large slabs at the United Airlines Flight 93 Memorial in Pennsylvania. The Park Services operates the memorial and listing to the cell phone calls from the passengers loved ones is very emotional and uplifting.

can also listen to recordings of calls made by the passengers to their loved ones and recordings of the words of the terrorists.

In the recordings the terrorists claimed their target was the U. S. Capitol Building. Knowing of the hijacking the vice president ordered that the plane be

shot down but the passengers acted first.

You can walk the grounds of the Memorial, learn about the incident, get to know the passengers, and wonder if you would be brave enough to act as they did.

The Flight 93 National Memorial is located

at 6424 Lincoln Highway in Stoystown, PA 15563. If you are prone to emotions, or even if you're not, be prepared to cry.

When we were there, in the middle of a week, there was a crowd of people from all over the nation. There were elderly Americans there, young couples with

children, and lots of folks of all races, ages and religions. Admission is free and the rangers are helpful and courteous.

You can visit the site online or call 814-893-6322. The Park Service is building a tall tower there that would overlook the site.

Knoxville Choral Society Announces Fall Auditions

2019-2020 season openings for all voice parts

The Knoxville Choral Society is pleased to announce fall auditions for the 2019-2020 season on Mon., Aug 12 and Tues., Aug 13, 2019, beginning at 5:00 PM. Auditions will be held at Ebenezer United Methodist Church, 1001 Ebenezer Rd. in Knoxville. Openings are available in all voice parts of the 120-voice volunteer choir.

Since 1951, the Knoxville Choral Society has been honored to share a wide range of choral music with the community. Dedicated to choral performance excellence, the group consisting of over 120 auditioned musicians performs major choral and orchestral works, highlighting a variety of choral literature and styles.

During the 2018-2019 concert season, the

Knoxville Choral Society presented a Handel Masterworks concert under the direction of new artistic director John R. Orr. Additionally, the KCS performed Beethoven's 9th Symphony in collaboration with the Knoxville Symphony Orchestra and presented the first Sing! Knoxville concert at the Bijou Theatre.

The 2019-2020 season presents the Knoxville Choral Society under the continued leadership of artistic director, John R. Orr. The 2019-2020 concert season will be announced in the coming weeks.

"The Knoxville Choral Society creates an opportunity for singers to participate in the highest caliber of choral concerts in our area," says John R.

Orr, Knoxville Choral Society Artistic Director. "We are looking for artistic, creative singers who love choral music of all kinds, and who want to connect with each other in the creative expression of the choral arts."

Additional information about the 2019-2020 concert season is available at www.knoxvillechoralsociety.org.

Rehearsals take place most Monday evenings, August-May from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Auditions will include an assessment of vocal quality, sight-reading, and tonal memory drills. No prepared piece is required for the audition. For more information and to reserve an audition time, visit knoxvillechoralsociety.org/meet-the-kcs/auditions/, call 865-312-2440, or email membership@knoxvillechoralsociety.org.

Dr. John Tumblin's passing a loss for Fountain City

By Mike Steely steelym@knoxfocus.com

Fountain City and Knoxville lost a leader recently. Dr. John David Tumblin passed away on July 6th at age 88. Tumblin and his brother, Jim, were well known partners in an optometry practice housed in the historic Fountainhead Building.

A Fountain City native John Tumblin served in the U. S. Army as a 1st Lieutenant, attended UT and graduated from the South College of Optometry. During his long life Tumblin served as president of the Knoxville

Breakfast Optimist Club, president of the East Tennessee Optometric Society and president of the American Optometric Association.

Tumblin was nominated as National Optometrist of the Year in 1988 and was an active member of the Laurel Church of Christ.

He is survived by his wife, Billie Burnside Tumblin, and children, Michael David, John Mark and Leslie. He had eight grandchildren and one great-grandchild. He is also survived by his brothers, Jim and Richard Tumblin.



Dr. John Tumblin

Rather than flowers his friends were asked to make a donation to Remote Area Medical, 2200 Stock Creek Blvd, Rockford, Tn. 37853.



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HISTORY

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This building on Jackson Avenue has faded beyond its years. It says "Delicious" and apparently was a promotion for Royal Crown Cola. (Photo by Mike Steely)

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.

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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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