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## School board hears update of 'deep dive' into services for special-needs kids

By Bill Howard

In February of this year, Dr. Jon Rysewyk, Superintendent of Knox Co. Schools, directed staff members to do a "deep dive" into determining how well various support service programs for special-ed students were working.

"We've been in the process of a 'deep-dive' into our student success in reviewing our policies and procedures," said Rysewyk.

At its monthly meeting last Thursday, the Knox Co. Board of Education heard an update on the effort from Assistant Superintendent Jason Myers.

A number of slides were presented, the first one outlining the goals of Rysewyk's plan: to

determine the effectiveness of the "deep dive" review into RTI (response to intervention), Special Education, and ELL (English Language Learners).

The first slide also stated that KCS and the Student Success Division were "committed to the pursuit of continuous improvement," and that the Student Success Division has "partnered with the Strategy Division to develop a strategic framework for stakeholder engagement and to gather input from families whose students qualify for services in RTI, ELL and Special Ed."

The Student Success Division tries to coordinate student support services and special-ed teams to

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## Merit Board denies grievance hearing for Charles Faircloth

By Ken Lay

The Knox County Sheriff's Office Merit Board met briefly last week at the City-County Building.

The meeting was brief and largely uneventful Wednesday afternoon as the board discussed and unanimously approved language changes to several department job descriptions.

The merit board also unanimously voted to deny a grievance hearing to Charles Faircloth, who is not an active member of the Knox County Sheriff's Office.

Faircloth, who previously worked for the Oak Ridge Police Department, was denied placement on the KCSO's employment eligibility list due to his work record with the ORPD, which included disciplinary action.

Faircloth had the right to a hearing due to a technicality in the merit board's policies.

The board also discussed policy alterations, which will be drafted by the Knox County Law Director's Office and will be further discussed and voted on at a later date.



PHOTOS BY KEN LAY

Sadie Milligan displays a face she crafted Thursday at the Knox County Park and Play event at Solway Park.

## Park and Play Mobile visits Solway Park

By Ken Lay

Knox County Parks and Recreation's Park and Play Mobile rolled into Northwest Knox County Thursday morning as it made a stop at Solway Park, located at 3205 Solway Drive.

The event is the third hosted by Knox County with previous stops in Corryton Park and French Memorial Park in South Knoxville.

Last week's event was sparsely attended, at least early, but it provided the county's youth an opportunity to participate in several recreation and sporting activities including cornhole, kickball, arts and crafts and bubbles.

The two previous park and ride events in Corryton and South Knox County drew 35-40 participants.

"We usually have a parking lot full of kids," said Whitney Fitzsimons, Knox County Recreation Director. "We want kids to get out and come and play



Teagan Milligan prepares to play cornhole at the Knox County Park and Play event at Solway Park.

in their neighborhoods, in their neighborhood parks.

"We're going to parks that we haven't programmed."

The Park and Play program has a partnership

with Knoxville Head Start, which handles the arts and crafts portion of the program, which features Play-Doh for the younger participants.

The program, which also has a partnership with the Knox County Library system, has activities for children of all ages and the program aims to get children to play.

"We just want the kids to come out to the park and play for a couple of hours," Fitzsimons said.

Bringing mobile play to neighborhood parks is the first step and Fitzsimons noted that the program is looking to expand to apartment complexes in Knox County and bring play to those who may not be able to visit a county park.

The Park and Play mobile will be at Mascot Park in East Knox County on Thursday, July 20th before making a stop at Powell Levi Park on July 27th, then closing out the summer season on the west side of town at Walker Springs Park on August 3rd.

## Violence reduction contract passes city

By Mike Steely  
Senior Writer  
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A resolution to contract with a National Institute of Criminal Justice Reform for technical assistance and training for group violence reduction strategies saw some debate during Tuesday's Knoxville Council meeting. How that \$307,050 agreement might conflict with the current street outreach program became the center of the discussion.

Councilwoman Amelia Parker said the resolution, requested by the Office of Community Safety and Empowerment, has a "lack of clarity and that concerns me." She described the proposal as a "carrot and stick approach."

Police Chief Paul Noel

and LaKenya Middlebrook, Community Safety and Empowerment Officer, came to the defenses of the proposal. Noel said the program has a lot of potential. Middlebrook read from the proposal and described the program from the National Institute of Criminal Justice Reform.

Middlebrook said the program would benefit her office to measure local programs, help in reporting and assist in "shooter reviews." She said that it would not interfere with the current street outreach program and said there are "multiple pathways" to solving local crime.

"We've got to do something," said Councilwoman Gwen McKenzie. The contract was approved in a 7-0-1 vote with Parker

abstaining.

In other action, three resolutions seeking state and federal funding with local matches by the city passed. One application seeks \$1.5 million to purchase electric buses. The second seeks grants of \$1.04 million in Coronavirus Relief for highway infrastructure and the third application seeks \$2.3 million for local

surface transpiration. The city's matching funds are \$375,000, \$261,231 and \$582,769.

Councilwoman Lynne Fugate wondered if the matching funds for each grant is in the budget and Boyce Evans, finance director, replied the funds will be in the 2025 budget. He said he doesn't anticipate any problem with having the local match amounts.

The council voted to apply for \$1.5 million from the state to construct a sidewalk along North Broadway with a city match of \$125,000. The property at 205 Spruce Street may be condemned and purchased by the city for \$77,800 and portions of Eakers Road and Riverside Drive were approved for closure.

Three ordinances

involving a zoning change at 522 and 524 Victory Street from RN-2 to RN-4 (Residential) were postponed for two weeks on a motion by McKenzie.

Other zoning changes approved by the council included 3705 Valley View Drive, 1902 Forest Avenue, 0 Sterchi Street and 0 and 112 Shipman Drive.

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# Random Thoughts On Current Events

## From a distance



By John J. Duncan Jr.  
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Since all the Democrats in the Tennessee Legislature voted against a bill to prohibit children from attending sexually suggestive drag queen shows, I hope some of them saw the video of the recent drag march in New York City.

This was a march by hundreds, maybe even thousands, of people obviously trying to be as weird as possible.

News stories about the march said it "provoked outrage" all over the country

because the marchers repeatedly shouted, "We're here, we're queer, and we're coming for your children."

It is unfortunate that the national mainstream media always tries to cover up or give very limited coverage to anything that is harmful to the Democratic Party, and the LBGTQ crowd is a very important part of the Democrat's base.

**Writing of the Democrat's** base reminds me of how eager the Biden Administration was to get Brittney Griner, the African-American WNBA player, released while leaving U.S. Marine Paul Whelan behind.

Blacks make up as much as 60 percent of the Democrat base in some states. Marines are overwhelmingly Republican.

Brittney Griner was

sentenced to nine years on drug charges. Paul Whelan was sentenced to 18 years on charges of espionage against Russia. Both were convicted in sham trials.

Russia desperately wanted the international arms merchant known as "Dr. Death" back from U.S. custody. If our negotiators had held tough, they could have gotten both released. If just one was to be released, it should have been Whelan (who has been in a Russian prison since 2018) instead of Griner, who had been held for just under ten months.

To this administration, apparently, a basketball star is more important than a U.S. Marine.

And did you see where Natasha Cloud, another WNBA star, who has made \$375,000 over the past two seasons, said the U.S. "is

trash in so many ways?"

**On June 30, the State** Department released a report which blasted the bungled U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan.

The Washington Post summarized it this way: "Critical missteps identified in the report present fresh evidence of the mayhem that left Afghanistan's future in the hands of the oppressive Taliban regime, cost the lives of scores of Afghans and 13 U.S. service members, and sent Biden's approval rating tumbling."

The story said the release was timed just before a long holiday weekend and that Biden's Administration "has tried to downplay scrutiny of its actions."

The rushed withdrawal left behind a huge

multi-billion dollar airbase and \$85 billion in military equipment that could have been and should have been brought home in an orderly, phased withdrawal.

**For 22 of my 30 years** in Congress, I served on the Natural Resources Committee in addition to other committees. We heard many experts say if we did not allow more logging we were going to have many more forest fires. This is because when not enough trees are being cut, there is a fuel buildup on the floor of the forest from dead and dying trees and brush. Environmental radicals say lightning striking this buildup causes fires that are nature's way of thinning the forest.

Canada's government is controlled by environmental

extremists who oppose almost all logging. Thus, these left-wing environmentalists should be thanked for all the pollution from Canadian wildfires.

**Almost every place I go,** someone says something nice about my columns, and I really appreciate that.

A few days ago, I received a very kind note from Ada Julian, whose husband, Harold Julian, had passed away in May.

Mrs. Julian said Harold read and really enjoyed all my columns. This meant a little extra to me because Harold Julian was a very well-respected, longtime newspaper editor and columnist.

I want to express my condolences to Mrs. Julian, a very nice person in her own right.

## Knox County Election Commission approves ballot, early voting details for 2023 City of Knoxville Primary Election

The Knox County Election Commission met on Thursday, July 6th and approved the ballot, early voting locations and times, and other details for the 2023 City of Knoxville Primary Election.

### ELECTION SCHEDULE

The Election schedule for the 2023 City of Knoxville Primary Election is as follows:

- Monday, July 31, 2023 - Final day to register to vote before election
- Wednesday, August 9, 2023 - First day of early voting period
- Tuesday, August 22, 2023 - Final day to request an absentee ballot
- Thursday, August 24, 2023 - Final day of early voting period
- Tuesday, August 29, 2023 - Election Day (POLLS OPEN 8 AM TO 8 PM)

### BALLOT

- The offices on the ballot will be:
- Mayor
  - City Council At-Large, Seat A
  - City Council At-Large, Seat B
  - City Council At-Large, Seat C
  - City Council, District 5 (only residents

of the 5th District will vote in this contest)

- Municipal Judge  
In the City Council elections, the top two vote getters in the primary move on to the General Election.

In both the Mayor and Municipal Judge elections, the top two vote getters move on to the General Election UNLESS one candidate receives 50% plus one, in which case only the top vote getter moves on to the General Election.

A sample ballot can be viewed at: <https://knoxcounty.org/election/2023elections/pdfs/2023-8-29-SampleBallot.pdf>

### EARLY VOTING DAYS AND TIMES

Early voting begins Wednesday, August 9 and goes through Thursday, August 24 (excluding Sundays).

Hours are generally 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on weekdays and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday. There are a handful of exceptions, and all details can be viewed at: <https://knoxcounty.org/election/2023elections/pdfs/2023-8-29-EarlyVotingDailySchedule.pdf>

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## Finland: The World's Happiest Country?

Do you pay attention to lists? Obviously, some people do or else no one would be compiling them.



By Dr. Harold A. Black  
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I occasionally will look for the best mystery or best science fiction novels of the year or best historical fiction of the year. One list that caught my eye was the list of the happiest countries. I could envision folks dancing in the streets, strewing flowers while singing kumbaya. BTW, did you know that kumbaya is of African origin? Isn't that counterintuitive that slaves would be singing kumbaya? Well, the country that is deemed the happiest in the whole world is Finland (the US is number 15). Personally, I can't see how anyone would be happy living near the Arctic Circle with over 100 days of winter in the south, 200 days of winter in the north and 51 days where the sun does not get above the horizon.

That Finland is the happiest only applies to native white Finns for Finland is one of the most racist countries in the world. Indeed, polls have shown that most Finns themselves consider Finland to be a racist country. So how the researchers determine that racism somehow equates to happiness is beyond me. Read James Thompson's novels featuring detective Kari Vaara: Snow Angels, Lucifer's Tears and Helsinki White. They feature a Finnish detective and are perhaps the most racist novels I have ever read. The Finns are not exactly a welcoming people if you are a non-white Finn. Those

who are gypsies, Arab-speaking, Jews, of Russian descent and from Somalia suffer discrimination. These Finns I guess are happily suffering from discrimination in employment, religion, abuse in schools, in housing and police harassment. Many are also denied access to banking services. Also, the Finns have not greeted transgenders with open arms. Finland requires mandatory sterilization as a condition for sex change identity. Transgenders often are targeted for violence. Even the original Finns, the Sami (the Lapps) have been forced to move to the northernmost part of the country to herd their reindeer and fish. I guess this is the Finnish equivalent of our Indian reservations. Are the Sami happy?

How is happiness consistent with racism? One reference stated that there was growing violence and abuse against immigrants and non-Finnish Finns. There was even a George Floyd type of incident involving a black youth and the Finnish police. However, the reaction in Finland was to basically ignore the incident while in erstwhile racist America, the reaction was just the opposite with police being put in jail and George Floyd accorded sainthood. What makes the Finns happy? They are happy because of the country's welfare system. However, the same Finns resent those who are different from availing themselves to the same welfare system with its generous

unemployment benefits and "free" healthcare. Just think how much happier the Finns would be if they just could eliminate all of those pesky blacks, Arabs, Jews, Russians and gypsies!

What about the unhappiest countries in the world? The top five are Afghanistan, Lebanon, Sierra Leone, Zimbabwe, Congo and Botswana. Actually, for reasons that I have listed before, I would have thought Congo would be number one given its history of brutality by the Belgians and exploitation of its natural resources by the Europeans and the Chinese. I was surprised that Botswana was on the unhappiest list. Perhaps I have been overly influenced by Alexander McCall Smith's novels on the No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency. But Botswana is Africa's most stable country, is democratic and is relatively free of corruption. It is the world's largest producer of diamonds and has a healthy safari-based tourist trade. It is a middle-income nation - a rarity on the African subcontinent. It even has given gay rights legal recognition. Botswana's unhappiness is attributed to familial trauma and abuse from both men and women. One source even suggested that "The government of Botswana must integrate happiness as one of the pillars of good governance."

Well good luck with that. I guess the ultimate question is "Would you rather be happy in Finland or unhappy in Botswana?"



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# Publisher's Positions



By Steve Hunley, Publisher  
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## Municipal Judge: Experience Matters

Some folks are shaking their heads wondering why the Sierra Club would endorse a candidate for Knoxville's Municipal judge. Just what threat to the environment is represented by traffic court?

The incumbent John Rosson has served ably and with integrity. Rosson comes closer to being non-partisan than any other public figure I can think of and has broad support from Democrats, Republicans, and Independents.

There are three candidates challenging Judge Rosson this year, all of them Democrats. Mary Ward, I am told, has a thriving practice mainly at Knoxville's Juvenile Court and is well-liked by those who know her. Friends tell me Ms. Ward was a prosecutor at some point in her career.

Andrew Beamer has been around for a while is supposed to be an active Democrat, but to all appearances,

the leadership of Knox County's Democratic Party has not-so-quietly lined up behind attorney Tyler Caviness. Not because he's sweated bullets by attending rallies, working for Democrat candidates, passing out flyers or doing any of those other candidates.

The reason seems to be because of Jack Vaughn, the twenty-something campaign consultant who sits on the State Democratic Executive Committee. Evidently, Vaughn has managed to pull in some of the local party leadership behind Caviness, a former public defender. That likely also explains why the local Sierra Club endorsed a candidate for municipal judge, who has as much to do with the environment as the Man in the Moon, even though the Caviness campaign supposedly put out an impressive video. The endorsement is meaningless, except it allows for a gushing email to be blasted out.

John Rosson has presided over literally hundreds of thousands of legal cases. Both Mary Ward and Andrew Beamer have experience in Knoxville's courtrooms. The candidate with the least experience appears to be Tyler Caviness. The Democrats have also lined up behind a candidate who hasn't ever bothered to vote in a city election.

Caviness' campaign is being run on political sleight of hand, kind of like a magician with the palsy. Rather

than looking at his lack of courtroom experience, he talks instead about those things that are supposed to resonate with Democrats. Judge Rosson has already embraced technology and has improved the efficiency of the court, which is precisely why he's been able to hear and decide literally hundreds of thousands of cases while others watch old episodes of Perry Mason, as surely no good Democrat would watch any TV show called "Law & Order." The best Caviness can do is utilize virtue signaling like promising he will be "involved in the community by recognizing the social issues that the Court can positively influence." What does that mean exactly? Does it mean if an illegal alien is hauled into the court for causing an accident and has neither insurance nor a drivers' license, he/she will be let go by the judge? Mayor Indya Kincannon has already cut services after having jacked up property taxes 40% by refusing to allow KPD officers come to the scene of traffic accidents. In a city where crime is rising, is some social justice warrior with little practical courtroom experience who Knoxvilleans really want to sit on the bench?

Evidently local Democrats have little in the way of loyalty to those who have been active inside their party and flock to somebody who just showed up with consultant in hand. It's no surprise candidates hire consultants

for their contacts.

## Gaetz Grills Wray

Florida Congressman Matt Gaetz mauled FBI Director Christopher Wray who appeared before the House Judiciary Committee last Wednesday. Gaetz perfectly summarized precisely why so many Americans believe there is something profoundly wrong about the agency. Wray tried to fend off questions about the targeting of parents at school board meetings, inappropriate and highly questionable FISA inquiries, and the FBI possibly targeting Catholic churches.

Gaetz read the now infamous message sent by Hunter Biden to Henry Zhao, a Chinese businessman, which many have interpreted as "shakedown." The message states Hunter Biden's father is sitting next to him as he sends the message and mentions his ability to forever hold a grudge. When Congressman Gaetz asked Wray if he thought the message was a shakedown for money, the FBI director said he didn't want to comment on the subject. "Are you protecting the Bidens?" Gaetz wondered. Wray managed to dredge up some indignation and squeal, "Absolutely not!" Wray insisted the FBI has no interest in "protecting anyone politically." That is how the agency is supposed to behave, but there are millions of Americans who either no longer

believe that to be the case or have their doubts about it. A recent poll indicated 4 out of 5 Americans think there is a two-tiered justice system in this country. A poll conducted by the Trafalgar Group showed 79% of those polled expressed a belief "there are two tiers of justice: one set of laws for politicians and Washington, D.C., insiders vs one set of laws for everyday Americans." Fewer than 12% of Americans believe the justice system in this country serves all Americans equally, according to the poll.

The same survey showed almost 60% of Americans believe the federal bureaucracy is too big and bloated. More than 58% of those surveyed said they agreed with the statement many agencies of the federal government like the CDC, EPA, and IRS "have grown too large and only serve their own political interests." Only around 1 in every 3 Americans said they believed the agencies were "useful and effective."

Congressman Matt Gaetz pointed out the Inspector General and court rulings have noted hundreds of thousands of instances where the FBI has used illegal FISA inquiries. Christopher Wray said he didn't know the number while Gaetz reminded him the inspector general stated there were 3.4 million such inquiries with more than a million in error. Gaetz said the court stated there were 200,000 such instances

while Wray has been director of the FBI. "Again, I don't have the numbers as I sit here right now. . . " Wray mumbled.

"Seems like a number you should know --- how many times the FBI's breaking the law under your watch --- especially if it's, like over a million --- to know that number?" Gaetz told Wray. "And I'm worried about your veracity on this subject as well."

Unfortunately, there are a lot of people worried about the director's veracity at this point.

## School Board Approves Religious Release Time

The Knox County Board of Education last week voted 7 - 1 to allow high school students to receive a full credit in religious courses taken outside of school during the regular school day. The Tennessee General Assembly had changed state law earlier this year to give students a full credit rather than half a credit. Parents can request for their child to be excused from school to attend a religious course for one hour every school day under the law and policy. The course is an elective one.

I believe the board made the right decision. Students are released from school for any number of activities and out of 22 credit hours, three are electives.

# Mayoral candidates answer Focus question

Compiled by Mike Steely

Four are in the race to be Knoxville's next mayor. The Knoxville Focus continues to ask important questions of these candidates and their replies are listed in the order received.

Currently, the city has a co-responder team program that pairs a police officer with a behavioral health specialist to respond to welfare, substance abuse and mental health calls. Two resolutions recently passed to study the creation of an Alternate Crisis Response Team that would pair a mental health professional with a medical responder without an officer.

## Do you support the creation of an Alternative Crisis Response Team?

**R. C. Lawhorn:** I do not agree with sending a health worker in lieu of a police officer. If a 911 call comes in for a domestic violence situation or a mental health issue, then the situation could become violent. Not having a police officer there could escalate the problem by endangering the health worker.

**Indya Kincannon:** We definitely need access to more mental health services in our community. I would gladly partner with the Knox County Health Department, the State of Tennessee Department of Mental Health, and other health-care providers to create a mental health crisis response team. I have publicly pledged to match \$50k

towards a pilot effort.

**Constance Every:** Our campaign agrees with Councilwoman Parker as she states the city places unfair expectations on KPD to be able to handle non-criminal mental health calls.

We fully endorse the Alternative Response resolution from Councilwoman Parker which the council passed. This proposal is ideal because it involves frontline community groups such as Heart and calls for key members of the community to be involved. Unfortunately, the current administration continues to show great resistance to engaging community groups such as HEART among others. Engagement with all community members is critical and my

administration will engage all groups who are in the trenches to address matters such as mental health and alternative response teams.

Unlike the resolution presented by the Vice Mayor and very much supported by the current mayor, Councilwoman Parker's resolution takes a very tailored and reasonable approach to developing and implementing a program that works for Knoxville. The mayor-driven resolution would continue to kick the can down the road for many years and this is what we do not want or another Lisa Edwards or Anthony Thompson Jr. may be the tragic result.

The Every administration centers on best practices and transparency when it comes to development and appointing individuals to lead such initiatives. Unlike what we have experienced with the current mayor, I would avoid open records lawsuits (which waste taxpayers' money) and failed appointees by openly engaging the constituents who are most impacted by our administration's decisions. Developing and implementing the alternative response team would be fully and transparently supported by me as mayor of Knoxville.

**Jeff Talman:** I do not support the creation of an alternative crisis response team and the very fact that we are considering it is a failure of leadership. Should our community be considering creative ways to help meet the needs of our neighbors in distress? Of course, we should and need to as those needs will only continue to grow. The alternative

being considered should first be evaluated by looking at the team we already have on the field. Helen Ross McNabb is an institution with the leadership, track record and commitment to this mission. They have the expertise and the best capacity to be found at a time when the simple act of finding trained people is a challenge. They are understaffed.

The other partner in our Co-responder Team is our own Knoxville Police Department. I for one believe in our agency and anyone else in a leadership position should too, and express that support in unambiguous terms and at every opportunity. This is a critical moment for the public perception and morale of our hard-working men and women of KPD. We need to do everything we can as a community to build their capacity and expertise for helping and protecting citizens in distress. We need to do everything we can as a community to build public trust and confidence in who they are and how professionally and humanely they address their mission.

The 'alternative' model is one being championed by people who simply hate law enforcement. They think that law enforcement is merely the whip hand for their racist white neighbors. I drove past a house the other day with a political yard sign which screamed the quiet part out loud - KPD = Murderers. This alternate response effort is just a back door to defunding the police and should be recognized as such. That we are having a discussion as if they are good faith partners

is naive. It is interesting to see how the champions of the alternative response conduct themselves at city council meetings. Their public conduct suggests that they really don't have the therapeutic bedside manner needed to offer a constructive alternative to the larger community and they should not be recipients of any public money.

Leadership is about making hard choices and sending clear signals. Let's let the good people of Knoxville know that they are well-served by the crisis response team on the field - both KPD AND the good people at Helen Ross McNabb, and that we will continue to grow together in this important mission.

## Burak Er fails to qualify to run for mayor

One candidate for Knoxville Mayor didn't make the cut for appearing on the election ballot.

Businessman Burak Er failed to qualify. Election Director Chris Davis said, "Mr. Er did not live inside the city for the time period required under section 302 of the Knoxville city charter. The city charter outlines that you must live in the city for one year prior to the qualifying deadline to run for mayor."

"In order to be eligible to run for mayor, he would have needed to have lived in the city since at least May 18, 2022. Per voter registration records, he moved into the city - from outside the city - in April of 2023," Davis told The Focus.

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# Decoding the rezoning yard signs

By Mike Steely  
Senior Writer  
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If you've noticed those yard and roadside signs here and there in Knoxville and Knox County, you've probably wondered what they mean and why.

Those little signs are not yard sale or realtor signs but official postings of pending local government actions. You'll see them prior to planning commission, city council or county commission meetings involving the property.

In addition to publishing zoning notices in a newspaper and mailing postcards, Knoxville-Knox County Planning uses the small signs to post public notice of pending or requested changes to land use. The Knoxville Focus has been asked by several readers to find out what the wording on the signs means and where the information about the lot is available.

The most important information the signs bear is the case number. Whether the rezoning request is coming before the planners or before the city or the county, that number must be referenced in any phone or internet search.

One recent posting, near the end of Rowan and East Inskip Drive, has the numbers "7-L-23-RZ" and a search at KnoxPlanning.org gives the following

information: the rezoning request, who filed it, when it was filed, property information, the planning commission staff's recommendation and when the request will be heard by the full planning commission. Should the request to rezone to RN-2 be approved, the case number would be updated to show when the recommendation would go before the Knox County Commission.

Information from the case number also indicates which city council district the property is located and the site provides a map of the location, its current zoning and the zoning categories of surrounding properties. Knoxville-Knox County Planning posts yard signs for plan amendments, special uses, use on reviews and rights of way closures, not just property rezonings.

"The specific case type is indicated by the large letter in the upper left-hand corner of the sign," Ally Ketron, communications and outreach supervisor for Knox Planning told The Focus. She explained that the case number is even in the individual case's web page address.

"For example, [knoxplanning.org/cases/7-l-23-rz](https://knoxplanning.org/cases/7-l-23-rz) is the link written on the sign



The Knoxville-Knox County Planning signs, which resemble realtor for sale signs, give the zoning case number and the telephone number (865-215-2500) of the planning commission. The website, KnoxPlanning.org, is also on the signs.

which takes you directly to all the information about that case so you don't even have to search for the file number on our site."

Ketron recommended the Keeping Up with a Case page at [knoxplanning.org/keep-up](https://knoxplanning.org/keep-up) to find additional information on cases heard by the planners. "It gives information about our public notice processes, how to navigate the cases page on our site, how we update case information throughout the month leading up to the Planning Commission meeting, and even what to expect for cases that go on to City Council or County Commission," she said.

Why should you keep an

eye out for signs in your neighborhood?

"They signal that change is coming and it behooves you to find out what's happening," said Kevin Murphy, president of the Knox County Planning Alliance. "The way that most people find out about an upcoming public hearing is when they see a sign pop up," he said.

"These signs are really important. When you first see a sign, it's important to pay attention and quickly seek information. Don't put it off a few days or a week. Snap a picture of the sign, go home and find out right away what change may be coming to your community," he suggested.

# Knox County Election Commission approves ballot, early voting details

Cont. from page 2

19, 2023)

- 3rd Quarter - Tuesday, October 10, 2023 (covering the period August 20 - September 30, 2023)

## EARLY VOTING LOCATIONS

There will be six locations across Knoxville utilized for early voting:

- City-County Building - main floor (400 Main Street)
- Downtown West (1645 Downtown West Blvd., Unit 40)
- Eternal Life Harvest Center at Five Points (2410 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.)
- Knoxville Expo Center (5441 Clinton Highway)
- Meridian Baptist Church (6513 Chapman Highway)
- New Harvest Park (4775 New Harvest Lane)

## CAMPAIGN FINANCIAL DISCLOSURES

Candidates for these offices have campaign financial reports due on the following dates:

- Pre-Primary - Tuesday, August 22, 2023 (covering the period July 1 - August

These reports will be posted upon receipt by the Election Commission at: [https://knoxcounty.org/election/candidate\\_info/index.php](https://knoxcounty.org/election/candidate_info/index.php)

## PUBLIC MACHINE TEST

As part of its preparation for the 2023 City of Knoxville Primary Election, the Knox County Election Commission will conduct a required voting machine test on Wednesday, July 26 at 8:30 am at its warehouse at 1000 N. Central Street. This test is one to two hours in duration. Candidates, the press, and the public are invited to attend.

For more information, visit [www.knoxvotes.org](http://www.knoxvotes.org) or call the Knox County Election Commission at 865-215-2480.

The Authors Guild of Tennessee will hold its monthly meeting on Thursday, August 3, 2023, at 11:00 a.m. at the Faith Lutheran Church in Farragut. Social time and book exchange begins at 10:30. Published authors are invited to attend. AGT is now accepting applications for associate membership from authors who have written a book but are not yet published. Serious authors only. In the event of inclement weather, check the AGT Website for updates and information: [authorsguildoftn.org](http://authorsguildoftn.org).

# School board hears update of 'deep dive' into services for special-needs kids

Cont. from page 1

provide schools and their students with the support tools needed.

In the winter, the Student Success Division conducted family surveys to gather information about students who qualify for special services. In the spring, family focus groups took the spotlight.

An Educator Input Portal was included in the Special Ed. category, which includes 504 plans and IEPs. A 504 plan is for students with disabilities, while an IEP provides special instruction to aid students with their education.

The Educator Input Portal also was included in the ELL category.

Of the family surveys sent out, 551 responses were recorded for RTI, 542 in English, nine Spanish. For Special Ed., 399 responses came back, 389 in English, 10 in Spanish. ELL brought in 202 responses, 95 in English, 89 Spanish, and 18 for other languages.

The review of the "deep dive" found that providing resources to special-ed and ELL students was not without its challenges.

The review of the Student Success Division found that a number of parents weren't sure how to find resources to help their kids. Some also expressed a need for better communication with families.

"Our district as well as the Division of Student Success are committed to the pursuit of continuous improvement, and we do believe that this review will provide us with important feedback as we continue that pursuit," said Myers.

A special-ed task force for the Student Success Division will continue to meet over the summer and will give its key findings and recommendations to the board in August. Additional engagements are planned for ELL families.

Later in the meeting,

another report was given, this one on the work done over the last year by the regional councils. All regions have both family and teacher councils.

The purpose of the councils is to share information between school district leaders and families on issues and events that affect schools, communities, and kids.

"We've talked about using our regional structure in a way that we could engage more families,

based on geography ... kind of the idea that one size doesn't fit all," said Rysewyk.

"We're actually really excited tonight to come back and share a little information about the work that happened this year with our regional teacher and family councils," said Dr. Keith Wilson, Assistant Superintendent of Academics.

A slide presentation by Cindy White, Director of Region Four, presented to the Board common themes

and focus areas for both the teacher councils and parent councils.

Among those listed for the Teacher Councils were: opportunities for teachers to collaborate with colleagues; making professional development more relevant, hands-on, and based on experience and content; and providing for both virtual and in-class learning.

Improving communication with families was a focus area for the Family

Councils, as were additional training for both families and teachers in communication, and providing

advance notice about events and dates.

The next meeting is August 10.

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Class of 1973  
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## The Doctor is in

a weekly column by  
Dr. Jim Ferguson

### Timely Thoughts

Change your thoughts and you change the world.  
Norman Vincent Peale

Time is an interesting concept. Science shows that we exist in a reality of three spatial dimensions and time. As an example, I am just shy of 5-foot 8-inches - at least in the early morning before the struggles of the day cause my posture to slump and force me to adjust the rear-view mirror on my truck by day's end. I have depth as measured from my now protruding belly to my back. And I have a "cheek to cheek" between the arms of my chair. Lastly, I have been occupying this space for the last five minutes while constructing these sentences.

The mathematician Herman Minkowski came up with the portmanteau term "space-time" to explain Albert Einstein's 1905 theory of special

relativity. Without getting lost in the weeds of physics, Einstein conceived of time as being a fourth dimension along with the three spatial dimensions. It gets even stranger when you consider quantum theory which posits there were as many as ten dimensions at the beginning of the universe!

It is difficult to imagine such higher-dimensional planes of reality because we are beings of three spatial dimensions. However, Edwin Abbot imagined a two-dimensional reality in his book "Flatland," where flat squares, circles and other geometric figures lived and moved through time. If perchance I "stepped on" these creatures and their imaginary world they would not be affected, nor would I know of my transgression because we don't inhabit the same spatial dimensions. Weird, huh?

In Western Civilization we see time as past, present and future. However, ancient cultures, like the Mayans of Mesoamerica and some Far Eastern cultures, viewed time as circular rather than the Western notions of a "linear" timeline. "The Lion King" movie acknowledged circular time with the motif "circle of life." Thomas Cahill, in his book "The Gift of the Jews," held that God's entry into the affairs of man established a reference point. As a result, there was a time when God revealed Himself to man, and also a time before and after.

I may have told the story before, but I can't remember, and I don't search my hundreds of essays to chronicle my musings. A few years ago, Becky was asking our grandson Oakley when something happened at his home. He became a bit frustrated when pressed for details and told Becky, "BeBe, I can only do now." What an insight into the nature of childlike reality, a priority we adults too often forget. Bill Keane's modern parable goes, "Yesterday's the past, tomorrow's the future, but today is a gift. That's why it's called the present."

As I've grown older, I fret about the future more than the past or the present. I'm

trying hard to stay in the present moment and keep concerns of the mysterious future at bay. I survived the mistakes of my past, and now relive them kindlier in the present day. And I find more pleasant memories than regrets.

Case in point, last week I mentioned the movie "Amazing Grace" and ex-slave ship captain John Newton's famous hymn. During one of our many foreign adventures, Becky and I drove through Spain because I wanted to see olive trees, experience Spanish flamenco and tour the Alhambra in Granada. This fortress in southern Spain was one of the last strongholds of the Moors who were defeated in the Reconquista by Isabella and Ferdinand around the time of Columbus' discovery of America. The Alhambra had served as a repository of ancient knowledge during the so-called Dark Ages.

As we wandered through the labyrinthine stone corridors and bare rooms with what I considered "amazing" acoustics, I was triggered to begin humming Newton's "timeless" hymn. And then Becky joined me softly singing about God's Grace. And then something mystical and spiritual happened. People in other rooms and corridors apparently heard us and

began singing "Amazing Grace" in multiple other languages. It was magical and memorable.

One of the many tragedies of Alzheimer's Disease is its destruction of memories and our humanity. However, early in the disease, it affects recent events much more than it does memories of long ago. As an example, a loved one with the disease may not remember what they had for breakfast, but memories of long ago are preserved. Unfortunately, as the disease progresses all memory banks fail.

Some years ago, a friend apologized to me for dying his hair to remove the gray. He was worried that I might think he was being vain. Tragically, my friend's wife with advancing Alzheimer's Disease was having trouble recognizing him because of his gray hair. Removing the gray helped for a while.

Last week we traveled across dimensional space to Dollywood with our grandkids. And we moved through dimensional time with a day of roller coasters, sodas and smiles as we made memories. We even talked our "Cute ones" into sitting through one of Dolly's excellent musical shows. Fortunately, my memory is intact and I'll be able to fondly replay the day,

especially after recuperating with a shower, supper and several glasses of wine.

I'm working on the third and concluding novel in my science fiction series (The Stellar Trilogy). The first novel was "Epiphany" and the second is "Mantis" published last year. Both are available on Amazon, and "Mantis" is also available from my publisher at store.bookbaby.com. I enjoy the creative process and working through writing problems. And I've learned that creating a novel is vastly different than writing an essay.

I can't say that I've ever had a so-called "writer's block," where the creative muse leaves a writer. However, I have been stymied trying to solve an issue in my latest novel. Science fiction is not fantasy and therefore requires some scientific basis for the fictional story. I think I solved the problem with plausible explanations for the central themes of time travel and artificial intelligence.

The signature line of my personal email is, "Keep writing, the answers will come." I can't attribute the quote because it came from a fortune cookie. But apparently, it is working for me. So, stay tuned!

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

# South Haven is proud and growing

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

South Haven is as unique as any Knoxville neighborhood with a wide variety of people, incomes, homes and religious backgrounds and lots of pride in their part of the city.

The South Knox neighborhood is roughly bound by Island Home Avenue, the Tennessee River, James White Parkway, Gilbert Lane and Sevierville Pike.

Gayle Atherton, president of the South Haven Neighborhood Association, told The Focus the group was anticipating the opening of 71 South, which is now open, and a concert and event center underway at the former Baker Creek Church. She also said that the Knoxville Urban Wilderness Gateway and Greenway may spur even more interest in their neighborhood.

South Haven has the popular Round Up Restaurant, SoKno Taco, and Handy Dandy that draw other Knoxville residents to the area. The Urban Wilderness, Baker Creek Bottoms and



PHOTO BY MIKE STEELY.

The historic Giffin Elementary School is one of the projects the South Haven Neighborhood Association is taking on as well as sidewalks and a unique bus shelter for their area.

the popular Maynard Glen Ball Park are attractions as well.

The South Haven Neighborhood Association, also known as SHNA, meets monthly on the third Saturday at 9 a.m. at the Hillcrest Methodist Church at 1615 Price Avenue. Atherton says the group has been active in the development and transformation of the former Giffin Elementary School

to become senior housing. SHNA is also working to get sidewalks on South Haven and Sevier Avenue. One of the future projects is to create a uniquely designed bus stop and shelter for bus riders and school kids.

SHNA's major event is the National Night Out celebration and different locations within the neighborhood grill out hot dogs and hamburgers. Last year more than 250 people attended.

The organization has taken Dogwood Elementary Community School's second grade under its wing, raising funds to provide supplies for the students.

"I want to mention that we have been actively looking for South Haven History and connections to the Knox History Project," Atherton said. She noted that the neighborhood is a good place for anyone seeking

**Continue on page 3**

# Gibbs High School Gathering of 2023 A Multi-Class Reunion

All Gibbs High School alumni are invited to attend the Gibbs High School Gathering of 2023, a multi-class reunion organized by the Gibbs High Class of 1971.

The gathering will take place on Saturday, July 29 from 4:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. at Corryton Church, 7615 Foster Road Corryton, TN 37721.

Come relax, enjoy and reconnect with old

friends! Food trucks will be available on site at your expense and tables will be set up inside so you can stay comfortable. You can bring lawn chairs if you wish to sit outside. The dress code is "very casual summer."

There is no charge to attend but donations will be appreciated and will go back to Corryton Church for use of the facility.

# ADA project to begin in Carter

Contractors have mobilized and are initiating Phase I of an ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) improvement project at Carter Park that will include ball parks, the senior center, and library.

In 2020, Knox County completed an update of its ADA Transition Plan identifying access barriers across all county facilities. Carter Park

was selected as the first site and the one-year construction project will implement the ADA improvements drawn up by planning and design engineering consultants Kimley-Horn.

Phase 1 of the project, which begins this month, will include improvements to county baseball fields adjacent to the park's center parking lot and

**Continue on page 2**

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# My job is the best

I have the best part-time job. No, the pay isn't that good, and for most people the hours are lousy. With that said, I still believe that I'm fortunate to have this job.



By Joe Rector  
joerector@comcast.net

My job is to mow the tee boxes at Knoxville Municipal Golf Course, Jim, my twin brother, has mowed the greens either on weekends or during summers for twenty years. I'm new in that my tenure is only five years. Some holes have four separate boxes, while others

have one large area for all four types of players.

The people with whom I work make the job special. Brent Maples is the superintendent. Anyone who thinks he or she is able to do the job must realize

the hours that are required. Brent usually returns during the evening hours to complete a job. Brent has a degree with a specialty in golf turf. He is a perfectionist, and that sometimes causes his hackles to get up. He's been patient with

me, especially when I've made a mistake or disabled a mower.

Along with brother Jim, Jack, Jerry, Tom, Jeff, Evan, and a new boy arrive every day. The exceptions are rainy days, but even during those times some of us show up to make sure we're not working. I've seen days when the rain poured at my home but not a drop fell just a few miles away. We cut up and tease each other. Each person is willing to help out others when a problem arises.

The people in the clubhouse are good folks too. Candice is always pleasant with a kind word and

a smile. Aaron is ready to help any golfer or worker with tee times. Even Lee, who sounds grumpy only because his voice has a growl to it, will bend over backward to back up workers and serve customers.

Another good thing about this job is the hours. I rise each workday at 5 a.m. and arrive at the course at about 5:30. As soon as someone opens the barn, I'll hop on the mower. My goal is to finish all the boxes before the first golfer tees off. Most days, I have to wait a couple of times at least after folks catch me. If things work perfectly, I can usually finish my work

in about 3 1/2 hours. At the end of mowing, I have to wash up the mower. I dislike this chore most because I always wind up half-soaked from the spray of the hose. I'm a morning person, so by 2:00 p.m. I'm toast and ready for a nap or a long sitting session by the pool.

The best part of my job is being able to travel the golf course at the beginning of a new day. Nothing is much prettier than the sun rising on a dew-covered fairway. On several occasions, I take a break to watch a turkey and his harem slowly walk across Hole Number 14 on their way to the woods. Even more exciting to me is

watching a lone doe munch on grass and other things in the overgrown area just past Hole Number 3 tee boxes. Before long, a mower or tractor or golf cart will cause the skittish animal to turn toward a thicker covering that offers security.

Yes, the job required little thinking. That's a plus. I appreciate Brent for hiring me and giving me an opportunity to enjoy the people with whom I work. It's a great job that doesn't have demands on me. I do what I'm told and go home. After a career of teaching high school English, something simple is perfect for me.

## ADA project to begin in Carter

Cont. from page 1

includes updates to restroom facilities and the concession stand.

In October, Phase 2 will address the multipurpose field and associated restrooms, concessions, and parking, as well as the adjacent youth baseball field

and greenway section.

Phase 3 is slated to start in early 2024 and will address the public library and senior center. It will also involve the relocation, expansion, and installation of a fully accessible playground for the park.

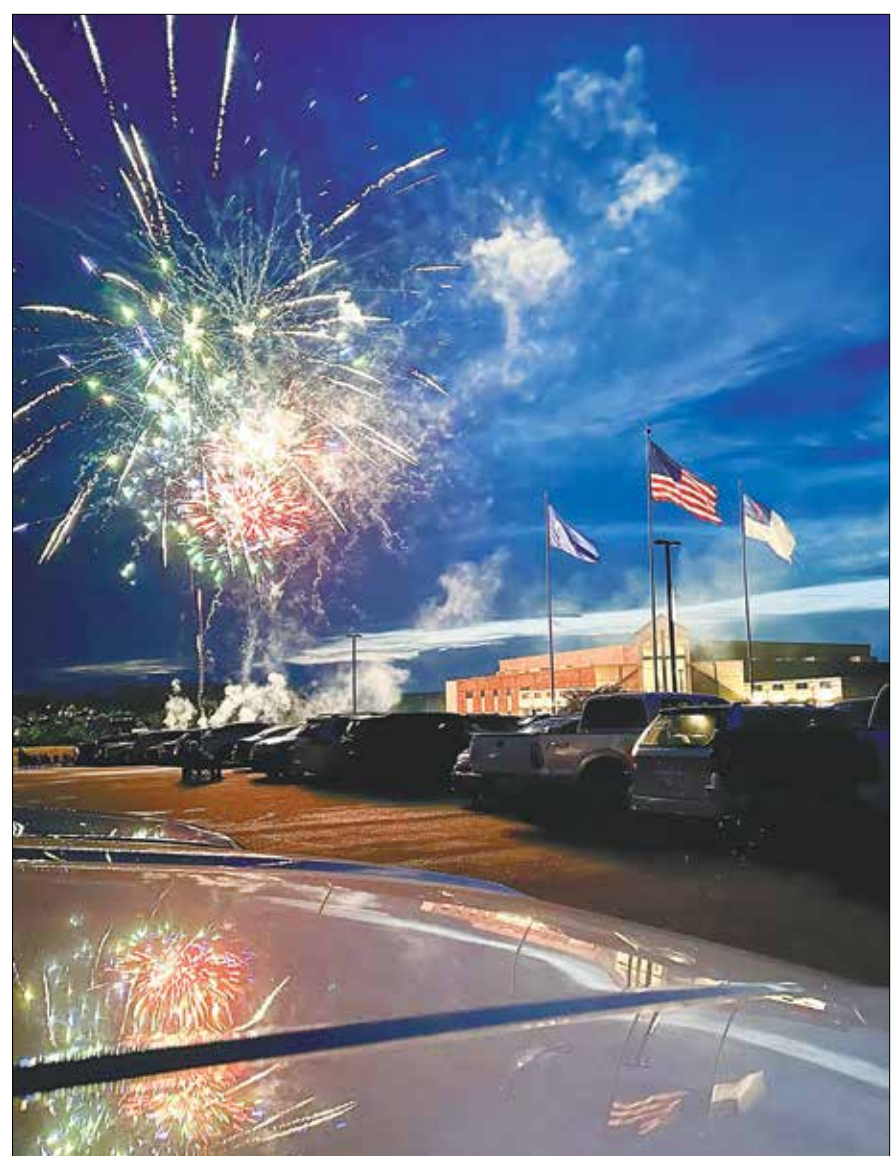
Phase 4 will address the

basketball court and picnic shelter area in April/May of next year.

"Knox County is committed to ensuring that all citizens can enjoy full access to amenities, programs, and services without being sidelined by structures and barriers that prohibit inclusion," said Knox County's ADA Coordinator Carly Pearson.

The 30-acre Carter Park is located at 9030 Asheville Highway and boasts a multipurpose field, four baseball and softball fields, a pavilion, a playground, and 0.3-mile walking trail. The Carter Library and Senior Center are also inside the park.

The project is being managed by the Public Building Authority and construction will be completed by Shelton General Contractors.

Beautiful picture of sparkling fireworks lighting up the night sky as the Clear Springs Baptist Church flags, the American flag, and the Christian flag wave in the summer breeze at the Red, White, and Blue Bash, courtesy of Bobbie Wyatt, Media Communications Director, Clear Springs Baptist Church.

## Celebrating Our Freedom

Freedom to worship. It is one of the most cherished of all the freedoms Americans enjoy. Our country was founded on such liberty, and the Fourth of July is a perfect time to celebrate all the freedoms that we hold dear.



By Ralphine Major  
ralphine3@yahoo.com

On the Fourth of July weekend, the morning service at Clear Springs Baptist Church in Corryton, Tennessee, featured patriotic hymns, a much-deserved tribute to the military, and a giant American flag hanging from the ceiling. The evening service moved outdoors for a Red, White, and Blue Bash. It is estimated that around 2,500 to 2,800

people attended the community event. Food trucks and fireworks added to the festivities. The evening brought more to celebrate as the church broke ground for the Dr. Damon

Patterson

Memorial Pavilion. Media Communications Director Bobbie Wyatt shared about the longtime minister. "In 2001, Dr. Patterson became the Associate Pastor of Clear Springs, under the leadership of our former pastor Dr. Jerry Vittatoe. He remained a faithful member until his passing in 2022 at the age of 93 years." What a special way for Clear Springs to honor this dedicated

servant's memory and his ministry! Construction is also underway to add approximately 650 seats to the balcony in the sanctuary. Truly, it was a day and evening full of celebration for Clear Springs and the community---a great memory for the weekend of July 4, 2023!

Words of Faith: "We, as a church family, always want to give God the glory for everything that He has done and is doing at Clear Springs," Bobbie said. "Our goal is to always focus on Christ, avoiding attention to ourselves," she added. "Our church verse is Psalms 118:23 (KJV)." The words from that verse are truly inspirational for everyone to remember: "This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes."

Young-Williams Animal Center 865.215.6599  
3201 Division Street, Knoxville, TN 37919 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. daily  
www.young-williams.org Closed 1-2 p.m. for animal quiet time



# Oscar DePriest of Illinois

## Pages from the Past



By Ray Hill  
rayhill865@gmail.com

The name of Oscar DePriest will surely be unfamiliar to most readers, but during his time, he was a political power in Chicago and was the first Black person to be elected to the City Council in the Windy City. DePriest also served three terms in Congress as a Republican. Dignified with a head of white hair, Oscar DePriest was frequently the subject of controversy. When DePriest died, the Black Dispatch, published a flowery editorial noting Oscar DePriest was “the first black man to return to Congress following the political conspiracy between the North and the South during the Hayes administration to re-establish white rule in Dixie.” The Black Dispatch editorial remembered DePriest as “a rugged, unpolished character” who stood up to the segregationists in Congress.

Born on a backwoods farm in Alabama, Oscar DePriest early on moved to Salina, Kansas, where he was educated. Eventually, DePriest moved to Chicago where he worked as a plasterer and interior decorator. Oscar DePriest became interested in politics and as one editorial noted, “He really went places.”

How he got to those places was due to his organizational skills and ability to deliver the Black vote in elections. DePriest became an important and recognized leader in the Black community, which was rapidly growing in Chicago. In a city where patronage, appointments, and the ability to get things done made a real difference, Oscar DePriest became a power in his own community.

Oscar DePriest won a seat on the Cook County Board of Commissioners in 1904 and served two terms before being caught in an intra-party squabble that caused him to lose his office. For seven years, DePriest tended to his real estate business, which made him well-to-do.

DePriest was elected an Alderman in the Chicago City Council, a position of very real prestige and authority at the time, in 1916. As the late Speaker of the House Thomas P. “Tip” O’Neill once said, “All politics is local” and that was true for Oscar DePriest.

The Alderman ran a successful real estate business while serving the people of his district. The first political tempest to roil DePriest’s life occurred two years after he had been elected to the Chicago City Council in 1918. DePriest cried his political opponents were trying to unseat him and he employed Clarence Darrow, perhaps the most famous legal mind of his time, and Edward Morris who represented him in court. DePriest survived

the scandal. That scandal did manage to eliminate DePriest from the Chicago City Council. After having been indicted for accepting money from gamblers, DePriest relied upon Darrow to keep him out of jail. Instead of seeking reelection, DePriest stated, “I shall devote myself unreservedly to proving my innocence and restoring my good name in this community.” Darrow won an acquittal for the Alderman.

In his largely Black ward, DePriest wielded enormous influence for decades. In 1928, DePriest won the GOP nomination for Congress from the First District of Illinois. That was a big year for Republicans when Herbert Hoover routed Al Smith for the White House. Oscar DePriest was the only Black member of Congress and the first member of his race to serve in the House of Representatives since Reconstruction.

To retain his influence inside the Black community, Oscar DePriest cultivated strong relationships with Congressman Martin Madden and sometime Mayor William Hale Thompson. It was Mayor Thompson who muscled opposition out of the way to give DePriest the GOP nomination for Congress in 1928 when incumbent Martin Madden died suddenly while seeking a thirteenth term in the House.

The 1928 campaign was a free-for-all contest between DePriest, a Democrat and no less than three independent candidates. DePriest won.

Winning the 1928 election meant Oscar DePriest was the first Black to be elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from a Northern state.

DePriest represented the First Congressional District of Illinois, which was centered in the heart of Chicago and took in part of the city’s South Side and the Loop. Always controversial, even in the Black community there was a division about the service of Congressman Oscar DePriest. The incumbent was challenged inside the 1930 GOP primary by Roscoe Conkling Simmons. Simmons was an orator of note and frequently imported by the Republican Party during elections to reach out to the Black community in various cities and states. Named for the famous United States senator from New York, Simmons and DePriest intensely disliked one another. Simmons had carved out a niche for himself after having been a journalist as a political activist and speaker. A nephew of Booker T. Washington through his father’s third wife, it was through his uncle’s influence he became an office messenger at age twelve

for perhaps the most powerful Republican of the day, wealthy United States Senator Mark A. Hanna of Ohio.

Oscar DePriest crushed Simmons inside the Republican primary, along with three other challengers and once again faced white Democrat Harry Baker in the general election. As Congressman DePriest campaigned for reelection and the grip of the Great Depression tightened, he spoke at a high school auditorium in Decatur, Illinois. “There are 3,000,000 unemployed in the country,” DePriest thundered. “Immigration should be restricted. Why should more people be brought into the country when there aren’t jobs enough to go around for those we have here?”

“A total of 56,000 Mexicans entered the country last year, competing with American labor, and accepting wages no American family could live on,” DePriest told his listeners. “I hope the time will come when I can vote (to) bar to all immigrant labor.”

During the course of his remarks, the congressman also made a plea on behalf of the Decatur Children’s Home, an orphanage for Black children. DePriest said the state legislature should help in maintaining the home. “It would be better for the state to spend money to make useful citizens out of children than to spend it correcting criminals,” DePriest opined.

During the general election, Oscar DePriest won headlines through a bizarre murder and extortion plot against him. A self-described “secret six” committee intended to extort \$10,000 (more than \$177,000 today) from DePriest; if the congressman failed to pay the money, he would be murdered. At least that is what a letter sent to DePriest had stated. According to the letter, the committee had been offered \$5,000 to kill the congressman; they would spare his life if he offered them double the going rate for killing Oscar DePriest. Should he agree to pay the money, DePriest was told to take out an advertisement in a local newspaper. The missive was signed, “the Brooklyn Rats.”

A trap was laid for the extortionists/would-be murderers and two men were caught as a result. One was Julius Link, a politician from Chicago’s West Side, and the other was Solly Lason, who drove a milk wagon.

DePriest put the ad in the newspaper as instructed and promptly received a letter via special delivery telling him to remain in his office. He would receive further instructions, the letter stated. That Friday DePriest got another letter telling him to take the \$10,000 in cash to a particular spot near Douglas Park, where he would find further instructions. Following all the instructions of the extortionists, DePriest went to the spot, where he found a note telling him to leave the money in a small shack that stood nearby. DePriest did as he was told. While the package the congressman left was a large one, it



COURTESY THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Congressman Oscar DePriest of Illinois.

contained only \$200 and was watched by detectives disguised as railroad men working in the area.

Early Saturday morning, a milk wagon appeared and came to a halt in front of the shack. The driver came down off the wagon and entered the shack and emerged carrying the package containing the extortion money. Later that day police arrested Solly Lason, the driver, and Julius Link.

Congressman Oscar DePriest won the 1930 general election easily, polling almost 60% of the vote against Harry Baker and three independent candidates.

Harry Baker was apparently determined to win a seat in the House and sought a third rematch with Congressman Oscar DePriest in the 1932 election. With the First District, like the rest of the country suffering from the Depression, DePriest’s margin of victory was reduced, but the congressman still won with roughly 55% of the vote.

During his time in Congress, Oscar DePriest passed an amendment forbidding discrimination in the Civilian Conservation Corps. It was also Oscar DePriest who raised hell when his secretary (Chief of Staff) Morris Lewis and Lewis’ son were denied service in the House restaurant. As a result, only Members of Congress could be served.

Baker was running for Congress for a fourth time in 1934 when he died suddenly from heart disease. The Democrats wisely nominated Arthur W. Mitchell, who was also Black. Mitchell eked out a narrow victory over DePriest in the 1934 general election. DePriest tried to regain his seat in the House in 1936, which was the nadir of the New Deal era for Republicans. DePriest lost again.

Another effort to return

to the halls of Congress saw Oscar DePriest run third inside the Republican primary; the top three vote-getters ran within a few hundred votes of one another, but the winner was William L. Dawson. Ironically, Dawson went on to lose the general election to Congressman Arthur Mitchell. Yet Dawson would succeed Mitchell eventually and remain in Congress for the rest of his life, as a Democrat.

After losing a race for Alderman in the Chicago city election and yet another GOP primary for Congress in 1940, Oscar DePriest was looking like a perennial candidate. The old political warhorse had one more winning campaign in him. DePriest challenged Alderman Benjamin Grant, to whom he had lost four years earlier in the 1943 election. Although the election was supposed to be a nonpartisan affair, both political parties frequently gave endorsements to various candidates. Grant had the endorsement of the powerful Chicago Democratic organization, which at the time was run by Mayor Edward Kelly and veteran political boss Patrick Nash. DePriest had the endorsement of the local Republican Party. The Third Ward was heavily Black and all of the candidates seeking to represent the district on the Chicago Board of Aldermen were Black.

DePriest’s candidacy was frequently derided due to his continuous habit of seeking elective office, as well as his age. DePriest was seventy-two years old in 1943. Virtually everyone was stunned when the old campaigner squeaked out a victory over Alderman Grant by 461 votes.

DePriest gave credit to “the aid of the younger workers” who had helped him win the general election. DePriest promised, “I shall fight as always for the good of my ward and my city and the rights of my people.”

“In the council my Republicanism will in no wise be lessened by the fact that I was elected on a nonpartisan ticket,” DePriest said. “I am too thoroughly steeped in party interest to do otherwise.”

By 1947, Alderman Oscar DePriest had been disavowed by the Republican Party during his reelection campaign. Local Republicans complained DePriest had accepted too many favors from the administration of Mayor Ed Kelly, which included “a score of jobs.” The party leadership read DePriest out of the Chicago Republican Party and appointed a committee to handle patronage requests for the Third Ward.

Seventeen candidates vied for the seat held by DePriest and once shunned by his own party, DePriest lost inside the primary. It was finally the end of the former congressman’s long political career.

While crossing a Chicago street not far from his home, the 79-year-old former congressman was struck by a bus. DePriest filed a \$25,000 lawsuit against the Chicago Motor Coach Company. DePriest had suffered a concussion after having been hit by the bus and was believed to have recovered, but apparently was never quite well. A few months later, Oscar DePriest fell into a coma and was rushed to Provident Hospital where he died.

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## South Haven is proud and growing

**Cont. from page 1**  
affordable homes and proximity to downtown.

“We’re building relationships face to face and through a variety of activities and ways to get involved,” she said, adding, “While the neighborhood is working through growing pains we’re seeking to empower our members to take ownership of their concerns and work together to resolve them.”

Knoxville City Council member Tommy Smith and Knox County Commissioner Carson Dailey represent the



neighborhood and usually attend the neighborhood association meetings.

More information about the South Haven neighborhood is available online on Facebook.

Come worship with us  
**New Beverly Baptist Church**  
3320 New Beverly Church Rd.  
Knoxville, TN 37918  
Rev. Eddie Sawyer, Pastor  
www.newbeverly.org  
856-546-0001

Sunday School 10 a.m.  
Sunday Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.  
Wednesday Evening Prayer 7:00 p.m.  
Wednesday Evening Youth 7:00 p.m.  
Bus Ministry -  
For transportation call 546-0001.



# LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

## COURT NOTICES

### ORDER OF PUBLICATION

IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR GRAINGER COUNTY, TENNESSEE

**Adam Greene, Plaintiff,**  
v.  
**Misty Michelle Greene, Defendant.**

No. 2023-CH-39

#### ORDER OF PUBLICATION

In this cause, it appearing from the affidavit that the residence of the Defendant is unknown and cannot be ascertained upon diligent inquiry, such that ordinary service of process cannot be had upon him; it is therefore

ORDERED that publication of this order be made for four consecutive weeks in The Knoxville Focus, a newspaper published in Knox County, Tennessee, notifying the Defendant that she is required to answer and make defense to the Complaint in the office of the Chancery Court of Tennessee in Grainger County, located at Rutledge, within 30 days after the fourth weekly publication of this order and that, upon her failure so to do, the Complaint will be taken as admitted by him. Should the Defendant fail then they shall be deemed to have received actual notice hereof and default may be taken against them at a hearing for judgment as prayed for in the complaint in the Chancery Court for Grainger County, Tennessee on the 14th day of November, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. in the Grainger County Justice Center, Rutledge, Tennessee. Entered this 20th day of June, 2023.

Hon. James H. Ripley

Approved for Entry:  
Evan M. Newman, BPR# 035269.

Attorney for Plaintiff  
P. O. Box 6  
Rutledge, Tennessee 37861  
(865) 828-3111

accepted service. It is therefore ORDERED that the Respondents Gloria Tipton, Pennie Bragg, Richard Hardin, Kevin Cunningham, Barin Harris, Rodney Houston, Tiara Stokley, Alstorja Hooker, and Wanda Vaulton shall be served by publication of the following notice in The Knoxville Focus, a newspaper located in Knoxville, Knox County, Tennessee, as provided by law.

#### NOTICE

TO: Gloria Tipton, Pennie Bragg, Richard Hardin, Kevin Cunningham, Barin Harris, Rodney Houston, Tiara Stokley, Alstorja Hooker, and Wanda Vaulton

It is ordered that said Respondents, Gloria Tipton, Pennie Bragg, Richard Hardin, Kevin Cunningham, Barin Harris, Rodney Houston, Tiara Stokley, Alstorja Hooker, and Wanda Vaulton file an answer with the Clerk of the Probate Court at Knox County, Tennessee and with Felicia Coalson, an Attorney whose address is Owings, Wilson, & Coleman 900 S. Gay Street, Suite 800, Knoxville, Tennessee within thirty (30) days of the last date of publication or the real property of Modestine Cunningham located at 116 S. Elmwood St., Knoxville, Tennessee will be sold. This notice will be published in The Knoxville Focus for four (4) consecutive weeks.

ENTERED July 6, 2023.

J. Scott Griswold, Clerk

Approved for Entry:  
Felicia Coalson, Administrator  
Owings Wilson Coleman  
900 S. Gay Street, Suite 800  
Knoxville, TN 37902

### SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION

**VIRGINIA TRYDELL and CLYDE THOMAS, Petitioners,**  
VS.

**RANDY THOMAS, TOM THOMAS, WILLIAM M. THOMAS, JR., SHARON THOMAS, TERRY THOMAS, TAMMY SANDERS, LYNN CHILDS, GWEN NEWMAN, FRED THOMAS, AMBER GIBSON, J.A. GIBSON and All Other Unnamed Heirs of Ollie Thomas. Respondents.**

No. 2023-CH-81

To: Randy Thomas  
Tom Thomas  
William M. Thomas, Jr.  
Sharon Thomas  
Terry Thomas

The whereabouts of all are unknown

You are hereby summoned to appear within 30 days after the date of the last publication of this Summons, to-wit , within 30 days after August 7, 2023, and defend the above-entitled action in the above-entitled Court, and answer the Petition to Sell Real Estate and to serve a copy of your answer upon James H. Snyder, Jr., 345 South Hall Road, Alcoa, Tennessee 37701, (865) 981-4966, Attorney for the Petitioners; and in case of your failure so to do, judgment will be rendered against you according to the demand of the Petition which has been filed with the Clerk of the Court in the above-entitled action by the Petitioners aforesaid.

Issued upon Order of the Court on this the 11 day of July, 2023, at 12:08 o'clock p.m.

Stephen S. Ogle  
Clerk and Master

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF ANDREW BREVICK**  
**DOCKET NUMBER 88122-2**

Notice is hereby given that on the 29 day of June 2023, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of ANDREW BREVICK who died Feb 20, 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 the 29 day of JUNE, 2023.

ESTATE OF ANDREW BREVICK

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
KATRINA NICOLE BREVICK; EXECUTRIX  
3326 MIAMI STREET  
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37917

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF CAROL CRONKHITE**  
**DOCKET NUMBER 87963-2**

Notice is hereby given that on the 3 day of JULY, 2023, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of CAROL CRONKHITE March 13, 2023 were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above-named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

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

This the 3 day of JULY, 2023.

ESTATE OF CAROL CRONKHITE

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
SUSAN C. BIZZARI  
1616 TECUMSEH DR.  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37912

M. CATHERINE WARMBROD ATTORNEY  
10805 KINGSTON PIKE, SUITE 200  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37934

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF JOHN E. DORFLINGER, III**  
**DOCKET NUMBER 88060-3**

Notice is hereby given that on the 3 day of JULY, 2023, letters of administration in respect of the Estate of JOHN E. DORFLINGER, III who died March 26, 2023 were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above-named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

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

This the 3 day of JULY, 2023.

ESTATE OF JOHN E. DORFLINGER, III

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
HILARY W. BURGIN  
675 MORGANTON SQUARE DR.  
MARYVILLE, TN 37801

MATTHEW C. HARALSON, ATTORNEY  
217 EAST BROADWAY AVENUE  
MARYVILLE, TN 37804

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF BRANDI DUKES**  
**DOCKET NUMBER 87715-1**

Notice is hereby given that on the 3 day of JULY, 2023, letters of administration in respect of the Estate of BRANDI DUKES who died April 14, 2023 were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above-named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

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

This the 3 day of JULY, 2023.

ESTATE OF BRANDI DUKES

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
VICKI DUKES MONDAY  
6422 NORWOOD DRIVE  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37914

DAVID H. LUHN ATTORNEY  
310 N. FOREST PARK BLVD.  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37919

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF GLENN WALTER EDWARDS**  
**DOCKET NUMBER 88072-3**

Notice is hereby given that on the 26 day of JUNE 2023, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of GLENN WALTER EDWARDS who died Dec 4, 2022, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above-named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

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

This the 26 day of JUNE, 2023.

ESTATE OF GLENN WALTER EDWARDS

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
BILLIE JEAN GARRETT; EXECUTRIX  
9135 TRENTVILLE WAY  
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37924

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF KAREN GOTHELF**  
**DOCKET NUMBER 88081-3**

Notice is hereby given that on the 26 day of JUNE 2023, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of KAREN GOTHELF who died Apr 28, 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 the 26 day of JUNE, 2023.

ESTATE OF KAREN GOTHELF

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
TAMARA GELBER; EXECUTRIX  
1838 CEDARDALE LANE  
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37932

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF SHIRLEY MAE HARPER**  
**DOCKET NUMBER 88023-2**

Notice is hereby given that on the 26 day of

JUNE 2023, letters administration in respect of the Estate of SHIRLEY MAE HARPER who died Oct 23, 2022, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above-named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

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

This the 26 day of JUNE, 2023.

ESTATE OF SHIRLEY MAE HARPER

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
JIMMIE D HARPER; ADMINISTRATRIX  
5701 ROTH WAY  
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37918

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF MARJORIE NORRIS HARRIS**  
**DOCKET NUMBER 87942-2**

Notice is hereby given that on the 3 day of JULY, 2023, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of MARJORIE NORRIS HARRIS who died on the 8 day of March, 2023 were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

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

This the 3 day of JULY, 2023.

ESTATE OF MARJORIE NORRIS HARRIS

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
JOAN F. HODGE  
1212 BISHOPS VIEW LANE  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37932

MATTHEW B. FRERE ATTORNEY  
1001 E. BROADWAY  
LENOIR CITY, TN 37771

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF VIOLA JEANETT (RICE) IRWIN**  
**DOCKET NUMBER 88102-3**

Notice is hereby given that on the 27 day of JUNE 2023, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of VIOLA JEANETT (RICE) IRWIN who died Mar 15, 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 the 27 day of JUNE, 2023.

ESTATE OF VIOLA JEANETT (RICE) IRWIN

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
ANDY I HARRISON; EXECUTOR  
338 E WOLF VALLEY ROAD  
HEISKELL, TN. 37754

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF DAVID CURTIS KARNES**  
**DOCKET NUMBER 87957-2**

Notice is hereby given that on the 3 day of JULY, 2023, Letters of Administration in respect of the Estate of DAVID CURTIS KARNES, who died February 7, 2023, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured against the 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, otherwise their claims will be forever barred.

(B) Sixty (60) days 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 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 3 day of JULY, 2023.

ESTATE OF DAVID CURTIS KARNES

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
MARCIA BRIDGES  
9018 ANDERSONVILLE PIKE  
POWELL, TN 37849

GAIL F. WORTLEY ATTORNEY AT LAW  
3715 POWERS STREET  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37917

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF CYNTHIA E MELLON**  
**DOCKET NUMBER 87841-3**

Notice is hereby given that on the 29 day of JUNE 2023, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of CYNTHIA E MELLON who died Mar 31, 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 the 29 day of JUNE, 2023.

ESTATE OF CYNTHIA E MELLON

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
CATHY S REDMOND; EXECUTRIX  
24 STATION LOOP  
BLUFFTON, SC 29910

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF RICKY LYNN MELLON**  
**DOCKET NUMBER 88078-3**

Notice is hereby given that on the 26 day of JUNE 2023, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of RICKY LYNN MELLON who died Jun 1, 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 the 26 day of JUNE, 2023.

ESTATE OF RICKY LYNN MELLON

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
TERESA M BEELER; ADMINISTRATRIX  
205 COUNTRY WALK DRIVE  
POWELL, TN. 37849

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF CHESTER W. NEEL**  
**DOCKET NUMBER 87759-2**

Notice is hereby given that on the 3 day of JULY, 2023, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of CHESTER W. NEEL who died March 23, 2023, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above-named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

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

This the 3 day of JULY, 2023.

ESTATE OF CHESTER W. NEEL

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
POLLY ANNELLE FOUTCH NEEL  
2413 CRAIG COVE RD.  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37919

P. ANDREW SNEED ATTORNEY  
217 EAST BROADWAY AVENUE  
MARYVILLE, TN 37804

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF DONALD G PAYNE, JR.**  
**DOCKET NUMBER 88080-2**

Notice is hereby given that on the 26 day of JUNE 2023, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of DONALD G PAYNE, JR. who died Jan 10, 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



# LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

### ESTATE OF CATHERINE A. THRELKELD DOCKET NUMBER 87722-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 3 day of JULY, 2023, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of CATHERINE A. THRELKELD who died April 11, 2023 were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above-named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

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

This the 3 day of JULY, 2023.

### ESTATE OF CATHERINE A. THRELKELD

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
DAVID A. THRELKELD; EXECUTOR  
2814 ROSSMOOR CIRCLE  
BLOOMFIELD HILLS, MI 48302

EDWARD A. COX, JR., ATTORNEY  
1111 N. NORTSHORE DRIVE, SUITE N-290  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37919

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

### ESTATE OF VERA RUTH WHALEY DOCKET NUMBER 87988-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 3 day of JULY, 2023, Letters Testamentary in respect to the Estate of VERA RUTH WHALEY, died on May 9, 2023, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against said Estate are required to file the same with the clerk 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 (or posting as the case may be) of this Notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this Notice to Creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication or posting; 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 the first publication (or posting) as described in (1) (A); or

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

This the 3 day of JULY, 2023.

### ESTATE OF VERA RUTH WHALEY

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
JENNIE LOU PARTON  
7503 WIDOW FRENCH LN.  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37920

ERIN A. WHITE ATTORNEY  
408 N CEDAR BLUFF RD, STE 160  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37923

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

### ESTATE OF LEE F BAILEY DOCKET NUMBER 88140-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 3 day of JULY 2023, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of LEE F BAILEY who died Jun 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 if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of this first publication; or

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

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

This the 3 day of JULY, 2023.

### ESTATE OF LEE F BAILEY

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
JANICE B MCCLAIN; CO-EXECUTRIX  
7943 JENHURST WAY  
POWELL, TN. 37849

MARTHA B BROOKS; CO-EXECUTRIX  
8142 WALKER ROAD  
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37938

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

### ESTATE OF MICHAEL B BIGGS DOCKET NUMBER 87560-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 6 day of JULY 2023, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of MICHAEL B BIGGS who died Oct 8, 2022, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above-named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

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

This the 6 day of JULY, 2023.

### ESTATE OF MICHAEL B BIGGS

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
MARTIN MANER; EXECUTOR  
1922 ALBERT AVENUE  
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37917

WILLIAM E DUFFEY, JR. ATTORNEY AT LAW  
112 DURWOOD ROAD

KNOXVILLE, TN. 37922

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

### ESTATE OF JAMES EARL BRIDGES DOCKET NUMBER 88093-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 27 day of JUNE 2023, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of JAMES EARL BRIDGES who died May 11, 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 the 27 day of JUNE, 2023.

### ESTATE OF JAMES EARL BRIDGES

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
JEFFERY ALAN SHOFFNER; EXECUTOR  
1223 VENIDO DRIVE  
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37932

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

### ESTATE OF GEORGE C. BRITAIN, III DOCKET NUMBER 87929-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 6 day of JULY, 2023, letters of administration in respect of the Estate of GEORGE C. BRITAIN, III, who died December 26, 2022, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

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

This the 6 day of JULY, 2023.

### ESTATE OF GEORGE C. BRITAIN, III

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
JESSICA D' ANDRAIA  
9419 GLADIATOR LANE  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37922

MICHAEL R. CROWDER ATTORNEY  
4TH FLOOR, BANK OF AMERICA BLDG.  
P.O. BOX 442  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37901

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

### ESTATE OF MICHAEL J. CLARK DOCKET NUMBER 88003-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 10 day of JULY, 2023, letters of Administration (or Letters of Administration as the case may be) in respect of the Estate of MICHAEL J. CLARK who died April 1, 2023 were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above-named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

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

This the 10 day of JULY, 2023.

### ESTATE OF MICHAEL J. CLARK

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
MATTHEW DENNIS DANIELS  
3564 CAPTAINS WAY  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37922

PATRICK L. WHITE, ATTORNEY  
9721 SHERRILL BLVD.  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37932

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

### ESTATE OF WALLACE WILSON CONAWAY DOCKET NUMBER 88051-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 7 day of JULY, 2023, letters of Administration in respect of the Estate of WALLACE WILSON CONAWAY who died on April 2, 2023, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the clerk 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 this notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication as described in (1)(A); or

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

This the 7 day of JULY, 2023.

### ESTATE OF WALLACE WILSON CONAWAY

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
JENNA VEE MCGAHEY GLENN

RONALD L. GRIMM ATTORNEY  
P.O. BOX 2466  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37901

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

### ESTATE OF INA RUTH PROFFITT COOPER DOCKET NUMBER 88146-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 5 day of JULY 2023, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of INA RUTH PROFFITT COOPER who died Jun 15, 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 the 5 day of JULY, 2023.

### ESTATE OF INA RUTH PROFFITT COOPER

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
BARBARA J MURRIAN; EXECUTRIX  
5546 WILKERSON ROAD  
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37912

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

### ESTATE OF MARY CECILIA HOEY COOPER DOCKET NUMBER 88149-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 5 day of JULY 2023, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of MARY CECILIA HOEY COOPER who died Apr 21, 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 the 5 day of JULY, 2023.

### ESTATE OF MARY CECILIA HOEY COOPER

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
MARY ELIZABETH KINNAME; EXECUTRIX  
5104 HEDGEWOOD DRIVE  
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37918

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

### ESTATE OF MARTHA REBECCA EDWARDS DOCKET NUMBER 88090-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 26 day of JUNE 2023, letters of Administration in respect of the Estate of MARTHA REBECCA EDWARDS who died Aug 6, 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 the estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above-named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

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

This the 26 day of JUNE, 2023.

### ESTATE OF MARTHA REBECCA EDWARDS

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
CINDY EDWARDS CAMPBELL; EXECUTRIX  
2160 HIGHLAND FALLS COURT  
JOHNSON CITY, TN. 37615

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

### ESTATE OF SARAH DAISY EDWARDS DOCKET NUMBER 88096-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 26 day of JUNE 2023, letters administration in respect of the Estate of SARAH DAISY EDWARDS who died May 31, 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 the 26 day of JUNE, 2023.

### ESTATE OF SARAH DAISY EDWARDS

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
CHARLES R WALKER; ADMINISTRATOR  
391 FINLEY ROAD  
RUTLEDGE, TN. 37861

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

### ESTATE OF JOHN RAY GERVAIS DOCKET NUMBER 88002-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 29 day of

JUNE 2023, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of JOHN RAY GERVAIS who died May 12, 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 the 29 day of JUNE, 2023.

### ESTATE OF JOHN RAY GERVAIS

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
TRACEY GERVAIS; EXECUTRIX  
55 DUNDEE DRIVE  
ST CATHARINES ONTARIO L2P359

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

### ESTATE OF GARY LYNN GINLEY DOCKET NUMBER 88014-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 7 day of JULY, 2023, Letters Testamentary in respect of the Estate of GARY LYNN GINLEY who died on January 24, 2023, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the Estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above-named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

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

This the 7 day of JULY, 2023.

### Estate of GARY LYNN GINLEY

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
PATRICIA BAILEY, EXECUTOR  
812 BRICKYARD ROAD  
POWELL, TN 37849

KEVIN A. DEAN ATTORNEY  
550 WEST MAIN STREET, SUITE 500  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37902

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

### ESTATE OF MARY SUE HANCOCK DOCKET NUMBER 88111-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 11 day of JULY, 2023, letters testamentary (or letters of administration as the case may be) in respect of the Estate of MARY SUE HANCOCK, who died on June 11, 2023, were issued to all the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above-named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claim will be forever barred:

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

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

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

This the 11 day of JULY, 2023.

### ESTATE OF MARY SUE HANCOCK

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
JOHN NICHOLAS HANCOCK  
3212 ORCHARD GRASS ROAD  
LEXINGTON, KY 40509

FIONA F. HILL ATTORNEY  
550 W. MAIN STREET, SUITE 310  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37902

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

### ESTATE OF JOSEPH PATRICK HINDS DOCKET NUMBER 88132-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 11 day of JULY, 2023, Letters Testamentary in respect of the Estate of JOSEPH PATRICK HINDS who died May 7, 2023, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the Clerk 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 the first publication; or

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

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

This the 11 day of JULY, 2023.

### ESTATE OF JOSEPH PATRICK HINDS

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
JAMI HINDS SCHMID, EXECUTRIX  
7600 SCENIC VIEW DRIVE  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37938

VICTORIA B. TILLMAN, ATTORNEY  
1019 ORCHID DRIVE  
KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE 37912

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

### ESTATE OF LISA HARRIETT JACOBS DOCKET NUMBER 88068-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 7 day of JULY, 2023, Letters of Administration in respect of the Estate of LISA HARRIETT JACOBS who

died on March 29, 2023, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the Clerk 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 the first publication; or

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



# Burial Service for Herman Tipton Baker and Patricia Anne Baker

Herman Tipton Baker passed away on May 26, 2021, and his beloved wife Patricia Anne Baker, passed away on February 13 of this year. It was their final wish to be buried together in their hometown, Knoxville, Tennessee. They will be laid to rest together at Lynnhurst cemetery on July 22 at 11:00 a.m. There will be a brief graveside service for friends and family.

Herman Tipton Baker was born on August 6, 1937, in Sevier County, Tennessee. He is the son of the late Harold Tipton Baker and Ruth Rule Baker. He received his bachelor's degree from Carson Newman in 1960, and later a master's degree in education from the University of Tennessee. Patricia Anne Baker was

born on November 17, 1937, in Knoxville, Tennessee. She is the daughter of the late George Everett Mynatt and Marie Nance Mynatt. She received her bachelor's degree from the University of Tennessee in 1959. They were wed on August the 11th of 1960. Both began lifelong careers in education. Patricia Anne Baker took a leave of absence from her career in 1963 to become a full-time mother. She returned to teaching in the 1970s at Tennessee School for the Deaf and then worked for the Knox County school system for more than 20 years, finally retiring from Shannondale Elementary School.

Herman Tipton Baker spent 38 years in the Knoxville and Knox County school systems. He began as a teacher, then

served as a principal at five different schools within the system. He was a Scout Master and past President of the Knoxville Education Association. He was also a Deacon at Central Baptist Church in Fountain City.

During their lives, they participated in multiple business ventures including commercial and residential real estate. One of their favorite business ventures was a popular spot in Fountain City called Leo's Cafe. They were co-owners of the cafe and could often be found there on weeknights and weekends.

They enjoyed over 60 years of marriage together. They leave behind two sons, John and Jim Baker, and two daughters-in-law, Elizabeth and Janet. There

are nine grandchildren: Haley Spencer, Evan Baker, Hannah Singer, Olivia Baker, Hillary Baker, Harrison Baker, Sophia Baker, Bailey Whitworth, and Cooper Whitworth. There are also three great-grandchildren: Evangeline James Singer, Emerson Rose Spencer, and Wyatt Nathaniel Singer. Herman Tipton Baker is also survived by his sister, Nancy Baker McGowan, and Patricia Anne Baker is survived by her brother, William Allen Mynatt and sister, Nancy Mynatt Noel. Both are survived by many nieces, nephews and great-nieces and nephews whom they dearly loved.

In lieu of flowers, the family would request memorial contributions be directed to Central Baptist Church of Fountain City.



Patricia Anne Baker and Herman Tipton Baker.

## Healing From Trauma

Last spring, I participated in my first Trauma Reboot class at the encouragement of my brother who took the class. I knew witnessing the traumatic death of my twin brother at a young age impacted my life in many ways, but it was not until I took this class that I realized just how much it has affected my life and the healing I needed. I was able to also learn from the stories of others and reminded that we are not alone in our pain and struggles.

We are about to offer our second class at Arlington that begins Wednesday night, August 9th, from 6 to 8 p.m. You can register at [rebootrecovery.com](http://rebootrecovery.com). I thought it might be good to share just a little bit more information about what Trauma Reboot is, so you might consider participating, and/or you can share the information with someone who might benefit.

Trauma REBOOT is a 12-week, faith-based, peer-led course empowering everyday people to overcome trauma and embrace a brighter future. Through practical teaching and a supportive community, Trauma REBOOT can help you break free



By Mark Brackney, Minister of the Arlington Church of Christ

Recovery shares the following: "Some people can recall the exact moment their lives changed forever. The horrific accident. The miscarriage. The first time they were hit by someone who was supposed to love them. The moment when their innocence was taken. Others can't remember a time when their lives weren't marked by trauma, abuse, or neglect. Too many people never really heal from trauma, and trauma ends up controlling their lives. Maybe that's you. You know the person you want to be — your "pre-traumatized self" — is buried deep inside, but you can't seem to find that person anymore. Trauma was your personal intersection with the brokenness of the world. But recovery is your personal intersection with the redemptive heart of God.

Since 2011, REBOOT has helped thousands of people overcome the trials, tragedies, and traumas of

their past. Now it's your turn. It may seem impossible, but in only 12 weeks, you can begin to break the harmful patterns of denying, crying, numbing, and running from your pain and start walking down a proven path of healing. All of your symptoms may not go away, but trauma doesn't have to control your life any longer. You can overcome trauma and embrace a brighter future. It won't be easy, but it will be worth it. Joining a Trauma REBOOT course is a choice that could change your life forever. Make the choice and begin your healing journey today."

You can find the class Arlington offers at the website: [rebootrecovery.com](http://rebootrecovery.com). The cost is only \$25 per participant and you'll get a REBOOT Field Guide workbook, a copy of Healing What's Hidden, and membership to MyREBOOT, the online trauma healing hub. You can also see other locations and classes offered: REBOOT First Responders that helps first responders and their families heal from critical incident stress and trauma and REBOOT Combat Recovery that helps veterans, active-duty military and their families heal from service-related trauma.

Recovery shares the following: "Some people can recall the exact moment their lives changed forever. The horrific accident. The miscarriage. The first time they were hit by someone who was supposed to love them. The moment when their innocence was taken. Others can't remember a time when their lives weren't marked by trauma, abuse, or neglect. Too many people never really heal from trauma, and trauma ends up controlling their lives. Maybe that's you. You know the person you want to be — your "pre-traumatized self" — is buried deep inside, but you can't seem to find that person anymore. Trauma was your personal intersection with the brokenness of the world. But recovery is your personal intersection with the redemptive heart of God.

Since 2011, REBOOT has helped thousands of people overcome the trials, tragedies, and traumas of

## Casey Jones and the Cannonball Express, II

FROM THE MOUNTAINS

by Jadon Gibson

The Cannonball Express neared Vaughn at a speed between seventy-five and eighty miles per hour. Upon rounding a final curve Casey saw the train ahead on the track and knew a collision was imminent. He instinctively applied the brakes sending the train and crew and passengers into what seemed like a screeching eternity. The speed of the Cannonball Express reduced to seventy, sixty, fifty, forty, as it bore down on the second train lying unavoidably stationary in the lights ahead.

"Jump Sim, jump," Jones yelled to his fireman as he saw that a collision was imminent.

Webb automatically accepted Jones' order and leaped into the darkness. Jones stayed at the helm as the train continued to slow before colliding with the caboose and several cars of the other train, smashing them into splinters. In that era, the caboose and many of the train cars were made of wood.

The train had slowed to the extent that none of the passengers were hurt. Jones' record for never losing a passenger was intact but John Luther Jones himself was killed. He was the lone casualty, found with one hand on the whistle cord and the second on the air brake lever.

Jones was loved by his fellow workers and everyone along the route. His reputation grew when it became evident that he stayed with the train in order to slow it to its minimum speed in order to save his passengers and diminish the loss.

The engineer had spent time growing up in Cayce, Kentucky, and was nicknamed Casey which had the same pronunciation. Wallace Saunders, the Black man who

wiped down Casey Jones' engine and idolized the young engineer, wrote a melodic song about his friend. It became one of the most famous ballads ever written, memorializing Casey Jones, the brave engineer.

Everyone talked about him and sang about him as I grew up in the mountains of eastern Kentucky.

*Come, all you rounders, if you want to hear the story told of a brave engineer; Casey Jones was the rounder's name a high right-wheeler of mighty fame.*

*Of mighty fame, of mighty fame a high right-wheeler of mighty fame Casey pulled into the Memphis yard fed up, beat down and dog tired Another driver had called in sick asking Casey to do a double trip.*

*Casey smiled, said, "I'm feelin' fine. Gonna ride that train to the end of the line.*

*There's ridges and bridges, and hills to climb. Got a head of steam and ahead of time." Got a head of steam and ahead of time.*

*Caller called Casey, half-past four. He kissed his wife at the station door.*

*Climbed into the cab, orders in his hand "Could be my trip to (the) Promised Land."*

*Through South Memphis on the fly. The fireman say, "You got a white eye.*

*The switchmen knew the engine's moan. The man at the throttle was Casey Jones*

*Was Casey Jones, was Casey Jones. The man at the throttle was Casey Jones.*

*The engine rocked, the drivers rolled. Fireman hollered, "Save my soul!"*

*"I'm gonna roll her 'til she leaves the rails I'm behind time with the Southern mail."*

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Jadon Gibson is a freelance writer from Harrogate, TN. His stories are both historic and nostalgic in nature.

# LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

### ESTATE OF KELLY MARIE ROGERS DOCKET NUMBER 88095-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 26 day of JUNE 2023, letters administration in respect of the Estate of KELLY MARIE ROGERS who died Apr 17, 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 the 26 day of JUNE, 2023.

ESTATE OF KELLY MARIE ROGERS

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
SUSAN STOKES; ADMINISTRATOR  
7925 CRANLEY ROAD  
POWELL, TN. 37849

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF DORIS MARTIN SHOEMAKER

### DOCKET NUMBER 88065-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 11 day of JULY 2023, Letters of Administration in respect of the Estate of DORIS MARTIN SHOEMAKER who died on February 23, 2023 were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the Estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above-named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred.

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

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

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

This the 11 day of JULY, 2023.

ESTATE OF DORIS MARTIN SHOEMAKER

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
DAVID DEWAYNE SHOEMAKER;  
ADMINISTRATOR  
360 SOUTH SEVENOAKS DRIVE  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37922

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

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF DEBORAH DENISE STEELE DOCKET NUMBER 87786-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 27 day of

JUNE 2023, letters administration in respect of the Estate of DEBORAH DENISE STEELE who died Mar 27, 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 the 27 day of JUNE, 2023.

ESTATE OF DEBORAH DENISE STEELE

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
RICHARD WILSON; ADMINISTRATOR  
3239 MISTY HILL WAY  
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37917

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF ALBERT RAYMOND TIPTON DOCKET NUMBER 87917-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 11 day of JULY, 2023, Letters Testamentary in respect of the Estate of ALBERT RAY TIPTON, who died on April 18, 2023, were issued to the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having

claims, matured or unmatured, against the above captioned 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 (or posting, as the case may be) of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of this first publication; or

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

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

This the 11 day of JULY, 2023.

ESTATE OF ALBERT RAYMOND TIPTON

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
MICHAEL ALLEN TIPTON  
8124 TAZEWELL PIKE  
CORRYTON, TN 37721

STEPHEN K. GARRETT, ATTORNEY

7838 BARKER ROAD  
CORRYTON, TN 37721

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF JEANNE LYNN TUCKER DOCKET NUMBER 87891-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 29 day of JUNE 2023, letters administration in respect of the Estate of JEANNE LYNN TUCKER who died May 14, 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 the 29 day of JUNE, 2023.

ESTATE OF JEANNE LYNN TUCKER

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
JEWAL D HAYNES; ADMINISTRATOR  
211 LAILA LANE  
MT AIRY, NC 27030

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF FRANKIE DEHART WALKER DOCKET NUMBER 88086-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 26 day of JUNE 2023, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of FRANKIE DEHART WALKER who died May 30, 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 the 26 day of JUNE, 2023.

ESTATE OF FRANKIE DEHART WALKER

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
MARY NELLE OSBORNE; EXECUTOR  
3220 WASHINGTON PIKE  
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37917

## MISC. NOTICES

### LEGAL SECTION 94

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

Bid 3441, Hepatitis B Vaccination, due 8/15/23;  
Bid 3443, Hydraulic Lift Repair and Inspection Services, due 8/15/23

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](http://www.knoxcounty.org/procurement). To bid on Knox County surplus items, go to [www.govdeals.com](http://www.govdeals.com).



## Soccer season kicks into gear with KIL Jamboree

By Ken Lay

The 2023 high school girls soccer season kicks off on Saturday, July 29 with the 24th Annual KIL Girls Soccer Jamboree.

The tournament will be hosted by West High School and each team will play two 30-minute games.

Games will be contested at West's Bill Wilson Field and the adjacent University of Tennessee field.

The host Lady Rebels will be in action, along with Hardin Valley Academy, Farragut, Catholic, Webb School of Knoxville, Christian Academy of Knoxville, Oak Ridge, Alcoa, Halls, Concord Christian School, Maryville, Lakeway Christian School, Morristown East, Anderson County and South-Doyle.

Matches begin at 8 a.m.

Games at Bill Wilson Field include: South-Doyle vs. Oak Ridge (JV), 8 a.m.; Catholic vs. Oak Ridge (JV) 8:30; South-Doyle vs. Farragut (JV), 9; CAK vs. Oak Ridge, 9:30; Gibbs vs. Oak Ridge, 10; HVA vs. Webb, 10:30; HVA vs. West (JV), 11; West vs. Webb, 11:30; West vs. Alcoa, noon; HVA vs. Morristown East (JV), 12:30 p.m.; Anderson County vs. Lakeway Christian, 1; and Anderson County vs. Morristown West, 1:30.

Games at the UT complex include: Farragut vs. Catholic, 8 a.m.; Farragut vs. CAK, 8:30; Catholic vs. Maryville (JV), 9; Maryville vs. Catholic, 9:30; Farragut vs. Maryville (JV), 10; West vs. Morristown East, 10:30; Maryville vs. Gibbs, 11; Halls vs. Alcoa, 11:30; HVA vs. Halls, noon; Karns vs. Concord Christian, 12:30; Morristown West vs. Concord Christian, 1; and Karns vs. Lakeway Christian; 1:30.

Admission to the event is \$5. Children under six are admitted free.

## First Black president of KFOA is a 'great leader'

By Steve Williams

Among the many hats Adronicus 'Bam' Thomas has worn since he came to Knoxville from rural central Alabama in the 1980s, the 'white hat' he wears as a high school football referee means as much to him as any other.

His chest swelled a little more with pride too at the end of last season when his peers elected him as the first Black president in the Knoxville Football Officials Association.

"I don't have anything but positive things to say about the KFOA," said Thomas, who is nearing his 20th season in the association after coming in "green" as an official. "It's

like a big fraternity to me. All the guys have been fair and good to me and willing to help me.

"Being the first Black, I feel honored that the KFOA would choose me as their president and I'm just looking forward to keeping everything going in a positive direction.

"I've got some big shoes to fill because everybody that was ahead of me as president - I respect a lot."

Bam progressed in high school officiating to the point that "he was traveling all over the country doing small college football," said Harold Denton, a longtime supervisor in the KFOA. "Obviously, we are happy to have him as president of our

association. He's a great leader, great personality, quiet and subtle - just gets it done. It's phenomenal."

Thomas got his nickname 'Bam' from a character in the Flintstones cartoon show of the 1960s. 'Bam-Bam' was a super-strong baby boy in the show.

"My Aunt Sarah told my mom when she was pregnant with me that she was going to have a 'Bam-Bam' and at the time they didn't know if the baby was going to be a girl or a boy," Thomas would learn. "When I came out a boy, I've been Bam ever since."

Thomas, who also is a basketball referee in the Knox South Association, **Continue on page 2**



Adronicus 'Bam' Thomas said he was "humbled" when elected as the current president of the Knoxville Football Officials Association.

## Catholic moves forward with co-head coaches

By Steve Williams

It is rare - perhaps even unprecedented - that a Knoxville high school football team will have interim co-head coaches this coming season.

But that's what has happened at Knoxville Catholic, where Steve Matthews and Philip Shadowens have taken hold of the reins.

It wasn't by design. Dean Cokinos was hired as Catholic's new head coach in December not long after Korey Mobbs resigned. Cokinos coached the Fighting Irish through spring practice and a scrimmage against Murfreesboro Oakland. But surprisingly, he announced he was resigning last week reportedly due to family circumstances.

Matthews and Shadowens were already on board as Catholic's offensive and defensive coordinators, respectively. All they had to do was add co-interim head coach to their title.

It could turn out to be a blessing in disguise.

Cokinos' resume sparkled with past positions on the pro and college levels. But while he had been an assistant coach at top-notch prep programs in Middle Tennessee, he had never been a high school head coach.



PHOTO BY STEVE WILLIAMS

Knoxville Catholic High's Steve Matthews coaches the Irishmen in a passing drill last week.

Matthews served as Catholic's head coach from 2013-2021. He guided the Fighting Irish to two state championships (Class 4A in 2015 and Class 5A in 2017) before resigning as head coach in April 2021. Matthews compiled a 74-27 record during his tenure as Catholic's head

coach. Shadowens has coached for nearly 30 years. He started his career at Smyrna in 1994 and led the Bulldogs to Class 5A state championships in 2006 and 2007. He took over the William Blount program in 2015 but didn't have a winning season in

seven years. After coaching Eagleton College & Career Academy, a new school in Blount County, last year, he resigned to take the Catholic job in February.

The task at hand will not be easy. Catholic has not won a playoff game and has a 7-13 region record

since reclassifying into TSSAA's Division II-AAA in 2019.

Matthews is optimistic. "We've got a great staff put together and are excited about where we're headed," he said.

Steve also sees "a ton of positives" with the current **Continue on page 3**

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# Karns' Warren: 'I feel prepared to take this next step'



PHOTO BY STEVE WILLIAMS

New Karns High head coach Lee Warren tells his players after their 7 on 7 scrimmage against Halls last week: "We can grow from failures and we can grow from successes."

By Steve Williams

Lee Warren is excited to be the new head football coach at Karns High School. It's his first head coaching job.

"I'm extremely excited honestly," said Warren last Tuesday (June 11) after the Beavers hosted Halls in a 7 on 7 scrimmage. "I also feel like I'm ready. I've had some great coaches in my life."

Warren was the defensive coordinator for Coach Brad Taylor, who stepped down after seven seasons at Karns to create the vacancy he's filled at KHS. Warren also coached under Bryson Rosser at Central when the Bobcats won the Class 5A state title in 2019 and under Coach Wes Jones at Hardin Valley.

"They have mentored me, so I feel prepared to take this next step," he

said.

Warren said he will continue as Karns' defensive coordinator in addition to his head coaching duties. Andre Caballero will be the Beavers' offensive coordinator for the fifth straight season.

The remainder of the Karns staff returns intact with the addition of Matthew Childress, who will coach the defensive line.

"If I could pick anywhere I would want to be, this is where I would want to be," said Warren. "I'm eight minutes from here and grew up in this area. I'm going into my fourth year now and I love the people, the school and the community."

Warren said the scrimmage against Halls was a great opportunity for his team to get better.

"I was just telling the guys: Whether it's good

plays or bad plays, a good day or bad day, we can grow from failures and we can grow from successes," he said.

"We had some good plays and we had some bad plays. For us, we've got to do a better job of not hanging our head when bad things happen and staying positive and encouraging guys and not allowing snowball effects to happen. So overall, we got better today and we're excited to continue to work and keep getting better."

What's it going to be like without De'Sean Bishop?

"That's the question everyone wants to ask," said Coach Warren. "You can't replace De'Sean Bishop obviously, but for us I think it's an opportunity for new guys to step up and for us to be more balanced. For me, what I'm trying to preach to everybody is to

have a chip on our shoulder because everybody is thinking 'No De'Sean Bishop. Karns is going to be down this year.' It allows us to prove people wrong and other opportunities for people to step up into bigger roles and try to be successful that way."

In other words, Warren wants to use that as a tool of motivation.

"Absolutely," he said.

Karns competed against the Maryville Ropes Course on Wednesday. The course has a lot of different obstacles the players go through. It allows the players to work on communication and helps build team chemistry.

Helping each other get over a 12-foot wall was the toughest obstacle on the course, said Coach Warren.

On Thursday, the Beavers had a 7 on 7 scrimmage at CAK.

## NOTES FROM KFOA MEDIA DAY

# 2023 prep football season getting closer

By Steve Williams

Some 35 area teams, including head coaches and approximately 80 players, took part in the 16th annual Knoxville Football Officials Association Media Day event at the Three Ridges Golf Course Pavilion Friday.

Newspapers, TV and radio stations and online prep sites conducted interviews and took pictures for preseason stories and features for the 2023 season that is a month away.

Today (July 17) teams may begin the acclimation period for players. Day 1: Helmets Only. Day 2: Helmets Only. Days 3, 4 and 5: Helmets and Shoulder Pads Only (No pants or tights below the knee.)

**CROWD BEHAVIOR:** Terry Brown, an 18-year NFL official and former KFOA and college official, was a featured speaker at Friday's KFOA Media Day. Brown spoke on concerns nationwide regarding fans' behavior toward high school officials. He said it's getting worse and contributing to a decrease in the number of officials. In some cases, criminal charges have been

made against fans who threaten officials.

**WILSON TO VMI:** Standout quarterback Chandler Wilson, a Carter High product, has "parted ways" with Tusculum University and signed with Virginia Military Institute.

**YOUNG LEAVES WEBB:** Shavar Young, a highly recruited wide receiver at Webb, has reportedly transferred to Brentwood Academy. The sophomore has Power 5 offers from Tennessee and Georgia.

**SOLES IS BIGGER:** Powell Coach Matt Lowe said Steven Soles Jr., the Panthers' defensive end standout, has gained 12 to 13 pounds since last season and is up to 223 to 224 pounds.

**TOUGH LOSSES:** Maryville Coach Derek Hunt noted that all three of his Red Rebels' losses in 2022 came against state champions (Alcoa in Class 3A, West in Class 5A and Murfreesboro Oakland in Class 6A).



PHOTO BY STEVE WILLIAMS

Walker Lockhart, a rising senior at Karns, talks with a TV reporter at the 16th annual KFOA Media Day event Friday. Lockhart is one of the key returning players for the Beavers in 2023. In addition to 35 high school football teams, KFOA's 40th annual Scholarship Golf Tournament had 19 teams. "A very successful day for Media and Golf," said Harold Denton of the KFOA.

# First Black president of KFOA is a 'great leader'

Cont. from page 1

said his family members and referee friends call him Bam, while he is called Adronicus in his professional life.

Bam was raised in a town called Goodwater, which had a population of about 3,000 and is close to Montgomery and

Talledega.

"I had a good childhood," he remembers. "Grew up in the country and got to run. Good things that I would never get to do, I think, if I was in the city. I had a good childhood. I have no complaints; none at all. I can go home a lot. I still got all my siblings there."

Knoxville became his home as an adult, but he still has roots in Alabama.

Bam came to Knoxville in 1986 to go to Knoxville College and play football. A running back, he was a three-year starter and four-year letterman on the team and a scholar in the classroom, graduating

in 1991-92 with a B.S. in Mathematics.

Thomas, now 55, is a Public Housing Senior Property Manager with KCDC.

Adronicus also will soon start his second term on the Knox County Election Commission. He was appointed by State Representative Sam McKenzie.

Thomas has been involved in the community for many years in various capacities, including

serving as a founding member of the Center City Youth Sports Program (CCYSP), which provides an opportunity for inter-city youth to participate in a youth sports league.

Bam will serve a one-year term as the KFOA president and then decide in November if he wants to run again for the position.

As president, he said he will oversee all daily activities of the KFOA, participate on all of the association's many committees, and

along with the vice president, the assigning officer and assistant assigning officer and the supervisors, will be responsible for appointing the chairman of each committee.

The KFOA president also will play a role in selecting the crews, helping assigning officers schedule the games, making sure officials are registered through the state and collecting dues.

"My sole purpose is to recruit," said Thomas. "This is what I ran on - to recruit younger officials. We are in great need of officials. That's going to be my objective - to go out, identify and recruit younger officials because without officials, this game that has been so good to us won't be able to continue."

Thomas has a daughter who was named Christina in honor of his mother, Christine, who had passed away. He also has a grandson, Cordarrell, who is 4 years old. "He's my motivation," said Bam.

"He calls me GDaddy. He knows I'm a ref, but he just wants to play or think he is a football player," added Bam with a smile.

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# How do I get to see the game?

Sometimes a casual comment, a throwaway line, perhaps, engenders a response that is totally unexpected.

**By Tom Mattingly**

Lindsey Nelson was set to call the 1958 Tennessee-Auburn game at Legion Field in Birmingham, Ala., for NBC in late September. Lindsey was staying at the beautiful Tutwiler Hotel in downtown Birmingham and was on the phone with LSU Athletic Director Jim Corbett before leaving for the game. That afternoon, everything centered on the game at Legion Field, 400 Graymont Avenue West.

Nelson, a 1941 Tennessee grad who had worked his way through school doing everything he could for the athletic department, was on his way to a Hall of Fame broadcast career. His visage was well known in broadcast circles as he took the lead in bringing sports to the nation, literally any sport that had a ball.

He was best known for his coverage of the Cotton Bowl, the first game telecast on New Year's Day in those days, bringing a unique ambiance to that Dallas classic. He also distinguished himself on the Sunday afternoon Notre Dame replay. Wherever there was a game, Lindsey was likely to be there.

There was a special moment at one Cotton Bowl game where the press box elevator malfunctioned



Lindsey Nelson (left), shown with mentor Gen. Robert R. Neyland, wanted to see Bear Bryant's debut game at Alabama in September 1958, but didn't know how to make that happen.

and Lindsey darn near missed the kickoff. Asked where he had been when he finally arrived at his broadcast location, Lindsey responded, "I've been in the elevator."

Corbett was one of the first athletic directors who brought a business perspective to college sports, in a position once reserved exclusively for former players, particularly current or former coaches. In those days, many coaches filled both positions. He also seemed to delight in doing surprising things on game day. Nelson found that out under an amazing set of

circumstances. There was a game with great historic portent that night at Ladd Stadium in Mobile between No. 15 LSU and Alabama, the first for returning hero Paul William Bryant. Why that game wasn't hyped to the heavens and played in Birmingham or Tuscaloosa is a matter for other historians to consider. For Lindsey's part, he got a second wind after doing play-by-play for Tennessee and Auburn, thanks to Corbett.

He mentioned wanting to see the game to Corbett in passing and thought no

more about it. He and colleague Red Grange had business at Legion Field, Shug Jordan at Auburn versus Bowden Wyatt at Tennessee being foremost in his mind. This came in those days when there was only one game televised each Saturday. Fans of other schools were out of luck.

The game rocked along 0-0 until Auburn scored 13 points in the fourth quarter to take the decision. That was the game Tennessee didn't make a first down.

Here's where things took an interesting turn. Sometime in the fourth

quarter, a mysterious man appeared in the shadows in the back of the television booth.

During a time out, Lindsey asked what he could do to help the stranger. His answer had to have been a total surprise.

"I'm your pilot," he responded. "Mr. Corbett sent a plane to bring you to Mobile after the game."

Well, yes. That really was the case, and as darkness approached, Lindsey was on his way to Mobile and got to the press box just before kickoff. He found Corbett high atop Ladd Stadium in what passed for a skybox

in those days. Corbett had Lindsey sit down and then waved a white handkerchief in the general direction of the field.

Thus alerted, Lindsey wrote, the officials brought the captains to mid-field for the coin toss. "How does it feel to have them hold the game for you?" Corbett said, perhaps triumphantly. Many years later, Bear Bryant asked how that all had transpired. Alabama lost that night but didn't lose many more in the 25 ensuing years.

LSU began a run to the national championship that night under the tutelage of Paul Dietzel. Bryant began a 25-year reign (of terror, opponents said) at Alabama. The backstory to the game was that Jim Corbett had held up kickoff until Lindsey Nelson could arrive.

All because Nelson casually mentioned he would like to see the game. You can't make this stuff up.

As scripture says, you have not because you ask not.

This story appeared in Lindsey's autobiography, "Hello, Everybody, I'm Lindsey Nelson." Overall, it's a fascinating read.

Over the years, Lindsey often told this story without a great deal of prodding. Dinner with Lindsey Nelson and other Tennessee media at the Ye Olde Steak House on Friday nights before Tennessee home games was always an absolute delight.

It was a memorable part of a memorable career following the Vols.

## A Trip to the Mid-Summer Classic

By Mark Nagi

There was a time when the Major League Baseball All-Star Game was one of the biggest sporting events in the country. There was something special about watching the stars from the American and National Leagues square off.

But once interleague play came to the sport in the mid-1990s, seeing those players face off didn't mean as much. Also, today you can watch every game on cable, satellite, or a streaming service.

It's impossible for one exhibition game to matter in the modern age.

That all said, it's something that I've always wanted to see in person. My girlfriend Michelle

planned a surprise trip to the Pacific Northwest to visit Seattle, Mt. Rainier, and Cannon Beach in Oregon, plus a day in Victoria. This is a beautiful part of North America and I'd recommend making that journey if you can.

On the last day of our week out west, we visited T-Mobile Park to watch the All-Star Game. Here are some of my observations.

First, that is a terrific place to watch a baseball game. It's an easy walk from downtown Seattle, and there isn't a bad view in the house. The Ken Griffey Jr. statue at the front door is a must-see. There's a team Hall of Fame that's worth a look. In terms of concessions, there are all sorts of typical ballgame food, but also Chinese, Hawaiian, and even sushi.

Their fan base is passionate, despite a two-decade streak of postseason futility that was finally snapped last season. If you like baseball, seeing a game in Seattle should be on your bucket list.

So, what about the game itself? Well, the Mariners brought out team royalty in Griffey Junior, Edgar Martinez, Jay Buhner, and Dan Wilson to throw out the first pitches to the delight of the crowd.

As a Yankees fan, I was bummed that slugger Aaron Judge was injured and not playing, but New York pitcher Gerrit Cole did start the game, throwing a scoreless inning (with two flyouts requiring leaping catches at the wall but still... scoreless!).

The two highlights of the game

really had nothing to do with the actual action. When any Houston Astro was announced, be it a player, coach or even the trainers, they were greeted with very loud booing. Baseball fans have not forgotten about the Astros cheating scandal, nor Major League Baseball's non-existent punishment for Houston's players. The irony here is that the hometown Mariners and Astros are both American League teams, so most of those fans should have been cheering for the "home" team, but the Stroh's were booed louder than any National League player.

The second moment of Zen happened when any Oakland Athletics player was announced. Fans immediately began to chant "Sell the Team," which

was directed at A's ownership, who tanked the team to make a move to Vegas easier. They've played Major League Baseball in Oakland since 1968, but all that history will be moving to the desert in a couple of years.

Seattle fans feel their pain, after losing their beloved NBA Sonics to Oklahoma City in 2008.

The game itself was a fun one to watch, with the National League snapping a nine-year losing streak with a 3-2 win. The American League had the tying run on second base in the bottom of the ninth but couldn't get him home.

The trip back to Knoxville was a long one. Seattle is very far away! But I'm glad that I went.

Is it football season yet?

## Catholic moves forward with co-head coaches

Cont. from page 1

arrangement of having co-head coaches. "I think we are two experienced guys," he added. "Two heads are better than one, as they say. We've worked great together this short time we've been together. I think the players have responded well these first few days. I think the people are excited about where we are headed."

What about going for one or two points with the game on the line? Who will make that call?

"That'll be game time decisions," Matthews said. "In this day and age with the head phones, that will be stuff we'll discuss and work out as we go."

Shadowens coached at Blackman six seasons after being at Smyrna. He has retired from public



Philip Shadowens said he would be directing the Catholic defense from the press box on game nights.



Knoxville Catholic interim co-head coaches Philip Shadowens (green cap) and Steve Matthews (white cap) speak to their team after a practice session last Tuesday morning.

schools after 32 total years coaching.

Philip also feels good with the co-head coach arrangement.

"This is about our kids," he said. "At this late

moment we decided this was the best way to do it for our kids.

"I'll probably run the defense from the booth. Coach Matthews will

probably be on the field running the offense." When Shadowens was

asked about the scenario of who would make the call of going for one or two points in a crucial situation, he answered: "We'll be on the headsets together. I trust Coach Matthews and he trusts me. There's never going to be a conflict or an issue with Coach Matthews and me. We think alike."

Matthews and Shadowens have been running practices all summer since spring practice was over, including overseeing the work in the weight room and 7 on 7 play.

Shadowens summed up by saying the coaching staff is going to work hard and do what it takes to win football games and develop the guys into great young men. "If you do things the right way, success will come," he added.



# STEPHENSON

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