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Pastor Lynch returns to heart of Marbledale

By Jamie Schnell
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Marbledale Baptist Church, the church with a heart in the heart of Marbledale, has recently welcomed its new pastor, Charles "Charlie" Lynch.

Marbledale Baptist is Pastor Lynch's fourth congregation, following 10 years at Highland Baptist Church, 20 years at North Acres Baptist Church and a few years at Fellowship Baptist Church in Lenoir City. Lynch describes his new role as "a Godsend for me and the church."

The seeds that would lead back to Marbledale were planted in his life 55 years ago when he and his wife, Kathy, had their first date at Marbledale Baptist when they were both 17 years old. They have just recently celebrated their 54th anniversary and have three children and eight grandchildren. Pastor Lynch describes his wife as an "amazing girl who pays attention to those in need.." She is not only the wind beneath his wings but the "mother of the church and a real pastor's wife."

The call to serve at Marbledale Baptist came as Pastor Lynch was dealing with some health issues following a near six-month recovery from his battle with throat cancer. He had no voice during the recovery and had to whistle to get his wife's attention. Pastor Lynch said his voice was still raspy when Marbledale Baptist asked him to fill in while they searched for a new pastor.

"We fell in love with them and they fell in love with us," he remembered of his "temporary" role in February. It did not take long for the church to vote for Lynch to be the new senior pastor.

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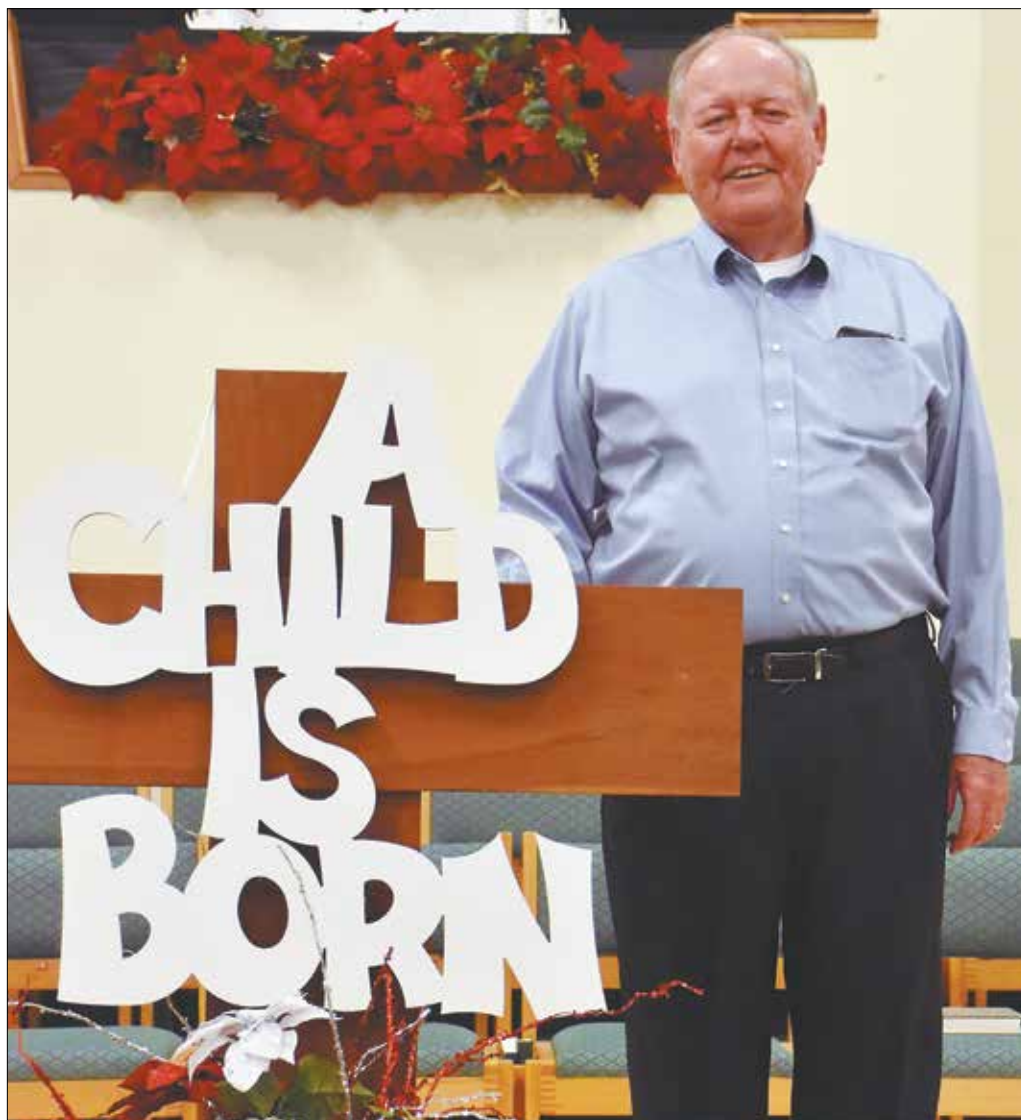


PHOTO BY JAMIE SCHNELL.

Pastor Charlie Lynch welcomes all to Marbledale Baptist. Sunday morning service is at 10:30 a.m. and Sunday evening Worship is at 6 p.m. This weekend the church is recreating moments from the life of Jesus Christ with an outdoor holiday walk-through presentation on Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings.

Zonings, Nashville lobbying and street closures on city agenda

By Mike Steely
Senior Writer
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The Knoxville City Council meets Tuesday evening and the agenda calls for a vote on various issues including zoning changes, an appeal, approving two liaison companies for Nashville representation and several partial street closings.

Mayor Indya Kincannon also plans to appoint Dustin Durham, Vince Fusco, Nancy Nabors and Joel Simmons to the Knoxville Transportation Authority Board and Sylvia McLaurin and Elaine Reed to the Tree Board.

Janice Tocher of the South Woodland Neighborhood Association is appealing a zoning administrator's decision involving a review of a development at 451 West Blount Avenue.

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PARC meeting sees questions and answers

By Mike Steely
Senior Writer
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A question and answer session between the Police Advisory and Review Committee, Knoxville Police Department representatives and mental health workers took up the majority of the quarterly meeting earlier this month following various reports on the 3rd quarter of the year.

Co-chairman Jered Croom asked Police Chief Paul Noel if there is a policy about officers or employees dating each other. Noel said there is no policy but added the department is reviewing a policy of reporting sexual relationships between supervisors and employees.

"Beyond that, it's not an issue," the chief stated.

A series of questions were asked about a female police officer who reported being assaulted in the darkness of night, including if she was drunk, and why did her report indicate two Black men. Sgt. Rachel Britt said the report was based on the female officer's statement.

Chief Noel was asked about keeping past police reports and records and he said all the records need to be digitized

and that a "deep dive" is needed in assessing the full department.

Candace Allen, director of Helen Ross McNabb's Mental Health Services, spoke only briefly because of an illness before introducing Lillie Halsey of that department. Halsey, a team leader and co-responder, stressed the importance of the co-responder program which pairs a behavioral health specialist and a specially-trained city police officer to divert the mentally ill and drug users to alternative programs rather than jail.

In the two years of the program, Halsey said the police and specialist teams have had more than 2,000 crisis calls.

PARC member Reico Hopewell said co-responders have limited knowledge of drug and alcohol problems and there is a need to broaden the process.

When asked about cameras in the police wagon used to transport suspects, Deputy Chief David Powell said the department is still using an old camera in the detention section of the vehicle but hopes to resolve that in the spring of 2023. He also said there are no restraints in the detention part of the vehicle and the department is "looking for different options."

Literacy law, playground repairs take center stage at KCS board meetings

By Ken Lay

In its final two meetings of the 2022 calendar year, the Knox County Board of Education took action on a controversial literacy law set to be enacted early next year.

The third-grade literacy law, which was passed by the Tennessee State Legislature, is being protested by districts across the state.

Knox County Schools is among several districts asking the legislature to change the law that, if enacted, could affect up to 60% of the district's third graders, forcing them to be retained based on a standardized test score.

The board unanimously passed a resolution asking the state to leave

the decisions on retention up to the individual school districts.

The resolution was passed but the board has no power to change the law.

"I just want to make sure that the public understands that even if we approve this resolution, the decision does not weigh in our hands, it's the legislature," said board member Susan Horn. "So you need to contact your legislators."

In Wednesday night's December work session at the Summer Place, the board also voted to keep agenda-setting meetings open to the public. A measure to close the meetings was voted down.

Horn voiced her support of the measure before it ultimately failed.

"When I was board chair, and I was board chair for two years before (Kristi) Kristy," Horn began, "There were several times that I was concerned that the media may misunderstand something that we perhaps discussed and didn't put on the agenda."

"Or also that an issue, a topic, could be in the media before other board members were made aware of it."

The board also voted to move forward in a partnership with the Helen Ross McNabb Center as it approved a grant in excess of \$1.8 million to aid with students' mental health by expanding services.

The contract goes into effect on Jan. 1, 2023, and expires on Dec. 31 with an

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I Wish I Still Had My 1967 Mustang

From a distance



By John J. Duncan Jr.
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In my column last week, I mentioned what has been frequently described as America's love affair with cars. I wrote about this in relation to the goal of environmentalists who control President Biden to make gas prices go much higher so people will be forced to drive less.

However, thinking about cars caused me to remember some of the cars I have had. In my younger and middle age years, cars were much cheaper, and I used to trade more often. Now, I hold on to vehicles as long as I can.

During my 30 years in Congress, I had to have one vehicle in Tennessee

and one in Washington. Today, I still have a 2006 Chevrolet Impala with 172,000 miles on it and a Ford F-150 pickup truck with 137,000 miles on it.

Shortly after President Biden went into the White House, I assumed his people would send gas prices much higher. So I traded my late wife's car in for a Toyota Avalon hybrid that was supposed to get 44 miles to the gallon.

It does not get that much, because I usually go faster than 55 when I am on the interstate or other good highways. However, the Avalon does get better gas mileage than any vehicle I have ever had.

Remember the good old days of the Trump Administration when at the end gas in East Tennessee was about \$1.85 to \$1.95 a gallon? The national average was a little higher then because of California and other high tax states.

Of all the cars I have had, the one I most wish I had kept was my 1967 Mustang. I have thought

several times about buying another one, but they have just become too expensive.

Many years ago when my daughter, Whitney, was about to turn 16 and was looking at cars, I think she may have wanted a little sports car and I probably wanted her to have an Army tank.

Not knowing how much car prices had gone up, I called Whitney from Washington one night and asked her how she would like to have a 1967 Mustang (thinking I would enjoy it, too). That went over like a lead balloon, and I quickly realized that when I turned 16 in 1963, that would have been like my Dad asking me if I wanted a 1936 car.

I ended up buying Whitney a 1988 Hyundai Sonata from a young man who worked for the Republicans on what was then the International Relations Committee in the House. He had all the records concerning the car and its maintenance, even details on every oil change.

I drove the car home one Friday night, and Whitney was very pleased. However, my late wife, Lynn, called me when I was back in Washington at the first of the next week and asked me in an angry voice if I had not even looked at the engine.

She knew I didn't know anything about cars and that I probably would not have looked very closely at the engine. She said, "This car has chicken wire on parts of the engine!" Fortunately, she was playing a joke on me, but I fell for it at first because she sounded so serious.

In 1999, my wife and I were in Nashville for Don Sundquist's second inauguration as governor. We were given a ride to the ceremony by a nice young Nashville policeman who told us that just the night before he had stopped a large black man on a license tag violation and then found out there was an outstanding first-degree murder warrant for the man.

The policeman said the man was driving a "drug dealer's car, a 1986 Mercury Grand Marquis." Right then, much to the policeman's surprise, my wife busted out laughing, because I was driving a 1987 Mercury Grand Marquis, which she later always called my "drug dealer's car."

By then I had taken the Mercury to Washington because it had so many miles on it and I drove less there. I once picked up Jimmy Haslam at the Washington airport, and Lynn thought it was terrible when I told her he had gotten a little stuck on one of the pieces of duct tape on the front seat.

My first car sounds exotic but definitely was not. It was a 1961 DKW Sport, which looked like a miniature Ford from the early 60s. It was a three-speed on the column. The car was in such bad shape some friends of ours didn't want it anymore. They probably couldn't have gotten even \$100 for it.

Since I had learned to drive on our family Chevrolet automatic, I took my brother-in-law, Pat Gleason, with me to pick it up. He got the car less than two miles when it broke down on Alcoa Highway.

I will never forget Pat getting out and walking up to me saying, "Jimmy, if you want my advice, you will leave that car right where it is, because that car is going to be more trouble than it's worth."

The emergency brake was a lever between the two front seats. It had to be pulled up into the on position or the brakes went all the way to the floor. I had to drive with a gallon jug of water in the back floor because the car overheated so much. You could hear the sound of the gears changing in the radio.

I drove that car for a couple of years. Pat was right, of course, but it was my first car.

Zonings, Nashville lobbying and street closures on city agenda

Cont. from page 1

Tocher said the development should have undergone a different development plan rather than the one approved.

The council is being asked by the law department to approve contracts with two different government relations firms. Fred D. (Tony) Thompson Jr. would receive \$72,000 for next year and Cornerstone Government Affairs Inc. would get \$180,000 for the year. Thompson is the son of the late U.S. senator

and actor Fred Thompson and the agreement is a renewal with him. Cornerstone is a consulting company representing the city in the state and national government.

Several city project initiatives are also on the agenda including additional funding for the Sevier Avenue Streetscapes and Lancaster Drive Sidewalks Improvement projects, and an on-call renewal agreement with Chris Haggard Plumbing LLC for construction services.

Portions of Pelham Road, McCalla Avenue, Walden Drive, and an alley off Buffat Mill Road are proposed to close in recommendations from the planning commission.

A portion of Mimosa Avenue between Sherrod Road and Chapman Highway may be renamed to Kербela Avenue.

Zoning changes before the council include properties along Hillwood Drive, Dutchtown Road, Tennessee Avenue, and Alcoa Highway.

A Post-Mortem on the Election

Most people I know were disappointed in the results of the midterm election. The pundits almost unanimously predicted a "red wave" with the Republicans picking up as many as 65 seats in the House and four seats in the Senate. Instead, the Republicans will go from 213 seats in the House to only 221 seats. In the Senate, the Republicans will actually lose a seat and go from 50 seats to 49. How did this happen? It has always been the case that incumbency is hard to beat and that only swing districts are in play. How else would those representatives on the far right and far left be consistently returned to office? As a result, prior to the election I thought – like the pundits – that the Republicans would retake control of the House. However, the House is the least important body in the legislature. I know that all the spending bills originate there, but the Senate has veto power and the filibuster if all else fails. The Senate is the most important legislative body largely because of its veto power and it is where the president's nominees are vetted. With the Democrats still in control of the Senate, expect to see a continuation of the types of appointments made by this president. Biden's cabinet is the least capable, least qualified of any cabinet within modern history. Expect to see more judges appointed who view the Constitution as a "living"



By Dr. Harold A. Black
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document and who are unwilling or incapable of telling us what a woman is. Expect more nominees nominated on the basis of race, gender and sexual identity rather than qualifications. All of this will continue unabated given the makeup of the Senate.

I thought since all of this was obvious, that the Republicans would concentrate their efforts on winning the Senate. But befitting the title "the stupid party" the Republicans did not aggressively contest the vulnerable Democratic seats in New Hampshire, Arizona, Nevada and Georgia. The two open seats were held by Republicans and I thought that the Republicans would hold Ohio but lose Pennsylvania. They would hold Ohio because a popular Republican governor was running for reelection and would have coattails for the Senate candidate. They would lose Pennsylvania because the Republican candidate for governor was weak and destined to lose while the candidate for Senate was roundly disliked. As my colleague Rep. Duncan pointed out, if the results of the primary were different the Republicans would have easily won the seat in Pennsylvania. The final candidate won the nomination because he was the darling of the conservative media and endorsed by Trump. That led to him losing to perhaps the worst candidate in recent memory. Voters

in Pennsylvania preferred a person with the most radical agenda, one who was against fracking and for releasing hardened criminals to the Republican candidate. Go figure.

Throughout all the campaigns, one thing was evident: the Republicans were greatly outspent. Although Trump had amassed \$100 million in his PAC, he did not spend his money to support the very candidates that he had endorsed in Georgia, Arizona, New Hampshire and Nevada. The Democrats actually spent \$53 million to boost the weakest far right candidates in the primaries to have them run against their own weak incumbents. The strategy seemed to work, largely in part because the Republicans did not counter their spending efforts. As to funding, the Democrats spent \$73 million in Arizona. The Republicans spent \$9 million. In Nevada, Republicans were outspent \$46 million to \$12 million. In New Hampshire, it was \$36 million to \$2 million. In Pennsylvania, \$52 million to \$32 million and in Georgia \$75 million to \$32 million. Admittedly, money is not everything but these numbers are hard to ignore. Moreover, the Republicans actually funded the campaign for the senator from Alaska who voted to impeach Trump even though the seat was going to stay in Republican hands. To do this while not funding the Trump-endorsed candidates could only mean one thing. The Republican establishment hates Donald Trump more than it wants to regain control of the Senate.



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Publisher's Positions



By Steve Hunley,
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Another Example of Kincannon's Tax and Spend Administration

Deputy Mayor Stephanie Welch made the announcement last June she was leaving Knoxville to return to Maine in order to be closer to family. After having served briefly as a member of the Knoxville City Council and a high paid staffer of the Great Schools Partnership, Welch became the chief deputy mayor under Indya Kincannon. While she left Knoxville, evidently Welch didn't leave the City of Knoxville payroll. Apparently, Welch is still earning \$90,000 annually part-time. Welch is being paid handsomely to shepherd the proposed baseball stadium. One has to presume the \$90,000 counts towards Stephanie Welch's

own city pension. The optics aren't great, especially after Kincannon asked for and got a 40% property tax increase from the city council. It wouldn't be difficult to surmise Stephanie Welch is the only person capable of shepherding the baseball stadium in all of Knoxville, or the city government, has to do so from Maine, seems pretty far- fetched. That's a pretty long bike ride for Stephanie, who thinks we all need to ride bikes instead of driving cars. Still, the message is clear; there's no other bureaucrat already on the payroll in the city government who is capable of guiding through the baseball stadium to success other than Stephanie Welch. Indya Kincannon's brain is being paid \$87 an hour for her work, which seems exorbitant considering it is part time while living full-time in name. Throughout her time in Knoxville, Welch always seemed to earn a near or six figure annual salary from the taxpayers or taxpayer funded organizations.

Bad Proposal from Susan Horn

On a different note, I have to agree with the Knoxville News Sentinel as the Knox

County Board of Education considered a policy change of its own. The idea of banning the public and news media from the board's Agenda Committee meetings is just a bad idea and even worse public policy. The policy change was being sought by Susan Horn, who says she wants to stop Knox Countians and media outlets from knowing what will be on the Board of Education's Agendas before they are published online. That is one of the most foolish reasons I've ever heard in my life for changing public policy. Truly, it borders on the absurd. Horn complained something is "in the media" before Board members learn about it. It is the responsibility of the Board members to do their own due diligence on every matter coming before the Knox County Board of Education. The response by the board of basically attempting to privatize a public process is just plain wrong. Every governmental legislative body in this country has a process that can be followed and so should the Knox County Board of Education. Board members are free to participate in the agenda committee meetings and neither the superintendent nor the chair of

the board have too much leeway to simply stick whatever he/she wishes on the agenda, especially outside the notice of the public. In the Tennessee General Assembly for instance, a bill can work its way through the committee process without coming before a majority of the legislature until it reaches the floor. As most of the membership hasn't heard the bill, at least according to the logic employed by Susan Horn, it should be closed off to the public and press until every member has had a chance to inform himself/herself. When a legislative body is more concerned about extending some make believe courtesy to itself, it has forgotten it exists to serve the public and the people who elected it. The board of education exists not to perpetuate the system, nor even to protect the system, but rather to serve the parents, students and taxpayers in educating children. Fortunately, the board voted down the Horn proposal, which was wise. It was a terrible and foolish idea which got the consideration it deserved. A Bad Deal? Joe Biden is taking a victory lap in the news media

for having engineered the release of Brittney Griner. Of course, the United States government had to trade Viktor Bout, a Russian arms dealer known as the "Merchant of Death" to secure Griner's release. Ms. Griner's trial and imprisonment was a travesty, but it is an entirely different question as to whether it was a good deal. Meanwhile, former Marine Paul Whelan still sits in a penal colony, which could better be described as a forced labor camp. As a press release from our own Congressman Tim Burchett said, "We got had." Sinema Leaves Democratic Party On the heels of Democrats celebrating the reelection of Raphael Warnock over Herschel Walker and having 51 votes in the U. S. Senate, comes the news from Arizona that Senator Krysten Sinema has left the Democratic Party. Ms. Sinema had registered as an Independent and refuses to say whether or not she will caucus in the Senate as a Democrat. That may not sound like big news, but it sure is inasmuch as it may help to determine the split in committees and control of the

U. S. Senate as the Republicans prepare to organize the House. Krysten Sinema just dropped a bomb on celebrating Democrats. Honey Alexander - A Great Lady Last Friday and Saturday there was a visitation in Nashville honoring the memory of Honey Alexander, the wife of former governor and U. S. senator Lamar Alexander. Mrs. Alexander died in October at age 77. Honey Alexander met her future husband while working as a staffer for then Texas-U. S. senator John Tower. Mrs. Alexander became First Lady of Tennessee during Lamar's gubernatorial terms where she presided with grace and good will. Honey Alexander did not like, much less seek out the limelight, yet those fortunate enough to encounter her, remember her as a woman of determination, ability, and the very soul of Tennessee hospitality. The Focus family extends to Senator Alexander and the Alexander family our deep sympathy with the loss of wife, mother and grandmother and First Lady.

Literacy law, playground repairs take center stage at KCS board meetings

Cont. from page 1 option to approve for four additional years. Another major topic of discussion at both Wednesday's regular session and at the work session held Monday, Dec. 5, was the conditions of many of the district's playgrounds, many of which are in disrepair. Currently, play areas at Knox County Schools are the responsibility of the respective school's communities. Knox County Commissioner Larsen Jay has adopted the cause of upgrading playgrounds in schools, labeling them a necessity for students. For more than three

decades, a supposed board policy has left the responsibility to communities. Many of the schools' playground equipment has deteriorated despite fundraising efforts. The estimated cost to repair equipment is \$4.2 million. Jay implored the board to look at its options. "If a school needs mulch, students have to sell coupon books or pizzas," Jay said at last Monday's work session. "I've bought several coupon books that I don't use." The commissioner also noted that he and his family had spearheaded the efforts to improve playground equipment.

UT beer sales hearing 'motion to strike' set for next Monday

By Mike Steely
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Attorney Loretta Cravens sat as the hearing officer recently in a case between the City of Knoxville and the University of Tennessee vendor Aramark. The illegal sale of beer to minors during events at the UT stadium could cost the university and the vendor their contract and beer license. Present during the Zoom session were the city's attorney Alyson Dyer, attorney Tasha Blakney for Aramark, and representatives from UT, Aramark and the police department. Cravens opened the meeting by saying she had worked for Blakney previously and asked if either side had any objection to her hearing the charges. Both sides agreed to her participation. The next hearing, set for Monday, December 19 at 2 p.m., is a "motion to strike" the complaint by Aramark. If the motion to strike isn't granted the case then goes to a hearing and a decision will apparently be in February or March according to the hearing

officer. Dyer had asked for a January timeframe but Blakney said that may be a little soon. Cravens said she would not be available in January. The motion to strike by Aramark claims that the city's charge has some "puzzling accusations" and is "legally inappropriate." Dave Levins, general manager of Aramark Sports and Entertainment in Knoxville, confirmed to the meeting that no events are planned for the stadium that involve beer sales during the period. The city charges that a police department sting found that Aramark employees sold beer to underage buyers on three occasions during UT events. Aramark paid a \$500 fine for a second violation and new beer sale procedures were put in place. Two of the underage sales took place during UT football games. The city is asking for a six-month suspension of the beer permit and \$1,500 per incident. Aramark contends the problem has been resolved.

Commission to review new merit system rules

By Mike Steely
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Last month the reorganized Knox County Sheriff's Office Employees' Merit System Board of Directors, briefly met for the first time. Under the advice of the Knox County Law Department, the seven-member board delayed selecting their chair and vice chair until their January meeting. The delay is required by the new board policy that requires the board to choose officers at the beginning of each calendar year. The Knox County Commission meets in work session today and next Monday and on the agenda is the official adoption of the Knox County Sheriff's Office Merit System Rules and Regulations. Among the reforms are prohibitions against any merit board member running for elected office, displaying any political signage, endorsing candidates and raising funds for a candidate. The rules do not forbid members from

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Pastor Lynch returns to heart of Marbledale

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"I just feel blessed that God can still use me. You don't realize how much you use your voice until you don't have it anymore."

He recently used that voice for the first time in three years, singing "The King is Coming" a capella during service. He told The Focus, "I never had the voice to do that before."

When asked about this miraculous moment in the church, members of his congregation reflected on the surprising "boom of vocals" that filled the church, bringing many to tears.

Rehearsing for their upcoming holiday presentation, Walk Through the Life of Christ, members also shared the entire community's welcoming of Pastor Lynch and his wife. Collectively Lyna Duggan and Donnie and Tonia Fawver shared, "It is about God and the people and building and restoration. Charlie feels like home. He has mended hearts and brought us together. I can't

imagine this space without him and his wife."

Pastor Lynch's personal goals for the church are to help it heal from the turmoil of changes in the past years and to help it grow in new ways, such as its youth program.

"This has answered a lot of prayers. God has opened doors; he's opened so much. This church has just been an outstanding place for us."

Pastor Lynch equates the stories of restoration and healing—for his voice, his family, the church (the original church building was destroyed in a fire in 2002)—to the story of Job. Job lost his family and his riches with the latter part of Job's life being greater than the first.

"I look forward to the latter part of my ministry being better than even the first part was. I've had great experiences everywhere I've ministered and God speaks through open doors. Being at Marbledale is an open door, and we

are excited with anticipation of what's about to take place."

Pastor Lynch shared with The Focus the story of a man whose life recently came full circle. The young man was in need during a very rough time in his life and Lynch helped fill that need. Recently this young man, now an adult, won some money and donated it to the church. He told Pastor Lynch, "You made sure I had a Christmas many years ago."

"Christ loved people as they drove nails in his hands. Actions speak louder than words," Pastor Lynch said.

"I tell this congregation I love them. I'm not satisfied with a position or a title, I want to go beyond that. I want to continue to love like Christ."

Marbledale Church, located at 5935 Thorngrove Pike in Knoxville, will host its Walk Through the Life of Christ Outdoor Drama, December 15-17 from 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. nightly.



PHOTO BY JAMIE SCHNELL

Lyna Duggan, Pastor Charlie Lynch and Donnie and Tonia Fawver take a break from preparing for the church's The Life Of Christ holiday walk-through presentation.

Commission to review new merit system rules

Continued from page 3

being a member of a political organization. The same prohibition on supporting political candidates also applies to Knox County Sheriff's Office employees.

The new rules also prohibit any board member from serving if a relative is employed by the KCSO or the Knoxville Police Department. Sheriff-certified employees remain under the domain of the board except for up to 10 employees designated by the sheriff.

The merit system's executive director now reports to the county commission and the human resources department.

All merit board members are required to attend ethics training and violations of any of the regulations by members are subject to action by the Knox County Ethics Committee.

All regular and special sessions of the merit board must be publicly noticed.

Paula M. Taylor is the merit system's executive director. Merit board members include Kenny Boatman, Christopher Manning, John Marshall, John Valliant, Clarence Vaughn, Lindsey Willis and Jim Wright Jr. Non-voting members include Officer Winston Ragon, Captain Debbie Cox and Mitzi Evans.

Lundy asks public to speak at forum on McAlister's incident

By Mike Steely
Senior Writer
steelym@knoxfocus.com

On November 21 three Knox County Deputies stopped by McAlister's Deli on Schaad Road to dine and, according to them, they were refused service. According to the family of the employee, who was later reportedly fired for being under 16 years old, the teenage girl was a cashier there and had customers backed up in line at closing time. Service was not refused, according to the family, and the girl passed off the order to another cashier.

Both the sheriff's office and the Thompson family have made conflicting statements about what happened inside the restaurant. The matter may end up at the Knox County Commission's regular meeting on December 19 as a public forum subject.

First District Commissioner Dr. Dasha Lundy is calling on members of the community to appear at the meeting. Lundy's letter to the commission calls for "unity not division."

"I'm deeply disturbed by the stance that the Knox County Sheriff's Office has taken," she wrote,

adding, "The accusations were most likely miscommunications between the three parties." She apparently refers to the restaurant, the teen and the deputies.

"Please come to the commission meeting at 5 p.m. to speak to this issue and any other issue," she asked the public.

"I want the public to advocate for this girl," she told The Focus. Lundy said she's inviting the public to speak at the regular meeting next week because she will not be at the commission's work session today.

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The Doctor is in

a weekly column by
Dr. Jim Ferguson

The Truth is Out There

Those who cannot remember history are condemned to repeat it.
George Santayana

I was a big fan of the X-Files. Back when we used to trust the FBI, I loved watching agents Fox Mulder and Dana Scully investigate odd mysteries while combating nefarious leadership forces in the Bureau. The tagline for the 1990s television series was, “The truth is out there,” and I believe it is.

One can’t put much stock in television shows - or what actors say. They are facades and bear little resemblance to reality. Nonetheless, the real-life release of the Twitter files by Elon Musk made me think of Mulder and Scully, the fictional truth seekers.

The collusion between the FBI, DOJ and the DNC (Democrat National Committee) with Twitter, Big Tech (Google, Facebook, etc.) and the elite media (ABC, NBC, CBS, CNN, the NYT, Washington Post) to

interfere with our elections is a far bigger story than Watergate. Musk released email exchanges to Substack journalist Matt Taibbi who published the high crimes and misdemeanors. But instead of a mea culpa or attempting to explain the facts, the guilty are typically circling the wagons and attacking the messengers with personal (ad hominem) attacks. They have to do this because they are all part of this huge conspiracy.

However, I’m wondering, why would Elon Musk release this information damning the ruling class? Why take the risk of incurring elitist scorn and the inevitable scurrilous attacks? Similarly, why would President Trump choose to again run for president, after experiencing unprecedented attacks on himself, friends and family? I don’t see a business angle for either Musk or Trump. Neither of them needs the money or the hassle. Perhaps President

Trump seeks vindication for injustices or to repair his reputation. I don’t see Musk’s ego playing much of a part in his decision to release the Twitter files. Perhaps both Trump and Musk are patriotically pushing back against the great darkness that has spread across our land.

You should never underestimate the Beast or its calling card of depraved hatred. The “Big Lie” is as real now as it was when first imagined in the 1920s (Mein Kampf). Hillary Clinton’s Big Lie was the Russian Collusion fraud which led to Special Counsel Robert Mueller. President Trump was exonerated but nonetheless impeached. Then intelligence agents, colluding with the media and big tech, suppressed the New York Post’s Hunter Biden Laptop story, which contributed to the election of Joe Biden and America’s downfall. And even though Elon Musk creates and launches spaceships, created the Starlink satellite network, and manufactures Teslas, he is not immune to the power of Big Lies; Musk says he voted for Joe Biden.

It is my opinion that nothing will change in America until things become much worse. I hope I’m wrong, but history says otherwise. What we are doing always leads to destruction. Biden and the Democrats are hurting Americans, but it has not yet become critical.

The Democrats continue to promote the Russian threat, although Russia is tied down in Ukraine and has trouble at home. Instead of recognizing the huge Chinese threat, Biden has turned his goons loose on Americans he labels as domestic terrorists. Actually, I see America’s move toward Democrat-progressive-socialism and secularism, where government replaces God, as far more dangerous than Russia, China and a few kooky skinheads.

But just when I get discouraged, hope returns with the release of the Twitter files, patriots stepping up despite the risks, Republicans taking the House and will be in charge of investigative committees. Furthermore, sexualization of kids has been exposed through drag queen shows with children and the Balenciaga scandal, despite attempts of The View (aka “The Spew”) to sanitize such depravity. Pedophilia is a perversion and not just the left’s euphemistic phrasing, “adults attracted to children!” Lastly, Disney stock is down nearly 40% with their woke agenda, as their latest “kid” movie with sexual connotations bombs. As John Moody said, “The mouse has left the house,” and so has their wokester CEO, Bob Chapek.

I have no illusion that change will occur with one,

two or perhaps even a half dozen elections. Turning the ship of state is difficult. However, dramatic changes began in 2016 with President Trump’s election; and then Covid struck. The China Virus was the nail in the coffin for my Methodist Church, President Trump and perhaps the country. Hatred promoted by devilish forces aided by the corrupt legacy media, the obstructionist Deep State and corrupt Tech Lords in collusion with intelligence agencies has metaphorically brought us America’s dark winter.

But all is not lost, yet. You have to recognize a problem before it can be tackled. Jesus said those who have eyes will see. And those who pay attention understand the problem. Most don’t have a voice to speak out against corruption and the darkness. I have a voice, at least at this time. However, all of us encounter the misguided, and I’ve found the best way to push back is to tactfully say, “I’m sorry, but I do not accept your premise (position).” In other words, politely refuse to accept or normalize something that is wrong. It takes courage to push back. Too often polite southerners don’t challenge the gaslighters who spin lies to intimidate us into accepting their falsehoods.

I realize it can be difficult to confront an ideological bully, but “Freedom is

not free.” Recently, I heard an interview with a woman who escaped Communist China. She said, “Don’t surrender your freedom or you might lose your life trying to regain it.”

The first century stoic philosopher Epictetus once said that the only thing you really possess are your thoughts. George Orwell in his novel “1984” challenged this notion. China is suppressing individual thought with their social-credit scores and facial recognition surveillance state. Elitist Klaus Schwab, head of the influential and powerful World Economic Forum, admires the Chinese police state and wants it implemented worldwide.

In his 1961 farewell address, President Dwight Eisenhower warned us about the military-industrial complex. More recently, the thoughts of conservatives have been suppressed by what I call the government-media complex.

We must say, “No!” to these anti-God, anti-American, anti-freedom elites and the quislings who march in rapturous lockstep to their Big Lies. Take heart, the people of the darkness may number millions, but the people of the Light number hundreds of millions. Don’t stop searching ... “The truth is out there.”

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

Bridgestone surprises Boys & Girls Club with new van



The Boys & Girls Club was surprised with a van donated by Bridgestone Tires Thursday afternoon. The vehicle will provide transportation to and from after school activities.

By Ken Lay

The Boys & Girls Club of the Tennessee Valley got an early Christmas present late Thursday afternoon.

Rain couldn’t dampen the joy when the organization was surprised by the gift of a new van to provide reliable transportation for the children it serves.

“It’s really cool to be able to provide our children and our members reliable transportation,” Xavier Bridges, assistant director of the Boys & Girls Club’s Youthforce Program. “Christmas came early for us.

“It’s amazing and it’s cool to be able to tell someone that we can give them a ride home.”

The van was donated by Bridgestone and Knoxville’s

Boys & Girls Club received one of 12 vans awarded by the company.

“Every year we give away 12 vans across the country,” said Bridgestone representative Michael Graham. “You have to apply for a grant and we had over 300 applications and Knoxville just happened to be one to get it.

“Bridgestone has really set out to enhance transportation for young people.”

Bridges and members of the Boys & Girls Club’s location on Irwin Street in North Knoxville made a video for their application detailing why the club needed the van, which will be used to transport children to and from the club for after-school care and activities.



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Picture of Ralphine Major standing on the steps of Stokely Athletic Center on the UT campus with cap and gown in hand, 1976, by Juanita Major.



Standing on the Steps of Stokely

It was a busy year, 1976. America celebrated her 200th birthday, the Bicentennial. Red, white, and blue could be seen everywhere. Other events took place in our family.

After finishing student teaching and with summer school classes behind me, I stood on the steps of Stokely Athletic Center at The University of Tennessee (UT) just after graduation ceremonies. That was in August. Those steps and Stokely are now gone. Just days after then on Labor Day Weekend, our grandmother suffered a debilitating stroke. She passed away in late October. My brother



By Ralphine Major
ralphine3@yahoo.com

and I had less than one month to plan a Silver Wedding Anniversary celebration for our parents. On a snowy Thanksgiving weekend, family and friends came by the church for their reception. Our family experienced a range of emotions throughout the fall. By then we were into the Christmas season, the long-awaited holiday.

As you prepare for Christmas 2022, may you enjoy all the things of Christmas---the gifts, the Christmas carols, connecting with friends through Christmas cards or gatherings, and celebrations with family and friends. Enjoy the smell of pine

trees, the flavor of peppermint candy canes, and the wonderful Christmas lights. May you enjoy the peace of knowing that the Christ Child was born on Christmas to bring us salvation, the most important gift of all. Joy to you and yours this Christmas!

Words of Faith: "And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger." Luke 2:16 (KJV).

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How to enjoy New York City

It only took until now for me to finally reach New York City. I've said for years that I wanted to see the Rockefeller Center Christmas tree and the window decorations at Macy's. I learned plenty from this first and last trip to "the Big Apple." They all deal with making such a trip a huge success.

The first thing to do is pick a good company for a bus tour. Amy found a company named Common Sense Tours. Their prices are fair, and the variety is large enough to keep a traveler on the move year-round. Common Sense Tours keeps in mind customers that aren't rich. They plan trips with clean rooms, good food, and plenty of time to see things.

The next consideration is the guide(s). For our adventure, Liz Mitchell and Debbie Goff led the way. Both women had years of experience on tours, some of their own making and some with the company. The hosts like people, a vital point that is often overlooked. During our jaunt to NYC, Debbie kept us entertained with stories and jokes. She passed out snacks as we traveled on the bus. One rule during the trip was that no one should use the bathroom on the bus because what anyone left in there traveled with us the entire time. Instead, the bus pulled in places every couple of hours so that we old folks could take care of



By Joe Rector
joerector@comcast.net

failing parts.

At one place we were supposed to eat at a certain time, but a party was going on in the front room, and we couldn't get to our seats. Liz finally had waited long enough and scolded the manager. The party

broke up, and we were allowed in. Guides like Liz and Debbie are worth their weight in gold when it comes to a successful trip. Thanks for taking care of us.

A good bus driver is also essential. Teresa was ours. This woman was no taller than five feet, but she handled a tour bus as if it were a toy. She made U-turns to move us onto the right roads, kept a steady hand to guide the bus during downpours of rain, and she even parallel parked the monstrous vehicle, something most of the passengers struggle with in cars. Teresa pulled the bus down one street that was narrow. Cars were parked on one side and outdoor eating sheds were on the other. With literally inches to spare on either side, Teresa maneuvered that bus without touching anything. Folks along the sidewalk gave her an ovation for her tremendous skills, as did passengers.

Adventures are a necessary part of a trip, and we had some. Amy and I walked across the city to visit Central Park. We hired a bike-powered rickshaw to cover the entire park and then return us to Time

Square. At that place, a street show was just beginning. Our guide Debbie was picked to participate as one acrobat jumped over a line of folks. After more stunts and break-dancing, the performers passed their bags for donations. My wife put a bill in, and the music stopped. A new song played, and the leader came dancing toward her. Then, this reserved woman began dancing as well as I stood and watched in total shock.

The most important ingredient for a successful tour is the group. Ours turned out to be wonderful. Most were from the Cookeville area, and before long, Amy was figuring out how she might know some of them through direct contact or through knowing their family members. Everyone was relaxed and ready to have a good time. By the end of each day, we wanted to eat a meal and return to our motel rooms in New Jersey for an early turn-in.

Amy and I are looking at the list of trips offered next year. We'll choose one with Common Sense Travel and hope either Liz or Debbie is in charge again. Anyone who is like me will want to give a bus tour a try. Debbie would tell first-timers all they need to do is get on the bus and leave the rest to us.

My next column will be about a special man who was on the trip. Anyone interested in a bit more information about our travels can visit www.thecommonisspectacular.com.

Upcoming computer classes at Parrott-Wood

Need help with your cell phone or tablet? Do you want to learn how to download a library book, search for a job, create your resume, or fill out an online form? Come to the Parrott-Wood Memorial Library on Tuesdays between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. for one-on-one help.

At 1 p.m. each Tuesday, Rita Hussung will teach a free computer class. Please call (865) 933-1311

to register for the one-on-one help or the afternoon class.

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Tuesday, Jan. 17: Microsoft Windows: Getting Started

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Tuesday, Jan. 24: Microsoft Windows: Surfing the Web

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Tuesday, Jan. 31: Microsoft Windows: Sending and Receiving Email and other day-to-day tasks using Windows

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‘Big Bill’ Thompson of Chicago

Pages from the Past



By Ray Hill
rayhill865@gmail.com

William Hale Thompson enjoyed a long political career in a city known for its corruption. “Big Bill” Thompson was the last Republican to be elected mayor of Chicago. A modern political showman without being burdened with many core beliefs, Thompson had something of a pedigree. His father of the same name was a successful and respected businessman in Chicago, while his mother Medora’s father had been the first fire chief of the Windy City. One contemporary observer recalled after the former mayor’s death, “William Hale Thompson was the most potent political power in Chicago for two stormy decades. . .”

One newspaperman remembered William Hale Thompson brought notoriety to Chicago. “‘Big Bill’ Thompson was in the headlines nearly every day,” Sam Tucker wrote, “Chicago appeared to all the outside world as a bloody field of battle; Thompson and Thompsonism were held up to most of the world as a strange and dangerous sort of American lunacy.”

The younger William Hale Thompson certainly had a mind of his own and departed Chicago at fourteen for Wyoming where he became a cowboy and owned cattle. Oddly enough, one of his talismans for his future campaigns became the sombrero. Yet the young “Big Bill” Thompson returned home to Chicago with \$30,000 (more than \$100,000 today). Thompson also managed the estate left by his deceased father. Six feet tall and usually boasting an ample figure, he earned the nickname “Big Bill,” which stuck with him throughout his life.

William Hale Thompson allied himself with GOP boss William Lorimer who had won election to the United States Senate, only to have that body vote to expel him. Thompson narrowly won a seat on the Chicago City Council in 1901 and served as an alderman. In 1902, “Big Bill” Thompson won election to the Cook County Board of Commissioners. Thompson won his first term as mayor of Chicago in 1915. Even then Thompson’s bent toward isolationism showed through his somewhat pacifist attitude toward American entry into the First World War, a position which was admittedly unpopular with many Chicagoans. Still, Thompson managed to win reelection as mayor in 1919 by 21,000 votes. Mayor Thompson feuded with the Chicago Tribune, which became a bastion of isolation opinion under its publisher Colonel Robert “Bertie” McCormick. Thompson sued the newspaper in 1920 for \$500,000, alleging the Tribune had libeled

him over things it had written about his war record. The case actually went to trial, but the judge declared a mistrial when one of the jurors became ill. There was no effort to start a new trial.

Because Mayor William Hale Thompson did nothing to impede the activities of those citizens or groups who opposed the conscription of troops or protested against the First World War, he was denounced by some as “Kaiser Bill” Thompson. Thompson’s neutrality in that instance was akin to his anti-British stance, which was calculated to appeal to the heavy Irish and German populations inside Chicago. At the time, Thompson had the overwhelming support of Black citizens, most of whom still voted Republican.

The next lawsuit was initiated by the Chicago Tribune, which sued Thompson and demanded the mayor and his associates refund \$1,732,279 which had been “paid out in real estate expert fees” by the city government. A judge summarily ruled Thompson and his associates had to refund the staggering amount, but that decision was overturned by a ruling of the Illinois State Supreme Court which found the mayor “was not in a conspiracy to defraud the city.”

The veteran campaigner skipped a term, choosing not to run in the 1923 election and was succeeded by William Emmett Dever, a Democrat. During his interlude away from the mayor’s office, Thompson was preoccupied following his appointment as chairman of the Illinois Waterways Commission. It provided Thompson with a public forum, as well as allowing him to use his primary skill, promoting a project and himself. It also allowed “Big Bill” Thompson to remain politically relevant and viable.

The colorful former mayor sought to come roaring back into office by announcing his candidacy against his successor, Mayor Dever. Always possessing a fertile mind, especially when it came to self-promotion and attracting publicity, Thompson sponsored a live “debate” between himself and two live rats, which were supposed to represent his opponents. Ironically, Thompson’s campaign was aided by a brutally violent gang war among Chicago’s crime lords. Still, Thompson focused attention away from the blood running in the streets to a more ephemeral foe: King George V, the monarch of Great Britain. It was during the 1927 campaign the former mayor made a pledge for which he is still remembered today. Speaking before Irish audiences (who were not especially fond of the English),



ACME NEWS PHOTO FROM THE AUTHOR’S PERSONAL COLLECTION.

Former Mayor of Chicago William Hale “Big Bill” Thompson in 1939.

Thompson promised that were he so unfortunate as to meet King George, he would punch the monarch in “the snoot.”

After a typically colorful campaign, Thompson was elected to a third term as mayor of Chicago over the Democratic candidate, William Emmett Dever. During his inauguration to his third term as mayor of Chicago, Thompson made a pledge to the people he did not keep. “Our new Superintendent of Police has my positive instructions to drive the crooks and thieves and lawbreakers out of Chicago in ninety days, so that the people, their homes and their property may again be secure.”

It was during Thompson’s third term one of the most well-remembered instances of the Chicago gang wars occurred, the St. Valentine’s Day Massacre. On Valentine’s Day of 1929, seven members of the North Side Gang headed by George “Bugs” Moran, who were rivals of the Italian outfit headed by Al Capone, were lined up against a wall and executed. The murders took place at a garage located at 2122 North Clark Street and, according to witnesses, two of the four gunmen were wearing police uniforms. All of the victims were dead, save for one, Frank Gusenberg, who had been shot fourteen times. When police tried to question Gusenberg, he growled, “No one shot me.” He died hours later.

Mayor Thompson’s third term was also rife with feuding inside his own party. Thompson not surprisingly loathed Colonel McCormick, the publisher of the Chicago Tribune. The Colonel’s brother, Medill, had been a congressman and U. S. senator from Illinois. While unknown outside the family at the time, Medill McCormick had committed suicide following the loss of his seat in the United States Senate. McCormick’s widow, Ruth,

was also the daughter of GOP wealthy industrialist, kingmaker and U. S. Senator Marcus A. Hanna of Ohio. Ruth Hanna McCormick became active as a candidate in GOP politics in Illinois, defeating incumbent Senator Charles Deneen in the 1930 Republican primary. Thompson refused to support Ruth Hanna McCormick in the 1930 general election, which she lost badly to Democrat James Hamilton Lewis.

With the beginning of the Great Depression and the bloody reign of Al Capone, voters began to weary of “Big Bill” Thompson. No longer did they find the mayor’s antics amusing. Eventually, they decided Thompson was a luxury they could no longer afford. Still, Thompson stubbornly ran for reelection in 1931 but his administration was utterly crippled by its cooperation with the Capone crime family and it was an open secret the graft had penetrated into the very bone and sinew of the city government. Thompson’s political weakness was readily apparent and he was challenged in the Republican primary. Thompson won the nomination of his party, but only managed to scrape by with a plurality against two other candidates who won 53% of the votes combined.

Anton J. Cermak, leader of the Democratic Party in Chicago was the mayoral nominee in 1931 and he defeated “Big Bill” Thompson easily. Cermak won better than 58% of the vote and defeated Thompson by quite nearly 200,000 ballots.

Colonel McCormick, as usual, had the last word in the Tribune, which stated, “For Chicago Thompson has meant filth, corruption, obscenity, idiocy and bankruptcy. . . . He has given the city an international reputation for moronic buffoonery, barbaric crime, triumphant hoodlumism, unchecked graft, and a dejected

citizenship.” McCormick thundered Thompson had “made Chicago a byword for the collapse of American civilization.” The Colonel concluded his rant by writing, “In his attempt to continue this he excelled himself as a liar and defamer of character.”

Thompson tried a comeback in 1939, entering the Republican primary for mayor in 1939. Following his loss of the 1939 GOP primary to Dwight Green, “Big Bill” Thompson lived in a suite of rooms at Chicago’s Blackstone Hotel. The Blackstone still stands today, an elegant 290-foot, 21-story hotel located on Michigan Avenue and Balbo Drive in Chicago’s Historic District. News reports began to trickle out of the Blackstone after “Big Bill” Thompson suffered a heart attack. The former mayor’s physician, T. J. Coogan, told reporters Thompson had been under an oxygen tent and had drifted into unconsciousness. The three-time mayor died in his suite in the Blackstone Hotel on March 19, 1944, at age seventy-four. “Big Bill” slipped away with his sister and brother and long-time secretary by his bedside. His widow was resting.

“Big Bill” Thompson’s death created one last sensation that nobody would have enjoyed more than the late former mayor. As the safety deposit boxes of the late mayor were opened, an abundance of cash was discovered, causing some to speculate it was stacks of money from bribes and other corruption. The amount was close to \$2 million (over \$28 million today). Thompson’s lawyer, James W. Breen, explained Thompson had sold nearly \$2 million worth of Middle West utilities stock and had “stowed the money away.” Breen also recalled when Thompson first became mayor of Chicago in 1915, “Big Bill” had sold off 10,000 shares of Commonwealth Edison worth \$123 per share,

for a total of \$1,230,000. Thompson had told friends he did not wish to be noted as a stockholder while he was mayor. Breen acknowledged while “Big Bill” Thompson liked giving the illusion he was a big spender, the lawyer said the former mayor “watched his personal fortune closely.” Although the son of a millionaire had carefully invested his money and watched it, the rumor about the former mayor having accumulated an astonishing pile of money persist to this day.

Several newspapers published editorials following “Big Bill” Thompson’s death. The Chicago Sun acknowledged the late mayor was an ardent booster of the Windy City, but the editorial also recalled the Thompson machine and noted nobody would “contend that the task of reforming Chicago politics has ended.” The Sun editorial recalled Thompson had played “upon old-country loyalties among some voters, and playing upon isolationist sentiments, he became himself an isolationist symbol.”

Years after Thompson’s mayoral reign ended and “Big Bill” was content to be off the political stage, journalist Sam Tucker happened to be staying at a hotel in Washington, D.C., where Thompson was also a guest. The former mayor invited Tucker, along with “two or three” old cronies to come to his rooms for a visit. Thompson had no reason to pose for political purposes and Tucker got a view of the actual man. Sam Tucker wrote, “Here was young man Thompson, heir to several million dollars, educated in the most expensive schools. He had no job, but he wanted to be busy. He didn’t need money, but he liked people and he had a normal appetite for power. Politics looked like a promising field - - - but how is a millionaire’s son out of Yale going to get the votes of the boys from back of the yards?” Tucker surmised Thompson became a political showman who skillfully roused “fears and hates among the little people over vague, faked enemies that did not exist.”

Sam Tucker sadly concluded for William Hale Thompson, the ends justified the means. The journalist wrote he was not trying to “white-wash” the former mayor and admitted, “The evils he set up are reflected to this very day in the silly prejudices that make Chicago still the isolationist capital of the country.” “He thought it a legitimate way to get the power to do the good things he wanted to do,” Tucker lamented.

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Diminishing Distractions

Today, we are going to look at how we can diminish distractions that get us stuck and keep us from living out the life God wants us to. Let's talk about feeling stuck. Has that happened to you? Some people call it writer's block. An athlete might call it a slump. Ministers will call it burnout. Scientists call it inertia. Sailors call it the doldrums. Teenagers call it boredom. God does not want us to get stuck. Paul told the Philippian church:



By Mark Brackney, Minister of the Arlington Church of Christ

"He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ" (Philippians 1:6). God has plans for our lives and He's not going to stop it mid-stream. God has a unique plan for your life. While that is exciting, we do at times find it hard to think about what is next. We fail to gain momentum and spin our wheels. We find examples of this happening in Scripture: Moses spent 40 years in the wilderness after fleeing Egypt. He appeared unaware of God's future for him: (Exodus 3:1). Naomi was stuck in Moab after the deaths of her husband and sons (Ruth 1:5). Elijah was hiding in the

wilderness having a pity party after believing he had failed at leading a spiritual revival in Israel (I Kings 19:10). Ezekiel was stuck in Babylon at the age of thirty (Ezekiel 1:1). Peter was having a horrible day and questioning his future the Saturday before Christ rose from the grave due to denying Jesus three times (Matthew 26:75). Paul was stuck in Troas experiencing anxiety over the problems of the Corinthian church (2 Cor. 2:12-13). John, the apostle, was exiled and thus stuck on the Island of Patmos (Revelation 1:9). But God was not finished with any of these people. He helped each get unstuck from their

present situations. Likewise, Jesus has great plans for your life. Jesus told His followers, "I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly" (John 10:10). Paul told the Roman church, "Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord" (Romans 12:11). Paul told the Corinthian church: "Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain" (I Corinthians 15:58). Getting stuck and living an abundant life do not go together. When you find yourself either being stuck or distracted and

seem to be losing traction in your momentum, God is able to help you get moving. Once you start moving, move in the right direction. Jesus told us what that direction is in Mark 12:30-31: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength." The second is this: "Love your neighbor as yourself." There is no commandment greater than these." Jesus said the greatest priorities in life are to love God, love others, and love yourself. With that direction, you can begin to say no to things that don't line up with those priorities and yes to the best or greatest things.

FROM THE MOUNTAINS BY JADON GIBSON

Early settlers along Wilderness Road V

The Revolutionary War ended with the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown in 1781. Indian attacks were expected to cease as well but did not. Rye Cove was one of the focal points of Indian attacks. In the summer of 1787 the Indians attacked the home of John Carter of Rye Cove. Carter had set out to listen for the bells of his cattle and horses. He soon heard his wife yell. He was unarmed so he had no choice but to flee. He returned with a company of men to find his house in flames, his wife and six children dead. The following spring a band of Indians invaded Rye Cove and attacked Carter's Fort, capturing two sons of Thomas Carter and a slave. Eventually, they were freed but there were other such attacks that led to deaths. Daniel Boone's reputation grew during this period of Indian uprisings. He became known as the hero of Clinch Valley because of his diligence and bravery.

Joseph Martin and his party were the first white settlers in Powell arriving there in 1769. It wasn't long before they were repelled by Indians. Martin reorganized and returned in 1775 but the Indians remained. Many settlers abandoned forts in the Clinch-Powell region during this time. Martin's men were on the brink of leaving Martin's Station during his absence and left in search of William Parks. They came upon his corpse. He had been murdered and scalped. The men lashed his body to a pole and carried him back

to the camp on their shoulders. He is buried in present-day Rose Hill. They found a messenger waiting for them when they returned to camp. He had a warning from Joseph Martin saying, "The Indians have declared war and were doing a great deal of mischief." "The following morning we left for Blackmore's Fort on the Clinch River," Captain Redd wrote. "There we found the greater part of the men who had left Mump's Fort, Priest's Fort and our station. "Captain Martin was ordered to Rye Cove where he found a man by the name of Isaac Crisman and two members of his family murdered by the Indians. Martin and his men had to pass through Little Moccasin Gap, a very dangerous passageway in that era. At the gap, the trail goes through a very narrow deep gorge in the mountain. The Indians had killed many whites at that location.

"As Captain Martin passed through the gap he had his men spread out making it more difficult for them to be hit by gunfire. Just as the head of his column emerged from the narrow passageway they were fired on by Indians on top of the ridge but the damage was minimal. "One of Martin's men was killed but another by the name of Bunch had five balls shot through the flesh. Not wanting to engage in combat the Indians immediately ran off after firing at them." Stationed on the brink of the Cherokee territory, Martin was the first line of

defense for the settlements and they were constantly involved in skirmishes with the Indians. He was still a large landowner at the time in what would become Lee County, Virginia. In the summer of 1776, Martin received a letter from Colonel John Donelson, Andrew Jackson's future father-in-law. It ordered him to assemble his militia company at the Long Island of the Holston River. Fort Patrick Henry was erected and a campaign was launched against the Cherokee towns including Chilhowee and Chota. Both were burned. On November 3, 1777, Virginia Gov. Patrick Henry appointed Martin superintendent of Indian Affairs, a post that specified that he must reside within the Indian nation. Although Martin wanted to remain near his land holdings in Powell Valley, he settled on the Long Island of Holston. He ended up taking an Indian "wife" even though his lawful wife, Sarah Lucas Martin, remained at home in Henry County, Virginia.

It is recorded that their relationship saved many lives including that of Joseph Martin himself. His Indian wife, Betsy Ward, was the daughter of Nancy Ward, the most famous Indian woman of the time. Nancy was the niece of Little Carpenter, the "emperor" of the Cherokees. The association resulted in Martin being privy to the Indian grapevine. Logan, the half-breed renegade, had been a thorn in Martin's side as he vented his rage in a series

of killing sprees of women and children following the massacre of his own family by whites, on Yellow Creek in Ohio. With great jubilation, Martin heard that Chief Logan had returned to his northern home. A chill came across Joseph Martin when he heard of the bloody exploits of Chief Bengé, another half-breed Indian who was causing havoc in the Clinch-Powell region. Men, women and children were being slaughtered in horrid fashion. Property was being stolen or destroyed. Slaves were being taken and herded north where they were sold. Frightful settlers abandoned forts and stations in Powell Valley in fear. Bengé, a cunning and strong warrior with survival skills second to none, was bent on driving all white men from the region. Settlers shuddered upon hearing news of Bengé and his marauding band of renegades attacking settlers like themselves. Who would be next? Are Bengé and his men skulking about

in the woods waiting to strike? The Indians soon departed without further battle but captured two women, Polly Alley at Osborn's Fort and Jane Whitaker near Castle's Woods. They proceeded northward through the "Breaks" where the forks of the Big Sandy River pass through the Cumberland Mountains. They continued until they reached the Ohio River. The Indians and their prisoners crossed the Ohio River on a raft of logs before finally reaching their destination in present-day Ohio. The prisoners were stripped and painted but were eventually allowed freedom in the village. As time passed they were able to venture outside the village and return and after a month the Indians were less vigilant in watching the prisoners. One morning Polly and Jane decided conditions were favorable to attempt their escape from the village. They began traveling on a southward bearing and never returned, wandering

through the wilderness for a month before finding their way to Pound Gap, a passageway to their home. Their hearts raced with joy as they continued their trek back to folks they knew and loved. Bengé made many raids on settlers in the area of Moccasin Gap. On August 26, 1791, his party attacked the house of Elisha Ferris. His dwelling was on the edge of what is now Gate City. Ferris was killed and his wife, Nancy, and daughter were taken along with a Mrs. Livingston and a young child. All but Nancy Ferris were cruelly murdered during the first day of their captivity.

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Jadon Gibson is a freelance writer from Harrogate, TN. His writings are both historic and nostalgic in nature. Thanks to Lincoln Memorial University, Alice Lloyd College and the Museum of Appalachia for their assistance.

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JASON CANTRELL - CADENCE CAPTURES

West's football team hoists the gold football after defeating the Page Patriots in the Class 5A title game and capping a 15-0 season record.

Karns downs Bobcats in high scoring shootout

By Ken Lay

Longtime Karns High School boys basketball coach Lee Henson knew his team's District 3-4A opener was going to be a tough game.

And it was. The Beavers, however, would persevere and prevail as they withstood a few punches and captured a 92-74 victory over Central Tuesday night in Fountain City.

"This has always been a tough venue for us and they're a good team," Henson said. "(Central coach) Joe (Ward) does a good job with them.

"This has always been a tough place for us to play."

This contest was a shootout from the opening tip as both Karns and the Bobcats have a bevy of talented shooters.

Central seized the upper hand early as it held a 26-22 lead at the end of the first quarter before the Beavers stepped up the defensive pressure in the second frame and held the Bobcats to just 15 points.

Meanwhile, the Beavers' shots started to fall and when the dust had settled, Karns held a 46-41

Continue on page 4

Cheers and Titans' award come West Rebels' way

By Steve Williams

The good feeling that comes with being a state champion continued the afternoon after West rolled past Page 47-13 in the Class 5A title game and on into last week.

The Rebels were in the Rocky Hill Christmas Parade on Saturday afternoon, Dec. 3, less than 24 hours after finishing their 15-0 season at Finley Stadium in Chattanooga on Friday night.

"The atmosphere at West High has been unbelievable," said Coach Lamar Brown last week. "You could feel the excitement walking the halls. The student support has been great all year."

On Tuesday evening, Brown was on the Sports Animal radio show

in Knoxville and reflected on some big moments in the playoffs.

He said senior tight end RJ Brooks' winning TD catch late in the 28-21 semifinal win at Powell "had to be one of the biggest plays in West High history."

Coming into the finals, Brown pointed out he was not worried about his players not playing "full games" this season as a result of his team usually having a big lead. "But I was worried that Page had played in the championship game last year. They had already had a championship experience, but I thought our kids handled the whole day of the championship game great."

The West coach added that he was "very impressed" with how quarterback Carson Jessie led

the team's two-minute drive at the end of the first half, which gave the Rebels a 26-13 lead.

Brown also complimented running back Brayden Latham on the radio show, saying "He is the best teammate I've ever coached."

Lamar recalled one play in particular where backup RB Silas Cole was running for a touchdown and Brayden was running beside him down the sideline with "pure joy."

Prior to the radio show, Coach Brown had the chance to take in a Knox County All-Star team practice session at Bearden and said Brayden was "the life of the practice. He's never had a bad day."

Lamar also recalled on the air an emotional moment he had this past season. "Our coaching staff

always prays together and gives each other a hug before each game and one of the teachers filmed it." The coach later saw it and was touched by it.

Another award came Brown's way Tuesday when he was announced as the Tennessee Titans' Coach of the Year.

"I think it is a great team award," said Brown. "You don't receive this unless you have special players and special assistant coaches. I am really proud of our football program."

NEW RECORD: West's defense finished with 26 interceptions this season, setting a new school record.

"Ja'Qurrius Wrenn led us with
Continue on page 2

MKXC teams honored; Osborne is Coach of Year

By Steve Williams

The Metro Knox Cross Country Association honored its All-Coaches' boys and girls teams for 2022 at a banquet Tuesday night (Dec. 6) at Rothchild's.

The teams were picked by a committee of five coaches representing D1 A-AA and D1 AAA (public schools) and D2 AA and D2 AAA (private schools).

Farragut's Chelsea Osborne was named the MKXC Coach of the Year as her boys' team was the Class AAA state champion and her girls' team placed fifth at the state.

"There was only one coach

nominated this year," said MKXC President Don Madgett. "The choice was clear."

Performance at region and state is the "top determiner" in selecting the All-Coaches' teams, said Madgett.

The night's festivities also included the induction of runners Wes Stockard from Webb and Carol Davidson from Oak Ridge plus Coach Bill Parker from Farragut into the MKXC Hall of Fame. Two teams – the 1982 Oak Ridge girls and the 2001 Farragut boys – also were given Hall of Fame recognition.

Here are this year's All-Coaches teams and the runners' accomplishments this season: (Listed in alphabetical order)

BOYS

Sam Bridges, Alcoa junior: Ran a PR of 16:16 at the McCallie Invitational. Runner-up at the A/AA Region meet. Finished ninth overall in the A/AA State.

Trevor Coggin, Farragut senior: Has a PR of 15:13. KIL runner-up. Class AAA Regional Champion and Runner-up in the state championship. Finished eighth at the Southeast Regional and

37th at the Cross Country National meet. He will continue his running career at UT.

Cade Crum, Bearden sophomore: Has a PR of 15:29. Placed first at the Johnson University Invitational and had several other Top 10 finishes. Placed fourth at the AAA region championship and third at the State.

Harrison Cunningham, Farragut junior: Has a PR of 15:50. Placed sixth in KIL meet and fifth in the AAA Region.

Braden Ebbert, Farragut junior:

Has a PR of 15:30. Braden was runner-up at AAA Regional. Fourth at State. Finished 18th at Southeast Regional.

Colin Eckerman, Webb junior: Had PR of 15:54 at KIL, finishing seventh. Finished 16th at State.

Radek Molchan, Catholic freshman: Has a PR of 15:36. Finished eighth at KIL and seventh at State. Was the top freshman at Champs South Regional by nearly a minute.

Tony Ortega, Knoxville Catholic
Continue on page 4

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The TSSAA's nine Mr. Football winners and the Kicker of the Year pose for a picture last week at Nissan Stadium, the home of the Tennessee Titans. Two Knox County players are in the group -- Fulton's Marcellus Jackson seated, far right; and Karns' De'Sean Bishop standing, far right.

Jackson and Bishop are Mr. Football honorees

By Steve Williams

Knoxville had two players to win the prestigious Tennessee Titans' 2022 Mr. Football award last week, with Fulton quarterback Marcellus Jackson the Class 4A recipient and Karns running back De'Sean Bishop the Class 5A honoree.

More than 400 people, including the honorees, their families, coaches, school administrators and members of the media from all parts of the state, attended the luncheon at Nissan Stadium that was hosted by the Titans.

"This is such an outstanding honor for all 30 of the young men recognized today at the Tennessee Titans Mr. Football Awards," said Mark Reeves, Executive Director of the TSSAA. "They were here not only due to their athletic ability that they displayed on the field throughout the season, but just as much for their outstanding character and academic achievements."

"For decades, the Titans have made supporting high school and youth football programs a top priority. The athletes being honored today represent some of the most talented across the state – not only showing determination on-the-field,

but also demonstrating tremendous character off-the-field," said Burke Nihill, Titans President and CEO. "We are proud to support the Mr. Football Awards and highlight these incredible men who will be the leaders of tomorrow."

High school head coaches and members of the media nominated the finalists. A committee of statewide sports writers selected winners based on performance in the 2022 regular season. Academics and character were also taken into consideration.

The awards were presented to the top football players in each of the nine classifications of the TSSAA. The top kickers in the state were also recognized. There were three finalists in this category, regardless of their school's classification.

Jackson: 'All my work paid off'

Marcellus Jackson, a quick and fast 5-9, 151-pounder who was electrifying with the ball in his hands, said the award "means that all my work paid off ... I gave 100 percent every day. It's a big salute to my work honestly."

Marcellus also said he would rank the Mr. Football

award "right beside" winning a state title and being named Most Outstanding Player in the finals.

Asked what he enjoyed most about the awards ceremony, Jackson said: "Really just seeing the other guys and their families and being happy about the stage that they had reached."

"Reaching this point in life is fun in general as a high school player."

He summed up his award by saying: "It's just an honor to bring it back to my community, my family, my guys and my fans."

Marcellus was scheduled to play in the East vs. West All-Star game Friday night at Austin Peay State in Clarksville.

He expects to play slot receiver in college and thinks that position will fit him the best.

Bishop repeats as Mr. Football honoree

Finishing his prep career as one of the top running backs in TSSAA history, De'Sean Bishop won the Class 5A Mr. Football award for a second time this season.

"It was a little different feeling kinda, knowing you had won it once before," said Brad Taylor, Bishop's high school head

coach regarding De'Sean's second trip as a finalist. "You kind of felt a little more comfortable either way, no matter what happened."

By winning the award again, Bishop became a rare two-time recipient of the Mr. Football award and it put him in elite company.

Tee Higgins of Oak Ridge and Knoxville Catholic's Amari Rodgers won the Mr. Football Back of the Year award in (2015-16).

Both went on to star as wide receivers at Clemson University and from there to the NFL, where Higgins has continued to excel with the Cincinnati Bengals. Rodgers was on the Green Bay Packers' team until recently being released.

"Being a two-time recipient is a special group to be a part of for De'Sean," said Coach Taylor. "That would be awesome ... if he can make it to the NFL."

Bishop ranks No. 2 in TSSAA career rushing yardage and No. 3 in touchdowns scored rushing.

Latham, Robinson and Keeney are finalists

The Titans presented awards to 10 winners and 20 finalists.

West running back Brayden Latham, Webb quarterback Charlie Robinson and Farragut kicker Reese Keeney were finalists for the Division II-AA Mr. Football award and Kicker of the Year award, respectively.

Bishop decommits from CCU; is UT still a possibility?

By Steve Williams

De'Sean Bishop is back in the college football recruiting news.

Last Tuesday he announced he had decommitted from Coastal Carolina University after Jamey Chadwell left CCU and was named the new head coach at Liberty University on Sunday, Dec. 4.

"His decommitment is pretty understandable," said Brad Taylor, who has been Bishop's head coach at Karns. "Many on the staff that De'Sean talked to and made a recruiting relationship with at Coastal have left and now are going to be at Liberty."

"Liberty is talking to De'Sean now as well. They are very interested in him up at Liberty now."

"He liked Coastal, but obviously he liked Coach Chadwell and his staff. I think he's handling all of this well."

The 5-10, 194-pound Bishop, who ranks second in TSSAA career rushing yardage, committed to Coastal Carolina on July 14 and was on track to be an early enrollee.

In his announcement on his Twitter account last Tuesday (Dec. 6), Bishop stated: "First, I want to thank CCU for giving me the opportunity to play at this level and allowing me to be part of their program."

"I would like to thank Coach Chadwell and Coach Isaac as well as all the other coaches that recruited me."

"I am very thankful for the bond that we built, but with that being said, I have decided to decommit from CCU to explore more options."

"Recruitment is 100 percent open now!"

A little less than 13 months ago, in November of 2021, there was a strong indication that Bishop would be playing his college football career at Tennessee.

When asked if he was leaning any way in an interview at that time, Bishop replied: "Probably Tennessee is the favorite right now by far."

Tennessee was then one of five schools he

had received a scholarship offer from. The others were Virginia Tech, Michigan State, Austin Peay, Tulane and Eastern Kentucky.

Coach Taylor said last week after Bishop's decommitment that "Tennessee has talked to De'Sean all along. It's a business for everybody involved and a numbers game for them at Tennessee as well. They've kept in touch with him."

As far as other running backs on Tennessee's list, Taylor said: "They've had some pretty good ones that they've talked to as well. They've got a lot of good recruits across the board, so the guys they have talked to are pretty good."

If UT offered now, would Bishop be interested?

"He would definitely entertain that," said Taylor. "He's a Knoxville guy and he's grown up in Knoxville and been a fan of Tennessee his whole life."

"But being a fan and being a player are sometimes two different things, and you've got to weigh what's best for you even after that."

"De'Sean had an offer from Tennessee last summer. But based on the information he had, Coastal at the time was the best fit for him."

Bishop remains on track to graduate early, which could benefit him at any college "for off-season weight lifting and spring practice for sure," said Taylor.

"And that was his plan with Coastal Carolina and being an early enrollee. Obviously, that's attractive to colleges to do that. And that's still a possibility, if the right fit comes along pretty quickly."

"We've got a little less than two weeks to early sign and you would have to do the early signing period to go to that school by the second week of January."

Bishop also is not playing high school basketball this season because of the fact that was his plan to graduate in December and early enroll, added Coach Taylor.

Sonny Moore's Computer Power Ratings

Team	Won	Lost	Tie	Strength of Schedule	Power Rating
1 OAKLAND	14	1	0	121.94	167.13
2 KNOXVILLE WEST	15	0	0	121.00	162.31
3 LIPSCOMB ACADEMY	13	0	0	103.52	161.83
4 BAYLOR	11	2	0	122.18	155.88
5 HAYWOOD COUNTY	13	1	0	112.32	153.65
6 ANDERSON COUNTY	15	0	0	121.63	153.55
7 PEARL COHN	12	3	0	113.55	151.38
8 ALCOA	14	1	0	114.22	150.91
9 MONTGOMERY BELL ACADEMY (MBA)	12	1	0	131.62	150.74
10 BEECH	13	2	0	125.72	150.45
11 MARYVILLE	10	4	0	128.73	148.57
12 FRIENDSHIP CHRISTIAN	13	0	0	109.22	148.52
13 MCKENZIE	15	0	0	103.34	148.18
14 CHRIST PRESBYTERIAN ACADEMY (CPA)	8	6	0	131.25	145.29
15 GREENEVILLE	12	1	0	115.18	144.75
16 TYNER	14	1	0	105.68	144.68
17 CANE RIDGE	11	2	0	113.19	142.99
18 POWELL	11	3	0	122.79	142.26
19 FAYETTEVILLE	12	1	0	106.45	141.93
20 BRENTWOOD ACADEMY	9	3	0	117.98	141.85
21 EAST NASHVILLE	12	3	0	113.69	141.09
22 HENRY COUNTY	11	3	0	118.05	140.03
23 CHATTANOOGA CHRISTIAN	10	3	0	114.38	139.70
24 SPRINGFIELD	10	3	0	111.89	139.55
25 PAGE	12	3	0	120.18	138.88
26 SCIENCE HILL	8	5	0	127.08	137.79
27 FARRAGUT	9	3	0	124.79	137.50
28 KNOXVILLE WEBB	10	1	0	118.38	137.36
29 NASHVILLE CHRISTIAN	10	3	0	106.17	137.35
30 NOLENSVILLE	12	1	0	111.37	137.00

Cheers and Titans' award come West Rebels' way

Continued from page 1

six," said Brown. "Cayden Latham had five, and Marshaun Bowers and Brock Hatcher had four each."

NO. 2 RATING: Out of 346 high school football teams in the state, West was rated No. 2 in Sonny Moore's final Computer Ratings of the season. Moore's ratings include Division I (public schools) and Division II (private schools).

Murfreesboro Oakland, the Class 6A state champion, was rated No. 1.

Three other Knox County schools also were rated in the Top 30 – Powell No. 18, Farragut No. 27 and Webb No. 28. Bearden (7-5) was rated No. 36.

"I don't know anything about computer rankings, but I do know we are 5A state champions and went 15-0 playing a tough schedule," said Brown.



PHOTO BY JASON CANTRELL / CADENCE CAPTURES

West's Ja'Currius Wrenn carries the ball against Page High in the Rebels' 47-13 state championship win. West set a new school record with 26 interceptions this season and Wrenn led the way with six INTs.

When 10 wins aren't enough

At the end of each season, football fans each have their own way of measuring the success or failure of each campaign. Very often,



By Tom Mattingly

even the most successful season has an asterisk (*) or asterisks (**) attached to it. The score is one thing, but there are also elements of each season that deserve specific mention. Hence the asterisk is a way of giving perspective to what happened in a particular game in a season.

For example, the early 2000s were a mixed bag for Tennessee fans. The 2000 and 2002 seasons were definitely not what Vol fans were looking for, what with 8-4 and 8-5 records, respectively. They concluded with a couple of bowl losses, one to Kansas State in the 2001 Cotton Bowl and a drubbing by Maryland in the 2002 Peach Bowl. By any measure, that was not an acceptable follow-up to the decade of the 1990s, one of the most successful in school history.

That series of events came before and after the 2001 season, which brought home an 11-2 record, yet was marred by a loss to LSU (31-20) in the SEC title game.

When the historians



One of the memorable triumphs of the 2003 season was at Miami by a 10-6 count.

tally up the most distressing losses over the years, that game joins the 1969 Ole Miss (38-0) game, the second half of the 1995 Florida game (43-7 specifically and 62-37 overall), and the 2022 South Carolina contest (63-38), as prime examples.

There haven't been very many such losses over the years, but, when they happen, they catch everybody's attention. The stakes were high, and the fall was devastating.

That 2001 LSU game was a killer and still haunts the memories of faithful Tennessee fans more than 20

years later. There has been much discussion about the Vols' knocking the Tigers' quarterback and lead running back out of the game and the Vols' inability to stop the quarterback draw.

Lost in the shuffle that season were wins at Syracuse, Alabama, Notre Dame, and Florida, and a resounding triumph over Michigan in the Florida Citrus Bowl in Orlando.

Thinking about the 2003 and 2004 campaigns, how could Tennessee teams defeat Florida and Alabama in successive years and win 10 games each campaign, yet have each season be

perceived as a disappointment or, for lack of a better word, as "underachieving"?

That's exactly what happened, with teams that each compiled 10-3 records, went 13-3 against SEC foes and played in the SEC Championship game that latter season. The results left a great number of fans wondering what might have been.

Losses at Auburn and at home to Georgia, plus a dispiriting loss to Clemson in a return trip to the Peach Bowl, marred the 2003 season. The Georgia loss was especially galling given a critical turnover late

in the first half that turned a potential go-ahead score into a coast-to-coast Georgia touchdown after a fumble recovery and run that extended the Bulldog lead.

At Auburn, the Vols fell behind early, yet rallied, and were in a position to win before a late game interception turned the game the Tigers' way.

Earlier in the season, the Vols pulled out a miracle finish with a 30-28 win over Florida at Neyland Stadium. James Wilhoit had been fitted for goat's horns for missing an extra point late in the game. Vol

defenders forced a punt, and freshman signal-caller Erik Ainge led the Vols to a shot at a 50-yard field goal and the win. Wilhoit's kick was true, and the Vols escaped.

There was a memorable and remarkable 51-43 win at Tuscaloosa as the Vols bested the Crimson Tide in six overtimes. The Vols ran the table the rest of the way, pulling off a major upset at Miami, but, in the minds of many Vol fans, it somehow "wasn't enough."

The 2004 team defeated Florida and Alabama at home and won at Georgia, a week after the Bulldogs had taken apart LSU, but lost twice to Auburn, once at home and once in the SEC title game. There was also a loss to Notre Dame a few weeks before Irish head coach Tyrone Willingham was let go.

The Vols won the Cotton Bowl game, 38-7, over Texas A&M in a victory led by Rick Clausen. Clausen was inserted after injuries to the two freshman signal-callers, Ainge and Brent Schaeffer. Even with the benefit of hindsight, the season somehow didn't seem to pass muster.

There are, therefore, times that 10 wins in a season just aren't enough, even if two of them in 2003 and 2004 were against Alabama and Florida. That was a major storyline in the early 2000s.

District tourney bowling action starts this week

By Steve Williams

Carter High's boys bowling team wrapped up the District 3 regular season championship last week by defeating L&N Stem Academy 15-8 and Karns 19-4.

The wins upped the Hornets' record to 15-1.

Carter's unbeaten girls team (8-0) had already clinched their regular season crown prior to last week's play.

In District 4, the Sevier County Smoky Bears (18-0) and the William Blount Lady Governors (12-0) claimed the regular season titles with spotless records.

The prep bowling season enters post-season play this week.

The District 3 tournament's opening rounds Tuesday will be held at the higher seed's lanes. The final rounds will be played at Oak Ridge.

In District 4, higher seeds host opening rounds Tuesday and Wednesday, with the semifinals and finals Thursday at Pigeon Forge at 10:00, 12:00 and 3:00.

The Region 2 tournament will be held at Pigeon Forge after the holidays.

There are several new teams on the bowling scene this year, according to Region 2 director Dixon Brown. District 3 has added Karns and Oak Ridge and District 4 added Maryville and Samuel Everette School of Innovation.

Council tables sanctioning Lacrosse

The Legislative Council voted to table the addition of Boys' and Girls' Lacrosse as sanctioned sports at its meeting last week.

The Council will hold a called meeting in January after the next scheduled Board of Control meeting.

The state office will work with Boys and Girls' Lacrosse to bring an official's fee structure to the Board of Control in January.

Legislative Council makes change to Amateur Rule

The TSSAA Legislative Council approved a proposed change to the Amateur Rule when it met last Wednesday.



With immediate effect, students who receive payment for instructional services (i.e. lessons) are not in violation of the Amateur Rule. Students would be permitted to receive payment for activities not related to performance provided that they are carried out in a manner that does not suggest the endorsement or sponsorship of their school.

The student's activities for which they are compensated may not include an image or likeness of the student in a uniform, or other clothing or gear depicting the name or logo of the TSSAA member school the student is attending or has attended.

Baylor is No. 1 in boys wrestling

Baylor is on top in the first boys' wrestling poll of the season.

Now in its 30th year, the poll is primarily a measure of dual meet strength with some consideration to individual tournament strength.

Votes are cast by a state-wide panel of high school wrestling coaches and are based on a maximum Power Ranking of 120.

Following Baylor in the Top 12 are Cleveland, Father Ryan, Bradley Central, Wilson Central, Blackman, Summit, Christian Brothers, Dobyys-Bennett, Nolensville, MBA and Brentwood.

Maryville is among other teams receiving votes.

Cherry scores 42 in A-E victory

Austin-East's boys basketball team defeated Union County 86-68 last Tuesday night at Clifford Ross Gymnasium behind junior standout Shane Cherry's 42 points. Jawaan Troutman added 13 and JaQuarius Sanders 11 as the Roadrunners, under first-year coach Denard Bertram, improved to 6-1.

A-E built a 50-26 halftime lead, but Union County cut the deficit to 13 points (56-43) midway through the third period before the Roadrunners extended their command back to 70-49 after three stops.

Austin-East was scheduled to host Fulton last Saturday afternoon.

The Heisman Trophy is Irrelevant

By Mark Nagi

Back in 1997, some 25 years ago, Peyton Manning was favored to win the Heisman Trophy.

He threw for 3819 yards (3rd in the nation) and 36 passing touchdowns (4th in the nation). He had led Tennessee to the SEC title.

Manning was capping off a legendary college career and expected to become the first Tennessee player to win the Heisman.

It didn't happen.

In a shocking development, Michigan's Charles Woodson became the first primarily defensive player to win the award. Hadn't happened before. Hasn't happened since. And the final vote wasn't even that close, with Woodson getting 272 points more than Manning. The South was the only region to favor Manning.

For the fourth time, a Tennessee player would be the runner up. Hank Lauricella, Johnny Majors, Heath Shuler and now Manning. The Majors decision from 1956 is especially galling, as he lost to Paul Hornung, whose Notre Dame squad went 2-8 that year.

Many Vols fans stopped caring about the award from that day. The Heisman became known as the "Heistman."

Since then, there hasn't been a Tennessee player that has been anywhere close to earning a trip to Manhattan for the award ceremony.

Fast forward to 2022. Unexpectedly, the Vols have returned to the national college football conversation and the biggest reason why (other than head coach Josh Heupel) is quarterback Hendon Hooker.

The 6th year senior was the on and off-the-field leader that the Tennessee Volunteers football program has been sorely lacking for many years. This season Hooker threw for 3135 yards and 27 touchdowns, all while throwing only two interceptions and completing nearly 70% of his passes. He also rushed for 430 yards and 5 scores.

Hooker's Tennessee legacy was set on October 15 when the Vols hosted Alabama. Hooker threw for 385 yards and 5 touchdowns, each one to Biletnikoff Award winner Jalin Hyatt. Hooker also rushed for 56 yards. His passes to Ramel Keyton and Bru McCoy that put the Vols into game-winning field goal range will be remembered as fondly as Manning's bootleg against Alabama in 1995 or any Al Wilson forced fumble against Florida in 1998.

Tennessee's 52-49 victory snapped a 15-game losing streak to the Crimson Tide, in one of the greatest college football games ever played.

Hooker led the Vols to a win over Florida, only UT's second since 2004. He also led the Vols to a win at LSU, snapping a 5-game losing streak to the Tigers.

He tore his ACL in the South Carolina game,

ending his college career with one game to go. But there's no way that Tennessee goes 10-2 without him.

Off the field, Hendon and his brother Alston, a quarterback at North Carolina A&T, wrote a book, "The ABC's of Scripture for Athletes."

Hendon Hooker is a tremendous ambassador for the University that would be a worthy recipient of the award that is supposed to go to college football's best player.

And Hooker won't win the award. In fact, he wasn't even named as a finalist.

I'm not going to take anything away from the four players that were sent to New York City (the award was handed out last Saturday night). They are all terrific.

But Hooker getting left out is a joke.

If a player of Hooker's caliber, the best offensive player on the best offense in the country, isn't even a finalist for the award that is supposed to recognize the best player in the game, how are we to take said award seriously?

We aren't.

I'm of the mindset that a Tennessee player will never win the Heisman Trophy.

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Challenge, second half surge net road victory for Lady Bobcats

By Ken Lay

With her team facing a six-point halftime deficit, Karns High School girls basketball coach Lauren Trent issued a challenge. “I told (the team) that we could fold or we could go out and win the game,” said Trent, the Lady Beavers’ first-year head coach. “I told them that we could win this game by 15 or we could lose it by 15, and it was up to the 12 girls sitting in this locker room.” Trent got the response she wanted from her squad as Karns came back to notch a 70-57 District 3-4A road victory over Central Tuesday night in Fountain City.

The Lady Beavers struggled early as they fell

behind 14-11 in the first quarter and saw their deficit to balloon to 30-24 by halftime.

Despite battling some offensive woes, Karns remained within striking distance thanks to Rylee Roberts, who scored 16 of her 21 points before halftime.

“I thought Rylee Roberts made some good plays in the first half,” Trent said.

But Central was hot early as Avery Brewer scored 16 points in the first half and Cadence Horner added 12 before the break to help Central maintain the early upper hand.

Trent’s halftime pep talk woke up the Lady Beavers as they turned up the defensive pressure and

held the Lady Bobcats to just seven points in the third frame. Karns, meanwhile, erupted, scoring 18 points in the quarter, transforming its deficit into a 42-37 advantage.

Reese Roberts scored 19 of her 21 points over the final 16 minutes and Abby had 13 of her 15 points in the second half to help the Lady Beavers seal their victory.

The Lady Bobcats pulled to within 42-39 when Horner made a pair of free throws with 7 minutes, 48 seconds left in the fourth quarter.

But they wouldn’t come any closer.

Horner had a game-high 25 points for Central and Brewer added 24.



Central High’s Cadence Horner dribbles the ball against Karns’ backcourt pressure in a District 3-4 game in Fountain City. Horner scored 25 points but the Lady Beavers prevailed 70-57 in the league opener for both schools.

Karns downs Bobcats in high scoring shootout

Cont. from page 1

advantage at halftime.

In the third quarter, Karns would take control but the Bobcats kept things close. Karns had a 57-48 advantage when Central’s Chris Boseman knocked down a 3-pointer and was fouled. He converted the subsequent free throw to pull the Bobcats to within 57-52 with 4 minutes, 30 seconds remaining in the third stanza.

But Karns would close the quarter with a modest 12-7 run and Central wouldn’t come any closer.

MKXC teams honored; Osborne is Coach of Year

Continued from page 1

sophomore: PR is 16:12. Finished 12th in KIL and 15th at State. Was fourth sophomore to finish at Champs South Regional.

Keegan Smith, Knoxville Catholic sophomore: Has a PR of 14:53. Was KIL champion. Finished fourth at State and 13th in championship race at Champs South Regional.

Matteo Tonnos, Farragut junior: Has a PR of 15:32. Finished third at AAA Regional and fifth at State.

GIRLS

Maddie Archdale, Hardin Valley junior: PR is 18:25. Had five Top 7 finishes including three wins. Third in KIL. First in Region three straight years. Finished 12th at State.

Calysta Garmer, Webb freshman: PR is 18:26. Four Top 5 finishes, including one win. Placed fifth at KIL and fourth at State.

Jazzlyn Garmer, Webb freshman: PR is 17:56. Had four Top 10 finishes with one win. KIL champion. Finished 10th in state.

Anna Graves, Webb junior: PR is 17:54. Finished Top 3 in five races, including second three times. KIL runner-up. State runner-up.

Rylee Gifford, Karns junior: PR is 18:47. Top 6 in seven out of eight races with one win. Sixth in KIL. Fifth in Region. Fourteenth at State.

Kacey Holliday, Alcoa freshman: PR is 18:53. Eight Top 10 finishes with three wins. Region champion. Tenth in State.

Dylan Job, Oak Ridge freshman: PR is 19:03. Top 7 in every race with one win. Third in Region. Sixth at State.

Hannah Kramer, Karns sophomore: PR is 18:32. Was fourth in KIL. Region runner-up. Fourth place at State.

Kennedy Reynolds, Farragut senior: PR is 18:56. Four Top 7 finishes including KIL. Fourth in Region. Thirty-sixth in State. Committed to UT-Chattanooga.

Sawyer (Grace) Simmons, Lenoir City sophomore: PR is 19:11 (school record). Three Top 10 finishes. Second in Region. Twenty-first in State.

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

COURT NOTICES

NON-RESIDENT NOTICE

TO: HOMER RAYMOND HILLARD
IN RE: AMANDA ADELE HILLARD v. HOMER RAYMOND HILLARD
NO. 205660-3

IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE

In this Cause, it appearing from the Complaint filed, which is sworn to, that the defendant HOMER RAYMOND HILLARD, 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 HOMER RAYMOND HILLARD, it is ordered that said defendant, HOMER RAYMOND HILLARD, file an answer with the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court at Knoxville, Tennessee and with Joshua W. Leach, an Attorney whose address is Potter, Foster, P.C. 8 Emory Place Knoxville, Tennessee 37917 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 29th day of November, 2022.

J. Scott Griswold
Clerk and Master

NON-RESIDENT NOTICE

TO: CIARA BROOKE JOHNSON AND UNKNOWN AND UNNAMED FATHER
IN RE: THE ADOPTION OF BENTLEY JAMES JOHNSON, MICHAEL SHANNON BLAIR AND MINDY RENEE BLAIR v. CIARA BROOKE JOHNSON AND UNKNOWN AND UNNAMED FATHER
NO. 205751-1

IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE

In this Cause, it appearing from the Complaint filed, which is sworn to, that the defendant CIARA BROOKE JOHNSON AND UNKNOWN AND UNNAMED FATHER, 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 CIARA BROOKE JOHNSON AND UNKNOWN AND UNNAMED FATHER, it is ordered that said defendant, CIARA BROOKE JOHNSON AND UNKNOWN AND UNNAMED FATHER, file an answer with the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court at Knoxville, Tennessee and with Jennifer L. Chadwell, an Attorney whose address is P.O. Box 4038 Oak Ridge, TN 37831 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 John F. Weaver at the Knox County Chancery Court, Division I, 400 Main Street, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902. This notice will be published in a The Knoxville Focus Newspaper for four (4) consecutive weeks.

This 29th day of November, 2022.

J. Scott Griswold
Clerk and Master

NON-RESIDENT NOTICE

TO: MARK SCHOENSEE and ROBERT JACKSON MESSAMORE

IN RE: ADOPTION OF SUNNY KATHRYN MESSAMORE BY STEVEN AND BEAU BLASINSKY vs MARK SCHOENSEE and ROBERT JACKSON MESSAMORE
NO. 205730-1

IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE

In this Cause, it appearing from the Complaint filed, which is sworn to, that the defendant MARK SCHOENSEE and ROBERT JACKSON MESSAMORE, 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 MARK SCHOENSEE and ROBERT JACKSON MESSAMORE, it is ordered that said defendant, MARK SCHOENSEE and ROBERT JACKSON MESSAMORE, file an answer with the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court at Knoxville, Tennessee and with Theodore Kern, an Attorney whose address is 706 Walnut Street, Suite 500, P O Box 377, Knoxville, Tennessee 37901 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 John F. Weaver at the Knox County Chancery Court, Division I, 400 Main Street, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902. This notice will be published in a The Knoxville Focus Newspaper for four (4) consecutive weeks.

This 29th day of November, 2022.

J. Scott Griswold
Clerk and Master

NON-RESIDENT NOTICE

TO: TRINIDY DAVID CARDEN
IN RE: MELISSA ELIZABETH MERRIMAN vs. TRINIDY DAVID CARDEN
NO. 205461-2

IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE

In this Cause, it appearing from the Complaint filed, which is sworn to, that the defendant TRINIDY DAVID CARDEN, 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 TRINIDY DAVID CARDEN, it is ordered that said defendant, TRINIDY DAVID CARDEN, file an answer with the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court at Knoxville, Tennessee and with W. BRIAN STARNES, an Attorney whose address is 9041 Executive Park Drive, Suite 106, 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 Richard Bud Armstrong 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 5th day of December, 2022.

J. Scott Griswold
Clerk and Master

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF FRANCES A BAILEY
DOCKET NUMBER 87002-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 28 day of NOVEMBER 2022, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of FRANCES A BAILEY who died Aug 26, 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 28 day of NOVEMBER, 2022.

ESTATE OF FRANCES A BAILEY

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
THOMAS W BAILEY, IV; EXECUTOR
4020 IVY BLUFF TRAIL
WINSTON-SALEM, NC 27106

JON MCMURRAY JOHNSON
ATTORNEY AT LAW
10413 KINGSTON PIKE, SUITE 200
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37922

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF JO ANN HAYNES
DOCKET NUMBER 86995-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 22 day of NOVEMBER 2022, letters testamentary in

respect of the Estate of JO ANN HAYNES who died Aug 9, 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 22 day of NOVEMBER, 2022.

ESTATE OF JO ANN HAYNES

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
MARY KATHRYN BURNETTE;
CO-EXECUTRIX
1212 BUENA ROAD
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37919

NANCY ANN HAYNES; CO-EXECUTRIX
4728 STERLING CROSS
NASHVILLE, TN. 37211

J MICHAEL GAULDIN ATTORNEY AT LAW
P.O. BOX 220
DYERSBURG, TN. 38025-0220

NOTICE OF HEARING

STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION
DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES
William R. Snodgrass - Tennessee Tower
312 Rosa L. Parks Avenue, 11th Floor
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-1102 (615) 532-0625

NOPH22-008—January 12, 2023

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, the Division of Water Resources will hold a public hearing on January 12, 2023 pursuant to Rule 0400-40-5-.06 (8).

Place:	TDEC Division of Remediation 761 Emory Valley Road Oak Ridge, TN 37830 Thursdays, January 12, 2023 5:00 – 6:00 p.m. EST 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. EST
Date:	
Informational Session:	
Public Hearing:	

Public comments will be received concerning the proposed permit action described below:

Tennessee proposes to issue an Individual NPDES Permit to TVA – Bull Run Fossil Plant (BRF), Permit Number TN0005410, located at 1265 Edgemoor Road in Oak Ridge, TN 37830, Anderson County, Tennessee. The permit is to authorize discharges of cooling water, process wastewater and storm water runoff from the TVA Bull Run Plant and operation of a cooling water intake system from an electric generating plant with 1 coal-fired unit with a rated capacity of 950 megawatts to the Clinch River mile 48.

TDEC staff will hold an informational session prior to opening the formal public hearing. The informational session will have a question-and-answer format and will include a presentation by TDEC staff on the proposed permit action. TDEC staff will be collecting all public comments without response during the hearing. TDEC staff will provide written responses to all oral and written comments following the public hearing, prior to making a final determination on the permit action.

The meeting moderator may limit the length of oral comments in order to allow all parties an opportunity to speak, and will require that all comments be relevant to the proposed permit action and the DWR issues. Written testimony will be accepted at the hearing, for ten working days following the hearing, and will be considered part of the hearing record.

Interested persons may obtain additional information, a copy of the draft permit, the rationale and inspect and copy forms and related documents at the Division's online dataviewer: DWR_Permits_Dataviewer, at the Central Office at the address listed above, Attn: Ms. Elizabeth Rorie, (615) 532-1172, or at the Knoxville Environmental Field Office located at 3711 Middlebrook Pike, Knoxville, TN 37921, (865) 594-6035.

Individuals with disabilities who wish to participate in these proceedings (or review the administrative file record) should contact the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation to discuss any auxiliary aids or services needed to facilitate such participation. Contact may be in person, by writing, telephone, or other means, and should be made no less than ten working days prior to January 12, 2023, to allow time to provide such aid or services. Contact the ADA Coordinator at (1-866-253-5827) for further information. Hearing impaired callers may use the Tennessee Relay Service (1-800-848-0298).

You may reach Mr. Vojin Janjic, the permit writer for further information at (615) 532-0670, or by Email at Vojin.Janjic@tn.gov.

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Trees Knoxville Presents Urban Forest Future

Trees Knoxville – in partnership with City of Knoxville, Knoxville Utilities Board (KUB), Tennessee Division of Forestry, and Keep Knoxville Beautiful – will launch the Urban Forest Master Plan project on Wednesday, Dec. 14, 5:30 to 7 p.m. the Civic Coliseum, 500 Howard Baker Jr. Ave.
Free parking will be available at the Coliseum parking garage.
Trees Knoxville will introduce this project and its timeline and let residents know how to get involved. There will be a presentation on the current state of Knoxville's urban forest and the results from the 2020 Urban Tree Canopy Study.

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LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF FRED PERRY DOCKET NUMBER 87029-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 6 day of DECEMBER 2022, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of FRED PERRY who died Sep 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 6 day of DECEMBER, 2022.

ESTATE OF FRED PERRY

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
SHERRY WILSON; EXECUTRIX
195 QUEENS DRIVE
LUTTRELL, TN 37779

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF LOIS JEAN BLAKLEY SHIPLEY DOCKET NUMBER 87028-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 6 day of DECEMBER 2022, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of LOIS JEAN BLAKLEY SHIPLEY who died Nov 15, 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 6 day of DECEMBER, 2022.

ESTATE OF LOIS JEAN BLAKLEY SHIPLEY

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)

JAMES N SHIPLEY; EXECUTOR
612 MOUNTAIN PASS LANE
KNOXVILLE, TN 37923

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF NANCY ELIZABETH STANULIS DOCKET NUMBER 87009-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 30 day of NOVEMBER 2022, letters administration in respect of the Estate of NANCY ELIZABETH STANULIS who died Aug 1, 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 30 day of NOVEMBER, 2022.

ESTATE OF NANCY ELIZABETH STANULIS

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
SANDRA STANULIS STEIGER;
ADMINISTRATRIX
112 WOODRUSH DRIVE
KNOXVILLE, TN 37918

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF GERALDINE AMMONS THOMAS DOCKET NUMBER 86463-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 5 day of DECEMBER 2022, letters administration in respect of the Estate of GERALDINE AMMONS THOMAS who died May 26, 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 first publication as described in (1)(A); or

(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death.
This the 5 day of DECEMBER, 2022.

ESTATE OF GERALDINE AMMONS THOMAS

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
ELMER AMMONS; ADMINISTRATOR
459 CAROLINA HICKORY STREET
LORIS, SC 29569

WILLIAM A REEVES ATTORNEY AT LAW
625 S GAY STREET, SUITE 180
KNOXVILLE, TN 37902

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF LINDA FORD WALLACE DOCKET NUMBER 87023-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 5 day of DECEMBER 2022, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of LINDA FORD WALLACE who died Oct 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 5 day of DECEMBER, 2022.

ESTATE OF LINDA FORD WALLACE

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE (S)
SIDNEY LEE WALLACE, III; EXECUTOR
12734 TANGLEWOOD DRIVE
KNOXVILLE, TN 37922

LYNDSY L LEE ATTORNEY AT LAW
P.O. BOX 2425
KNOXVILLE, TN 37901

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF JAMES MICHAEL WOOLDRIDGE DOCKET NUMBER 86561-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 28 day of NOVEMBER 2022, letters administration in respect of the Estate of JAMES MICHAEL WOOLDRIDGE who died Oct 29, 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 28 day of NOVEMBER, 2022.

ESTATE OF JAMES MICHAEL WOOLDRIDGE

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
ALICE WOOLDRIDGE; ADMINISTRATRIX
6126 TRAVIS DRIVE
KNOXVILLE, TN 37921

ARNOLD COHEN ATTORNEY AT LAW
606 W MAIN STREET, SUITE 225
KNOXVILLE, TN 37902

MISC. NOTICES

LEGAL SECTION 94

Knox County will receive bids for the following items & services:

Bid 3349, Keys, Locks and Locking Systems, due 1/12/23;
Bid 3351, Fire Sprinkler Services, due 1/19/23

For additional information call 865-215-5777, stop by the Procurement Division, 1000 North Central St., Suite 100, Knoxville, TN 37917, or visit our website: www.knoxcounty.org/procurement. To bid on Knox County surplus items, go to www.govdeals.com.

PUBLIC NOTICE

THE KNOX COUNTY BEER BOARD SHALL MEET IN REGULAR SESSION ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2022, AT 4:00 P.M. IN THE MAIN ASSEMBLY ROOM OF THE CITY-COUNTY BUILDING, MAIN AVENUE.

- ROLL CALL:
- PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG:
- APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
- SWEARING IN OF INDIVIDUALS WHO PLAN TO TESTIFY:
- CONSIDERATION OF SUSPENSION/ REVOCATION OF THE BEER PERMIT FOR THE FOLLOWING ESTABLISHMENTS:
5a. Dollar General, 9224 Middlebrook Pike, Dolgen Corp. LLC, owner (1st offense) November 28, 2022
District 3, Beer Permit issued July 16, 2008
- APPLICATIONS:
6a. Zapata LLC, Zapata 7044 Maynardville Pike Knoxville, TN 37918 On Premises (District 7)
- Discussion item regarding EL Tequila Bar & Grill, 7002 Maynardville Pike, Knoxville, Tn 37918
- ADJOURNMENT:

PUBLIC NOTICE

Application for title:
Jarvis Hodge hereby serves notice that he/she

intends to apply for a title on a vehicle described

as follows: 2006 Dodge Charger RT, Vehicle Identification Number 2B3KA53H86H173887. Any and all parties holding an interest in said vehicle must contact Jarvis Hodge by certified mail, return receipt requested, within ten (10) business days of the date of this publication to 2248 Mccalla Ave, Knoxville, TN 37915,
Published in The Knoxville Focus Monday, December 12, 2022.

NOTICE OF LIEN SALE

The following described vehicles impounded/ repaired/towed will be sold at public and/or private auction in compliance with the Tennessee Public Acts 1967, Chapter 240, House Bill 379. The sale will be held at Jim's Garage & Wrecker Service Vehicle Impoundment Lot located at 5906 Walden Street, Knoxville, TN 37919.

These vehicles have been checked through the files of the Commissioner of Revenue, Title Section, Division of Motor Vehicles, Department of Revenue, State of Tennessee. In appropriate cases, the vehicles have been checked in other states, and the owners and/or lienholders have been notified by certified mail. In those instances where no vehicle identification/serial number or license number was available, this Public Notice in the newspaper will comply with the law.

The failure of the owner/lienholder to exercise their rights to reclaim any vehicle listed below not bearing a VIN/serial number shall be deemed a waiver of all rights and title and authorization to sell said vehicle.

- 1)03 HONDA CRV SHSRD784X3U154063
- 2)04 FORD F-150 1FTPW1454AKB74592
- 3)14 NISSAN ALTIMA 1N4AL3AP2EC102291
- 4)04 AUDI A4 WAULC68E74A140602
- 5)12 HONDA CIVIC 2HGFG3A87CH544041
- 6)05 CADILLAC STS 1G6DC67A550161769
- 7)12 TOYOTA CAMRY 4T1BB1FKXC0V48951

PUBLIC NOTICE

KNOX COUNTY COMMISSION SCHEDULED MEETINGS FOR 2023, MAIN ASSEMBLY ROOM, 400 MAIN STREET, CITY-COUNTY BUILDING. ALL COMMISSION AGENDAS WILL BE AVAILABLE EACH MONTH ON THE COMMISSION WEBSITE AT WWW.KNOXCOUNTY.ORG/ COMMISSION.

FINANCE (3:00 PM)
FEBRUARY 13
MAY 15
AUGUST 21
NOVEMBER 13

WORKSESSION (5:00 PM)
JANUARY 17
FEBRUARY 13
MARCH 20
APRIL 17
MAY 15
JUNE 20
JULY 17
AUGUST 21
SEPTEMBER 18
OCTOBER 16
NOVEMBER 13
DECEMBER 11

MEETING TIMES

REORGANIZATION (1:00 PM)
SEPTEMBER 1

BEER COMMITTEE (4:00 PM)
COMMISSION (5:00 PM)
ZONINGS (7:00 PM)
JANUARY 23
FEBRUARY 21
MARCH 27
APRIL 24
MAY 22
JUNE 26
JULY 24
AUGUST 28
SEPTEMBER 25
OCTOBER 23
NOVEMBER 20
DECEMBER 18

NOTE: MEETING DATES, LOCATIONS AND TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.