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Knox County may issue \$80 million in bonds

By Mike Steely
Senior Writer
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When the Knox County Commission meets in work session next Monday, they will face two items on the agenda that seem to conflict.

One requests the issuance of \$80 million in General Obligation

Bonds. The other resolution is for \$70 million. The Focus asked about the two agenda items.

"It's the FY'23 Capital Improvement Plan bond issuance. It will be one bond issuance - fixed rate, 20-year bond. It's new debt approved by the commission with the budget last year. We must have two resolutions: an initial

resolution and a detailed resolution," Finance Director Chris Caldwell told The Focus.

"The \$70 million is what we were authorized by the Commission (\$69,965,000, to be exact), and the \$80 million is an amount to allow for bond premium. It's the same process as in previous years," he said.

Other interesting items on the May 15 agenda include a resolution from Commissioner Terry Hill to support the Protecting Community Television Act in Congress and a resolution to up the salaries of two doctors in the Forensic Department by adding \$500 to their daily compensation

The new Knox County Public

Safety Director, Brent Seymour, will be introduced by Mayor Glenn Jacob and Sheriff Tom Spangler will speak about law enforcement salaries.

Two people may be named to the Knox County Health Insurance Appeals Board and someone will be named by the county

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Second Annual Outrun The Po Po Event Benefits The Blue



Knoxville Dragway Owner/Operator Wes Clapp presents Knox County Sheriff Tom Spangler and Chief Deputy Bernie Lyon with a check for \$2,500 from the recent Outrun the Po-Po event at the drag strip. Photos Submitted.

Freedom Schools School Board debates non-profit summer program's transportation, curriculum

By Bill Howard

For the past six years, Freedom Schools have operated during the summer break in various Knox County School buildings. What Freedom Schools do is provide a six-week summer educational program that aims at, among other things, maintaining - or, it's hoped, improving - kids' reading abilities.

The non-profit was begun by 1960s civil rights icon Marian Wright Edelman's Children's Defense Fund, and was primarily focused on poor, Black kids who attended underfunded and inadequate schools. That cohort remains to the present day with the program still primarily serving these kids.

The kids attending the program are generally free to ride KCS buses if any are going to that particular school. The program does not cost Knox County Schools any money. Data sharing is commonly employed so that the district can get an idea of how successful the Freedom Schools program is.

Kids working on and maintaining academic skills in the summer is hardly controversial. But what if some find the content being pushed by the program to be objectionable? What if the content includes the ever-divisive issues of race, gender and sexual orientation?

At its monthly meeting last Thursday, the Knox County School Board grappled with all this. Whether to allow the Freedom kids to use KCS buses was debated, along with both aligning the content to state standards and the nature of the content.

Board Chair Kristi Kristy said KCS might have trouble making sure the Freedom curriculum met state standards.

"The burden is put on the local district to make sure once we have shared resources to make sure those state curricula are followed," Kristy said. "And we have not ever had anything in place to evaluate an outside organization's curriculum."

Board member John Butler replied that KCS is in fact able to make such an evaluation.

"We do have people who have experience in Knox Co. Schools of reviewing material because they review textbooks," Butler said. "We're not talking about thousands of books. We're talking about a book list for six weeks."

Kristy replied that she thought

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Knoxville Dragway raises \$5K for area law enforcement

By Ken Lay

Maynardville --- Knoxville Dragway hosted its first major event of the season recently and it was a race to benefit law enforcement officers from Knox and Union counties.

The second annual "Outrun the Po Po" was contested Saturday, April 29, and it gave racers the opportunity to compete against deputies from the Knox County Sheriff's Office and the Union County Sheriff's Department.

All proceeds went to support deputies from both departments.

"It was a good time," said Knoxville Dragway owner and operator Wes Clapp, which owns the racing facility with his wife Kristin and her parents Doug and Kathy Southers. "This was to help the deputies in both the Knox County and Union County Sheriff's Departments.

"We wrote each a check for \$2,500, so we raised a total of \$5,000," Clapp said. "We saw some growth from last year and



Knoxville Dragway's Wes Clapp presents Union County Sheriff Billy Breeden with a check with proceeds from Outrun the Po Po, a fundraiser held recently.

we'd like to see more.

"But I think we wrote them each a check for \$1,200 or \$1,500 last year."

KCSO had five deputies participate in the event and Union County had several officers

participate. One officer from the Tennessee Highway Patrol also competed.

"(Knox County) Sheriff (Tom) Spangler had five deputies come down and he really wanted to have more, but they're a little

short-handed right now," Clapp said. "Union County had seven or eight and we had a guy come from the THP.

"We're hoping to have them take a bigger role next year. I want to thank the officers and I want to thank everybody for coming out for the event.

Knoxville Dragway's racing season runs from March until November every year. Races are held on Fridays and Saturdays.

"On Fridays, we have Test, Tune and Fun Night," Clapp said. "On Fridays, anybody can come with any car and race.

"On Saturdays, we have bracket racing, No-Prep Racing and Outlaw Racing."

On June 3, the drag strip will host a Southeast Gassers Association race.

"That's a big event for us and it's fun and it's very critical to the track," Clapp said.

For more information about upcoming events at Knoxville Dragway, visit the venue's Facebook page or its website, knoxvilledragway.com.

I Retired And Got A Wife And A Dog

From a distance



By John J. Duncan Jr.
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Vickie has a small sign which says "To my sister, I will be there to pick you up if you fall, after I stop laughing."

Happily, Vickie and I are more in love today than the day we got married.

I knew I had fallen in love with her. What I didn't know was that I was also going to fall in love with her dog, Cooper.

I had my own dog, a beagle named Sparky, from when I was 6 to 17 years old. We have had several other dogs over the years, and I have always been a dog person.

Cooper is a Cavalier King Charles Spaniel. He is definitely not the pick of the litter. Vickie got him cheaply because he is deaf, slightly cross-eyed, and has a few freckles.

But then, I am not the pick of the litter either. I have never claimed to be very handsome or good-looking.

During my first years of law practice, I was called one day and asked to be a model for the Bar Auxiliary

Banquet.

I thought that was a great compliment until I went into my partner, Zane Daniel's, office. He said: "Oh, no! You didn't agree to do that, did you? The other lawyers hoot, jeer, and make cat-calls when you come down the runway!"

I quickly figured out they had asked me because they were having such a hard time getting other lawyers to do it.

Cooper loves me just the way I am. He tries to spend every second with me. He follows me all over the house.

If I lay down on a couch to read a book, he lays down on my waist or legs. If I sit down to watch TV, he sits down beside me. He perches on an ottoman just outside the bathroom to watch me shave.

Since he can't hear, I motion for him to come with me when I go get the mail or go for a walk around the neighborhood.

He goes into high alert if I start putting on clothes which indicates I am going

someplace. He goes into a twirling dance and barks loudly if he sees that we are about to leave without him.

Then he starts to whine and cry, and since I hate to tell him "No," Vickie lets me go out first, then she turns to tell him he can't go.

I was not familiar with his breed, and the first time I heard about it was when I read that William F. Buckley had given one to his long-time closest friend, Charles Wallen.

Interestingly, Mr. Wallen was a minor truck executive in San Francisco who had been raised in Kyles Ford, Tennessee, near Sneedville. He and Mr. Buckley traded personal letters almost every week for 27 years until Wallen died.

One more dog story: My sister, Beverly, had very severe asthma until she was an adult. A doctor told my parents to get her a Chihuahua dog to help her.

That dog later lived with our family for 16 years and became totally attached to my mother. When the dog died in Alexandria, Virginia,



John Duncan Jr. and Cooper

my mother didn't want to bury her there. My mother wrapped her up in soft satin cloth, put her in a train case and carried her all the way home on her lap during the plane ride back to Knoxville. The little dog was buried in our backyard on East Sunset Road in Holston Hills.

Somehow a reporter found out about this and wrote a story that ran in the Stars and Stripes military paper.

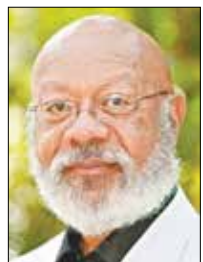
A Tennessee soldier in Vietnam wrote to my Dad and told him his best friend there was from Virginia and they always were arguing about which was the better state, Tennessee or Virginia.

He wrote that he could now tell his friend that Virginia wasn't even fit to bury a dog in.

You can really get attached to a dog as I certainly have to my little buddy Cooper.

Our future is in these hands?

Excellence in higher education is hard to define. How can you tell if a professor is doing a good job? I've always said that so long as my students didn't run from the room with their hands over



By Dr. Harold A. Black
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said that my class was what motivated him to be successful.

I retired ten years ago and, even then, standards were being lessened by the universities. There were no longer term

papers. Exams had become true/false or multiple choice. There were no more reading lists and books on reserve at the library. Those professors who refused to dumb down their courses found themselves with bad teaching evaluations, complaints from students and pressure from administrators. The hassle wasn't worth it for most and they caved. At the undergraduate level, I taught seniors.

Many were functionally illiterate. They could not spell, write or do basic math. They did not know literature, history, geographic or politics. Many students had no idea how many senators were in Washington or even how many senators the states have. I said, "What have you been taught all these years? If I had the power, I would flunk all of you - not because of what you know in finance but what you don't know about anything else." I would not want you to be a graduate of my university. I actually had a student who asked me, "Why should I know anything?" Why should I know math when I have a calculator on my iPhone? Why should I know geography when I have MapQuest? Why should I know English when

I have a word processor with grammar and spell check? Students were not intellectually curious. And these are our best and brightest?

I used to say that the world is made up of three types: the 3 percent that make things happen, the 7 percent that know what's happening and the 90 percent who haven't a clue as to what's happening. I was naïve in thinking that the easy access to information would change the percentages and more people would know what was happening as people availed themselves of information that was virtually costless. I was wrong. The youth today is no better informed than the youth of my day. I find their ignorance appalling. If these are our college students then what about the

masses?

The universities are not helping the situation. In fact, they are making things worse with lessened requirements, lower standards and providing less rigorous education. Students today may not know history, English, civics or math but they do know climate change, diversity, equity and inclusion and Critical Race theory. They can't even define what is a woman! The universities now turn out graduates who do not read, lack writing and communication skills, are short-sighted, do not believe in the American dream, have been taught to hate capitalism and are not patriotic. We should not be shocked when our leaders turn out to be ignorant ideologues.

When I retired, I felt I was

at the height of my powers. Changes in technology made it easier to research and produce academic articles. Technology also made my teaching more interactive and more fun. My consulting business was thriving. I had been an editor of a first-rate academic journal and the president of a major finance association. I had won awards for teaching, research and civic involvement. As much as I love what I did, my undergraduate students were driving me to distraction. Teaching PhD students was not enough to keep me at the university so I let the younger professors deal with the mess. The world is run by those between 50 and 65. Fortunately, by the time this bunch gets into power, I should be dead.



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Knox County may issue \$80 million in bonds

Cont. from page 1

could be funded with a \$750,000 grant from Tennessee Economic and Community Development Authority.

The sheriff is asking for a contract with U.S. Corrections to transport prisoners and two railroad crossing projects are also on the agenda. The commission may also be asked to distribute just over \$15 million of American Rescue Plan funds to the local utility districts.

Providing housing assistance to people recovering from substance abuse

Calendar are pulled and discussed.


Engineering and Public Works wants a discussion on road improvements imposed on subdivision approvals. The planning commission wants changes on drive-through regulations.

The 56 agenda items will be selected for discussion by Chairman Courtney Durrett or members of the commission. Agenda items voted on in the work session go on to the May 22 regular meeting.

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Publisher's Positions



By Steve Hunley,
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The Old Switcheroo

Folks in South Knoxville are doing their best to fight off a developer's effort to repurpose his property at the old South Knoxville High School. Rick Dover owns the South High Assisted Living Facility, which is right smack dab in the middle of a residential area. Nothing new about that. Most schools were built in residential areas, especially inside the city. The controversy arises from Dover's hope the Knoxville City Council will rezone the property to allow him to sell it to Helen Ross McNabb for a drug rehabilitation center. The proposed drug rehab center would be near two elementary schools.

It's not surprising some folks in South Knoxville feel

betrayed. Several South Knoxville residents worked tirelessly with Knox Heritage to designate the building as a historic edifice. The Lindberg Forest neighborhood raised money to stabilize the old South High building. The precedent of going around the zoning laws in place because the buyer and seller want to use property for a different purpose is a slippery slope. Should that become a precedent, every neighborhood inside the City of Knoxville would be at risk. It also raises the question of should a developer get all the benefits that go along with a designation of one thing, only to repurpose it later for something entirely different?

Cameron Brooks, who is running against Lynne Fugate, for an at-large seat on the Knoxville City Council has issued a statement supporting the South Knoxville residents in their fight. Brooks makes the valid point every candidate is a supporter of neighborhoods and neighborhood associations at election time. When not on the ballot, or when there is a pitched battle with a special interest, not so much. Dover, was one of the sponsors of Fugate's campaign kickoff event with Wagyu beef and a smattering of the Sequoyah set milling

about. That raises another interesting question. How many drug rehab centers are there inside a neighborhood like Sequoyah Hills? None, not a one. Those necessary "public projects" are reserved for less affluent neighborhoods. Would the city council dare to rezone a historic building inside Sequoyah or West Hills in a residential area for a drug rehab center? I doubt it very much.

The same class of hypocritical do-gooders who chatter endlessly about "affordable housing" have produced nothing except for higher taxes and raising rents and mortgages in the process. Just how raising rents and mortgages by increasing the local property tax 40% makes things more affordable has never been explained by anyone. It must be a work in progress, or it could just be BS. I'm quite sure it is the latter.

One truism is you get what you vote for. When an elected body like the city council jumps when millionaires and billionaires crack the whip, voters ought to stop and think just who are they representing? You'll know when the council members choose between the people and a special interest.

Penalized For Good Credit

Another spectacular innovation relating to "affordable" housing has hit the ground with a big thud. New home buyers, did you know that you are paying so that people with very bad credit can get mortgages? The Biden administration is changing the mortgage fee guidelines for people considered "riskier" --- meaning people with a credit history of not paying their bills --- and those with good credit will pay for it. The two lending agencies, known as Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae, began operating under the new guidelines on May 1, which will affect those mortgages acquired at private banks nationwide. The end result is that it will affect the interest rate of those with good credit. Ultimately, it means higher monthly payments for folks financing mortgages with good credit. Supporters say, "It's only about \$40 buck a month!" Over a mortgage of 30 years, that's more than \$14,000 of your money to help pay somebody else's mortgage, somebody who hasn't been paying their own bills.

That will come as a nasty

shock to many homebuyers. Having good credit isn't accidental; someone with good credit had to work hard to get there. The truth is even people with not-so-good credit will be subsidizing those with really bad credit. It's another attempt to redistribute income.

Doubtless it will also revolutionize the banking industry, which will be expected to lend money to people who are notorious for not paying it back. Surely that wouldn't lead to more failed banks!

It may be time to put cash back into the mattress.

TVA Fesses Up

TVA just released a report about the winter storm with its first rolling blackouts in the history of the agency which came into being in 1933. The report was released last Friday and states the cost was \$170 million. TVA was caught unprepared by the bitterly cold temperatures which plummeted during the days before Christmas and had not anticipated the demand for electricity. At a time when the border is open and some 10 million people have poured into this country --- which

is more than the current population of every state in the nation except for California, Texas, Florida, New York, Pennsylvania, Illinois, Ohio, Georgia and Michigan. Both Michigan and Georgia have just over 10 million residents. Millions more people obviously means a greater demand for electricity. In fact, it means a greater demand on every aspect of this country's infrastructure and services from welfare programs to schools.

TVA covers a seven-state region and supplies 153 power companies. The rolling blackouts affected around 10 million people and 750,000 businesses. Water pipes froze and burst throughout the region.

TVA's lack of preparedness drew the attention of lawmakers, including our own congressman, Tim Burchett. Like many others, Burchett experienced frozen pipes after the rolling blackouts turned off heaters. TVA had badly underestimated the demand for power as well as the severity of the extreme cold.

The report merely confirmed the suspicions of some, but it stated what was obvious to many of us.

Freedom Schools *Cont. from page 1*

that the Freedom House curriculum was already chosen by the state, and therefore should be acceptable.

Board member Keith Wilson said that the system in place allowed the district to step in if it found something objectionable in the curriculum.

"If we find ourselves in a situation where something were not being done correctly, we have oversight and management of those personnel and employees that are engaged in that," Wilson said.

Denise Dean, CEO of East Tennessee Freedom Schools, spoke to the audience and told the board that the purpose of Freedom Schools was not to promote any agenda based on race or gender.

"That's not Freedom School; that's not how we roll," Dean said. "We're trying to raise up children who can read, who can think, be thoughtful, who can be good citizens, who can be effective members of the workforce. There's nothing 'anti' about what we do."

Board member Steve Triplett referenced a book list on the Children's Defense Fund website that he found troubling.

"If you go to their website they have 'banned books we love,'" said Triplett. "Those books have content that creates confusion among genders for children. Those books are about racial division, sexual content, LGBTQ agenda. I would like to see content just about literacy. I don't know that you can get that through the Children's Defense Fund Organization."

"I can't partner with an organization that

promotes these kinds of things," Triplett said.

Board member Daniel Watson asked Triplett to look beyond content specifics and focus on the broad picture of what Freedom House does.

"I've walked in this community with Denise Dean for five years," he said. "And this woman has no agenda other than giving the children the very best. And wants them to be giving the very best back to their community."

Board member Katherine Bike asked Dean if she was confident that the attending adults would be able to determine if a child was uncomfortable with any of the curricular material.

"Absolutely," Dean replied.

Board member Jennifer Owen told the board that the program could cost the county money for bus use. She also read an email from the principal of Spring Hill Elementary strongly touting the benefits of Freedom Schools.

During the public forum part of the meeting, a number of people took the podium to urge - very passionately in some cases - the board to allow Freedom Schools to operate.

In the end, the board voted to allow Freedom Schools to move forward with two motions being passed. A data-sharing agreement passed by a vote of 6-3. The vote to allow buses to be used, assuming they were already going to the particular school, passed 5-4.

Two sports heroes may be honored

By Mike Steely
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The Knoxville Public Property Naming Committee approved two honorary street signs Tuesday. Tributes to UT Coach John Majors and former heavyweight champion Big John Tate will now go to the city council for final approval.

A new bridge on Topside Road over Alcoa Highway will be called "Coach John Majors Bridge." Mary and Don Horton, Topside Road residents who lived across from the national championship coach, brought the application and spoke at the meeting.

"John was our neighbor. He lived there twice, it was his neighborhood," Mary said, noting that he lived there during his career at UT and later in his retirement.

"He was a big soul," Don Horton said, telling of the family's friendship.

Committee member and historian Jack Neely recalled Majors and said, "You could stop and talk with him, he was a special case." After some comments by other members, the committee voted unanimously for the honor.

Knoxville City Council member Gwen McKenzie and videographer William Gant submitted a successful application to have an honorary sign placed at Lakeside Street and Magnolia Avenue. The sign, to be located near the Golden Gloves Boxing building, will read "Big John Tate Corner."

McKenzie said the late former national boxing champion is "a forgotten hero" that made Knoxville his home. She announced a June 6th event in his honor at the

Beck Cultural Center. Gant told of Tate's championship, training, winning an Olympic Bronze Belt and unfortunate decline later in life. Gant captured the champion and his decline in a video production.

"It is a very human thing," Gant said. "We're all flawed."

The idea of an honorary sign to honor John Tate passed without objection.

Chairman Tommy Smith then led the committee on ideas to update the naming application procedure.

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By Mike Steely
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The new Knox County EMS Medical Services Cost Review Board had much to discuss at its first meeting on April 26. The group elected members EMS representative Rick Valentine as chair and Dr. Randal Dabbs as vice chair before hearing from Josh Spencer, American Medical Response regional director. Late last year the Knox County Commission voted to extend the contract for AMR for ambulance services through 2023. The commission also forgave the penalty fees incurred upon AMR for late ambulance arrivals to hospitals

during the pandemic.

Spencer approached the group with a proposal for rate increases to help AMR to recover, hire new employees and maybe become profitable.

"Our current rate has not changed in three years," he said.

The current AMR charge for basic lifesaving service is \$326.20 and the request is to raise it to \$803.88. Currently, AMR charges \$755.25 for advanced lifesaving services involving a paramedic and medical technician. This service would go to \$983.57. Specialty Care Transportation, currently at \$936.64, would increase to \$1,320.90. AMR is also seeking to

raise the per-mile transport cost from \$8.73 to \$15.45.

Dr. Dabbs asked about comparable rates with other counties and noted the requested "increase is so high."

Valentine asked Spencer what if the rate increase is approved and AMR should win the bid for the new 2024 contract. Spencer replied he didn't know, adding that he hoped to win the bidding as right now AMR is operating at a deficit. He said that AMR responds to about 45,000 emergency calls each year.

Following Spencer's request, Knox County Chief Operating Officer Dwight Van de Vate told the Cost Review Board that the

"sole authority rests with this body" on granting or denying any increase. He said such a board should have been appointed years ago but there hasn't been a rate increase requested for several years.

The board members wondered if they could approve a different rate increase and may meet in the next two or three weeks to consider the rate request.

Before adjourning the members were instructed on the Open Meetings Law and reminded that all discussion can take place only at the meetings. Each member will be updated on the request and other information before the decision in a future public meeting.

Co-responder teams not in new city budget

By Mike Steely
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While the Knoxville City Council passed the first reading of Mayor Indya Kincannon's new budget, final approval of the proposal won't be until May 30. Much of the discussion Tuesday revolved around why the city's co-responder program isn't in the new budget.

That program, adopted four years ago, teams a civilian health worker from McNabb Center with a police officer when responding to a domestic or mental health crisis 911 call. Moria Connelly, speaking for the Healing East Tennessee Alternative Response Team

told the council that the much-praised co-responder team is not funded in the new budget. She said that HEART is the number one response team outside of the police department. She promoted the adoption of an alternative response team of a nurse or paramedic and a behavioral health professional.

"The federal money is sitting there and the city has never asked for it," she said.

Instead, the new budget calls for the creation of a Violence Interruption Fund.

Several council members chimed into the discussion with Amelia Parker saying, "I continue to support alternative response and I hope

we as a city will actually do our due diligence around this and put some thoughtful consideration into what this could do for our city because I think it's desperately needed."

Tommy Smith said the city should "remain nimble and use data to change."

Andrew Roberto said a discussion on the issue should be held in the budget hearings that begin May 9.

Seema Singh asked Police Chief Paul Noel and LaKenya Middlebrook, director of Community Safety, to respond to favorable comments they made about the idea of an alternative response team. Middlebrook said she is open

to exploring the idea in the future.

Chief Noel gave tentative approval of the idea but noted the high volume of 911 calls.

Gwen McKenzie asked for information on the number and types of calls. "We should keep all options open as we look at the mental health crisis."

Mayor Kincannon said she would have the information supplied by the police and fire departments.

There was some discussion of including an alternative response team as a change in the proposed budget. In other action the council approved a 10-year tax break for Blue

Dog Capital Partners LLC for property at 200 West Fifth Street. Rogers Group Inc. was awarded \$5.5 million for resurfacing streets and Abacus Hive was hired to provide budget and accounting services to the finance department on various projects.

The mayor was authorized to apply for \$176,000 from the U.S. Department of Justice for equipment, supplies, speaker fees, travel and training for school violence prevention in schools. Also approved was an application for a grant of \$250,000 with no local match from the Justice Department for technology, instruction and equipment

for de-escalation, implicit bias and duty-to-intervene training for the police department.

Deputy Police Chief David Powell was named to the Knoxville Animal Control Board and the Council on Disability Issues saw Ashley Wells Ajinkya and Hilary Brooks named to that group.

A property at 7700 Pinner Drive was approved for a zoning change from RN-1 to RN-2 Single Family Residential Neighborhood. The Knoxville Garden Club was honored for its 100 years of service and the oath of office was revised for members of the Metropolitan Knoxville Airport Authority.




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The Doctor is in

a weekly column by
Dr. Jim Ferguson

Myths

The news of my death has been grossly exaggerated. Mark Twain

These are troubled times, but apparently not bad enough to stop some people from supporting Biden and the Democrats. It is breathtaking to see how much damage "Joey Demento" and his clowns have done in just 29 months. Yet despite damage to the economy, education, national defense, transportation, foreign policy, energy independence, as well as female sports, crime, drugs and alien invasion, it hasn't gotten bad enough. We are like the proverbial frog in a pot of water on the stove. The water hasn't gotten hot enough to boil us yet.

A recent email from a reader said he is ready for Jesus to return because we have made such a mess of things, and my reader sees no other solution.

I'm not there yet. I still have hope, and we may get one more chance. All the early maneuvering for the next election cycle doesn't interest me much. However, a friend recently texted me that President Trump was doing a rally in New Hampshire. I didn't have anything else to watch so I tuned in and was surprised to see and hear a measured, calm, hopeful, rational and non-confrontational Trump. His only job was to retire the "crooked" Hillary moniker for Mrs. Clinton and apply it to Biden. Given that our titular Pres is the Godfather of Biden Inc., it seems appropriate.

Perhaps I was seeing Trump 2.0, a Trump without Tweets or media taunts. He certainly has more energy and hope than I have. After speaking for an hour, he then took questions from regular citizens without a cheat sheet

or programmed answers. He was sharp, personable and exuded confidence in America. What a stunning contrast to Biden, who is in the White House due to media-stoked irrational hatred of President Trump. The closing music of President Trump's rally was, "Hold on, I'm coming." The Democrat leadership understands this and realizes Trump must be destroyed. They've been trying to do this for eight years.

The term "useful idiots" has been attributed to Vladimir Lenin and Joseph Stalin, but probably predates the Soviet era. The term denotes a credulous person, duped and manipulated, often for a political agenda. Joy Behar says she would rather have the demented geezer and the cackling fool in the White House than any Republican. But then what kind of a person would listen to "Maud" Bahar or watch the view, let alone sit in the audience?

I played ice hockey through the first several years of college before having to drop out and study to get into medical school. I usually only watch hockey during the playoffs, when fights and cheap shots don't often occur. The consequences of such ridiculous behavior are just too costly during

the playoffs. Unfortunately, consequences have been largely eliminated from our permissive culture.

Since I haven't been paying attention to hockey, I just learned that the expansion Seattle Krakens eliminated the Colorado Avalanche, the winner of last year's Stanley Cup. And with a bit of research, I discovered that a kraken is a mythological sea creature, after an old Norse legend. Like a box of chocolates, you never know what you'll find in my column, "The Doctor Is In."

But since we're exploring the netherworld and mythological beasties, let's discuss myths. I am no student of paranormal entities, nor do I put much stock in myths. However, conceptually I understand why they occur. Myths come down to us as explanations of otherwise mysterious events or supernatural forces. We define the natural world in terms of what we can observe or explain. By definition, a supernatural event is beyond naturalistic explanation. Some might picture The Resurrection of Jesus Christ as a myth.

Years ago, I read Lee Strobel's "The Case for Christ." Strobel was a journalist and an atheist, and set out to debunk Christianity. Through a series of interviews with experts and his own

extensive research, Strobel concluded that Jesus was the real deal and he became a Christian and an apologist for the Way, the Truth and the Life. I can recommend the book, but I'll distill Strobel's findings to the 5Es: Jesus existed; Jesus was executed; there was an empty tomb; there were more than 500 eyewitnesses to the resurrected Christ; and there was early adoption of Christianity. By contrast, myths take generations, if not hundreds of years to become established. Christianity spread across the entire Roman world in just 30 years and changed the world.

I hope that the Democrats have overplayed their hand, and the mythological Furies will ascend from the netherworld and sweep "the wicked" from power. We'll see. This wish includes notable Congressional Harpies - and I'll add the loons of The View to my wish list!

Perhaps I should add the leaders of the Methodist Church. As my church continues to disintegrate, I am thankful that since the Reformation ecclesiastical overlords no longer hold sway over my soul. They can't excommunicate me for my non-progressive, traditionalist beliefs. I answer to God, my conscience and my wife, not to any minister, bishop or pope.

In 1521 priest, professor and theologian Martin Luther was on trial for his life before an imperial court in Worms, Germany. Luther had dared recommend Church reforms and this threatened the establishment. It was demanded that he recant or he would be excommunicated and burned as a heretic which would send his immortal soul to Hell for eternity. In his own defense, Luther delivered the "Here I Stand Speech," saying, "I cannot recant anything, for to go against conscience is neither right nor safe. Here I stand, I can do no other, so help me God. Amen."

This is what it means to stand against tyranny, whether from the Church or Washington. Jesus is not dead, nor is America nor Trump. My soul is at peace, but my Church is not and neither is my country. I told my "priest" that I will not go against my conscience.

And I look forward to throwing the clowns out of office and sending a businessman back to Washington to Make America Great Again. But perhaps the pathway to renewal might be through presidential candidate and businessman Vivek Ramaswamy and his 25-point plan. Check it out.

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

Catching up with Debbie Sharp

By Mike Steely
Senior Writer
steelym@knoxfocus.com

She's one of those who stand behind their efforts, often out of sight, and modest in position. Debbie Sharp is the heart of the Knoxville Office of Neighborhoods.

Bet you didn't know that Sharp was a Peace Corps volunteer with service in Turkey and Germany. She's not a Knox County native but has immersed herself in our area, graduating from Central High School and attending the University of Tennessee.

She's lived in California, Baltimore and Monterey and

came to Knoxville with a world of experience.

The Knoxville Focus caught up with Debbie Sharp and asked her several questions.

What brought you to Knoxville?

My parents are both from Knoxville, but my father was in the military, so I grew up all over. I was born overseas. When my father retired from the military, we moved to Knoxville. I finished up high school at Central High School, went to the University of Tennessee, and then went into the Peace Corps in Ecuador. I moved back to Knoxville after

the Peace Corps to get to know my roots.

Tell us about your family.

I have my parents still here. They are active and my strongest supporters. I have one sister who lives in Murfreesboro and works for the VA, two grown daughters (one that is kind and loving; the other is hard-working and tough), a nephew that is serving in the Army in Romania, and four granddaughters that are smart, active and amazing. I also have two dogs that make me laugh daily.

Continue on page 2



Debbie Sharp, Neighborhood Coordinator at City of Knoxville

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Just a Little Adjustment

Everybody likes a feel-good story. I'm a sucker for one. The slightest good-news item can bring a tear to my eyes. YouTube has sucked me in, and I spend too much time going down rabbit holes for UFC clips, Karen stories, and drum and bugle corps competitions. However, nothing can hold my attention more than stories about folks doing kind things for others.

I've realized that the American people are actually pretty good. In the realm of donations, Americans gave almost \$288 billion in 2017. For the most part, we are soft-hearted when it comes to giving. Of course, commercials for organizations such as ASPCA and St. Jude's immediately have us reaching for our wallets. Children and pets are important to most of us, and we can't stand the thought of either of them hurting.

I clean our building at least a couple of times each year. Items have been stuffed into the small space, and when no walking room is available, the time has come to empty the contents.



By Joe Rector
joerector@comcast.net

Like most folks, we have much more than we need, so those items in storage are delivered to organizations that give them to those in need. Some use the receipts from their contributions to help with taxes. These days, we just drop off a load and say thank you. What people don't realize is that our giveaway items are precious items to less fortunate families.

Individuals always do a good job of reminding me that Americans aren't so bad. I always enjoy watching videos of men who stop at an overgrown yard and mow it for free. It's a way that they can give back. An individual stops for a minute to speak to a homeless person or hands him a bag of food is something else that makes me smile.

It seems to me that the only things that brings out the bad sides of folks are politics and race. Many people won't speak to another person who is from a different political party. Nice guys become viscous monsters when someone dares to speak ill of a politician or a candidate for office. Battle lines are drawn and attacks on

one's foes are swift and bloody. Lifelong friendships dissolve in seconds over political debates. Neither person is willing to listen to the ideas of the other.

The same thing happens when racial matters arrive. Our prejudices take center stage in our lives, and words and deeds turn ugly. Most of the problems with racial matters are a lack of understanding. We simply don't understand how the other race lives. We have no concept of their culture, and I believe that they have no concept of ours. We fear what we don't understand. To others, our actions look like calculated ones to gain the upper hand.

No matter what political affiliations we have or what race we are, the people of America are basically good. That's been hard to believe over the last few years. I wish that we would decide to look at the good in each other instead of focusing on the differences. The truth is that 100 years from now, no one will know or care about those things. However, if Americans accept each other as equal creations by a loving God, our impact on the future can be acknowledged for generations to come. Let's give it a chance and see.

Picture of Wayne Major, Juanita Major, Ralphine Major, and King, Easter Sunday, 1973.



Special Day for Mothers

The picture looks like a duplicate of the one used earlier. But this photo is more special. Besides my brother and me, it includes our mother standing between us; and in this picture, King-

my brother's German Shepherd--is distracted by something in the woods behind us.

One look at the photo and my thoughts went back to earlier times. It was only a few years before that our mother had returned to working full time on a public job, as she became the breadwinner of our family after our father was diagnosed with heart disease that ended



By Ralphine Major
ralphine3@yahoo.com

his dairy farming days. I thought of her working at C. M. McClung & Company and later at East Tennessee Chest Disease Hospital. I thought of the days in summer when she came home from work

and often spent evenings canning a garden full of vegetables or preparing greens from the garden for our father's parents to put in the freezer. I thought of the times when she made a big pot of chili or a three-layer iced cake and dished up servings for our dad to deliver to our elderly neighbors up the road. I thought of the times she helped me make pans full of the popular Mississippi Mud dessert to help a friend's fundraising efforts in her

run for homecoming queen at our school. She hand-made her outfit as well as ours in the Easter picture shown here. At church, she taught a Children's Primary Sunday School class. Sixteen years ago, she survived a heart attack. Recently, my brother and I celebrated with her as she turned 90 years old! I do not even remember the day our father made this picture, but it was such a gift to us when it surfaced among some hidden files.

As this special holiday in May arrives for 2023, may those whose mothers have passed on be blessed with countless memories of happy times. May those with mothers still living be blessed with a wonderful day full of fun and laughter. To all--have a blessed and Happy Mother's Day! Cherish the moments!

Words of Faith: "Her children arise up, and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praiseth her." Proverbs 31:28 (KJV).

Cont. from page 1

How did you become interested in public service and neighborhoods?

After I returned from the Peace Corps, I wanted to give back to my community and began volunteering at different non-profits. I volunteered at the Crisis Center, Catholic Charities, Narrow Ridge Earth

Literacy Center, Candoro Arts and Heritage Center, The League of Women Voters, South Knoxville Neighborhood and Business Coalition, and of course my neighborhood, South Woodlawn. In my neighborhood, I wanted to see the supportive community that I experienced in Ecuador, so I began walking my dog in the neighborhood. As I got to know my neighbors, some of us became friends. Initially what got me involved in my neighborhood organization was crime on my street. Then I learned that there was an organized group, so I joined and have been involved since.

What is your most memorable neighborhood event?

The most memorable project I was involved in with my neighborhood was getting certified as a Wildlife Habitat through the National Wildlife Federation. It took a lot of

work, but we accomplished something to be proud of in the end. The neighborhood group had a celebration in spring of 2014 and that was very exciting for us. We had a lot of positive feedback from elected officials, school reps, neighbors, the city, etc. Later that year, I would begin my work at the Office of Neighborhoods.

Tell us about your duties.

In a nutshell, staff in the Office of Neighborhood Empowerment are the liaisons between neighborhoods and the city departments. If a neighborhood is having an issue with speeding, we help connect them to the engineers with the Neighborhood Traffic Safety Program. If they are having issues at their park, we can connect them with Parks and Rec. If there is crime, we can help them work with KPD. If they want to organize around fun programs, we also offer those as well, for example Healthy

Knoxville, or becoming certified as a Wildlife Habitat. We also offer workshops on hot topics, hold an awards dinner, a resource fair, and sports events, like a Wiffleball Tournament, etc. All of these different ideas are aimed at getting different groups of people involved in the neighborhood. The more that are involved, it can make the neighborhood stronger and safer.

What is your educational background?

I have a Bachelor of Science in Ornamental Horticulture and Landscape Design and a Master of Science in Forest Recreation. I went into the Peace Corps in forestry. I worked with folks in the Andean Mountains to protect their forests, which protected the Andean Condor.

When I returned, I worked for the Crisis Center, Narrow Ridge Earth Literacy Center, Catholic Charities, Community Connections and then the City of Knoxville.

Tell us about your work in the City-County Building.

I love my job. I started out working as the Assistant Neighborhood Coordinator in fall of 2014. After David Massey retired, I was appointed

by Mayor Rogero as the Neighborhood Coordinator in 2018. I love being able to help people engage in the democratic process. I like being able to see people get involved, feel heard, feel safe, and be able to accomplish things in their neighborhoods.

What are your hobbies?

I love to hike in the Urban Wilderness, tent camp with no cell service, read all kinds of books, and cook new creations. I have a new hobby; I have a motorcycle and am learning to ride it.

If you could have any other profession, what would that be?

I am an environmentalist at heart, so any field that protects the environment would be great for me, or I would love to walk dogs because that just sounds fun.

How would you like to be remembered?

I hope that people will remember the good work that I have always tried to do and how I try to treat everyone with respect. I hope people see that I try to be equitable and fair. In addition, I may not agree with someone, but I hope they feel heard. I can be quiet and introverted, but hopefully, some will remember my funny side too.

Catching up with Debbie Sharp

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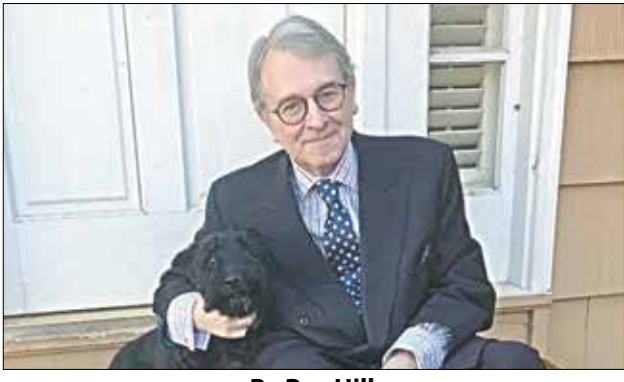
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'The Prince of Abyssinia' Adam Clayton Powell Jr.

Pages from the Past



By Ray Hill
rayhill865@gmail.com

There was a time in our country's history when Adam Clayton Powell was the most powerful Black person in America. The memory of Powell has dimmed somewhat, although he has been the subject of documentaries, movies, and even more recently, is portrayed as a character in the series "The Godfather of Harlem." Adam Clayton Powell Jr. was a man of great charm and radiated charisma, yet he was also something of a rascal. Powell was the bane of those congressmen who really were racists. Powell was the self-proclaimed "King of Harlem." Powell's successor in Congress, Charles Rangel, readily acknowledged the former congressman was "one of the most dynamic black leaders America ever had." "Before there was Martin Luther King and Malcolm X, there was Adam Clayton Powell," Rangel said. Oftentimes, Powell's very real intelligence was disguised or ignored due to his flamboyant style. No one was more aware of Adam Clayton Powell Jr.'s image in the news media than the congressman himself. Nor did Powell hesitate to push reporters in efforts to produce "good, perceptive writing" by pulling a yellowed clipping from his pocket from a Pacific coast publication, which had described the congressman as "arrogant, but with style." Perhaps the most vocal and unapologetic racist in Congress was Mississippi's John Elliott Rankin. When Powell was first elected to the House of Representatives, Rankin proclaimed it a "disgrace." Rankin growled he would never allow Adam Clayton Powell Jr. to sit near him. Powell delighted in sitting as close to Congressman Rankin as he possibly could. Rankin was forced to move his seat five times in one day. When he arrived in Congress, Adam Powell found the amenities reserved for congressmen --- dining rooms, the House gym, barber shops, steam baths and showers --- were barred to the two Black members. Powell gleefully and publicly used each to his satisfaction. Eventually, Powell's excesses were used against him by his enemies who first abbreviated his broad powers as chairman of the House Education & Labor Committee. It escalated to the point where the House of Representatives, which has sole authority over its own membership, would not allow him to take the oath of office after having been duly elected. Adam Clayton Powell

Jr. refused to simply take what was handed to him. The congressman sued and took his case all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court and won. Yet, it was not the end of his legal troubles. Powell had to avoid his home in Harlem because of a lawsuit filed against him by a widow he had casually, although publicly, called a "bag woman for the police." Light-skinned enough to "pass" as white, Adam Clayton Powell Jr. became the most vocal advocate of equal rights for Blacks in Congress. Powell trampled barriers during his time, but he was also a rascal who skirted the law in his personal behavior, and all too often didn't take his congressional duties seriously. Yet he was the first Black to be elected to the New York City Council, as well as the first Black person ever to chair a major committee in the House of Representatives when he assumed his seat at the dais of the House Education & Labor Committee in 1961. Always elegantly dressed and well groomed, Powell generated a genuine aura of celebrity. Powell also relished his open defiance of conventional rules and gloried in his reputation for being naughty. A Baptist preacher by vocation, he was oft-married and usually to women one would never think of as a pastor's wife. Like Powell himself, his wives were glamorous in their own rights, save perhaps for the last. What other congressmen hid from their constituencies, Adam Clayton Powell Jr. wore as a badge of honor. Congressman Powell did his womanizing out in the open and never bothered to hide his high-living lifestyle. A preacher who enjoyed vodka, cigars and women, the one thing Adam Clayton Powell Jr. was not, was contrite. Powell's public image of gleefully having his arm around a woman and a drink in the other hand further infuriated his colleagues in the House. Powell was flamboyant and truly liked flaunting his lifestyle. His colleagues were further enraged by Powell's chronic absenteeism from the halls of Congress. Powell, especially during the decade of the 1960s, was spending more and more time in Bimini than in Washington, D.C. Eventually, Powell's lifestyle took its toll on his one-time invincibility at the polls with his people. Whereas previously the congressman had barely had to campaign, a core of opposition began to develop to Powell, especially when he established a private retreat in Bimini in the Bahamas.

Yet until the end of his political career, one constituent, interviewed by the press, admitted she didn't believe Powell was "entirely innocent" of some charges, but added she didn't believe the other congressmen were either. By the end of his time in the House of Representatives, some constituents began complaining about Powell's long absences from his district and preference for staying in Bimini rather than coming home to Harlem.

It was Adam Clayton Powell Sr. who built both the congregation of the Abyssinian Baptist Church in Harlem and the truly magnificent edifice that housed it in Harlem. Indeed, Reverend Powell worked to enlarge his flock until it reached 13,000 members, making it the largest Protestant congregation in the country and the biggest Baptist church in the world.

Young Adam proved throughout his life to defy authority and his father was no exception. The younger Powell's choice of a wife appalled the Reverend Powell. In 1933, Adam Clayton Powell Jr. stated his intention to marry Isabel Washington, who at the time would have been classified as a "showgirl," precisely the sort not to be a preacher's wife. Miss Washington was an entertainer, singer and dancer and when the Reverend Powell growled that young Adam might not inherit the pulpit of the Abyssinian Baptist Church, Adam made it clear he intended to do as he pleased, whatever the consequences. Years later in an interview, Isabel Washington Powell laughed and recalled the "Prince of Abyssinia" had his way and they were married. Powell and Isabel were divorced in 1945 and he married another entertainer, Hazel Scott, who was also a singer and an accomplished jazz pianist. Their union produced a son, Adam Clayton Powell III. When he divorced Isabel, Powell merely said, "I fear I just outgrew her." An angry Isabel Powell claimed in her suit for maintenance her husband had become "infatuated with a woman nightclub entertainer."

Adam Clayton Powell Jr. was no hypocrite; he had any number of vices that would have driven many pastors not only out of the pulpit but also out of the churches they served. Adam Clayton Powell always seemed to have a thin cigar in his hand and was frequently surrounded by a blue haze of smoke. Powell enjoyed a drink and made no secret of it. Yet for decades, his congregation and the people of his congressional district seemingly enjoyed his flagrant disrespect for conventionality and authority.

Adam Clayton Powell Jr. did have a serious side to his being. When he took over the pulpit of his father's church in 1937, Powell also became an outspoken leader in the burgeoning civil rights movement in his native Harlem. One of the hallmarks of Powell's service in Congress was his



Congressman Adam Clayton Powell Jr. of New York in a typical pose in 1969.

constant crusade for jobs and housing for the Black community.

"Mass action is the most powerful force on earth," Powell said. "As long as it's within the law, it's not wrong; if the law is wrong, change the law."

Powell's huge congregation and community activity made him a logical candidate for public office. Adam Clayton Powell Jr. ran for and won a seat on the New York City Council in 1941. In 1944, Powell ran for the House of Representatives and was easily elected. Powell's platform was a mixture of expanding civil rights for Blacks, an insistence upon "fair employment practices, and a ban on poll taxes and lynching." Adam Clayton Powell Jr. was a vocal opponent of the poll tax, which was used in several Southern states, which he considered to be a tool to keep Blacks and poor Whites from voting. Powell was also the first Black elected from the State of New York to serve in the U.S. House of Representatives.

The people of Harlem were especially delighted by Powell's election to Congress, but even more so by his willingness to do what many liberal members would not do; stand up and directly confront the segregationists in the House.

That willingness to speak out gave Adam Clayton Powell Jr. an outsized presence in Congress and the media of the day. A new congressman is usually invisible to everybody but his/her constituents; not so Adam Clayton Powell. Powell's vocal challenges frequently infuriated the Southern members of Congress who through a one-party system and the Southern habit of continuing incumbents in office, gave them the seniority

to chair many committees in both the House and the United States Senate and wield enormous influence.

In the 1956 election, Congressman Adam Clayton Powell endorsed the reelection of President Dwight D. Eisenhower, a Republican. Tammany Hall, the powerful Democratic organization in New York City, was enraged by Powell's apostasy and backed a challenger in the Democratic primary in 1958. Adam Clayton Powell won easily. In fact, one of Powell's supporters, Raymond J. Young, became the first Black chieftain of the Tammany organization. Powell's decision to back Eisenhower may have been due less to political principles than practical politics. Reputedly, Powell was having serious difficulties with the Treasury Department over his income taxes. Powell's influential endorsement boosted Eisenhower and the GOP ticket in New York and the congressman's income tax troubles seemingly disappeared.

For years, Congressman Powell attempted to attach an amendment to bills in the House of Representatives that included the expenditure of federal dollars. The "Powell Amendment" denied federal money to any state that maintained segregation.

Twenty years after Powell's initial election to Congress, the New York congressman would see his amendment become law through the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

When President Lyndon Johnson was being pressured to denounce Powell, LBJ told the congressman's critics, "I know nothing of Adam Powell's personal conduct, but for me he is the most important committee chairman that I have in Congress

and regardless of whatever else he does he gets my bills passed."

Returned to his seat in Congress by the ruling of the Supreme Court, Powell's victory was not long-lived. While he received enormous attention from the media of the day, much of it was focused on negative aspects of his personality or frailties. Powell was challenged in the Democratic primary by Charles Rangel and lost the election. For the remainder of his life, Adam Clayton Powell lived in self-imposed exile in Bimini.

Even the King of Harlem was not immune to aging and illness. A reporter found Powell in a Miami hospital room. The former congressman's hair was gray, and he was sitting on the edge of his bed, clearly ailing and in pain. Accompanied by his secretary and companion, Darlene Expose, Powell lived in a simple two-bedroom house in Bimini. Powell delighted in telling people Darlene was "Mrs. Powell." Even Darlene herself later admitted their union was not a marriage "in the eyes of the law."

Powell begged off an interview with the reporter and promised to respond to questions later. Powell explained he had undergone surgery in November of 1971.

"I had prostate trouble," the ex-congressman said. "The doctor told me then I was cleared . . . as clean as a whistle. Then about 4 p.m. yesterday I started bleeding and couldn't stop."

Powell died far from Harlem. In the end, nobody would have loved the spectacle of two "Mrs. Powells" fighting over his body more than Adam Clayton Powell himself. Even in death, Adam Powell still commanded the spotlight.

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Going Aboard the Titanic

A Day Away



By Mike Steely

Promoted as the safest ship ever built, the Titanic sank in 1912 after colliding with an iceberg on its way from England to America. It's been featured in various movies, television specials, books and family histories of the 1,500 passengers and crew who perished and the 712 who survived the chilly north Atlantic waters.

What is with our continuing fascination of the event, the ship and the passengers? Is it the tragedy or the personal stories of the people on board?

And what became of the survivors, especially the children, beyond the event?

Just about everything you wanted to know about the ship, from its construction to its partial recovery, is at the Titanic Museum Attraction in Pigeon Forge and it can take hours to walk through the museum to take everything in or be as brief as you like.

In March, the museum began its "Children of the RMS Titanic" exhibit with information on the 135 children who were aboard during the fated cruise. The exhibit of the children drew us back to the museum, which we hadn't visited since the grand opening. We wondered who the children were, where they came from, if their



PHOTO BY MIKE STEELY

Who were the children aboard the Titanic and what became of them? That's the story the Titanic Museum in Pigeon Forge is telling in a special ongoing exhibit that began in March.

parents survived, and what became of them. Most of that information is available at the museum with as many photos as could be found.

Not surprising, the largest number of those lost in the disaster were third-class adults and children along with most of the Titanic officers and crew. What was surprising was the number of wealthy first-class male passengers who perished, including one of the richest men in America.

If you are a fan of the hit movie "Titanic" you might be frustrated to find that the main character, "Jack," was fictional as was his love interest. You can find, however, tales of other romances and the survival of various passengers.

When you enter you

are given a card with a passenger's name on it and you can find that person's information and photo among the other passengers. At the end of the self-guided tour you can find out what happened to that person.

My wife's person survived, married and had children. The name I had, a steward, died when the ship sank. There's also a wall featuring Jewish passengers and displays about the first, second and third class passengers and their quarters and levels.

The biggest surprise for us was the exhibit of the world's largest Lego Titanic, created over a period of 11 months by a 10-year-old autistic boy in Iceland, Brynjar Karl. The child narrates a short film about the model in the exhibit's theater.

The Lego model has 56,000 blocks and the creator describes how making and showing the model helped him deal with his autism.

We visited the museum in the middle of the week in the late morning and didn't find it crowded. The staff was friendly and knowledgeable and we wish we had spent more time there.

You can find more information about the museum online at titanicpigeonforge.com or call 800-381-7670 for ticket information. The museum is located at 2134 Parkway in Pigeon Forge. Ticket prices start at about \$31.

To avoid the traffic you can return to Knoxville by way of Highway 441 which becomes Chapman Highway.

Raise Your Right Hand, and then Put it Down

I am sure we have all seen a movie where someone is sworn in to testify.



By Jedidiah McKeehan

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A bailiff or judge looks at the witness and says, "Raise your right hand. Do you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you, God?"

The witness replies, "I do."

That interaction, which happens, thousands of times across the US every single day, does not go down exactly as you would think.

First off, these witnesses are not getting sworn into office, so there is no Bible or other book on which you place your hand when being sworn in.

Second, you need not keep your right hand up the entire time you are testifying. Yes, I know, the President keeps his up through the entire oath of office, however, you get to put your hand down after you are "sworn in."

Probably once a week I hear a judge tell someone after the witness is sworn in, "You can put your hand down."

Different judges take different approaches to the swearing-in process. One judge I practice in front of from time to time starts Court every morning by having everyone present in the entire courtroom, stand up and be sworn in. That way, he does not have to worry about it for each hearing that day and he knows everyone is covered. Remember though, you get to put your hand back down after you are finished being sworn in.

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

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KIL TRACK AND FIELD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Team effort powers Lady Irish to first title

By Steve Williams

Freshman star Chloe Truss led the way, but it took a supporting cast for Knoxville Catholic to capture its first Knoxville Interscholastic League Track and Field girls' championship in school history.

After sweeping the three sprint races (100, 200 and 400), Truss anchored the Lady Irish's victorious 4x400 relay in the meet's last event to take the title by a two-point margin (121 to 119) over 11-time KIL champion and host Hardin Valley May 2.

As it turned out, Catholic not only needed all the points it could get from its team; it needed a helping hand from West in the final event, the 4x400 relay. Had the Lady Rebels not taken second place, third-place finisher Hardin Valley would have scored two more points and tied the Lady Irish for the crown.

But West nosed out HVA by 37 hundredths of a second (4:06.34 to 4:06.71). Catholic won the race in 4:04.15 with the quartet of Elly Jones, Payton Sipos, Julia Zabek and Truss.

"Everything just came together," said Catholic Coach Sean O'Neil. "Everyone did their parts



PHOTO BY LUTHER SIMMONS

Catholic freshman Chloe Truss has a big lead in the 200-meter race in the KIL Track and Field Championships. Truss swept the three sprint races and also anchored the winning 4x400 relay team as the Lady Irish won the KIL meet for the first time in school history.

and it was a real team effort."

Farragut (90 points), Webb (82) and Karns (58) rounded out the Top 5.

Ten points were awarded for first place, 8 for second, 6 for third, 5 for fourth, 4 for fifth, 3 for sixth, 2 for seventh and 1 for eighth in each event.

Truss' winning times were 12.33 seconds in the 100-meter dash, 24.99 in the 200 and 56.89 in the 400.

Asked how she felt about helping lead the team to the school's first-ever girls title, Chloe said: "I think it's great and I couldn't have done it without the rest of

my teammates. I was really happy with our 4 by 4 and winning the meet and all is great."

The Catholic girls racked up 81 points to go with the 40 points awarded for their four victories on the track.

Sipos and Caroline Hilliard, both freshmen,

were second and fourth, respectively, in the 100 hurdles. The same two came in third and seventh in the 300 hurdles.

Jones, a senior, placed third in the 200 and fourth in the 100.

Senior Kaylee Estridge finished eighth in the

Continued on page 3

Loaded Admirals rack up 183 points

By Steve Williams

Vic Wharton enjoyed a KIL boys team championship in his first season as head coach at Farragut.

His Admirals were loaded everywhere you looked – the distances events, the field events, the sprints and hurdles, and the relays – as they piled up a grand total of 183 points at Hardin Valley Academy on May 2 to claim their first KIL title since 2002.

It was a sight to behold.

"The boys did fantastic and the girls did fantastic, but it really just boiled down to a lot of hard work, determination and commitment," said Wharton. "They've been committed all year and we just needed to finish strong."

In addition to the boys' title, his girls came in third place.

"There's a lot of talent here in Knoxville as you can see and of course it was on display here in the KIL championships," added Wharton. "We tried to give the kids some rest so we

Continued on page 2



PHOTO BY BARRY HOUCHEIN

Catholic High team members and coaches are all smiles as they show off the trophy they received for winning the first KIL girls track and field team championship in school history. The girls kneeling are Julia Zabek and Brianna Cisneros. Standing are Coach Justin Emerson, Payton Sipos, Elly Jones, Coach Brandon Harris, Chloe Truss, Kaylee Estridge, Eileen Loebner, Elaina Daddabbo, Coach Sean O'Neil and Coach Shane Begnaud.

Lady Spartans set new KIL record

New KIL meet records are rare, but the Webb girls set one last week in the 4x800 relay with three freshmen and one sophomore making it happen.

The Lady Spartans' talented foursome of Calysta Garmer, Kristina Weaver, Carolina Areheart and Jazzlyn Garmer combined for a time of 9:35.82 to break the previous record time of 9:37.41 set by West in 2019.

Weaver is the sophomore in the quartet, while Calysta and Jazzlyn are twins.

"It's pretty special," said Webb Coach Tony Cosey, who works with the team's distance runners. "It actually is a school record for us as well and we've had some pretty good girls go through Webb. And obviously there's been plenty of good teams come through Knoxville too in the 4x800, so it's very impressive."

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The Farragut Admirals poured it on as they notched the school's first KIL boys championship since 2002. Kneeling (L-R): Coach Chelsea Osborne, Head Coach Vic Wharton, Dane Skinner (behind Vic), Baylor Clinton, Michael Mendonca, Coach Ty Kosa, Coach Don Jones. Standing (L-R): Coach Garret Jones, Chris Valentin (headphones on), Evan Beeler, Chase McAvoy, Matteo Tonnos, Trevor Coggin, Noah Eaker, Jakob Ovalles, Quinn DeGuira, Tyson Jackson, Bryce Thompson, Coach Tyler Kosa.

Loaded Admirals rack up 183 points

Cont. from page 1

could go ahead and compete tonight. We wanted to see exactly what we had going into sectionals to see how many we could get qualified for state. We got to see a lot of kids lay it on the line tonight."

Wharton gave kudos to assistant coach Chelsea Osborne, who heads up the distance events and led the Admirals to the TSSAA state cross country championship last fall.

"Coach Osborne has done a fantastic job getting them ready for the track season," he said. "It's a little bit different when you come to track season. They've got to be more

in race mode and speed mode.

"We've got some fabulous throwers that came in handy for us as well. And then we were scoring too with the jumpers and in the hurdles. Our hurdlers did an absolutely fantastic job. "I talk a lot about running angry," added Wharton, "and that's exactly what they did today - they ran angry."

Following the Admirals in the Top 5 team scoring were Hardin Valley (116.50 points), Catholic 94, West 43 and CAK 38.

Farragut went to work on Monday night and showed its strength in the field events as senior

Tyson Jackson took first place in the discus event with a throw of 169 feet, 5 inches and sophomore Bryce Thompson heaved the shot 51 feet, 10 inches. Julian Gorfido also got the Admirals another 10 points with his first place in the pole vault at 13-6.

The following night Farragut senior Trevor Coggin, a UT signee, took first in the 3200-meter run with a time of 9:20.44 and the Admirals' 4x200 relay, consisting of Jordan Sheppard, Noah Eaker, Chris Valentin and Troy Lockhart, won in 1:32.69.

The Admirals had plenty of depth in the distance events. Michael Mendonca

took second in the 800, while teammates Evan Beeler and Riley Hanson finished fourth and fifth, respectively. Coggin placed second and Matteo Tonnos third in the 1600. Braden Ebbert was runner-up and Quinn DeGuira fourth in the 3200.

Other individual highlights for Farragut included Dane Skinner placing second in the 300 hurdles and third in the 110 hurdles, Lockhart coming in third in the 100 dash and Josh Hambrick placing third in the pole vault.

Hardin Valley's McKale Hayes was a double winner. He led four sophomores to the 110-meter hurdles

finish line with a time of 15.87 seconds. He was followed by Silas Fulford of CAK (15.95), Farragut's Skinner and Catholic's Chase Surlas. Hayes also won the 300 hurdles in 41.32.

Hardin Valley senior Aiden Shaw and Catholic sophomore standout Keegan Smith also were double winners. Shaw, a Lee University signee, ran 21.70 in the 200 and 49.41 in the 400. Smith doubled in the 800 (1:55.80) and 1600 (4:20.26).

Catholic's Braylon Harmon won the 100-meter dash in 10.86.

In the relays, West's 4x100 combo of Cayden

Latham, Coogie Pearson, Ja'currius Wrenn and Brayden Latham took first place in 43.63.

Hardin Valley had two victories in the relays. The Hawks won the 4x800 with Carson Long, Gabe Allen, Sam Brophy and Garret Hawkins combining for a time of 8:15.67. Ethan Rome, Austin Mears, Long and Shaw produced HVA's 4x400 time of 3:27.67.

In other field events, Bearden's Cayden Douglas won the high jump at 5-10, Wrenn sailed 21-2.50 to take first in the long jump and Karns' Gavyn Duke extended his winning mark to 42-10.20 on his last triple jump.

Catholic nabs state tournament bid, sweeps rival Spartans

By Ken Lay

Catholic High School slugged its way into the Division II-AA state baseball tournament Tuesday night.

The Irish opened the week facing a three-game East Region series against rival Webb to close out the regular season. The winner of the series would claim third place in the standings and join Chattanooga Baylor and the McCallie School in the playoffs.

Catholic won a battle against the Spartans in Game 2 of the series, capturing a 13-10 victory at Taylor Field.

"We knew that this would be a battle," Irish coach Caleb Moore said.

And it was.

But the Irish, which won the series opener 6-3 at Webb on Monday, May 1, came into the game holding the upper hand. Catholic did enough to clinch a postseason berth on its home field in front of a packed and spirited house. Catholic (24-8 overall, 7-5 in the region) which had to come from behind to win the first two contests of the series, polished the regular season off with a 10-0 victory at Webb on Wednesday.

In Tuesday's tilt, the Spartans (11-13, 4-8) darted out to a 2-0 lead in the top of the first inning. Makai Derry led off the game with a double before Irish starter, left-hander, Cooper Williamson struck out Griffin Saunders and

Cole Nathan before Jack Wagner came up with an RBI double.

Webb would extend its advantage to 2-0 on an RBI single by Jack Felton.

The Irish tied the game in the bottom of the inning when Tennessee signee Daniel Parris clubbed a two-run homer.

And so the roller-coaster ride began.

The Spartans took a 4-2 lead in the third when Derry came up with a two-run double that plated Felton and Asher Harness.

The Irish would answer with the long ball again in the bottom of the inning when Ian Hubbard clubbed a two-run home run.

Webb went up 5-4 in the fifth when Saunders drove in a run with a sacrifice fly.

Catholic would respond in grand fashion in its half of the fifth as it scored seven runs as it sent 12 batters to the plate, collecting seven hits (all singles).

Ryan Theobald drove in a run with a hit before Parris and had a two-run single. Hubbard also knocked in a run with a hit. Mason Fields

picked up an RBI on a flyout and Hudson Lutterman came home on a wild pitch, seemingly giving the Irish an unsurmountable 11-5 lead.

But the Spartans had other ideas as they scored five times in the sixth to pull to within 11-10 as Derry hit a three-run homer. Blake Carter drove in a run with a single and Colton Collier knocked in a run when he reached on a fielder's choice.

Despite seeing his team's postseason hopes slip away, Webb coach Jordan Wormsley lauded the Spartans' effort.

"I was really pleased with the way our guys battled back," Wormsley said. "This was a tough battle and our kids gave a gutsy effort."

The Irish added a pair of insurance runs on an RBI single by Ben Sompayrac, who later scored the final run on a Webb error.

Lutterman closed things out by pitching a scoreless seventh for Catholic and the celebration began.

"This was a total team effort tonight," Moore said.

Jack Goode lifts Bobcats past Powell in District 3-4A Tournament

By Ken Lay

Jack Goode might only be a freshman and he may be small in stature. But he carried a big bat Thursday night.

Goode, Central High School's designated hitter, went 2-for-2 and knocked in the game-winning run with a sacrifice fly to help the third-seeded Bobcats notch a 2-1 victory in the second round of the District 3-4A Tournament over No. 2 Powell at Danny T. Maples Field.

"We have a guy, Jack Goode, and he's a little guy, but he had two hits and he drove in the winning run with a sacrifice fly," Central coach Brandon Roberts said. "The last time we came over here, their football team was bullying him in the stands."

Goode, however, wouldn't be bullied in the district tournament as he was in the Bobcats' 5-3 victory over the Panthers in Powell on Tuesday, April 18.

He singled in the second and the fourth, recording two of Central's 13 hits before delivering the big blow in the sixth for the Bobcats (17-11) when he flew out to right field and plated Sammy Myers with what eventually proved to be the winning run.

Myers, who went 1-for-4,

doubled to lead off the frame.

Goode was elated after his late inning helped Central remain in the winner's bracket.

"This just feels amazing," he said. "It's great to have a chance to play for a championship."

The Bobcats advanced to face the Panthers (17-7) with a 12-2 victory over No. 6 Campbell County Tuesday at Tommy Schumpert Park.

On Thursday night, Powell scored first as it took a 1-0 lead in the second.

Landon Godfrey doubled to lead off the inning. He came home on a throwing error when Ryan Satterfield reached on a bunt single.

The Bobcats answered in the third when Tre Lyons came up with an RBI single that plated Nick Riordan to make the score 1-1. Riordan, Central's leadoff hitter and shortstop doubled to open the inning. He finished the contest with two hits.

Bobcats' pitchers Cole Wessell and Miles Johnson combined to throw a two-hitter, stifling one of the area's top offensive teams. Wessell surrendered both of Powell's hits in the second as Godsey and Satterfield

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A sign that better days were ahead

When Josh Heupel compiled an 11-2 record in his second season at Tennessee and again energized the fan base, it brought back memories of another head coach who did likewise in his second season more than 50 years ago.



By Tom Mattingly

football, highlighted by defense and the kicking game, at Neyland's knee. This was the beginning of a new day and a new era in Tennessee gridiron history.

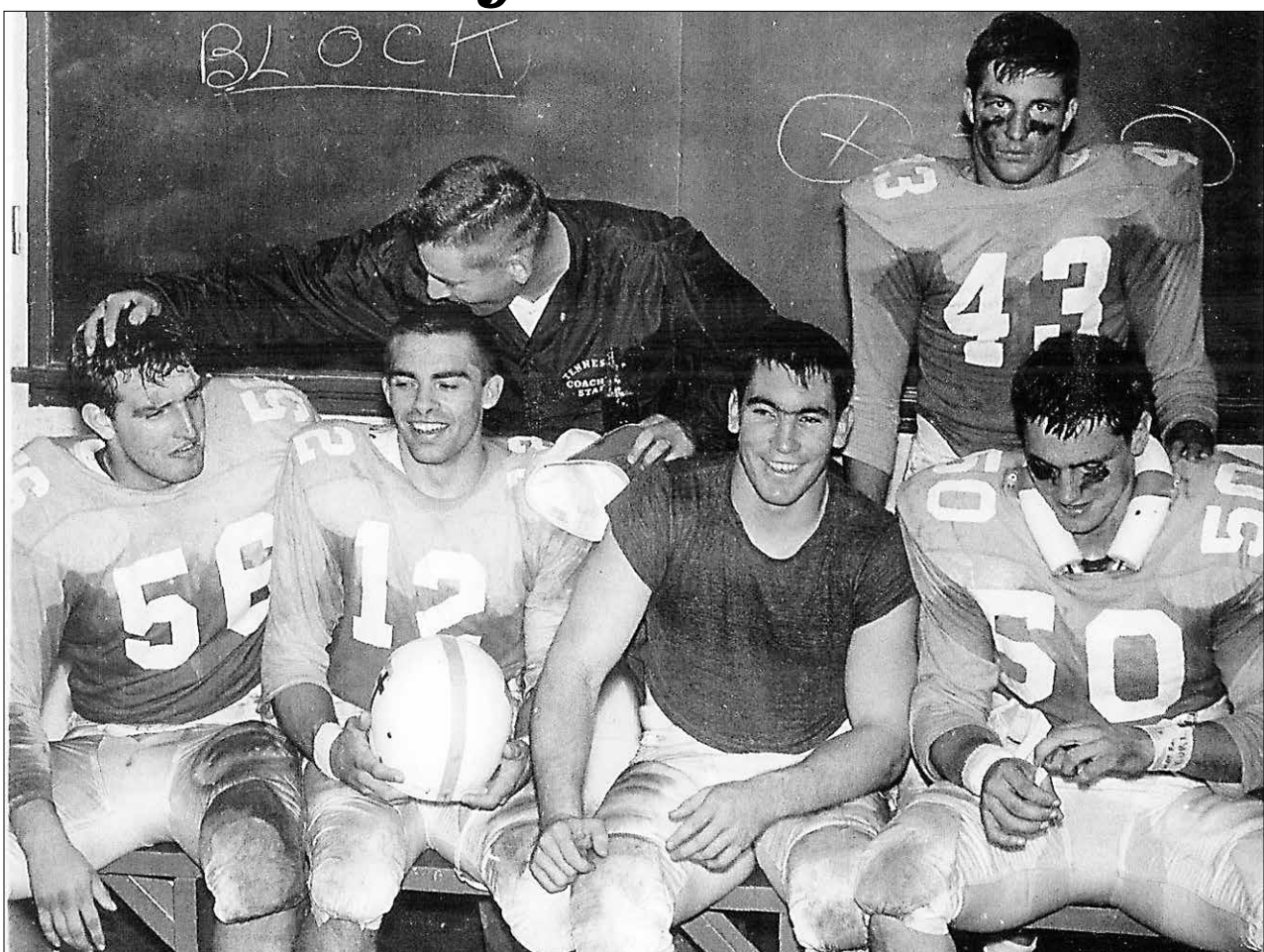
A quick glance at the history books reveals that the Vols had given up more than 30 points or more only 14 times in the games between the start of the 1915 season and the 1965 Vanderbilt game and had lost every one. Seven of Neyland's Tennessee teams gave up 34 points or fewer in an entire season.

The game had everything you could want, excitement, big plays, drama, and the requisite amount of controversy, all leading to a memorable finish.

Vol quarterback Dewey Warren, playing with two pulled groin muscles, but never with a lack of confidence, scored on a 1-yard run that seemed to take forever. Somehow Dewey found the end zone, enough so that the official on the spot threw both hands skyward.

It was a game for the ages, a "made for TV game," in the days before there were such things. Woodruff and UCLA athletic director J.D. Morgan had scheduled what would become an intersectional classic.

Had the game been played today, Warren's visage and the game tape would have been all over Sports Center. The game and its aftermath would be an "ESPN Classic" the next night. It's still one of the



Doug Dickey and Vol players (L-R) Reggie Jellicorse (56), Charles Fulton (12), Stan Mitchell, Frank Emanuel (50), and Harold Stancell (43) celebrate after a 21-7 win over Georgia Tech.

Rarely have three consecutive December Saturdays been as significant as Dec. 4, Dec. 11, and Dec. 18 were that year. What happened over those three Saturdays encouraged Tennessee fans looking for signs that better days were ahead.

On Dec. 4, the Vols played a classic game with UCLA at the new stadium in Memphis, a definite step-up from the antiquated Crump Stadium. Tennessee Athletic Director Bob Woodruff termed the venue a "neutral site." UCLA head coach Tommy Prothro, a Memphis native, was more skeptical. "Playing Tennessee in Memphis is like playing Notre Dame in Rome," he said.

With a crowd of 44,495 in attendance, the final tally was 37-34, Tennessee, a score that had to have caught the attention of Vol fans who learned their

most requested Vol game tapes ever.

The next Saturday was signing day, with the Vols ending up with a class that would help lead the Vols to gridiron glory.

The Vol performance that season had to have had a positive impact on prep prospects in Tampa, Cincinnati, Kingsport, Jackson, Johnson City, Nashville, and Oliver Springs. That's where many of the top prospects for the 1966 freshman class were located, and the Vols got them all: Steve Kiner, Jack Reynolds, Vic Dingus, Don McLeary, John Rippetoe, Mike Jones, and Gary

Kreis. Kiner (1968-69) and Reynolds (1969) were All American selections.

There were others, such as Nashville's Manley Mixon, Wayne Smith, and Bobby Patterson, Chattanooga's Steve Carroll, Steve Wold of Port Orange, Fla., and Villa Rica, Georgia's Herman ("Thunderfoot") Weaver, so named during his Detroit Lions pro career by ABC's Don Meredith. "Dandy Don" thought Weaver's punts were so high they could bring rain (and thunder).

The third weekend sent the Vols to Houston for the Bluebonnet Bowl, and Vol

fans were enthused by a 27-6 win over Tulsa, in a game played in a driving rainstorm. Warren ran for two scores and tossed a 4-yard TD pass to inspirational team captain Hal Wantland. Fullback Stan Mitchell scored on an 11-yard run.

"I remember it was wet as in real rain and mud and soup—a perfect fit for Dewey Warren's famous nickname, 'Swamp Rat,'" said Marvin West reporting for the Knoxville New-Sentinel. "Tulsa kept shooting itself in the foot. Tennessee had trouble with stopping the short passing game to Howard

Twilley, but Tulsa would lose a fumble or interception, and the Vols would capitalize. It seems Tulsa won the stats comparison. Dewey Warren threw very little for almost nothing."

For Vol fans, Dec. 18, 1965, was a beautiful day, regardless of the weather. Vol fans had the feeling Tennessee was "back."

These were December Saturdays that forever changed the face of Tennessee football, on the field and on the recruiting trail. Not before or since have such December Saturdays been so important to the Vol program.

Team effort powers Lady Irish to first title

Cont. from page 1

800 run, sixth in the 1600 and fifth in the 3200. Sophomore Eileen Loebner placed sixth in the 3200.

Catholic was runner-up in the 4x100 relay, with Maeva Cox, Evai Mitchell, Sharon Wilson and Jones passing the baton. Its 4x200 relay of Cox, Mitchell, Wilson and Zabek placed fourth.

In the field events, Catholic got valuable points from sophomore Maggie Frana, who threw a school record 101 feet for second place in the discus event, and was third in the shot put. Sipsos exceeded expectations in the high jump with a third place showing.

Hardin Valley junior distance standout Maddie Archdale won the 800 (2:17.87) in a very close finish with Farragut's Parker Willis (2:17.93).

With a headwind blowing against her on half of the track, Archdale posted a winning time of 5:11.93 in the 1600.

Karns' Rylee Gifford took first place in the 3200 with an 11:32.54.

Grace Christian senior Brianna Baker skimmed over the 100 hurdles in 14.94, but had a battle in the 300 hurdles with Bearden junior Lydia Lively. Baker was clocked in 45.63 seconds and Lively in 45.65.

South-Doyle (49.83) edged Catholic (49.88) in the 4x100 relay. The same foursome of Lariah Cozart, Aubrey Hubbs, Amani Martin and Ka'Shauna Dyer also won the 4x200 in 1:46.25.

On a cool, breezy night in the field events, Webb's Lennox Langham and Hardin Valley's Gracie Waite were double winners. Langham leaped 16-11 in the long jump and 36-5.75 in the triple jump. Waite had a 34-10.70 mark in the shot put and hurled the discus 122-3.

Farragut's Callie Lefler cleared five feet to win the high jump event and Concord Christian sophomore Liliane Helton sailed over the pole vault bar, which was set at 10-6, for her victory.

NFL Draft Proves Vols Are Back

By Mark Nagi

You might have heard the jokes about Texas football. Every time they win a game against a somewhat decent opponent, you hear the "Texas is Back!" bellows from their fans and a lot of the national sports media.

But then they lose to Kansas, proving that no, good sirs, Texas is not back. In terms of the Tennessee Volunteers, there have been way too many false starts to count, but today we have more tangible proof that the Vols are indeed worthy of being back in the national conversation.

The NFL Draft used to be filled annually with Tennessee talent. Think about 2002, when the Vols had three players selected in the first 15 picks, with John Henderson, Donte Stallworth and Albert Haynesworth getting the call. In all nine UT players were taken in that Draft.

The Vols haven't been very busy come draft weekend lately. Yes, in 2017 Tennessee did have six players picked, all in the first four rounds. But otherwise, they hadn't had more than three players selected in a single draft since 2010. And in three drafts (2015, 2016, 2019), Tennessee didn't have a single player picked.

Fast forward to the 2023 NFL Draft and you saw a whole lot of orange and white. Kicking things off, Tennessee offensive lineman Darnell Wright became the 47th first-round draft pick in Tennessee history when he was grabbed by the Chicago Bears 10th

overall.

He is also the 14th top-10 draft pick in Tennessee football history and the highest drafted Vol offensive lineman since Charles McRae and Antone Davis went 7th and 8th respectively in 1991.

"You see on tape, I'm big and strong," Wright told the media the night he was drafted. "I don't think people will realize once they really get to see more of me, they'll see how athletic I am and that I can play both sides as needed. I know I'm coming into a room. I just want to earn the respect of those guys first, but I can probably play anywhere on the line. My athleticism will speak for itself. I just want to get better and better at my technique."

Then in the third round, four Tennessee players were selected during a 10-pick span. Quarterback Hooker went to the Detroit Lions. Wide receivers Jalin Hyatt and Cedric Tillman were taken by the New

York Giants and Cleveland Browns, respectively. Edge rusher Byron Young was taken by the Los Angeles Rams.

In those first 3 rounds, Tennessee had five players taken, second most in the country.

"Me being a servant leader and genuinely enjoying people succeed—that's something that my previous teammates know about me," Hooker told reporters. "I am going to be a good friend and a good teammate no matter what's going on. Leadership starts at the quarterback position. However my role on the Lions goes, I just want to come in and soak up how to be a pro and how things are ordered so that when my number is called, I can step into that big leadership position. I will be prepared for it."

"The Giants, they wanted explosive playmakers and that's what I want to bring and add to the team," said Hyatt.

"I'm fired up," Tillman

said. "You know (quarterback) Deshaun Watson is one of the best quarterbacks in the league, and I'm really looking forward to getting to know all my teammates and new brothers, new coaches and stuff, so I'm excited."

"I feel like, honestly, I'm a very relentless pass rusher," said Young. "Really fast get-off. Explosive. I feel like that's one of the traits I bring to the table. Just my power. Speed and power. Some moves I can't wait to use... ghost, long arm, spin move. Those are some of my favorite moves. So, I can't wait to try that at the next level and use them."

These five players helped Tennessee achieve great things in 2022 and laid the foundation for the future of the Vols program. Expectations are that in the future, many other current Vols will join them in the NFL.

And if that happens, the Vols will stay in their current place amongst the SEC's elite.

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Halls rides 5-4 win over Gibbs into post-season play

By Steve Williams

Halls enters post-season softball play tonight on a high note, while Gibbs is coming off a rough week.

In an exciting game between the two rivals last Wednesday night in Corryton, the Lady Red Devils scored two runs in the top of the seventh inning to slip past the Lady Eagles 5-4 in the regular season finale for both teams.

With two outs and a runner on first base and a 3-2 count, sophomore slugger Emery Bales hit a two-run homer over the right centerfield fence to put Halls on top by one. Bales, a transfer from Union County this season, was mobbed by happy teammates as she stepped on home plate.

Gibbs had a good chance to answer in the bottom of the seventh with its 3-4-5 batters due up, but couldn't come up with a clutch hit after Jordann Reagan led off with a walk. Courtesy runner Maddi Whaley replaced Reagan and stole second base.

Winning pitcher Atianna Stamper, also a sophomore, slammed the door by getting Lacey Keck to fly out to left field, Emma Keck to pop up to the catcher and McKenzie Morton to strike out.

The victory upped Halls' record to 25-4-2. The Lady Red Devils lost to Gibbs 5-1 in their first meeting at the start of the season. Gibbs, which lost two of three games last week, including an 11-1 defeat at the hands of Farragut, fell to 30-4.

Both Halls and Gibbs



PHOTO BY JJ SPEARS

Halls' Emery Bales nears home plate after walloping a two-run homer to give her team the lead over Gibbs in the top of the seventh inning Wednesday. And her Lady Red Devil teammates can hardly wait for her to get there so they can celebrate. Halls won, 5-4.

play district tournament opens tonight. Gibbs will host the District 3-3A tourney and Halls is in District 4-3A at Anderson County. Both are favored to advance to next week's Region 2-3A tournament, along with Carter and Clinton.

"We got timely hitting and made pitches when we had to," said Halls Coach Bryan Gordon, "and very, very timely hitting by Bales there at the end."

"Emery has hit it well for us all year. She's just having fun."

Coach Gordon also had good things to say about his pitcher.

"She did just an outstanding job. She battled through some stuff early and was just outstanding. She was as good as we could ask for."

"It was two great teams playing," added Gordon. "It don't get more fun than

that." Coach Gordon expects it to be a heck of a region this year.

"That program (Gibbs) has always been good," he said. "Let's cut through the crap; they're the standard around here. To get to where you want to go, sometimes you have to get to those standards."

"It was a great atmosphere and great game between two good teams today. It was a lot of fun to coach in, and hopefully it was a lot of fun to play in and a lot of fun to watch."

"It's a rivalry. The kids know each other. Hopefully, it (the win) will help us get over the hump."

Halls took a 2-0 lead in the top of the first inning on RBI doubles by Bales and Mykayla Hutchinson. Gibbs tied it in the bottom of the second with a double by Bridgette Scully

and RBI singles by Taylor Selby and Malyiah Smith.

The Lady Eagles took a 3-2 lead in the fourth. Savanna Melo and Selby had infield hits and Melo scored on Smith's two-out single to left field.

Halls pulled even in the top of the fifth when Bales doubled in Staley Vaught, who had singled.

The Lady Eagles took a 4-3 lead in the bottom of the fifth when Scully's double off the fence in left field brought in courtesy runner Rheaune Tullock.

Gibbs pitcher Lacey Keck struck out two batters to strand a Halls runner at second base in the sixth.

Selby led off the bottom of the sixth with an infield hit for Gibbs and stole second but was stranded at third when Smith grounded out and Dakota Large flew out to left field.



Gibbs High School baseball player Braden Graves signed his National Letter of Intent to play for Chattanooga State Community College last week. Pictured with Graves is Eagles' head coach Geff Davis.

Graves signs with Chattanooga State

By Ken Lay

Gibbs High School baseball player Braden Graves will continue his career on the diamond.

Graves, a senior second baseman and shortstop for the Eagles, made that official at a signing ceremony at the school on Monday, May 1 while coaches, administrators, family members, classmates and teammates were in attendance.

He will continue his baseball career and academic pursuits at Chattanooga State Community College.

Graves opted to go the two-year college route because he would have the opportunity to play right away.

"I considered Walters State, Vol State and all of the other junior colleges,"

Graves said. "I didn't want to go somewhere and sit for two years."

He noted that the campus appealed to him and credited the coaching staff for making him feel at home in Chattanooga.

"I liked the campus and I liked the (baseball) facility and I liked the coaches," Graves said. "It just felt like home."

While Graves wasn't necessarily looking to attend college close to home, he's looking forward to his family getting the chance to see him play.

"That didn't really matter," Graves said about playing close to home. "But I've always wanted my family to get to come and watch me play."

He said that he plans to major in business.

Polston, Halls baseball coach, gets win No. 700

By Steve Williams

Halls High School's Doug Polston notched the 700th win in his baseball coaching career Thursday night. The milestone victory came against Anderson County in the District 4-3A tournament at the Clinton fairgrounds.

Polston, who has been inducted into the Tennessee Baseball Coaches Association's Hall of Fame, is in his 35th season coaching at Halls. His Red Devils have played in the state tournament three times.

The Focus plans to run a feature story on Coach Polston in its May 15 issue.

Ralph Boston, Olympian with UT ties, dead at 83

Ralph Boston, who won three Olympic medals and was the first person to break the 27 feet barrier in the long jump, died April 30 in Peachtree City, Ga., at the age of 83.

Boston moved to Knoxville after retiring as a world class athlete and worked for UT as Coordinator of Minority Affairs and Assistant Dean of Students from 1968 to 1975. He also was a member of the Knoxville Track Club.

Softball state tourney is double-elimination

The eight winners of the softball Sectionals shall advance to the central site for an eight-team,



double-elimination tournament. The draw shall be made so that if two teams from the same region reach the central tournament site, they will be drawn from opposite brackets.

Local product is NL Player of the Week

Nick Senzel, former Farragut High and UT baseball standout and now a utility player for the Cincinnati Reds, was named the National League Player of the Week presented by Chevrolet on May 1, following a tremendous week of action to round out the month of April.

Senzel went 10-for-21 (.476) on the week beginning April 24 and ending April 30. He hit a pair of home runs, logged nine RBIs, scored eight runs and had a double and a stolen base.

His highlight of the week came on April 26 when he delivered the first walk-off homer of his career, blasting a two-run shot to help the Reds defeat Texas, 5-3.

Buckner leads Admirals in batting average

Lukas Buckner finished Farragut's 30-game regular season with a .489 batting average, which led the Admirals (24-6).

Other statistical leaders on the team included

Landis Davila, Jake Merrick and Jett Johnston, each with five home runs; Merrick with 30 RBIs; Johnston with 32 runs; and Brennon Seigler with eight stolen bases.

Ashton Sulack had the Admirals' top pitching stats: 5-1 record, 1.17 ERA, 30 IP, 11 H, 15 BB, 49 K.

Baseball sectionals to be best-of-three

The TSSAA's new Sectional baseball format this season will be a best-of-three series to be played Wednesday through Saturday following the completion of the region tournament.

The eight winners of the sectional rounds shall advance to the central tournament site. The tournament will consist of two pools of four teams that will play a double elimination tournament within each pool. The winner of each pool will then play a single game for the state championship.

Large fills Gibbs' boys basketball post

Aaron Large was announced last week as Gibbs High's new boys basketball coach. He replaces Timothy Meade, who coached for 11 years and led the Eagles to the state tourney his first season (2012-13).

Large is a 2007 Gibbs grad, who was a three-sport athlete in football, basketball and track.

Large was the Gibbs football team's defensive coordinator last season. He also has been an assistant basketball coach at his alma mater in previous years.

Cain commits to Georgia

Former Knoxville Catholic High basketball standout Blue Cain has committed to Georgia. The shooting guard picked the Bulldogs over Florida, Virginia and Penn State.

Cain, who left Catholic to play at IMG Academy, ranks No. 52 in ESPN's Top 100 national rankings.

Jack Goode lifts Bobcats

Cont. from page 2

"Our pitchers threw well," Roberts said. "That's how it's been all year."

Cole has been solid and Miles usually comes in on relief, and tonight, he got the win." Central played district regular-season championship Oak Ridge Saturday but results were not available at press time. The Bobcats and Wildcats split their two regular-season meetings and Central handed Oak Ridge its lone league loss in 2023.

Powell faced elimination Sunday and the Panthers' opponent wasn't determined at press time.

The Panthers, however, stranded seven runners in the game. Wessell, Central's left-handed starting pitcher, went four innings. He allowed one unearned run, two hits and two walks. He struck out one. Johnson, who hit three batters, pitched three innings and struck out five.

He took the mound in the fifth and hit the first two batters he faced, but escaped damage by fanning a pair of hitters and inducing a popup from Kwade Carver.



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Yardley Flats to be built at multi-use stadium in Knoxville

Name of 233-unit apartment complex honors Black attorney William Francis Yardley

Third Base Residential will develop a 233-unit complex named after William Francis Yardley, a civil rights leader, politician and Knoxville's first Black attorney, at the new multi-use stadium on the edge of the Old City.

Yardley Flats will consist of two high-rise buildings connected by a sky bridge, and many of the studio, one, and two-bedroom apartments will feature views of the multi-use stadium complex. Each building will include two stories of access-controlled parking topped by apartments accessible by elevators.

"Mr. Yardley was described by famous orator Frederick Douglass as 'one of the most remarkable men that I have met' and we think it is appropriate to name this stunning residential development after him," said Joseph A. Fielden Jr., a local developer and president of

Third Base Residential. "It will be located in the heart of Knoxville's rich African American cultural heritage district."

Yardley, who lived from 1844 to 1924, also was Tennessee's first Black gubernatorial candidate, according to the Beck Cultural Exchange Center, and is believed to have been the first Black attorney to argue a case before the Tennessee Supreme Court. He published a newspaper, "The Examiner," that promoted African American rights, and he was an advocate for labor and the poor both as an attorney and as a politician.

The Sports Authority for Knoxville and Knox County is finalizing arrangements for stadium construction, along with agreements with Boyd Sports, which will bring the Smokies, the Minor League Baseball Double-A affiliate of the Chicago Cubs, back to Knoxville from Sevier County. Boyd Sports is owned by Knoxville businessman and entrepreneur Randy Boyd.

"Over 50 percent of the units will have full or partial views of the field," Fielden said. "All residences will have access to viewing

courtyards, entertainment and grilling areas and a large pool."

Each unit will have a washer and dryer, quartz countertops with subway tile backsplashes and stainless-steel Energy Star Whirlpool appliances.

J.A. Fielden Co. General Contractors will build the complex, which should break ground in the next several months, with Building One scheduled to be completed ahead of the first pitch of the 2025 baseball season and Building Two expected to be finished in the summer of 2025.

Leasing will begin in late 2024, and Fielden said a portrait of William Yardley will be displayed in the leasing center.

Fielden said the target market for the apartments will be renters seeking an urban lifestyle; renters seeking a second home with no upkeep in an area with plenty of activities; and companies seeking units for corporate housing and entertaining.

This latest residential project follows the 2022 announcement of "The Beauford Delaney Building" in honor of Black American

Beauford Delaney as the internationally acclaimed artist's original childhood home stood one block

from the site of the transformational stadium project. The \$55 million nine-story building adjacent

to the stadium will house condos and the team's office space.

EAST TENNESSEE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION NEW RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION PROJECT

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

East Tennessee Housing Development Corporation is soliciting bids from qualified general contractors for the construction of one (1) single-family dwelling under the THDA CHDO HOME Program 2020 Mini-Round. Sealed bids will be received at 2120 McCalla Ave., Knoxville, TN 37915 (the project site) at 12:30 p.m. EST, on Wednesday, May 31, 2023, and then opened and read aloud. Sealed bids can also be mailed or dropped off at 10414 Jackson Oaks Way, Suite 202 Knoxville, TN 37922 by 4:00 p.m. EST on Tuesday, May 30, 2023.

Copies of the complete New Construction Bid Packet may be obtained by contacting Jim Swink, Project Manager, (864) 918-2544 or jimswink7@gmail.com. A pre-bid meeting will be held at the project site at 12:30 p.m. EST, on Friday, May 19, 2021 where New Construction Bid Packages will be available.

All bids must be submitted in compliance with the New Construction Bid Packet and Information for Bidders. All bidders must be licensed General Contractors and qualified for the type of construction being bid upon.

East Tennessee Housing Development Corporation reserves the right to reject any or all bids, or waive any informalities.

East Tennessee Housing Development Corporation encourages minority and female owned companies to apply. East Tennessee Housing Development Corporation hereby agrees, warrants, and assures that no person shall be excluded from participation in, be denied benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination in the performance of this project or in the employment practices of the Grantee on the grounds of handicap or disability, age, race, color, religion, sex, national origin, or any other classification protected by Federal, Tennessee State constitutional, or statutory law.

Jim Swink
Project Manager

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE

Request for Bids - KCDC, the Public Housing Authority for Knoxville & Knox County, posts all of its solicitations at www.kcdc.org/procurement. Click on 'Open Solicitations' and follow the link.

LEGAL NOTICE 94

Knox County will receive bids for the following items & services:
Bid 3418, Serving Line Equipment, due 6/5/23
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.

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4/5/2023	TOYOTA	COROLLA	1NXBR32E63Z048569
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4/5/2023	ACURA	MDX	2HNVD18853H332104
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4/5/2023	VOLVO	C90	YV4982CZ3A1542501
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4/5/2023	BMW	X5	5UXFB535X6LV23962
4/5/2023	FORD	F150	1FTFX15N3MKA51224
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NON-RESIDENT NOTICE

TO: CAROL JOSEY
IN RE: WILSON & ASSOCIATES, PLLC v CAROL JOSEY
 NO. 204836-1

IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE

In this Cause, it appearing from the Complaint filed, which is sworn to, that the defendant CAROL JOSEY, 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 CAROL JOSEY, it is ordered that said defendant, CAROL JOSEY, file an answer with the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court at Knoxville, Tennessee and with H Keith Morrison, an Attorney whose address is One East Center Street, Suite 310, Fayetteville, AR 72701 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 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 11th day of April, 2023.

J Scott Griswold
 Clerk and Master

NON-RESIDENT NOTICE

TO: JEFFREY LAMONT SIMMONS
IN RE: TAMMY DARLENE SIMMONS v JEFFREY LAMONT SIMMONS
 NO. 206588-1

IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE

In this Cause, it appearing from the Complaint filed, which is sworn to, that the defendant JEFFREY LAMONT SIMMONS, 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 JEFFREY LAMONT SIMMONS, it is ordered that said defendant, JEFFREY LAMONT SIMMONS, file an answer with the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court at Knoxville, Tennessee and with GAIL F WORTLEY, an Attorney whose address is 3715 Powers Street, Knoxville, TN 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 John 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 11th day of April, 2023.

J Scott Griswold
 Clerk and Master

SUMMONS

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF GREENWOOD

Nathaniel Kirkland,
Plaintiff,
v.
Jocelyn F. Kirkland, Edward Hall
and Minor Girl Adoptee,
A minor under the age of Fourteen (14) years,
Defendants.

IN THE FAMILY COURT EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

NOTICE 22-DR-24-657

TO THE DEFENDANT, EDWARD HALL: YOU WILL PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the original Summons and Complaint in the above entitled action were filed in the office of the Clerk of Court for Greenwood County on December 21, 2022. This action concerns the adoption of a child born in October of 2015.

LAW OFFICE OF BRADLEY W. KNOTT, LLC

Bradley W. Knott
 Attorney for the Plaintiff
 104 Maxwell Avenue, Suite 327
 Greenwood, S.C. 29646
 (864) 396-2499

Greenwood, South Carolina
 December 22, 2022

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF GREENWOOD

Nathaniel Kirkland,
Plaintiff,
v.
Jocelyn F. Kirkland, Michael Edward Hall
and Minor Girl Adoptee, a minor
under the age of fourteen (14) years,
Defendants.

IN THE FAMILY COURT EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

SUMMONS 22-DR-24-657

TO THE DEFENDANTS JOCELYN F. KIRKLAND, MICHAEL EDWARD HALL AND THE GUARDIAN AD LITEM FOR THE MINOR CHILD:

THIS SUMMONS REQUIRES you to answer the attached Complaint and to serve a copy of your Answer on the Plaintiff's attorney at his office, 104 Maxwell Avenue, Suite 327, Greenwood, South Carolina 29646, within THIRTY (30) DAYS after service of this Summons, excluding the day of service, and if you fail to answer the Complaint within this time, judgment by default will be rendered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

LAW OFFICE OF BRADLEY W. KNOTT, LLC

Bradley W. Knott
 Attorney for the Plaintiff
 104 Maxwell Avenue, Suite 327
 Greenwood, South Carolina 29646
 (864) 396-2499

Greenwood, South Carolina
 December 22, 2022

NON-RESIDENT NOTICE

TO: AMANDA JEAN MILLIS
IN RE: DAVID BRIAN WALKER v AMANDA JEAN MILLIS
 NO. 206033-1

IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE

In this Cause, it appearing from the Complaint filed, which is sworn to, that the defendant AMANDA JEAN MILLIS, 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 AMANDA JEAN MILLIS it is ordered that said defendant, AMANDA JEAN MILLIS, file an answer with the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court at Knoxville, Tennessee and with Konner F Brabson, an Attorney whose address is P.O. Box 70, Greenville, TN 37744 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 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 17th day of April, 2023.

J Scott Griswold
 Clerk and Master

PUBLIC NOTICE

CIRCUIT COURT SALE OF VALUABLE PROPERTY

WILLIAMS KP PARTNERS,
A Tennessee General Partnership,
Plaintiff,
v.
STARLA ARNOLD, BOWER ARNOLD,
BRITANY BEAN, SUSAN BOWER CAIN,
ULESS JOSEPH ARNOLD, REGINA BOWER MURRAY, HANNAH ARNOLD WINCHESTER,
BENJAMIN CHRISTOPHER ARNOLD,
APRIL BOWER HARRIS, JON SCOTT MOORE, JOHN TRACY ARNOLD, and
MICHAEL BENJAMIN MOORE,
Defendants.

No. 1-38-22

LOCATION: SITUATE in District No. Six (6) of Knox County, Tennessee, and being more fully described as follows:

BEGINNING at a point in the Southern edge of Kingston Pike, corner to Prater; thence with the line of Prater, South 31° 55' EAST 719.89 feet to a point corner to John Anderson; thence with the line of John Anderson North 54° 17' East 626.4 feet to a point in the line of the Mary Wood subdivision; thence with the line of the Mary Wood subdivision North 35° 29' West 713.20 feet to a point in the edge of Kingston Pike; thence with the southern edge of Kingston Pike South 55° 26' West 582.2 feet to the point of BEGINNING.

BEING part of the same property conveyed to Jon Scott Moore, Michael Benjamin Moore, Regina Bower Murray f/k/a Regina Patricia Bower, April Bower Harris f/k/a April Karen Bower, Susan Bower Cain f/k/a Susan Rosalind Bower, Jimmy Bower Arnold, Benjamin Christopher Arnold, Hanna Arnold Winchester f/k/a Lillian Hanna Arnold, Uless Joseph Arnold and John Tracy Arnold by Trustee's Quitclaim Deed recorded as Instrument No. 201003190059457, in the Knox County Register's Office; and

BEING part of the same property leased to Lawler, Wood, Daves and Bower, a joint venture by Lease as evidenced by Memorandum of Lease dated March 11, 1981, and recorded in Trust Book 1947, page 474, in the Knox County Register's Office. Said lease has been assigned to Williams KP Partners and its maturity date is December 23, 2044.

See also that Warranty Deed from Michael Benjamin Moore to KP Venture, LLC, a Tennessee limited liability company, dated July 31, 2020, and recorded as Instrument No. 202008030009525, in the Knox County Register's Office (as to a 4% undivided interest).

PARCEL NUMBER: CLT Nos. 119-039.00, 119-039.01, 119-039.02

Sale is being conducted by the Clerk and Master for the Knox County Chancery Court on behalf of the Knox County Circuit Court pursuant to the Order entered December 16, 2022, in the above cause of action.

DATE AND TIME OF SALE: Friday, May 19, 2023, at 11:00 a.m.

PLACE OF SALE: City-County Building within the corridor of the Main Street entrance near the Large Assembly Room, North entrance, 400 Main Street, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902.

TERMS: The sale will be cash and the parties hereto may not credit bid. The purchaser may either (i) pay the entire purchase price at the time of sale or (ii) pay 10% of the purchase price at the time of sale and execute a note for the balance, without interest, to be paid in full within 30 days from the sale date. As security for the note, a Knox County resident must sign the note as surety and the Clerk and Master will retain a lien on the real property until the note is satisfied. All funds must be paid by check drawn from a bank where the Clerk and Master can independently verify funds are available. If the person bidding is an agent of another person or entity, the person bidding must present sufficient evidence to the Clerk and Master, at the time of the sale, to establish his or her authority to bid. The Clerk and Master is further authorized to accept an advanced bid and reopen bidding in accordance with Tenn. Code Ann. § 35-5-110.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CALL: 865-215-2555; J. Scott Griswold, Esq., Clerk and Master

RUN IN THE KNOXVILLE FOCUS: April 24, 2023; May 1, 2023; and May 8, 2023

NON-RESIDENT NOTICE

TO: ALL UNKNOWN HEIRS OF GEORGE A GUYER
IN RE: RUBIN LUBLIN TN PLLC v DAVID GUYER, JOE GUYER, MICHAEL GUYER AND ALL UNKNOWN HEIRS OF GEORGE A GUYER
 NO. 205980-2

IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE

In this Cause, it appearing from the Complaint filed, which is sworn to, that the defendant ALL UNKNOWN HEIRS OF GEORGE A GUYER, 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 ALL UNKNOWN HEIRS OF GEORGE A GUYER, it is ordered that said defendant, ALL UNKNOWN HEIRS OF GEORGE A GUYER, file an answer with the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court at Knoxville, Tennessee and with Patty Whitehead, an Attorney whose address is 3145 Avalon Ridge Place, Suite 100, Peachtree Corners, GA 30071 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 B Armstrong Jr 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 24th day of April, 2023.

J Scott Griswold
 Clerk and Master

NON-RESIDENT NOTICE AND NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS

TO: KELLIE DIANE OLIVER LEE FONTE,
EDWARD ALVIS, LAURA CROSTIC,
MICHELLE ALVIS WHITEHEAD, AND THE UNKNOWN HEIRS OF WANDA SUE DAY
 IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF KNOX COUNTY,

TENNESSEE PROBATE DIVISION

DONNA HURT, PLAINTIFF/PETITIONER/ ADMINISTRATRIX, VS. DONNA HURT; JAMES E. SIMMONS; GINA LEA DOTY; KELLIE DIANE OLIVER LEE FONTE; MEGAN R. CRENSHAW WEARY; JOHN A CRENSHAW; LEWIS C. OLIVER, JR.; ANDREW GEORGE OLIVER, JR.; DELORES ANN MILLER; RAYMOND FRANCIS BOWMAN; ERIC V. BOWMAN; CHARLES WESLEY BOWMAN, JR.; LINDA MARIE IVEY; JACQUELINE LEE BRUCATO; EDWARD ALVIS; LAURA CROSTIC; MICHELLE ALVIS WHITEHEAD; SHEILA ANN RODRIGUE; ELIZABETH EUNICE LOFTON; CINDY LAY LINDSLEY; and THE UNKNOWN HEIRS OF WANDA SUE DAY, DEFENDANTS. IN RE: THE ESTATE OF WANDA SUE DAY, DECEASED; DONNA HURT, ADMINISTRATRIX.

DOCKET NUMBER: 86989-3

It appearing from the Petition For Sale of Real Property filed herein that Defendants Kellie Diane Oliver Lee Fonte, Edward Alvis, Laura Crostic, Michelle Alvis Whitehead, and the unknown heirs of Wanda Sue Day are all non-residents of the State of Tennessee, or their whereabouts cannot be ascertained upon diligent search and inquiry so that the ordinary process of law cannot be served upon each of them, it is ordered that said Defendants each file an answer with the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court (Probate Division) at Knoxville, Tennessee and with Victoria B. Tillman, Petitioner's Attorney, whose address is McKinney & Tillman, P.C., 1019 Orchid Drive, Knoxville, TN 37912, Telephone (865) 525-8700, within thirty (30) days of the last date of publication or a judgment of default will be taken against each of them and the cause set for hearing Ex Parte as to each of them. This notice will be published in the The Knoxville Focus for four (4) consecutive weeks.

J Scott Griswold
 Clerk & Master

NON-RESIDENT NOTICE

TO: ALL PERSONS UNKNOWN CLAIMING ANY LEGAL OR EQUITABLE RIGHT, TITLE, ESTATE, LIEN OR INTEREST IN THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED IN THE COMPLAINT

IN RE: MICHAEL A SMITH v ALL PERSONS UNKNOWN CLAIMING ANY LEGAL OR EQUITABLE RIGHT, TITLE, ESTATE, LIEN OR INTEREST IN THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED IN THE COMPLAINT
 NO. 206685-2

IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE

In this Cause, it appearing from the Complaint filed, which is sworn to, that the defendant ALL PERSONS UNKNOWN CLAIMING ANY LEGAL OR EQUITABLE RIGHT, TITLE, ESTATE, LIEN OR INTEREST IN THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED IN THE COMPLAINT, 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 ALL PERSONS UNKNOWN CLAIMING ANY LEGAL OR EQUITABLE RIGHT, TITLE, ESTATE, LIEN OR INTEREST IN THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED IN THE COMPLAINT, it is ordered that said defendant, ALL PERSONS UNKNOWN CLAIMING ANY LEGAL OR EQUITABLE RIGHT, TITLE, ESTATE, LIEN OR INTEREST IN THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED IN THE COMPLAINT, file an answer with the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court at Knoxville, Tennessee and with David J Otten, an Attorney whose address is PO Box 32211, K110xville, TN 37930 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 B Armstrong Jr 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 28th day of APRIL, 2023.

J Scott Griswold
 Clerk and Master

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF JOE EDWARD BARNHART
DOCKET NUMBER 87536-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 20 day of APRIL 2023, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of JOE EDWARD BARNHART who died Feb 5, 2023, 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 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 20 day of APRIL, 2023.

ESTATE OF JOE EDWARD BARNHART

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
 LINDA JANE BARNHART
 CHAVEZ; EXECUTRIX
 11605 LANESBOROUGH WAY APT 0409
 KNOXVILLE TN 37934

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

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF JOYCE X BLAZER
DOCKET NUMBER 87495-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 18 day of APRIL 2023, letters of administration c.t.a. in respect of the Estate of JOYCE X BLAZER who died Dec 10, 2022, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first date of the 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; 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 (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 20 day of APRIL, 2023.

Notice of Public Hearing

Knoxville's Community Development Corporation (KCDC) has developed its 2023 Public Housing Agency (PHA) Annual Draft Plan in compliance with the 1998 Public Housing Reform Act. The Plan will be available for review Monday – Friday between the hours of 7:30 am and 4:00 pm beginning Monday, May 8, 2023, through Wednesday, June 21, 2023, at the KCDC Main Office located at 901 N. Broadway, Knoxville, TN; all KCDC Development Offices; KCDC's Section 8 Office located at 400 Harriet Tubman Street, Knoxville, TN and on KCDC's website at www.kcdc.org.

Formal comments regarding the Draft Plan should be submitted to the KCDC Main Office in written format for review. KCDC's Board of Commissioners would like to invite those who are interested to attend a public hearing regarding the Draft Plan on Thursday, June 29, 2023, at 4:30 pm.



(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death.
 This 18 day of APRIL, 2023.

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
 WILLIAM T PFLANZE; EXECUTOR
 3840 KEOWEE AVENUE
 KNOXVILLE, TN. 37919

4641 CHAMBLISS AVENUE
 KNOXVILLE, TN. 37919

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF CHARLOTTE I HORSLEY
DOCKET NUMBER 87279-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 20 day of APRIL 2023, letters administration in respect of the Estate of CHARLOTTE I HORSLEY who died May 23, 2022, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred.

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

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

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

This 20 day of APRIL, 2023.

ESTATE OF CHARLOTTE I HORSLEY
DOCKET NUMBER 87279-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 20 day of APRIL 2023, letters administration in respect of the Estate of CHARLOTTE I HORSLEY who died May 23, 2022, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred.

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

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

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

This 20 day of APRIL, 2023.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF FRANK M GROVE, JR
DOCKET NUMBER 87398-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 19 day of APRIL 2023, letters administration in respect of the Estate of FRANK M GROVE, JR who died Oct 20, 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 19 day of APRIL, 2023.

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
 CHARLOTTE PIANOWSKI
 II; ADMINISTRATRIX
 2350 W HWY 11E
 STRAWBERRY PLAINS TN 37871

CARIN BRIO ATTORNEY AT LAW
 3217 GARDEN DRIVE SUITE 1
 KNOXVILLE TN 37918

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF MARVIN THOMAS HAZELWOOD
DOCKET NUMBER 87597-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 19 day of APRIL 2023, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of MARVIN THOMAS HAZELWOOD who died Jan 13, 2023, 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 19 day of APRIL, 2023.

ESTATE OF JAYE JENKINS
DOCKET NUMBER 87598-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 19 day of APRIL 2023, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of JAY E JENKINS who died Dec 24, 2022, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

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

This 19 day of APRIL, 2023.

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
 JAY E JENKINS, JR.; EXECUTOR
 3114 AVONDALE AVENUE
 KNOXVILLE, TN. 37917

ROBERT A COLE ATTORNEY AT LAW
 2313 PULASKI ROAD
 KNOXVILLE, TN. 37914

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF MARVIN THOMAS HAZELWOOD

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
 DARRELLE CLARK; EXECUTOR
 1988 CHEROKEE TRAIL NW
 CLEVELAND, TN. 37312

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF JEWELL LYNN COX
DOCKET NUMBER 87584-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 18 day of APRIL 2023, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of JEWELL LYNN COX who died Oct 31, 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 18 day of APRIL, 2023.

ESTATE OF JAYE JENKINS

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
 JAY E JENKINS, JR.; EXECUTOR
 3114 AVONDALE AVENUE
 KNOXVILLE, TN. 37917

ROBERT A COLE ATTORNEY AT LAW
 2313 PULASKI ROAD
 KNOXVILLE, TN. 37914

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF MARVIN THOMAS HAZELWOOD
DOCKET NUMBER 87621-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 21 day of APRIL 2023, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of LUCIEN WELLBORN HOPE, JR. who died Jan 25, 2023, 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 21 day of APRIL, 2023.

ESTATE OF ALIKHAN RIYAZ KHERANI
DOCKET NUMBER 87595-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 19 day of APRIL 2023, letters administration in respect of the Estate of ALIKHAN RIYAZ KHERANI who died Sep 18, 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 19 day of APRIL, 2023.

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
 RIYAZ KHERANI; ADMINISTRATOR
 1833 AVASHIRE LANE
 KNOXVILLE, TN.

