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## Remembering Larry Cox

By Steve Hunley, Publisher  
publisher@knoxfocus.com

This past week, a great man and supporter of all things Knoxville, Larry Cox passed away. For decades Larry Cox was one of the more prominent people in our community. A successful businessman, Cox was also a longtime member of the Knoxville City Council. Larry Cox was also one of the more notable advocates for athletics for youngsters in Knoxville and was heavily involved in the Knoxville Falcons Youth Sports organization for years. Especially a booster of North Knoxville and all things related

to Fulton High School, Larry Cox was a fixture at sporting events, community meetings and potluck suppers.

There was nothing selfish about Larry Cox; quite the contrary. Few people gave as much of themselves, in terms of time, money and just plain hard work as he did.

Larry was an outgoing man who genuinely liked people and they liked him. That was the recipe for all of the success he enjoyed in politics. A number of things have been named after sitting city council members and Larry Cox truly deserved the recognition given him when the Larry

Cox Senior Center was named in his honor.

Larry Cox was a hardworking guy and good neighbor. Larry was profiled by our senior writer, Mike Steely, last year and was asked how he would wish to be remembered. "As an honest person, I love my family, my church, my coaching and my work with girls and boys," Cox replied.

Larry Cox also loved his community and it showed. Those of us who knew Larry Cox, will miss his friendship and genuine warmth. Life was good to Larry and he was good to others throughout his life.

Larry Cox pictured in December 2022 after being honored with a plaque at Christenberry School's Athletic Field for his many years of public service. Photo by Mike Steely.



## Family, Service and Legacy Powell veteran shares his story

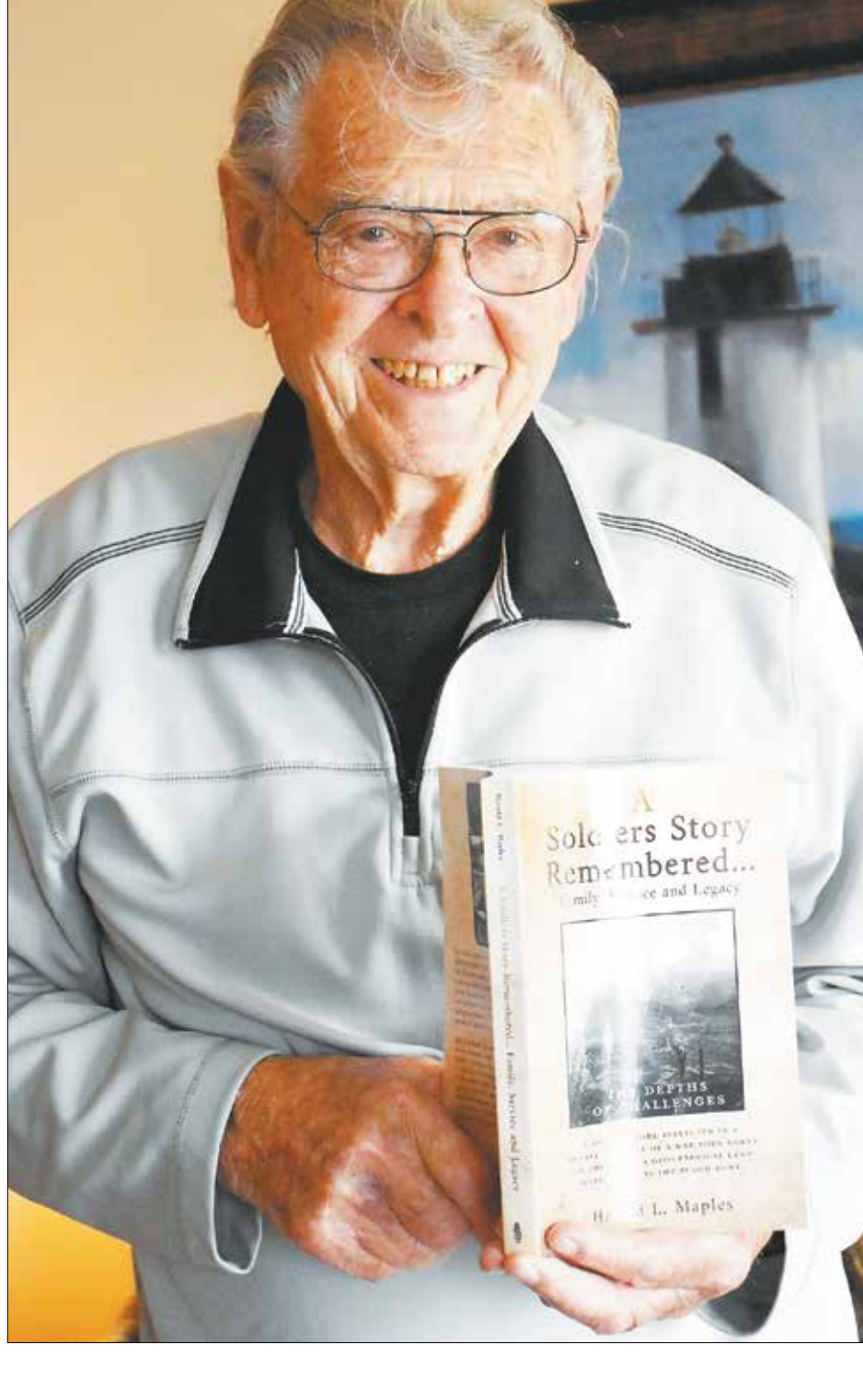
By Jamie Schnell  
schnellj@knoxfocus.com

93-year-old Harold Maples offers readers a glimpse into his remarkable journey as a soldier of the Korean War in his book, "A Soldiers Story Remembered... Family, Service and Legacy." The Powell native says he began writing the book in 1952 when he was 22 and freshly enlisted in the United States Army, where he served from June 1950 until July 1953.

"A Soldiers Story" offers a unique perspective of the various elements of war, the triumphs, the courage and determination, and the challenges soldiers face serving their country. Maples provides a firsthand account of the camaraderie and his unwavering commitment to his fellow soldiers. Maples told The Focus, "We had a way of having each other's backs."

He remembers those who  
**Continue on page 2**

Powell native and Army veteran Harold Maples holds "A Soldiers Story Remembered... Family, Service and Legacy." Published this year after 73 years in the making, the book is now available at online retailers like Amazon and barnesandnoble.com, and wherever your favorite books are sold. Photo by Jamie Schnell.



## Emergency response provider selection postponed

By Mike Steely  
Senior Writer  
steelym@knoxfocus.com

The selection of a provider of emergency response services in Knox County has been moved from the session today to the commission's November session. The postponement comes at the request of the Knox County Health Department.

KCHD Director Kevin Parton introduced Todd

Sheridan of Finch & Associates to the commission's work session last week. Sheridan presented the results of his firm's study but did not recommend any of the four companies bidding for the contract.

Sheridan said the rural areas of the county are inadequately served under the existing 10-year agreement with American Medical Response.

**Continue on page 4**

## Fort Dickerson quarry improvements approved

By Mike Steely  
Senior Writer  
steelym@knoxfocus.com

Just over \$3.5 million was approved unanimously by the Knoxville City Council on Tuesday for improvements at Augusta Quarry at Fort Dickerson Park. The quarry has been popular with visitors who picnic and swim in the waters there. The Department of Engineering

requested the funding that will finance improvements there in a contract with Southern Constructors.

Phase II of the improvement project includes restrooms, docks and water access.

The city council spent most of its regular meeting discussing a motion from Vice Mayor Andrew **Continue on page 4**

## New Farragut school, upcoming elections and ethics seats on agenda for county commission

By Mike Steely  
Senior Writer  
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Knox County Schools Assistant Superintendent Garfield Adams told the Knox County Commission's work session last week that 21 different sites were considered for a new Farragut school before a property was selected earlier this month. Adams said meetings

were held with several commissioners and the Town of Farragut over the past two years in searching for a site. Commissioner Kim Frazier acknowledged that overcrowding was an issue in the schools there but said the local community should have been involved in the decision. The site, owned by Doug and Brenda P. Horne, is a 41-acre property near the Farragut Ingle's Market. The

purchase price, approved in a 7-1-1 vote by the board of education, is \$4.8 million. What type of school will be built there — elementary, secondary or high school — has not been decided yet Adams said. He also said that funds come from bond receipts when asked by Frazier. School board member Susan Horn was given much of the credit for the agreement to purchase the

Horne property. Commissioner John Schoonmaker praised the purchase, calling the price a "discount," and said the new site will become a "great asset."

The commission must approve any request from the school board but urged the school board and administration to consult with the community going forward. The commission also heard from Knox County

Election Commission Administrator Chris Davis, who said that the first day for petitions for the 2024 county elections saw 18 petitions picked up. He also announced that changes are coming for the location of polling places and said that poll workers will be needed for early voting and general elections in 2024. Eighteen different races, from the President of the United States to the

Assessor of Knox County Properties will be on the ballots beginning with early voting's opening day on February 14, 2024.

An appointment to represent District 4 on the Board of Zoning Appeals was passed on to today's October 23 commission meeting because a name has not been submitted yet by that district's commissioner, Kyle Ward, who has **Continue on page 4**

# Israeli-Palestinian Peace Process Grows Worse

From a distance



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

On September 13, 1993, I had the privilege to attend the signing of the Oslo Peace Accords at the White House. It was a peace agreement between Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin of Israel and Chairman Yasser Arafat of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO). The month before, I had made my first visit to Israel with three other members of the U.S. House, a Republican from Wisconsin, and two Democrats – one from Georgia and one from California. We met with all the top

leaders including Rabin and Shimon Peres and even the top Palestinian negotiator. I also saw one of my Tennessee constituents at the Wailing Wall in Jerusalem and visited in the home of Joe Goodstein's daughter from Knoxville.

When I was invited to the signing ceremony, I jokingly told someone that I had gone to Israel "and peace had broken out," but I knew it was not a joking matter then and especially not now.

Showing how difficult the peace process is between the Israelis and the Palestinians, the Washington Post reported the next day that fights had broken out on Pennsylvania Avenue in front of the White House and in front of the Israeli Embassy while the signing ceremony was going on.

In 2014, I returned to Israel with another congressional delegation, and we met with Benjamin

Netanyahu (the prime minister then and now), Naftali Bennett (later a prime minister), and others.

I had the impression from those meeting that the situation had grown worse since I was there in 1993. Now, of course, with the war going on, things are much worse than either 1993 or 2014.

Words are not adequate to express the horror most people in the U.S. felt when seeing the terrible things that happened on October 7th. Of course, when Israel started bombing, terrible things were happening in Gaza, too.

The saddest thing to me is what has happened to little children on both sides in this conflict.

One major irony in this situation is that Hamas was being funded by Israel. The Times of Israel newspaper had a story on Oct. 8 headlined "For years, Netanyahu propped up Hamas. Now

it's blown up in our faces."

Netanyahu urged funding for Hamas in a Likud Party meeting in early 2019 as a way to keep the PLO, which controlled the West Bank, from also controlling Gaza, too.

Possibly the leading expert on the Middle East for many years has been Thomas Friedman, the Jewish columnist for the New York Times. He has been urging Israel not to try to occupy Gaza because "there is a real potential for a much wider conflict."

He said if Israel gets into house-to-house fighting, this is what Hamas wants and that it would "radicalize" the entire Middle East.

The overwhelming majority of the people in Gaza, while they had no love for Israel, were not supporters of Hamas and did not know about or want them to do the Oct. 7 attacks. They were just ordinary people wanting to lead their

ordinary lives.

Probably the two most respected experts on U.S. foreign policy are Stephen Walt of Harvard and John Mearsheimer of the University of Chicago. They wrote in a 2008 book about the Israel lobby, certainly the most powerful lobby in the world.

They wrote: "In addition to encouraging the U.S. to back Israel more or less unconditionally" the lobby shaped "American policy toward the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, the ill-fated invasion of Iraq, and the ongoing confrontations with Syria and Iran," – and they "suggested that these policies were not in the U.S. national interest."

Every member of Congress and every major media figure who has a national TV or radio audience knows that they can criticize any other nation, but that it is political and/or career suicide to criticize

Israel.

Walt and Mearsheimer wrote that candidates that even suggest a "more even-handed approach" toward the Middle East "will probably fall by the wayside."

They quoted a report by Joshua Mitnick in the Jewish Week which said presidential candidates in 2008 were "seemingly competing to see who can be the most strident in defense of the Jewish State." The exact same competition is going on among the candidates running now.

It is really sad that so many leaders around the world seemingly feel more powerful when they start wars in which the so-called "little people" have to fight and die. Sen. Lindsey Graham seems to want the U.S. to go to war with Iran. We do not need another no-win war in the Middle East.

## Is it appropriate to demand appropriate dress?

Of course, it won't happen but suppose everyone decided to follow the lead of John Fetterman and dress casually? Fetterman, if you don't know, is a Senator from Pennsylvania



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

who seldom wears suits and ties. Rather he favors hoodies and shorts. Since Senate rules barred anyone from the chambers who was not dressed appropriately,

Fetterman would stand outside the doors to vote. For some reason unbeknownst to us all, the Senate majority leader waived the dress code for senators. I guess that no vote was needed.

Mind you everyone else still had to adhere to dressing professionally. I can't figure out why Schumer capitulated to allow Fetterman to come into the

Senate chambers dressed like a slob. The Democrats own a 51-49 majority thanks to the Republicans blowing the last election, so Schumer didn't need Fetterman's vote. Yet he is now for allowing him to wear his hoodies and shorts on the Senate floor. Of course, if Fetterman were a Republican Schumer would have never changed policy. Susan Collins remarked that she could now wear a bikini if she wanted. Thank goodness she will spare us of that horrid sight. Surprisingly, some Democratic senators have objected. Not surprisingly, one of them is Joe Manchin. Surprisingly, one is Dick Durbin. Under pressure from both some Democrats and all Republicans, the Senate formally adopted a dress code mandating coat and tie for its male members. Women were not mentioned in the resolution.

At first, I thought it was of little importance as to what Fetterman wanted to wear. But I changed my mind. Some have pointed out that this is another example of the coarsening of America and the lowering of standards. They are right. Suppose everyone decided to dress slovenly and all of our elected officials and bureaucrats wore hoodies and shorts or worse. Would they govern even worse than they do now? That is a frightening thought. My parents bemoaned the loosening of the dress code for teachers. They contended that when standards regarding dress were lowered so were academic standards and respect for the teachers. They didn't object as much to wearing a nice shirt and pants but not hoodies, shorts and sneakers. They also bemoaned the change in the churches. No longer

did one have to wear their Sunday best to church. I remember growing up in a Baptist church in Atlanta where the men wore a coat and tie and the women looked splendid in their dresses, heels and hats. In the winter I remarked while looking over the congregation that the mink population had been severely reduced given all the women's fur coats. I loved going to church probably more to look good and to feel good than for any other reason. Now even our southern Baptist churches have gone casual and I wonder if the spirit moves less because of it. I admit guilt. Once I wore a coat and tie to teach in. Then one day I rode a motorcycle to work. I showed up in all leather. When I first did that as a young assistant professor it was a wonder I didn't get fired. It was obvious

that my colleagues did not approve. However, I had the best classes ever. After the students got over their initial shock, they were livelier and more participatory. I never wore a suit and tie again. Of course, my parents objected profusely stating that the students would respect me less if I looked like one of them rather than one who "dressed right." They were right if I showed up in a hoodie and shorts (naturally being black if I wore a hoodie and shorts I would be labelled a thug). However, shirts and slacks might be appropriate dress for teachers but not for senators. But as Deion Sanders aka Coach Prime so eloquently puts it, "If you dress good, you look good. If you look good, you play good. If you play good, they pay good!" So dress appropriately.

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## Family, Service and Legacy

**Cont. from page 1** — fought alongside him and made the ultimate sacrifice as well as the Korean families, who he describes as "the most thankful people I have ever seen."

Harold said that he wrote the book to "share the bonds of fellow soldiers of their dedication and bravery and dedication, the sacrifices, of them returning home, of those unaccounted for, the missing, those killed in action, and families that served along and are still hopeful for recovery, honor, and closure." Few veterans remain to tell their stories and share their war experiences.

Harold told The Focus he finished the book as a tribute to his late wife Phyllis,

whom he lovingly names as his "motivation and incentive" and "underwater model." Phyllis helped him catalog timelines of places he served and the photos and letters contributed by family and veterans from the Korean War.

Maples touches on his life back home including his time as a scuba diver and underwater photographer, teaching at the University of Tennessee, and developing diving programs for NASA.

Maples eloquently describes the strength and resilience of his family, emphasizing their unwavering support and understanding as they navigated the challenges of military life.

Born in Powell,

Tennessee, and growing up during the Depression, Maples leaves a legacy of 67 years of marriage, two children, three grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.

The goal of "A Soldiers Story" is to highlight the importance of service, its impact on future generations, and the values that were instilled that shaped his character from his days of "being shy and looking at the ground."

Maples hopes that sharing his story will ensure that the sacrifices for freedom and liberty remain remembered and cherished beyond the battlefield. Maple wants us to "Remember Old Glory and keep it flying."

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# Publisher's Positions



By Steve Hunley, Publisher  
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universities don't support either free speech or academic freedom.

For decades, the Democratic Party has been drifting towards two goals: socialism and antisemitism. I've stated in previous editorials Congresswomen Rashida Tlaib and Ilhan Omar are openly antisemitic Members of Congress. Immediately after the explosion at the hospital in Gaza, both, true to form, jumped to blame Israel. Like so many of their ilk, they needed not a single fact before making their accusations. Nor did most of the mainstream news media for that matter. Every scrap of evidence points to the Palestinian Islamic Jihadists misfiring one of their own rockets. Hamas has shelled Palestinians trying to flee Gaza and just why any thinking person would believe a terrorist organization gave a hoot about the Palestinian people defies common sense and rational thought. People who use others literally as human shields aren't at all worried about their welfare. Hamas, and other terrorists like them, burrow deep into residential areas, congregate near schools, churches and hospitals for their own protection. It has nothing to do

with their concern for the people unfortunate enough to live nearby.

There is also a disturbing habit amongst much of the Democratic Party who seem unable to pin the blame squarely where it belongs on those who are responsible for providing arms, means, training, money, and material to the terrorist: the government of Iran. The Democratic Socialists, and there are more of them in Congress than you probably think, have begun to splinter over the question of condemning Hamas and its unspeakable brutality.

What civilized, much less decent human being can celebrate the beheading of babies, the killing of toddlers and old people? What kind of person supports a group which rapes 12 year-old girls and then burns them alive? Some college students and people like Ilhan Omar. Omar posted on her X/Twitter account, "Bombing a hospital is among the gravest of war crimes." Even a blind hog eventually will find a truffle, I reckon. Omar is right; what she was wrong about was that it wasn't the Israeli's, but the Palestinian Islamic Jihad who was responsible. You'll see pigs ice skating in Hell and dancing with

the Devil before you see or hear Ilhan Omar calling for any member of the Islamic Jihad to be tried for war crimes.

Nobody who failed to denounce the beheading of babies, the murder of toddlers, the elderly and youngsters at a dance have the right to even breathe a word about war crimes. Clearly, they have no concept of what it is.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has called the Hamas the "new Nazis," which is pretty much what the editorial last week pointed out. Jew haters and antisemites are pretty much the same thing and Hamas, the government of Iran and the Palestinian Islamic Jihad all have that in common with Adolf Hitler and Heinrich Himmler. Like every Nazi committed to Hitler's "Final Solution," those same organizations are for the literal extermination of the Jewish people and Israel. These people are indeed the New Nazis and let's not forget it.

## More Antisemitic Evil

Too many of the Democratic Socialists are used to having their narrative take front and center stage with everyone in their path

capable of reasoning being cancelled if they dare to utter a peep. Karen Attiah, a columnist for the Washington Post, wrote in a column a week ago Friday that "we cannot stand and watch Israel commit atrocities." That brought Attiah in for a bit of criticism of her own. Some wondered why she never bothered to condemn the "genocidal language" of the Hamas charter, as well as her failure to deplore the fact Hamas has taken hostages including toddlers. One post wondered if Ms. Attiah could imagine American journalists arguing the United States stand down after the 9/11 attacks because it was our own fault. Too many of us can well imagine that very thing. As one gentleman posted in reply to Karen Attiah's imbecilic ranting:

"Much of the media really is made up of the enemies of the people, and of the West." That same fellow labeled it just what it was: "unbelievable garbage." Yet I think another post summed it up best:

"Murdering children - - specifically targeting them - - and then playing the victim. Hamas is repulsive, and their apologists are soulless anti-Semites."

## Schiff: Your Ignorance Is Showing

If anyone has ever accused Congressman Adam Schiff of being smart, I'm unaware of it. Schiff was on X/Twitter last week worrying about Jim Jordan becoming Speaker of the House, writing if elected, Jordan would be the one counting the electoral votes in the next presidential election.

That won the idiot congressman from California a Community Note from X, which corrected his post, noting the Vice President of the United States presides over the counting of the electoral votes. The note cited sources from the Library of Congress, the National Archives, and the media outlet, The Hill.

Schiff has been in Congress since 2001 and has a law degree from Harvard, which explains a lot. Evidently, Schiff came to Congress empty-headed and remains that way. He probably should have spent more time in class and less protesting.

This is yet another reminder why we should teach civics in high school.

# Letter to the Publisher

Why has the Farragut Board of Mayor and Aldermen violated the Open Meetings act repeatedly to purchase land on McFee Road when a quarter of a mile away on the same road is the \$18 million dollar McFee Town Park? It appears the reason is to gift an expensive road to the land owner to open development of 306 acres of land.

A claim from our Farragut elected officials needs to be clarified. In numerous Town of Farragut (TOF) meetings and newspaper stories the claim is made that by the TOF purchasing the 55-acre parcel on McFee Road it will prevent the construction of 119 homes which would generate over 1100 average daily trips. This is not an accurate claim. Below are quotes from Vice Mayor Louise Povlin's blog that prove this claim has no merit.

From the Farragut FYI blog post titled "Open Space Residential Explained" from September 17, 2023: "The Open Space Residential Overlay and the Open Space Mixed Residential Overlay zoning districts allow for a maximum density of 2.178 units/acre. R1/OSR and R1/OSMR allow houses to be clustered on the more buildable portion of a property and require a dedication of

a minimum of 35% open space."

From the Farragut FYI blog post titled "McFee Road Land Purchase - Preserving it from Residential Development" from September 16, 2023: "The property owners are prepared to sell the 55-acre parcel currently being offered to the Town for purchase. The developer of the Meadows on McFee subdivision is interested in purchasing this property to expand the subdivision. The Meadows on McFee developer has already stubbed a road (Wild Basil Street) to the border of this property in anticipation of further development. With an open space residential overlay zoning, this 55-acre parcel could yield up to 119 homes and generate over 1100 average daily trips."

(The image on the right is from) a town document proving the 55-acre plot is heavily forested. In the three years this land has been owned by the new owner only Knox County Schools and the town of Farragut have shown interest in purchasing the land. The reason is the cost to remove the 55 acres of old growth trees is very high.

The total amount of land on McFee Road is 376 acres. With the Open Space Residential Overlay and the

Open Space Mixed Residential Overlay zoning districts 35% of those 376 acres MUST be open space. That open space amount is 132 acres. It is obvious that the 55-acre parcel will be open space except for the amount required to build a road into the property. This means the claim that 119 homes would be built in the 55-acre parcel is false.

The town purchasing this 55-acre parcel for \$5.5 million dollars allows the landowner the money to build the expensive road. Knox County Schools backed out of this land purchase because it was estimated it would cost over \$3 million dollars to build the road into the property. So, if the TOF buys the 55 acres of McFee Road land the landowner gets the expensive road paid for, \$2.5 million dollars extra, and the remaining 306 acres of land paid for free and clear. With 178 acres in Farragut and 128 acres in Loudon County the 306 acres of land will house 508 homes with 4,695 daily trips.

The landowner has a bank note for \$5,525,000 due for this land on November 25th, 2023.

How does the purchase of this land help the people of Farragut in any way?

Mike Mitchell, Farragut



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## A Soldiers Story Remembered...

The journey together of two soldiers, meeting at a Knoxville, Tennessee Military Induction Center, and serving as comrades throughout the Korean War. The intermingling of those soldiers we met during and after the war is the foundation. Struggles included being drafted for war, the impact on family, life and death. The impact on army buddies of sacrifice of service and loneliness. The climax: Finally going home to be with loved ones, leaving the battlefield. The summary: Carrying on the legacy of those who served and family who supported from afar.

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Harold L. Maples

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# Emergency response provider selection postponed

**Cont. from page 1**

He pointed to employee shortages with the current provider and at the four main Knox County hospitals.

He reported that the provider is “up against the wall” while attempting to deliver patients to overcrowded and understaffed hospitals. He also pointed to the COVID crisis as slowing delivery and treatment times down and suggested that the seven additional minutes allowed for delivery of patients be dropped and a firm time limit be adopted.

Sheridan suggested that the county itself take financial responsibility for EMS services

“Your challenge is staffing,” he said, pointing to the provider and the hospitals. He said a provider should have newer vehicles and coordinate its efforts to reach and deliver patients with other county agencies and organizations.

Commissioner Carson Dailey asked if neighboring counties dropping off patients at Knox County hospitals was taking away time and beds. Sheridan said the study didn’t consider that.

Commissioner Kim Frazier questioned if hiring a part-time medical director at \$50,000 per year was adequate to oversee the EMS services.

# Fort Dickerson quarry improvements

**Cont. from page 1**

Roberto who said the need for additional housing could be eased by allowing mixed-use residential development along the city’s commercial corridors. Several citizens spoke in support of the idea and Roberto’s co-sponsors, Charles Thomas, Amelia Parker and Seema Singh, were joined by most of the other council members in support.

Councilwoman Lynne Fugate said allowing mixed-use housing was not the solution but was part of it. “We’re finally addressing it,” she said.

Removing the word “inventory” from the proposal was suggested by Councilwoman Lauren Rider. She said the needs along commercial corridors should be “identified” and not inventoried because an inventory of the sites would slow down the proposal.

Parker said she has some concerns but supports the

idea. She asked for a report on the number of publically owned housing units.

Councilman Tommy Smith suggested the development of mixed-use housing should also be considered for residential neighborhoods and should include incentives to restore blighted houses and buildings. The allowance of mixed-use housing along commercial corridors in the city passed without opposition.

BlueCross BlueShield was approved to administer the city-funded employee medical and dental programs and EnSafe Inc. was approved for design services of the Cherry Street Water Quality Project in a \$48,520 contract. The council approved the purchase or condemnation of properties along Woodland Avenue for the Complete Streets Project there and a property along Washington Pike for a drainage project.



**Councilman Tommy Smith agreed that allowing mixed-use housing along city corridors was a good idea but also suggested allowing those housing units in residential neighborhoods.**

An application for a state grant of \$30,000 was approved for the operation and maintenance of the household hazardous waste facility in a request from the Public Service Department.

Edison Electric LLC was approved in a contract for \$103,719 to expand the city’s electric vehicle charging expansion project and

a property at 3616 Skyline Drive was rezoned from RN-1 single-family residential to RN-2

Tyrone Beach was named to the Police Advisory and Review Committee on a request from Mayor Indya Kincannon. Roberto chaired the meeting as Mayor Kincannon was out of town at a conference.

# New Farragut school, upcoming elections and ethics seats

**Continued from page 1**

omitted the past few commission meetings. The appointment has been deferred since September.

Five applicants for two seats on the Knox County Ethics Committee spoke during the work session meeting. Each had submitted a resume and the applicants include Jesse R. Cragwall, Krystal Gibson, Marcus A. Hilliard, Sean Murphy and Joseph Ruffalo.

Each candidate was asked several questions including their voting record, social media use, making unpopular decisions,

being transparent, and political involvement.

Public Safety Director Brent Seymour presented a quarterly report on the Fire and Technical Rescue Committee. He reported more than 4,000 calls came in over the past three months including 595 fire calls. He applauded the Karns Fire Department for its response to a tornado in that community and noted that Rural Metro has a new truck serving the Gibbs community.

The agenda for tonight’s regular commission meeting includes

a tribute to the life and career of Marshal Andy Smalls as “America’s Cowboy” and a presentation by the Friends of the Library. Knox County Sheriff’s Office Employees’ Merit System Board regulation amendments allowing KCSO employees to become a candidate for public office in accordance with the Hatch Act is on the agenda for a second and final reading.

Seven requests for rezoning property currently zoned for Agriculture are on the Zoning meeting agenda along with possible

amendments to the Knox County Zoning Ordinance. All of the zoning change requests are to build housing.

## What to do about repeated beer sale violations?

The Knox County Commission, sitting as the Beer Board last week, questioned why some beer sale locations are permitted to operate under the owner’s family following violations.

Commissioner Terry Hill

referred to an instance where the owner was in violation but a new license was approved for his wife and the business started fresh with no violations.

Deputy Law Director Mike Moyers told the commission “you have the power” to limit beer sales for six months to a year after a violation when a license is revoked. He then said the law department will work to clarify the language in the ordinance and possibly present an amendment to the commission in November.

# Trunk or Treat

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## The Doctor is in

a weekly column by  
Dr. Jim Ferguson

### The Come Apart

If I read a book and it makes my whole body so cold, no fire can warm it, I know that it is poetry. Emily Dickinson

Boo Radley came out last week, but it was not Harper Lee's reclusive character from her classic novel "To Kill a Mockingbird," which remains on my top 10 list of must-reads. The movie starring Gregory Peck was also sensational. But you may not know that the famous actor Robert DuVall played the reclusive character Boo Radley in the movie. It was Boo who overcame his apparent agoraphobia and heroically saved his young neighbor, Scout.

Wordsmithing is an art form that many aspire to, but few achieve. My favorite poet is Emily Dickinson and her artistry is revealed as she describes shivers, the tingling you get from

feeling loved, seeing a beautiful sunset or, for me, hearing the adagio from Rodrigo's "Concierto de Aranjuez." If you want to experience shivers, listen to this hauntingly beautiful piece of music on YouTube. The music builds and builds and then washes over your soul. It may be the best eleven minutes of your day.

Writers sometimes use the literary technique of misdirection to lead the reader in one direction and then ultimately take them in another. It is a technique to keep the reader engaged and wondering where the story is going. So, it wasn't the fictional Boo Radley who "came out" last week, it was my wife after being provoked.

An extended family member has been very ill and hospitalized for more than three weeks. Unfortunately, staffing

and scheduling issues had produced a bureaucratic logjam resulting in the delay of a critical procedure. And that's what caused the usually calm and lovely Becky to experience a "come apart."

I love colloquialisms, defined as local or regional expressions. While in Memphis, Tennessee, for medical school and post doc internal medicine residency, I came upon many fascinating colloquialisms. In Memphis, a "bealed ear" was vernacular for a middle ear infection. "Bad blood" was syphilis. "Sick-as-hell" anemia was sickle cell disease and a "rise'n on the pajama" was a boil in, let's just say, a sensitive private area below the waist.

It's probably easier to discern the meaning of Becky's "come apart" which arose out of frustration. Actually, BB kept her cool, yet was assertive and overcame the bureaucratic logjam enabling our family member to get the necessary procedure. Medicine is not immune to the problems of modernity. And I have come to conclude that no one should enter a hospital these days without family, friends or an assertive advocate.

I used to be an avid trout fisherman and traipsed all over the Smoky Mountains

to fish in remote streams. Seasoned fishermen taught me to be alert for bears and to especially avoid a momma bear with cubs. They are dangerous! I remember Sarah Palin who used the momma-bear meme and recommended they not be provoked. Last week, the bureaucracy provoked the momma-bear in my kind wife, who may now be forever remembered as "Bad Becky" instead of BB, her grandmotherly moniker.

I'd like to tell you that our recent experience was a rare event in the current medical care system, but you wouldn't believe me. Like just about every sector of our modern world there seems to be shortages, delays, limited personnel and a dearth of accountability. There are many good people who try to do their best in difficult situations. However, I've come to believe that bigger is not better, whether it's a church, a hospital system and certainly not our government. I feel for these good people often hampered by bureaucracy.

The movie "Jurassic Park" demonstrated how hubris and complexity sometimes produce unforeseen results and chaos. We realize the squeaky wheel gets oiled, but Becky teaches us the way to overcome

a logjam: be pleasant but assertive and appeal to the person or bureaucrat's sense of decency.

Oiling a squeaky wheel is a figure of speech or language used in a non-literal way or with implied meaning. And the teaching point of calm assertiveness is far more effective at oiling a squeaky wheel than screaming.

Recently, we had to remove a 100-year-old oak tree that was dying and threatening our house, or was it our "home?" asked the young Hispanic man on the tree removal crew. He spoke fluent English, but Spanish was his native tongue and he was seeking the differences between a house and a home. His question intrigued me. We may use the terms interchangeably, but to me, a home is more than a house.

In the last few years, you often hear, "Have a blessed day." To me the phrase connotes more than just a Forest Gump-esque, "Have a nice day."

I have often caught myself reflecting on how fortunate I am to have been born in Knoxville, Tennessee, and to have lived here all my life, except when I was in medical school and internal medicine residency. The word fortunate derives from

the Latin god Fortuna and connotes a sense of luck, chance or passive bequest. I prefer the perspective of being blessed as an act of God.

Philosophical determinism suggests everything is controlled or external to the will. Taken to an extreme, that perspective might have God causing me to brush my teeth. However, the other extreme of naturalism holds that there is no God and everything is mere chance. I'm somewhere in the middle and leaning toward the former.

So, I claim the perspective of being blessed in so many ways and wish the same for others. I have a George Bailey "Wonderful Life" and a beautiful wife who has never "come apart" on me. Of course, I sometimes whine about the country and the world, but I remain blessed with love, Grace, purpose and enough resources and time. My new church is a blessing and impactful. And my excellent internist is patient and caring; and so is his staff.

So, as Horatio Spafford's evocative hymn goes, "It Is Well with My Soul."

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

# Dollywood celebrates everything pumpkin

## A Day Away



By Mike Steely

You've only got until next Tuesday, October 30, to visit Dollywood's Pumpkin Festival where you can see huge, prize-winning pumpkins, hundreds of pumpkin characters, pumpkin-flavored food, and all of the festival staples like music, shows, and many displays.

My wife and I visited recently and took in about as much as our older bodies and legs would allow. It's been several years since we last visited Dollywood, recently named TripAdvisor's Number One Theme Park in America.

The parking lots were full of cars from many, many states. We went pretty early, about an hour after the park opened, and found we had to park in an overflow parking lot and then catch a shuttle to the entrance along with hundreds of other visitors.

From the shuttle drivers to the park attendants, we found everyone friendly and helpful. The park was crowded with early fall visitors, everyone from older people like ourselves to young couples with small children.

We took our time and came back with dozens of photos of the pumpkins and pumpkin displays. We sat in on a Gospel quartet show and then started up the hill to eventually



PHOTO BY MIKE STEELY

Dolly Parton's childhood home is represented in the park and is worth a pause when you visit the park.

make a big loop back to the entrance. There were nine music shows going on while we were there. It took us a couple of hours, stopping here and there to take in the various restaurants, country music outside performances, and the raptor and birds of prey display. We watched people on the new and old wooden coasters and other rides.

"I wouldn't ride that, would you?" I think we said more than once as the rides full of screaming visitors whizzed around above us.

The park was fully "pumpkinized" for the festival with illuminated displays, character interaction, eats and treats and various pumpkin

displays including a huge spider and smaller pumpkins in camping and water scenes.

Dollywood seemed to have doubled in size since our last visit a few years ago with twice or thrice the number of visitors, but the crowd was festive and moved pretty quickly. There is so much to see and do on a general admission that one couple on the tram back to the parking lot said they were going to their motel, take a nap with their two kids, and go back to the park that evening when the place is alive with lights.

A real treat in our day trip was coming across a white-bearded man on his way into the park. I asked

if he was Santa Claus and, surprise, he was the Dollywood Santa. We chatted and I'm following that up but that, as they say, is another story.

My wife said Dollywood was nice and had a lot of things to do and see. She was disappointed with the long line to buy some cinnamon bread but managed to find a postcard at the gift shop for her collection.

My most prized memory of the visit was seeing the reproduction of Dolly's



PHOTO BY LETTIE STEELY

A huge pumpkin spider watches the Dollywood visitors go by. That display is only one of the dozens of pumpkin characters in the park during these final days of the Great Pumpkin LumiNights event at the Pigeon Forge attraction.

childhood home, a small frame farmhouse that was very much like my grandmother's house. For Dolly or anyone to have started from such humble beginnings and rise to become a major country music and motion picture star is commendable.

You can find Dollywood on the internet at [www.dollywood.com](http://www.dollywood.com) or call for tickets and information at 1-800-365-5996. The regular one day admission price is \$89 each for people 10 to 61 years old with senior and children discounts available. There are also discounts available for 2- and 3-day passes.

The park opens "Smoky Mountain Christmas" on November 4 and the theme will run through January 6.

The One Day ticket allows visitors to come and go at the park that day and Dollywood is open from 10 a.m. until 9 p.m. Nighttime admission is \$55 after sunset and the park is closed on Tuesdays. Parking is \$25 per vehicle.

# American Hero

## United States Army Specialist Jeremy Daniel Evans

I saw a picture of him carrying a big brass tuba from his days in the Gibbs High School Marching Band. As a former member of the Gibbs band, I was interested to learn more about the tuba player from Gibbs.



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

Baptist Church in Corryton, Tennessee, where a Celebration of Life service followed.

Evans is the second Gibbs graduate from the Corryton Community in just over two years to lose his life while serving his country. In a few weeks our nation will celebrate Veterans Day. It will surely have new meaning after such a tragic loss. I did not know this young man who selflessly served his country, but my heart breaks for his young wife and family he leaves behind. May we remember them in prayer that God will comfort and strengthen them. During these difficult

days, I called again on Justin Pratt, Senior Pastor of Clear Springs Baptist Church, to share an inspirational word with Focus readers. His heartfelt message and words of faith follow:

"Once again it has become both our responsibility and our privilege to host the family of a local hero. SPC Jeremy Evans had determined to spend his life defending the freedoms that we, as Americans, love and enjoy every day. Unbeknownst to him, the thing that he devoted his life to do would become the same thing that claimed his life. A hero can best be described as someone who moves forward with an enormous task, and knowing the risk, determines to do it anyway. SPC Evans, a native of the

Gibbs community and member of the U.S. Army is a hero. His family shared with me that his life's verse was Jeremiah 29:11. There the Bible states: 'For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.' (Jeremiah 29:11 KJV). This young man had a confidence in the sovereignty of God, understood his assignment while he was on the earth, and accomplished it as a good soldier. We are indebted to young women and men like Jeremy. May he perpetually rest in peace."

Picture of U.S. Army Specialist Jeremy Daniel Evans. Photo courtesy of 11th Airborne Division press.



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## Loving our children

A person lies down for a good night's sleep. Just as he's about to fall into a deep sleep, his dog is disturbed and begins to bark loud enough to wake the dead. The howling lasts for hours, long enough to make a restful night impossible. Even though the man is furious and tired, he'd never think of harming his beloved pup. Yes, that pet owner is me, and the howler is Sadie.



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

The same thing held true with our children. Both of our offspring were beautiful and sweet. Then we took them home, and it was as if Satan had possessed them. Sleep was an activity that Amy and I vaguely remembered. We begged those little ones to go to sleep so we could pass out; alas, they didn't speak English at the time. When Lacey slept through the night for the first time, Amy and I woke in a panic and ran to check on her well-being. Eventually, routines were established, and life settled down just a bit. As the two grew older, they began to participate in organizations. Lacey was a Girl Scout, and we survived the cookie campaigns. She played softball for a couple of years before discovering soccer. Her talents in that sport thrived on the defensive end, and she always talked about how much fun it was to tackle a charging opponent. Dallas played baseball, mostly because I made him do so. I'd seen enough boys who didn't know how to throw a ball or swing a bat and was

determined to make sure my son wasn't one of them. Dallas played basketball for one year, but he didn't like the confinement of a gym and the noise of the fans. He also played on a soccer team that went undefeated. He played midfield and did a good job. When the team invited him back the next year, he declined because he didn't want to get up so early on Saturday mornings.

The teen years were the most perilous. Lacey proved to be as stubborn as her dad. We battled often, and the house shook with raised voices. For the most part, my daughter "tried" to follow the rules of our home. I've found out in the last few years that she might have done more than we knew. I tell her now that I don't want to hear about those escapades. Dallas was the quiet child, and his acts were minor in comparison. He didn't like school from the first day I took him to kindergarten, and his study habits weren't stellar; still, he managed to have a good time in school and made acceptable grades.

All of these things probably sound familiar to most adults. Children have a way of trying parents. They are also trying to spread their

wings to become independent. I suppose that doing so in the safety of home is better than at a college or an apartment. Our cries of displeasure set the limits for our children and teach them some of the unwritten rules about life.

These young'uns, whether toddlers or teens, can bring plenty of angst through the years. At some point, probably when they have children of their own, our offspring will understand what our goals were and why we acted as we did. These days, nothing brings a smile to my face quicker than to see my grandson pull one of the same tricks that his mother pulled. Karma truly can be woeful, so I try not to laugh too much or remind Lacey that she is getting what she gave.

We love our children, but they can bring out the worst in us as parents. Lucky for us, the positives that children bring far outweigh the negatives that drive us parents nuts. My wife reminds me that we have children when we are young because few of us could survive the job at our present age. Hang in there, parents; things do get better.

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## Rebecca Davis receives grant to pursue degree in veterinary science

Rebecca Davis, a student at the University of Tennessee, was awarded a P.E.O. Program for Continuing Education Grant from the P.E.O. Sisterhood. She was sponsored by P.E.O. Chapter J of Knoxville for this international award.

The P.E.O. Program for Continuing Education was established 50 years ago to provide need-based grants to women in the U.S. and Canada whose education has been interrupted and who find it necessary to return to school to complete a degree or certification that will improve their marketable skills for employment to support themselves and/or families.

After two years at Clark University in Massachusetts, Rebecca later transferred to the University of Tennessee.



PEO Continuing Education Award recipient Rebecca Davis accepts a grant from Thea Yoder of Chapter J, PEO.

Rebecca is now pursuing a degree in the Animal Science program at U.T.K. and plans to graduate in May of 2024 to work as a

veterinary assistant.

Chapter J has been a part of the Knoxville community since it was organized in 1955.

# The Fight for Majority Leader, 1937

## Pages from the Past



By Ray Hill  
rayhill865@gmail.com

Sometime during the night of July 14, 1937, the heart of Joseph T. Robinson stopped beating. Arkansas had honored Joe Robinson with every distinction she could bestow upon a single individual, electing him to Congress, the governorship and finally, the United States Senate. Once inside the U. S. Senate, the people of Arkansas had kept Joe Robinson there where he accrued seniority and influence. When the Democrats swept the 1932 elections and gained a majority inside the Senate, Robinson became the majority leader and wielded real power. For much of that time, Robinson wielded that power not necessarily as much on behalf of the people of Arkansas, but rather for President Franklin D. Roosevelt and his New Deal. A corporation lawyer by vocation, Robinson had misgivings, if not mixed feelings, about the New Deal legislation. Yet Robinson had seen the misery and human suffering wrought by the worst of the Great Depression and the people of his own state. While Arkansas was almost entirely a rural and agricultural state, Senator Robinson had been aghast when President Herbert Hoover seemed indifferent to the suffering of people. The sharp-tongued Arkansan thought Hoover was more concerned about livestock than human beings. Robinson was delighted by the defeat of Herbert Hoover by Franklin Roosevelt, and he did all he could to help the newly elected president.

Joseph T. Robinson had been one of a handful of congressional leaders summoned to the White House by Roosevelt where the president proceeded to announce his intention to add more justices to the United States Supreme Court. Like most of his fellow congressmen, Robinson said little or nothing. Hatton Sumners, the crusty Texas bachelor who chaired the House Judiciary Committee, told his colleagues in the car on the way back to the Capitol, "Boys, here's where I cash in my chips."

The determined opposition of Sumners to Roosevelt's plan to pack the Supreme Court meant the fight had to begin in the Senate. There the Democrats had a lopsided majority: In 1937, there were only sixteen Republican senators out of ninety-six. To spur Robinson on, FDR dangled before the majority leader the honor he still craved the most: a seat on the bench of the U. S. Supreme Court. Privately, Roosevelt thought Robinson would be too conservative a justice, but thought it well worth the bargain to extract enough justices to allow him to appoint additional liberals to the court bench. With the president's

announcement, the Democratic Party was instantly torn asunder. Charles McNary, the wily minority leader, immediately saw the distinct advantage of division in the ranks of the Democrats. He quietly instructed the GOP senators to let the Democrats fight amongst themselves. Republican senators were solidly opposed to the court-packing scheme but said little. Even former President Herbert Hoover was eventually browbeaten into silence.

The leader against the court packing plan was Burton K. Wheeler of Montana, a progressive who at one time had been labeled "Bolshevik Burt" by political opponents in his home state. By every standard, a true political maverick, Wheeler had bolted his own party to accept the vice-presidential nomination of the Progressive Party, which outran the Democratic presidential ticket in many of the Western states. Impossible to intimidate, Wheeler was an excellent speaker and proved to be a good tactician for those senators against the court packing plan. Even some of those reluctantly supporting the plan did so only because of their personal affection for and loyalty to Joe Robinson, whom they wished to see sit on the Supreme Court.

When Joe Robinson died, so did Franklin Roosevelt's plan to pack the Supreme Court. A host of senators rode the funeral train carrying the late majority leader's body back home to Arkansas. The compartments were a beehive of political activity, which included Vice President John Nance Garner, the poker-playing, whisky-drinking, cigar-chomping Texan who disliked Roosevelt's court packing plan as much as many of the senators. Once leaving the floor of the United States Senate, the colorful vice president held his nose with one hand and gave the thumbs down signal with the other during the debate over the packing plan.

A fight was shaping up to fill Joe Robinson's seat as majority leader. Alben Barkley, the amiable senator from Kentucky, had been Robinson's assistant leader in the Senate and enjoyed broad support from many of his fellow senators. Pat Harrison of Mississippi was one of the true heavyweights of the United States Senate at the time. Chairman of the enormously powerful Finance Committee, rotund and balding Pat Harrison was an inveterate golfer and much sought-after companion by his friends. Almost always found with a lit cigar in one hand, Harrison was shrewd, able and had as



NEWSPAPER ENTERPRISES ASSOCIATION PHOTO FROM THE AUTHOR'S PERSONAL COLLECTION

(From left to right) Senators Key Pittman of Nevada, Allen Barkley of Kentucky, VP John N. Garner, unidentified man, Pat Harrison, Kenneth McKellar, Morris Sheppard, J. Hamilton Lewis.

many friends inside the Senate as Barkley, if not more. Although Senator Harrison had largely been a wheelhorse of the Roosevelt administration, many New Dealers worried about the Mississippian's innate conservatism, at least financially. Even President Roosevelt worried about Harrison's independent streak. From the very beginning, it was clear whom President Roosevelt preferred to see elected majority leader. The day after Joe Robinson's death, Roosevelt dispatched a letter to Barkley, and its salutation of "Dear Alben" became a mockery in the mouths of the Kentuckian's opponents. The letter was an ill-disguised endorsement of Barkley for Senate Majority Leader. In truth, the letter and its greeting embarrassed Barkley and disgusted more than a few senators. The letter urged Senator Barkley to pick up where Joe Robinson had left off and pass Roosevelt's court packing scheme. Nor was FDR any too subtle in referring to Barkley as the Senate's "acting majority leader," a designation never given him by his colleagues.

Longtime Washington observers thought Pat Harrison the favorite to win the majority leader's post. Harrison had been in the Senate longer, arriving in 1918 after having defeated James K. Vardaman, who had once been the most popular officeholder in Mississippi. Alben Barkley had come to the U.S. Senate in 1927 after having beaten Republican incumbent Richard Ernst. Harrison's chairmanship of the Finance Committee gave him a leg up in the contest. Naturally, Pat Harrison was profoundly unhappy with President Roosevelt's "Dear Alben" letter. The day after Roosevelt's "Dear Alben" letter arrived, Senator Pat Harrison was at the White House where President Roosevelt solemnly assured the Mississippian he was keeping a "hands off" attitude in the contest. Of course, it was not at all true.

While Roosevelt benignly insisted he was neutral in the increasingly competitive race between Pat Harrison and Alben Barkley, the administration

worked hard to corral U.S. senators into supporting the Kentuckian. One such example was the White House contacting Tom Pendergast, the leader of the political machine that had helped to put Harry Truman in the U.S. Senate, to bring his influence to bear on behalf of Barkley. The scrappy little man from Missouri was already committed --- to Pat Harrison --- and told Boss Pendergast he had given his word to back Harrison and wouldn't break it. Pendergast, to his credit, didn't try and force the issue and knew what it meant when Truman had given his word. The Kansas City boss reported jovially back to the Roosevelt White House that Truman was as contrary as the worst Missouri mule and there was nothing he could do about it. Rumors continued to circulate about jobs and projects for the constituents of senators being granted from the White House.

Senators disliked the interference of the president in what they rightly considered to be solely a matter for the Senate to consider. Several presidents have made the mistake of attempting to influence leadership contests in the U. S. Senate with little good result. Alben Barkley tried to put Roosevelt's interference in the majority leader contest in the best light, saying, "If being loyal to the greatest president is hanging on his coattails, I'm proud to hang on."

As the vote for selecting a new majority leader approached, it became obvious the contest was as close as could be. Harrison was told by friends the deciding vote could very well be his junior colleague from Mississippi, Theodore G. Bilbo. Harrison and Bilbo did not get along. Senator Bilbo had done everything he possibly could to dislodge Harrison from the United States Senate when he had backed Governor Mike Sennett against him in the 1936 Democratic primary. Harrison had thrashed Sennett but the senator remained boiling mad at his colleague and ignored his presence and absolutely refused to utter a single word to Bilbo. Approached to vote for Pat Harrison,

Bilbo replied he would if Harrison would speak to him. When told of Bilbo's offer, Harrison was quiet for a moment, before thundering, "I wouldn't speak to the son-of-a-bitch if it meant the presidency of the United States!"

In the meantime, the Roosevelt administration did everything it could to whittle down the expected Harrison majority. Offers of patronage flowed out of the White House and it had an effect.

Tennessee's senior United States senator, Kenneth McKellar, while a friend of Pat Harrison, was a stalwart of the New Deal and a warm personal friend of Alben Barkley. When Democratic senators met inside the Senate's elaborate Caucus Room in the old Senate Office Building, both Barkley and Harrison selected tellers to count the votes. Barkley chose McKellar as his vote teller. Senators wrote their choice in their own hand, folded the slips of paper, walked by the tellers and placed them in Senator Carter Glass's battered old Panama straw hat. Harry Truman carefully wrote out "Harrison" on his own ballot and made a point of showing it to those sitting nearby. There would be no question about whether or not Senator Truman had kept his commitment to Pat Harrison.

As the names were called out, the race between Pat Harrison and Alben Barkley was neck-and-neck. The score was tied when the tellers prepared to announce the final vote. The tension was such that Barkley bit the stem of his briar pipe in two. The last vote was for Alben Barkley, who had won 38-37. Barkley rose and announced, "I will act as a sort of glorified messenger boy to the best of my ability."

The contest and President Roosevelt wanting a majority leader of his own choice left in its wake more bitterness than the court packing fight. It left permanent scars. In August of 1937 Democratic senators came together for a dinner to fete Barkley as majority leader, but it was also an attempt to restore harmony to the caucus. The menu was soothing enough; senators feasted

upon stuffed squab, salad Texas Ranger, and a dessert labeled "coupe harmony," which was a peach soaked in brandy with layers of vanilla ice cream, raspberry ice, and chocolate ice cream all in a champagne glass. White doves made of sugar were the order of the evening and real doves were symbolically released at the dinner, to the consternation of some guests. One of the two doves released that evening made itself at home by perching upon a beam in the ceiling where it was content to remain as the speeches began.

The seating was strategic; Senator Barkley sat to the right of Vice President John Nance Garner, while Pat Harrison sat to the left of the toastmaster. Beside Harrison was Tennessee's Senator Kenneth McKellar. The effort to restore amity and harmony amongst Senate Democrats was due not only to the fight between Pat Harrison and Alben Barkley for the leadership of the caucus but also because of the lingering bitterness left by the fight over Roosevelt's court packing scheme.

While harmony was the order of the evening, it was mostly on the surface. Senator William King of Utah, who left early, described the event as a "love feast." Yet Democrats remained divided while FDR remained petulant. The president tried his "purge" in the primaries the following year and after the 1938 election, a coalition of more conservative Democrats and Republicans would become powerful inside both houses of Congress.

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# A Natural History Of The Smoky Mountains – Before The Park

## Virtual Program Thursday, Nov. 2 Presented by the UT Arboretum Society

Before 1934 and the establishment of the Great Smoky Mountain National Park, the Great Smokies were largely depleted of trees and wildlife due to extensive logging operations. Now, almost 90 years later, the mountains have recovered. Join education coordinator Michelle Campanis and naturalist, author Stephen Lyn Bales via Zoom on

Thursday, November 2 at 7 p.m. for "Recovered Life of the Great Smokies."

Stephen Lyn grew up in Gatlinburg and has seen many of the positive changes firsthand. He has witnessed the return of otters, elk, bears, barn owls, peregrine falcons and more. Join us as we look at the recent natural history of the mountains that now make up the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. We will discuss what caused the loss and how it has recovered and what we can do to support the

continuation of that recovery.

This is the UT Arboretum Society's monthly First Thursday Supper Club. The program is free, but registration is required to receive your Zoom link and the recording. Closed captions are available. Register at [www.utarboretumsociety.org](http://www.utarboretumsociety.org) Please contact Michelle at [mcampani@utk.edu](mailto:mcampani@utk.edu) for any questions or registration issues.

To contact Stephen Lyn Bales or buy one of his UT Press books, email him at [hellostephenlyn@gmail.com](mailto:hellostephenlyn@gmail.com)



The American black bear (*Ursus americanus*) is the iconic symbol of the Great Smokies. Photo by Stephen Lyn Bales

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- HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL WEEK 10 -

## Special teams come up big for West against Halls

By David Klein

In a pivotal Region 2-5A game, the West Rebels rode their special teams and defense to a 20-9 win over the visiting Halls Red Devils. West improved to 8-1 on the year and is tied in the region with Powell going into Thursday's home game against the Panthers. The winner of Thursday's game will be the regular season Region 2-5A champs. With the win, West is assured of a first-round home playoff game.

The key play of the game came when West's Anderson Smith blocked a 48-yard field goal attempt by the Red Devils' Owen Taylor. Antwain Burdine scooped up the football and ran it back 69 yards for a touchdown to put the Rebels up 17-9 with 2:04 left in the second quarter.

West head coach Lamar Brown said, "It's been an emphasis for our kids (special teams). They wanted to get better at it. We challenged the kids during



PHOTO BY JASON CANTRELL

Running room looks scarce for Halls' Landon Vest as he faces three West Rebels, including linebacker Anderson Smith (18). Smith helped West pull away to a 20-9 victory.

the timeout before the field goal; let's go get it. Anderson Smith did a great job in getting a lot of penetration and laying out and

getting a piece of the ball. When Antwain caught it on one hop, you knew he was gone. Games are usually won by two or three plays

and that was one of them." To start the game, Halls fumbled on their first offensive snap of the game. West took advantage and

went on a nine-play drive, capped off by Marshaun Bowers' 5-yard touchdown run to give West a 7-0 lead. **Continue on page 4**

## Mavericks stampede past Gibbs, 55-6

By Steve Williams

Gibbs was the underdog going into the Region 2-4A championship game at Anderson County Friday night, but not many expected it to be as one-sided as it turned out.

The Mavericks stampeded past the Eagles 55-6 to extend their region streak of titles.

AC led 27-0 at the end of the first quarter and 55-0 at halftime.

Subs started coming in for Anderson County midway into the second period. Reserves played for both teams with the mercy rule running clock turned on at the start of the third period.

The Mavs' offense scored six touchdowns and their defense also reached paydirt with two interception returns in the first half. Coach Davy Gillum's team only punted once before intermission.

"We had four or five turnovers," said Gibbs Coach Brad Turner when asked what he felt like was the difference in the game.

"I felt like we were ready to play today. The kids had a great week of practice. I felt like they were confident. You just can't make mistakes against a team like that. They are well coached and had a great game plan. I felt like they were a little more physical than we were on the perimeter and we can't make mistakes. That's why they're the defending state champions. I think they've got a good football team and we can't make mistakes."

Gibbs' lone TD came on a 2-yard quarterback sneak by freshman Clay Phillips in the fourth quarter. Benji Angola's PAT was blocked.

Speedy Xavian James scored the Mavericks' first touchdown on a 48-yard run when he ran around left end and then cut back

**Continue on page 2**

## Central claims playoff berth, 41-33

### Holbert stops Mountaineers at 1-yard line

By Steve Williams

Fourth place never felt so good. That's what the post-game grin on Central Coach Nick Craney's face indicated.

Craney's Bobcats had just won a battle with Heritage for a Region 2-5A playoff berth.

With a thriller-packed ending, Central held off the Mountaineers, 41-33, at Jack Renfro Stadium in the foothills of the Smokies. One of the season's most exciting games also was seen by a Rivalry Thursday TV audience.

The victory lifted Central to 1-2 in region play and 5-4 overall, while the loss left Heritage (0-4 and 3-6) out of the running,



PHOTO BY CHRISTOPHER LOPEZ-ORTIZ

One Heritage player is trying to pull Frank Johnson IV back, while two of his teammates -- Zach Brown (61) and Seth Laws (54) -- maneuver to push the Bobcats' big back forward in last week's elimination game. Central held on for a 41-33 win.

despite a gutsy comeback effort. "As a coach, when people talk about exciting games, that means there were moments that went really well and moments that make you want to rip your hair

out as a coach, truthfully," said Craney. "This game had a little bit of both, but our guys kept fighting all the way to the very last play of the game to find a way to get a win. So I'm proud of them for

getting the win."

The win also should add some gravity to the Bobcats' regular season home finale Thursday against Halls in the annual Battle of Black Oak Ridge. Third place in the region will be on the line.

Heritage may be on the outside looking in as far as the playoffs, but Coach Joe Osovet's Mountaineers will have the opportunity to go out with a big win Friday at playoff bound Clinton, which has wrapped up third place in Region 3-5A.

Central jumped out to a quick 7-0 lead over Heritage. On the opening kickoff, the Mountaineers' Dominick Stevens fielded the football at the 10-yard line but was stripped of the ball by Javaston Baggett and sophomore teammate Nick Chittum recovered it at the Heritage 36.

**Continue on page 2**

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## - HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL WEEK 10 -

## A GLANCE BACK AND A LOOK AHEAD

## Webb falls to Boyd Buchanan, 14-10

By Steve Williams

"What a hard fought game!"

That's how Webb School Coach Don Mahoney described Friday night's Battle of Unbeatens in the Division II-AA East Region title game, which saw host Boyd Buchanan come out on top 14-10.

"Give credit to Boyd Buchanan," said Mahoney. "They made more plays on key possessions. We did not finish drives in the red zone or protect the ball. We will learn and grow from this game!"

Webb senior wide receiver Markeis Barrett had

five catches in the game for 148 yards and one touchdown.

The Spartans, now 8-1 overall and 5-1 in region play, will play their regular season finale at Lakeway Christian Friday.

Boyd Buchanan (9-0, 6-0) will be in Knoxville Friday to play Grace Christian Academy.

**TITLE GAMES:** Two regular season championship games involving Knox County teams will be played Thursday night. West will host Powell for the Region 2-5A title and Bearden will be at home to play Bradley Central for the Region 2-6A crown.

**SO CLOSE:** Knoxville Catholic took a 27-24 lead over unbeaten McCallie, the state's top-ranked Division II-AAA team, with 2:21 remaining Friday, but saw the Blue Tornado regain the upper hand a minute later and hold on for a 31-27 win.

Jayden Neal's 25-yard touchdown pass to Braylon Harmon gave Catholic its last lead in the see-saw battle.

Harmon also had his third kickoff return for a TD this season - an 83-yarder - in the loss.

The Fighting Irish reportedly is now 0-7 all-time against McCallie but

getting closer.

**MODERN DAY SHOOTOUT:** Christian Academy of Knoxville outscored Notre Dame 50-49 in Week 10 at CAK.

Shepard Strange, the Warriors' quarterback, completed 29 of 46 passes for 358 yards and five touchdowns. He had 389 total yards.

Wide receiver Will Kelly had 17 catches for 163 yards and three TDs. Sloan Helton, also a WR, caught eight passes for 165 yards and two touchdowns. He also had 350 total yards, 185 kick return yards, plus threw a TD pass and had one kick return to the

house.

**CHEER BANNER:** At the Central vs. Heritage game last week, the Bobcat cheerleaders' banner read: "You think you can beat us? Now that's Fantasy Football!"

**COMPUTER RATINGS:** Knox County and area teams in Sonny Moore's Top 50 Computer Power Ratings for Tennessee high school football through Week 9 games. 1-McCallie 147.47, 2-Maryville 146.70, 3-Bradley Central 145.90, 4-Bearden 143.77, 7-Greeneville 141.29, 11-Knoxville West 138.97, 14-Elizabethton 138.22, 15-Alcoa 138.00, 16-Oak

Ridge 137.27, 19-Powell 136.43, 23-Cleveland 135.21, 24-Webb 135.06, 29-Jefferson County 133.18, 31-Anderson County 132.21, 34-Dobyns-Bennett 131.27, 36-Halls 130.47, 49-McMinn County 127.93.

**ON THE HORIZON:** Playoffs officially begin Friday, Nov. 3. Brackets will be posted as the Week 11 games go final at TSSAAsports.com

All roads in the TSSAA playoffs lead to the historic city of Chattanooga, host of the BlueCross Bowl Football Championships set for Nov. 30 through Dec. 2.

## Central claims playoff berth, 41-33

Cont. from page 1

Frank Johnson IV (5-10, 215) rumbled for 29 yards on his first carry and scored from the 1 on third-and-goal. Devon Cole added his first of five PAT kicks.

Heritage threatened to score on its second possession, but Noah Lyons intercepted a pass at the Central 7.

The Bobcats' great start continued and they enjoyed their biggest advantage (34-10) with 7:30 remaining in the third quarter.

But the Mountaineers, led by senior quarterback Wesley Deck, a tough 5-11, 203-pounder, chipped away at the deficit and with two minutes to go in the game were within eight points and had fourth-and-1 at the Central 1-yard line.

Jake Holbert, the Bobcats' 6-1, 295-pound nose guard, put a stop to it right there.

"They ran that play a bunch already, so I knew it was coming to the guards," recalled Holbert, "and I just hit the center and he (Deck) was right there and I just hit him and tackled him."

Still, the game wasn't over. Central was backed up at its 1-yard line with 1:48 on the clock. Taking the snap in the shotgun formation, Johnson ran for 3 yards on two carries to the 4. The Bobcats were then flagged for a delay of game, which moved the ball back to the 2-yard line. Johnson picked up 6 yards on third-and-10. Baggett, sophomore punter, standing 2 yards deep in the end zone, got his punt away.



PHOTO BY CHRISTOPHER LOPEZ-ORTIZ

A little rain falls in the foothills but Central's Frank Johnson IV appears to be smiling after scoring his third touchdown in the final minute of the first half that gave the Bobcats a 27-7 lead over Heritage.

With 8.5 seconds on the clock, Heritage still had time for two more plays. Deck's pass to Clay Thomas was bobbled and dropped inside the Central 2-yard line. Nine-tenths of a second were left for Deck to get off one more pass.

His desperation throw was touched by a couple of players downfield but fell incomplete.

There were many big plays and performances in the game.

Johnson powered his way into the end zone on three

short runs and totaled 173 yards on 30 carries.

Senior defensive end Silas Geasland intercepted a pass just as it was released and raced 75 yards to extend the Bobcats' lead to 20-0 in the second quarter.

Sophomore DB Torin McAfee intercepted two passes, including the one he returned 65 yards that gave Central its biggest lead. He also had 10 solo stops.

Holbert finished with nine solo tackles and one assist. Junior DE Jayden Dixon contributed seven solo stops, three assists and one TFL.

Dante Strickland won a one-on-one duel in the secondary to haul in a 38-yard pass from QB Samuel Myers to set up Johnson's second TD.

A 38-yard pass from Myers to Cory Bingham set up Johnson's third TD and made it 27-7 with 23.7 seconds left in the half.

Heritage drove 72 yards in 15 plays and Zak Davidson caught a TD pass from Deck on fourth-and-3 for its first score. An 18-yard run by Deck got the Mountaineers close enough for Bladimir Artiga to kick a 36-yard field goal on the last play of the half and cut Central's lead to 27-10.

After a 37-yard punt return by Stevens in the third quarter, Deck scored on a 4-yard run and added a 2-point run to get Heritage within two scores (34-18).

Deck added a 23-yard TD run and another 2-point run to reduce the Bobcats' lead to 34-26 with 8:51 to go.

Strickland went down low to make a spectacular 38-yard grab at the Heritage 36 and Daniel Sackie followed that up, catching a 35-yard sideline pass from Myers for a TD to make it 41-26.

Davidson got behind Strickland in the secondary and pulled in a 45-yard pass from Deck with 4:47 left as Heritage trimmed the deficit again to eight points.

A block below the waist penalty on Central's kickoff return backed up the Bobcats, who were forced to punt again. Stevens returned it to the Bobcats' 25.

Three straight runs by Deck moved the ball to the Central 4, but an illegal shift pushed Heritage back to the 15. A 5-yard keeper by Deck and a 9-yard pass to Stevens got it back to the 1 again with 2:00 on the clock.

That's when Holbert stepped up and made the tackle of the game.

## High School Football Scores and Schedule

## Week 10 Scores

Anderson Co. 55, Gibbs 6  
A-E 58, Union Co. 30  
Bearden 24, Mo. West 14  
B. Buchanan 14, Webb 10  
CAK 50, Notre Dame 49  
Clinton 48, Karns 18  
Farragut 27, HVA 3  
Carter 48, Fulton 24  
Central 41, Heritage 33  
West 20, Halls 9  
McCallie 31, Catholic 27  
Oneida 29, TKA 15  
Powell 28, McMinn Co. 14  
Silverdale 42, GCA 35  
S-D 26, Seymour 14  
Maryville 24, Alcoa 21

## Week 11 Games

(Kickoff at 7 unless noted)

## Thursday

Scott at Austin-East  
Bearden at Bradley Cen.  
Lenoir City at Karns  
Halls at Central  
Powell at West

## Friday

S-D at Anderson Co.  
Catholic at Baylor  
Silverdale at CAK  
HVA at Cleveland  
Fulton at Gibbs  
Seymour at Carter  
B. Buchanan at GCA  
Webb at Lakeway Christ.  
Farragut at Maryville  
TKA at Friendship Christ.

## Mavericks stampede past Gibbs

**Cont. from page 1**

to the right. James got his second TD as he caught a 16-yard pass from quarterback Zae Hall, a transfer from Jefferson County this year.

After Nick Moog scored the first of his two TDs on a 2-yard run, cornerback Riley Wolfenbarger intercepted Gibbs QB Maddox Brackfield's pass and returned it 35 yards to give AC a 27-0 lead late in the first quarter.

Trent Strickland caught a

49-yard pass from Hall and turned it into a 4-yard TD run on the first play of the second quarter to make it 34-0.

Gibbs got its first of three first downs after that and it came on a 10-yard holding penalty by the AC defense.

The Eagles' best offense in the first half came on back-to-back plays - a 16-yard run by Brady Hughes followed by Brackfield's 29-yard pass to Boone Brockwell that moved the sticks to the AC

11. Two plays later, however, Gibbs committed another turnover when it fumbled on a shotgun snap.

Waylon LaRue scored one of his two touchdowns on a 12-yard run in the final minute of the first half.

Anderson County (5-4 overall) has outscored its four region opponents 205-27 this season. Against Class 5A and Class 6A opponents, the Mavs have beaten Clinton, but lost to Powell, Science Hill, Bearden and West.

Coach Turner was asked what his post-game message was to his team.

"We're the No. 2 seed and are going to be playing a home playoff game," he said. "We sort of control our destiny. You're 0-0 after next week. If our goal is to win state, obviously this game matters, but at the end of the day it doesn't and you control your own destiny. If you take care of your business you can play them again in Round 3. Everything is still in front of us."

# 'What am I going to do now?'

When it comes to quarterbacks battling for playing time, there are a number of clichés that apply.



**By Tom Mattingly** is always the most popular guy in town.

"If you have two quarterbacks, you don't have any." "The No. 2 quarterback is just a play away from being No. 1."

After the Vols had gone to the "T" formation in 1964, the quarterback position was in good hands: Charlie Fulton (1965-67), Dewey Warren (1965-67), Bubba Wyche (1966-68), and Bobby Scott (1968-70). It wasn't always easy, and there were some justifiable worries about how each of them would play once they got their chance, but things always worked out.

Coming off an 11-1 season in 1970, the Vol defense looked like an old friend. The offense was another story. Scott was gone, and there were a number of contenders for the job.

If two quarterbacks are often perceived as one

too many, think about what happens with four on the roster, three of whom never were able to separate themselves from the pack.

When the season began, Dennis Chadwick and Chip Howard each had a shot, but fell back and found themselves at wide receiver. Phil Pierce had a shining moment at Florida, leading a game-winning 99-yard drive in a 20-13 victory, but he, too, didn't seem to provide all the answers.

There was another quarterback in the wings, fifth-year senior Jim Maxwell, who watched patiently as the whole process unfolded. As things turned out, he was the answer, but nobody really knew it early in the season. Eight turnovers in a 32-15 loss at Alabama, four fumbles and four interceptions, clearly defined the problem. The score was 22-15 late in the fourth quarter, despite the spate of turnovers, but a missed fourth-down try at the Tennessee 29 and another fumble led to a field goal and touchdown. What was a close game resulted in the first Tide victory in the series since

1966. Desperate times called for desperate measures. Wisdom has it that a player just needs a chance to show what he can do. That was the case with Maxwell.

Sportswriter Russ Bebb called Jim's senior season "a rags to riches story that seemed to be too improbable to be true." Jim earned his opportunity when Bill Battle called his number against Mississippi State in Memphis on Oct. 23.

Maxwell had come to Knoxville as part of the 1966-67 recruiting class. He redshirted in 1968 and was the holder for George Hunt placekicks in 1970 and 1971.

Maxwell's season stats ended up to be modest ones, 46 completions in 102 attempts for 544 yards, a couple of weeks' yardage for Peyton Manning or Andy Kelly.

The expectations for Maxwell were simple, i.e., keep a steady hand on the throttle and not make the critical turnover. There might have been those in the Tennessee fan base who went scurrying to their game programs to find out who No. 16 was under

center for the Vols. Maxwell's debut was definitely a baptism under fire. When Battle called his name, it was now or never for the fifth-year senior from Nashville.

"Out of nowhere, your name gets called," Jim said, "and you ask yourself, 'What's going on here?' I was scared to death, and I remember trotting onto the field and wondering, 'What am I going to do now?'"

All the "Blue Max" did was help lead the Vols to wins over State (10-7), Tulsa (38-3), South Carolina (35-6), Kentucky (21-7), Vanderbilt (19-7), a major upset of No. 5 Penn State (31-11), and Arkansas in the Liberty Bowl (14-13).

"I figured after being on the team for five years," Maxwell said, "that the odds were pretty much against me playing at all. You just look on it as one of those dreams that didn't come true. By then, you have to believe your career isn't going anywhere."

Somebody, maybe Doug Dickey or George Cafego, had a ready piece of advice for players who wondered if their time would ever come.



Jim Maxwell (shown here holding for George Hunt's game-winning field goal in the 1970 South Carolina game), was 7-0 as Tennessee's starting quarterback in 1971.

Each of them always said, "If you stay, you'll play." George always told his scout squad members to take advantage of every break that came their way.

Maxwell stayed, even through the times it never looked as if he would see time under center. Vol fans who watched him down the stretch run in 1971 remember well his contribution to

the success of that season. Seen in the perspective of history, Maxwell delivered the goods when his name was called. He was undefeated as a starter. Tennessee went from 3-2 after the crash landing at Alabama to 10-2 overall. Score one for the "Blue Max" and all those players who have made the most of their opportunities

## - GIRLS' SOCCER -

# Bearden wins another region championship

## Anderson County edges Gibbs in title match

By Ken Lay

A three-goal second half netted the Bearden High School a Region 2-3A girls soccer championship Thursday night.

The Lady Bulldogs remained unbeaten with a 3-0 over District 4-3A and geographic rival West High on a mild October night at Turner-Allender Field. They are seeking a third consecutive Class 3A state title.

After the Lady Rebels (13-6-2) and Bearden, ranked third in the nation in the United Soccer Coaches Poll, slugged through a scoreless first half, the Lady Bulldogs (18-0-1) tallied three times after half-time and shut out West for the third time in three weeks.

Bearden defeated the Lady Rebels, 6-0, in the regular-season match on Sept. 28 and blanked West, 3-0, in the District 4-3A Tournament championship match on Thursday Oct. 12 at Bearden.

The Lady Bulldogs got a brace, including two goals and an assist, from Alivia Stott. Jayla Blue also scored for Bearden, which had its longest scoring drought of the season until Stott took a pass from Bre Mendoza and promptly banged it past Lady Rebels' goalkeeper Emma Capps and into the back of the West net.

Kennedy Lucas picked

up the assist on Stott's second marker, scored in the 65<sup>th</sup> minute.

Bearden advanced to the region championship with a 9-0 victory over Oak Ridge Tuesday night in the final match for Lady Wildcats' head coach Donnie Green. Green was named head coach of the Roane State Community College women's coach last spring and came back to Oak Ridge for one final season. Roane State will begin competing in the Fall of 2024.

The Lady Rebels earned a third game against the Lady Bulldogs with a 4-2 win over Central Tuesday night at Dan Y. Boring Stadium in Fountain City.

The Lady Bobcats were District 3-3A regular-season and tournament champions, suffering just two losses in 2023 - one to Oak Ridge in the regular season, and one to West in the region tournament.

West and Bearden both advanced to Saturday's state sectional round. The Lady Bulldogs hosted Science Hill while the Lady Rebels traveled to Kingsport Dobyns-Bennett. Results were not available at press time.

**In Region 2-2A:** Gibbs came up on the short end of a 1-0 decision on the road against District 4-2A rival Anderson County Thursday night. ACHS's Zoey Rose scored the lone

tally of the match

Thursday's game was a rematch of the District 4-3A championship match, which was tied, 0-0 at the end of regulation and extra time.

The Lady Mavs, prevailed, 4-3, in the penalty kicks shootout to win the district and earn the right to host the region championship match.

The Mavericks also edged the Lady Eagles, 3-2, in the regular-season meeting between the two sides.

Anderson County advanced to the region championship match with a victory over Carter Tuesday, while Gibbs defeated Seymour.

In the state sectional, Gibbs played at Greeneville and the Lady Mavericks hosted Tennessee High Saturday. Results were not available at press time.

# Tennessee's Home Field Advantage

By Mark Nagi

Have you had the chance to see a game at Neyland Stadium recently? I sure hope that you have because man, oh man, has it been fun.

Tennessee has won 13 straight games at Shields-Watkins Field, a streak that goes back to November 20, 2021. Their last loss coming the week before to the eventual national champions from Georgia.

The Vols have also won 7 straight SEC games, something they haven't done since the glory days of the late 1990s.

Since Josh Heupel was hired as Tennessee's head coach in 2021, the Vols are now 16-3 when playing games in Knoxville, which is quite the departure from the Jeremy Pruitt era, when UT went a woeful 9-11 at home, and only 5-8 against SEC opponents.

The Vols also play a

fun, up tempo style which is much... much more pleasing than what we saw during the Pruitt era, which at times barely could pass as a group that tried to score points.

Winning helps make the gameday experience much better, but that's not all. From the traditional Vol Walk and Pride of the Southland Marching Band performances, to the post TD fireworks and North end zone party deck, one of college football's cathedrals just keeps getting better.

Phase 1 of the Neyland Stadium renovation project will cost \$337 million. Among the improvements we have already seen are new restrooms under the Gate 10 ramp and better wi-fi for spectators to use. TV timeouts are a purge on viewers, but at least fans can play on their phones while waiting for the action to resume.

Next Fall there will be

southeast elevators vertically connecting all concourses, a new Gate 4 entry plaza, as well as initial construction for the west side Founders Suites, new restrooms and concessions on north concourse two.

In the Fall of 2025, you'll see an expanded south concourse 1 with increased restrooms, enhanced concessions, and a wider concourse with the completion of entry plazas happening in 2026.

There's so much happening on the UT campus these days, and Neyland Stadium is the main attraction.

Neyland Stadium has a capacity of 101,915, the 6th largest college football stadium in the country and according to UT, the 8th largest stadium on the planet. It's a special place, and one that you should try to visit soon.

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# New Powell coach is giving back to bowling

By Steve Williams

Powell High appears to have rolled a strike with the addition of Jennifer Mauri as coach for its new bowling program.

Now "kind of" retired, Mauri grew up in Las Vegas, Nevada and won girls' state championships four years in a row. She also bowled for the USA Junior Team in 1991.

"I had won many individual scholarships as a Junior bowler over the years of bowling and winning tournaments," she said.

"I received my Associates Degree from Community College of Southern Nevada, which was entirely paid for with my bowling scholarships. I then went on to UNLV to further my education."

Mauri also owned a bowling center in Las Vegas and sold it before making the move to Knoxville.

Why Knoxville?

"I just think it's beautiful country," she replied. "That's what brought me here."

Now Mauri is giving back to her sport.

"I was very much into bowling as a kid," she said.

"I would like to see bowling come back. It was big when I was a kid and it's coming back around and I just wanted to help bring it back. I thought if I could give my knowledge and help other kids out (why not).

"And I believe that any kind of sports is good for kids to learn life skills. It teaches life skills as well."

Mauri is a non-faculty coach, but is substitute teaching "when I want to ... I'm kind of retired."

She also is really enjoying her coed team, which includes seven boys and one girl.

"I'm just proud of those kids," she said. "I think they are doing a great job. Maybe four of them had



PHOTOS BY STEVE WILLIAMS

**Above:** Powell High has Knox County's newest bowling team this school year. Front row left to right: Skyelar Zachary, Jude West, Coach Mauri, Amelia Williams. Back row: Johnathan Dennis, Christopher Zurick, Brennan Glover, Conner Thone, Sawyer Marshall.



**Left:** Powell Coach Jennifer Mauri talks to her team as they get ready to leave the Strike & Spare bowling center on Western Avenue last week. They parted with a team shout of "Family!"

experience in bowling, and the other half didn't."

Powell bowled against Central in its very first match on Sept. 26 at the Strike & Spare Lanes on Western Avenue and did "surprisingly well," said Mauri. "I was very proud of my kids because it was their first-ever match. I have some bowlers who have never even bowled before. So to come out and do that well, I was proud of them."

Its next match was

against Karns.

"They are a high-ranking team," she said. "They've got very skilled bowlers on that team and the team has been together for a long time. And my team is all brand new."

Coach Mauri also pointed out her players "are learning about sportsmanship and all that and they are doing really good. They have a great attitude. None of the players knew each other and they all got

along really well from the get-go. They are supportive of each other. It's just a good team with a good team spirit. They show up and are eager to learn. They listen really well, so it's a good team. Good kids."

Last week, Powell lost by an 18-9 score to Maryville, which is in its second season of having a team.

The highest score of the match for Powell was Brennan Glover's 226, as he won his point.

In the Baker game, Powell's Johnathan Dennis

picked up a 2-8-10 split, and followed that with a strike in the next frame.

"That's a very difficult split to pick up and to follow up with a strike really helped the team," said Coach Mauri.

"Christopher Zurick also beat his personal best and now has a new high game! Way to go CJ!"

"This team has great sportsmanship and are constantly improving. I am very proud of them!"

Powell is scheduled to bowl against William

Blount Tuesday and Bearden Thursday this week at Strike and Spare on Western Avenue.

**GROWING SPORT:** In addition to the Powell versus Maryville last Tuesday, four other matches were going on at the Western Avenue site: South-Doyle vs. Career Magnet Academy, Catholic vs. Webb, Hardin Valley Academy vs. Samuel Everett School of Innovation and Karns vs. L&N STEM Academy.

# Special teams come up big for West against Halls

Cont. from page 1

Halls answered with a 17-yard touchdown pass from Amari Lethgo to Brody Rogers. However, West blocked the extra point, one of three big special teams plays on the night. That made it 7-6 West with 2:40 left in the first quarter.

To start the second quarter, West's Patrick Schmid kicked a 38-yard field goal after the Rebels' drive stalled. West looked like it was going to further add to its lead after a good punt return by Syxx Hoard into Red Devils' territory. However, Burdine had a catch ripped out of his hands by Halls' Michael Harrop. The turnover led to a 49-yard field goal by Taylor to cut West's lead to 10-9 with 4:43 left in the second quarter. That set the stage for Burdine's scoop and score and momentum swing.

"Our defense and special teams are spectacular," West quarterback Hunter Dance said. "Whenever our offense needs a little pick me up, they're always there to do it and keeps us in a lot of games. It was really big for them to kind of get some momentum for the game, especially on that scoop and score. I



PHOTO BY JASON CANTRELL

**West junior Syxx Hoard takes off with the football and has an escort in David Drata (5) as Halls players trail the play. The Rebels won 20-9 to reach this Thursday's Region 2-5A championship game.**

was really proud of Antwain to bounce back after his fumble and take one back to the house."

In the second half, West used an effective running game to milk some clock and keep the ball away from Halls. Schmid kicked a 27-yard field goal to make it 20-9 West with 10:08 left in the fourth quarter.

Halls last chance to

threaten West ended with another special teams' blunder. As Taylor lined up for a 35-yard field goal attempt, the snap went over the head of the holder and he raced to chase down the football to recover it. The turnover on downs gave West the ball on its own 41-yard line. The Rebels ran out the clock from there.

Halls (7-2) plays at

Central Friday while the winner of West and Powell on Rivalry Thursday will be the Region 2-5A champion.

"Tonight got us at least second place and got us a home playoff game," Brown said. "It seems like anytime us and Powell get together, it means a lot. So this is going to mean a region championship."

## CC runners tune up for this week's region meets

By Steve Williams

Rylee Gifford of Karns and Nathan Taal of Sevier County should be going into this week's Region 2 Cross Country Championships at Victor Ashe Park with momentum after finishing in first place at the MKXC Ashe Park All-Comers meet recently.

Gifford, a senior, covered the 5,000-meter course in 19:21.66 Nov. 17. Rounding out the Top 5 were runner-up Megan Forstner of the Knoxville Ambassadors, followed by Savanna Amos of Stone Memorial, and the Ambassadors' Anna Roberson and Tallulah Worley.

There were 150 runners in the girls' field.

Knoxville Ambassadors took top team honors with 44 points, followed by Webb (52), Farragut (84), Hardin Valley (128)

and Karns (163).

Almost 250 runners were in the boys' race.

Taal's winning time was 16:44.43, as he finished less than a half-second ahead of Karns junior Rowen Moser-Bryan, who crossed the finish line in 16:44.84. Stone Memorial's Nathan Wagner placed third, Gibbs' Will Spierdowis fourth and Farragut sophomore Tyson Ebbert fifth. Farragut won the boys' team event with 47 points, followed by Hardin Valley (95), Karns (118), Knoxville Ambassadors (121) and West (128).

In addition to the Region 2 boys and girls AAA and A-AA championships Wednesday morning, the Division II-A east boys and girls meets also will be held Wednesday afternoon at Victor Ashe Park.

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Pictured are part of the cast and crew of the upcoming Concord Christian "Roald Dahl's Willy Wonka" production. The characters and actors are: Augustus Gloop, Jonah Dewald; Charlie Bucket, Abby Campbell; Grandma Georgina, Maddie Greene; Grandma Josephine, Hannah Miller; Grandpa George, Hunter Daws; Grandpa Joe, Austin Gomes; James, Dunn Roberts; Matilda, Hanna Onofrei; Mike Teavee, Joshua Bean; Phineous Trout, Payton Turner; Veruca Salt, Sarah Gilder; Violet Beauregarde, Maddie Moore; Willy Wonka and Candy Man, Micah Dewald; Mrs. Bucket, Evie Davis; Mr. Bucket, Bauer Mynatt; Mr. Salt, Taylor Henderson; Mrs. Beauregarde, Bailey Fortino; Mrs. Gloop, Ellie Thompson; and Ms. Teavee, Layla Townsend. Photo by Jamie Schnell.

# Concord Kids Theater Performs Willy Wonka

By Jamie Schnell  
schnellj@knoxfocus.com

Get ready to embark on a sweet and whimsical journey with the beloved characters of Roald Dahl's classic tale as Concord Christian School's students bring the magical world of Willy Wonka to life on stage.

Allison Dobias, theatre director at Concord Christian School in Knoxville, is preparing her students for an exciting production of Roald Dahl's "Willy Wonka" this fall. With a small but rapidly growing theatre program, Allison expressed her enthusiasm for the upcoming musical. "We are a small school with a fast-growing theatre

program," she shared with The Focus. This will be the first time Concord Christian School will perform a full-length musical. The cast of Willy Wonka consists of 46 talented students from both high school and middle school. Additionally, 11 students are involved in the crew, working tirelessly behind the scenes

to ensure a seamless and captivating performance. Allison, now in her second year as the theatre director at CCS, has previously directed three successful shows at the school: "A Night of the Stars," "Murder's In The Heir," and the one-act play, "The Quiz That Almost Killed Me." Her experience and dedication

have undoubtedly contributed to the growth and success of the theatre program. Allison's goal is to continue to "cultivate and develop a place where students are accepted and feel safe to develop their God-given gifts and talents in the hopes of becoming the best version of themselves that they can be."

The musical will have four performances, scheduled for November 16 and 17 at 7 p.m. and November 18 at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Visit [www.concordchristianschool.org](http://www.concordchristianschool.org) to purchase tickets. Ticket prices are \$20 each, and seating is limited. Online ticket sales will close on November 15 at midnight.

# Knox Junior Commission catches on

By Mike Steely  
Senior Writer  
steelym@knoxfocus.com

Last year At-large Commissioner Larsen Jay created the first Knox County Junior Commission where each commissioner selected one high school student from their district to serve in three months of training and participation in sessions. At the end of the prep, the junior commissioners held a mock Knox County Commission session and acted as actual commission members on various resolutions. The program was deemed a surprising success. The Knox County idea is catching on not only in Tennessee but around the nation in other

jurisdictions. Sullivan, Cumberland, Montgomery, Tipton and Obion counties in Tennessee have requested information on creating their own junior legislatures. Jay told The Focus that inquiries about the program have also come from counties in Alabama, Oregon, West Virginia, Georgia, Michigan, Kansas and Florida. "I keep adding to it," Jay said of the inquiry tally, adding, "a few more each month." "I am getting the Junior Commission program ready for our second year. We will open up applications in December and once again welcome our junior commissioners in January," Jay said.

# 18 candidates pick up Knox County election petitions on the first day

By Mike Steely  
Senior Writer  
steelym@knoxfocus.com

The first day for Knox County candidates to pick up the paperwork to run for office saw a huge number of citizens pick up petitions. Eighteen potential candidates obtained the petitions last Monday according to the election commission. Several Knox County Commissioners are term-limited and in one race the incumbent is choosing not to seek re-election. Also term-limited is the property assessor. School board races have no term limits and a member may serve as long as they are re-elected. The following petitions were picked up on Monday, October 16: Incumbent Judge Hector I. Sanchez picked up a petition for Criminal Court Judge Divisions II, District 6. Knox County Commission District 1 saw two interested in replacing current Commissioner Dr. Dasha Lundy, who has chosen not to seek re-election. Petitions were picked up by Evelyn Gill and Damon L. Rawls for the Democratic Primary. Incumbent Courtney Durrett picked

up paperwork to seek re-election as the District 2 commissioner in the Democratic Primary. Republican Brian Walker picked up a petition to replace term-limited District 5 Commissioner John Schoonmaker. Commissioner Terry Hill has a petition for re-election for District 6. Richie Beeler, commissioner for District 8, is term-limited and two candidates have petitions to replace him so far: Republican D.J. Corcoran and Democrat Charles V. Chandler. Three people have petitions to replace District 9's term-limited Commissioner Carson Dailey. Two are Republican, Andy Fox and Barry Neal. Democrat Matthew Park has a petition to run in that seat's Democrat Primary. Property Assessor John Whitehead is term-limited and two Republicans are seeking to replace him: Phil Ballard and Jackie Raley. Incumbent Knox County Law Director David Buuck has a petition for re-election and will face fellow Republican and former party chairman Daniel A. Herrera. In the school board races,

Republican Angie Goethert has a petition for District 3. Republican Lauren Morgan has a petition for District 5's school board seat and Republican Tommy Lakins has a petition for District 8. Incumbent school board members Daniel Watson of District 3, Susan Horn of District 5, and Mike McMillan of District 8 have not picked up their petitions yet. Candidates have until December 14 to pick up petitions. In addition to the Monday early birds, as of Friday morning, the following obtained the paperwork to seek Knox County offices:

- Charles Frazier, Republican, County Commission District 1
- Garrett Holt, Republican, County Commission District 4.
- Daniel Edward Greene, Democrat, County Commission District 6
- Stacey Bryan Smith, Republican and Independent, County Commission District 9
- Renee Jackson, Republican, School Board District 5

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FROM THE MOUNTAINS BY JADON GIBSON

A guilty conscience needs no accuser

By Jadon Gibson

The small Kentucky town of Campton in Wolfe County was bulging with visitors on July 25, 1885. Floyd Williams was to be hanged the following day for the murder of Pate Stricklin.

It was customary for doomed prisoners to be granted special requests within reason on the eve of their hanging. Floyd ate a large meal that he had requested and then smoked a cigar as he met with some reporters. They asked how he felt.

"I guess I feel as good as I have at any time in my life," he replied. "Now that I learned to know Jesus I feel better than I ever have. I'm sorry for what I done. Everyone has to die. Some die young like me and some are lucky and live many years. Some babies die in their cribs.

that I will die. The only difference is that I have to die dangling from a rope. Some men die in bed. Some are shot and killed. Some die of consumption."

The preceding night Floyd Williams met with Rev. J. R. Deering of Mt. Sterling. He got on his knees and accepted Jesus Christ as his savior, asking God to forgive him for his sins. A change came over Williams. The following day when Floyd awoke he had a happy countenance for the first time in months. Floyd's newfound conversion led him to make a verbal confession of his crime. He felt the need to confess his sins.

"I'm ashamed to confess to the terrible crime I committed," he began uneasily. "I know that if I don't God will hold me responsible. God will not let me get away with denying what I've

done. The shadow of death is falling over me and eternity waits. I have to come clean about what I done."

Floyd continued by saying that he was 21 years old and that his opportunities in life had been limited because of bad choices that he made. He had quit school and had been lazy for several years.

"My folks did all they could to get me to go to school and to do better," he continued. "I wouldn't listen to 'em. The sad condition I'm in is 'cause I wouldn't listen to my mama and dad. If I had listened to their advice I would be as free as the pure air in Heaven."

Floyd went on to say this brought on his troubles with his family at a young age and it caused him to go out into the world and take up with the wrong crowd.

"I can see now that it

was wrong for me to start running around with boys with bad habits. It wasn't long before I started drinking liquor. I kept insisting on going my own way but I know now it was the wrong way. It seems I ended up a bad boy who was drinking too much liquor.

"In 1882 my mother moved the whole lot of us to the Joseph Graham farm in Wolfe County. That was me and mama, two brothers and a sister moved and lived a year on the farm. The way I was drinking it made me just useless. I wouldn't mind my mama and I wouldn't do much to help with chores on the farm. My drunkenness had control over me. All I could think about was drinking, playing cards and vile women. It ended up getting me where I am today.

"The following year my mother moved to Lacey

Creek and that is where I met Mrs. Stricklin. She seemed to always have an eye on me and after awhile we became close friends. Her husband was away from home a lot. It continued on for about eight months."

Toward the end of that time, Mrs. Stricklin asked Floyd to help her "get rid" of her husband.

"At first she wanted to put rat poison in his coffee but she either used the wrong thing or she didn't use enough.

"Next she wanted to get him drunk and knock him in the head with an ax and report that I killed him in self-defense. I said I wouldn't have anything to do with her plan but then he came home unexpectedly one night and caught me in his bed.

"She jumped up and hurried me out the door saying

he would kill me if I didn't leave. When he saw me he got madder than a hornet. He rushed after me with a pistol. He said he would kill me and pulled the trigger twice but both times the hammer just clicked. It didn't fire. I felt like I was the luckiest man in the world.

"I had no way to defend myself 'cause I had left my gun at home. I high-tailed it out of there before he could reload or find out what was wrong with his gun."

Read more next week when Pate comes looking for young Floyd Williams.

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Jadon Gibson is a widely read Appalachian writer from Harrogate. Thanks to Lincoln Memorial University, Alice Lloyd College and the Museum of Appalachia for their assistance.

Young-Williams Animal Center advertisement featuring images of dogs and text describing adoption services and contact information.

Windsor Ridge advertisement for senior living community, including a photo of the building and text describing services and location.

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

COURT NOTICES NON-RESIDENT NOTICE TO: LARRY TRAVIS CHRISTIAN IN RE: THE ESTATE OF CYNTHIA GAIL BENNETT, DECEASED, ALEXISS HOLT, PETITIONER, V. LARRY TRAVIS CHRISTIAN and JOHN LESHER CHRISTIAN, RESPONDENTS, NO. 206832-2

AND ALL UNKNOWN HEIRS OF SHIRLEY LANE, AND ALL UNKNOWN HEIRS OF SHERRY MALLARD a non-resident of the State of Tennessee, or whose whereabouts cannot be ascertained upon diligent search and inquiry, so that the ordinary process of law cannot be served upon, it is ordered that said defendant ANY AND ALL UNKNOWN HEIRS OF SHIRLEY LANE, AND ALL UNKNOWN HEIRS OF SHERRY MALLARD, file an answer with the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court at Knoxville, Tennessee and with PATTY WHITEHEAD, an Attorney whose address is 3145 AVALON RIDGE PLACE, SUITE 100, PEACHTREE CORNERS, GEORGIA 30071 within thirty (30) days of the last date of publication or a judgment by default will be taken against you and the cause will be set for hearing Ex-Parte as to you before Chancellor RICHARD B. ARMSTRONG JR. at the Knox County Chancery Court, Division II, 400 Main Street, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902. This notice will be published in a The Knoxville Focus Newspaper for four (4) consecutive weeks.

NON-RESIDENT NOTICE TO: CONSUELO VANESSA CONTRERAS; IN RE: GERARDO GARCIA-LOPEZ VS. CONSUELO VANESSA CONTRERAS NO. 206623-3

J Scott Griswold Clerk and Master NON-RESIDENT NOTICE TO: DAWN FLATFORD AND LYNN FLATFORD IN RE: WILSON & ASSOCIATES, PLLC, SUCCESSOR TRUSTEE v. DAWN FLATFORD AND LYNN FLATFORD NO. 206438-1

IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE

Knoxville, Tennessee, and being Lot 85, Chesney Hills Subdivision, as shown on the map of record in Instrument 200711070037947, in the Knox County Register of Deeds Office, to which map specific reference is hereby made for a more particular description thereof.

IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE In this Cause, it appearing from the Complaint filed, which is sworn to, that the defendant LARRY TRAVIS CHRISTIAN, a non-resident of the State of Tennessee, or whose whereabouts cannot be ascertained upon diligent search and inquiry, so that the ordinary process of law cannot be served upon LARRY TRAVIS CHRISTIAN, it is ordered that said defendant, LARRY TRAVIS CHRISTIAN, file an answer with the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court at Knoxville, Tennessee and with ROBERT W. WILKINSON, an Attorney whose address is POST OFFICE BOX 4415 OAK RIDGE, TN 37831 within thirty (30) days of the last date of publication or a judgment by default will be taken against you and the cause will be set for hearing Ex-Parte as to you before Chancellor RICHARD B. ARMSTRONG JR. at the Knox County Chancery Court, Division II, 400 Main Street, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902. This notice will be published in a The Knoxville Focus Newspaper for four (4) consecutive weeks.

ORDER OF PUBLICATION TO THE HONORABLE CHANCELLORS AND CHANCERY COURT JUDGES OF SHELBY COUNTY, TENNESSEE: It appears from the Complaint for Divorce filed in this matter that the residence of the Defendant, JOSE LUIS MEZA ROSAS, is unknown and cannot be ascertained even after diligent search and inquiry. IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED, That JOSE LUIS MEZA ROSAS make an appearance herein at the Shelby County Chancery Court on Dec 17, at 9:00 a.m. and plead, answer or demur to the plaintiff's Complaint for Divorce or the same will be granted upon default and this cause will proceed ex parte, and that a copy of this Order be published for a period of four consecutive weeks, once a week, in the Knoxville Focus Newspaper.

IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE In this Cause, it appearing from the Complaint filed, which is sworn to, that the defendant CONSUELO VANESSA CONTRERAS, a non-resident of the State of Tennessee, or whose whereabouts cannot be ascertained upon diligent search and inquiry, so that the ordinary process of law cannot be served upon CONSUELO VANESSA CONTRERAS, it is ordered that said defendant, CONSUELO VANESSA CONTRERAS, file an answer with the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court at Knoxville, Tennessee and with ANDREW D. BEAMER, an Attorney whose address is 616 WEST HILL AVE, KNOXVILLE, TN 37902 within thirty (30) days of the last date of publication or a judgment by default will be taken against you and the cause will be set for hearing Ex-Parte as to you before Chancellor Christopher D. Heagerty at the Knox County Chancery Court, Division III, 400 Main Street, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902. This notice will be published in a The Knoxville Focus Newspaper for four (4) consecutive weeks.

John F. Weaver, Chancellor Approved for Entry: Felicia Coalson Administrator Owings Wilson Coleman 900 S. Gay Street, Suite 800 Knoxville, TN 37902 (865) 521-2342

IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE In this Cause, it appearing from the Complaint filed, which is sworn to, that the defendant DAWN FLATFORD AND LYNN FLATFORD, a non-resident of the State of Tennessee, or whose whereabouts cannot be ascertained upon diligent search and inquiry, so that the ordinary process of law cannot be served upon DAWN FLATFORD AND LYNN FLATFORD, it is ordered that said defendant, DAWN FLATFORD AND LYNN FLATFORD, file an answer with the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court at Knoxville, Tennessee and with H. KEITH MORRISON, an Attorney whose address is ONE EAST CENTER STREET, SUITE 310 FAYETTEVILLE, ARKANSAS 72701 within thirty (30) days of the last date of publication or a judgment by default will be taken against you and the cause will be set for hearing Ex-Parte as to you before Chancellor John F. Weaver at the Knox County Chancery Court, Division I, 400 Main Street, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902. This notice will be published in a The Knoxville Focus Newspaper for four (4) consecutive weeks.

BEING the same property conveyed to Christopher Kollmer, unmarried, and Carol Kollmer, unmarried, as tenants in common with right of survivorship, by Warranty Deed dated December 20, 2018, of record in Instrument 20181226039049 in the Knox County Register of Deeds Office.

NON-RESIDENT NOTICE TO: ANY AND ALL UNKNOWN HEIRS OF SHIRLEY LANE, AND ALL UNKNOWN HEIRS OF SHERRY MALLARD IN RE: RUBIN LUBLIN TN, PLLC, PETITIONER, V. ROBERT LANE, DAVID LANE, JAMES LANE, JESS LANIER, JASON LANIER, ANNA MERGELE, KELLY BARCLAY, ANY AND ALL UNKNOWN HEIRS OF SHIRLEY LANE, AND ALL UNKNOWN HEIRS OF SHERRY MALLARD, and CITY OF KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE RESPONDENTS. NO. 205818-2

ORDER OF PUBLICATION TO THE HONORABLE CHANCELLORS AND CHANCERY COURT JUDGES OF SHELBY COUNTY, TENNESSEE: It appears from the Complaint for Divorce filed in this matter that the residence of the Defendant, JOSE LUIS MEZA ROSAS, is unknown and cannot be ascertained even after diligent search and inquiry. IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED, That JOSE LUIS MEZA ROSAS make an appearance herein at the Shelby County Chancery Court on Dec 17, at 9:00 a.m. and plead, answer or demur to the plaintiff's Complaint for Divorce or the same will be granted upon default and this cause will proceed ex parte, and that a copy of this Order be published for a period of four consecutive weeks, once a week, in the Knoxville Focus Newspaper.

ORDER FOR SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION In the Probate Court for Knox County, Tennessee In re Estate of Anna Grace Norton, Deceased Felicia Coalson Administrator, v. Michael Norton, Steve Norton, Randy Norton, Deborah Cornelius, and Kayla Swann, Respondents. No. 87464-1

NON-RESIDENT NOTICE TO: 111 MORNINGSIDE DRIVE KNOXVILLE, TN 37915 IN RE: JUSTIN VAUGHN AND CRYSTAL VAUGHN v. 111 MORNINGSIDE DRIVE KNOXVILLE, TN 37915 NO. 207576-2

J Scott Griswold Clerk and Master PUBLIC NOTICE CHANCERY COURT SALE OF VALUABLE PROPERTY Carole K. Kollmer Plaintiff/Counter-Defendant, v. Christopher D. Kollmer, Defendant/Cross-Defendant, and ORNL Federal Credit Union Defendant/Counter-Plaintiff/Cross-Plaintiff. No. 204563-1

DATE AND TIME OF SALE: Tuesday, the 28th day of November 2023, at 11:00 a.m. PLACE OF SALE: City-County Building within the corridor of the Main Street entrance near the Large Assembly Room, North entrance, 400 Main Street, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902. TERMS: The sale will be for cash. The purchaser may either (i) pay the entire purchase price at the time of sale or (ii) pay 10% of the purchase price at the time of sale and execute a note for the balance, without interest, to be paid in full within thirty (30) days from the sale date. As security for the note, a Knox County resident must sign the note as surety and the Clerk and Master will retain a lien on the real property until the note is satisfied. All funds must be paid by check drawn from a bank where the Clerk and Master can independently verify funds are available. If the person bidding is an agent of another person or entity, the person bidding must present sufficient evidence to the Clerk and Master, at the time of the sale, to establish his or her authority to bid.

IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE In this Cause, it appearing from the Complaint filed, which is sworn to, that the defendant, ANY

This 21st day of JUNE, 2023. Chancellor Jim Kyle Wendy Villafana, Attorney 6610 Summer Avenue Ste 303 Bartlett, Tennessee 38134

Order for Service of Process by Publication From the sworn Petition for Sale of Real Property and for Order Requiring service of process by publication and the entire record, the Court finds that the whereabouts of the Respondents Steve Norton, Randy Norton, and Deborah Cornelius are unknown and the residences of the defendant(s) is/are unknown and cannot be ascertained upon diligent inquiry, or defendant(s) is/are a non-resident(s) of this state. It is therefore ORDERED that the Respondents Steve Norton, Randy Norton, and Deborah Cornelius 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: Steve Norton, Randy Norton, and Deborah Cornelius It is ordered that said Respondents, Steve Norton, Randy Norton, and Deborah Cornelius 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 Anna Grace Norton located at 8914 A Drive, Mascot, TN 37806 will be sold. This notice will be published in The Knoxville Focus for four (4) consecutive weeks. ENTERED October 11, 2023. John F. Weaver, Chancellor Approved for Entry: Felicia Coalson Administrator Owings Wilson Coleman 900 S. Gay Street, Suite 800 Knoxville, TN 37902 (865) 521-2342

IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE In this Cause, it appearing from the Complaint filed, which is sworn to, that the defendant 111 MORNINGSIDE DRIVE KNOXVILLE, TN 37915, non-resident of the State of Tennessee, or whose whereabouts cannot be ascertained upon diligent search and inquiry, so that the ordinary process of law cannot be served upon 111 MORNINGSIDE DRIVE KNOXVILLE, TN 37915, it is ordered that said defendant, 111 MORNINGSIDE DRIVE KNOXVILLE, TN 37915, file an answer with the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court at Knoxville, Tennessee and with Luke D. Durham, an Attorney whose address is 265 Brookview Centre Way, Suite 604 Knoxville, TN 37919 within thirty (30) days of the last date of publication or a judgment by default will be taken against you and the cause will be set for hearing Ex-Parte as to you before Chancellor Richard B. Armstrong, Jr. at the Knox County Chancery Court, Division II, 400 Main Street, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902. This notice will be published in a The Knoxville Focus Newspaper for four (4) consecutive weeks.

LOCATION: SITUATE in the Sixth (6th) Civil District of Knox County, Tennessee, without the City of

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



