

City preps for multi-use stadium

By Mike Steely
 Senior Writer
steelym@knoxfocus.com

What exactly is a “sliver” of a street? That was a question at Tuesday night’s Knoxville City Council meeting when the planning commission requested closing small portions along the sides of Jackson Avenue and Florida Street.

The four requests were explained by Deputy Mayor Stephanie Welch and City Attorney Charles Swanson after Councilwoman Amelia Parker questioned the closings. A narrow part of the streets would be closed as part of the preparations for the construction of the multi-purpose stadium near Old City. Each request was given unanimous approval following the explanation.

The council also approved public infrastructure improvements around the stadium in a 7-1 vote with Parker and Councilman Andrew Roberto questioning the resolution. Parker asked if the city would be funding the improvements around the stadium alone, without the county contributing.

Welch answered “Yes” and said the tax break district created there would help pay the cost. She also said a reworked Magnolia Avenue Streetscape project would help as well.

Parker questioned the city funding the “frontage

Continued on page 6

Finalists revealed for KCS Superintendent job

By Ken Lay

The Tennessee School Boards Association has revealed the names of the three finalists who will vie for the position of Knox County Schools Superintendent.

Dr. Tammy Grissom of the TSBA revealed the names to the Knox County Board of Education at the board’s regular session meeting Wednesday night at the City-County Building.

The board hopes to name a new superintendent, who will replace Bob Thomas, by February 22.

Thomas, who was named KCS

Superintendent in April 2017, is retiring on June 30.

The finalists, who will be interviewed by the board Feb. 17-18, include Dr. Linda Cash, Dr. Jon Rysewyk and Kirk Shrum.

Cash is the superintendent for Bradley County Schools in Southeast Tennessee and has held that position since 2015. She has been an educator in 18 states.

She was previously assistant superintendent of Robertson County Schools and assistant dean of Graduate Education at

Union University.

She has been a school administrator for a decade and spent 18 years as an educator.

Rysewyk is a familiar face at Knox County Schools, where he currently serves as an assistant superintendent.

He is the district’s chief academic officer and has served eight years in school administration and five years of experience as an educator.

He previously served as the director of Emerald Academy, Knox County’s first charter school.

He also previously served as KCS’s Executive Director of Innovation and School Improvement and as the district’s Supervisor of Secondary Education.

Shrum is the Chief School Leadership Officer at Henry County Schools in McDonough, Georgia.

He’s held that position since 2019.

He previously served as Area Executive Director of Fulton County Schools in Atlanta. He has 10 years as a school administrator and six years as an educator.

Duncan speaks at North Knoxville B&P meeting

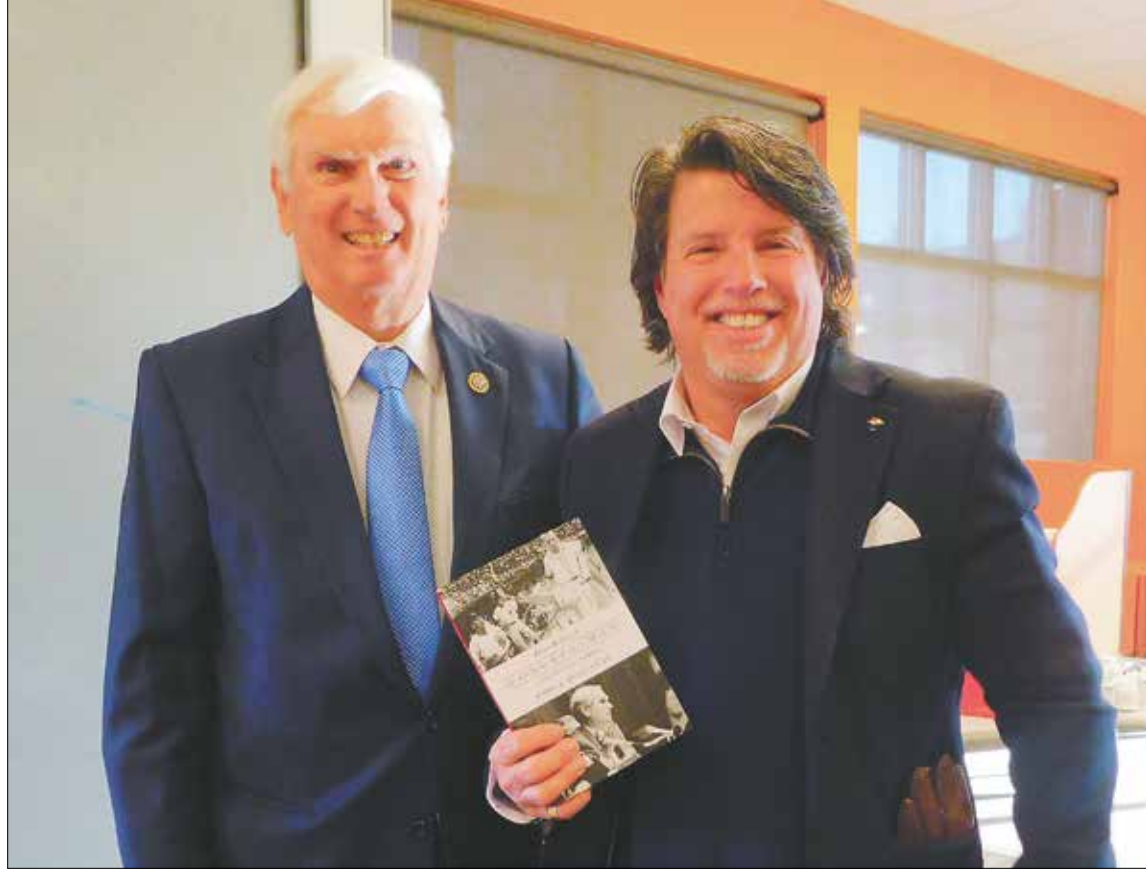


PHOTO BY MIKE STEELY.

Former Congressman Jimmy Duncan poses with North Knoxville Business and Professional Association member George Bove. Duncan’s recent book, “From Batboy to Congressman,” was available at the association’s monthly meeting Friday morning and he told several humorous stories from the book and recalled the many jobs he had before becoming a local lawyer and Congressman. He told stories of his days in Washington and honored his late wife. Duncan stayed after the meeting to meet people and sign his book.

Frustration abounds at KCS board meeting

Federal lawsuit takes center stage at marathon meeting

By Ken Lay

Last week’s meeting was a bit heated at times as the Knox County Board of Education, which finds itself embroiled in a federal lawsuit involving face coverings, made steps to take action after the plaintiffs issued demands.

KCS board member Patti Lou Bounds kept a promise she made at the work session meeting on Monday, Feb. 7.

Bounds, who represents District 7, said she was going to make a motion that the board not give in to the demands made by the plaintiffs in the case, which is tied up in appeals court.

A federal judge issued a court order that KCS students, staff, teachers and administrators, must wear masks after KCS lifted the mask mandate before the start of the fall semester.

The plaintiffs believe that the district is violating the mask mandate.

The plaintiffs in the case issued their latest demands in documents filed in federal court on Feb. 4. The demands included that the board allow neutral monitors in schools to ensure that students and teachers are wearing masks.

A second demand placed on the district was that it submit a three-person compliance committee and the third demand was for the district to submit a compliance plan.

Betsy Henderson seconded Bounds’ motion, which passed with a 5-1 vote with three board members

Continued on page 4

Candidate lists growing for 2022 elections

By Mike Steely
 Senior Writer
steelym@knoxfocus.com

Three different elections will be held this year starting with the Knox County Primary on May 3. The filing deadline for this contest of local offices is this Thursday.

Voters will be busy during the year beyond the primary, with even more offices on the ballot for the August 4 state and federal primary and county general election. Thirty-six Knox County offices will be filled in the general as candidates for Congress, state Senate and state House make their first 2022 appearance on a ballot for the primary.

November 8 is the federal and state general election.

Some local candidates are already picking petitions for the state and federal elections. While no one has yet to pick up a petition for the newly-created Tennessee House District 90, Rep. Sam McKenzie has filed one for his

re-election in District 15. His only opponent so far is regular candidate Pete Drew who will run in the Republican Primary.

Other local candidates to pick up petitions for state House include Elaine Davis as a Republican in District 18 and M.D. Dotson as a Democrat in District 89.

UT professor Mark Harmon has a petition to challenge Tim Burchett’s U.S. House seat in District 2.

Two locals who might run for governor include Constance M. Every and Charles V. Morgan.

Party primary candidates thus far include Jack Vaught as Democratic State Executive District 5, Kyle Ward for Republican State Executive District 6, Sylvia Wood as State Executive Woman District 6 and Keely Sage as Democratic State Executive Woman District 7.

Knox County Candidate Expo to be held March 31

All candidates running for office in 2022 are invited to attend the Knoxville and Knox County Candidate Expo on Thursday, March 31, from 4:30-8:30 p.m. at the Knoxville Expo Center, 5441 Clinton Highway.

The expo is free for both candidates and attendees. Candidates will be provided with a 10x10 booth, eight-foot table and two chairs and are welcome to bring additional items, including signs and giveaways.

“This is such an exciting time for our community, and we wanted to provide an opportunity for folks to get to meet the approximately seventy (70) potential candidates running for office,” said Tim Graham, President of Graham Corporation, which owns the Knoxville Expo Center. “We are happy to provide the space, and welcome all candidates to sign up and join us on March 31st.”

Free parking is plentiful and available to all.

Candidates can reserve their spot by emailing cystal@knoxvilleexpoctr.com or calling (865) 686-3200.

COME JOIN US IN WORSHIP!

CHRISTUS VICTOR

9:30 AM- TRADITIONAL SERVICE
 6:00 PM- MODERN SERVICE

4110 Central Avenue Pike
 Knoxville, TN 37912

865-687-6622 www.cvlcknox.org

NOW HIRING

The Knoxville Focus is seeking dynamic sales people with drive and a positive attitude. We offer lucrative commissions, flexible hours and a rewarding career in a fun atmosphere.

E-mail your resume to staff@knoxfocus.com,

Subject: Focus sales team

PUBLIC AUTO AUCTION

Saturday, February 19 at 9:00 a.m.

Live or online at www.powellauction.com


Inspection is Friday, Feb. 18 from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

POWELL
Auction & Realty

6729 Pleasant Ridge Road Knoxville, TN 37921
 (865) 938-3403 TNFL735 WWW.POWELLAUCTION.COM

Socialism Destroys Countries Economically

From a distance



By John J. Duncan Jr.
duncanj@knoxfocus.com

I find it almost impossible to understand polls I have seen that say a significant percentage of young people today believe in socialism.

The only way that could be is that they have been brainwashed by left-wing college professors.

And some people do call our universities today leftist brainwashing factories because they won't hire conservative professors and extra security has to be called out when any well-known conservative is invited to speak on campus.

It is almost unheard of to have a leading conservative be asked to give a

commencement speech at any major university. Yet if socialism really worked, Cuba, North Korea, Venezuela, the former Soviet Union, and every country in Africa would be heavens on earth.

Instead, people are trying to figure out how they can flee every socialist country in the world, just as they are leaving in droves from blue States and cities in the U.S.

Socialism is great for the tiny percentage at the top who control the government, but it is terrible for everybody else. It quickly wipes out the middle class.

When our own U.S. Federal government was much smaller, we had very few at the top and very few at the bottom. We had a huge middle class, no homeless problem, and the gap between the rich and the poor was tiny.

Russia and its satellite countries were called the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (U.S.S.R.).

Those who controlled the

government lived very well. They had private department stores, special medical care, and vacation homes called dashes by the sea.

But I remember reading several years ago that ordinary Russian people sometimes had to line up eight or nine hours to get a pound of sausage, something we took for granted here.

I remembered this when I read a recent story carried by the main French news service about food lines in Cuba.

I wish every young socialist in this country would read this story, which was headlined "in Cuba, queuing for hours 'just to be able to eat.'" Queuing means standing in line.

The story from the French service (AFP), similar to our AP, tells the story better than I could:

"Cubans are no strangers to queuing for everything from bread to toothpaste, often standing for hours under a blazing sun with no access to a toilet or

drinking water and always with the fear of leaving empty-handed."

"It is a daily ordeal Cubans have endured for about 60 years of communist rule...."

The story went on: "I spent almost all night here just to buy something. It is not easy, it is a big sacrifice just to be able to eat", shopper Edelvis Miranda, 47, told AFP at a market in Havana last week.

"The homemaker had taken her place in the queue at almost 1:00 AM, and finally left around 11 hours later, just before noon."

The story continued quoting this woman: "now some rest, and then back to the queue again."

The story added that Cuba had an official inflation rate of 70% in 2021, and the US inflation rate will reach unbelievable levels if the Democrats keep spending like they have over the last couple of years.

Venezuela has one of the

largest oil deep deposits in the world, yet thanks to its socialist leaders, babies are dying because they can't get medicines and poor people are searching garbage dumps for food.

North Korea's mentally ill socialist leader is shooting off missiles while his people are eating what Americans would consider a starvation diet.

Cuba has many miles of beaches and other natural beauty and sugar and coffee and fishing that could make the country wealthy if it did not have socialist leadership.

Every country in Africa has oil, gold, diamonds and other natural resources and natural beauty that would make those countries wealthy if they did not have socialist governments.

The U.S. did not become the most prosperous country in the world because we had the most oil, gold, or other natural resources and natural beauty.

We have the highest

standard of living because we have given our people more freedom than any other country and have allowed more free enterprise and less big government regulation than any other country.

Unfortunately, there are no conservative Democrats today. The Democratic Party of today is a Socialist Party and is attempting to remake this nation into a socialist country.

If we sit back and allow that to happen our children and grandchildren will not have a standard of living anywhere near what we have had for most of my life.

When the government gives young people money they have not worked for, crime goes way up. When the government prints trillions of new monies we don't have, prices for everything go way up.

The only thing that goes down is the value of money in our billfolds and money that we have saved.

Nuke the Filibuster? Nuke the Country.

Happy Valentine's Day.

In the January 17, 2022, Knoxville Focus I wondered if there were really any moderate democrats. Of course, moderate is a relative term. Although several democratic senators brandish the term "moderate" their voting belies it. The two prominent "moderates" are Manchin of West Virginia and Sinema of Arizona who both openly oppose nuking the filibuster. Virtually all of the democrats have opposed it in the past notably when the republicans controlled the senate. Yet those two senators are ranked as more liberal than any sitting Republican senator. To wit: both opposed parts of Biden's sweeping "Build Back Better" leftist manifesto but would have voted for many of the provisions in the bill had not the democrat leadership insisted on



By Dr. Harold A. Black
blackh@knoxfocus.com
haroldblackphd.com

passing the entire bill.

What was especially telling was the recent vote on nuking the filibuster that failed 52-48. All Republicans were opposed plus Manchin and Sinema. I was stunned. A vote to eliminate the filibuster is perhaps the most radical action that a senate could take – effectively destroying the rights

of the minority in direct violation of the wishes of the Founding Fathers. The Democrats have short memories and ignored the likelihood of a future Republican majority. Nonetheless, the vote revealed the truth about all the Democrat senators posing as "moderates." I would have thought that "moderates" from swing states would have voted against the change. But no. None of them did. All voted to nuke the filibuster. They are Carper and Coons of Delaware, Kelly of

Arizona, Hassan of New Hampshire, Bennet and Hickenlooper of Colorado, Tesler of Montana, Kaine and Warner of Virginia, Casey of Pennsylvania, Heinrich of New Mexico, Murphy of Connecticut, Peters of Michigan, and Rosen of Nevada. All have given their opponents a major campaign issue in the next election. Senators running for reelection in swing states, including Warnock of Georgia (who has been a personal disappointment), will face steeper odds because of their vote. I would be surprised if any were reelected.

The democrats have been moaning that the divided senate is preventing democratic rule and is somehow autocratic. The truth is that as the Founding Fathers pointed out time and time again, simple majority rule invariably leads to authoritarian rule. Consider the dangers of the majority. Recently, a poll reported in the Wall Street Journal found that 59% of Democrats favored confining

the unvaccinated to their homes and 49% thought that persons questioning the vaccines should be subject to arrest. Do you want to live in that America? I don't. The current president with Democrat majorities in Congress could try to impose those actions. Democrats in the absence of a filibuster could pack the supreme court with incompetents who disregard the constitution like Sotomayor, create two new states and abolish the Electoral College resulting in the tyranny of the majority.

Combine that prospect with the current chaos in our cities and the country writ large (COVID, homelessness, crime, immigration, foreign policy, energy, inflation, racial divisiveness, cancel culture, and lack of comity). The result is a lack of respect for our history, our institutions and ourselves. This is a recipe for disaster and is a volatile mix that ultimately threatens the very existence of our country. Am I being overdramatic?

Stay tuned.

PK HOPE IS ALIVE to meet Tuesday

PK HOPE IS ALIVE Parkinson's Support Group of Knoxville/Oak Ridge would like to invite you to the upcoming meeting and first annual Mild Chili Cook Off on Tuesday, February 15, 2022 at Central Baptist Church, located at 130 Providence Road in Oak Ridge (across from Oak Ridge High School). The group meets monthly on the third Tuesday of the month from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Lunch will be The First Annual (Mild) Chili Cook Off! Chips, crackers, veggie tray, beverage and cookies will be provided.

To enter your chili and/or details call or text Pete Dueber at (865)661-8797.

Erica Davidson, music therapist, will share the amazing benefits of participating in music. Family members and care support partners are always welcome.



Celebrating 68 years of Service, Dependability, Smooth Rides and Our Price Match Guarantee!

WWW.MATLOCKTIRESERVICE.COM

FARRAGUT
10730 Kingston Pike
865-966-0425

MARYVILLE
723 S Foothills Plaza
865-983-0741

HARDIN VALLEY
10838 Hardin Valley Rd
865-248-2340

LENOIR CITY
1301 Hwy 321 N
865-986-6533

ATHENS
201 S Congress Pkwy
423-744-9828



WINDSOR GARDENS
ASSISTED LIVING

Windsor Gardens is an assisted living community for seniors who need some level of assistance in order to experience an enriched and fulfilled life. Our community offers senior adults personalized assistance and health care in a quality residential setting.

- Locally owned and operated
- Three apartment sizes
- Three levels of care
- 24-hour nursing on-site
- Medication management
- Activities program
- VA benefits for veterans and widows

Come... Let Us Treat You Like Royalty.

North Knoxville's Premier Assisted Living Community 

(865) 999-0096
5611 Central Ave. Pike
Conveniently located at Exit 108 (Merchants Rd.) off I-75
www.windsorgardensllc.com



21 Years of Service!



Serving Knox and Surrounding Counties.
Proudly independently owned and operated.

Published by Fountain Printing and Publishing, Inc.
Deadline for ad design is Monday at 5 p.m.
Deadline for Classified ads is Thursday at noon.
Deadline for submissions is Thursday by noon.
Articles, announcements, photo attachments and cutlines may be submitted by e-mail to staff@knoxfocus.com.
Publisher Steve Hunley
Editor, Art Director Marianne Dedmon
editor@knoxfocus.com, design@knoxfocus.com

Managing Editor Lisa DeMarsico
managingeditor@knoxfocus.com
Mike Steely, Senior Writer steelym@knoxfocus.com
Sales sales@knoxfocus.com
Pam Poe phpoe2000@yahoo.com
Chase Clemmer clemmerc@knoxfocus.com
Jamie Schnell schnellj@knoxfocus.com
Legal, Public Notice ads legals@knoxfocus.com

Articles designated as written by Focus Staff are the collaborative efforts of several staff members and are reviewed and approved by the editor and the publisher.
The Focus would like to thank all contributing writers. Submissions from our writers are gratis and are greatly appreciated. While articles are not guaranteed placement, we do strive to place as much as possible. Submissions for the paper are on a space available basis and are subject to publisher and editor approval. We want your news: that is what makes this paper truly a community newspaper.

SUBSCRIPTIONS AVAILABLE - \$88.88/YEAR

OPINIONS EXPRESSED IN THIS EDITION ARE THOSE OF THE AUTHORS AND NEITHER THESE NOR ANY MATERIAL PUBLISHED HEREIN REPRESENT ENDORSEMENT BY THE FOCUS.

Advertising: The Focus is not responsible for errors in an advertisement if not corrected by the first week after the ad appears. This newspaper is not responsible or liable whatsoever for any claim made by an ad or for any of the services, products or opportunities offered by our advertisers. We do not endorse or promote the purchase or sale of any product, service, company or individual that chooses to advertise in this newspaper and we reserve the right to refuse any or all advertising we deem inappropriate or unacceptable by our company standards. Political advertising must be pre-paid. The Focus does not accept ads that defame any candidate. All political ad content must be pre-approved prior to its run in the paper.

865-686-9970 www.knoxfocus.com

Publisher's Positions



**By Steve Hunley,
Publisher**
publisher@knoxfocus.com

Republican Incumbents Beware

Never before, at least not in my lifetime, can I recall the officers of the local Republican Party more blatantly using their positions for self-promotion and self-preference. The latest is failed state House candidate Elaine Davis, who ran unsuccessfully against Gloria Johnson in 2020. Davis has picked up a petition to run in a GOP primary against incumbent state Representative Eddie Mannis. A former Democrat, Davis quickly aligned herself with Daniel Herrera and the little band who boarded and pirated the local Republican ship of state. Frankly, there is no real issue for a primary challenge to Mannis who has been effective during his first term in the legislature and has been responsive to the people he represents. Elaine Davis, like several others, is simply

desperate to be elected to something.

There is a little core group who just really don't like Eddie Mannis because he once voted in a Democratic primary, something they don't apparently hold against Davis, Steve Weiner or their favorite "strategist" Erik Wiatr who was both a Democrat and Green Party activist, a pretty exotic background for someone who says he now believes in the fire-breathing gospel of conservative Republicanism. Clearly, their dislike of Mannis is rooted less in that one thing than something else. Few people in Knox County have given of themselves, their time and money to do for the community as has Eddie Mannis. Eddie's Honor Air program is one of the best things anyone has done for veterans in recognition of those who have served our country. Nor is there any other program I can think of that provides such an opportunity for young people to learn from a veteran so directly.

Let me point out that I don't always agree with some of the public officials I support the most strongly. My point is, I don't expect any public official to do everything I would do were I in his or her place. I don't always agree with my closest friends. The far right of the Republican Party is exactly like their counterparts on the far left of the

Democrat Party; any disagreement is a sign of the most heinous perfidy and that person must be canceled out or destroyed. It is a pretty ugly side of people and politics. Unfortunately, that, along with Elaine Davis's desperation to be somebody, is the driving engine of her campaign against Eddie Mannis.

ATTENTION Scott Golden!!!

Speaking of Elaine Davis' leap from her perch as vice chair of the Knox County Republican Party to run against a Republican incumbent there are more signs something is amiss here locally and worthy of the state party's attention. Let me go through it all, briefly, Scott, in case you don't know. There is Daniel Herrera and his supposed former partnership inside the Angle Group which monetized local political races and helped challengers inside Republican primaries. Then there is Steve Weiner who resigned as local party vice-treasurer and announced his challenge to veteran Judge Tony Stansberry. Then Weiner changed his mind and bounced over into the race for county commission against Republican at-large incumbent Larsen Jay. And there is the common thread all of these candidates either employ Erik Wiatr or the Angle Group, a positively

stunning coincidence, don't you think, Scott?

As this is written, there's been no announcement I have seen that Elaine Davis has resigned her position as vice chair of the Knox County Republican Party since she announced her candidacy against state Representative Eddie Mannis. So, we have three out of four of the elected party officers, as well as former chair and local Executive Committee member Randy Pace, who seem to be mighty active inside GOP primaries. It doesn't take Columbo or Sherlock Holmes to figure out something is amiss here. If you still can't see there are folks who may be violating our party's state bylaws, feel free to give me a call. I'd be happy to discuss this with you in greater detail.

Connect the Dots Follow the Money

Speaking of Erik Wiatr, the recent campaign financial disclosures show some interesting money movements. The failed candidacies for the Knoxville City Council managed by Wiatr who have money left in their campaign accounts have been donating to the campaigns of Rhonda Lee and Gina Oster, both of whom have hired Wiatr. In fact, Oster's biggest expenditure to date is her payment to Wiatr. It was Wiatr who managed

Oster's failed campaign for the state House in 2020. Judson Mason, who withdrew as a candidate for the Knox County Commission in the 7th District, also closed out his account and signed up as Lee's campaign treasurer. Mason also sent a \$500.00 contribution to Elaine Davis; while the contribution appears on Mason's disclosure, it hasn't shown up on state records for Davis' anticipated primary campaign against Eddie Mannis.

Financial disclosures record contributions from the accounts of Garrett Holt and Jim Klonaris going into the campaign kitties of Rhonda Lee and Gina Oster. The flow of money may be a bit complicated, but a lot of it ends up in the same spot: Wiatr's pockets.

Misinformation Hypocrisy

Facebook regularly bans those it claims are spreading misinformation. Evidently, "misinformation" changes over a period of time. The holy of holies has been the COVID mantras held precious by the Left. Like the dogma of the strictest church, the Left's "truths" about COVID are absolutely inviolate and one should be figuratively burned at the stake for a mere breath of heresy, even if it turns out, that doctrine is just not true.

Ask Joe Rogan.

The mainstream media, as an extension of the Left and the Democrat Party, has done little to bring out the truth, but slowly, very slowly, facts are beginning to emerge. The flips accomplished by the High Priest of COVID doctrine, Anthony Fauci, are worthy of the most accomplished circus seal. Fauci flatly stated the following: "When people are vaccinated, they can feel safe that they are not going to get infected." Did that turn out to be true? Of course not.

Then comes the study done by researchers at Johns Hopkins University, which finds the COVID lockdowns were ineffective. The study said ". . . lockdown policies are ill-founded and should be rejected as a pandemic policy instrument." As this is written, the study has been completely ignored by MSNBC, CNN, ABC, CBS, and NBC, as well as the published tribunes of the Left: the New York Times and the Washington Post. It amounts to a news blackout by the mainstream media. The Johns Hopkins study was a "meta-analysis" of several studies which concluded, "While this meta-analysis concludes that lockdowns have had little to no public health effects, they have imposed enormous economic and social costs where they have been adopted," the researchers' paper states.

Decisiveness Missing From School Board

**By Steve Hunley,
Publisher**
publisher@knoxfocus.com

There is a very important element missing from the Knox County Board of Education presently: decisiveness. As a former board member, I would be among the first to agree that the members have had a very difficult job with the COVID situation. Yet it is also true for the past couple of years, the board of education has also been deeply mired in the culture wars. It is not coincidental that Daniel Watson was elected to the Knox County Board of Education right about the same time the tug-of-war over social justice issues really began in earnest. Watson has persistently pushed social justice issues while a member of the school board. Of course, during the rise of COVID the issue of masking has raged back and forth.

The board failed in its responsibility to formulate a program to protect those who are the most vulnerable, the students with disabilities and co-morbidities that make COVID more dangerous to them. That was the sticking point with federal judge Ronnie Greer who issued a mandate when several parents sued. Now those same folks are doubling down and it's reached the point of the absurd. Unfortunately, one very big part of the puzzle is being overlooked in all of this, which is the failure of the board and the school administration to adopt a workable plan. Too many of the board members dither and allow issues to linger without acting decisively. A small knot of board members

--- Evetty Satterfield and Daniel Watson are almost always to be found pushing social justice issues, as well as policies designed to accomplish social engineering. Indeed as Evetty Satterfield is retiring from the board, she is literally going into the social justice business. The most persistent critic of the social justice programs is Mike McMillan, the board's Honey Badger.

Kristi Kristy once had the opportunity to vote and close down the masking issue, yet didn't do so because one of the other board members was absent, who was opposed to her own viewpoint. I suppose that's nice as a legislative courtesy, but it's very poor public policy. The board appears to look to Mayor Glenn Jacobs and the Knox County Commission to solve the problems it was elected to resolve.

The Left especially seems to relish the idea nobody remembers what happened ten minutes ago. Most people in Knox County, as well as most of our elected leaders, are unaware the courts have ruled against commission oversight of the board of education and the school system. The county commission may not direct spending for instance; the school system may take any appropriation and spend it as it pleases, irrespective of what they said it was for.

It is a significant flaw that desperately needs to be addressed by an act of the Tennessee General Assembly and pushed by Knox County. Every legislative body in the country, whether Congress or state legislatures, has some oversight powers where they

are responsible for providing the funding. Members of the board of Education have the luxury of not having to worry about what they spend, as they really don't have to pay for it. The county commission has the sole responsibility for raising taxes, while the board of education spends. It is like someone else being able to spend your money however they wish while you work hard to pay your bills and theirs. It's a little like paying taxes, actually.

Much of the problem lies with the public. Folks can be unhappy with current events and policies and gripe and complain to the mayor and the commissioners, yet maybe the people should accept some responsibility, too. It's past time you knew who represents you on the board of education and you've been long overdue in communicating with your elected representatives on the board your thoughts and views. It is way past time that you insisted upon the board doing its job and acting decisively instead of timidly tiptoeing around social justice issues.

The people of Knox County have a right to expect some leadership on their board of education. Fundamentally, the board has allowed woke politics, culture wars and social justice issues to consume most of its time for the last two years. Even leftist publications are beginning to note the serious consequences of having closed down our schools during the pandemic and the effect it had on our children. In the meantime, the fundamentals of learning, which after all is the real mission of our schools, has fallen by the wayside.

As local Democrats cry about "fully funding" our school system, which is nonsense, the board of education has been bogged down in its own refusal to act decisively. Only Mike McMillan recently announced he would not vote for nor support the "equity" policy being pushed by Satterfield and Watson. Continually lowering an educational standard as a requirement of social justice is truly a terrible policy and that's what's been happening.

It's well past time Knox Countians insist the school system get back to its sole responsibility: educating our children. It's also time for the parents and grandparents of our community to start asking what are we getting for our money? Most people in Knox County have no idea

we spend three times at Austin-East per pupil what we do at Farragut. Yet the preparation rate, meaning those students who are going on to either further their education or get a job, is 3% as compared to 42% at Farragut. Truth be told, neither percentage is good; in fact, those percentages are appallingly bad. Yet when we keep lowering the bar in the name of social justice, that is always going to be the end result.

Equity and equality cannot coexist together; likewise, equity is the polar opposite of diversity. Life doesn't offer equity of outcomes and never will. If your mind is logical and still functioning, equity of outcomes by necessity has to bring everybody downward to a lower level. That has nothing to do with justice for anyone or lifting anyone

upward. In fact, it does a great injustice to those students who work hard to accomplish and achieve. Both of those attributes are what made this country great.

The board members get paid the same salary as county commissioners and preside over two-thirds of every tax dollar spent in Knox County. Instead of waiting for everybody else to do your job, do it yourselves. As for those parents and grandparents who are unhappy, we are entering an election cycle and several seats on the school board are up; get out and vote. Look for candidates who are willing to do the job and actually decide issues and cast votes. We've dithered and delayed long enough.



Knoxville Flea Market

The Regions Largest & Finest Since 1991!

Knoxville Expo Center - 5441 Clinton Highway

February 18, 19 & 20

Fr. 2-6 • Sat. 10-6 • Sun. 10-4

FREE ADMISSION & PARKING!

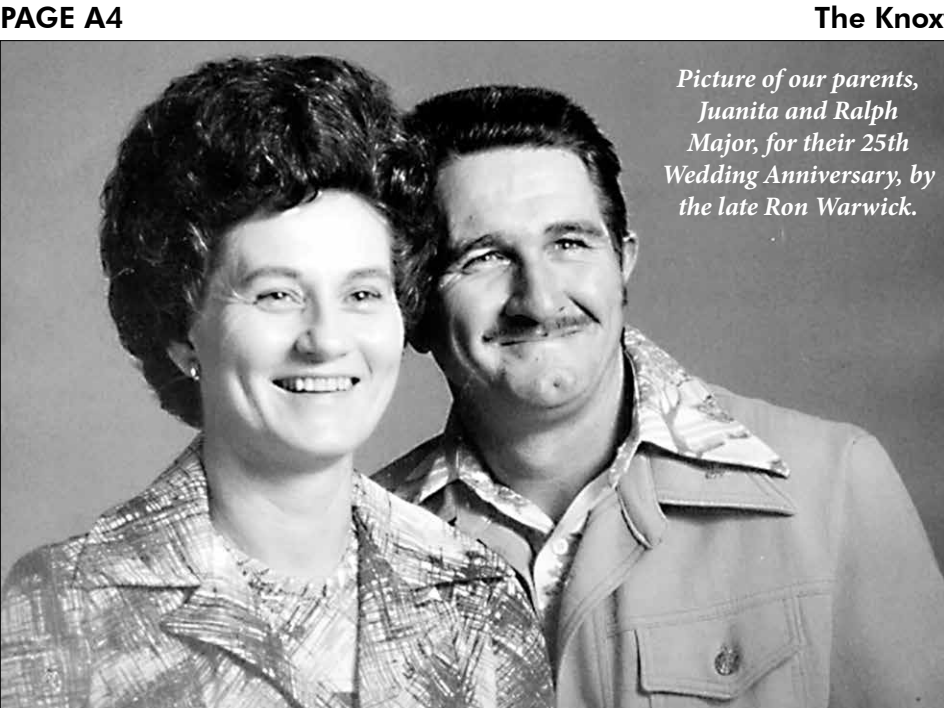
Over 300 Booths! Quality Dealers from Several States! Incredible Bargains on Everything New, Used, & In Between!

Vendor Booth Space Available: 10'x10' - \$140 / 15'x10' - \$210 / 20'x10' - \$280

Visit www.stewartpromotions.com or call 502-456-2244 for more info



Largest in the Area!



Picture of our parents, Juanita and Ralph Major, for their 25th Wedding Anniversary, by the late Ron Warwick.

Red for Hearts

There is a reason red was the color of the day on Friday, February 4. People from all walks of life across the country could be seen wearing red dresses, red sweaters, red jackets, and red ties in support of women's heart health. What a worthy cause to recognize each year!

Like so many other families, we have experienced heart disease. At age 36, our father developed heart problems. An enlarged heart that beat irregularly



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

cost him his livelihood but not his joy for life. For the next 30 years, he was plagued with cardiac limitations that eventually claimed his life. Our mother was more than twice his age when her heart prob-

lems surfaced. The sudden onset of nausea, sweats, and arm pain came without warning before she suffered a heart attack. With all that the world has been going through since COVID began, it would not be surprising if more people develop heart issues.

In dealing with our family's heart problems, we have learned about the importance of regular exercise and a diet low in fat and sodium. Heart health affects everyone. Remember to take care of your heart and encourage those dear to you to take care of their hearts. It is a message that bears repeating every day, every year.

Words of Faith: "It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness." Lamentations 3:22-23 (KJV).

Winter Poison Ivy

For the last few days, I've been running a chainsaw to cut up a couple of trees that fell over into the neighbor's field. In the process, I managed to come in contact with a poison ivy vine that was



By **Joe Rector**
joerector@comcast.net

about the circumference of a rope that tree companies use. Don't believe what people say about not being affected by the stuff in the winter because the sap is down or the leaves are gone. I wound up with rash on my wrists and forearms, even though I was wearing a pair of coveralls. That's my luck, just like it was when I was a boy.

Back in the day, Jim and I spent as much time outside as Mother wanted. We played in the yard throwing a ball of some kind. When we tired of that activity, our next adventure was focused on digging a hole and searching for some kind of treasure. Eventually, we found our ways to the chicken house that bordered the woods. We knocked around that area until the call came for us to come for supper.

Within a couple of days, our skin began to look blotchy, and we both knew

that poison ivy was on verge of breaking out all over. When it came, we whined and cried about the incessant itching. Mother would turn a fan on us to cool us to lessen the itching. Arms and hands and legs were blistering every place the foul plant had touched. Worst of all, Jim and I had breakouts on our eyelids and face. Not only was the stuff miserable to have but it also made two little fat boys even uglier than they already were.

The worst case of poison ivy I ever had came in the dead of winter. Mother sent Jim and me to clean a bank covered with honey suckle. We completed the job after working one Saturday. The rash exploded. It covered everything from my waist to my toes. In fact, I couldn't wear any clothes for a week. I was a freshman and felt miserable. Some friends came to see me; to say I was uncomfortable was to understate the case. I lay on the couch with a blanket covering my nakedness and prayed that those good people would leave soon. Although I never was a

good high school student, going back to school fully dressed made me happier than I could have imagined.

Normal treatment for the rash included calamine lotion. However, the stuff never did anything for us. A better course of action was scrubbing the blisters with a washcloth and soap and soaking in a tub of water into which bleach had been poured. Jim and I learned not to scratch the stuff, and we got to the place that we could ignore the itching altogether. Some cases were so bad that we traveled to the doctor for cortisone shots; they worked fastest to dry up and erase the affected skin.

Again today, I worked on cutting those trees into pieces and splitting them. By week's end, I will know if I kept myself covered well enough with long sleeves and coats and gloves and goggles, not to keep warm in 25-degree morning temperatures but to prevent another winter attack of poison ivy. It seems wrong to have to watch out for the plant even in the middle of winter, but it's just another example of life not always being fair and of Mother Nature being in charge of things.

Frustration abounds at KCS board meeting

Cont. from page 1

abstaining.

The one constant Wednesday night was frustration among the board members and at one point; Henderson shared a drafted letter to seek outside counsel in the case.

"I have a letter requesting outside representation in this case," she told the board. "I'm going to sign it and have anyone else, who wants to sign it.

"What they (the plaintiffs) sent us was absurd and absolutely ridiculous," Henderson said.

She also called out Knox County Law Director David Buuck, saying she wasn't pleased with the law

director's office for its handling of the case.

"I just feel like Mr. Buuck cares more about his reputation than he does about 60,000 students in our schools," Henderson said.

Board member Mike McMillan disagreed with Henderson as he gave the law director a vote of confidence and encouraged attorneys to stay on their current course, now that members have stated their opinions in public.

"As the law director said, there is a legal process," McMillan said. "Without us litigating it here, I think the law department of Knox County has a very good idea of what we want and I

believe, this is my opinion, I believe they would want to rectify it as quickly as they possibly can."

Board member Susan Horn suggested that the board file a Change of

Circumstance.

Legal counsel Gary Dupler said that the board would have grounds based on the fact that at the time the suit was filed, some students did not have access

to COVID-19 vaccines, and that the delta variant of coronavirus was the prevalent strain of the virus.

Dupler said that the law director's office would proceed with the Change of

Circumstance, but that it would need time to procure information.

The board agreed that the deadline for obtaining the information would be Feb. 28.

service directory

ALTERATIONS

JOANNE'S ALTERATIONS:
PANTS HEMMING \$5,
SPECIALIZING IN JEANS.
CALL 579-2254 OR 438-5614

CHILD CARE

MARCIA'S
LEARNING CENTER
1411 Exeter Ave, Knoxville
(865) 673-8223
Day Shift 7:30 am - 4:30 pm
Night Shift 4:30 pm - 12 midnight

DRY CLEANING

SMOKY MOUNTAIN
DRY CLEANERS & LAUNDRY
7052 Maynardville Pike
Knoxville, TN 37918
865-922-6677

ELDER CARE

PRIVATE CAREGIVER,
EXPERIENCED, WILL DO LIGHT
HOUSEKEEPING, COOKING, &
CARING FOR DAILY NEEDS.
SANDY 865-206-0111.

CAREGIVER-PRIVATE,
FOUNTAIN CITY AREA, LOTS OF
REFERENCES, EXPERIENCED,
865-963-7328

CLOSE TO HOME ELDERLY
CARE. 24-HOUR CARE IN
PRIVATE HOME. RN WITH 30
YRS EXPERIENCE. EXCELLENT
REFERENCES.
865-335-6337

ELECTRICIAN

RETIRED UNION
ELECTRICIAN AVAILABLE
for service calls/small jobs.
Ceiling Fans a Specialty
Wayne 455-6217

FENCING & DECKING

FENCE / DECK BUILDERS
New Build Or Repairs
"Quality, Honesty
Is Our Priority"
Insured & Bonded
FREE ESTIMATES
865-888-1241

GUTTER WORK

GUTTER CLEANING,
INSTALLATION OF 5 INCH AND
REPAIR OF FASCIA BOARD
936-5907

HANDYMAN

HANDYMAN
Carpentry • Plumbing
Painting • Hedgerows
Tree trimming & MORE!
30+ Years Experience
INSURED! FREE ESTIMATES!
Call 865-607-2227

HOUSE CLEANING

KATHY'S HOUSE CLEANING,
DEPENDABLE, REASONABLE
RATES, FREE ESTIMATES,
865-343-1474

METAL WORK

**GHOST RIDERS
METAL WORKS**
865-705-0742
Mobile Welding
Fabrication & Repair
State Licensed
Electrical - Plumbing
Gas piping & Welding
(Stick Welding,
Mig Welding &
Gas Welding)

PAINTING

**Pilgrim
Painting**
Repaint Specialist
Commercial & Residential
Serving Knoxville 26 years
• Interior/Exterior
Painting
• Pressure Washing
• Staining
• Drywall &
Carpentry
GOOGLE 5 STAR RATING
WWW.PILGRIMPAININGKNOXVILLE.COM
Major Credit Cards Now Accepted
FOLLOW US & LIKE US ON FACEBOOK
**FREE ESTIMATES
865-291-8434**
Licensed • Bonded & Insured
Background Checks and Drug Testing
Required for all employees
Home Improvement License #291843

PAINTING

**Randy
the
Painter**
Interior & Exterior Painting
Celebrating 42 years of business in 2022
Licensed and Insured
FREE ESTIMATES
865-522-3222
FREE PRESSURE WASHING WITH
ALL EXTERIOR PAINTING
NOW ACCEPTING ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS.
Check out our 5-star reviews on GOOGLE

PAINTING- INTERIOR-
EXTERIOR
Lic. & Ins. 30 Yrs. Exp.
Free Estimates
865-573-2199
Professional Painters

ROOFING

ROOF REPAIRS,
METAL:SHINGLE:RUBBER,
ROOF COATING: FREE
ESTIMATES, 865-705-7069

TREE SERVICE

**COVENANT
TREE SERVICE**
Fully insured Christian
business
Specializing in
hazardous tree removal
& routine tree trimming
24 hour storm damage
30 years experience
865-297-7858

classifieds

HELP WANTED

LIRIO LLC SEEKS A SR.
PLATFORM SOFTWARE
ENGINEER TO DEVELOP
QUALITY SOFTWARE DESIGNS
& DOCUMENTATIONS FOR
NEW PLATFORM CAPABILITIES
REQS BS + 5 YRS EXP. / MS+2
YR EXP. TO APPLY: MAIL
RESUMES TO HR; REF. JOB
000004; 320 CORPORATE DR,
KNOXVILLE, TN, 37923.

NEEDING RELIABLE
HOUSEKEEPER WITH LIGHT
CAREGIVING. FLEXIBLE
SCHEDULE. LEAVE MESSAGE.
865-200-7235

SEEKING UNEMPLOYED
HANDYMAN AND UNEMPLOYED
PLUMBER. CALL 865-661-5961

FOR RENT

**SOUTH KNOXVILLE /
UT / DOWNTOWN**
2 BR, 700 SQ FT APARTMENTS
\$700/ MONTH
865-573-1000

HELP WANTED

PART-TIME ROUTE CARRIER
SEEKING A ROUTE CARRIER TO
DELIVER NEWSPAPERS EVERY
MONDAY. REQUIRES AUTO
INSURANCE, VALID DRIVER
LICENSE WITH CLEAN DRIVING
RECORD. EMAIL RESUME TO
STAFF@KNOXFOCUS.COM
OR CALL 865-686-9970 FOR
INFORMATION.

FSBO

CHUCK NORRIS TOTAL GYM,
BARELY USED, CALL 865-249-
7068, \$250.00, OBO

4 CEMETERY PLOTS -
Woodhaven, Located in
Garden of Devotion.
Will sell separately or
together, \$2000 EACH.
Call 865-687-7569.

WANTED

*****WANTED*****
BROKEN PUSH & RIDING MOWERS
\$10-20 PUSH OR \$40-100 RIDING
MUST BE COMPLETE
865-933-9660
LEAVE PHONE # IF NO ANSWER

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

Tennessee Goes Republican!

The 1952 Presidential Election in Tennessee

Pages from the Past



By Ray Hill
rayhill865@gmail.com

O. Key, Jr., famed political scientist and author, gave an excellent description of the grand divisions of Tennessee and its politics in 1949:

"Tennessee is a narrow ribbon of real estate stretching from North Carolina to the Mississippi. Tennessee's far western counties are but northward projections of Mississippi; its eastern mountain counties share both the topography and spirit of western North Carolina and southwestern Virginia. Between West Tennessee and East Tennessee lies Middle Tennessee, a fertile bowl whose principal city is Nashville. To the problems of political management inherent in three distinct geographical sections are added patterns of political behavior deposited by the Civil War."

During the decade of the 1920s was when Republicans had seen some notable electoral successes. The highwater mark had been the election of 1920 when the GOP had captured the governorship and five out of ten Volunteer State congressional seats, as well as having carried the state for Republican presidential nominee Warren G. Harding. Tennessee Democrats were both shocked and appalled by the GOP success in the 1920 election which had even unseated Congressman Cordell Hull from a safely Democratic district. 1922 saw the Democrats defeat Governor Alf Taylor and Senator Kenneth McKellar easily beat Republican Newell Sanders, who had served a brief term in the United States Senate by appointment. Democrats also won back three of the five congressional seats won by the Republicans in 1920. 1924 saw Tennessee back in the Democratic presidential column; John W. Davis carried much of the South, if little else. 1928 saw Republicans carry Tennessee in the presidential contest once again, largely due to the fact Democratic presidential nominee, Governor Al Smith of New York, was a wringing "wet" (meaning he favored an end to the prohibition against liquor) and a Catholic. Protestant Tennessee voted for Quaker Herbert Hoover; as further proof the defeat in Tennessee was little more than religious prejudice (one only has to look at the returns from the Democratic bastion of Davidson County (Nashville) and see that Hoover carried it over Smith. Edward H. Crump had difficulty in keeping Shelby County in the Democratic column. Still, Democratic gubernatorial nominee Henry Horton easily carried Davidson County, as did Senator McKellar.

The decade of the 1930s in Tennessee belonged to Franklin Delano Roosevelt and on the statewide level, to the political partnership of Senator Kenneth McKellar and E. H. Crump. Outside of the normally Republican First and Second Congressional districts, the Republicans barely made a showing. Roosevelt even carried some ordinarily Republican areas and some that already possessed a strong undercurrent of Democrats like Knoxville and Bristol.

The McKellar - Crump axis remained highly effective until 1948 when the Memphis Boss deserted Senator Tom Stewart and refused to back President Harry Truman. Republicans and not a few Democrats worried Crump's defection might lead to a Republican being elected to the United States Senate along with the resulting hard feelings from a brutal brawl in the primary. Chattanooga congressman Estes Kefauver had edged out Senator Stewart to win the Democratic primary while Crump's candidate ran an embarrassingly poor third. Former congressman Carroll Reece, who had been shoved aside by GOP presidential nominee Thomas E. Dewey from the chairmanship of the Republican National Committee, thought he saw an opportunity and ran for the United States Senate. While E. H. Crump refused to support Harry Truman, Senator McKellar supported the Democratic ticket, which carried the Volunteer State. Reece won about a third of the vote as the first GOP nominee to seriously contest a Senate race in Tennessee since 1916.

By 1952 the Democrats had been in power for the better part of twenty years. Democrats had occupied the White House for the entirety of that time and their majority in Congress had only been lost once in 1946. It was Carroll Reece who had presided over the Republican National Committee when Republicans had won control of both the House of Representatives and the U. S. Senate. Those majorities were lost in the 1948 election. Reece had returned to Congress in 1950 by ousting his successor, Congressman Dayton E. Phillips. So, too, had Congressman John Jennings, Jr. been defeated for Congress that same year by Howard Baker, father of the future U. S. senator. Guy Lincoln Smith, editor of the Knoxville Journal, which was the voice of Republicanism in East Tennessee, if not the entire Volunteer State, was also the chairman of the Tennessee Republican Party. Smith urged Reece to run for Congress again and backed Baker against incumbent Congressman John Jennings, Jr. Reece was a close personal and

political friend of Ohio U. S. senator Robert A. Taft who began the 1952 election as the favorite for the Republican nomination. Reece was a floor leader for Taft at the Republican National Convention and the manager of Taft's Southern effort. Taft was upset at the convention by the candidacy of perhaps the most popular Republican to run for president since Teddy Roosevelt: Dwight D. Eisenhower. Bob Taft, dour and colorless, if a brilliant intellect, could not compete with the war record and celebrity of the man who had successfully freed Europe from the clutches of Adolf Hitler. Many Republicans like Carroll Reece believed Bob Taft would be the most popular candidate the GOP could nominate to break the solid South, which was a firewall for the national Democratic Party. The belief was Taft was so conservative it would appeal to the supposedly conservative South. It is highly questionable that Taft could have cracked the solid South, but Dwight Eisenhower was so personally popular, the general represented a very real threat to the once impregnable Southern firewall.

Tennessee's Republican Party had largely been dominated by Carroll Reece since the congressman had become National Committeeman and was a national figure inside the party. Reece worried Eisenhower would attempt to displace him, but a loyal Republican, the congressman moved solidly behind the Eisenhower - Nixon ticket. Guy Smith became the manager for the Republican ticket in Tennessee. Obviously in the past, Republican presidential nominees didn't bother to campaign in Tennessee as the state was not in play; 1952 would change that. There was genuine enthusiasm and excitement for the Republican nominee and there was an impressive surge in the number of volunteers for Eisenhower. Congressman Hugh Scott, who had taken the chairmanship of the Republican National Committee from Carroll Reece, evidently recognized Tennessee might well support the general. The Knoxville Journal reported Congressman Scott was urging Eisenhower to come to Tennessee to campaign.



(From left to right) Guy Smith, Congressman Carroll Reece, Nashville Mayor Ben West, Pat Nixon and Vice President Richard Nixon greeted at Nashville airport in 1952.

On October 8, Guy Smith announced Dwight D. Eisenhower would stop at McGhee Tyson Airport briefly for a campaign stop. The stop would be prior to the general's visit to Crump's domain of Memphis where he was scheduled to make a speech to an audience from three states on the topic of agriculture. Eisenhower would be introduced in Memphis by Edward O'Neal, the long-time president of the American Farm Bureau Federation. O'Neal had retired but was still highly esteemed by the members of his federation and had always been a Democrat stalwart. Richard Nixon, the junior senator from California and thirty-nine-year-old GOP vice presidential nominee, had briefly visited Memphis when his plane was being serviced. Nixon told reporters the Republicans would make an "all-out" effort to build an organization in the South and breach the Democrats' hold on the region. "When I talked to General Eisenhower last Sunday he indicated he wanted to make a real effort to build up a strong Republican Party in the South," Nixon said. "He will definitely make a speaking tour of this section. I think there is a very strong possibility that he will come to Tennessee because this is one of those border states in which he have a good chance to win." "Yes, I really believe we are going to crack the 'Solid South' and that we are going to do it this year," Nixon told a skeptical reporter.

Prior to having been nominated for the presidency, Congressman Howard Baker had asked the General if he would come to Tennessee and campaign and had been told by Eisenhower he would be delighted to come to the Volunteer State. Richard Nixon and his wife Pat came to Nashville to campaign on Saturday, September 27, 1952. Nixon had been under terrific stress immediately prior to his Tennessee visit and had only recently given his famous "Checkers" speech, saying he and his family would keep the little cocker spaniel puppy given to his two daughters. Nixon had campaigned in Amarillo, Texas before leaving for Tennessee. One of the first to greet and shake hands with Nixon as he got off his campaign plane was Congressman Carroll Reece. A motorcade ferried the Nixons to downtown

Nashville after 80 young ladies, "Belles for Ike," had decorated all the automobiles participating in the caravan. Guy Smith served as the master of ceremonies for the Nashville rally. Congressmen Reece and Baker were seated on the platform as the speaking began. Local candidates made brief remarks before the vice presidential candidate came to the rostrum. The candidate was introduced in Nashville by businessman Lipscomb Davis who praised the nominee for his "courage and determination." Nixon did not disappoint his audience, giving his listeners a plateful of red meat. Richard Nixon pounded the podium in Nashville and said "dissatisfied Democrats" would put Tennessee in the Eisenhower column in November. Senator Nixon exulted there would be "a great rebellion" amongst Democrats. According to the Jackson Sun, Nixon received a "rousing" welcome in Nashville from Tennesseans. When the senator and his wife landed at the airport, they were greeted by 2,000 people. When speaking at the War Memorial Plaza, Nixon also pointed to the failed presidential bid of Tennessee's own Senator Estes Kefauver. Senator Nixon charged Kefauver had been "tossed aside" by the Democratic Party's bosses. "They didn't dare let him be the Presidential candidate," Nixon told the audience. "He knew too much about them." That was an allusion to the crime racket hearings Kefauver had conducted, which had exposed some serious graft, especially in Democratic areas like Chicago. Police estimated the crowd in Nashville to be close to 8,000 people.

From Nashville, the GOP vice presidential candidate came to Knoxville. Richard Nixon's speech was recorded and rebroadcast in Blount County over radio station WGAP. Nixon boldly predicted General Eisenhower would carry Tennessee, Texas and Oklahoma in the general election to 4,000 wildly enthused East Tennesseans as the GOP vice presidential nominee came to Knoxville. One local reporter asked Nixon about a comment made by Senator John Sparkman of Alabama, the Democratic vice presidential nominee, who said TVA would never

have happened under a Republican administration and added "they would get rid of it today if they could." "That just isn't true," Nixon retorted. "It's another big lie of the campaign." Republicans, Nixon told the reporter, want "a maximum of local control for TVA while Democrats want control in Washington." While speaking in Knoxville, Nixon urged the reelection of Congressman Howard Baker who stood nearby.

The results of the general election shocked Tennessee Democrats. Eisenhower carried Bristol and returned ordinarily Democratic Sullivan County to the GOP column, which had not happened since Hoover's victory in 1928. Eisenhower won more than 56% of the vote in Sullivan County. The Eisenhower - Nixon ticket won East Tennessee heavily while Democrats carried the seven congressional districts west of Knoxville. Crump's Memphis and Shelby County gave Adlai Stevenson just over 58% of the vote while Davidson County posted only slightly more than 52%, a figure that left Volunteer State Democrats gaping in wonderment. The increase in numbers for Republicans in both areas was dramatic; more than 25% in Memphis and quite nearly 20% in Nashville. Also startling to Tennessee Democrats was the defection of Chattanooga, which had voted better than 56% for Harry Truman in 1948, yet went for Dwight Eisenhower with 55% in 1952.

Democrats would make a strenuous effort to reclaim Tennessee during the presidential election of 1956. They would have the extra added advantage of having Estes Kefauver as the vice presidential nominee, but change was coming.

have happened under a Republican administration and added "they would get rid of it today if they could." "That just isn't true," Nixon retorted. "It's another big lie of the campaign." Republicans, Nixon told the reporter, want "a maximum of local control for TVA while Democrats want control in Washington." While speaking in Knoxville, Nixon urged the reelection of Congressman Howard Baker who stood nearby.

The results of the general election shocked Tennessee Democrats. Eisenhower carried Bristol and returned ordinarily Democratic Sullivan County to the GOP column, which had not happened since Hoover's victory in 1928. Eisenhower won more than 56% of the vote in Sullivan County. The Eisenhower - Nixon ticket won East Tennessee heavily while Democrats carried the seven congressional districts west of Knoxville. Crump's Memphis and Shelby County gave Adlai Stevenson just over 58% of the vote while Davidson County posted only slightly more than 52%, a figure that left Volunteer State Democrats gaping in wonderment. The increase in numbers for Republicans in both areas was dramatic; more than 25% in Memphis and quite nearly 20% in Nashville. Also startling to Tennessee Democrats was the defection of Chattanooga, which had voted better than 56% for Harry Truman in 1948, yet went for Dwight Eisenhower with 55% in 1952.

Democrats would make a strenuous effort to reclaim Tennessee during the presidential election of 1956. They would have the extra added advantage of having Estes Kefauver as the vice presidential nominee, but change was coming.

Come worship with us
New Beverly Baptist Church
3320 New Beverly Church Rd.
Knoxville, TN 37918
Rev. Eddie Sawyer, Pastor
www.newbeverly.org
856-546-0001
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Wednesday Evening Prayer 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday Evening Youth 7:00 p.m.
Bus Ministry -
For transportation call 546-0001

Child Seatbelt Laws

I have to think it is only a good thing that the child seatbelt laws in place are more strict than when I was a child.

I recall riding in truck beds as a child. That is crazy to think about children doing that now.

Today, it seems children must be in a protective seat until they reach high school!

What does Tennessee law actually say regarding the seatbelts and car seats to be used for children?

The answers are in Tennessee Code Annotated section 55-9-602. It is a lengthy law and gives different criteria for the seat restraints for children based on their age and weight.

Without getting into the details of the law, here is a quick cheat sheet (that is current as of today, but who knows when it may be updated again):

Less than 1 year old or less than 20lbs - has to be in the back seat in a rear-facing car seat

1 year old to 3 years old and weighing more than 20lbs - has to be in the back seat in a forward-facing car seat

4 years old to 8 years old and less than 4 feet, 9



By Jedidiah McKeethan
attorneyknoxville@gmail.com

inches in height - has to be in the back seat in a booster seat

9 years old to 12 years old and over 4 feet, 9 inches in height - recommended being placed in the back seat

13 years old - end of recommendations

and restrictions other than the requirement to have the child wear a seat belt

The statute has several other interesting discussion points. One such is the requirement that any health facility where a child is born must tell the parents that seat belts for children are required by law and give parents a brochure on such from the department of safety.

These restrictions may seem intense, over the top, or going too far, to some, but I think we can all agree it's a good thing to keep children safe while they are riding in vehicles.

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

By Mike Steely
Senior Writer
steelym@knoxfocus.com

One of the newest Knox County Commission isn't new to public service. Terry Hill has a master's degree in social work from UT under her belt, as well as experience as a former school board chair and member. She's a past chairperson of the Tennessee Health Related Board of Social Work Licensure and a graduate of the FBI Citizen's Academy, a member of the Karns Republican Club and Grace Baptist Church.

The Knoxville Focus caught up to her recently and she answered several questions.

You are in your first term as commissioner; how does that compare to the board of education?

My years serving on the BOE focused on what was best for our children of Knox County. I quickly realized that the success of our schools does not operate in a "bubble" of the building, teachers and kids. Many of the issues reach beyond the decision-making ability of a BOE and overflow into the community and county government. My decision to run and serve on county commission is my desire to focus on what surrounds our children every day outside of the classroom. Our public safety, health and fiscal responsibility in development of our county filters to our schools, our kids, our priority.

What did 30 years of clinical



Terry Hill is Knox County's District 6 Commissioner, a mother and grandmother, and a former chair of the Board of Education.

social work taught you?

My years as a Licensed Clinical Social Worker gave me an education in life. Much of my practice with Knox County Schools and private practice focused on the family dynamic. Highlights of my social work career include serving as chairwoman on the Tennessee Department of Health Social Work Licensure Board and testifying as an expert witness for the US Department of Medicare/Medicaid fraud prevention program.

Are you from Knox County and, if not, where and what brought you here?

I grew up a proud "Air Force Brat" and lived the first 20 years of my life all over the country including two years in Alaska and Japan. After college I married and "followed my man"

to Knoxville for his work. I immediately enrolled in graduate school at the University of Tennessee and fell in love with East Tennessee. My blood turned Orange and I passed it forward to my kids and grandkids.

Two superintendents overlapped your six years with the board of education. Do you have any advice for the current board in their search for a new superintendent?

I would encourage them to keep an open mind to what a new leader should bring to our school system. We must be open to change and the challenges it offers.

Tell us about being an Honor Air escort.

Being an Honor Air escort was a rare privilege I was given, and I would be remiss in not thanking

Representative Eddie Mannis for allowing me the opportunity to serve our Veterans. My father was a Veteran of World War II, the Korean War and a flight base commander in Vietnam. This program hits home for me personally.

What organizations or community concerns involve you?

The organizations I am a part of are all community driven and (provide) direct service to our residents. The Karns Community Club has been active over 60 years. I am a founding member of the recently formed Hardin Valley Business and Community Club. Our local Republican Club is a regular stop for me as well as the needs of my church.

Have you ever changed your mind on an agenda item while serving as commissioner?

I have changed my mind on agenda items while serving as your District 6 County Commissioner. I strive to be a good listener and researcher and know what I don't know.

What are your hobbies or interests?

I am an avid snow skier and scuba diver. The freedom of movement, and more importantly, the peace these sports allow me are good for my soul.

How would you like to be remembered?

I would hope people would remember me as a woman who loved the Lord and lived accordingly.

City preps for multi-use stadium

Cont. from page 1

of a private development" at the stadium and Welch referred to improvements at Market Square as an example of the idea. Parker said the city should not "foot the bill" for all the public development around the future facility. Parker was the sole "No" vote on the infrastructure improvements resolution.

Knoxville's Director of Engineering Harold Cannon assured the council that the streets being narrowed near the stadium would remain open.

The council also approved, unanimously, renovations to Fire Station 15. Fire Chief Stan Sharp said the needed

improvements at the Jacksboro Pike Fountain City station would make it the sixth station to be renovated in a effort to update the older stations. He said the improvements will increase safety and make the station "much more livable."

The city has a total of 19 fire stations and Sharp said the current renovations involve updating stations built in the 1960s.

Also approved were an increase to the funding of the city's resurfacing contract with Rogers Group Inc. and an agreement for on-call sidewalk replacements with Design and Construction Services Inc.

The serving of beer at small events at Lakeshore

Park was approved with The Lakeshore Park Conservancy's approval. Councilwoman Seema Singh questioned leaving the City Beer Board out of the equation but City Council Attorney Rob Frost said the park has its own administration. Frost said the city is looking at the agreement as a "pilot program" for other parks in talks with the Public Building Authority.

Large events at Lakeshore would require a Beer Board request.

The council also approved the retirement and pensions for seven city police officers, two fire department employees and seven general city employees.

How I LOVE to Help Buy and Sell Real Estate!



*Now is the time to put your house on the market!
Let me help you with any of your buying or selling needs.*



Karen Terry



NEW DOOR REALTY. LLC

Opening Doors to a great Real Estate Experience

7220 Chapman Highway, Suite 102

Knoxville, TN 37920

865-855-0001

865-789-2180

www.tnhomesbykaren.com

REPLACE YOUR EXISTING HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING SYSTEM WITH A HIGH EFFICIENCY ONE!

COMPASS

Heating & Air Conditioning Inc.

Heat Pump with All Parts Extended Warranty. Take 10 years to pay!

WE DO DUCT CLEANING!



Serving you since 1979.

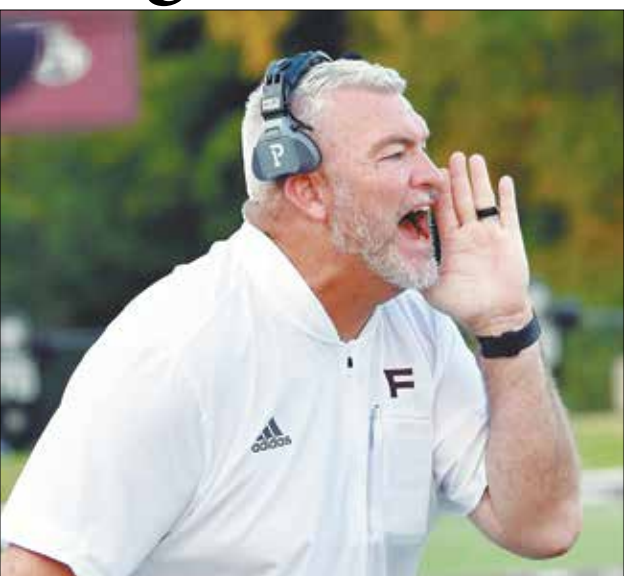
524-7237

688-1124



Energy Star Certified

Longtime Fulton football coach steps down



Rob Black, seen here in Fulton's game against West High in 2021, resigned as the Falcons' head coach last week.

By Ken Lay

Rob Black made one of the toughest decisions of his life last week. Black stepped down as Fulton High School's head football coach Wednesday after 11 seasons. "It was really hard," Black said of his decision to leave the program where he's been a fixture for years. "Fulton High School athletics has been a part of my life for a long time. It's been a part of my whole life and if it wasn't a part of my life, it wouldn't have been hard." Black, a member of the Greater Knoxville Sports

Hall of Fame, won consecutive state championships as Fulton's head coach between 2012-14, played for the Falcons under then-head coach Steve Brewer. He graduated from Fulton in 1984. He was offensive coordinator at the school under Buck Coatney between 1992-2011 before he became head coach. But his roots in Fulton football lore go back much further than that. His father, Bob, has been associated with Fulton for decades as a football coach and athletic administrator.

The football field bears Bob's name and he was around the program for years and coached alongside his son. Black has been around Fulton football for as long as he can remember. "I was the water boy and the kicking tee boy here from the time I was about five," Black said. "I've been here a long time but I wouldn't have wanted it to be anywhere else but Fulton High School." Black was a part of six state championship teams as a head coach or offensive coordinator. **Continued on page 4**

Barnes believes Powell (12-15) can make a run

By Steve Williams

With tournament time just ahead, the Powell Panthers couldn't be peaking at a better time. After an up and down regular season, Coach Gary Barnes' team came on strong at the end, defeating rival Halls 61-59 Feb. 4 and knocking off Clinton, the state's No. 1 ranked Class 3A team, 65-62 on Feb. 7. Both games were at home and in front of spirited crowds. "The Halls game is always an emotional game, but we won it in the last possession," recalled Barnes. "Ayden Greene made a great assist to Austin Heard underneath and he finished it."

Greene and Heard also led the Panthers in scoring in their surprising win over Clinton with 26 and 18 points, respectively. "We played well," said Barnes. "It was one of the better games for us as far as following our defensive game plan. We really executed that well. Clinton is a really good 3-point shooting team, but we were able to make them work hard for their 3-pointers. "It was an exciting win and we had a nice crowd. I was proud of them." The loss was only the third for the Dragons in 24 games. The Panthers had lost at Clinton 75-51 in late November.

Barnes said the win over Clinton had taken a lot out of his team, but the Panthers still had a road game to be played the night after at Jefferson County. Powell got through that one too and won 66-56, although Barnes said his team was "tired physically and emotionally. Our kids really gutted it out." Reflecting on the season prior to Thursday's regular season finale at Sevier County, the Powell coach said: "I'm proud of the boys. We've had some ups and downs this year and lost some close games late, and of course we got our **Continued on page 2**



West Valley girls take third and boys fourth at state

By Steve Williams

West Valley Middle School's boys and girls basketball teams had standout seasons but fell short of the TMSAA state finals Friday. In a close game from start to finish, Station Camp of Gallatin defeated the Wolves 55-52 in the semi-finals at Stewarts Creek High School in Smyrna, while the Lady Wolves fell behind early and bowed to White County 58-29. Sean Capshaw and Brody Smith led West Valley with 14 and 12 points, respectively. Hunter Harris added nine and Wilson Luton seven. The WV girls got nine points from Logan Connatser, six from Katie Foster and five from Theola Mills in their loss. In consolation games for third place, Coach Josh Ballard's West Valley girls bounced back with a 33-15 win over West Collierville Saturday at Rockdale High. Coach Noel Landrum's West Valley boys played **Continue on page 3**



Central senior center Mackenzie Babb has had a magical season for the Lady Bobcats as she eclipsed both the 1,000-point and 1,000-rebound plateaus this year.

Mackenzie Babb reaches basketball milestones for Lady Bobcats

By Ken Lay

Mackenzie Babb has had a magical senior season for the Central High Lady Bobcats. Babb, a center at Central and a four-year starter for the Lady Bobcats, has reached a pair of career milestones this year, and she now has high hopes for her team, which will start its postseason run when the District 3-AAA Tournament opens this week at Campbell County. Babb scored her 1,000th career point and grabbed her 1,000th career rebound this year and etched her name in the Central High School record books. She reached both marks at home in district games

against West High and Powell respectively. Tanika Smith is the only other player in Lady Bobcats' history to record both 1,000 points and 1,000 rebounds. Smith went on to play for the Lady Vols after an illustrious career in Fountain City and being named 1993 Tennessee Miss Basketball. Babb knows the statistical plateaus are meaningful, but what made them more special for her was that she reached both milestones on Central's home floor. "It feels great but it hasn't really sunk in yet," she said. "I know that the only other player who did this was Miss Basketball. I had a lot of

my friends in the stands." Throughout her life, Babb has been a three-sport athlete, competing in travel league softball, track and field and basketball. But an injury made her decide that she should concentrate on basketball. "My parents never really had the time to breathe," Babb said. "I did track here and then I got hurt, so I decided to concentrate on basketball. I also played travel softball. "I've played basketball since I could walk. I played in the Powell Peanut League." Basketball has always been a passion for Babb, who was a top middle **Continued on page 4**

IRAs grow your savings in a tax-advantaged way.

Save smarter, not harder.

Your future self will thank you.

Learn more at tvacreditunion.com/IRA

Federally Insured by NCUA. Some restrictions may apply. All rates and offerings subject to change. Talk to a financial advisor regarding individual scenarios. Ask for details. A Certificate Account can be designated as an IRA Certificate or a Health Savings Account Certificate. There is a charge for non-club checks.

KNOXVILLE

TVA EMPLOYEES CREDIT UNION™

HIGH SCHOOL HOOPS

A RARITY: Karns' Faulkner and Carter's McNew total 76 points

By Steve Williams

With tournament time just ahead, the Powell Panthers couldn't be peaking at a better time.

After an up and down regular season, Coach Gary Barnes' team came on strong at the end, defeating rival Halls 61-59 Feb. 4 and knocking off Clinton, the state's No. 1 ranked Class 3A team, 65-62 on Feb. 7. Both games were at home and in front of spirited crowds.

"The Halls game is always an emotional game, but we won it in the last possession," recalled Barnes.

"Ayden Greene made a great assist to Austin Heard underneath and he finished it."

Greene and Heard also led the Panthers in scoring in their surprising win over Clinton with 26 and 18 points, respectively.

"We played well," said Barnes. "It was one of the better games for us as far as following our defensive game plan. We really executed that well. Clinton is a really good 3-point shooting team, but we were able to make them work hard for their 3-pointers."

"It was an exciting win

and we had a nice crowd. I was proud of them."

The loss was only the third for the Dragons in 24 games. The Panthers had lost at Clinton 75-51 in late November.

Barnes said the win over Clinton had taken a lot out of his team, but the Panthers still had a road game to be played the next night at Jefferson County.

Powell got through that one too and won 66-56, although Barnes said his team was "tired physically and emotionally. Our kids really gutted it out."

Reflecting on the season

prior to Thursday's regular season finale at Sevier County, the Powell coach said: "I'm proud of the boys. We've had some ups and downs this year and lost some close games late, and of course we got our football players late and that affects you. I think right now we're just hitting our stride and it's the right time."

Powell's opening test in the District 3-4A tournament at Campbell County High will be an elimination game Thursday at 6 against West in a matchup of the No. 4 and 5 seeds.



76ers! JJ Faulkner of Karns (left) and Carter's Dalton McNew had themselves a shootout last week that would have made the Philadelphia 76ers take notice.



Karns, the No. 3 seed, will go against No. 6 Central in the other do-or-die contest. Top seed Oak Ridge

and No. 2 seed Campbell County earned first round byes.

Cont. on page 4

Offensive balance lifts Falcons past Central on Senior Night

By Ken Lay

Longtime Fulton High School boys basketball coach Jody Wright knew that a young Central High squad could potentially cause his Falcons some problems.

And despite watching his team notch a lopsided 79-49 victory over the Bobcats Thursday night at Fulton's Jody Wright Arena, the veteran basketball coach said Central posed some challenges.

"Central is hard to guard. They have some talented young players and I think they will be okay down the road," Wright said. "I wasn't really pleased with the way played defensively, but a lot of that had to do with Central."

"They have good players and they're hard to guard. Anytime, Fulton and Central play, it's always a good game."

The Falcons (20-5) did engineer plenty of offense against the Bobcats (6-20). Central fell behind 5-0 out of the gate, but after Fulton's initial surge, the two Broadway rivals played evenly throughout the inaugural frame with Fulton holding a slim 18-13 advantage.

The Falcons, however, used a 23-11 run in the second stanza to open a 41-24 halftime lead and

the Bobcats would never come any closer.

Fulton continued to make shots and opened the third quarter by scoring the first 12 points of the frame.

Despite never losing the upper hand in the contest, the Falcons never led by more than 32 points thus, the 35-point mercy rule wasn't invoked in the fourth quarter.

While Wright wasn't particularly pleased with the Falcons' defensive effort in the contest, Fulton held one of Central's top scorers, guard Nick Ellis off the board over the first 16 minutes.

Ellis did score 10 points in the game, all in the third quarter.

Offensively, the Falcons boasted a balanced scoring attack with three Fulton players posting double figures in the scoring column.

Wright said he was pleased with his team's offensive output.

"We had some big spurts offensively tonight and that gave us a little cushion."

Desmir Hatchett led the way with 20 points. Tyler Lee added 17 and Jordan Rancher finished with 14.

Chris Bozeman paced the Bobcats with 14 points.

By Ken Lay

Cadence Horner was clutch at the free throw line when her team needed it most.

Horner, a guard for the Central High School girls basketball team, made six foul shots in the final minute of the Lady Bobcats' 50-47 victory over Fulton Thursday night at Jody Wright Arena.

Horner had missed a pair of free throws early in the fourth quarter, but she made foul shots that mattered most and she did the same thing approximately 24 hours earlier when Central notched a victory on the road at Lenoir City.

"Cadence made some big free throws tonight and she made six last night that were big against Lenoir City and we knew she could make them," Central coach Ben Collins said. "This was our third game this week and we got off to a slow start."

Slow start or not, the Lady Bobcats manufactured enough offense to open a slim 10-8 advantage by the first quarter's end. Central managed to



PHOTO BY RONDREA PEEBLES.

Fulton's Rajanae Gates (32) attempts a shot as Central's Mackenzie Babb defends in the Lady Bobcats' 50-47 victory over the Lady Falcons' Thursday night at Jody Wright Arena.

extend its lead to 23-19 by halftime.

The Lady Falcons, who obviously had their own offensive struggles in their Senior Night contest, broke out of the slump and scored 17 points in the third frame, nearly doubling their offensive production from the first half.

Fulton stepped up its defense as well as it surrendered just nine points in the third stanza after

which, it held a 36-32 lead.

The Lady Falcons extended their advantage to 39-34 with 7 minutes, 32 seconds remaining in the fourth quarter, but Fulton's lead quickly evaporated as Scout Horner knocked down consecutive shots, including a 3-pointer to tie the game, 39-39, with 6:42 to go.

From there, the game was a roller coaster ride but the Lady Falcons got their

last lead, a 43-41 advantage when Damiona Williams scored at the 2:41 left.

Central's Mackenzie Babb re-knotted the game before Cadence Horner made four straight foul shots to give the Lady Bobcats a 47-43 lead with 29.7 seconds remaining.

The Lady Falcons would pull to within 47-45 on a basket by Rajanae Bailey before Cadence Horner made her final two free throw attempts to give the Lady Bobcats a 49-45 advantage with 9.6 seconds left.

Fulton, however, didn't go away. Williams scored with 0.6 seconds left and was fouled.

She intentionally missed the subsequent free throw that went out of bounds.

Central's Addison Brewer scored the game's final point on a foul shot.

Babb and Cadence Horner each scored 15 points for the Lady Bobcats and Scout Horner added 12.

Aalliyah Knighten led Fulton with 13 points and Jamia Simmons finished with 11.

Area hoopsters to open postseason play this week

By Ken Lay

The regular season for most area high school teams is over or will end in the next few days and now, it's postseason tournament time and district tournaments will open Wednesday and Thursday.

In District 3-AAAA: Both the boys and girls tournaments will be held at Campbell County High School in Jacksboro.

The girls tournament opens Wednesday night with a pair of elimination games as No. 4 Central takes on No. 5 Karns at 6 p.m. The No. 3 and host Lady Cougars will then face No. 6 West at 7:30.

The winners of those two games will advance to Friday night's semifinals and to the upcoming Region 2-AAAA Tournament.

Oak Ridge and Powell will enjoy opening-round byes as the top two seeds and have already advanced to the region tournament.

Boys action begins Thursday as No. 4 Powell tangles with No. 5 West at 6 p.m. No. 3 Karns will then face No. 6 Central. The Bobcats defeated the Beavers in overtime in Fountain City to pick up their only league win of the season

The winners of Thursday's games will advance to Saturday's semifinals and move on to the regional tournament.

In District 4-AAAA at Heritage High School in Maryville, Bearden won the district's regular-season title and Farragut came in second. Both the Lady Bulldogs and Lady Admirals will have first-round byes and automatically qualify for the Region 2-AAAA Tournament.

The winners of those respective contests will move on to Saturday's

Prep basketball tournaments

CLASS 4A
District 3 at Campbell County, starting Wednesday (girls) and Thursday (boys).

District 4 at Heritage, starting Wednesday (girls) and Thursday (boys).

CLASS 3A
District 3 at Seymour, starting Thursday (girls) and Friday (boys)

District 4 at Anderson County, starting Thursday (girls and boys)

District 5 at South-Doyle, starting Wednesday (girls) and Thursday (boys).

semifinals and earn berths to the region tournament.

Farragut is the top seed on the boys side and will enjoy a first-round bye along with Bearden. The West Knoxville rivals will avoid the elimination round.

Thursday's elimination games have No. 4 William Blount playing Maryville and No. 3 Hardin Valley facing host Heritage, the No. 6 seed. Those and other district tournaments tip off this week.



PHOTO BY TRACY HEARD.

Powell Coach Gary Barnes instructs the Panthers during a timeout in their upset win over Clinton.

Barnes believes Powell (12-15) can make a run

Cont. from page 1

football players late and that affects you. I think right now we're just hitting our stride and it's the right time."

The Panthers (12-15) lost 75-56 to the Smoky Bears (17-8), but Barnes hadn't lost his confidence in the team. "No, all is well," he said after the game.

Powell's opening test in the District 3-4A tournament at Campbell County High will be an elimination game Thursday at 6 against West in a matchup of the No. 4 and 5 seeds. No. 3

seed Karns will go against No. 6 Central in the other do-or-die contest. Top seed Oak Ridge and No. 2 seed Campbell County earned first round byes.

When asked about his Panthers' potential in the post-season, Barnes was highly optimistic.

"I think we can beat anybody," he said. "We've got some length, some veterans and some good young kids. Our Achilles has been foul shooting and we're getting better there."

"I think we're confident and I think we can beat

anybody that we might have to play, so I look forward to what we can do," he added. "I think we can make a run, if we keep shooting the ball well and convert at the free throw line. This team has practiced really well all year. It's starting to pay off for us."

Powell's regular starting five includes Greene, Heard, Brice Jardret, Eli Walls and Kaleb Walker. DeArius Kinnebrew has started some games. Two others who have been in the rotation are Noah Brewer and Jake Smith.

Uninhibited, wild and wooly

Rivalries are fun, even if they are intense. The banter on the chat boards as well as in the stands is uninhibited, wild, and wooly, all part of the contentiousness of today's society. It's no place for faint hearts.

There's no remark that can't be blown way out of proportion. The language can get colorful, even if some of the words might be disguised.

Auburn's Bill Newton blocked two Alabama punts late in the 1972 game to earn the Tigers a look-what-I-found 17-16 victory. That game still has an impact on both fan bases 50 years later. "Punt, Bama, Punt" is still part of the ambience of the series, at least from the Auburn side. Audio-tapes of the two plays are still much in demand wherever Tiger memorabilia are sold.

Auburn fans hunkered down when nearly everybody saw the "Fairest Village" as too small, too country, too whatever, to host a major college football game. All Auburn did was beat people's socks off on a regular basis, wherever the venue. That spoke volumes.

Tennessee people have called Memphis State, later the University of Memphis, "Tiger High." There was an early 1970s era Vol fan who "suggested" that a new Memphis mascot be called the "High Tiger of Tiger High."

That never happened, but it



The fans bring a special brand of intensity to Tennessee football games, leading to the opening kickoff. Donnell Field photo.

was fun to think about. One Memphis "fan" countered that calling the University of Memphis "Tiger High" could be considered a manifestation of hate speech.

In November 1972, when LSU defeated Ole Miss at Tiger Stadium in Baton Rouge by running two pass plays in four seconds to win 17-16, Rebel fans erected a sign at the border of Mississippi and Louisiana telling motorists, "You are now entering Louisiana, please set your watch back four seconds." The authors of the 1973 Ole Miss football media guide headlined their story of the 1972 game as "Mississippi 16, LSU 10 + 7."

Bear Bryant called Auburn "that cow college." Tommy Tuberville, now a United States Senator,

once held up five fingers after an "Iron Bowl," symbolizing five straight wins over Alabama, part of a streak that reached six. That comment infuriated the Alabama folks. Bryant's "that cow college" remark didn't sit well with Auburn fans, either.

Even players get into the act. Tennessee All-American linebacker Steve Kiner once chastised Alabama players for not playing harder for Bear Bryant in the 1969 game at Legion Field. The score that day was Tennessee 41, Alabama 14.

Vol assistant coach Bob Davis recalled the moment. The score was 34-0 (yes, there was once a long-ago time the Vols led Alabama by that decisive a margin), and the first-team Vol defenders

were heading to the bench.

"Before he came to the bench," Davis recalled, "Kiner screamed at the Alabama players. He pointed at coach Bryant and said, 'Look over there at that poor old man. He looks pitiful. Can you see him? You have let him down. You should be ashamed of yourselves... I can remember when there was some pride associated with wearing those red jerseys.'"

Steve Spurrier once said, "You can't spell Citrus without U.T.," referring to numerous Tennessee post-season appearances in Orlando.

Furthermore, after the 2000 win over Tennessee, highlighted by a controversial touchdown pass and catch, he also said, "God sure smiled on the Gators

today." Winning players or coaches invoking the Deity are always cause for some grumbling by the losing side.

Vandy students have always considered themselves among the elite in society, suggesting that U.T. students will be working for them in their post-collegiate lives.

Former Vanderbilt coach Gerry DiNardo wouldn't say "U.T." when he was head coach in Nashville. He also tapped his Coke can on the table in front of him during a post-game interview to muffle his remarks about the contest.

There were once signs in Memorial Gym in Nashville that called Vandy "THE University of Tennessee." Vanderbilt players admitted they wore orange T-shirts under their white VU jerseys in the 1975 game, a 17-14 Vandy win.

The psychology of sports has always been intriguing, whether it's rattling your car keys while your friend stands over a 10-foot putt to win a considerable amount of money or the banter among the players that takes place every time a player steps to the free throw line.

There are important lessons to be learned.

If you dish it out, you better be prepared to take it.

If you can't stand the heat, get out of the kitchen.

Work hard to get on the winning side.

West Valley girls take third and boys fourth at state

Cont. from page 1

Brentwood Middle for third place and lost 56-33.

Six from Knox area finalists for Mr. and Miss Basketball

Finalists for TSSAA's Mr. and Miss Basketball awards have been announced and six are from Knox County and the surrounding area.

Four are in the running for Miss Basketball – senior Jennifer Sullivan of Bearden in Class 4A, senior Sarah Burton of Clinton in Class 3A, sophomore Sydney Mains of Knoxville Catholic in Division II-AA and sophomore Madi Hawk of Lakeway Christian Academy in Division II-A.

Seniors B.J. Edwards of Knoxville Catholic and Elijah Bredwood of Bearden are Mr. Basketball finalists in Division II-AA and Class 4A, respectively.

The award winners will be chosen from three finalists in each of the TSSAA's six classifications.

This year's honorees will be presented at MTSU's Murphy Center on March

14 at 5 p.m. The event will be open to the public and free of charge.

A statewide committee of sportswriters selected winners based on performance during the 2021-2022 regular season. Academics and character were also taken into consideration. Head coaches and members of the media nominated the finalists.

This is the 37th year that the Mr. and Miss Basketball awards have been presented to Tennessee's best players.

Sounds of Spring and first day of practice

The pop of the glove, the thud of the mitt and the ping of the bat. On a few afternoons during the past couple of weeks, when sunshine and blue skies prevailed and the temperature climbed into the upper 50s and low 60s, we heard these sounds of spring even if it was still winter.

They came from "open facilities" with high school pitchers and catchers

Continued on page 4



PHOTO BY KELLY KEARSE

Knoxville Catholic sophomore Sydney Mains (24) is a Miss Basketball finalist in Division II-AA.

Q&A with author Chris Derring

By Mark Nagi

From time to time, we like to catch up with a newsmaker in the world of sports. Recently I had the chance to speak with New York Times best-selling author Chris Derring about his new book, "Blood at the Garden," which takes an in-depth look at the rough and tumble New York Knicks teams of the 1990s.

Knoxville Focus: Why did you want to tackle this topic for a book?

Chris Derring: I was approached about doing the book. A literary agent reached out. I didn't cover the Knicks during those years at all. I was four years old when they hired (head coach) Pat Riley. They asked me and I said no, originally, partly because I wasn't of age to remember it.

But I thought about it more and one of the best books I ever read was on (American abolitionist) Frederick Douglass. People writing about figures that long ago and obviously they were not contemporaries of Frederick Douglass. This book required a ton of research and a ton of interviewing and a ton of work and I've never really shied away from work. My Dad had just passed a couple of months before this unexpectedly, so I was still grieving and not sure if I wanted to take on the responsibility. But I thought about how proud he would have been. He had wanted me to write books, so this was a good way to do that.

KF: What was it about those Knicks teams that has stayed in the consciousness of fans, even decades later?

CD: The personalities of the players were unusual, and the players were unusual. (Guard) John Starks was bagging groceries maybe

4-5 years before he made it to the Knicks. He played one year of high school basketball. (Forward) Anthony Mason played two years of high school basketball and was a New York native. (Forward) Charles Oakley played high school football to develop extra physicality because his high school basketball coach thought he was soft.

These were guys that their talent alone wouldn't get them into the league. They were gonna work hard enough to make up for that deficiency in talent. If you are a fan, those are your guys. It's interesting because I think the relationship the fans have with those three players was almost stronger than with (center) Patrick Ewing, because Ewing was far and away their best player.

A big part of my following on social media is people in love with those Knicks teams. As I started to dig further into the research, I realized that there was a really compelling story about a team that never quite won but I think in some ways teams that don't win are more interesting than those that do, because we know all the nooks and crannies about the teams that win all the time. I think the loser's perspective is a lot more interesting than the teams that win.

KF: Pat Riley's Lakers teams looked nothing like his Knicks teams. Was that by design? Or simply because he didn't have players like Magic Johnson and James Worthy in New York...

CD: I think he would have kept same style he had if he had that in New York. The reason he switched styles was because he didn't have that personnel in New York and he knew he didn't have that. He essentially looked

around at who he had and who he was going to have to beat to get to the NBA Finals.

He basically knew that he was going to have to muck the games up and make them muddy and ugly. If he had a team that could run the floor and get up and down, he would have used that. But he knew there was no way they were going to win track meets. He picked up quickly that their best chance to win was going to be through defense and intimidation, and they almost did.

The Knicks changed the face of the league. Now we have a league that is rooted so much in skill that some people think it went too far in the other direction where guys are pulling up from 35 feet in transition and the reason you have a sport like that now is partly because the league wanted nothing to do with Knicks play in 1990s. The league was doing everything it could to make sure teams like that would not continue exist in that manner. They were the last team of their type.

KF: Former Tennessee Vols great Allan Houston might not have been a typical Knicks type player for that era, but he had nine mostly successful seasons in New York after signing as a free agent. How do you think he fits in with those Knicks teams?

CD: By the time he gets there (1996), Pat Riley isn't there anymore. Jeff Van Gundy is the coach. In 1995 the rules really started shifting. The league had lost Michael Jordan to baseball and retirement and scores were falling even further. They wanted to open the game up. They moved in the 3-point line in because they wanted to increase scoring. They wanted defenses to step out further from the rim. The Knicks knew they were taking away every weapon and tool we have with our defense. We need more offense. So, they got Allan Houston who was taller than Starks and more consistent. Allan was a very good fit for them even if he wasn't the most physical guy. I think he fit in with them perfectly.

2019 Toyota Tacoma V6, 4X4, TRD Offroad \$41,750

2019 Ford F-150 5.0, Crew cab, 4X4, XL Sport \$41,950

'16 Ford Expedition Limited, 4x4, Loaded \$29,950

2021 Honda Civic Sport 10K miles, Local \$29,950

2018 Toyota 4Runner TRD Offroad, 4X4 \$43,950

2020 Jeep Gladiator Rubicon 4X4, V6 \$54,950

2014 VW Beetle 68K miles, Clean! \$14,950

Also take advantage of our Quicklane Tire and Auto Center - No Appointment Needed!

Price includes \$399 dock fee. Plus tax, tag and title. WAC. Dealer retains all rebates. Restrictions may apply. See Dealer for details. Prices good through next week.

RAY VARNER

Call Dan or Ray for all your New or Used Car & Truck needs.

2026 N Charles G Seviars Blvd · Clinton, TN

865.457.0704

www.rayvarnerford.com

Stanton and Smith shine as HVA sweeps indoor titles

By Steve Williams

Sidnee Stanton continues to soar in track and field, no matter the time of year.

The Hardin Valley Academy senior was a double winner in the Tennessee State High School Indoor Track and Field Championships Feb. 6 at East Tennessee State University.

Stanton took first place in the long jump with a mark of 18-00.25 and won the triple jump in 37-05.25.

At the TSSAA's Spring Fling last May, Sidnee had a first place performance in the triple jump. She holds

the long jump and triple jump school records at HVA.

Kendal Ely also gave the Lady Hawks a first place performance in the weight throw (44-10.50) at the state indoor meet.

Hardin Valley's Ben Smith was Knox County's lone male winner as he went 43-04.50 in the triple jump. A senior, the versatile Smith also placed second in the 200-meter dash (22.46), fourth in the long jump (21-09.75) and fifth in the 60 dash (7.05).

HVA Coach Bryan Brown said Stanton's performance was a "great start to her

senior year" and Smith "was All-State in all four of his events and got his win in the triple jump on his last attempt."

Hardin Valley swept the girls' and boys' team championships.

Other Knox County athletes who placed the highest in their respective events included Hardin Valley's Austin Rome, who was runner-up in the 400 (50.78), and teammate Evan Maples, who was second in the weight throw (54-10.75). Knoxville Catholic freshman Keegan Smith placed second in the 2-mile

run (9:38.39).

Kaden Keller of Hardin Valley was third in the mile run (4:20.02) and teammate Gavin English was third in the high jump (6-0).

CAK's Ethan Fulford placed fourth in the 60 hurdles (8.45), while HVA's Asa Mazow was fourth in the 800 (2:01.52). CAK's 4x400 relay also took fourth in 3:53.13.

Sam Miller of Hardin Valley had a fifth place showing in the pole vault (12-6.50).

Knox County girls had five runner-up showings: Bearden junior Laila

Rudolph in the 60 dash (7.83), HVA's Sydney McGhee in the 400 (1:01.92), Webb sophomore Anna Graves in the mile (5:14.32), Webb 8th grader Jazzlyn Garmer in the 2-mile (11:10.96) and HVA sophomore Gracie Waite in the shot put (36-1.75).

Third place finishers were Bearden's Rudolph in the 200 (26.80), Webb 8th grader Calysta Garmer in the 800 (2:24.36), GCA junior Brianna Baker in the 60 hurdles (9.34) and West's 4x400 relay (4:25.85).



Sidnee Stanton of Hardin Valley took first place in two events at the Tennessee State High School Indoor Championships.

Mackenzie Babb reaches basketball milestones for Lady Bobcats

Cont. from page 1

school player at Gresham before heading to Central.

"Basketball, it's like my happy place," said Babb, who played her final home game against Black Oak Ridge rival Halls on Friday night. "But sometimes, it takes me away from my family because I'm always in the gym, even on Sundays after church."

On Friday, the Lady Bobcats honored Babb, Lexi Pendergrass and Bethany Brinkley. Together, that trio

has helped head coach Ben Collins reverse Central's fortunes.

But there were some tough times for Babb.

"When I first started here, it was hard because I was the youngest player on our team," she said.

While she never really considered quitting the game, things were tough and she credits Collins for helping her along during the hard times.

"(Collins) was always helping me and he was always

encouraging me," Babb said. "He's a great coach, and he always knows what to do."

"He knows when somebody needs to get yelled at and he knows when somebody needs to be encouraged."

Individual accomplishments aside, Babb said her time playing scholastic basketball in Fountain City has been special as she's enjoyed the company of her teammates. She was anticipating an emotional night

Friday as she was interviewed earlier in the week.

"At Senior Night, I'll cry because I've been playing with Lexi Pendergrass and Bethany. We've played together for years," said Babb, who will play college basketball at the University of the Cumberland in Williamsburg, Kentucky. "This team has a special bond. We always hang out together."

"We have lunch together and we go to the football games together."

Babb said she remembers some lean days when she first arrived at Central.

"We were a team that couldn't break a press, now we can break some pretty good presses," she said."

Collins said that this team has been a special one for him.

"Players like Mackenzie are always where they're supposed to be," he said. "These seniors are really special. I've known all three of them since I was at Gresham, teaching and

coaching the boys team there.

"They take care of business in the classroom and you know that they're not going to get into trouble."

The career milestone of 1,000 points puts high school basketball players in top standing. The 1,000-rebound plateau is even rarer.

"That doesn't happen very much and that just goes back to (Babb's) hard work and dedication," Collins said.

A RARITY

Cont. from page 2

When asked about his Panthers' potential in the post-season, Barnes was highly optimistic.

"I think we can beat anybody," he said. "We've got some length, some veterans and some good young kids. Our Achilles has been foul shooting and we're getting better there."

"I think we're confident and I think we can beat anybody that we might have to play, so I look forward to what we can do," he added. "I think we can make a run, if we keep shooting the ball well and convert at the free throw line. This team has practiced really well all year. It's starting to pay off for us."

Powell's regular starting five includes Greene, Heard, Bryce Jardret, Eli Walls and Kaleb Walker. DeArius Kinnebrew has started some games. Two others who have been in the rotation are Noah Brewer and Jake Smith. The Panthers (12-15) lost 75-56 at Sevier County (17-8) in their final regular season game, and Coach Barnes was asked if his feelings had changed any about his team's potential in the post-season.

"No, all is well," he replied via text message.

West Valley girls take third and boys fourth at state

Cont. from page 3

throwing and players swinging a bat in individual work.

Starting today, those sounds will increase and get louder. It's the official first day of practice for TSSAA spring sports – baseball and softball plus boys' soccer, tennis and track and field as well.

Shortage of football officials creates more Thursday games

The TSSAA Board of Control discussed football scheduling and the struggle it has been to have officials cover every game at its Feb. 7 meeting.

In order to ensure that each game can be covered with officials during the 2022 season, approximately 20 games per week will be moved from

Friday night to Thursday nights. No school would move more than one game during the season.

This will be in place only for 2022 and a more permanent plan to address the issue will be held in the near future.

Applications for Halls' Road to Fame

Applications to nominate former Halls High athletes for the 2022 Road to Fame are now available at Halls Deli Cuban Café, Phil Nichols State Farm Insurance, Home Federal Bank in Halls and Hallsdale Powell Utilities.

The applications will be available through April 30.

Smith is nation's top freshman in 800 and mile

Keegan Smith recently ran in the Southern

Showdown in Louisville, placing fifth out of 43 runners in the 800-meter event and setting a new personal record of 1:58. He also placed first in the mile out of 56 runners and set a new "PR" of 4:20.36. As a result, Keegan earned the distinction of being the No. 1 ranked freshman in the USA in both the 800 and mile run.

Smith also was the only freshman to run in the 114th Millrose Games' time trials in New York City in January. He placed seventh out of 25 runners with a mile time of 4:20.97.

Former Central bowler earns award

Andrew D'Anna, a 2021 Central High graduate, has been selected as a member of the "Top 5 all-star bowling team." He

was one of the Top 5 youth bowlers in all the leagues in the Smoky Mountain USBC in 2020-2021.

Andrew recently bowled a 680 series with games of 230, 215 and 235.

A 'sour' Valentine Day!

In case you haven't heard this story before, today is a good day to tell it.

On Feb. 14, 1956, Loudon High's boys basketball team scored a TSSAA record 197 points in a win over McMinn County.

The story goes that the

McMinn County coach was unhappy with the officiating and pulled his starters in the second half. His best player had been ejected and remaining players basically quit playing, except to pass the ball to Loudon players for uncontested shots.

Loudon scored 158 points in the second half and 94 in the fourth period – both TSSAA records. Loudon's Reed Stamey finished with 62 points, including 46 in one quarter – also a TSSAA record that still stands today.

Longtime Fulton football coach steps down

Cont. from page 1

In his 11 seasons as the Falcons' head coach, Fulton made the playoffs 11 times and he compiled a record of 103-36.

But the most important things to Black are his relationships with his players and coaching staff.

"There are some things that I'll miss," he said. "I have a great relationship

with these kids. I love them and I try to treat them all like my sons. I will also miss the relationships with my coaches."

"I'll miss that feeling that you have in the locker room."

Black plans to remain at Fulton where he teaches driver's education and says he currently has no plan to

go back to coaching.

"Right now, I don't have any plans to go back into coaching," he said. "I'm going to hang around here and we'll see what happens."



ROOKIE

CHARACTER BASED TRAINING. PREPARE ATHLETES FOR SUCCESS ON & OFF THE FIELD!

D1 TRAINING.COM <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish A Core Athletic Training Foundation 5-Star Training Protocol Core Body Strength, Coordination, and Balance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agility Training and Neural Map Progress Emphasis on Technique Development Fun & Motivating Team Environment 	
---	--	--

MOLD TOX™

"Breathe Healthy"

BASEMENT OR CRAWLSPACE LEAKING??

Don't overpay the nationwide companies by the thousands when MOLD TOX, LLC can install a dry-up system for a fraction of the cost!

BBB Accredited Business with A+ Rating

TN Charter #4410

(865) 524-1227 (865) 453-1880

www.moldtox.com



The Doctor is in

a weekly column by
Dr. Jim Ferguson

Farrago

America is a land of systemic reform, not systemic racism.

Dr. Carol M. Swain

This week it's hard to know where to begin. There is so much to consider. Admittedly, my essays often present a variety of seemingly unrelated topics. Yet a theme is there even if not initially obvious. I don't do this to be abstruse, but to challenge the reader. So, I will start with this week's title which is a synonym for an assortment of things or ideas, and let you discover the theme.

Can you ever have enough word-tools? I once saw a van that advertised tools for mechanics and construction workers. The sides of the van read "Every man needs a good tool." It was an eye-catching trope utilizing a double entendre.

As a lifelong teacher of medical students, nurses, colleagues, etc.,

I can affirm that Socratic teaching is far more effective than lecturing; it's just much harder to do.

Even most millennials have heard of Socrates who lived in the Athen's Golden Age of the 5th century BC. His most famous student was Plato, who was the mentor of Aristotle who schooled Alexander the Great. Socrates taught by asking a series of questions challenging his students to discover the answer for themselves. Apparently, Socrates tried the patience of Athenians who finally put him on trial and convicted him of heresy and corrupting the minds of Athenian youth. It cost Socrates his life even though the elitists' charges were bogus, just like those against President Trump.

Fortunately, I am a small fish and not important enough to be put on trial, excommunicated or censured by the thought police of our government

or the Tech Lords of Facebook, Twitter or Google. However, elites don't like criticism (recall Socrates). On February 8, 2022, the Department of Homeland Security issued a terrorism threat bulletin warning against "the proliferation of false or misleading narratives, which sows discord or undermines public trust in U.S. government institutions."

While Socrates is credited with being the founder of Western philosophy, Thomas Hobbes is considered to be one of the founders of modern political philosophy. In 1651 Hobbes published his book "Leviathan" which explored the notion of the social contract. Hobbes observed that in nature, man was savage and life was often "solitary, nasty, brutish and short." What he meant was the biggest, strongest or meanest person would rule over the weaker. Hobbes argued that it is necessary to surrender some of our freedom to the collective security of government or (as in America) the rule of law. But what if the government or its agencies become brutish and the tyrant? What if the propaganda ministry of the government (media like the NYT, MSNBC or Google) works in concert with the government to manipulate, marginalize or control We The People?

You doubt my concern?

Consider the label "insurrectionist" and "sedition" applied to the Canadian truckers protesting in Ottawa. What about Google's censorship of Dan Bongino or Facebook's suppression of the Great Barrington Declaration or the major "news" media's suppression of the Hunter Biden laptop story just before the presidential election of 2020?

Last week the bishop of my Methodist Church lobbied on Church stationery for so-called election reform. I find the bishop's use of her office for politics appalling and a violation of the separation of church and state which liberals scream about all the time.

And I find it appalling the GoFundMe platform withheld \$10 million from the Canadian truckers, yet allowed funding of the CHOP Zone in Seattle, and Black Lives Matter and Antifa as they protested, rioted and burned cities across America. This same "charitable" platform withheld donations for Kyle Rittenhouse (found innocent) and legal defense funds for police. Fortunately, the comparable GiveSendGo platform stepped up and is collecting money for the Canadian truckers. I have used GoFundMe in the past to donate, but I will never again. GoFundMe is now under investigation by the Attorneys General of at least two states for

malfeasance. Being woke, intolerant, manipulative and dishonest must carry a price.

Have you noticed the price of gas has gone up ~\$0.90 in the last year? Have you noticed empty shelves at the supermarket or the absence of favorite items? Have you noticed rising prices of just about everything? If you spend more than you have and make production and delivery of products difficult, it produces inflation which is now 7.5%, the highest in 40 years. We have all taken a big pay cut!

I'm just a doctor and do not understand economic theory. In college, I took an elective quarter of economics and I'm glad that I took it pass-fail or I might not have been admitted to medical school. I do understand if you print money it leads to more dollars chasing fewer products and produces inflation. It takes a year or two before inflation surfaces as a result of poor monetary policy. Unfortunately, history shows that it takes years to correct inflation, which can only occur when the mismanagement that produced the inflationary pressures is corrected. Perhaps we should add Econ 101 to Ol' Joe's cognitive testing which Congressional representatives are demanding.

Have you noticed a number of "blue states" like California, Oregon,

New Jersey, New York, etc. are eliminating mandatory masks? Folks, science has not changed, just the polling. Cloth masks, in particular, are useless and harmful to children. When I pick up my grandchildren at elementary school, I shudder to think what is on their facial diapers. The movie "Mr. Mom" comes to mind with Michael Keaton using personal protective gear when changing diapers.

Neither Socrates nor Jesus wrote anything. We know of their principles from their disciples. We know about Gandhi (India's Soul) who championed the notion of nonviolent civil disobedience. Martin Luther King used the same nonviolent disobedience to resist injustice and broke through institutionalized segregation (Jim Crow laws) promulgated by Democrats such as George Wallace, Bull Connor, etc. In fact, the longest Senate filibuster in the history of our country was by Democrats resisting civil rights legislation.

Only in America could Professor Carol Swain or Dr. Ben Carson rise from abject poverty to prominence and notoriety. So I ask some final questions: Who are the enemies of free speech? Who is making money off intolerance and racism? As the X-Files said, "The truth is out there."

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

Living a Life of Kindness

Another fruit of the Spirit is kindness (Galatians 5:22). Like



By Mark Brackney, Minister of the Arlington Church of Christ

the other characteristics of the fruit of the Spirit we have been talking about, kindness is truly an attribute needed today. Living in a world of unkindness makes stories of kindness

stand out. Kindness is about the moment. It is about what I have in hand, be it a word of encouragement, a shoulder to cry on, a talent to help someone else, or money to help meet someone's need. Kindness is going the extra mile in order to be a helper

in the life of someone else.

I think one of the great stories of the Bible that paints a picture of what kindness looks like is the parable Jesus told of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37). This story, which is only found in Luke's gospel, teaches us that our relationship with God is not in isolation from our relationship with humanity. The story is about a religious lawyer who knows the greatest commands are to love God and our neighbor, but he wants to know "who is my neighbor?" Jesus answers this question by telling a story of a man that was on a treacherous, steep road from Jerusalem to Jericho who fell into the hands of robbers, was beaten, and left for dead. Three men came down that road and see

the man on the side of the road. The first two are religious leaders, a priest and then a Levite (who helps with the temple worship). Both of them walk on the other side of the road and refuse to get involved. The third is a foreigner, a Samaritan. The Jews and Samaritans had a long history of hatred for each other. Jesus makes the hero of the story the Samaritan, who stops and does many acts of kindness to help this man.

In telling this story, Jesus makes it clear that "your neighbor" is anyone and everyone you meet. Showing acts of kindness and love are not based on race, economic standing, education, age, or anything else. Demonstrating kindness is something Jesus followers do, because of the

kindness God has poured out upon them: "But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy" (Titus 3:4-5).

We learn from this story a number of attributes about kindness. We learn that kindness is personal. It is not just theoretical. It is one thing to study about kindness and quite another to be kind. It involves taking risks and it is about your response. You really can't be kind unless you see the need to show it. Jesus was so good at seeing people. Seeing them led to acts of kindness. He saw people who were spiritually lost. He saw people who were sick. He saw people who were needy. He saw people who were

wounded, abused, and lonely.

When Jesus saw these people, He was moved to action. He touched lepers, he befriended tax collectors, he cured sick people, He forgave murderers and dying thieves. In the last moments of His life, as He suffered terribly, he never stopped showing kindness to those around Him.

His final prayer was a prayer of amazing kindness to those who were killing Him, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they are doing."

When Jesus saw broken people, His heart was moved to kindness. In our story, the Samaritan saw this beaten traveler through the eyes of Jesus and thus showed kindness toward him.

May we do the same.

JOIN US
in the extraordinary
lifestyles available at
Knoxville High Senior Living!

We'd love to welcome you home and show you how amazing our community is. Get a glimpse of the good life.

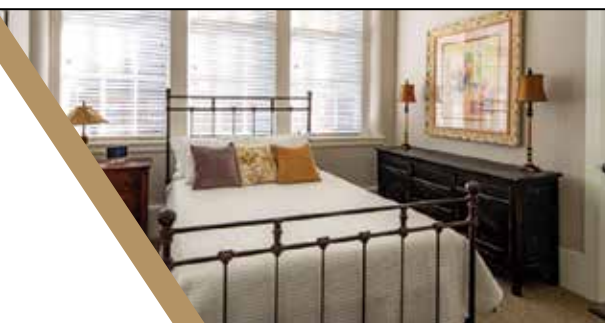
Call (833) 991-3077 today to get in touch and learn more.

101 East 5th Ave., Knoxville, TN 37917

KnoxHigh.com



KNOXVILLE HIGH
SENIOR LIVING



- I. Call to order
- II. Roll call
- III. Amendments to the agenda
- IV. Approval of minutes from meeting of October 20, 2021
- V. Citizens' comments and requests
- VI. Reports
 1. Director's report
 2. Air Monitoring report
 3. Enforcement report
- VII. Other business
- VIII. Adjournment