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Foreground, left to right: White shirt, purple tie with glasses: Chuck Cerny, Sessions Judge; Michele Carringer, State Rep. District 16; Sen. Becky Massey; Ryan's mother Paula Knauss Selph; Ryan's father Greg Knauss; and far right, state Rep. Dave Wright

# SSG Ryan C. Knauss Memorial Highway established in Gibbs

By David Klein

On Monday, June 20, a significant ceremony was held to honor a fallen soldier at Gibbs Ruritan Club. The ceremony was held to name two sections of highway for fallen Army Staff Sergeant and Gibbs High School graduate Ryan C. Knauss. Knauss was killed in a bombing at the airport in Kabul, Afghanistan on August 26, 2021, while helping American civilians and Afghan refugees evacuate the country during the withdrawal of American forces before the Taliban took over Afghanistan.

State Senator Becky Massey, state Representative Dave Wright,

Ryan's mother Paula Knauss Selph, his father Greg Knauss, and others attended the ceremony. Two segments of road will be designated as the "SSG Ryan C. Knauss Memorial Highway." One section of Tazewell Pike between Henegar Rd. and Gibbs Road and a portion of East Emory Rd. between Beeler and Boruff roads will be renamed to honor Knauss. There will be two signs on the Tazewell Pike section and two signs on the East Emory Rd. section. Massey and Wright co-sponsored legislation to get the road name approved.

Ryan's mother, Paula Knauss Selph, came up from Florida to attend

the ceremony and was moved with the outpouring of support from the Gibbs and local communities. "I miss Tennessee for that love, for the support for the kindness, there's very few places in the world like Tennessee and especially in the Gibbs community," Selph said. "There's an absolute patriotism and support for our country."

"This is where Ryan grew up," Selph continued. "This is all he knew as home. Senator Massey, House Representative Dave Wright and other political figures that came out today, they meant everything, because that

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# Farragut candidates promise transparency, call for citizen engagement

By Ken Lay

Three candidates seeking public office in the Town of Farragut met and answered questions from voters Thursday night.

Bill Johns, who is running for mayor, and Adam Atherton and David White, who are seeking to become aldermen on Farragut's Board of Mayor and Aldermen, took questions from approximately 80 residents at the Farragut Community Center.

White, who is seeking to become the alderman in South Farragut, addressed residents first as he had an abbreviated stay due to a prior engagement. He, Atherton and Johns are all challengers for office because they're disappointed with the lack of transparency of the current BOMA.

"I've been in Farragut for 71 years and I graduated from the old Farragut High School in 1964. I've



Town of Farragut mayoral candidate Bill Johns answers questions from voters while Adam Atherton, candidate for alderman, looks on at Thursday's Meet the Candidates forum.

seen a lot of boards here," White said. "In order to know where you're going, you've got to know where you've been."

"I know where we've been and I don't like where we're going."

Johns, White and Atherton all noted that the current BOMA has not responded to the town's citizens.

Johns is running for mayor because the town has no emergency

preparedness plan.

"I went to a strategic planning meeting for BOMA and we set there for seven hours," Johns said. "I was there with a reporter and we were the only people

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# Use on Review, Industrial Board on County Agenda

By Mike Steely  
Senior Writer  
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Two related matters were discussed during last Tuesday's Knox County Commission work session involving the powers of the Board of Zoning Appeals and the powers of the Industrial Development Board.

Prior to the discussion, five people were named to the Industrial Development Board. Dr. Anthony Wise, Lisa Rottmann, Lou Moran III, and Charley Bible will serve on the IDB until 2028.

James Little was named to complete the unfinished term of Michael Wood and will serve until 2026.

The Industrial

Development Board has eleven members named by the commission and undertakes financing and development of projects deemed to promote industry, trade, commerce, tourism and recreation, and housing construction. The IDB also pursues the statutory objectives for industrial development corporations.

The Knox County Mayor has asked county commission to allow IDB to authorize, negotiate, accept or waive payments in lieu of taxes on the Andrew Johnson Building. The developer is asking for a 17-year TIFF deferment and a lower monthly payment to the county.

Commissioner John Schoonmaker questioned

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# Two different merit reforms before Knox County Commission

By Mike Steely  
Senior Writer  
[steelym@knoxfocus.com](mailto:steelym@knoxfocus.com)

Two different proposals on reforming the Knox County Sheriff Office's Merit System came before the commission's work session Tuesday evening and will again be discussed at tonight's regular session. Both measures had a majority of votes but, according to Law Director David Buuck, cannot go on the regular "consent" report because the votes were not unanimous.

The first proposal, to adopt the Sheriffs' Civil Service Law of 1974 that established merit systems within the state, passed with a 9-1 vote. Commissioner Courtney Durrett was the sole NO vote and Chairman Richie Beeler was absent from the meeting.

The second proposal, from Commissioner

Larsen Jay, makes no reference to adopting the 1974 state law and establishes a county merit system under authority of Knox County being a "charter county."

Jay said the proposal makes "further reforms" and expands the three-member council to seven members. He says his changes will make the system "more transparent" and remove politics from the body. Buuck said that the city has five members on its merit council and Chattanooga has nine.

Co-sponsor Kyle Ward said the proposal "takes out the political part of the merit council."

Commissioner Randy Smith questioned the idea of increasing the board to seven members. Commissioner Charles Busler asked about a proposed

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# People Are Paying for Covid Checks Through Inflation

From a distance



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

I don't blame anyone for cashing any of the Covid Relief checks sent out in 2020 and 2021, but everyone would have been better off if all this money had not been sent out.

Everyone is paying for it now in the inflation that was caused mostly by these checks and the other covid relief money that the Congress approved.

Howard Gleckman,

Senior Fellow at the Tax Policy Center said "With the benefit of hindsight, you could probably say it was unnecessary."

Erica York, Senior Economist for the Tax Foundation, said "There's inflation across the board. I think it's driven not just by the stimulus payments but by the size of the relief overall."

Checks were sent out under three bills: Cares Act, March 27, 2020, 1.9 trillion; Coronavirus Relief Act, Dec 27, 2020, 900 billion; and American Rescue Plan Act, March 11, 2021, 2.2 trillion.

This totaled five trillion dollars, over and above ordinary federal spending. Mr. Gleckman said this was "massively bigger" than anything the government

had ever done before.

By far the biggest parts of spending in these bills were in the checks sent out to the 90% of American people who received them.

A family of four - two adults, two children - could have received \$11,400 whether they needed it or not.

The airlines received \$50 billion they didn't need. Many businesses received Payroll Protection Plan money that they didn't need.

The states and local governments received \$350 billion, and the only ones that really needed it were the poorly-run cities and states where Democrat-controlled city councils and state legislatures had spent money they didn't

have for years and had gone deeply in debt.

The easiest thing in the world to do is to spend other people's money. Democrats in control of Congress added more than eight trillion to our national debt over the last couple of years, running it up to over an astounding thirty trillion.

Now it is very clear that the government at all levels greatly overreacted to the covid scare.

Trump had the economy booming with gas less than half of what it is now and very little inflation.

But egged on by the national media and the many millions who absolutely hated President Trump, Democrats used covid to unnecessarily scare people and shut

down much of the economy.

This made a few billionaires out of Big Pharma executives, who ran the biggest sales, public relations, and lobbying jobs in history.

By some estimates, at least one million small businesses went under and several million worldwide were injured by the vaccines but are not permitted to sue.

In the 1957-58 flu season, at least 200,000 Americans died from Asian Flu and possibly as many as four million around the world. Nothing was shut down and gas and inflation did not go way up.

Every year from 30,000 to 60,000 Americans die from flu. Covid apparently replaced the flu, but the

CDC said 94% of covid deaths were with co-morbidities that could have been the cause.


But Congress foolishly gave the hospitals more money for every covid related death.

My new wife's husband had Lou Gehrig's Disease for the last five years of their marriage and couldn't even speak for the last two. He died a few months before my late wife clearly from ALS, but it was classified as a covid death when it clearly was not.

Jane Fonda said shortly before the 2020 election, that covid was a "gift to the Left." They rode it for all it was worth because they knew they could not beat Trump without it.

# Black Gun Ownership

Somebody named Joy Behar on something called "The View" made the following incredibly dumb statement: "Once Black people get guns in this country, the gun laws will change. Trust me." She apparently must think that reports of all of the shootings in our cities are fake news and that blacks are mostly using switchblades. In fact, over a quarter of gun owners in the country are black. Behar and her fellow progressives should salute black gun ownership as an example of diversity since only 13% of the population is black. Behar is also supposed to have said that "Republicans will finally ban guns when black people finally get some". Again, a very dumb statement. She must have been thinking about Democrats, not



By Dr. Harold A. Black  
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Republicans. The gun control laws in the south were enacted in order to keep blacks from being able to protect themselves against the racial tyranny emanating from white Democrats. Martin Luther King, Jr was denied a gun permit. So was my father. But he kept a handgun in the house and carried one with him when we traveled. Dad always wore a coat and tie saying that white people treated him better if he was "dressed up". He also knew that he would be arrested for protecting his family with a gun, but he was willing to take that chance. Luckily, he never had to.

From 1900 through the Civil Rights Era there were 675 lynchings in Georgia. This is the period that I call "The Reign of Terror." It was when a white could murder

a black and likely not spend a day behind bars. On the rare occasion of an arrest, all the judges were white as were all the jurors. Acquittal was guaranteed. In 1914, there was a lynching in my mother's family in Jones County, GA. A white mob attacked a cousin and his son and killed them. My cousins were just in the wrong place at the wrong time. The killers were well known in the community and were never prosecuted. In those days, white mobs would gather after a crime was committed and have a "picnic." The term "picnic" in the Jim Crow era referred to lynch mobs picking a black person to hang or punish for some crime whether they committed it or not. It's a wonder that the word "picnic" still survives in today's cancel culture world.

The southern gun control laws applied only to handguns. My grandfather was a farmer. He and his neighbors had an arsenal

of rifles and shotguns. He hunted at every opportunity and I have fond memories of tagging along plinking with a .22. My mother told the story that when he went to Detroit to join relatives and work in the automobile factories during World War II, he came back to Georgia because he couldn't find any rabbits to hunt. Mother also told the story of a cousin seeking refuge at the farm after being threatened by whites who said he was looking askance at a white woman. My grandfather called his neighbors and a few relatives. They sat on the front porch armed to the teeth. Mom said that the lynch mob came near the farmhouse, saw the reception and then went away. The cousin moved to nearby Macon and didn't come back to Jones County.

Statistics show that blacks are now buying guns at a faster clip than other groups. In large part the progressive's "defund the police" movement is the reason. Urban blacks want more police rather than fewer. If the politicians, who have their own personal protection, are not willing to protect black neighborhoods, then the residents have to protect themselves. Yesterday's blacks were prohibited from protecting themselves from the white Democrats who wrote the Jim Crow laws, used force to impose segregation and violence to keep blacks "in their place." Like the southern Democrats of old, today's progressives want to keep blacks in their place by restricting gun ownership. Not so for the Republicans. Contrary to what Joy Behar says, Republicans welcome black gun ownership in part because it is good to see that at least some Democrats embrace the Second Amendment.

## Re-Entering a Store You Have Been Banned from Is Burglary

When someone is charged with the crime of theft, that theft usually results from the theft of goods from a store. That theft charge is what we normally think of as shoplifting. The Tennessee laws that discuss theft and shoplifting are Tennessee Code Annotated sections 39-14-103, 39-14-105, and 39-14-146.

If someone is charged with shoplifting, which is a way to describe a version of theft, almost always, any agreement through



By Jedidiah McKeenan  
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the court system that resolves that charge involves the defendant being permanently banned from ever returning to that store.

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

## Farragut candidates promise transparency, call for citizen engagement

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there and no one even acknowledged that we were there."

Atherton recalled that he was once at a BOMA meeting and was gavelled down while attempting to speak. "We have to be engaged," Atherton said. "And we have to have transparency."

While Johns hasn't announced his plans publicly, he was asked to do so and now has plans to unveil his plans online early this week.

"You'll have my plan on Monday," Johns said.

When asked why he hadn't revealed his platform, he noted that the current BOMA has also kept citizens in the dark.

"I haven't seen their plan."

All candidates present last week have called for voter engagement and

Johns said that if elected, he would have regular meetings with citizens.

After White departed, Atherton and Johns said that they would work together even when they disagreed.

"You sometimes need people who challenge you," Atherton said. "Bill wants people who will challenge him."

Johns agreed.

"We have to have transparency and you have to have be engaged," he said. "I want people who will challenge me and we have to have input, we have to listen to our citizens."

"I will have meetings for the citizens and I'll talk to you."

Sean Murphy, who moderated last week's meeting, said that the venue is reserved for another meeting July 12.



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# Publisher's Positions



By Steve Hunley,  
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## 36% is Nothing to Brag About

Recently, the Knoxville edition of USA Today blared the headline 36% of students in Tennessee were reading at grade level as if it were something to be proud of. That is according to statistics pre-pandemic. The headline seemed backwards to me. Parents and taxpayers need to know 64% of students in Tennessee aren't reading at grade level. Then comes the news state legislators are again considering legislation to stop students from being passed to the next grade when they aren't reading at grade level in the first grade. Some educators have expressed concerns about that notion, but too many parents and grandparents aren't aware their children and grandchildren are being passed to the next grade despite in some instances, not being able to read well at all.

WZTV in Nashville aired a story last year on Sonya Thomas who expressed her dismay and horror upon learning her son, then in the 7th grade, was reading at a 2nd-grade level last year. Governor Bill Lee says it's only gotten worse since the pandemic and I believe it. Ms. Thomas, at the time, made a very interesting and insightful statement: "It is not the burden of the child to prove that they can read; it

is the burden of educators to prove they know how to teach children to read."

Beth Brown, the head of the Tennessee Education Association, during the beginning of this particular discussion, retreated where the educational-industrial complex always tries to hide any particular failure: lack of resources and funding.

Clearly, our students need to be able to read and the current trend pushed by many educators to accommodate the lowest common denominator isn't helping. We spend more money in this country on education than ever, oftentimes with the same number or fewer children. We have also diverted hundreds of millions of dollars to programs that didn't exist back in the day on special education, teaching children to speak English and restorative practices. There remains little accountability in education with swollen bureaucracies that have yet to demonstrate they can master any particular problem and the abdication of too many parents expecting the government to raise their children. Teachers' unions, irrespective of what they might say, fight any effort to reward outstanding educators with any form of "merit" pay and insist upon one-size-fits-all pay raises across the board for those good and bad teachers.

## Biden's High Gas Prices

As Joe Biden writes letters to presidents of oil companies and releases the texts of those letters before they even are received by their intended recipients, Americans need to think through a few things. Firstly, profits by energy companies were twice what they are now during the Obama - Biden

administration. Do you recall Barack Obama or Joe Biden condemning the oil companies then? Of course, you didn't because it never happened.

Secondly, who is likely to invest billions and billions of dollars in oil and gas exploration, which does require significant investment, or building refineries for a practice (fossil fuels) Biden has said will be extinct within 15 - 20 years? The answer is simple: not much of anyone. That is yet another reason for escalating prices at the fuel pump.

The most disgusting thing about the incompetence of Biden and his administration, aside from the needless pain and suffering inflicted deliberately upon Americans - - - especially working and middle-class families, is the fact none of the Democrats have the guts to tell the truth. Leftists, socialists, and much of the media abjectly fell on their knees when Biden declared his jihad on fossil fuels. If everyone supports these supposedly necessary economic sacrifices, then why do Biden and the Democrats have to lie and try and blame Putin, the oil companies or anyone else? Why not admit it is a direct result of their own policies? Because we all know they don't want to pay the price for that admission in the November general election precisely because their majorities in Congress would be wiped out. That alone proves the American people do not support the foolish socialist policies implemented by the most incompetent administration in American history. It's why our local Democrats here want to talk about everything but what their own party is doing in Washington.

Whatever the opposite of the "Midas Touch" might be - - - perhaps a touch that turns what was once

successful into a steaming pile of poo, that is Joe Biden's super power.

## Tax and Spend

The City of Knoxville under Mayor Indya Kincannon spent just under \$200,000 planning and executing the Juneteenth parade. Kincannon, who didn't have the money to keep police officers inside schools, found the money after instituting the largest property tax increase in the city's history. Once again, tax and spend, tax and spend.

## Money Should Follow the Child

The Supreme Court just handed down a decision rejecting the State of Maine's ban on aid to religious schools. The ruling does not require states to support religious schools, but those states which subsidize private schools may not exclude religious schools. The 6 - 3 decision was just released last week and promises to help the money follow the child.

## City of Knoxville Also Part of Knox County

Democrats gnashed their teeth and cried unto the heavens (or wherever they cry when vexed) when County Commissioner-at-Large Larsen Jay appeared before the city council to express his opposition to the largest property tax increase in the City of Knoxville's history. One thing overlooked by local media (they manage to overlook quite a lot) and many Democrats was the fact as Jay represents the entire county, he also represents every resident of the city. Democrats are mighty fond of reminding folks that the city is part of the county,

yet they were outraged Larsen Jay would dare to speak up for those people he represents. As a resident of the city and a taxpayer, Jay had every right to appear, but even more so as a member of the county commission. Not everyone supported the property tax increase - - - both Janet Testerman and Amelia Parker voted against it as members of the council.

## Grab and Spend?

Cameron Brooks, local realtor, relentless advocate for dogs, and former member of the Knox County Election Commission, has found a potentially lethal issue in his race for the Knoxville City Council next year. Already busy organizing and fundraising, Brooks has latched onto the conversation generated by Larsen Jay's appearance before the council. Lynne Fugate noted the City of Knoxville was turning over 72 cents rather than the 50 cents of the sales tax collected as required by state law.

City residents voted years ago to go out of the school business, leaving the county responsible for the entire schooling of all children inside the city and all over the county. The city school system was not exactly a whiz-bang operation of efficiency and economy. Every time Knox County floated a bond issue for its own schools, 48% of the issue had to be turned over to the city school system whether it needed the money or not. When the city schools went out of business, the county spent something like \$90 million to bring the school buildings inside the city up to a decent standard, meaning removing the asbestos and air conditioning them.

Perhaps the biggest reason (one never mentioned by Lynne Fugate)

why the city government was turning over 72 cents instead of 50 cents on the dollar is because of the highly aggressive annexation campaign under then-Mayor Victor Ashe. Victor chose to grow the city by snatching property outside the city limits, especially areas that produced high sales tax revenue. Virtually every lucrative sales tax-producing area in the county was taken in by annexation, which took money out of the school budget. Keep in mind the 22 cents may sound small but it comes to at least \$38 million.

Now Fugate is suggesting the city government turn over only 50 cents and keep the remaining 22 cents which it can spend on other things (i.e. social welfare programs). Indya Kincannon said she would explore the idea, although the voters inside the city had approved it by referendum.

Both Kincannon and Fugate served on the Knox County Board of Education under then-superintendent Jim McIntyre. Both were devoted followers. Fugate even voted to outsource the custodians (Kincannon didn't but she only very reluctantly went against McIntyre). Both Fugate and Kincannon supported McIntyre's bid to have the county commission implement the largest property tax increase in its history, which failed badly. There is no question that both Fugate and Kincannon would have been scandalized by the notion of the city government cutting back its commitment to the schools, thinking it could force the county mayor and county commission to raise taxes to make up the shortfall.

# Two different merit reforms before Knox County Commission

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section prohibiting any political involvement by merit council members. Durrett asked if political involvement includes yard signs and Buuck replied it does because yard signs are a form of political advertising. Durrett also asked if passing the second proposal, which doesn't include the 1974 state law, would make the county liable to a lawsuit or make a new merit council valid. Buuck replied there

is no current lawsuit but the new proposal could "open the door to a lawsuit if someone wanted to do that, yeah." He also said that even without the 1974 law adoption the Merit Council would be legal.

Buuck told The Focus Wednesday morning that anyone can file a lawsuit over anything.

Commissioner John Schoonmaker said the 1974 state law could be adopted later as needed.

The Jay proposal also prohibits merit council members from running for public office while serving. Current Merit Council Chairwoman Gina Oster is running for Knox County Commission.

Durrett moved to postpone any decision for 30 days on a request from the county's human resources department, but the motion failed with only Durrett and Dasha Lundy voting "Yes."

Jay ended the discussion by

saying the current merit council has "been making up their own rules with no staff oversight." Smith said the make-up of a new board should serve on staggered terms.

Both proposals move on to the commission's meeting tonight. Busler indicated that he may withdraw his motion to adopt the Tennessee Legislation of 1974 from the meeting agenda.



Law Director David Buuck said the state law of 1974 may not be needed if a proposal to create a seven-member merit council and other reforms. Photo by Mike Steely.



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# The tales of two historic train depots

I think my interest in railroad depots goes back to my childhood when my family lived just up the tracks from an active station. I recall a railroad trip to Louisville, Ky., once by train from our home in Williamsburg, Ky., and since then my

own family and I have visited and ridden trains here and there in Tennessee.

If you have an interest in trains

## A Day Away



By Mike Steely

and depots there are several in our area worth a day's drive and a visit. Two of them you can visit on the same outing.

Of course locally we have the Southern Railway museum with its period passenger cars and the

Three Rivers Rambler train ride. But there's nothing like the L&N Depot in Etowah for size or history.

## Tennessee's Largest Depot

The two-story depot is said to be the largest railroad depot in the state. Built in 1906 the station was the headquarters of the company's Atlanta Division and was the first building to be built in the small town. In fact, the town was created by the railroad. Located immediately on Highway 411, museum's first floor features the background of the station and the town. The second floor has a gallery of changing exhibits.

The L&N Depot was the hub of service to the copper mines, marble quarries and industries in East Tennessee. Built along Cane Creek in what was then called Stumptown, Etowah was chosen by the railroad company. It is said

*The L&N station in Etowah is said to be the largest railroad depot in the state, built by the railway company which also created the town. Today it is a two-story museum which also features a 3.5 hour excursion through the Hiwassee Gorge.*

that a railroad sign in Etowah, Ga., was taken by a railroad engineer and planted beside the tracks at the new Tennessee station.

L&N developed a large rail center and yard there and then began selling off lots for businesses and homes. Wooden box cars were built there until the 1920s when L&N began switching to metal box cars.

In the 1970s the depot and some other buildings were purchased by the city of Etowah and the huge historic railroad station was preserved. Today anyone can visit the depot and museum free of charge. The city annually has a July 4th celebration at the depot complete with a fireworks display. The depot, as before, has become the center of various celebrations in Etowah.

My wife and I visited the depot there several years ago and it is still going strong today, open to visitors and even offers train rides.

You can catch the Hiwassee River Railroad scenic excursion at the Etowah station and ride through the Hiwassee River Gorge. The 50-mile loop is a 3.5 hour trip and runs from March

through November. You can get information online or by calling (423) 263-7840.

## Tennessee's Oldest Depot

After Etowah, you could take Highway 411 north to Englewood and then Highway 474 north to Niota, where you could visit what is said to be the oldest standing depot in our state.

The Niota Railroad Museum has a Civil War marker standing in the front lawn. Built in 1854, the depot is now the home of Niota's city hall. During the war it was occupied by federal forces who created fortifications around the station by removing bricks from the freight section.

The station is located about a block off Highway 11W near the small town's bank, post office and library.

As your return to Knoxville along Highway 11W you could also stop in Loudon and see the historic railroad station there which now houses the Loudon Chamber of Commerce.



# Revised Rules go on to Knox Commission

By Mike Steely  
Senior Writer  
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When the Knox County Rules Committee met Tuesday, Rules Chairman Carson Dailey led the members through some suggested rule changes. The first discussion was about new items that are requested to be added to the agenda at the beginning of a meeting.

Commissioner Larsen Jay, a former commission chairman, said that adding late items often comes at the will of a chairman and

not by the required 2/3 commission vote. He said that if the commission follows its own rules, "We have the tools" to decide to add it or not.

Dailey said that last-minute agenda items often don't have the documentation normally required.

Chairman Dailey then opened a discussion on appointing family members to boards and commission. Jay said the idea "makes some sense" but noted it hasn't come up in the past.

Commissioner Charles Busler asked about

divorced family members and those who have fallen off a family tree.

Dailey and Jay settled on using language involving in-laws, family members, siblings, parents and children. The motion made by Jay and seconded by Commissioner Dasha Lundy passed and goes on for approval by the full commission.

A second item dealing with forbidding family members to any open position also passed unanimously. The law department will prepare the resolutions.

**Cont. from page 1**

the request and the sale of the building for \$6 million. He said the closing for the historic hotel building is supposed to complete this month and wondered if the county would receive a check in July. Schoonmaker said he was one of four commissioners who approved the sales agreement which was based on adding the building to the county tax rolls.

The authorization of IDB to handle the negotiations passed 8-1-1 and will also appear on today's

commission agenda for consideration.

The commission also voted "no recommendation" on a first reading of changing the county code to require use on review appeals of Planned Residential Development decisions be heard in a Knox County Court instead of the Board of Zoning Appeals.

The change requires a public hearing, if approved, before a second and final vote.

In other action Commissioner Schoonmaker is asking the county to adopt

a Mineral Severance Tax to help repair roads damaged by heavy trucks hauling minerals. He said surrounding counties have a similar tax and noted there are five quarries within Knox County. The proposed tax would be 15¢ per ton and would go directly into the county highway fund. The new money could go a long way to help pay the increasing cost of asphalt and add six or seven miles of new pavements each year.

The idea was sent on to the meeting this evening.

# Use on Review, Industrial Board on County Agenda

# SSG Ryan C. Knauss Memorial Highway established in Gibbs

**Cont. from page 1**

is showing us that we still do have strong leadership in our country, we just have to keep pushing forward for more."

Sen. Massey said, "(Ryan) knew from the very beginning that he wanted to serve this country. It's just important that we don't forget the sacrifices that our heroes are making, whether they're killed in action or not. They're giving up their lives, to put their lives on hold to go serve, to keep us so we have freedoms, all the freedoms that we take for granted often.

But this community is such an amazing community anyway. They're a tight-knit community. It's just a small something that we can do personally to help remember."

Ryan's father Greg Knauss said of the two sections named for his son, "Apparently, it's a rarity to have two sections of a highway memorializing somebody, so that's special. It's the area that he grew up in so that makes it special too."

Wright talked about the process involved in naming two stretches of road for Knauss. "Tim Burchett

and I attended the burial in Washington," Wright said. "This particular naming of the four directions on this intersection took a special bill. Becky and I had separate bills in the House and Senate which were the same content to get this name in four directions. This is a reminder about people who have done very significant things in their lives. (Staff Sergeant Knauss) had that same focus and energy and activity and lost his life in service to our country, and we need to recognize him every day. I will do that now and I come out on Boruff

Rd. every day," Wright emphasized.

Speaking of the veteran biker community who attends events and memorials for soldiers, Selph said, "I have a connection on Facebook, Tik-Tok, Instagram of letting people know about things that are going on. And they come from all states. It's not just about one community that cares. It's about a nation that cares. It's about all the soldiers that they're coming to represent at these events. Ryan is just one man who was doing his job well and they're commending him and reminding everybody,

that there are more men and women out there that need our support. And the families that are left behind to fend for themselves, we all in the community need to gather round them because those men and

women out there are our front lines. And we have to take care of our front line because once the front-line folds, we're a very vulnerable nation."

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## The Doctor is in

a weekly column by  
Dr. Jim Ferguson

### Delusions

If kids knew what they wanted to be at age eight, the world would be filled with cowboys and princesses. I wanted to be a pirate. Thank God, nobody took me seriously and scheduled me for eye removal and peg leg surgery.

--Bill Maher

I use a computer to write even though I'm a "hunt and pecker." Somehow in my education I was never challenged to learn typing or the keyboard. I regret that. Nonetheless, I'm pretty fast and good enough to publish three books and "peck" seven hundred and sixty-three, 1000-word essays for the Focus over the last four-teen years.

I'm not beyond the learning curve, but thankfully there are now alternatives to the keyboard, notably voice recognition technology on my iPhone. I even have a voice recognition

app for my laptop called Dragon. Neither are perfect, but they are helpful. The Dragon system designed for internal medicine was superb, and years ago enabled me to survive the conversion from medical charts to electronic medical records. I rate the Dragon system I use for writing as poor by comparison.

I'm sympathetic to voice recognition technology which has to deal with multiple languages and numerous regional dialects. I sometimes have trouble understanding people who mumble or don't enunciate. The Seinfeld show did a parody of people whom the neurotic New Yorkers referred to as "low talkers," people who talk so softly they can't be understood. And I suspect New Yorkers have trouble with a Southern drawl; I have had trouble communicating with cabbies in Brooklyn

despite English being our native language.

I have traveled extensively and though I can't speak Russian, I can recognize someone speaking a Slavic language. I was once on a tram in Prague, Czechoslovakia with a map of the system. I paid close attention as the conductor called out the stops, comparing the names on my map. However, I still missed my stop because the language was alien to my Western ear. And when doing medical mission work in Guatemala, I gave up trying to fathom Quiché, the indigenous Mayan language. To my ear, the natives sounded like the Star Trek character Worf speaking Klingon!

Anyone who has used Siri or Alexa, etc. has learned to deal with less than perfect voice recognition and to be aware of the infamous "autocorrect." We have such wonderful technology which enables us to connect with others like no time in history. And we should be using it to reach out to others. However, I recommend you first compose your message and review it carefully before putting in an address and sending it.

I practiced traditional medicine for forty years, but my profession changed, so I decided to go in a different direction. I developed a concierge medical

practice and made house calls in my truck. And I used Siri on my iPhone to record my clinical notes. I learned a valuable lesson regarding technology which I'll share, although the story is a bit risqué.

After seeing Mrs. Jones, I voiced (recorded) my visit to Siri saying, "Mrs. Jones was at home working all afternoon." Fortunately, I reviewed what Siri "heard" and autocorrected. My screen read, "Mrs. Jones was at home f---ing all afternoon." I was aghast! Now, I realize Siri is a Valley Girl and perhaps has no reluctance to use such vulgar language. But I assure you doctors, especially this one, do not use street language in clinical notes.

At one time we shared a common culture and language in America, and immigrants were strongly encouraged to become Americans. However, I've begun to wonder how do we understand people whose thoughts have become so alien?

I discussed the notion of delusional thinking several weeks ago. If you missed my essay "American Psychosis," go to The Focus archive online and consider my logic. I understand the medical diagnosis of insanity, but I cannot comprehend the delusional thinking of so many people. And I refuse to normalize such non-reality under the

ruse of "DEI" (diversity, equity, inclusion).

It is true that human sexuality runs a spectrum and there are "girly men" and "butchy women," to use the street descriptions. My wife, Becky, recently walked into Target and was confronted with a model in a feminine outfit sporting a beard. The store boldly proclaimed their Celebration of Pride month. Hipsters may find this edgy and cool, but I find such activism inappropriate, so we have added Target to the list of woke companies we will no longer support.

To paraphrase CK Chesterton, if you believe in nothing, you can believe in anything. New York is celebrating gay pride month with Drag Queen story hour in schools. This is wrong. And on this continuum is the non-reality that men can get pregnant. I am against injustice, but I will not accept the "normalization" of such destructive and delusional thought. And I won't be badgered into embracing non-reality.

But gender dysphoria is not the only delusional groupthink promoted by ideologues and delusional leftists. Delusional thinking is everywhere these days, even the notion that America is evil because slavery was tolerated in the initial Constitution to enable its ratification. Seventy-five years later more than

600,000 Americans gave their lives during the Civil War to correct this injustice and to preserve the union. Although we are not perfect, the 13th, 14th and 15th amendments to the Constitution, and later the 19th amendment, testify to our country's evolution toward a "more perfect union."

Another delusion is that socialism works despite the fact that history has shown it always fails. And I could list other delusions such as: inflation is not caused by our government's mismanagement of monetary policy, or the doubling of gas prices is due to Putin's war instead of Biden's war on fossil fuels. Lastly, it is perhaps delusional to think Democrats and swampy Republicans can fix the mess they've created.

Liz Cheney is an example of what delusional thinking can do to a person. Most Washington Democrats are just opportunist political ideologues. But Evil's hatred has made Cheney insane.

People ask me, "what can we do?" I say, "walk in the Way and say No! to delusional, non-reality." And be thankful for another day of life, soft summer mornings and the time and space to seek the Creator's directives.

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

## The Love Kitchen Continues to Make a Difference

By Mark Nagi

Ending hunger for everyone. "The Love Kitchen" in East Knoxville was born on Valentine's Day 1986 with that mission in mind. It was the brainchild of twin sisters Helen Ashe and Ellen Turner. They served 22 people that first day. All that Helen and Ellen wanted was to have a place where anyone and everyone could come and receive food.

"Helen and Ellen were daughters of sharecroppers," said Martin Riggins, interim executive director of The Love Kitchen. "They became nurses later in life and when they would work in the hospital, they would notice that there were patients that didn't have anything to eat and had been waiting in the waiting room for hours so what they did was take their own money and go to the cafeteria and buy the patients something to eat while they waited.

"They (Helen and Ellen) have taken what they saw

**Continue on page 4**



State Senator Dr. Richard Briggs was presented the Guardian of Small Business award last week by National Federation of Independent Businesses State Director Jim Brown. The presentation was attended by Jimmy Matlock of Matlock Tires and other supporters and friends. Brown said Senator Briggs is committed to the passage of pro-small business policies and had a 100% NFIB voting record. Photo by Mike Steely.



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# Bruhin Road rezoning back before city council

By Mike Steely  
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The proposal for 120 apartments on a hillside in Inskip, across from the Inskip Pool and Park, is on the Knoxville City Council agenda again. Developer John Huber and Hopeful Housing want to build the complex on four empty acres along Bruhin Road. Local Inskip homeowners oppose the zoning change from

RN-1 single-family designation to RN-5 General Residential. They have suggested rezoning to RN-2 or rejecting the RN-5 zoning change.

The rezoning was approved by the planning commission and had been postponed until Tuesday's council meeting. Opponents, led by the Inskip Neighborhood Association and Councilman Charles Thomas, are hoping to add

a couple of council votes to change the outcome.

The city council will also look at approving the Atlantic Avenue Sidewalk Project with state funding of \$1.5 million and a city match of \$ 381,105. That project may also get approval of a \$2.9 million in a contract with McKinnon Construction Company LLC.

Volunteer Construction Company may get a \$263,492 contract with

the city for the Pedestrian and Bicycle Pavement Marking Program.

Neighborhood Housing Inc. may get a \$300,000 grant to support emergency and minor home repairs. The Community Action Committee may also get approval for a similar program with \$500,000 from a Community Development grant.

Mayor Indya Kincannon may get approval to apply for a \$5.1 million request

for federal funds for Knox Area Transit to help with the purchase of four electric busses and a charging station. The council may also approve \$69,050 in a contract with Pyro Shows for fireworks for upcoming holidays.

The city may approve increasing the amount of small purchases without a contract from \$5,000 to \$12,000 and may require three quotes for purchases up to \$50,000.

The language of candidate elections in the city may see a minor change with an amendment to the city's charter to read "the top two highest votes in each district." Current language reads: "The two candidates receiving the highest number of votes." The change would apply for district and at-large candidates.



Picture of the Spirit Lifters at their flower arranging event on May 24 after they creatively assembled approximately 40 lovely arrangements that they delivered to the homebound widows, provided by Chelsea Murphy.

## Lifting Spirits: A Widows' Ministry

They are called Spirit Lifters. The widows' ministry of Wallace Memorial Baptist Church is made up of active widows who gather monthly to participate in various activities to love, care, and serve one another. The group also branches out as uplifters to the homebound widows.

Chelsea Murphy serves



By Ralphine Major  
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as the Wallace Women's representative for the group. The Spirit Lifters partner with the senior adult ministry of Wallace and are directed by Carolyn Jensen, founder of the group, in a joint effort of ministry. "It truly was a vision from God that this was so needed for the almost 150 widows in our church," Carolyn said. "God has

blessed the ministry in a mighty way. All the glory goes to God."

Chelsea has a huge heart for serving others! Her passion for encouragement created an opportunity recently to teach the ladies how to make floral arrangements. They were able to partner with Powell Florist, a local business that provided a generous donation of beautiful, fresh-cut spring flowers. Using these colorful flowers, the Spirit Lifters created unique and personal gifts of love which

they delivered to the homebound widows. "This personal touch provided a way to let the homebound know that they are still a special part of the Wallace family of faith," Chelsea said. Lifting spirits---a wonderful way to show others the love of Jesus!

Words of Faith: The Spirit Lifters claim as their verse Psalm 62:2 (NIV): "Truly he is my rock and my salvation; he is my fortress; I will never be shaken."

## Let's get tough

After the last column on battling inflation, I was surprised that folks contacted me to ask about sharing some of the things Amy and I did to get through the tough times. Of course, then can't compare with the mess we find ourselves in now. Price gouging and inflation that put a gallon of gas at more than \$5.00 sends shockwaves through all of us. What we did in our time of struggle might not work for you, so take these suggestions and modify or ignore them.

As I said before, we set a budget. Amy did most of



By Joe Rector  
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the work on this. She listed our monthly bills, and then we ranked them in order of importance. The mortgage, food, and utilities sat at the top. She also listed smaller items, such things as entertainment and eating out. We also listed church donations and savings in the budget.

Many of you might recognize this budget plan as one that Dave Ramsey made famous. I don't agree with the man on most things, but I know that on two occasions in our life, his budget saved us. The key is to assign every penny of

earnings to a category. We used the system where the allocated money for each category was placed in an envelope. This works well in two ways. People tend to spend less when they see a finite amount of money. Second, an empty envelope screams that it is for a particular category.

We lived by the saying "It's good enough!" This lesson teaches children the importance of things. When money is tight, buying a brand-name article is impossible for a family on a budget. A good pair of tennis shoes that isn't stamped with a brand mark will serve the same purpose at a cheaper price. The same thing goes for a bag of chips, a can of beans, or a new shirt.

One of the most important things we learned was to question every purchase we made. Our chore was to look at the item we wanted and then determine if it was a need or a want. If anything is identified as a want, folks don't spend their budgeted money on it. Living without that item might be disappointing, but folks must realize they are in a war against high prices and gouging.

Living on a budget isn't the end of life. It might be the end of wasteful spending and the beginning of awareness of how to correctly manage finances. At the end of each month, the envelopes are emptied of any remaining cash. The sum can go into savings or to paying more on outstanding bills.

Yes, we are facing some tough times. Our government representatives don't seem to want to work together. As for the economy, other generations have experienced much worse things. The Great Depression and two world wars demanded many sacrifices from people. They became smarter and tougher. They also learned the importance of reaching out to help others. I am sure that times will be better. Hope and faith in something bigger than ourselves are key ingredients in getting past a crisis.

Keep your faith and find your own way to get through to the other side. Be a cheerleader for anyone who is in a bad place. Let's reveal those characteristics that identify us as Americans. It's time to toughen up and use our energies toward reaching a better tomorrow.

## Faith N Friends Horse Rescue and Sanctuary to resume annual summer camps

**Faith N Friends aims to educate, empower, and provide therapy for local youth through inclusive horse-related activities**

Faith N Friends Horse Rescue and Sanctuary has announced it will hold camps throughout summer 2022 after a two-year pause due to the pandemic. The camps will consist of various horse-related activities including arts and crafts, games, horseback riding lessons, and educational lessons on horse care. Activities build self-esteem while encouraging the development of fine motor skills and enhancement of social skills. Interaction with horses, such as grooming and other care, provides various positive and therapeutic benefits for participants. Accommodations can be personalized for each participant to ensure accessibility. Students in grades 1 - 6 are encouraged to attend and can register for multiple sessions.

"Horses provide a mirror for people," said Faith. "They reflect the care and compassion they are given. They can help a child or adult identify their own emotions and through their care, they can help instill a work ethic and sense of

responsibility."

Camps will be held July 11 - 13. Additional camps can be opened if more inquire than the allotted space provided. Additional camps reserved for participants with special needs will be held June 27 - 29 and July 25 - 27. All sessions will take place from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., rain or shine.

Registration information can be found on the Faith N Friends website or Facebook events page. Availability is limited, so early registration ensures your child will have a reserved spot. Participants should arrive with a brown bag lunch and drink. Contact Elle at ellem@faithnfriends.org with registration questions or concerns.

Founded in 2016, Faith N Friends is a volunteer-run, donation-funded 501(c)3 horse rescue and sanctuary that provides community education and assistance for the public in need, along with therapy programs for disabled and chronically ill children. Through community outreach and education, Faith N Friends strives to bring understanding and comfort to people of all ages and from all walks of life as they interact with and learn about horses. Faith N Friends is not just another horse rescue, the organization allows horses to help people.

## Marble City Opera announces its Tenth Season

Marble City Opera will produce three American operas for their 2022-2023 season. The season's focus is strong women, and each opera will be performed in English.

**"Heartbreak Express" by George Lam and John Clum**

October 20-22, 2022  
Flying Anvil Theatre  
Directed by: Marya Barry. Conducted by: Dr. Christy Lee

Inspired by the documentary For the Love Of Dolly, the opera follows four Dolly Parton "superfans" waiting to meet their idol for the first time.

**"The Infinite Energy of Ada Lovelace" by Kamala Sankaram and Rob Handel**  
March 16-18, 2023

Old City Performing Arts Center

Directed by Sierra Hammond. Conducted by Amy Wilson.

Ada, Countess of Lovelace and Lord Byron's daughter, has been asked to help Charles Babbage with his work on the Difference Engine. Can she pursue her love of mathematics while upholding her reputation?

**"Susannah" by Carlisle Floyd**  
June 8-10, 2023

Marble Springs  
Directed by Matt Haney. Conducted by Andy Anderson

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# The Cantrell Machine & the ‘Battle of the Ballots’

## Pages from the Past



By Ray Hill  
rayhill865@gmail.com

Even today people remember the “Battle of Athens.” At the time it occurred in 1946, it was also known as the “Battle of the Ballots.” The closest thing the election battle resembled was a Latin American revolution. While tensions had been simmering for some time, what ignited the flame was the brazen theft of a ballot box.

It remains a significant event in Tennessee politics as veterans returning from the Second World War refused to be intimidated by a political machine that, until Election Day, was thriving. That machine was centered in McMinn County and headed by Paul Cantrell, who was a member of the Tennessee State Senate.

Like neighboring Polk County, having control of the sheriff’s office was a necessity for the machine to function efficiently. Paul Cantrell had been sheriff before going to Nashville. Cantrell was closely allied with the Biggs machine in Polk County and their influence was not entirely confined to their home counties.

As veterans in the bloodiest war ever known on the face of the Earth, returning GIs became increasingly discontented with the rule of the Cantrell machine. Virtually every war supplies candidates for elections after the conflict is fought and won, or in the case of the Civil War and the South, lost. Former Confederate officers supplied dozens of candidates for generations for political offices throughout Tennessee and the South. More Republican-inclined East Tennessee preferred those candidates who had been affiliated with the Union, like Andrew Johnson, while Middle and West Tennessee routinely elevated former Confederates to high office. Southern states had a habit of electing former Confederate generals to Congress, especially the United States Senate. In Alabama, former General Joseph Wheeler served in the House of Representatives while two former generals, Edmund Pettus and John Tyler Morgan, sat in the Senate.

So, too, was Tennessee represented for a time by two former Confederate generals in the United States Senate. Both had previously served as governor before being elected by the Tennessee General Assembly to sit in the U. S. Senate. William B. Bate, a native of Middle Tennessee served in the Senate from 1887 until his death in 1905. Bate served alongside Isham G. Harris, also a former Confederate general, who spent twenty years in the United States

Senate. Oddly, both Senators Bate and Harris had been elected to a fourth term but died early in their new terms of office. Only one U. S. senator from Tennessee has served out a fourth term, Kenneth D. McKellar. McKellar was elected to the Senate six times by the people of Tennessee and was not only Tennessee’s longest serving United States senator, but also the first person to be elected to the United States Senate by popular election in the Volunteer State.

George Washington Gordon, another former Confederate general, served in the Congress, representing Shelby County in the House of Representatives. The last Civil War veterans to serve in Congress were both members of the U. S. Senate. Francis Warren had fought for the Union and was a long-serving senator from Wyoming (and the father-in-law of General John J. “Black Jack” Pershing of World War I fame). Charles Thomas, born in Georgia, had fought for the Confederacy as a teenager and went on to be elected to the United States Senate from Colorado and served until 1921. Warren died in office in 1929 at age eighty-five.

But I digress. The point being veterans of every war return home and replace many incumbent officeholders from the courthouse to the White House. Two such examples are Ulysses S. Grant and Dwight D. Eisenhower. Carroll Reece was a hero of the First World War and promptly returned home to Tennessee to oust an entrenched incumbent who had served in Congress for a decade.

The Cantrell machine apparently did little to make returning veterans feel like they were an important part of the community. The always-fatal mistakes of those chieftains who run political machines are becoming too arrogant and self-satisfied. Paul Cantrell’s machine had ruled McMinn County for ten years before it fell.

While his friend and contemporary Burch Biggs looked every bit the part of a rural political boss, Paul Cantrell more closely resembled an accountant or what he actually was professionally, a banker. Bespectacled and bald, neatly dressed, Paul Cantrell’s physical appearance did not conjure to mind images of a political boss.

Of course, political bosses and newspapers have long been at odds and publishers and editors find politicians easy pickings as targets of scorn,



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*Newly-elected Sheriff Knox Henry is congratulated by friends and supporters following the ‘Battle of Athens.’*

ridicule and contempt. Some, especially the colorful Ed Crump of Memphis, frequently gave as good as he got. Willard Yarborough, a reporter for the Knoxville News-Sentinel and sometime politician (he served on the Knox County Court and was the Democratic nominee against John J. Duncan for Congress in 1964), wrote the effort by the returning veterans was shaping up to be the “most heated political campaign in a decade.” The ex-GIs had formulated a ticket sponsored by their self-named “GI Non-Partisan Ticket” to challenge the candidates and incumbent sponsored by the Cantrell machine. By early July, Yarborough reported the “campaign already has drawn blood and there is the likelihood that more fireworks” would be in the offing “between now and election day.” The Cantrell Democratic machine was already divided internally, which aided the cause of the GIs who were allied with local Republicans. Yarborough noted the Cantrell Democrats were “unperturbed” by the intensive and aggressive campaigning by the GI candidates. That underscored one of the greatest failures of candidates and political organizations since the beginning of time: complacency. As Willard Yarborough wrote in an excellent series of articles on the Cantrell machine, the Cantrells had “been cursed and discussed by their enemies” for a decade yet they had “continued to ride out the storms that brew over their determined dynasty and still rule supreme.”

Paul Cantrell and his allies had successfully importuned the Tennessee General Assembly to redistrict the County Court, which shifted control of McMinn County from the Republicans to the Democrats. Thereafter, the Cantrell machine became solidly entrenched. The five Cantrell brothers all lived in Etowah, but the most politically active of the siblings were Paul and Frank. Frank Cantrell was the mayor of Etowah, while Paul was running to return to the sheriff’s office, which he had held for three terms previously. Incumbent sheriff Pat Mansfield was running to succeed Paul

Cantrell in the Tennessee State Senate. In essence, Mansfield and Paul Cantrell were switching jobs.

Local Republicans had made the task of the GIs easier by refusing to field their own candidates in the county general election, instead backing the slate of the Non-Partisan veterans. The GIs had met in a convention where a GI identification was required to admit delegates. Ads placed in newspapers prior to the convention blared: “If you are interested in cleaning up McMinn County and the return of good, clean, honest, efficient government, don’t fail to attend this meeting.” The candidates nominated by the veterans appeared to be as clean-cut as their freshly scrubbed faces in the newspapers. Thirty-three-year-old Knox Henry was the Non-Partisan candidate for sheriff, a hardened veteran of the European theatre of the Second World War. Twenty-nine-year-old Frank Carmichael was the son of a farmer who had entered the Army as a private and rose to the rank of major in the European war. Carmichael had been awarded the Purple Heart and still lived with his parents on their farm, which was nestled between Etowah and Athens.

So, too, was the Pacific theatre of World War II represented in the candidacy of George “Gump” Painter, a thirty-three-year-old who had fought for thirty months against the Japanese. William “Bill” Hamby, twenty-nine, was the Non-Partisan ticket candidate for Circuit Court Clerk. If not the most seasoned of the GI candidates, but certainly the oldest at fifty-two years of age was Charlie Pickle, who was running for Register of Deeds. Pickle was a Republican, while Painter and Carmichael were Democrats. Both parties were well represented on the Non-Partisan ticket. It was a clever and winning strategy as McMinn County Republicans held their own convention and endorsed the GI slate of candidates for the general election against the Cantrell machine.

The infighting occurring in the Cantrell machine was an uprising spearheaded by veteran McMinn County politico John Rogers whose son, Clyde,

had tried to move from the County Clerk’s office to win the nomination for sheriff. Unfortunately for Clyde Rogers, his opponent was the boss himself, Paul Cantrell, who won the Democratic nomination. The spilt was the first between the Cantrell machine in a decade. The bitterness and hostility between Cantrell and the Rogers factions were far more intense than that between the machine and the insurgent GIs according to Willard Yarborough.

The bitterness was fueled by John Rogers having been arrested for carrying a pistol on his person and Willard Yarborough reported it was widely known the Cantrell machine deputies had treated Rogers “none too gently.” Mrs. Bill Murphy was a daughter of John Rogers and sister of Clyde and she, too, was charged with profanity and deputies attempted to arrest her as well. During an escalating argument, her husband was shot at his drug store by Bill Rucker, Chief of Police for Etowah. At the time of the shooting, Bill Murphy was not attempting to fight anyone, but merely trying to prevent his wife from being arrested.

Knox Henry, the GI candidate for sheriff, promised to accept only the \$5,000 annual salary paid to the McMinn County sheriff. It was an ample salary for the time, the equivalent to roughly \$74,000 in today’s dollars. Because state law permitted the sheriff to keep the fees collected by his office, it was a highly lucrative office for both the top law enforcement officer and his deputies. Knox Henry pledged to end the fee system and live off the sheriff’s salary. The fees averaged around \$25,000 and incumbent Sheriff Pat Mansfield had collected as much as \$100,000 over a four-year period. To give readers an idea of what an enormous sum that was in 1946, it was close to \$1.5 million today.

Most of all, the GI candidates wanted to make certain elections were honest and fair. “We want to assure any person that he can become a candidate for office in McMinn County with a chance to win,” one GI leader said. “If democracy is good enough for the Japs, Nazis and

Italians, then we figure it’s good enough for McMinn Countians. We want a fair count at the ballot box and we expect to get it.” In short, young Americans had traveled far from home, halfway around the globe to fight a bloody battle for freedom against totalitarian regimes which intended to enslave other peoples. Those same young men did not propose to allow the Cantrell machine to politically enslave the people of McMinn County.

The Cantrell candidates did not campaign too hard, confident of their eventual election. “Whatever happens I am always the target of the opposition,” Paul Cantrell said, appearing utterly unconcerned. “They cuss me more than anybody else. We hope there will be a quiet election and that everybody will keep his temper.”

The battle for political freedom ended with a bang rather than a whimper. Paul Cantrell, Sheriff Mansfield and others had barricaded themselves inside the jail. Veterans accumulated a variety of weapons and used dynamite to literally blow Cantrell and his followers out of the jail. Cantrell fled, along with Sheriff Mansfield. Just as Americans had secured their freedom from the British Empire and King George, so, too, had they freed themselves from the oppression of Paul Cantrell and his political machine.

The Americans who fought the Second World War have been labeled our country’s “Greatest Generation.” For students of history who have delved into the fight for freedom during the Second World War, it is impossible to disagree. That same generation changed the face of politics in Tennessee.

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# Dining for Joy

Greg Tardy leads the band on the clarinet/sax at Thursday night's Dining for Joy benefit dinner for the Joy of Music School at the Crowne Plaza. Accompanying Tardy are Jim Hynes on trumpet, Larry Vincent on banjo, Sam Adams on piano, Rusty Holloway on bass and Kenneth Brown on drums.

100% of ticket sales for the event goes straight to the music education programs for the students.

The Joy of Music School is a nonprofit organization in Knoxville that provides free music lessons and instruments to financially disadvantaged, at-risk youth. Since 1998, the Knoxville nonprofit has been supported by more than over 100 volunteers who provide music education that fosters discipline and encourages positive self-esteem.



# Chief Paul Noel Answers Focus Questions

By Mike Steely  
Senior Writer  
steelym@knoxfocus.com

Last week I met Paul Noel, the new Knoxville Police Chief, at a meet and greet held in South Knoxville. As CommonPlace filled with other well-wishers, Noel agreed to complete the interview via email and turned in the answers to my questions the very next day.

**Knoxville has a growing homeless population. How did New Orleans handle the homeless and what might be done here?**

Law enforcement has a role to play in addressing homelessness, but enforcement efforts alone are not going to solve the issue. Homelessness is a public health crisis and we will work alongside the City of Knoxville and local service providers to address the root causes to create sustainable solutions. From a law enforcement standpoint, we can make a difference by being more visible and responsive. As a stand-alone unit that is available seven days a week to respond to calls presenting

a behavioral health need, the Co-Responder Team can also play a significant role in addressing the issue.

**We have a program where mental health workers ride with officers to respond to certain calls and I'm wondering if you are familiar with such a program and what are your comments?**

I am a big supporter of the co-responder model. Officers routinely encounter individuals who are experiencing mental health or substance abuse crises. Officers are trained to effectively respond in those situations, but their options for assisting those individuals are limited. By having a behavioral health specialist with a crisis intervention trained officer, individuals are immediately assessed and directed to the appropriate service or treatment. Follow-ups are also conducted to ensure those individuals are not slipping through the cracks.

**How do you feel about armed School Security Officers?**

I am still evaluating the role that our officers

will play in the schools. I have a meeting this week with Knox County Schools Security Chief Jason Periard to continue that evaluation process.

**Please explain the ABLE program.**

The Active Bystandership for Law Enforcement program is a peer intervention program that is based on a program that was started in New Orleans called Ethical Policing is Courageous (EPIC). The ABLE program will give each of our officers and employees the tools to intervene, prevent mistakes or misconduct and save officers' careers with a focus on officer wellness. It is not an Internal Affairs program or a discipline program, and it will in no way impact the department's efforts to reduce and prevent crime. Crime prevention and reduction will always be our top priority. ABLE-based training is simply a proven method for improving the trust and accountability within our ranks and the community.

**Recruitment, especially**



PHOTO BY MIKE STEELY

*New Knoxville Police Chief Paul Noel chats with citizens at CommonPlace Coffee in South Knoxville last week. Noel is visiting various neighborhoods to meet and greet those he serves. Councilman Tommy Smith hosted the event and other such meetings are planned around the city. This Thursday, June 30 from 6:30-8:00 p.m., Councilwoman Seema Singh is hosting a Meet and Greet at the Northwest Church of Christ on Pleasant Ridge Rd.*

**among minorities, continues to be difficult. What are your plans or ideas?**

Recruitment is a challenge for every department across the country. It's a challenge to find people who are willing to do this job, and agencies are competing for a shrinking

number of candidates. The pay raises that were recently pushed forward by Mayor Kincannon and approved by City Council will certainly help our recruitment efforts. On top of that, people want to be a part of a winning team. It is my responsibility as the chief to

build a culture that people want to be a part of and make sure that the KPD is a place where people want to come to work. I am challenging our supervisors and my Command Staff to create and maintain that culture as well.

# The Love Kitchen Continues to Make a Difference

**Cont. from page 1**

as a need to feed people, hungry people the homeless the helpless, the homebound," said Ernie Roberts, president of the board at The Love Kitchen.

"They take care of so many different works there and their energy, their excitement, their smile their hugs... oh my gosh their hugs... they are just amazing, the impact they have on individuals, and also when you see their pictures you can't help but smile. It's just an exciting moment."

The Love Kitchen is a staple in East Tennessee, feeding those who are hungry and comforting those who are hurting. It's been over 36 years, and they are still making a difference. Each and every week, the Love Kitchen delivers over two thousand meals to those who are homebound and serves over 200 more in-house. That's approximately 120,000 times a year when someone that could have gone hungry is fed.

of food for people that otherwise would not have it. They can't get out of their house. They have no family members to help them. And we are here."

During the holidays that need increases, but so does the impact of the Love Kitchen's volunteers. They work tirelessly to continue what Helen and Ellen built.

"Christmas and New Year's... during the holiday season the demand does ramp up somewhat and our demands for volunteers ramps up," said Roberts. "Sometimes people are already adjusting to other things celebrations and things so don't forget us. We are still operating and sometimes Christmas hits on those days we are working here other times we work around it. Their legacy lives on. And that's part of what we want to do here at The Love Kitchen is continue that dream, that vision... but the need is here, and the need is so strong. And they were willing to go out and meet it. We work homebound and feed a couple of days a week for people to come by and get a meal if they need it during the day, and we have a great volunteer crew that comes in and just blows me away at how well they work together, week in week out for 52 weeks, 365 days a year. You don't get a week off for people being hungry. We don't get a week away

from people needing food and such, they are always here. So, it is great to have people willing to come in every week and do this.

Helen Ashe passed away in 2015 and Ellen Turner in 2018, but today The Love Kitchen still spreads their message, that "Everybody is God's Somebody." Martin Riggins continues the tradition, taking over for his brother Patrick, who was integral to the success of The Love Kitchen for many years and passed away in 2021.

"There are times, yes, when things are getting wild and hectic and things go wrong... the freezer breaks and you wonder how am I going to do this how can I fix this," said Martin Riggins. "You just sit back and think Patrick made a promise to Helen and Ellen before they passed, and he told them that he would keep The Love Kitchen going and he promised them he would do that. I see that as my duty to my brother to continue that promise that he made to Helen and Ellen to keep this place going. And I take that as a responsibility that I'm not going to fall down on. And Helen and Ellen were so sweet like somebody's grandmother that would come up and hug you and everything and always so happy to see everybody and yeah... I see that as my job to continue this regardless."

# July 8 set to celebrate Faith, Family, Farm and Freedom

Teaming to Educate for Agricultural Mastery (TEAM), a nonprofit organization based in Knoxville, will host a celebration of farm-based American values at 6:00 on July 8, 2022 at Heartland Meadows, 5428 Salem Church Road, Halls Crossroads, Tennessee 37938. The event is free to local farm families. A special feature will be a ceremony honoring representatives of America's Greatest Generation.

The July 8 celebration will feature barbeque chicken with all of the trimmings, bluegrass music from Stock Creek, games for the children, and presentations on the core values: Faith, Family Farm and Freedom. Richard Neal, farmer and community leader, will present on Faith. Jeff Aiken, past president of the Tennessee Farm Bureau and present state Deputy Commissioner of Agriculture will discuss Family and Farm. John Becker, news anchor

with Channel 10, will close the evening with a presentation on Freedom and lead the ceremony honoring the veterans.

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# 2021-22 HIGH SCHOOL LEADERS

## Keller led possibly state's best-ever cross country team

### Stanton is HVA female honoree

By Steve Williams

Highly decorated Kaden Keller and multi-school record holder Sidnee Stanton are Hardin Valley Academy's Student-Athletes of the Year.

Counting his participation as a distance runner in cross country and indoor and outdoor track during his prep career, Keller earned All-State honors 10 times, according to Coach Bryan Brown.

Stanton owns the school record in the triple jump (38 feet, 9 inches) and also is the school record holder in the indoor long jump.

As a junior and senior, Sidnee won the triple jump event back to back years at the TSSAA outdoor state meet. She placed fourth in the long jump at the Spring Fling in Murfreesboro this past season.

Stanton also qualified for the state as a member of the Lady Hawks' 4x100 and 4x200 relay teams. The 4x100 combo placed sixth.

At the state indoor track and field meet at ETSU this past winter, Stanton won both the triple jump and long jump events.

Sidnee also competed in soccer all four years at Hardin Valley, playing the forward and center back positions. She was her team's Defensive Player of the Year last fall.

Stanton had a 3.6 grade point average at HVA and was in the academy's Business school. She received a track and field scholarship at Tennessee Tech and plans to major in Business with an emphasis on Marketing and Advertising.

During his senior year, Keller, a Belmont signee, was All-State in cross country, indoor track, and a two-time honoree in outdoor track with his third place finishes in both the 1600 and 3200-meter runs.

In Keller's junior season, Hardin Valley's cross country team not only won the state title, but came away recognized as possibly the state's all-time best ever team.

That season the Hawks had already made a statement that they were the best team in Knoxville Interscholastic League history when they posted a perfect score of 15 in the KIL meet.



*Kaden Keller competes in last fall's TSSAA state cross country meet. He led Hardin Valley Academy to some dominating victories during his prep career.*



*Track star Sidnee Stanton is one of Hardin Valley Academy's Student-Athletes of the Year.*

The Hawks put up impressive numbers at the state meet in Hendersonville and blew away the Division I Large field with their 33-point total. Franklin came in a distant second over 101 points back at 134. Keller led the way with a fourth place finish at the 5,000-meter course at Sanders Ferry Park.

Hardin Valley entered the 2021 season as one of the best boys cross country teams in the nation. After winning the 2020 state meet with a junior dominated squad, the Hawks were No. 17 in the nation in the 2021 preseason DyeStat XC Rankings.

HVA repeated as Class AAA state champion and Keller led the way with a third place showing in his senior season. The Hawks didn't dominate the team scoring in 2021 like it did the year before because the competition was a lot better. However, as a team, Hardin Valley actually ran better than it did in 2020, with its top five runners averaging 16:06.68 compared to 16:15 the year before.

Keller posted a PR time of 15:33.34 in the 2021 state meet.

## Taylor tumbles to great success far and wide

### Bonifacio to tackle new sport at UT

By Steve Williams

It's amazing how far tumbling will take a person. Just ask Webb graduate Tia Taylor, the school's female Student-Athlete of the Year.

"This sport is so amazing," said Tia. "It has taught me many life lessons and has given me a lot of opportunities."

It's taken her to many places – Russia, Spain, Japan and Azerbaijan twice. Azerbaijan is located at the boundary of Eastern Europe and Western Asia.

Taylor hasn't just been sightseeing in these far-away places; she's been excelling in her sport.

Named to the United States' national tumbling team the past four years, she has medaled internationally, taking second place in Spain and third in Azerbaijan the first time she went there, and then helped Team USA win the silver team medal in 2021.

Just this past weekend, Taylor competed in Des Moines, Iowa in the



*Tia Taylor is pictured in the middle of her double lay transition during the finals of the 2021 World Championships.*

USA Gymnastics National Championships.

Taylor started out in tumbling and trampolining.

"I don't do trampoline anymore," said Tia. "I used to about four years ago, but I just happened to excel in tumbling more."

She has been tumbling for eight years at Premier Athletics North and her coach is Eric Thomas.

Taylor will be attending UT this fall, majoring in Kinesiology.

"I plan to be a PT (physical therapy) or athletic trainer for professional sports, preferably the NFL or NBA," she said. "However, if that does not pan out that way, I plan to be

a PT or athletic trainer for college sports."

Three-sport athlete Leo Bonifacio is Webb's male Student-Athlete of the Year for 2021-22. He competed in football, wrestling and track for the Spartans.

Bonifacio, a 6-3, 230-pound linebacker and offensive guard at Webb, earned All-State and All-Region honors and was the region's Defensive Player of the Year. He also was a three-time state qualifier in wrestling.

Bonifacio will be tackling a different sport in the future as he has signed to play rugby at UT.

"I've never played rugby before, but I am learning



*Webb linebacker Leo Bonifacio has his sights set on the Silverdale Seahawks' quarterback during this key regular season region battle last fall.*

the game pretty fast," he said. "I go play touch rugby at Tennessee rugby park during the week. Wrestling especially translates well with the tackling technique and conditioning-wise."

Leo plans to major in Biomedical Engineering and either go to medical school to become a psychiatrist or go to graduate school for Neural Engineering.

Bonifacio received the Chance-Struder academic award at Webb School.

## Sullivan lifts Bearden girls to new heights

### Bulldogs' Douglas shined as a junior

By Steve Williams

It was a basketball season of first-time achievements for the Bearden girls' program.

The Lady Bulldogs captured their first state championship and Jennifer Sullivan became their first Miss Basketball honoree.

That combination plus Sullivan's academic standing led to her being named the school's female Student-Athlete of the Year in 2021-22.

"We are happy to see Jenn receive this award for all the hard work and sacrifice she made as a leader in our program," said Coach Justin Underwood. "Jenn is a great teammate, and she makes those around her better."

Underwood's comments tell a lot about the 5-8 senior guard.

Sullivan, who had a 3.92 GPA, will continue her



*Left: Staying in top physical condition was important to Bearden High's Jennifer Sullivan, the 2022 Class 4A Miss Basketball honoree. Right: Rising senior safety Cayden Douglas is dressed for the occasion -- a hot day of pre-season football drills on the field at Bearden High. Photo by Tammy Kregel.*

education and basketball career at Tennessee Tech. She plans to major in Business Management.

Bearden's male honoree is Cayden Douglas, a football and track athlete in the Class of 2023.

Douglas played a safety position in the Bulldogs' secondary last fall. In a



14-10 region win over Cleveland that snapped a four-game losing streak, Douglas was one of three players to intercept a pass.

"Cayden is a hard-working, polite young man who represents our school well in the classroom, hallways and on the track and football field," said Morgan

Shinlever, who was his head football coach before resigning last year. "Proud of his accomplishments this season and we look forward to his senior year."

Douglas stood out in track and field this past spring. He was the KIL meet high jump champion, going over the bar at 6 feet, 2 inches and placed eighth at the Class AAA state meet at 6-0.

As a sophomore, Douglas ran on the Bearden 4x100 relay team, which placed first in the KIL meet.

Josh Jones, Bearden's new head football coach, already has gotten to know Cayden and his talents.

"Cayden is a great young man," he said. "We're really excited about him. He is playing free safety for us and is so rangy back there. He's got a lot of bounce. He's also a great teammate. He had a terrific year in track and we're hoping for the same on the football field."

## Cook and Overdorf made TKA a better place

By Steve Williams

Katelyn Cook and Tyler Overdorf were outstanding athletes during their high school careers, but their contributions to The King's Academy extend far beyond the courts they played on.

Cook was a state tennis semifinalist in Division II-A Doubles and a three-time All-District performer.

In the classroom, Katelyn earned a 4.1 grade point average and she will be continuing her education at Maryville College. She also signed to play tennis for the Scots.

"Katelyn's play helped our girls tennis team to the best two seasons in the history



*Katelyn Cook and Tyler Overdorf were Student-Athletes of the Year at The King's Academy.*



of our school," pointed out TKA Athletic Director Sean Jones. "Her leadership and dedication led her all the way to the state semifinals in doubles with her partner, Kristen Dougherty. She has been a tremendous

ambassador for TKA and we are excited to watch her continue her career at Maryville College."

Away from the tennis court, Katelyn found other meaningful ways to help The King's Academy, too.

"She has given her time to help with our middle school program and her fingerprints are all over our campus," added Jones. "When you think about what you want a TKA graduate to look like, Katelyn embodies all of the qualities you would hope to see."

Basketball was Overdorf's game. He was an excellent shooter and averaged 14.5 points and 4.6 rebounds on his way to being a two-time Division II-A East All-District first team selection for the Lions.

In the classroom, Tyler had a 4.0 GPA and he will continue his education at Johnson University.

Overdorf also was the

recipient of the Hubert B. Smothers Memorial Award, which goes to the senior male and female students who are held in the highest esteem by the other students, faculty and staff because of exemplary service to God, the community and The King's Academy.

"Tyler has had a tremendous career on our campus and in our program," said Jones. "He has led our team with his voice and with his actions, and I truly believe that he has had a direct impact on the three classes below him. It would be hard to find someone more consistent day in and day out than Tyler Overdorf. As our program grows and

continues to find success, Tyler will deserve a lot of credit in helping us get to that point.

"As a player, he got off to a slow start, but finished the year shooting 35 percent from 3-point range. He made big shots and had some huge games for us in district play. He was as valuable to our team as any player in the district."

Tyler played with a bigger ball on an inside court that also had a net, but that's not the only thing he had in common with Katelyn.

They were The King Academy's 2022 Homecoming Queen and King as well as TKA's female and male Student-Athletes of the Year.



When you think about the loyalty of Tennessee football fans, you might consider how this loyalty manifests itself, often from far-away places. These are fans for whom a trip to Knoxville is a major undertaking, requiring a great deal of planning and some major expenditures.

Mark Ostermeyer hailed from Akron, Iowa, a small town located on the Iowa-Nebraska state line. We had talked on the phone several times and talked about the stadium he had only seen on television, specifically in the 1990 Florida game. He was heavily invested in being a Vol fan despite the distance between Akron and Knoxville.

He said something about liking the Tennessee orange jerseys and being impressed by the stadium and the atmosphere he saw and felt.

The trip from Akron to Knoxville is estimated to be 16 hours, 10 minutes, covering 1,045 miles, and appears to be a killer. If you



One Vol fan drove from his home near Detroit to Georgetown, Ky., to watch the CBS broadcast of the 1998 Tennessee-Arkansas game in lieu of seeing Notre Dame and Navy on his home television.

think Knoxville to Memphis and back home is a tough one, try the maze of highways leading from western Iowa to Knoxville and back again.

One summer, Mark had driven to Knoxville, visited Neyland Stadium and the campus area, and made a trip to the student center for some souvenirs. He then turned around and went back home.

A year or so later, he and his brother drove all night to see the 1993 Tennessee-LSU game and drove home immediately after the game to get to work the next night.

I had provided Mark and his brother tickets and caught up with them the day before the game. As we walked across the connecting ramp between Stokely Athletics Center and Gibbs Hall, we ran into Heath and Benjie Shuler.

After the appropriate introductions and some brief conversation, the Ostermeyers declared their trip a success before they saw the game, which ended up Tennessee 42, LSU 20. There must have been some interesting conversation on the way home.

Sometime in early 1999, Dave Hagewood told me

how he drove from his home near Detroit to a hotel in Georgetown, Ky., to see the 1998 Tennessee-Arkansas game on television. He recalled that was the closest venue showing the game.

The Vols were 8-0 and freshly ordained as No. 1 in the nation heading into the Nov. 14 game at Neyland Stadium. It was a Tennessee classic if ever there were one, despite a persistent rain that covered the campus area.

"I had wondered if the Vols were ever going to win a national championship," he said. "When the

Arkansas game week came up, the stations in my area were showing Notre Dame and Navy."

He had Tennessee roots in Clarksville and decided he had to see the game one way or the other. So he ended up in Georgetown. (He never said why he didn't add three hours to the trip each way and come to Knoxville.)

As he watched the game, international events in Iraq intervened and he missed Peerless Price's touchdown reception in the first half, as CBS cut to the White House. He did see a replay of that play and the rest of the game live, including those moments in the final quarter when Al Wilson practically willed the Vol defense to force two turnovers and grab a look-what-I-found victory.

Wilson blocked a field goal, and, as every Vol fan knows by heart, Billy Ratliff forced the other, causing and recovering a fumble. It's a play forever memorialized in Tennessee lore as the "Stoerner Stumble," named after the Arkansas quarterback that day.

Travis Henry carried five consecutive times for 43 yards and the winning score.

The Vol offense looked energized from the sudden turn of events. Neyland Stadium was rocking and rolling as the Vols moved ever goalward. Some fans have called those final moments "The Rally by the River" or "The Miracle in the Gloaming." It was another magic moment on the Shields-Watkins Field turf.

The same was true outside the stadium. Many of those fans who might have left early ended up watching one of the televisions set up in tailgating areas. They made numerous new friends while watching the Vols rally.

Loyalty to a school is one thing. Loyalty to an athletics team at that school is another. Faraway loyalty is beyond amazing, beyond rational explanation.

The cheer goes, "It's great to be a Tennessee Vol...." The rain-soaked fans from that November afternoon and early evening can readily attest to that fact. This is a special place, one full of special people, including those who have supported the University of Tennessee from far beyond the state's borders.

## The Knoxville Focus All-County Tennis Teams

### All-County girls teams stacked with West Knoxville talent

By Ken Lay

The recently completed girls high school tennis season packed plenty of excitement as Catholic High School pulled off a trifecta as the Lady Irish claimed their second consecutive Division II-AA state team championship.

Catholic's Maeve Thornton won her second straight singles title and the Lady Irish's tandem of Lillie Murphy and Eleni Liakonis won the Division II-AA state doubles crown.

In Division I Class 2A, Farragut's Riley Cassity, a sophomore won the singles

state championship.

The Knoxville Focus honors some of the area's top players on its All-County Girls Tennis Team.

**Maeve Thornton, junior, Catholic High School:** the Lady Irish won their second consecutive Division II-AA State team championship. Thornton played No. 1 singles at Catholic in just its second season in Division II-AA,

The Lady Irish dethroned Chattanooga Baylor in 2021 after the Lady Raiders had won nine consecutive state titles. Catholic defeated Baylor in the state

championship match.

Thornton would later go on to win her second straight state singles title.

**Lillie Murphy, freshman, Catholic High School:** Murphy, Catholic's No. 2 singles player in 2022, also teamed with Eleni Liakonis to win the state Division II-AA doubles state titles.

**Riley Cassity, sophomore, Farragut High School:** a sophomore for the Lady Admirals, Cassity won the Class 2A singles championship. She played No. 1 singles for Farragut, which won the district and region tournament championships.

**Allie Faulkner, freshman, Christian Academy of Knoxville:** Faulkner, the No. 1 singles player for the Lady Warriors, claimed the Division II-A state singles championship.

**Gigi Sompayrac, junior, Catholic High School:** Sompayrac helped the Lady Irish win their second consecutive team state championship. She played in the No. 4 singles spot on the ladder for Catholic.

**Ada Aytung: freshman, Concord Christian School:** Aytung, a freshman for the Lady Lions made it to the state singles tournament in

Murfreesboro, where she was a quarterfinalist. She was eliminated by the eventual state runner-up.

**Larkin Bristow: freshman, Christian Academy of Knoxville:** Bristow and doubles partner Addison Trotter to advance to the state quarterfinals in the Division II-A state tournament.

**Addison Trotter: eighth-grader, Christian Academy of Knoxville:** Trotter and doubles partner Larkin Bristow made it to the state tournament in Murfreesboro.

**Alya Houser, junior, Bearden High School:** Houser, the Lady Bulldogs' No. 1 singles

player, advanced to both the district and region tournament championships in singles.

**Delaney Bone: senior, Webb School of Knoxville:** Bone, the No. 1 player on the singles ladder for the Lady Spartans, was a semifinalist in the Division II-AA East Region Tournament.

**Iris Ye: sophomore, Farragut High School:** Ye played in the No. 2 singles spot for the Lady Admirals, who reached the Class 2A state sectional after winning both their district and region tournaments.

## Meet The Knoxville Focus All-County Boys Tennis Team

By Ken Lay

The 2022 high school boys tennis season saw plenty of area players enjoy success and the Knoxville Focus recognizes the top players on its 2022 All-Knox County Team.

While no area teams won state championships and no local players or doubles teams claimed titles in Murfreesboro, some area players excelled at the district and regional levels.

**Meet the members of the All-Knox County Team:**  
**Quinn Campbell: freshman, Christian Academy of Knoxville:** Campbell was the No. 1 singles player for the Warriors, who advanced to the state semifinals in Murfreesboro.

**Hayden Brady: sophomore, Christian Academy of Knoxville:** CAK made the state semifinals in Murfreesboro and Brady was the Warriors' No. 2 player on the singles ladder.  
**Carson Gompert: junior, Catholic High School:**

Catholic competed in Division II-AA for the second consecutive season and Gompert reached the East Region semifinals in singles.

**Ollie Bonovich: senior, Webb School of Knoxville:** The Spartans moved to Division II-AA after years of being a powerhouse program in Division II-AA. Bonovich teamed with junior Wilder Dewhirst to reach the doubles semifinals of the Division II-AA East Region Tournament.

**Wilder Dewhirst: junior, Webb School of Knoxville:** Dewhirst was the No. 2 player on the Spartans' singles ladder. He also excelled in doubles as he and doubles partner Ollie Bonovich reached the East Regional semifinals.

**Theo Liakonis: sophomore, Catholic High School:** Liakonis was the Irish's No. 2 singles player. He also played doubles with partner Ben Snyder. Together, that duo reached the regional quarterfinals.

**Ben Snyder: freshman, Catholic High School:** Snyder and doubles partner Theo Liakonis reached the quarterfinals of the Division II-AA East Region Tournament.

**Eli Felker: junior, Webb School of Knoxville:** Felker played in two slots in singles for the Spartans in 2022, competing at both No. 2 and No. 3 singles. He was a regional quarterfinalist.

**Benji Cho, junior, Farragut High School:** Cho was successful in both singles and doubles for the Admirals. He was Farragut's No. 1 singles player and play doubles with Sean Van Tol.

Together, that tandem reached the District 4-AA doubles championship match.

**Sean Van Tol: senior, Farragut High School:** The senior teamed with doubles partner Benji Cho to finish second in the District 4-AA doubles tournament.

## Playing four sports forced A-E athlete to maintain grades

**Cont. from page 1**

averaged 10.7 points and 9.6 rebounds per game her senior season. Lynndeeria said she could play all the positions except point guard.

"She is an amazingly committed athlete," said Jackson. "She held her own on the basketball court and is as tough as nails. She started every game this season and did not miss a practice. She is dedicated and hard-working and was my leading scorer in all of my games except four. Her relentless tenacity for getting better was contagious to her teammates. She never talks back or gives up; she just does what she's asked and with everything that she has in her."

"I just loved coaching this kid. A coach could not ask more from a player."

Softball coach William Anderson III said: "Lynndeeria has been a great player to work with. She tried any position you asked her to without hesitation. She was our starting catcher until she was in the car accident that cut

her season short.

"She started each of the last three years in softball, while running at track meets as well. I am proud to say I had the privilege to work with Lynndeeria the past three years."

In addition to playing the catcher position in softball, Drew pitched some and played third base and shortstop. As far as batting, she was a switch-hitter.

Lynndeeria thought about playing soccer, too.

She said being on multiple teams was hard at times, with sports overlapping in the fall (volleyball and basketball) and in the spring (softball and track), "but I did it."

"After volleyball practice, I had to go to basketball practice," she recalled, "and then I have work (job) and then I have to go home and catch up on homework and get ready for school the next day."

"When spring came around, I would go to track practice and then softball practice, then go to work and do the same thing. So

it was really hard and tiring, but I did it."

And Lynndeeria said she enjoyed it. "Yeah, I had fun."

She even pointed out being on the athletic teams throughout the school year forced her to stay on top of her academics to maintain her eligibility.

Drew's story could be an inspiration for young kids who struggle with their school work but love to play ball. She said sports forced her and motivated her to make good grades.

As for her future, Lynndeeria is considering a career as a flight attendant. But she said that's on hold for now as Coach Jackson wants to take her to Cleveland State Community College for a basketball tryout.

Drew said basketball and softball are probably her two best sports, because she has played each since she was 5 years old. Her immediate success on the volleyball court at A-E was so good; she may deserve a tryout in that sport, too.



# LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

## COURT NOTICES

### NON-RESIDENT NOTICE

TO: DOE 1, DOE 2, AND DOE 3  
IN RE: INTRIST PROPERTIES LLC  
VS DOE 1, DOE 2, DOE 3  
NO. 204748-3

IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE

In this cause, it appearing from the Complaint filed, which is sworn to, that the defendant DOE 1, DOE 2, AND DOE 3 a non resident of the State of Tennessee, or whose whereabouts cannot be ascertained upon diligent search and inquiry, so that the ordinary process of law cannot be served upon DOE 1, DOE2, AND DOE3, it is ordered that said defendant DOE 1, DOE 2, AND DOE 3 file an answer with the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court at Knoxville, Tennessee and with Adam G. Russell an , Attorneys whose address is 10265 Kingston Pike Suite C , Knoxville, TN 37922 within thirty (30) days of the last date of publication or a judgment by default will be taken against you and the cause set for hearing Ex Parte as to you before Chancellor Christopher Heagerty at the Knox County Chancery Court, Division 111, 400 Main Street, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902. This notice will be published in a The Knoxville Focus Newspaper for four (4) consecutive weeks. This 3rd day of June 2022

Howard G. Hogan  
Clerk and Master

### ORDER GRANTING MOTION FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICATION

DEBRA TALLEY, Plaintiff,  
vs.  
JOHN TALLEY, Defendant.  
No. 204692-1

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE

Upon Motion of the Plaintiff and for good cause shown, Plaintiff's Motion for Service by Publication is GRANTED as to the Divorce action pending in this Court. Plaintiff shall cause the appropriate notice to the Defendant to be published within the Knoxville Focus newspaper in Knoxville, Tennessee for four (4) consecutive weeks, pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 21-1-.204. After such time, service will be deemed to have been accomplished and these causes shall proceed in accordance with the Tennessee Rules of Civil Procedure.

All other issues are RESERVED.  
It is so ORDERED. ENTERED this 6th day of June, 2022.

John F. Weaver  
Chancellor

Approved for entry:  
HELD LAW FIRM  
BY: Brittany Gilder, BPR #039465  
Attorney for Plaintiff  
1522 Highland Avenue  
Knoxville, TN 37916  
(865) 637-6550  
brittany@heldlawfirm.com

### NON-RESIDENT NOTICE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR UNION COUNTY, TENNESSEE  
Docket No. 3984

TERRY SANDS And PAMELA SANDS, Petitioners.  
v.  
ROBERT BAKER and UNKNOWN FATHER, Respondents.

IN THE MATTER OF:  
LONDON BAKER  
DOB: 10/26/2015

In this cause, it appearing from the Petition filed, which is verified, that the Respondents, Robert Baker and Unknown Father, is unknown or whose whereabouts cannot be ascertained upon diligent search and inquiry, so that the ordinary process of law cannot be served upon him.

IT IS ORDERED that said Respondents, Robert Baker and Unknown Father, file an answer with the Clerk of the Circuit Court at Maynardville, Tennessee and with Travis D. Patterson, an Attorney whose address is, P.O. Box 70586 Knoxville, Tennessee 37938, within thirty (30) days of the last date of publication of this notice or the same will be taken for confessed as to Respondents and judgment by default will be taken against you and the cause set for hearing Ex Parte as to you before the Circuit Court for Union County, Tennessee 901 Main Street, Maynardville, Tennessee 37807. This notice will be published in the Knoxville Focus for four (4) consecutive weeks. This 15 day of June, 2022.

ENTERED 15 day of June, 2022.  
Barbara Williams  
CLERK

Travis Patterson  
TRAVIS D. PATTERSON, Esq.  
Attorney for Petitioners  
BPR NO. 030640  
P.O. Box 70586  
Knoxville, Tennessee 37938  
Ph.: (865) 306-0333

### NON-RESIDENT NOTICE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR UNION COUNTY, TENNESSEE  
Case No. 3997

STEPHEN JOE REYNOLDS, Petitioner,  
v.  
ASHLEY MOORE, ANTHONY DEMARCUS WILLIAMS, AND UNKNOWN FATHER. Respondent.

IN THE MATTER OF:  
TONY MARCUS MOORE  
DOB: 2/13/2007  
A CHILD UNDER EIGHTEEN (18) YEARS OF AGE

In this cause, it appearing from the Petition filed, which is verified, that the Respondent, Ashley Moore, or whose whereabouts cannot be ascertained upon diligent search and inquiry, so that the ordinary process of law cannot be served upon him.

IT IS ORDERED that said Respondent, Ashley Moore, unknown father and Anthony DeMarcus Williams, file an answer with the Clerk of the Circuit Court at Maynardville, Tennessee and with Travis D. Patterson, an Attorney whose address is, P.O. Box 70586 Knoxville, Tennessee 37938, within thirty (30) days of the last date of publication of this notice or the same will be taken for confessed as to Respondents and judgment by default will be taken against you and the cause set for hearing Ex Parte as to you before the Circuit Court for Union County, Tennessee 901 Main Street,

Maynardville, Tennessee 37807. This notice will be published in the Knoxville Focus for four (4) consecutive weeks. This 8 day of June, 2022.

ENTERED 8 day of June, 2022.  
Barbara Williams  
CLERK

Travis Patterson  
TRAVIS D. PATTERSON, Esq.  
Attorney for Petitioners  
BPR NO. 030640  
P.O. Box 70586  
Knoxville, Tennessee 37938  
Ph.: (865) 306-0333

### NON-RESIDENT NOTICE

TO: MICHAEL SILVERS;  
IN RE: JESSICA SAMUDIO and JONATHAN SAMUDIO v. MICHAEL SILVERS  
NO. 204432-2

IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE

In this Cause, it appearing from the Complaint filed, which is sworn to, that the defendant MICHAEL SILVERS, a non-resident of the State of Tennessee, or whose whereabouts cannot be ascertained upon diligent search and inquiry, so that the ordinary process of law cannot be served upon MICHAEL SILVERS, it is ordered that said defendant, MICHAEL SILVERS, file an answer with the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court at Knoxville, Tennessee and with Danny C. Garland, II, an Attorney whose address is 103 Suburban Road, Suite 202 Knoxville, TN 37923 within thirty (30) days of the last date of publication or a judgment by default will be taken against you and the cause will be set for hearing Ex-Parte as to you before Chancellor Clarence E. Pridemore at the Knox County Chancery Court, Division II, 400 Main Street, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902. This notice will be published in a The Knoxville Focus Newspaper for four (4) consecutive weeks. This 16th day of July, 2022.

Howard G. Hogan  
Clerk and Master

### ORDER FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICATION

IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE

JUNE AMBER LOPER  
RONALD LEE LOPER II  
Petitioners,  
v.  
JOHN CARL FITCH, JR.,  
Respondent/Father.  
No. 202097-1  
IN THE MATTER OF:  
Ellen Unique Miracle Fitch  
d.o.b. (10/0712016)  
John Carl Fitch III d.o.b. (08/25/2017)

ORDER FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICATION

This matter came to be heard by this Honorable Court on this the 6th day of June, 2022. Upon Counsel's MOTION FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICATION this Honorable Court finds as follows:

- That the current whereabouts of the Respondent, John Carl Fitch, Jr., is unknown.
- That the Petitioners, June Loper and Ronald Loper II, have made diligent efforts to locate the Respondent, John Carl Fitch, Jr.
- That pursuant to T.C.A. § 21-1-203 and 21-1-204 that proper service on the Respondent, John Carl Fitch, Jr., will be satisfied through Service by Publication.
- That The Knoxville Focus is a regularly published and distributed newspaper in Knox County, Tennessee, which is the most proximate location of the Respondent, John Carl Fitch, Jr.'s, last known location.
- That Service by Publication through The Knoxville Focus, for four (4) consecutive wee satisfies the Service requirements set forth by T.C.A. § 21-1-203 and 21-1-204.

IT IS THEREFORE, ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED AS FOLLOWS:

- That the Respondent, John Carl Fitch, Jr., shall be served with proper notice by Publication through The Knoxville Focus.
- That notice shall run one (1) time per week for four (4) consecutive weeks in The Knoxville Focus, thereby satisfying the Service requirements set forth by T.C.A. § 21-1-203 and 21-1-204.
- That if Respondent, John Carl Fitch, Jr., does not file an answer with the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee and with Petitioner's Counsel, Mikaela M. Smith, whose address is 8 Emory Place, Knoxville, Tennessee 37917, within thirty (30) days of the last date of publication of this notice that a hearing will be set for this cause before the Honorable Chancellor John F. Weaver, at the Knox County Chancery Court, located at 400 Main St. SW #125, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902, that action shall be taken by this Honorable Court to default the Respondent, John Carl Fitch, Jr., and enter Judgment in favor of the Petitioners, June Loper and Ronald Loper II.
- That Judgment in favor of the Petitioners will result in the adoption of the above mentioned minor children, ELLEN UNIQUE MIRACLE FITCH and JOHN CARL FITCH, JR., in accordance with a separately filed Petition to Terminate Parental Rights and for Adoption.

ENTER THIS THE 6th DAY OF JUNE, 2022.

John J. Weaver  
CHANCELLOR JOHN F. WEAVER  
CHANCERY COURT JUDGE

Prepared for Entry:  
MIKAELA M. SMITH, BPR# 037745  
Ballow, Foster, Potter, Baker, & Smith, PC.  
8 Emory Place I Knoxville, TN 37917 Ph.:  
(423) 690-8146 I Fax: (865) 766-2657  
Email: mikaelasmithlaw@gmail.com

### NON-RESIDENT NOTICE

TO: ALAN WAYNE SELLERS;  
IN RE: TERESA LYNN SELLERS  
vs. ALAN WAYNE SELLERS  
NO. 204916-3

IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE

In this Cause, it appearing from the Complaint filed, which is sworn to, that the defendant ALAN WAYNE SELLERS, a non-resident of the State of Tennessee, or whose whereabouts cannot be ascertained upon diligent search and inquiry, so that the ordinary process of law cannot be served upon ALAN WAYNE SELLERS, it is ordered that said defendant, ALAN WAYNE SELLERS, file an answer with the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court at Knoxville, Tennessee and with Jerry R. Givens, an Attorney whose address is 9724 Kingston Pike, Suite 604 Knoxville, TN 37922 within thirty (30) days of the last date of publication or a judgment by default will be taken against you and the cause will be set for hearing Ex-Parte as to you before Chancellor Christopher D. Heagerty at the Knox County Chancery Court, Division III, 400 Main Street, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902. This notice will be published in a The Knoxville Focus Newspaper for four (4)

consecutive weeks. This 23rd day of June, 2022.

Howard G. Hogan  
Clerk and Master

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF MARY ELLEN HASSELL ARMS  
DOCKET NUMBER 86308-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 9 day of JUNE 2022, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of MARY ELLEN HASSELL ARMS who died Mar 19, 2022, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of this first publication; or

(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or

(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death.

This the 9 day of JUNE, 2022.

ESTATE OF MARY ELLEN HASSELL ARMS

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
ED POORE; EXECUTOR  
3101-E CUNNINGHAM ROAD  
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37918

REBECCA BELL JENKINS  
ATTORNEY AT LAW  
9724 KINGSTON PIKE, SUITE 202  
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37922

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF ANTONIN BUKOVSKY  
DOCKET NUMBER 85995-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 8 day of JUNE 2022, letters administration in respect of the Estate of ANTONIN BUKOVSKY who died Jan 21, 2022, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of this first publication; or

(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or

(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death.

This the 8 day of JUNE, 2022.

ESTATE OF ANTONIN BUKOVSKY

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
ANTONIN BUKOVSKY; ADMINISTRATOR  
525 OLD TAVERN CIRCLE  
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37934

JOHN E BAUGH ATTORNEY AT LAW  
4617 CHAMBLISS AVENUE  
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37919

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF ELLEN SWEENEY COOK  
DOCKET NUMBER 86335-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 16 day of JUNE 2022, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of ELLEN SWEENEY COOK who died Mar 10, 2022, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication; or

(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or

(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death. This the 16 day of JUNE, 2022.

ESTATE OF ELLEN SWEENEY COOK

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
MICHAEL SWEENEY; EXECUTOR  
535 MARGRAVE DRIVE  
HARRIMAN, TN. 37748

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF RICHARD A DELONG  
DOCKET NUMBER 86333-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 15 day of JUNE 2022, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of RICHARD A DELONG who died Apr 5, 2022, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of this first publication; or

(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or

(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death. This the 15 day of JUNE, 2022.

ESTATE OF RICHARD A DELONG

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
CINDY BELL; EXECUTRIX  
1340 WOODLAND RIDGE LANE

KNOXVILLE, TN. 37919

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF NANETTE BETH ELROD  
DOCKET NUMBER 86090-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 9 day of JUNE 2022, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of NANETTE BETH ELROD who died Feb 23, 2022, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of this first publication; or

(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or

(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death.

This the 9 day of JUNE, 2022.

ESTATE OF NANETTE BETH ELROD

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
CHARLES DOUGLAS ELROD, II; EXECUTOR  
16 ASHLEIGH CIRCLE  
WAKE VILLAGE, TN 75501

PAUL HENSLEY ATTORNEY AT LAW  
800 S GAY STREET, SUITE 2035  
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37929

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF LINDA CONANT GARDNER  
DOCKET NUMBER 86281-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 13 day of JUNE 2022, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of LINDA CONANT GARDNER who died Mar 16, 2022, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of this first publication; or

(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or

(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death. This the 13 day of JUNE, 2022.

ESTATE OF LINDA CONANT GARDNER

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
LEDYARD DICKINSON  
GARDNER, III; EXECUTOR  
2121 N FRONTAGE ROAD W #217  
VAIL, CO 81657

LEE A POPKIN ATTORNEY AT LAW  
1111 NORTHSORE DRIVE, SUITE S-700  
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37919

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF PAUL ALEXANDER GILLESPIE  
DOCKET NUMBER 86159-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 9 day of JUNE 2022, letters administration in respect of the Estate of PAUL ALEXANDER GILLESPIE who died Feb 12, 2022, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of this first publication; or

(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or

(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death. This the 9 day of JUNE, 2022.

ESTATE OF PAUL ALEXANDER GILLESPIE

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
NORMA HARRIS; ADMINISTRATRIX  
2921 LOCH LOMOND DRIVE  
CONYERS, GA 30094

BARBARA CLARK ATTORNEY AT LAW  
2415 E MAGNOLIA AVENUE  
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37917

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF GAIL MARCENE GREGORY  
DOCKET NUMBER 86131-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 8 day of JUNE 2022, letters administration in respect of the Estate of GAIL MARCENE GREGORY who died Dec 26, 2021, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of this first publication; or

(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or

(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death. This the 8 day of JUNE, 2022.

ESTATE OF GAIL MARCENE GREGORY

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
LAURIE M GREGORY; ADMINISTRATRIX

153 PAINTED PONY ROAD  
PORT ST JOE, FL 32456

JAMES H VARNER, JR. ATTORNEY AT LAW  
P.O. BOX 10366  
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37939

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF DAVID WAYNE HOUSER  
DOCKET NUMBER 85301-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 8 day of JUNE 2022, letters administration in respect of the Estate of DAVID WAYNE HOUSER who died Sep 8, 2021, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of this first publication; or

(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or

(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death. This the 8 day of JUNE, 2022.

ESTATE OF DAVID WAYNE HOUSER

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
GRANT HOUSER; ADMINISTRATOR  
7409 TIERCEL DRIVE  
OOLTEWAH, TN. 37363

ROBERT LEWIS STRAIGHT,  
III ATTORNEY AT LAW  
1341 BRANTON BLVD, SUITE 105  
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37922

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF WALTER P KELLY  
DOCKET NUMBER 85295-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 13 day of JUNE 2022, letters administration in respect of the Estate of WALTER P KELLY who died Aug 25, 2021, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of this first publication; or

(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or

(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death. This the 13 day of JUNE, 2022.

ESTATE OF WALTER P KELLY

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
GARY MICHAEL KELLY; ADMINISTRATOR  
P.O. BOX 101  
NEW JOHNSONVILLE, TN. 37134

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF MARTY LINN LAY  
DOCKET NUMBER 86324-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 14 day of JUNE 2022, letters administration in respect of the Estate of MARTY LINN LAY who died Apr 10, 2022, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of this first publication; or

(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or

(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death. This the 14 day of JUNE, 2022.

ESTATE OF MARTY LINN LAY

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
CYNTHIA PARDEE WILLIAMS;  
CO-ADMINISTRATOR  
905 BISHOP KNOLL LANE  
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37938

LESLIE A WILLIAMS; CO-ADMINISTRATOR  
905 BISHOP KNOLL LANE  
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37938

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF CECIL W LEE  
DOCKET NUMBER 86140-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 15 day of JUNE 2022, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of CECIL W LEE who died Jan 24, 2022, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of this first publication; or

(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or

(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death. This the 15 day of JUNE, 2022.

ESTATE OF CECIL W LEE

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
JEFFREY S LEE; EXECUTOR  
347 S UNION GROVE ROAD  
FRIEDSVILLE, TN. 37373

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF PHYLLIS LETHCO MARKS  
AKA PHYLLIS KAY MARKS  
DOCKET NUMBER 86326-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 14 day of JUNE 2022, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of PHYLLIS LETHCO MARKS AKA PHYLLIS KAY MARKS who died May 3, 2022, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of this first publication; or

(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or

(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death. This the 14 day of JUNE, 2022.

ESTATE OF PHYLLIS LETHCO  
MARKS AKA PHYLLIS KAY MARKS

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
DEBORAH ANN JONES; EXECUTRIX  
7305 WESTRIDGE DRIVE  
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37909

REBECCA D ABBOTT ATTORNEY AT LAW  
118 HUXLEY ROAD, SUITE 7  
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37922

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF SARAH ELAINE  
MILSTEAD MASON  
DOCKET NUMBER 86328-2







# Stanton steps down as A-E basketball coach

By Steve Williams

Marcus Stanton, Austin-East High's boys basketball head coach since 2013-14, resigned at the end of the school year.

"My daughter is going off to college and we're going to try and see her as often as we can," said Stanton Friday. "That's not something we would be able to do, if I were still coaching basketball. And plus it was just time to move on from Austin-East. I've been there 15 years (including six years as an assistant coach).

"It's time to do something different; try to spend a little more time with the family and stuff like that."

Stanton's daughter Sidnee will be going to Tennessee Tech University in Cookeville on a track and field scholarship.

Stanton already has taken a teaching job at Hardin Valley Academy and

will continue to teach History. He and his family live just a little over five minutes from HVA.

Stanton coached as an assistant for six seasons under former A-E head coach Charles Mitchell and was promoted to head coach in July of 2013.

Austin-East advanced to the TSSAA Class AA state tournament in 2019 and posted a 20-3 record, losing to eventual state champion Memphis Wooddale.

"The year before that (2018) was probably the best team I ever had and we were ranked No. 2 in the state," said Stanton, but his team and Chattanooga Brainerd were banned from post-season play after an altercation between their two teams occurred in a game at Brainerd that January. Fans also reportedly came out onto the court, making

the situation worse.

The TSSAA later reduced the schools' two-year suspension to one year, which allowed both teams to reach the state tourney in 2019.

This past season, A-E (9-15) made it to the new Class 3A sectional round before being eliminated at Stone Memorial.

"We had a horrible start to the season as we didn't get to practice," said Stanton. "Our floor was being redone. We went the first four or five games without practicing."

Chris Kesler is considered a top candidate to fill the Austin-East vacancy. Kesler had assisted Stanton the past two seasons, after having been head coach at West High for several years.

Stanton said Kesler has been taking the Austin-East team to summer camps.



PHOTO BY KEN LAY.

Catholic High School athletes Bella Flask and Canyon Geren signed their National Letters of Intent at a ceremony Tuesday. Flask will play soccer for Mercyhurst University while Geren will play baseball at Milligan University.

## Two Catholic High athletes finalize college plans

By Ken Lay

Two recent Catholic High School graduates and Irish student-athletes finalized their college plans Tuesday afternoon.

Bella Flask and Canyon Geren each signed National Letters of Intent to continue their academic pursuits and athletic endeavors in college at a signing ceremony at the school's library.

Flask, a soccer player for the Lady Irish, will continue her career at Mercyhurst University in Erie, Pennsylvania.

She will enter Mercyhurst and pursue a degree in forensic science while playing for the Lakers.

She knows that when she leaves Knoxville that she must get acclimated to cold weather and snow.

"I'll have to get used to that," Flask said. "But I

loved the campus and I really like their forensic science program."

Flask will be far from home, but she said she has relatives in the Northeast.

"I was more concerned about my major and I really didn't care about staying close to home and I have extended family up there."

She also said that the small campus and class size also appealed to her.

Geren, a baseball player for the Irish will be a bit closer to Knoxville as he will continue his career at Milligan University in Johnson City.

Geren said that Milligan provided the perfect opportunity for him to continue his education and his baseball career. He'll head to Johnson City as an undeclared major.

"I like the academic options. I don't know what

my major will be," Geren said. "I would probably like to be an accountant."

He also said that he wanted to be relatively close to Knoxville.

"I wanted to be close enough to home where I could come home on a weekend," Geren said. "I want my parents to be able to come and see me play, but I didn't want to be micromanaged in college."

Milligan has continued to achieve athletic success. Success is something that Geren wants to be a part of.

"They've had constant improvement in their sports programs," he said.

Geren also said that he likes the class size at Milligan.

"I like the way that they structured their classes at Catholic," he said. "I like small classes."



Wesley Allen was a junior point guard and captain for Austin-East Coach Marcus Stanton in 2018, the season the No. 2 ranked Roadrunners were banned from playing in the post-season tournament.

## LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

### NOTICE OF LIEN SALE

In compliance with TCA 66-14-102 thru 66-14-106 the following cars will be sold on July 22, 2022 @ 2:00 PM @ Cedar Bluff Towing, Inc. 623 Simmons Rd Knoxville, TN if total bill is not paid by date of sale.

2010 Mercury 3MEHMOJG9AR645281 (Lauriston Devonish)  
 1998 Toyota 4T1B622K9WU827412 (Lucy Ayers/TN Title Loans)  
 2005 Kia KNDJF724157055678 (Michael Kershaw/Check Express)  
 1996 Toyota 4T1B12B6TU109812 (Kimberly Wilson)  
 2003 Ford 3FAFP37353R178620 (Dustin Wilson)  
 2003 Ford 1FMZU63K63UC68930 (Kellie Bolden)  
 2011 Kia KNDJT2A26B7322854 (Ashley Brightwell/Garza Motors)  
 2002 VW WVVWPD638X2P038817 (John Baehr/Wallace Auto Sales)  
 2008 Hyundai 5NPEU46F58H367486 (Brittany or Danny Bacosa)  
 1994 Cadillac 1G6KD52B0RU285526 (Cameron Collins)  
 1999 Chevy 1GCGT19W0X8104159 (Regina or Brian Johnson)  
 2018 Ford 1FMCU0GD0JUA12178 (Connor Tindal)  
 2005 Buick 1G4HR54K95U201554 (Debrina Penn/Wheels Auto Sales)  
 2007 Chevy 1GCGG25V071242639 (Alfredo Acte Caal)  
 2002 Chevy 1GNDT13S122149852 (Adam Federoff)  
 2018 Tesla 5YJ3E1EA4JF155711 (Richard Getz/Carol Shipton)  
 2006 Honda 1HGFA16846L036647 (Jackson Fox/In and Out Auto Sales)  
 2007 Isuzu 4NUDT13S672702760 (Claude

Patterson/Chad Ramsey/TMX Finance)  
 2006 GMC 1GTEK19Z56Z267551 (Tracey Priest/Wilshire Consumer Credit)

### NOTICE OF LIEN SALE

In compliance with TCA 66-14-102 thru 66-14-106 the following cars will be sold on July 22, 2022 @ 2:00 PM @ Chestnut Street Transport & Recovery, Inc. 2430 Thorngrove Pike Knoxville, TN if total bill is not paid by date of sale.

2017 Ranger Boat USRGR18468F819  
 2005 Chevy 2CNDL73F456020036 (Linda Reese)  
 1993 Buick 1G4BT5370PR411003 (Ebony Mcelwee/Greenlight Auto)  
 1996 Hydraspt Boat HSX62266L596 (Albert Salary)  
 2004 Cadillac 1GYEK63N84R158902 (Brandon White/TMX Finance of TN)  
 2009 Ford 3FAHP07Z59R110502 (Jodie or Tammy Rosenbaum/American Credit Acctpt)  
 2014 Chevy 2GNALBEK5E8202971 (Adrienne Hammonds)  
 1999 Toyota 2T1CF22P1XC196385 (Corey Coffey)  
 2002 Honda 1HGG656492A150963 (Darius Smith)  
 2005 Ford 1FMCU94125KA16314 (Kayla Clayton/TN Title Loans)  
 2006 Infiniti JNKBY01E46M202917 (Demetriss White/Empire Motors)  
 2006 Chevy 2G1WB58KX69335233 (Sara Roach/Advance America Cash Advance)

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