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## Early voting starts Wednesday

By Mike Steely  
Senior Writer  
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Seems like it has been a long political year, doesn't it? This Wednesday early voting starts in Knox County with a ballot that includes voting for the president of the United States, several federal and state legislators, a school board seat and two charter amendments.

President Donald Trump is opposed by Democrat Joseph Biden and a lengthy list of independent candidates.

The U.S. Senate race to

replace retiring Republican Lamar Alexander sees Republican Bill Hagerty facing Democrat Marquita Bradshaw, along with a long list of independent candidates.

As a Knox County voter you'll also find the ballot includes Tennessee state legislative races, and, for some, the election to replace Terry Hill on the Knox County Board of Education. Hill resigned her position to take a seat as a Knox County Commissioner. That District 6 seat has three candidates: Robin "Rob" Gray, Betsy Henderson and

Hannah Lizbeth Kirby.

Depending on your district you'll probably only see four or five candidate races and two ballot questions about changing the Knox County Charter.

The congressional race for House District 2 has incumbent Republican Tim Burchett, Democrat Renee Hoyos and Independent Matthew L. Campbell.

The Tennessee state Senate District 6 race has incumbent Becky Duncan Massey (Republican) and Jane George (Democrat) on the ballot.

**Continued on page 3**

### Where can you vote early?

With early voting starting Wednesday you may be wondering, "Where can I vote?" Registered Knox County voters can choose any of the early voting locations. An early ballot can be cast Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. and on Saturdays from 11 a.m. until 5 p.m. through October 29.

Locations include Downtown West Shopping Center, the Halls Recreation Center, Farragut Town Hall, the Carter Senior Center, The Love Kitchen, the City-County

Building, New Harvest Park, Knoxville Expo Center, Meridian Baptist Church in South Knoxville, the Karns Senior Center or the Howard Baker Center on the University of Tennessee Campus.

Although UT asked the Knox County Election Commission recently to move the voting location to Thompson-Boling Arena, the commission voted 3-2 to keep the Howard Baker Center as the location because of the limited time to change the location.

## CENTRAL HONORS HEROINE



Central High School teacher Chris Hammond, standing center with a black shirt between Knoxville Mayor Indya Kincannon and Fountain City Historian Dr. J.C. Tumblin, welcomed guests Friday to the unveiling of a historic marker for Mary Francis Housley. Tumblin was a classmate of Housley, known as "Frankie." She was a Central High School graduate who became an airline flight attendant and saved the lives of ten people after the plane crashed in 1951. Housley died trying to rescue a 4-month-old baby from the plane. The dedication of the plaque, a three-year effort by Hammond and the high school, drew Housley family members from Florida and Campbell County. The marker is located along Tazewell Pike at the corner of Forestal Drive where Frankie and her family lived. Photo by Mike Steely.

## More moves to restrict Board of Health on Commission Agenda

By Mike Steely  
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Following up on a failed effort to handicap the Knox County Board of Health, Commissioner Kyle Ward is back again with two proposals on next Monday's Commission Work Session agenda.

Commissioners Ward and Justin Biggs initially proposed the idea of placing the Board of Health under the authority of Knox County Glenn Jacobs as an advisory group with approval for any actions to be approved by Jacobs. That failed and that resolution was altered to simply tell the public that the commission does not approve of the COVID-19 regulations passed by the board. It passed but is powerless to dictate anything to the board of medical specialists.

Next week Ward is proposing the establishment of "a Knox County Advisory Committee of health and economic well-being." How that differs from the Advisory Committee formed recently that includes business, medical, and elected officials is unknown.

He is also sponsoring an ordinance amending the Knox County Code, Chapter 28, Article II, Division One entitled "County Board of Health." The ordinance would "add certain requirements to the meetings of the Knox County Board of Health in times of a declared emergency."

Mayor Jacobs has been pushing the board to host a weekly public forum. The board has decided to allow citizens to comment during one monthly meeting rather than every week. Their next meeting, on October 14, will include public input.

**IN OTHER BUSINESS** the commission may consider approving

**Continued on page 2**

## School board votes to end furloughs and picks up premium increase

By Ken Lay

The Knox County Board of Education voted to restore pay for administrators at its regular session meeting Wednesday night

The board voted 7-1 to return five days of pay to administrators, who were set to be furloughed due to financial concerns due to the coronavirus pandemic. Mike McMillan cast the lone dissenting vote.

McMillan said that he wasn't opposed to restoring the money in the budget, but wanted to wait until spring to monitor sales tax revenue.

"I'm not opposed to them having it, but I'd like to wait until spring break or April 1," McMillan said.

Assistant superintendent and chief financial officer

Ron McPherson said that the latest tax revenue numbers were from July, but noted that the numbers were far above projections. He also said that the pay needs to be restored as soon as possible.

"The budget we drafted was very conservative," McPherson said. "We weathered the storm from the spring months when COVID first hit. I can't predict the future but we were far beyond our projections and we're far above their actuals."

"We need to restore these days because if we wait too long, we can't get the days back. They won't be there."

The employees who would have been affected included the superintendents, assistant superintendents and principals and supervisors.

Thomas made it clear that this wasn't a pay raise.

"We're giving these people the money back," he said. "These people work extremely hard."

The board also voted unanimously to pay the increase in insurance premiums, scheduled for 2021, for KCS employees and their families.

Knox County Schools Superintendent Bob Thomas lauded the board for its approval of the measure.

"While this isn't much, it's a step in the right direction," Thomas said.

He noted that approximately 4,500 have health insurance through Knox County Schools.

In addition to the financial measures passed on Wednesday night, Thomas

and the board recognized the accomplishments of teachers and administrators who were honored by state and national entities.

The board recognized Karns Middle School music teacher Kami Lunsford, who was recently named Tennessee Teacher of the Year.

The board also recognized Sarah Moore Greene principal Robin Curry and her faculty and staff Wednesday night as the school was designated as a School of Promise by the National Institute for Excellence in Teaching.

The Knox County magnet academy was one of two schools to be nationally recognized by the NIET with this distinction.

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# Living in the USA

## From a distance



By John J. Duncan Jr.  
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Several years ago, I attended a meeting in a small but ornate room on the first floor of the Capitol just below the House floor.

This room was called the "Board of Education" by Sam Rayburn, the longest serving speaker of the House. He used the room to have drinks with friends and to have "Come to Jesus"

meetings with members who had made him mad for one reason or another.

Rayburn was born on a farm in Roane County about a mile from the Buttermilk Road exit off of I-40. He lived there until he was five and a half when his family rode a wagon to Lenoir City and caught a train to Texas.

The room described above has a place in history because it is where Vice President Harry Truman was having a drink with the speaker when he got the call to come immediately to the White House due to the death of President Roosevelt.

After the meeting I attended, I was sitting with four or five other members of the House when one started

talking about some stocks he regretted not buying.

Congressman Chris Shays from Connecticut said something I have thought about often since then.

He said, "You know, there's nobody who can't 'lf' his whole life away."

There is an old saying "If ifs and buts were candy and nuts, every day would be Christmas."

At some point, we all need to stop 'ifing' and start counting our blessings. We have far too many people who don't seem to realize how blessed we are to live in this country.

I read not long ago that almost half the people in this world want to come here to live. They would

be happy with a minimum wage job here. And they know we have far too many U.S. citizens who are unwilling to work.

Our schools, hospitals, jails, sewers, roads - in fact, our entire infrastructure and economy - could not handle a rapid influx of several hundred million people.

This is why we need to have a legal, orderly system of immigration, and it must be enforced.

The Democrats seem to favor totally open borders with unlimited immigration because they believe they get the overwhelming majority of votes from those in the U.S. who were foreign born.

But it will be very cruel to our own children and

grandchildren if we allow this country to be destroyed from within mainly to win the next election.

No country in the history of this world has even come close to doing as much for other countries as the U.S. has done.

Liberals and those who make money off of foreign aid realized a long time ago that this aid was not popular so they have falsely said it is only one percent of the federal budget.

But what they have done is just put foreign aid into the budgets of almost every federal department and agency.

Most foreign aid today is done by the Defense Department. If you don't believe that, study in detail

what the Department has done in Iraq and Afghanistan.

And for many years, we have been doing all these projects, spending money we do not have so all these top federal bureaucrats can feel more important and travel the world at taxpayer expense. We are now over \$27 trillion in debt.

I believe the only thing that is saving us is that almost every other country is in worse shape than we are, so people are still investing their money here.

I wonder how long it will continue. When countries get so horribly in debt, they almost always have terrible inflation or terrible deflation or, worst of all, a combination of both.

## More moves to restrict Board of Health on Commission Agenda

Cont. from page 1

a "development and relocation agreement" with BNA, the buyers of the Andrew Jackson Building.

The commission may also discuss approving a \$25,000 allotment from the state to the county for "the provisions of election security assistance." A resolution is on the agenda to continue leasing a clerk and trustee office in the Farragut Town Hall building.

Commissioner Charles Busler wants to discuss Governor Lee's Executive Order and he wants to recognize employees at the Three Ridges Golf Courses for their jobs during the pandemic.

The commissioners may also discuss amending an agreement with the city for use of the Knoxville Chilhowee Park and Exposition Center and express support to the Public Building Authority for an application for a state grant for the Halls Greenway Project, a state donation of \$1 million with a \$50,000 county match.

# Growing Up in Logan County, WV

(Part 2 in series on Dwight Kessel)



By Ralphine Major  
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He was born on a cold, rainy and snowy Saturday night in a four-room coal company house in Dehue, Logan County, West Virginia. On November 27, 1926, Wallace Dwight Kessel was the first child born to Wayne McCormick Kessel and Edith Shumate Kessel. "Being born and raised in a coal camp during the 1930s depression was a valuable experience. Everybody was 'poor,' but nobody seemed to know it," Kessel said. "Everyone banded together for improving their surroundings and helping those who weren't quite able to help themselves."

It is fascinating to learn about the childhood years of Dwight Kessel and the people and events that shaped his life---about his father who kept the family "above the brink of poverty where poverty was the rule;" about lard sandwiches some children brought to school prompting a group of mothers to set up a kitchen to provide

nourishment of beans and cornbread; about the Kessel grandparents who regularly shipped eggs to the family by parcel post in wooden crates; and about playing cowboys and Indians (a drastic change from today's game boards and computers). There is no shortage of stories from Kessel's early life in West Virginia. He shares one of those stories.

"When I was about five years old, I was amazed at people buying little pine trees for Christmas. After Christmas, I took my wagon and a friend and went down the alley and picked up some used Christmas trees. We then took them down the walk, in front of the houses, and sold them back to some former owners. When I got home with the money, mother asked me what I had been doing and told me to take the money back, but everyone made me keep the money because they thought it was funny." (To be continued)

Kessel shares Words of Faith from Matthew 6:14 (KJV): "For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you."

Picture of Wallace Dwight Kessel in new bib overalls at 18 months, courtesy of Dwight Kessel.



# Where Do I Sit in the Courtroom?

Sometimes I represent people totally unfamiliar with the court process and are terrified of going to court or talking in front of a judge. When I encounter these people, I think, "How nice! Someone who actually take the court system seriously and realizes that what goes on in the courts is important."

These people will ask me basic questions about what to wear, how much talking they should do, where they should meet me before court, and where they should sit in the courtroom.

I have written previously



By Jedidiah McKeenan  
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about what to wear to court (business casual, only the people on trial for murder wear suits to court), but today I want to discuss where to sit in the courtroom.

The first thing to know is there is a bar separating the courtroom. You sit behind the bar. In front of the bar is where the lawyers sit and the people whose case is currently being heard by the judge.

After that, sit on the opposite side of the courtroom from where the opposing party is sitting. It makes for tense feelings

and a possible contentious interaction if you sit close to person against whom you have a case.

In criminal courts, occasionally there is a section of the courtroom reserved for victims of crimes. The criminal defendants may not sit in that section. Likewise, you may not sit next to the inmates in custody and have been brought over from the jail for their hearing.

I always encourage my clients that if their case is about to be called to move to the end of the row or move to the front row so they can quickly come stand beside me at the podium or sit next to me at the counsel table up front.

But when your case is

called, what table do you go stand at? In criminal cases, during jury trials, the criminal defendant ALWAYS sits at the table furthest away from the jury. Lots of judges follow that pattern whether there is a jury present or not just so they know which party is which. When people just walk up and take whatever table they come to first, the judge may have to ask them, "Now which of you is the plaintiff and which of you is the defendant?" To avoid that, it makes it easier for the judges if the defendant always sits on the side furthest from the jury box (whether there is a jury in the box or not), and the plaintiff sits closest to the jury.

Now, not all judges follow this rule. Some judges do not care as much who sits where. However, if you are looking for guidance as where to sit: sit behind the bar, move closer to the end of the row if you believe your case is about to be called, and sit on the side that coincides with whether you are the plaintiff or the defendant.

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

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# Publisher's Position

# Elaine Davis vs. Gloria Johnson



By Steve Hunley, Publisher  
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One of the more interesting local races is that between State Representative Gloria Johnson and challenger Elaine Davis in the 13th House District. Johnson served one term in the House, beating Gary Loe in 2012, before losing reelection two years later to Republican Eddie Smith. Johnson ran again in an attempt to reclaim her seat in the House in the next election cycle, but lost to Smith once again. Johnson and Smith faced off again in 2016 with Smith the victor. In 2018 - - - Gloria

Johnson has been the Democratic nominee in the 13th house District six times now - - - Johnson and Smith fought their third consecutive race. Until 2018, the races had been close, with the victor winning by a few hundred votes. In 2018, Gloria Johnson won decisively and some Republicans thought Rep. Eddie Smith had taken the race for granted and hadn't worked as hard as he should have. Elaine Davis, who served a brief time as a Knox County Commissioner by appointment, is off and running and she is working. Davis is also well able to articulate her point of view. A former Democrat who is now a Republican, Elaine Davis presents a different kind of candidacy, one that Gloria Johnson has never faced before. Both candidates are women and both candidates are vocal in their beliefs; in fact, that is a point of contention between them. Davis urges voters in the 13th

House District to support her as a candidate who will go to Nashville and be able to get things done. Johnson has expertly promoted herself and her beliefs through social media and every other media outlet available to her. Johnson has been more than vocal; even some Democrats admit privately Gloria is more talk than action and therein lies the rub. Johnson blusters against the Republican "supermajority" and refers to Davis' "masters" in the GOP, while promoting herself as a deep thinker and one who is interested in the welfare of her constituents. Of course every successful politician stays in office by either reflecting the views of the people he/she represents, or convincing a majority of the electorate he/she truly cares about the people. Yet Johnson is undeniably a bitter partisan and a far-left liberal, having her picture made taking giving the "Black Power" salute and constantly gnawing at the

heels of Governor Bill Lee. Johnson, a retired teacher, can't say enough in support of teachers unions and throughout the difficulty of this year, which has been hard for a lot of working-class folks, Gloria has repeatedly complained teachers haven't been given a raise. Johnson complains education in Knox County is underfunded, when the Knox County School system alone spends \$500,000,000 state, federal and local tax dollars annually. Every taxpayer in Knox County is also a federal, state and local taxpayer. The average teacher works 9 months out of the year (two months off in the summer and four week-long breaks built into the school calendar) and earns an average salary of \$48,700 yearly. Johnson was bitterly opposed to the voucher program proposed by Governor Lee and like most every item on her agenda, blusters, huffs and puffs without making much of an impact, aside from keeping

her base fired up, which can make a difference in a political race. Johnson likes to say as a Democrat, her ability to pass legislation is all but impossible because of the Republican "supermajority." Yet Davis rightly points out other Democrats haven't found that to be an impediment to getting needed bills passed. Elaine Davis notes 81% of Johnson's Democratic colleagues have been able to get legislation passed. Not Gloria and one thing to consider is Johnson is such a partisan Democrat, she has no desire to reach across the aisle to work with the majority party. Apparently, there is no middle ground for Gloria Johnson. Gloria Johnson has continually beat her drum and cried teachers need raises, demanded more money for the education establishment to spend, and calls for expansion of Medicaid. Yet, Gloria Johnson is all sound and fury, with nothing to show for her vocal

efforts. Elaine Davis doesn't reject the idea of Republicans and Democrats working together for the common good of the 13th House District. It is certainly campaign rhetoric that Elaine Davis answers to "masters" in Nashville. Gloria Johnson is a radical leftist with a socialist agenda. Gloria can talk about unity, but her version of unity is that imposed upon a conquered people, not the fruit of mutual compromise and working together. Of the two candidates, Gloria Johnson certainly seems a lot more partisan than Elaine Davis. There are hints the Johnson camp is a bit nervous this election cycle and there are Davis signs popping up in unexpected places throughout the 13th District. It might just come down to whether the people of the 13th House District want a representative who is less of an ideologue and more of a doer than a talker.

## Early voting starts Wednesday

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Depending on where a voter lives there are various races for the Tennessee state House. District 13 voters will select from incumbent Gloria Johnson (Democrat) or Elaine Davis (Republican). District 14 voters will vote for incumbent Jason Zachary (Republican) or Justin Davis (Democrat). District 15 voters will choose a new state legislator. Sam McKenzie is opposed by Independent Troy B. Jones. The winner will replace state Representative Rick Staples, who lost to McKenzie in the Democratic Primary. District 16 voters will also choose a new state representative. Republican Michele Carringer faces Democrat Elizabeth Rowland. Representative Bill Dunn decided not to seek re-election. District 18 has a contest for a new state representative. Representative Martin Daniel also chose not to seek the office again. Competing for the office are Republican Eddie Mannis and Democrat Virginia Couch. In District 19 state Representative David Wright (Republican) has no opposition. District 89 has incumbent Justin Lafferty (Republican) opposes Independent Greg Mills. Kari Keeling, a Democrat, has launched a write-in campaign for that office. Also on the ballot is a Knox County Charter amendment concerning the future of the Knox County Law Director. Shall the Knox County Charter be amended to take away from the people the ability to vote for the Knox County Law Director by changing this elected office to an office appointed by the Mayor, subject to Commission approval, and subject to removal by majority vote plus one (1)

of Commission for cause and reduce the duties of the office by allowing the Commission to hire its own attorney and allowing the School Board to hire its own attorney, effective September 1, 2024? That question requires a "Yes" or "No" vote and could change the independence of the law director substantially. It's the third time citizens are being asked the question and in both incidents voters voted overwhelmingly to elect the position instead of letting it be appointed. The other question on the ballot regarding the county charter has to do with making public expenditures of the Knox County Mayor reported to the Knox County Commission. Shall Section 3.03 M of the Knox County Charter be amended by deleting said section in its entirety and by substituting therefore the following: Sec. 3.03 - The Mayor's duties. Have the sole power and authority to enter into contracts on behalf of Knox County, except as otherwise provided in this Charter. Contracts and purchases on behalf of the County shall be entered into by the Mayor or the Mayor's designee. On all contracts in an amount greater than \$50,000, or such greater amount as established in advance by the Commission, the Mayor shall obtain the approval of the Commission by resolution prior to execution. On all contracts in the amount less than \$100,000, the Mayor shall submit the full contract to the Commission to be included in the monthly meetings under Spread of Record without approval by vote of Commission. Any contracts to be spread of record shall be submitted in accordance with the Rules of the Commission. That question is also a "Yes" or "No" decision for voters.

## Morningside Park's BlueCross sign questioned

By Mike Steely Senior Writer steelym@knoxfocus.com

The Knoxville City Council approved a \$5.5 million improvement for East Knoxville's Morningside Park from BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee Tuesday evening but only after two council members questioned the proposed large entrance signs. The donation hinged on approval of the signs, which will be in the form of an arch similar to those in other cities. Council members Seema Singh and Amelia Parker questioned the size and placement of the signs but were told the arch signs would only be placed at the portion



The Morningside Park BlueCross Healthy Place gateway signs will be similar to those in other Tennessee cities like this one in Kingsport. Approval of the two signs was necessary to accept the \$5.5 million improvements donated by the company.

of the park allotted for the project. Both councilwomen voted against the

The 15-by-8-foot signs will carry the name "Morningside Park" and the BlueCross designation will welcome visitors to the proposed improvements that will include a multipurpose field with bleachers, a children's playground, a challenge course, 40 yard dash, a fitness trail, walking trails and two pavilions. Mayor Indya Kincannon said that the donation includes \$920,000 in maintenance funds. Legacy Parks prepared the submission to BlueCross for the addition within the 34-acre park. The agreement includes a parking area and a new road to reach the new recreation and exercise area.

"Shall the Knox County Charter be amended to take away from the people the ability to vote for the Knox County Law Director by changing this elected office to an office appointed by the Mayor, subject to Commission approval, and subject to removal by majority vote plus one (1) of Commission for cause and reduce the duties of the office by allowing the Commission to hire its own attorney and allowing the School Board to hire its own attorney, effective September 1, 2024?"

I urge you to **VOTE NO** on Charter Amendment 1.

Susan Royster

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Paid for by the Committee to Save Our Right to Vote, Lisa Starbuck, Treasurer

# Mixed-Use Town Center focus of Farragut Board meeting

## Ordinance on agenda about wording, not construction

By Bill Howard

The possible construction of a 280-unit apartment building as part of a Mixed-Use Town Center in Farragut dominated a meeting of the Board of Mayor and Alderman (BMA) Thursday, Oct. 8. In fact, the issue on the agenda wasn't about building or developing anything, but about changing the wording of a government document.

Among other items on the agenda were four ordinances that were receiving a first reading. The first two – an amendment to the Municipal Code allowing food trucks at special events sponsored by homeowners, and the rezoning of a piece of property from Agricultural to Residential Open Space Overlay – passed unanimously with little discussion.

Then came the third ordinance, which sought “to amend the text of the Comprehensive Land Use Plan (CLUP) Update as it relates to the Mixed-Use Town Center land use descriptions.” Approving the ordinance would not mean that earth would be ready to be dug, or that water and sewer lines ready to be laid. It simply intended to update and clarify the language of the CLUP.

Many concerned Farragut residents apparently

were not aware of this, because before discussion of the matter proceeded, Farragut Town Recorder Allison Myers read to the Board a list of emails that had come in from interested citizens. There were dozens, and it took Myers well over an hour to read them all.

A large majority spoke in opposition to the development of the Town Center – which would include retail, residential, and office space – citing common fears of excess traffic, noise, and overcrowded schools, among others. But in fact the ordinance wasn't about that. It was only about the wording of the CLUP.

Farragut Vice Mayor Louise Povlin summed up the discrepancy.

“There seems to be a lot of confusion about this agenda item and the text amendments we are discussing tonight,” she said. “Tonight’s discussion is regarding the Comprehensive Land Use Plan, a higher-level, visionary document that was developed with extensive public input in 2012. The discussion is not about 280 apartments, building heights, traffic, sink holes, flood zones, storm water management, student populations, or building codes.”

Povlin went on to say that the specific concerns about

the project have only been conditionally approved by the Farragut Planning Commission, and that only after many details get hammered out could things like rezoning and plan-site review be addressed. Only then could construction begin. Further, the residential density of neighboring areas is a concern that must be addressed.

“The text amendments we are discussing tonight are intended to protect the existing residential neighborhoods which directly abut land that is designated Mixed-Use Town Center on our future land-use map, while maintaining the goals and intent of the CLUP,” Povlin said.

“We are trying to amend our long-range plan to protect Park Place neighborhood and Glen Abbey neighborhood from incompatible development while maintaining the original goals and intent of our town center as outlined in the long-range plan,” Povlin went on.

Added Community Development Director Mark Shipley: “One of the focuses was to revisit that aspect of the text, and to bring in some other language that’s referenced in other parts of the plan – flex density and transition – concepts which give consideration to the context and surrounding plan of development with the ultimate intent of protecting neighborhoods from incompatible development.”

Farragut Town Attorney Thomas Hale said that

some citizens had questioned the legality of the whole procedure at the level of the Planning Commission. “There was a lot of good input in the citizens’ comments,” he said. “There’s always gonna be disagreements about land use. We cannot be arbitrary and capricious. We have to study and follow our procedures and consider what people propose.”

Hale added that the town is a long way from actually constructing the Town Center. “There have to be rezoning applications filed, site plans submitted,” he said. “We’re way a long way from there. I’m comfortable the way the town has handled this issue is completely within the bounds of the law.”

Povlin said she intended to contact and update the email senders with clarification.

“When citizens are educated, they are best able to advocate for their concerns,” she said. “But they have to understand how the process is working.” She said she planned to send an email back to everyone who wrote in.

The idea of a Mixed-Use Center – a “Downtown Farragut” – has been around for 20 years or more, according to Shipley.

Povlin then made a motion to amend the language of the ordinance by inserting “mixed-use” twice into the document. The motion passed by 5-0 vote.

The BMA meets on the second and fourth Thursday each month.



## Donations for wreaths in veteran cemeteries needed

By Mike Steely  
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Chris Albrecht, wreath program ambassador, is reminding everyone that December 19th is the day for Wreaths Across America to be laid in three veteran cemeteries in Knox County. But the effort is running behind in the total number of wreaths sponsored.

Albrecht called out to the public last week. He said that each cemetery needs help. The East Tennessee Volunteer Veterans Cemetery on Governor John Sevier Highway needs 4,000 wreaths but only has donations for 855 so far.

The National Cemetery downtown needs

9,000 wreaths but only has funds for 698 and the Lyons View Cemetery needs 5,000 but only has funds for 2,156 wreaths.

“We have a ways to go. 2020 is giving us some challenges to overcome,” he said.

The Christmas wreaths help to honor the veterans who served our nation and it is easy to donate. The donation of \$15 buys one wreath, \$30 buys two, \$75 gets five, and \$150 would fund 10 wreaths.

You may contact Albrecht at (865) 207-4294 or find Wreaths Across America’s Knoxville campaign at [www.knoxwreaths.org](http://www.knoxwreaths.org).

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Items from the Blackstock homeless camp were piled up along the street as the camp was being removed Thursday. Photo courtesy of Michael Kaplan.



## City's homeless camp removed

By Mike Steely  
Senior Writer  
steelym@knoxfocus.com

The removal of homeless campers at the Blackstock and Oak Avenue area beneath I-40 was questioned at Tuesday's City Council meeting. When Mayor Indya Kincannon mentioned the scheduled clean up there in her regular report to the body she said, "Winter's coming" and said the camp has grown to more than 100 people with no physical distancing, unmitigated drug use, crime and safety issues.

Kincannon said the current policy to overlook violations there was based on the CDC's recommendations during the COVID-19 emergency. She said the city is working to move some of the homeless campers there indoors to 110 beds available at non-profit outreach centers.

"This seems like a disconnect," Councilwoman Amelia Parker replied. She charged the city is claiming to have "solved the homeless problem." Kincannon countered that the camp cleanup was being done on the

advice of "those who see the homeless every day." She said the removal of camps was a policy in place before she became mayor. The city cleanup of the camp began Wednesday and Thursday and people camping there have been notified of the plans to remove them.

"This is not a raid," the mayor said, adding the notifications of pending removal began September 30th.

Councilwoman Lauren Rider asked when the last homeless roundtable was held and was told by Mike Dunthorn, homeless program director, that it hasn't been meeting because of the pandemic and also added that no meeting of that group has been scheduled. Rider said a special council meeting should be scheduled to discuss the growing homeless problem.

Parker said many homeless people were waiting to speak to the issue and moved to push the public forum phone-in session to the beginning of the meeting. Vice Mayor Gwen McKenzie seconded the motion but it failed, with Parker, Rider, McKenzie

and Andrew Roberto voting to do so but the other five members voting "No."

The four-hour meeting continued and the homeless callers, who were sharing a phone, said their piece at the end of the meeting. Kincannon said the city has received a \$2.2 million dollar grant to help deal with the homeless problem.

In other action, the city council voted to allot \$1.4 million to Volunteer Ministry from Affordable Rental Development Funds for 48 housing units for "very low-income household" at 1501 East Fifth Avenue. One caller said the neighborhood has not seen plans and charged the project further impoverishes the neighborhood. The vote passed unanimously.

Also approved, on first reading, was a smoking ban on all city-owned playgrounds. Two agenda items dealing with new sign ordinances in Industrial Districts were postponed to a future meeting and the renaming of a portion of Hensley Drive requested by a family there was denied.

## Planning Commission rejects staff recommendation for Hudson Emulsion

By Bill Howard

Probably not too many people spend much time thinking about emulsion, which, simply put, involves combining two otherwise incompatible liquids. In fact, the process is used in a variety of industries to make many different common products. The pharmaceutical industry uses emulsification, as do cosmetics, paints and inks, insecticides, and agriculture.

Thursday, Oct 8, at its monthly meeting, the Knoxville-Knox Co. Planning Commission was approached by applicant Hudson Emulsion LLC DBA, which wanted permission to expand and upgrade its facilities.

To proceed, the company, located at 405 W. Oldham Ave. in Council District 5, was seeking a thumbs-up three times from the commission: on the Central City Sector Plan Amendment, from LI (Light Industrial) and SP (Stream Protection) to HI (Heavy Industrial) and SP; on the One Year Plan Amendment from LI and SP to HI and SP; and on Rezoning from I-MU (Industrial Mixed-Use) and F (Floodway) to IH and F.

The staff recommendation was to deny the

industrial designations because it "does not meet the location criteria for an amendment and is not consistent with surrounding development."

Hudson president Garrett Giles addressed the commission.

"Our emulsion plant has been in operation for over 50 years," Giles said. "(We've) received written approval from the landowner (Waggoner Properties, LLC) to pursue this application for rezoning. The upgrades to our facility will enhance our safety protocol, environmental compliance, and will make the facility more efficient regarding energy usage."

"When zoning to heavy industrial we will be able to upgrade our equipment and its current footprint to provide our products to many of the local municipalities, including Knox. Co. Public Works, the City of Knoxville Public Works, Knoxville Utility Board, and TDOT," Giles said. "Our property is landlocked; it prohibits us from further expansion outside of our current footprint."

Commission Chair Pat Phillips observed that Hudson's plan was to replace existing facilities and not

**Continue on page 2**

## Mannis and Couch answer Focus Questions

By Mike Steely  
Senior Writer  
steelym@knoxfocus.com

It's been a very political year in Knox County and in the midst of the COVID-19 outbreak campaigning for office has been a lot different than usual. The November 3rd General Election is only a few weeks away and the election of local representatives to the Tennessee state House and Senate may become an all-but-lost category on the ballot considering the Trump vs. Biden presidential election.

Early voting starts on October 14.

As the saying goes, all politics is local. The Knoxville



Virginia Couch



Eddie Mannis

Daniels who chose not to seek reelection. The questions and answers from Couch and Mannis are listed in alphabetical order.

have safe and legal options, a position supported by a majority of Tennesseans (regardless of political affiliation).

**Mannis:** I support policies that protect the lives of the unborn.

### What is the largest problem for your district?

**Couch:** Our inability to ensure every child has an opportunity to succeed in our public school system.

**Mannis:** COVID-19 and the related shut downs have caused significant stress on families. The biggest challenge facing the 18th District is how to

safely get people back to work and how to educate kids in this challenging environment.

### What's the first thing you will do in Nashville?

**Couch:** Start working to build relationships - not only with other Democratic representatives and senators, but with all representatives and senators. That is the only way I can get traction to push through issues that I care about.

**Mannis:** We are all hopeful that an effective vaccine is coming soon. The State of Tennessee needs to be ready to get the economy

back on track and people back to work when that vaccine comes. I've personally experienced the impact that COVID-19 has had on many businesses. That included my very own. If elected, the focus of my first term will be using my experience as a small business owner to reopen this economy and get people back to work.

### Should protesters on state property be criminalized?

**Couch:** No  
**Mannis:** Protesting is a constitutionally protected

**Continue on page 4**

Focus is asking candidates for the Tennessee House a series of questions. This week we asked a series of questions to the two candidates seeking to become the District 18 state House Representative.

Republican Eddie Mannis faces Democrat Virginia Couch in that race to replace Representative Martin

### Make a statement on Gov. Lee's abortion policy.

**Couch:** Gov. Lee's bill was in keeping with his commitment to the National Republican Party and their goal to overturn Roe v. Wade. I believe people seeking abortions should

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# Keeping busy

Being confined can begin to affect anyone after a while. This COVID-19 is infecting millions, killing thousands, and depressing an entire country. Cases are again on the rise, and before long,



By Joe Rector  
joirector@comcast.net

we might be back where we were during the worst of times, and that means things will close down again. I've had a spurt of energy, most likely caused by being stuck at home most of the time. That's good for completing projects around the home, but not so good for my old body. Pulling weeds isn't one

of my favorite tasks, but I've worn my hands raw doing so. The flower beds are now as clean as a whistle. The areas around the pool would be neat and tidy as well, but Amy read that leaving the dead stalks of flowers gives birds seeds to eat. Eventually, I'll be able to cut those things down.

Leaves are beginning to fall, and my property is full of trees. Most are oaks, and they stingily let go of their leaves. I usually rake, blow, and mow leaves until January, at which time I yell, "Uncle!" The remaining

leaves will fall by spring. I hate dealing with leaves because the end result is that I come down with an upper respiratory infection from the dust and mold. Still, keeping the yard clean requires plenty of time, something of which I have plenty right now.

Winterizing around here eats hours. I have to lug all the pool furniture to the basement and to a small outbuilding. I cover the pump and other waterlines that might freeze during the winter. Amy always likes to sit on the screened porch in the cold weather, so the propane tank for the fire pit needs to be filled, and the heating lamp bulb needs to be working. Reels must be

put in the dry after hoses have been drained.

Projects inside are keeping me busy as well. I decided to paint my office. My son Dallas had a five-gallon bucket left from sprucing up his condo. The green walls in my room were covered in marks, and a coat of gray paint spruced the place up. I cut in the baseboard on my hands and knees and climbed a ladder to paint around the ceiling. The room looked nice with the contrasting white woodwork.

I was going to paint my bathroom with the same color until Amy stepped in. She suggested that a bathroom that was smaller than a closet need a lighter

color. Yes ma'am! I found some white paint and poured about a half-gallon in the gray bucket. After some mixing, the gray was much lighter, and I began the painting process. In a bathroom, painting behind a sink and toilet and above the shower stall requires a contortionist. More clean-up of paint drips and drabs are required. I finished and liked the results, regardless of what others thought.

The problem with all this "virus-work" is that an old body suffers. My arthritic hands ache. Joints creak and pop, and sore muscles throb. The most upsetting part of all is realizing how difficult getting up from the ground or floor has become.

I found it necessary to get a chair or the ladder to push up and get to my feet. After cleaning up the equipment, I took a bath and sat down on the couch. Before long, I'd dozed off and felt as if all my strength had disappeared.

For a million reasons, I hope this pandemic is conquered before long. One of the biggest reasons is that I want to hop in the car and go somewhere that doesn't involve any kind of work. I might just go to stores and simply walk around and look for hours. With winter coming, my lists of projects will increase, but my desire to complete them will dwindle.

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## Planning Commission rejects staff recommendation for Hudson Emulsion

Cont. from page 1

expand them and that the nature of the business would remain unchanged. He asked Peter Ahrens, the city's Plans Review and Inspections director, for his perspective.

"Under the new IMU (inertial measurement unit) zone, it would be a non-conformity, and there would be complications with expanding the non-conformity," Ahrens said. "They're actually increasing the number of tanks. From what I understand, a smaller capacity but a greater number. I believe during the rezoning of January of 2020 they became non-compliant. I'm gonna try to verify that."

Commissioner Chris Ooten saw both benefits and potential problems in the changes Hudson wanted to make. "We've all seen how blighted old industrial sites can be, and if somebody is willing to put money into industrial sites and upgrade and upfit them and put the technology in, I would think that would be better for everyone," Ooten said. "But going to a heavy industrial use could be problematic down the road."

Two commissioners thought that Recode - the controversial update of the city's zoning ordinance, passed last year - was a hindrance in the matter.

Said Commissioner Scott Smith: "My gut feeling on this is that I would be supportive of giving this zoning to these guys, and I feel like one of the problems is we don't have good options under Industrial Zoning in

this Recode."

Commissioner Jeff Roth agreed with Smith about Recode. "What I'm hearing is that that they were compliant before Recode, and Recode took a present property that had an operating business that was compliant and changed the zone. I struggle with that."

Smith asked Giles if the facility's future operations were going to be more disruptive to adjoining property owners than before. "I'm not hearing that it is," Smith said. "Smoke, noise, vibration ... anything that's gonna change?"

"None of our business operations will change," said Giles. "We make asphalt emulsions there, and if anything, this new technology will improve our operations. There's no noise or smoke or anything like that."

"This rezoning would also help streamline upgrades," Giles went on. "We'll be able to make our upgrades without having to apply for variances to the Board of Zoning Appeals for every time we want to make a change or upgrade a tank. All of our upgrades will be in accordance with the City of Knoxville Building and Permitting Office."

When it came time for the vote, several commissioners verbalized their ambivalence about the matter. In the end, Hudson won over almost all of them. The Sector Plan Amendment was approved 12-3. Both the One Year Plan and Rezoning were approved unanimously.

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# The Nomination of Judge Edward T. Sanford

## A Tennessean on the U.S. Supreme Court

Pages from the Past



By Ray Hill  
rayhill865@gmail.com

I daresay few of my readers recall a Knoxville once sat on the Supreme Court of the United States. Judge Edward Terry Sanford served as an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court from 1923 until his unexpected death in 1930. Sanford had been the judge of the Eastern District of Tennessee, by virtue of appointment by President Theodore Roosevelt.

The story of Sanford's nomination to the high court is an interesting one and deserves to be retold in these pages. The Republicans held a comfortable majority in the government in 1923, although the GOP had seen losses during the 1922 midterm elections. There were fifty-three Republicans occupying seats in the United States Senate in 1923, following a loss of six Senate seats in the 1922 elections. The President of the United States was Warren G. Harding of Ohio, a kindly and affable man who would forever be associated with his supposed affair with a mistress and other scandals that came to light after his death. Yet it was a Democrat who quite likely did more to help along Edward T. Sanford's nomination to the Supreme Court than any other single individual.

Tennessee's senators were Democrats; John Knight Shields was a crusty, oftentimes quarrelsome sixty-five year old native of East Tennessee. Shields was a small man with hooded eyes and a drooping moustache. Shields was a former Chief Justice of the Tennessee Supreme Court who hankered for an appointment to the U. S. Supreme Court himself. Shields was the last man to be elected to the United States Senate from Tennessee by the General Assembly. John Knight Shields had been the beneficiary when Tennessee's Democratic Party tore itself asunder over prohibition. Shields was elected to the Senate in 1913 as part of the "fusionist" movement, which was a combine of "Independent" Democrats and Republicans. John Knight Shields was reelected to another six-year term in 1918 in a hotly contested race when he had been challenged for the Democratic nomination by Governor Tom C. Rye. Shields managed to carry East and West Tennessee with some effort. Once reelected, Shields had incensed many Tennessee Democrats for his refusal to support President Woodrow Wilson and the League of Nations. The senator's personality was such that even many of his friends and appointees were frequently offended by his behavior.

Tennessee's junior United States senator was Kenneth D. McKellar, the first person ever to be popularly elected by the people of the Volunteer State to the Senate. McKellar had defeated an incumbent senator and two former governors to reach the Senate. K. D. McKellar's successor as congressman from the area surrounding Shelby County was Hubert Fisher, who had previously served as the U. S. Attorney for West Tennessee. Fisher's brother-in-law was Edward T. Sanford. When Fisher first informed McKellar a Tennessean was being considered for the Supreme Court, the senator replied it was none of his business and the Republicans would decide the nominee for themselves. Undeterred, the persistent Fisher visited McKellar's office, bringing along two of the judge's brothers with him. Fisher and the Sanford brothers begged McKellar for a "suggestion" as to how they could get Judge Sanford nominated for the high court. The exasperated McKellar replied he had none; he would have no influence, reiterating the Republicans would settle it amongst themselves. Hubert Fisher and the Sanford brothers were so dejected that McKellar sighed and said he would give the matter some thought and see what he could do.

As it turned out, there was quite a lot the wily McKellar could do. The first thing he did was to pay a call upon the Republican leader of the U. S. Senate, Henry Cabot Lodge of Massachusetts. McKellar asked if the ordinarily icy Brahmin knew Judge Sanford. "No," Lodge replied, "and I'm not going to let you get me mixed up in your Tennessee politics, either." In his book Tennessee Senators, McKellar wryly recalled Lodge frequently complained the Tennessean wielded undue influence with the GOP Leader. Knowing of Lodge's veneration of his alma mater, Harvard University, Senator McKellar casually wondered, "Did you know Judge Sanford had graduated at Harvard, cum laude?"

McKellar's question had its intended effect, as he recalled Lodge's reaction was akin to an "electric shock."

"Why, no," Lodge whispered, "did he?"

Lodge then asked McKellar how he could help Judge Sanford and offered to do whatever he could on the judge's behalf. Never one to let a good opportunity go to waste, McKellar quickly replied he wished Senator Lodge would see President Harding as soon as possible. Lodge



Judge Edward T. Sanford of Knoxville arrives in Washington, D. C. following his nomination to the US Supreme Court and is met by his sister, Louise Sanford Fisher, and her husband, Congressman Hubert Fisher of Memphis.

NEA PHOTO FROM THE AUTHOR'S PERSONAL COLLECTION

made an appointment at the White House, saw the president and told Senator McKellar that Harding appeared to be friendly to Judge Sanford. Lodge suggested McKellar get as many Republican senators as possible to urge Sanford's appointment. Lodge added, he thought it a good idea for McKellar to see the president as well.

The energetic Tennessean soon had rounded up "some twenty or thirty" Senate Republicans to urge the appointment of Judge Edward T. Sanford to the Supreme Court of the United States. Things looked quite good for Judge Sanford until Senator James E. Watson of Indiana, a GOP stalwart, telephoned McKellar and asked to see him right away. Upon arriving in Watson's office, McKellar received the news President Harding was sending the Senate a nomination to the high court and it was not going to be Judge Sanford of Tennessee. Evidently, McKellar's irascible colleague, John Knight Shields, had told the White House he would fight the nomination of Judge Sanford. Wishing to avoid a fight in the Senate, Harding simply decided he was going to nominate someone else. Senator McKellar instantly objected, telling Watson it could not possibly be true as he had spoken to Shields about Sanford being nominated to the Supreme Court. According to McKellar, while the cantankerous Shields admitted he did not like Sanford, he had grudgingly agreed to vote to confirm Sanford's nomination should the president nominate the judge. McKellar hurried to the office of his senior colleague and repeated his conversation with "Sunny Jim" Watson. Senator McKellar asked Shields if he could tell both President Harding and Senator Watson that the senior senator from

Tennessee would indeed vote for Judge Sanford's confirmation. Senator Shields grunted that he could.

Senator McKellar then made his way to the offices of Virginia senators Claude Swanson and Carter Glass. The leading aspirant for the Supreme Court, aside from Edward T. Sanford, was one Colonel Anderson and the ever-resourceful McKellar recalled both of Anderson's home state senators were opposed to his nomination and confirmation. McKellar asked if senators Swanson and Glass remained opposed to the Colonel? When assured neither had changed his attitude, McKellar wondered if he could convey that information to President Harding? Both Swanson and Glass replied they would not mind in the least. Armed with this information, Senator McKellar returned to Jim Watson's office and told him the Virginians would oppose Colonel Anderson's nomination. Senator Watson promptly telephoned President Harding while McKellar was in his office and related the information given him by the Tennessean. Harding replied he would nominate Judge Sanford that very day and send his name to the Senate for confirmation.

When the news came over the wire and reached the chambers of Judge Edward T. Sanford that President Harding had sent his name to the Senate for confirmation as an associate justice of the Supreme Court, he was quite nearly overcome. "It is wonderful," the judge managed to murmur as his legs went out from under him and he sat down with a thud.

Kenneth D. McKellar remains Tennessee's longest-serving U.S. senator and his relentless approach to doggedly pursuing anything (or anyone, for that matter) he believed to be important to the people of the Volunteer

State made him a force to be reckoned with inside the Senate. One wonders if Edward T. Sanford would have been nominated to the Supreme Court otherwise?

Edward T. Sanford died on March 8, 1930; as to the cause of his death, it could have been from uremic poisoning, the cause of which was due to having a tooth pulled. It may well have been from a stroke. What is known is the Justice left his home around 9 a.m. in apparent good health. Edward T. Sanford was returned home by ambulance and died fifteen minutes later. Sanford did have some kind episode in the dentist's office, saying he felt dizzy. The alarmed dentist summoned a medical doctor whose office was in the same building to attend the stricken justice.

According to contemporary press reports, Sanford asked to remain in the dentist's chair for a bit and then was moved to a sofa and "hypodermics administered." Two hours later, Justice Sanford "failed to respond to treatment and appeared to be sinking." An ambulance was called and for some reason, Justice Sanford was returned to his apartment rather than a hospital. Almost unconscious, Sanford died following "convulsions." He was sixty-four years old.

Sanford and former president and Chief Justice of the Supreme Court William Howard Taft died on the same day within hours of one another. Ironically, during Taft's final illness, Justice Sanford routinely called at the former Chief Justice's home daily to inquire after his friend.

At the time of Sanford's death, Tennessee's U. S. senators were K. D. McKellar and William E. Brock of Chattanooga, the candy king and grandfather of future GOP congressman and senator William E. Brock, III. Like everybody else, Senator

Brock was shocked by the sudden passing of Justice Edward T. Sanford. Brock had only recently taken a visitor to the Supreme Court chamber where the justices sat and pointed with profound pride to Sanford's seat. Brock expressed the thoughts of many when he lauded Sanford, saying, "A kinder and more noble character never lived; a man who was loved and admired and respected by all who came in contact with, and to know him as we knew him back home was to love him as we loved him."

Congressman J. Will Taylor, like everybody else, was shocked by the Justice's passing. Taylor recalled his earlier experiences as a young member of the Bar with Edward T. Sanford. "His untimely death, at almost the threshold of a brilliant career on the greatest tribunal in the world, is a distinct national calamity," Congressman Taylor said.

Congressman Cordell Hull remembered Sanford as "one of the real lawyers of the country." Hull said, "No Tennessean was more admired or idolized by all who knew him more than Justice Sanford."

Senator K. D. McKellar, the man who almost certainly had more to do with the appointment of Edward T. Sanford to the U.S. Supreme Court, was conspicuously absent from the memorials being collected by the news media of the time. The reason for McKellar's silence was tragedy inside his own family. Senator McKellar's grief at the passing of his friend Justice Sanford was overshadowed by the death of his seventy-year-old sister, Mary. Mary McKellar was nine years older than the senator and had been ailing for the last couple of months. Mary had been heavily involved in "charity and religious work" in Memphis. Despite her family being Presbyterians, Mary was herself a Baptist. Like most of the McKellar clan, young Mary clearly had a mind of her own and had picked her own denomination in early girlhood.

Mary's quick decline was unexpected and came as a surprise to the senator who was notified in Washington his sister was gravely ill. The senator had hurriedly left Washington. McKellar's hasty trip home allowed the senator to arrive less than one hour before his sister died. The bachelor senator maintained a home in Memphis where he lived with his mother and two of his sisters until they were all gone. McKellar sat quietly by Mary's bedside and quietly held her hand as her life flickered out.



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# Mannis and Couch answer Focus Questions

**Cont. from page 1**

activity but violence is not. We should differentiate between the two and protect the right to protest and arrest those guilty of violence.

## How is Gov. Lee handling the COVID-19 pandemic?

**Couch:** Initially he followed the guidance of the medical community but quickly bowed to partisan political pressure and has since failed to lead. His disregard for his own health department's recommended social distancing and face masks, while preaching it from his pulpit, says

all that needs to be said. He failed to take the steps necessary to prepare the Department of Labor and Workforce Development for the certainly expected influx of unemployment claims in April, leading to unnecessary delays in relief to many vulnerable out-of-work Tennesseans. His "small" business relief program was slow to roll out and, even with its recent expansion, fails to cover all types of businesses impacted by the pandemic.

**Mannis:** These are unprecedented times and there are no easy answers for policy makers. I believe the Governor is a good man who is making decisions

based on science and the best interest of the State.

## Make a statement on absentee voting by mail.

**Couch:** Tennessee has almost 5 million people eligible to vote and yet almost half of those did not vote in the 2016 presidential election. For democracy – and representative democracy – to work, we need people to participate. We have 5 states (Colorado, Hawaii, Oregon, Utah, and Washington) that conduct their elections entirely by mail. All but 6, Tennessee being one, allow absentee

voting without an excuse. The president and our governor have made this a partisan issue during this election year and it's solely because they believe more Democrats will vote absentee or vote by mail if it is an option.

**Mannis:** We should make it easy to vote but hard to cheat. I'm glad that absentee voting is available for the at-risk populations during this pandemic.

## Should businesses be held exempt from lawsuits during the pandemic?

**Couch:** No.

**Mannis:** Businesses that follow the CDC guidelines and best practices should be protected from frivolous lawsuits but businesses that are negligent, or knowingly fail to use best management practices, should not receive legal protection.

## Make a statement about charter schools and public funding.

**Couch:** I am against Governor's Lee's push for an education savings account program that would allow parents to use state funds to pay private school

tuition. Charter schools, such as Emerald Charter Schools in Knoxville, are not private schools. They are public schools that operate under an arrangement with the local education board. They do not charge tuition. The effectiveness of charter schools vary so my focus will be on better funding for our regular public school system and working to address the inequities and environmental conditions that make it difficult for children to come to school prepared to learn.

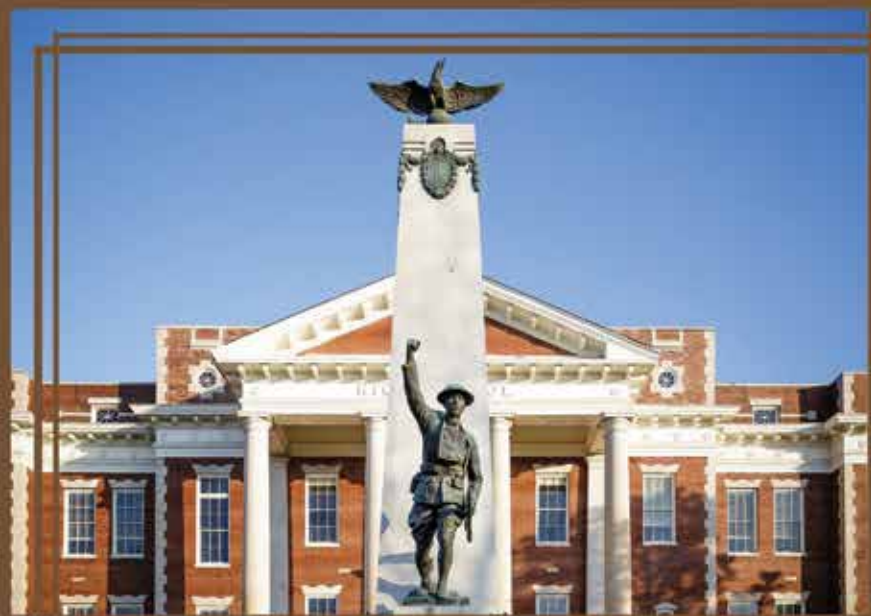
**Mannis:** Charter schools are public schools and should be supported as such.

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# Region volleyball tourneys start today

By Steve Williams

West High's volleyball team took highly regarded Oak Ridge to a fifth set tie-breaker Thursday before settling for second place in the District 4-AAA tournament on the Lady Wildcats' court.

Having eliminated Bearden in the semifinals, West did secure a berth in the Region 2 tourney and will play District 3-AAA champion Maryville today (Oct. 12) at Maryville.

Tonight's second semifinal contest at 7 will pit District 3-AAA runner-up Farragut against Oak Ridge.

The championship match will be Tuesday at 6 at Maryville.

In the District 4-AAA title thriller against upset-minded West, Oak Ridge came back to win 23-25, 23-25, 25-19, 25-18 and 15-10.

West had been the only team in the district to take a set from Oak Ridge this season and the Lady Rebels quickly took two more from the Lady Wildcats.

"Oh, man what a night this was," said Oak Ridge Head Coach Dave Kolodney. "I'm so proud of the guts these girls showed. To be down 2-0 and fight back to win three straight is just awesome."



PHOTO BY LUTHER SIMMONS

West volleyball player Avery Jolley makes a great play at the net against Oak Ridge in the District 4-AAA tournament finals Thursday night.

It was OR's fifth consecutive district tourney title.

Senior Co-Captains Paige Halcrow and Ainsley Patrick led the way for the Lady 'Cats, who enter region play with a 19-3 overall record.

In District 3-AAA, Farragut

handed Heritage a 3-1 loss in the semifinals, but Maryville topped the Lady Admirals in the finals 25-19, 25-21, 23-25, 25-20.

In other district tourney action last week, Greeneville defeated Seymour 3-1 in District 2-AA. Both teams advance to the

Region 1 tourney.

Carter won the District 3-AA championship with a 3-0 win over Central and will play District 4-AA runner-up Grainger in the Region 2-AA tournament Tuesday at 5:30 at Anderson County High School. The host Lady Mavericks will

go against Central in Game 2. AC claimed the District 4-AA title by beating Grainger 25-14, 25-13, 25-6. Anderson County's Morgan McMurray was the tournament MVP.

The King's Academy won the Division II-A District 1 title by defeating Concord Christian in the finals 25-16, 25-14, 25-10. Both teams advanced to region play along with Grace Christian.

In Division II-AA, which includes Knoxville Catholic, teams do not play a district or region tournament.

"We play everyone twice in the regular season and that determines which team comes out for post-season," said Catholic Coach Brent Carter. "We wrapped up district play (last week) and won the district. So our next match is Saturday (Oct. 17) at home versus the No. 3 seed from our region or the No. 4 seed from Nashville region."

Catholic currently is 20-6.

Saturday's match is considered the first round of the state tournament, added Coach Carter. "If we win that match, then we are in the Final Four in Murfreesboro."

# West beats Powell 39-27

By Mark Nagi

It was a matchup that could have easily been a state playoff game. And the game lived up to the hype.

On Thursday, October 9, the West Rebels knocked off Region 3-5A rival Powell 39-27, in a game filled with big plays for both teams.

"I was really proud of the way our kids played," said West head coach Lamar Brown. "We knew it was going to be a fight going into it. Powell is a really good football team and we knew we would have to play for 48 minutes. Our kids kept playing and when we had opportunities to make plays we did."

Both teams swapped interceptions in the opening two plays of the game. It was after that when the visitors struck first. Powell quarterback Jordyn Potts found Jayden Collins on a nine-yard touchdown pass midway through the first quarter, and it was 7-0 Powell.

The Rebels responded. Running back Isaiah



PHOTO BY TRACY HEARD

West linebacker Ethan Scott closes in to stop Powell's Jarvis Stockton in the Rebels' 39-27 win over the Panthers in the battle of unbeatens.

Mattress took the pitch, cut back to the middle of the field, and sprinted 56 yards down to the Panthers two-yard line. He'd muscle his way into the end zone on the next play, making it a 7-6 game.

On the Rebels next possession, that explosive ground game was on

display once again. This time it was Tre'Von Barfield outrunning the Panthers defense, sprinting 68 yards to the end zone. West was now on top 13-7.

Powell (7-1, 4-1 Region in 3-5A) fought back. On the first play of the second quarter, the Panthers faced fourth and 17 from

the Rebels 42-yard line. The Potts to Collins combination worked to perfection, as Potts heaved the football down the sideline, finding Collins in stride for a touchdown. That made it 14-13 Panthers.

But the next couple of quarters belonged to the home team. First,

quarterback Baker Dance found Armoni Hicks for a 10-yard touchdown pass off a beautiful play action fake. That made it 19-14 West. On their next possession, West moved the football down the field. Dance was looking to throw on first and goal from the three-yard line. He decided to run, broke a tackle, then dove into the end zone.

It was 25-14 West at intermission.

In the third quarter, West (8-0, 4-0 in Region 3-5A) forced Powell to turn the football over on downs at midfield. The Rebels later converted on fourth and 3 at the Panthers 22 with a punishing Mattress run. A few plays after that, Mattress scored from the two-yard line, and it was 32-14 West.

"He's a great tailback and has been playing with us for three years," said Brown. "We have three or four great tailbacks and they all bring something to the table. Isaiah brings speed

**Continued on page 2**

**HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL AT A GLANCE**

**WEEK 8 SCORES**

Bearden 33, Jefferson Co. 24  
 Chatt. Christian 59, GCA 48  
 D-B 56, Farragut 35  
 G-P 41, Seymour 6  
 Gibbs 49, Lenoir City 14  
 TKA 42, Oneida 19  
 Catholic 44, West Greene 21  
 Central 14, Carter 6  
 Fulton 24, Clinton 6  
 West 39, Powell 27  
 South-Doyle 21, Halls 14

**WEEK 9 SCHEDULE**  
 (Games start at 7:30 unless noted)

**Thursday**

Baylor at Catholic  
 Halls at Central, 7  
 A-E at Pigeon Forge

**Friday**

Farragut at Bearden  
 CAK at Boyd Buchanan  
 Jefferson Co. at HVA  
 Heritage at Karns  
 Campbell Co. at Fulton  
 Sevier Co. at Seymour  
 Webb at Silverdale  
 TKA at DCA

# Central hangs on against Carter 14-6 in big 2-5A game

## Mistakes, a questionable call, cops in the press box part of wild affair

By Bill Howard

It was a game of stout defenses, mistakes on both sides, and a very controversial call. If that weren't enough, an assistant coach was escorted by police from the press box.

When it was over, Knoxville Central High School held on to defeat home-standing Carter 14-6 in an important Region 2-5A contest. In so doing, the Bobcats stayed perfect in the region at 3-0 (6-1 overall). Carter fell to 5-3, 2-2 in the region.

"It was a good game, I think the difference was our kids played hard," said Central's first-year head coach Nick Craney. "Our kids really wanted to come out here

and get the win. I'm proud of the way our kids fought to the end."

Hornets' coach Justin Pressley, also in his first year, wasn't ambivalent in his assessment.

"Shoulda won," he said. "We were the better football team. We didn't take advantage of being in the red zone three times. We missed some opportunities but they had help. I'm not afraid to say it."

The "help" Pressley referenced was a 26-yard fourth-down touchdown pass from Ryan Bolton to Greg Moore in the third period. Moore dropped the ball very shortly after it hit his hands. The official called it a touchdown, and it gave Central

the 14-6 lead that held to the end.

"The incomplete pass?" Pressley said when asked about the play. "The Carter Hornets are a better football team ... a better football program. We went toe to toe with the defending state champion and we're the better football team."

It looked like the Bobcats might have a huge offensive night when they took the opening drive and marched 57 yards on eight plays to lead 7-0. Liam Fortner, who often took the snap in the wildcat position, ran it in from the one.

But it would be the Central's only score of the half as their other three possessions resulted in turning the ball over on downs, having a punt blocked and a pass intercepted.

"We've gotta get better

at the little details," said Craney. "We played with heart, we played physical, but doing all the things right to be successful, and getting rid of some of the mistakes that are just mental errors."

Carter, until very late in the half, had virtually no offense. Their first three drives netted all of 12 yards and lasted fewer than three minutes.

The Hornets finally caught fire with 2:17 left in the half when they drove 60 yards for a touchdown. With 43 seconds left, Chandler Wilson hit Anthony Stocker for a 29-yard score. The missed PAT left the Hornets trailing at half 7-6.

"We couldn't get going, we made some bad mistakes early," said Pressley. "They did a good a good job on defense early on. Then

we started moving the ball fast and started giving them trouble."

On the opening possession of the third quarter, Carter drove to Central's four, and attempted a field goal that would have given them the lead. But the kick was blocked by David Johnson, and the Bobcats took over on the 20.

The ensuing 80-yard drive resulted in the controversial touchdown pass. Carter forced an incomplete pass on a third down, but a roughing call kept Central's possession alive. Six plays later the Bobcats scored.

"It was called a touchdown," said Craney. "I think there were several big calls that went the other way. Whether he caught it or not, it leveled the playing field as far as officiating."

The Hornets had a final

chance when Central had a third and 17 on Carter's 49 late in the game. But Bolton connected with Moore for 26 yards, and the 'Cats were then able to run out the clock.

"This team, if they commit to buying into getting better every single day, they can be as good as they want to be," Craney said.

Said Pressley: "I feel pretty confident that if we get a chance to play 'em again we'll be in good shape. Defense was amazing, we just couldn't finish in the red zone."

One of Central's assistant coaches was escorted by police from the press box after a hostile dialogue ensued between him and some Carter fans. Craney had no comment on the matter.

## A GLANCE BACK AND A LOOK AHEAD

# Standings change, but unbeaten CAK's focus does not

By Steve Williams

Christian Academy of Knoxville's undefeated football team is now in sole possession of first place in the Division II Class AA East Region standings after Grace Christian's 59-48 home loss to Chattanooga Christian Friday.

The Warriors, off last week, are 3-0 in the district and 7-0 overall. They travel to Boyd Buchanan this week.

GCA's first loss of the season left the Rams, who have an open date this week, at 3-1 and 7-1.

GCA plays at CAK Oct. 23 and it's still a huge game for both teams.

After last week's change in the standings, CAK Coach Travis Mozingo said: "We continue to focus on our preparation, our performance, and our locker room."

**CREDITING O-LINE:** CAK running back JD Dunn had a big game in the Warriors' Week 7 win over Notre Dame, but he praised the offensive line after the victory.

"The offense executed," said Dunn. "The defense executed. We executed on both ends. The offense got going. Our o-line was amazing. They did more than their job actually. I felt like I did good, but I wouldn't do anything without the o-line though. I've got to give it to my o-line. They get all the credit from me."

CAK's offensive line includes tackle Jake Rogers, guard Eli Milam, center Garrett Brady, guard Jaquez Turman, tackle Ethan Fogle and center Ryen Minton. Bart Kareken coaches the offensive line in addition to being the team's defensive coordinator.

**WELCOME BACK:** Veteran Farragut Coach Eddie Courtney was back on the sidelines for the first time Friday night after having prostate surgery.

At Science Hill the week before, he called defensive plays but wasn't on the sidelines.

**MIGHTY MCAFEE:** Once-beaten TKA was led by Na'kelin McAfee, who rushed for 305 yards and five touchdowns in Lions' Week 7 win over Middle Tennessee Christian.

McAfee also had five receptions for 97 yards and a touchdown. It's the second time this year McAfee has

South-Doyle Coach Clark Duncan took a picture of his former player Elijah Young, now a Missouri Tiger, warming up at Neyland Stadium Oct. 3.



rushed for at least 200 yards and four touchdowns.

**BIG STOPPER:** Noah Myers had 15 tackles and three TFLs in South-Doyle's 21-14 win at Halls Friday.

**RARE FIND:** Linemen aren't known for scoring touchdowns, but occasionally they do. Fulton junior defensive lineman Cameron Stokes enjoyed that moment last week. The ball was stripped out and Stokes pounced on it in the endzone in the Falcons' 24-6 win over Clinton.

**BIG ADDITION:** Jaidin Horton is expected to rejoin Central this week and it'll be a big boost for the Bobcats. Horton, an All-State defensive back last year who figured to be an offensive weapon for Central this year, should be ready to play after being sidelined with a broken collar bone that he suffered during pre-season practice.

**HEY ELIJAH:** Former South-Doyle running back Elijah Young was on the travel roster with Missouri when the Tigers played Tennessee in Knoxville on Oct. 3, but did not play in the game.

Clark Duncan got a chance to communicate with his former player as he warmed up for the game against the Vols.

"I was not able to get on the field because of the COVID restrictions," said Duncan.

"We were not able to have a conversation. We just acknowledged each other during his warm-up.

"It was great to see Elijah in an SEC uniform. I just wished it was Orange and White.

"Elijah is really happy at Missouri and I know he's in a great program and amongst people that really care about him and will take care of him."

Young was listed No. 4 on the Missouri depth chart. Three upperclassmen were ahead of him.

# Dobyns-Bennett runs past Admirals 56-35

By Ken Lay

Farragut High School football coach Eddie Courtney was happy to be back on the sideline last week. He couldn't, however, be happy about what he saw in his return.

"It feels great to be back and even though I didn't like anything about how it turned out, I am happy to be back," Courtney said after the Admirals came up on the short end of a 56-35 decision in against Kingsport Dobyns-Bennett in a Region 1-6A contest at Bill Clabo Field.

With the victory, the Indians kept their perfect record intact and spoiled Courtney's return to the sideline. Farragut's long-time head coach ran the team from the press box in the Admirals' last two games. He missed the team's win over Morristown West after having prostate cancer surgery in mid-September.

Dobyns-Bennett (7-0 overall, 4-0 in the region) opened the game with a vengeance, scoring on its inaugural four possessions. In fact the only thing that could stop the Indians was halftime.

Tylar Tesnear made a pair of touchdown runs in the first half while quarterback Zane Whitson threw a 40-yard scoring strike to Braden Marshall and added a 4-yard touchdown run for the Indians, who opened a 14-0 lead by first quarter's end and held a 28-14 advantage at halftime.

The Admirals were able to remain within striking distance thanks to a pair of touchdown passes from quarterback Dawson

Moore, who had another solid performance, going 18-for-30 for 279 yards. The junior threw five touchdown passes and an interception.

"Moore played well. He even pulled it down and ran a little bit," Courtney said.

Moore was also the Admirals' leading rusher, toting the ball 14 times for 71 yards.

But Farragut (4-3, 2-1) had its issues on defense as Tesnear ran for 240 yards and finished the game with four touchdowns.

Whitson threw for one score and ran for another while Phillip Armitage had a 1-yard touchdown run and a 46-yard scoring scamper for the Indians.

While the Admirals suffered a tough region loss, they did manage to score points against a Dobyns-Bennett defense that had surrendered just 17 points in the team's last five games.

Matt White continued his stellar season as he had eight receptions and amassed 84 yards and caught a touchdown pass.

Mason Collins had a pair of touchdown receptions while Zach Keasling and Trace Corum also pulled in touchdown passes.

Farragut must now put the loss to the Indians in the rear-view mirror and prepare for its annual showdown against Kingston Pike rival Bearden.

The Admirals will tangle with the Bulldogs (2-5, 2-1) on the road Friday night. After a slow start, Bearden has won its last two games.

"We'll have to get ready for that game," Courtney said. "That game is a big one for us every year."

# West beats Powell 39-27

Cont. from page 1

With less than four minutes to go, the Panthers took over on their own four-yard line. They'd need a 96-yard touchdown drive to win the game. Instead, it was the West defense closing the door. Potts was under pressure, tried to shovel the football to a white jersey, but the blue jersey of Ethan Scott stepped in front of the pass at the five-yard line. He skipped over the goal line

Powell wasn't ready to lay down. Potts found Gianni Magdos on a 14-yard touchdown pass, and it was 32-21 late in the third quarter. Then with 8:15 remaining in the game, Potts ran it in from four yards out, and suddenly it was 32-27. Powell was within a score.

for the touchdown to bring the lead to 39-27.

An Andrew Gilbert sack of Potts deep in West territory with just over a minute remaining sealed the deal. It was his fifth sack of the game.

Last year Powell edged West in the regular season, only to see the Rebels get their revenge with a victory of their own in the postseason. Should these teams match up in the playoffs

again this year, the Panthers hope that pattern continues.

"There's a lot of great 5A teams that can beat you on any given night," said Brown. "Nobody is guaranteed to advance in the playoffs."

The next game for West comes on Friday night when they host Fulton. As for Powell, they'll travel to Oak Ridge to face the Wildcats on October 23.

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# On the Road.. in White Jerseys

In the days of Gen. Robert R. Neyland (and perhaps even before then), Tennessee wore its orange jerseys on the road. It was an article of faith.

By Tom Mattingly

That notion came to an abrupt end with an SEC's "Gentlemen's Agreement" in early 1971, giving the home team the choice of taking the school-colored shirts and the visiting team wearing the white shirts, except at LSU and, for a year or so, at Vanderbilt.

Tennessee head coach Bill Battle voted against the agreement, saying, "You're darn right I did," when quizzed about it in 2006.

That agreement was a big deal in those seemingly uncertain times in 1971. The Vols had worn their orange jerseys on the road up until that time, with three exceptions, all losses, to Texas (in the 1953 and

1969 Cotton Bowls) and the 1963 contest against Alabama at Legion Field. One Tennessee football historian has suggested that Vol fans believed the white jerseys were a "jinx."

Many Tennessee opponents had worn their "home jerseys" when they played on Shields-Watkins Field, Alabama in crimson, Kentucky and Ole Miss in blue, UCLA in powder blue, and so forth.

There are classic pictures in Sports Illustrated of Tennessee in orange and Alabama in crimson, a cover shot of Mike Jones and Dennis Homan going for the ball in the 1967 game and a two-page shot of Hal Wantland diving over the Tide line in the 1965 game, both games played at Legion Field in Birmingham.

The genesis of the white jersey agreement may have come in part from the 1969 Tennessee-Vanderbilt game at Neyland Stadium. It was a sunny late November day, Vanderbilt clad in gold, Tennessee in orange. Only the

helmets distinguished one team from the other.

Vanderbilt head coach Bill Pace suggested after the game that Tennessee would wear white jerseys in Nashville in 1970, but as things turned out, the Vols wore orange anyway. It was a cloudy day and the difference between the two sets of jerseys was more pronounced.

Tennessee wore white shirts with an orange collar from 1971-73, winning five of the eight games. There were two games against Alabama and Kentucky and one each at Vanderbilt, Florida, Ole Miss, and Georgia. The white jerseys looked like what the Pittsburgh Steelers had worn in those days. One fan said the white shirts were so ugly you just had to love them.

One of the most radical changes in jerseys came in the Jim McDonald season in 1963, with a get-up called the "Halloween uniforms," so named because the shirts were light orange with black and white stripes

on the shoulders and black numbers.

The Vols also unveiled a white version, with orange and black stripes on the shoulders, in a 35-0 loss to Alabama, and these shirts were not seen again the rest of the season. They were worn at least once in freshman games in 1965, but no one seems to know their whereabouts today.

Former Vol Mallon Faircloth, the last of the single-wing tailbacks, was present that day the Vols trotted onto Legion Field in their new white shirts.

"We had new orange jerseys that season, and new white ones had just come in," he recalled. "They were the jerseys with stripes across the shoulder. I guess coach McDonald wanted to change our luck. He didn't discuss it with any of us. I think he told us that week we were wearing them."

Tennessee has won a number of big games in white shirts since that time, the same way they have in orange. There was



Tennessee tailback Mallon Faircloth (43) has the ball under his arm in the 1963 Alabama game, clad in the road version of the "Halloween jerseys."

the first "Blue Grass Miracle" at Stoll Field in Lexington, Ky., in 1971, when Carl Johnson saved the day with an 87-yard scoring run with a fumbled pitch, just when it looked as if the Wildcats were going in for the tying or go-ahead score. John Majors brought style and verve to the Tennessee uniforms, adding a splash of orange trim to the white jerseys, accompanied by orange pants. That all began on Oct. 15, 1977.

losing streak against Alabama in 1995 in white jerseys, and Antonio Wardlaw made the cover of Sports Illustrated with a blocked punt and recovery for a touchdown at Georgia in 2006, wearing a white No. 38. There were wins at Notre Dame in 1991 and 2001 and a 10-6 triumph at Miami in 2003.

Despite some initial trepidation, Vol fans have accepted the white shirts with open arms and without question.

The Vols broke a long

West High's Sam Schroeffel (16) attempts to elude Bearden's Zneyah McLaughlin in last week's soccer match at Turner-Allender Field. Photo by Ken Lay.



## Bearden continues long district winning streak

By Ken Lay

Bearden High School's girls soccer team culminated a big week Thursday night with a 1-0 victory over District 4-AAA regular-season champion Maryville. That will definitely give the Lady Bulldogs a shot of momentum heading into this week's District 2-AAA Tournament.

But that match didn't mean much in the grand scheme of things.

Early on, Bearden (15-1 overall) finished off another perfect District 2-AAA regular-season run when it shut out Morristown East 11-0 Tuesday night.

In that match, Anna Biechler and Brinley Murphy each scored two goals for the Lady Bulldogs while Alivia Scott, Morgan Hellman, Kenslie Myers, Andrea Adkins, Becca Roth, Janie Lewis and Zneyah McLaughlin also had markers against the hapless Lady Hurricanes. Murphy also scored Thursday against Maryville.

The victory over Morristown East helped the Lady Bulldogs continue a long district winning streak.

Bearden hasn't lost a regular-season or tournament match against a district foe since it joined District 2-AAA in 2017.

That victory was one of three shutouts for Bearden this week. The Lady Bulldogs opened the week with a victory over West High at Turner-Allender Field on Monday, Oct. 5.

Bearden outlasted the Lady Rebels, who will be the No. 2 seed in the upcoming district tournament, which opens with a play-in game today, 2-0 in overtime

thanks to goals by Murphy and Roth in extra time.

Roth scored in the 89th minute off an assist from McLaughlin. Murphy sealed the victory with a marker in the 94th minute.

Bearden might've had to work a little overtime against the Lady Rebels, who beat Farragut and Morristown West in other matches last week.

But the Lady Bulldogs outshot West 39-6. Bearden got 20 of its shots on frame and Lady Rebels' goalkeeper Carissa Carvela made 18 saves against Bearden's high-powered offensive attack.

Four of West's shots landed on target.

Bearden coach Ryan Radcliffe was pleased with his side's effort against the Lady Rebels in a long-running rivalry series. West and Bearden were rivals in District 4-AAA before changing leagues four years ago.

"This is a rivalry game," Radcliffe said. "West has some good players but you really don't know what they have because it's been so long since they played."

"I thought we did a good job when they put people behind us. We're going to have to get used to teams doing that against us because we're probably going to see a lot of that as we move forward and get into the district tournament."

Both the Lady Rebels and Lady Bulldogs will return to action Tuesday night in district tournament elimination semifinal games. Bearden and West will both be home Tuesday.



PHOTO BY KEN LAY.

District Champs: The CAK girls soccer team celebrates its Division II-A East District 1 Title Thursday night. The Lady Warriors defeated Grace Christian 2-0 to claim the crown.

## Lady Warriors outlast Grace to earn district soccer title

By Ken Lay

It didn't come easily but the Christian Academy of Knoxville girls soccer team won a Division II-A East Region District 1 Championship Thursday night.

"This was a great game and it was a tough game, but they don't give away district championships around here," Lady Warriors' coach Ried Estus said after his squad outlasted Grace Christian Academy 2-0 in the district title tournament title match at CAK. "We played them last week (in a regular-season game) last week at Grace and we won 3-2."

But that was a tough game too."

In Thursday night's title showdown, the Lady Warriors (13-1-1) and the Lady Rams (7-4) slugged

through a scoreless opening 40 minutes as neither team was willing to yield.

The scoreless deadlock continued in the early stages of the second half as CAK goalkeeper Anna Nichols and Grace Christian netminder Caitlin Dixon each stopped every shot that came their way.

CAK finally scored when junior Lia Schreuder tallied on a penalty kick in the 57th minute.

Schreuder, the 2019 District II-A East Region District 1 Midfielder of the Year, iced the game when she got a second marker past Dixon and into the back of the Lady Rams' net in the waning seconds of the match.

The victory avenged CAK's loss to GCA in last year's district title match.

Even in defeat, Lady Rams' coach Isaac Brooks couldn't fault his side's effort against the Lady Warriors.

"We got them last year but we didn't quite get them this year," said Brooks. "We have a lot of new young girls playing out there this year."

"They're training hard. We knew that coming in that (CAK) wanted to control the tempo and we had a game plan. We played hard and we played well, but things just didn't quite go our way tonight."

Both the Lady Warriors and Lady Rams were set to host regional quarterfinal matches Saturday but results were not available at press time.

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**JT Quinones**

Senior

Football, Outside Linebacker

Parents: Tom and DeeDee Quinones

Stats: 11 total tackles, 8 solo, 3 assisted, 2 tackles loss, 1 fumble recovery, and 1 forced fumble

**West High School**

.....

**Karly Kammann**

Senior

Volleyball, Right Side Hitter

Parents: Kurt and Booth Kammann

Stats: 142 kills, 87 digs and 91% serve

# Will Fennell's 'tradition' continue at CAK?

By Steve Williams

Christian Academy of Knoxville's boys golf team begins play in the TSSAA Division II Class A tournament today with hopes of winning the state championship for the fourth year in a row.

One major difference between this season and the past three years, however, is that CAK has a new boys' coach in Donnie Cooper.

Hank Fennell had been the Warriors' head coach for 15 years before retiring, and his teams had accounted for all six of the school's boys' state championships, starting with the first one in 2009 at the Old Fort Golf Course in Murfreesboro.

Not only did Fennell leave behind quite a record, he also started somewhat of a tradition when the TSSAA made WillowBrook Golf Course in Manchester the annual site for the state tourney in 2010.

After CAK claimed top honors the second time, Coach Fennell celebrated by jumping in a pond that is located off the 18th green at WillowBrook and repeated the act when his Warriors won again in 2015.

"I think we - or at least I - did that every year we won at WillowBrook," recalled Fennell earlier this year. "It was definitely a tradition."

Cooper was asked at this year's district tournament if he would carry on the tradition if the Warriors win the state.

"If the boys want me to, I



**Hank Fennell, surrounded by his players, guided CAK boys golf teams to six state championships and one runner-up finish in his 15 seasons as head coach at his alma mater. And he celebrated with a traditional jump into the pond just off the 18th green at WillowBrook.**

guess I will," he answered.

First, CAK will have to get past Webb and the rest of the state field. The Warriors outshot the Spartans 295-318 in the district, but Webb finished on top in the region 300-304.

Cooper also is in his seventh season as girls' coach. His Lady Warriors won state titles in 2015 and 2016.

Fennell made him the offer to jump in the pond "together" in 2016.

"I declined," said Donnie.

But this season, who knows?

Fennell started out coaching basketball at CAK in 2004 and coached for five years.

"At a beginning-of-the-year coaches' meeting before school started in 2005, they mentioned that they were looking for a golf coach for the season, and I

stepped up to take the job," said Fennell. "Then they said something like, 'by the way, the season starts tomorrow!'"

Fennell played golf in high school, but basketball was his sport.

"I know a lot about golf, but I'm pretty average," he said.

Fennell gave up coaching basketball after the 2008 season and put all of his coaching attention on golf.

"I coached golf for 15 years, which is hard to believe, but it was probably the best thing I have ever done in my life," he pointed out. "We had a lot of success, and I think the boys had a lot of fun."

Terry Johnson, office manager for Fennell, who is President of Fennell Property Management, Inc., and a realtor for Realty Executives

Associates, is aware of what coaching at his alma mater meant to him.

"He's invested in these young men that he has mentored and coached," she said. "Hank is a Christian and the first thing he does is encourage them in their spiritual walk."

"They weren't just athletes on his team. They were individuals that meant something to him."

Two of his former players who are playing in college now are interns in his business.

"These are young men that will stay in Hank's life and he'll be a mentor and a role model for them for life," added Johnson. "He wants these young men to succeed not just in sports, but in life."

How did jumping in that pond get started?

"I don't remember if it was a spur of the moment thing or not," said Hank. "It was probably Tracy Webb's idea."

Tracy was the father of Kory Webb, a CAK graduate around 2009 who went on to play at UTC.

"Tracy was the middle school coach and very vital in my development as a coach as well," said Fennell. "He helped get the program to where it is today."

On the way out, Hank left CAK with a sense of humor.

"Yep, six (titles) overall! I had to match MJ's total before moving on."



PHOTO BY STEVE WILLIAMS

**Maddie Archdale, Hardin Valley freshman, ranks with the best cross country runners the school has ever had, says Coach Bryan Brown.**

## HVA freshman wins KIL cross country girls' title

### Hawks post perfect score

By Steve Williams

There's a rising star in Hardin Valley Academy's renowned cross country program.

Freshman Maddie Archdale posted a time of 19 minutes, 12 seconds to win the Knoxville Inter-scholastic League championship Friday on the new 5,000-meter course at Tommy Schumpert Park.

"I was pretty confident when I came into the race," said Archdale. "I really like this course, and just from running over it in practice."

She felt like it suited her style of running. "I felt strongly about the variations of the course - its mixture of hills and then flatness."

So, coming into her first KIL event, she was confident and looking forward to it. "I was very excited to race today. I had a good mindset."

As for winning as a freshman, "It's pretty cool," she said.

"I just know that God has my back at all times and I tell myself that all the time. It was a pretty good feeling."

Maddie, now 14, has been running since third grade. She also competes in track.

"I always go into races thinking, 'You can do this.'"

She said her only strategy plan was that she was "going to push it a little more on the last mile than usual."

Archdale said she and Anna Graves, a Webb School freshman, were going "head to head" at the start. "I got the lead about halfway through and at the bottom of the second hill."

Graves would end up taking second place with a time of 19:51.

Three juniors rounded out the Top 5 - Farragut's Camryn Johnson (20:32), Hardin Valley's Avery Holdsworth (20:30) and Farragut's Lexi Foley (20:32).

Then two more freshmen - Kate Robinson of West and Bridgett Ebbert of Farragut, who both were clocked at 20:34.

What's this with freshmen competing and winning over seniors and upperclassmen?

Archdale just thinks "it depends on the mindset and the training that goes into it before the race."

Maddie's goal for the remainder of the season is



**Kaden Keller led the way as Hardin Valley Academy's boys cross country team had a perfect score in winning the KIL championship Friday.**

"Top 3 in region and state."

When asked what he thinks Archdale's potential is, Hardin Valley Coach Bryan Brown said: "It's lights out. She's with some of the best in the history of our program and we've had some pretty good girls over the years. She's doing great."

Completing the girls' Top 10 were Farragut senior Cathy Hu (20:38) and sophomore Kaylee Estridge of Knoxville Catholic (20:44) and Kennedy Reynolds of Farragut (20:48).

Coach Chelsea Osborne's Lady Admirals captured the KIL girls' team title with a 33-point total. Hardin Valley (50) was runner-up. The Top 5 also included West (89), Webb (95) and Bearden (133).

**PERFECTION:** Hardin Valley's boys swept the top five places for a perfect score of 15, which is believed to be the first time that has ever happened in the history of the KIL boys' meet.

"We think it is the first in boys," said Don Madgett, president of the Metro Knoxville Cross Country Coaches Association. "The Farragut girls did it in 1983."

Junior standout Kaden Keller led the Hawks with a winning time of 16:24. Andrew Schultz was second at 16:37. They were followed by teammates Alex Brittain (16:40), Mitchell McCown (16:44) and Nathan Hillis (16:44).

The Top 10 also included Farragut's Trevor Coggin (16:47) and Tyler Ebbert (16:57), HVA's Daniel Blackston (17:02), and Catholic's Riley Smith (17:03) and Spencer Stovall (17:19).

Farragut was runner-up in the boys' team scoring with 53 points. Rounding out the Top 5 were Knoxville Catholic (88), Webb School (122) and West (157).

# Admirals get what they truly wanted in state golf tourney

By Steve Williams

It was a team effort and that's what made it such a great day in Farragut High School boys' golf.

The Admirals captured the TSSAA Class Large state team championship and senior Lance Simpson took individual medalist honors in the process Wednesday at WillowBrook Golf Course in Manchester.

Simpson shot a 13-under-par 67-64-131, tying the second best 36-hole score in TSSAA history. But he was disappointed he didn't break 130 and set a new state record.

His dismay, however, was overwhelmed by the pride and joy he felt celebrating the team title with teammates.

Farragut Coach Jon Higgins witnessed that and more.

"I thought the biggest key for the players was to make sure that they embraced the moment and enjoyed being there," he said the following day. "Playing with free minds and not worrying about if they were going to be responsible for us winning or losing really helped ease each guy off the first tee."

"Obviously Lance was phenomenal, but so were Connor Price and Owen Queener with 72s. AJ Rinehart with a 75 and Brady Harville with his 74 on Tuesday really kept us in it for Wednesday."

Farragut led by only one stroke after the first day, totaling 300 to Ravenwood's 301. But the Admirals shot



**Above, Farragut celebrated its first team championship in TSSAA state golf since 2014 last week. Representing the Admirals (from left to right): Head Coach Jon Higgins, Carter Mayfield, Owen Queener, AJ Rinehart, Lance Simpson, Connor Price, Brady Harville and Assistant Coach Jason Mayfield.**

**Left, Farragut golfer Lance Simpson tied for the second best 36-hole score in TSSAA history in winning this year's Class Large state championship.**



17 strokes better in Round 2 and pulled away to a 12-stroke victory, finishing 300-283-583 to runner-up Ravenwood's 301-294-595.

"Lance was unbelievable," said Coach Higgins. "It's really hard to put into words just how well he played all week. He was focused and did a great job of helping the other guys stay calm and focused on the task at hand."

"What impresses me the most about Lance is that he has always wanted to be a part of a team that won state throughout high school, and even though he's had a ton of individual success, he's

always wanted team success as well and that he really cares about his teammates.

"He's a wonderful kid that has two state individual titles, one team title and multiple district and region championships. Yet when it was over, he was extremely proud that he could win it with his teammates."

Simpson, who has committed to sign with UT, edged Dickson County freshman Jackson Herrington (67-66-133) by two strokes.

West High junior Carson Kammann came in fourth at 76-66-142. Bearden freshman Jaden Morrell carded a 78-79-157.

Simpson's 131 total tied former Halls standout Ryan Hall's 2017 score. Hall is

now playing at South Carolina.

Baylor's Seth Brandon set the record (130) in 2003.

In the girls' tourney, Station Camp (294) nipped Tennessee High by one stroke for its third title in a row. Farragut took third place in the eight-team field with a 306.

Sullivan South senior Kara Carter was girls' medalist with a 72-66-138.

Farragut senior Lexanne Halama, an Illinois commit, ended her fine prep career with a 75-74-149 and in eighth place. Teammates Vivian Wang and Lindsay Ott totaled 159 and 164, respectively.

Hardin Valley's Madilyn Newman posted a 155 and Bearden freshman Maya Hira a 168.



**The Doctor is in**

a weekly column by  
**Dr. Jim Ferguson**

**Insanity**

When debate is lost, slander becomes the tool of the losers.  
 Socrates

It happens every quadrennial October just before the Presidential election, so why should we be surprised that history repeats itself? This time it's not some tape of male locker room braggadocio, a decade old DWI report, an eleventh-hour Vietnam peace deal or a hostage release in Iran. This year there are multiple October surprises: the politicized Chinese pandemic; the death of Ruth Bader Ginsberg and the president stricken with COVID-19.

However, if you watch CNN or MSNBC or read the NYT or Washington Post you may not have heard of the latest "bombshell" - I'm so sick of that term. Just released documents revealed that Obama and Biden knew their Secretary of State, Hillary Clinton,

paid for the infamous and fabricated Steele dossier and used it to deflect investigation on herself. Then the CIA and the FBI obtained illegal FISA Court warrants to spy on the Trump campaign and to promote the Russian collusion scam. Obama/Biden were part of the soft coup d'état to remove the duly elected President Trump from office. If they had succeeded, none of this would have been discovered, and the votes of millions of Americans would have been negated.

Someday, our new Civil War will be over, but God told the ancient prophet Micah that justice has to occur before mercy can be extended (Micah 6:8); only then can the war end.

If Biden wins America will be irrevocably changed. The Democrat agenda is abortion without limits, defunding the police, open borders instead of legal immigration, sanctuary

cities, eliminating ICE, higher taxes, green new deal, reparations, socialized medicine and gutting the Second Amendment. But there's more. Democrats plan to pack the Supreme Court, eliminate the filibuster which gives the minority party some say and they plan to make Washington DC and Puerto Rico states, affording the Democrats four more Senators. These changes will effectively eliminate the two-party system. We may still have elections, but Democrats will never lose power. And, they are working to eliminate the Electoral College which gives smaller states like Tennessee a say in Presidential elections. Without the Electoral College, the most populous states like California, New York, Florida and Texas will elect the president.

Becky and I are Southerners, and though Tennessee is not in the Deep South, the people in our area retain an ambience and grace not present in someone from, say, New York City. Of course, this is a generalization, but I say so to make a point that many have observed. The Fergusons are native Knoxvilleians and, though Becky possesses more grace than me, a southern ambience carries over

into most of my social interactions. I recently spoke on the phone with a so-called Yankee. He was professional, terse, to the point and lacked any conversational southern grace. I've experienced similar curtness on the streets of New York City.

Becky makes people feel loved on the phone, whereas I'm more "businesslike" when I receive calls from the hospital at two o'clock in the morning. She has chided me for my lack of warmth in the middle of the night. I listen and vow to be kinder, but I reserve social graces for the daylight hours. I've witnessed hers for forty-five years and they are 24/7.

Aside from all the disgusting political verbiage of the election season, the major criticism of Trump is not his policies or record, but his rhetoric. People say, "If he'd only button his lip and curb his tweets." He is from Queens, you know. What should we expect from a New Yorker who has been maliciously attacked, along with his family, for four and a half years?

I'm not excusing the president, but the choice is between the brash New Yorker who counter punches and the impaired career politician. The choice is between someone who loves

America and someone who sides with those who hate America. The choice is between a leader who takes personal risks being out with the people or someone who cowers in his basement governed by his puppeteers. The choice is between law and order or revolutionary radicalism. The choice is between someone who believes life has risks or someone who says there must be no risk.

As a doctor I'm trained to recognize those signs and symptoms which are just aggravations and part of life, and issues which are of concern and may portend more serious problems. However, most of us know when something isn't right. When I was a boy, we had a beautiful Persian cat that "wasn't right." This cat would sit in mud puddles after a rain storm and birds would swoop to torment the poor creature. Perhaps the cat was demented or insane. We tolerated, loved and fed poor Marilyn, named by my mother after Marilyn Monroe, who was also disturbed.

What can be done with millions of Americans who have been driven insane by their hatred of Donald Trump? The insanity was on full display recently as the insane wished Trump would die from COVID-19 and said he was receiving what he deserved for not

wearing a mask. Actually, unless you are wearing an N95 mask (and not the ones made in China), masks in general protect others from you, but offer you virtually NO protection. There are exceptions to every rule and wearing a mask might protect you from one of the insane who attack the mask less. Sometimes it seems we are living in the era of insanity, recently described as the era of "mask inquisitions" and "Covid theology."

I don't have an answer to the question posed in the last paragraph. The insane have promised violence if Trump is reelected. But, the shock troops of the "woke" Democrat party are already bombing, burning, looting and murdering just like Robespierre and the Jacobins of the French Revolution. Perhaps Amazon will start selling them guillotines on the Internet.

We cannot tolerate the insane in control of our government. Just today I learned that Pelosi is threatening Trump with the 25th Amendment, again. With all our troubles, this is what the Democrats choose to focus upon? This is insanity and sane people can recognize people and policies that "just ain't right."

You may email Dr. Ferguson at [fergusonj@knoxfocus.com](mailto:fergusonj@knoxfocus.com)

**When visiting Sgt. York Park don't forget 'Coonrad'**

The Sgt. Alvin C. York State Historic Park is about a two-hour drive from Knoxville, depending on what route you take, and is well worth a visit. There are lots of interesting

**A Day Away**



By Mike Steely

built for the WWI Medal of Honor recipient, for a small admission fee. You can also donate and have a ranger show you the various sites around Pall Mall, York's

there along with modern restrooms.

The visitor center, located in the old York grocery store, provides a brief video presentation that tells York's story as a war hero but, more importantly, also tells of his life after the war which he devoted to his community, promoting education locally and nationally, and championing progressive causes.

While much is known about Sgt. York, there's very little about his great-great-grandfather, Coonrad Pile (or Pyle), who settled the area long before statehood. He was a long hunter who discovered a spring and cave on the site and claimed the land. He's buried in the Wolf River

**Continue on page 4**



PHOTO BY MIKE STEELY

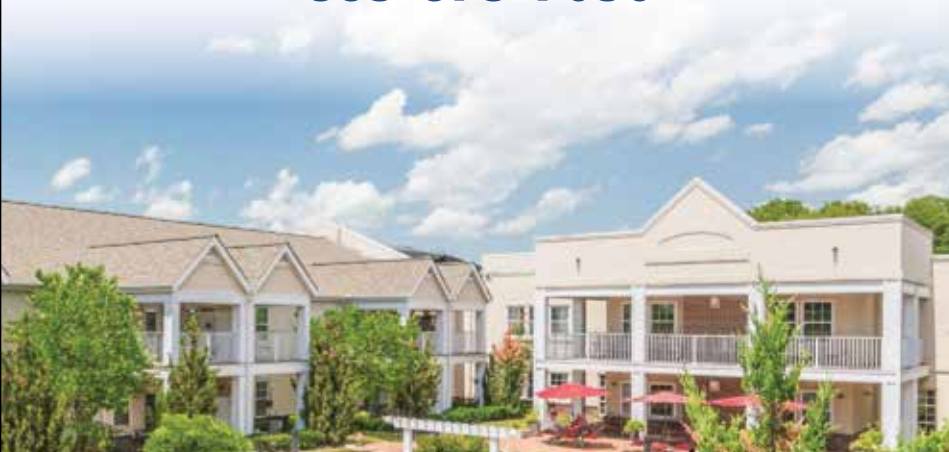
This trench at Sgt. York State Historic Park gives visitors an idea of what World War I was like for soldiers.

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## When visiting Sgt. York Park don't forget 'Coonrad'



PHOTO BY LETTIE STEELY.

The York family mill at Sgt. York State Park is well worth a stop and was played an important part in the culture of the Pall Mall, Tn. area.

**Continued from page 1**

Cemetery in the older section across from the grave of Sgt. York and the York family. Coonrad's grave is "above" ground and elevated with stones surrounding it.

Conrad, who preferred to be called "Coonrad" to distinguish him from a grandson of the same name, brought his family there and built a huge log home, with one room with no windows and only one door, where he stored his weapons and a growing amount of wealth.

At one time he owned most of the land including parts of nearby Jamestown, Tennessee. He was a slave owner, a merchant, owner of the store and flour mill, and built the

road leading into Pall Mall. Had it not been for his great-grandson Coonrad may have been the most famous person from those parts.

The little Fentress County community of Pall Mall was not named for the cigarette brand but for Pall Mall in England.

The Sgt. York State Historic Park is open to the public and you can best reach it off Interstate 40 West at Highway 127 North. You may also call the park at (931)-879-6456 or visit [www.tnstateparks.com](http://www.tnstateparks.com). One interesting installation at the park nowadays is a war trench that gives visitors an example of what World War One was like for soldiers.

The Sgt. York home can be visited at certain hours during the day.

Most of the park is free to visit but there is a small fee to visit the York home. One tip: the area is in the Central Time Zone so you may want to get there in the morning to have enough time to see everything there. On your way back you may want to turn off the highway and drive through Historic Rugby or venture into the Big South Fork Recreation Area. Just north of the park is the Cordell Hull Birthplace State Park and Pickett State Park is about 25 miles away.

Getting out with the family is a great stress reliever and you never know what you may discover.

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