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Owner Greg Lawson and the staff of Fountain City Auction are preparing for the upcoming 19th Anniversary Auction. Pictured are Lawson and longtime assistant Linda Salem. Not pictured: Chase Clemmer, John Scott, Glenda Smith and Michelle Robinson.

## Lawmakers announce \$371K in grants for Knox historic sites

Knox County state Reps. Dave Wright, Jason Zachary, Justin Laferty, Michele Carringer and Elaine Davis recently announced more than \$371,000 in grants to Knox County museums and historic sites.

- The Historic Ramsey House received \$84,080
- Historic Westwood received \$70,000
- Women's Basketball Hall of Fame received \$38,000
- Hazen Historical Museum Foundation received \$97,990
- East Tennessee Historical Society received \$39,640
- Blount Mansion Association received \$42,000

The funds are part of a larger \$5 million appropriation approved by members of the General Assembly for the Tennessee State Museum in the 2023-24 state budget.

"These historic sites offer great insight into Knox County's past and cultural heritage," the lawmakers said in a joint statement. "These investments will support the mission of these very worthy organizations. We thank the Tennessee State Museum for their preservation efforts and contributions to these important projects."

The funds must be used for building and land improvements, including structural changes and renovations.

## Fountain City Auction to host 19th Annual Advertisement Sale

By Ken Lay

It's a new year and Fountain City Auction will kick off 2024 with its 19th annual Advertisement Sale and Country Store Auction on Saturday, January 6, at 2 p.m.

The event is online only and the preview will be held Jan. 4-5 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

"It is online only, so people will need to go online and register," Fountain City Auction Co-Owner Greg Lawson said.

The event is held annually in January and is one of the company's biggest events of the year. It always takes place after Christmas, but it is year-round in the making.

"We have regular customers who come in and bring us stuff all the time," Lawson said. "And sometimes, we take that stuff and hold

it back for this auction. We do a lot of prep work and a lot of advertisement for this one.

"We have regular auctions every Friday night, but this is a specialty auction and we have those once a month," Lawson said. "It brings out advertising signs, vintage toys, memorabilia, cap guns, clocks, oil bottles, a pie safe and collectibles. You have toys and you also have items that you'll find in a general store."

Jewelry, gas pumps, thermometers and vintage drink glasses may also be available.

Vintage gasoline, drink and beer signs are regular items at the first auction of the year. In 2024, a Coca-Cola dinette set and baker's rack will be up for auction.

This year (2024) marks the 20th

anniversary of Fountain City Auction. The Advertisement Sale and General Store auction began as a live event and then became a live and online sale. The COVID-19 pandemic changed everything and the event is now held exclusively online.

"I miss the public aspect of it, but with COVID, we had to do it all online," Lawson said. "We used to have about 300-plus people (in attendance) and we had to find a way to get them all in here, and now, we have about 10,000 views."

Potential bidders can register and preview merchandise at fountaincityauction.com. The company's e-mail address is fountaincityauction@yahoo.com.

## The time is right to START

By Ken Leinart

It's the right time and it's right now.

Knox Mayor Glenn Jacobs, Knox County Schools Superintendent Jon Rysewyk, Associated Builders and Contractors of Greater Tennessee President and CEO Clay Crownover, and TCAT Knoxville President Kelli Chaney recently signed contracts creating a new program to help Knox County train its future.

The Skilled Trades Academy and Regional Training Center (START), a training school designed to attract, train, and retain a quality workforce in the construction industry, is now partnered with Knox County Schools and Tennessee College of Applied Technology (TCAT) of Knoxville.

"For a long time conventional wisdom dictated the only way for a young person to be successful was to go to a traditional four-year college. While that is certainly a good route for some people, in reality it's not the only way," Jacobs said in his opening remarks.

Jacobs said the START partnership is a component to help students achieve academic and technical skills to find success.

For those wanting to learn a trade skill, "Currently there is a massive opportunity (for jobs) and to help people find those skills," Jacobs said.

"For graduating high school seniors interested in obtaining trade skills: It's the right time, it's right now," he said.

For the Knox County

School System, START is another tool to help students after they leave the system.

"We want to reinvent high schools. We have to think differently about how we prepare students not just for graduation, but life beyond graduation," Rysewyk said.

"The days are gone where it was just getting kids across the stage. We want to get the kids across the stage and have a career on the other side and really want to build a future in Knox County."

He said START offers a great opportunity for apprenticeships with the TCAT partnership for dual enrollment opportunities.

"The scope of equipment available through this place

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PHOTO BY KEN LEINART

Knox County Mayor Glenn Jacobs; Clay Crownover, president and CEO of Associated Builders and Contractors of Greater Tennessee; Kelli Chaney, president of TCAT Knoxville; and KCS Superintendent Dr. Jon Rysewyk sign the START contract.

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# Thousands Of Small Children Are Being Killed In Gaza

From a distance



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

limbs are laid out in a pink box beside him."

All these horrible things that happened to children in Gaza were described in a mid-December speech to the Irish Parliament by member Holly Cavins.

The same day I saw Ms. Cavins' speech on YouTube, I read a CNN story about eight-year-old Jinan Mughari and 20-month-old Amir Taha.

Jinan was in a full-body cast because of a crushed leg and broken skull. She said, "They bombed the house in front of us and then our home."

As to the toddler, Amir, the CNN story said he "lies silently on the bed - his fluffy hair sticking up, his baby-soft skin violated by a raw, jagged wound across his forehead. Purple bruises swell around one of his big brown eyes."

He's an orphan now, his aunt says, with his parents and two of his siblings killed in an Israeli air strike. But he does not know that yet, his aunt, Nehaia Al-Qadra said. He is too young to understand.

"They found Amir in his mom's arms laying in the street," Al-Qadra said. "His sister died, his brother died, his uncle and his other sister injured in the hospital. Here we are, he doesn't have a mother or a father or an older sister or brother. Now it's just us two and God."

"Amir wants his father. Yesterday he saw a nurse that looked like his dad, and he kept screaming 'Dad! Dad! Dad!'," Al-Qadra said. When she needs to calm him down she shows the toddler a video of his father.

A Reuters News Service

story on Dec. 14 said: "Israel pounded the length of Gaza Strip on Thursday, killing families in their homes, even as Washington dispatched an envoy to encourage its ally to be more precise in its war against Hamas militants.

"Two weeks after a truce collapsed, the war is now raging across the entire Palestinian enclave and a humanitarian catastrophe is unfolding.

"In Rafah, jammed with people in makeshift tents on Gaza's southern edge, people wept at a morgue where bodies of those killed in the latest overnight air strikes were wrapped in bloodied shrouds. Some were small children."

The story told of two adjacent homes bombed where 26 people were killed. The day before I wrote this column, an emergency

room doctor in Gaza, his wife and all five of their children were killed by one of the 29,000 bombs that had been dropped at that point.

On Dec. 20, Netanyahu said, "Whoever thinks that we will stop is detached from reality." He dismissed calls for another truce and vowed to fight on until "victory." The Israeli Defense Minister said on Dec. 14 that the war will go on for several more months.

The U.N. said thousands were at risk of famine and that half of the two million displaced were going days without food.

Noelia Monge, head of emergencies for Action Against Hunger, said "Everything we are doing is insufficient to meet the needs of two million people. It is difficult to find flour and rice, and people have to wait hours to

access latrines and wash themselves. We are experiencing an emergency like I have never seen before."

The president and most members of Congress care first about their own families, but a very close second is their concern about their own re-election. They are all scared of the Israel Lobby.

But the slaughter that is going on now is obvious to all. What Israel is doing is creating even more enemies for the U.S. Any government official who does not speak out against all this bombing is at least practically responsible for the deaths and maiming of thousands of small children and really has the blood of these victims on their hands.

## Happy Anniversary, Emancipation Proclamation

January 1st is the 161st anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation. Although universally acknowledged as an important historical document, the reasons for its importance are not at all clear.



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

the slaves were freed by the 13th Amendment which was ratified after Lincoln's death. She, of course, was referring to the Emancipation Proclamation as the document which

also said that when she heard of the Emancipation the previous year, the slaves all of a sudden did not start running around shouting, "Lawdy we is free". Rather it was business - or servitude - as normal. Even after "Sherman" had left Clinton and headed to Savannah, the slaves remained in bondage. Although later I learned that it was not Sherman but rather Oliver O. Howard's (Howard University) wing that marched up Bonner's Hill, it still did not detract from Ma Mat's powerful imagery. So armed with that information from my great-grandmother I confronted my high school history teacher.

free." Since those states had declared their independence, the proclamation did not have any force of law. Indeed, so as not to offend the neutral states and territories that allowed slavery (Kentucky, Maryland, Missouri and the western counties of Virginia) Lincoln had carefully crafted his words. However, there was one very important provision of the proclamation, which was to have the Federal forces "recognize and maintain the freedom of such persons and will do no act or acts to repress such persons, or any of them, in any efforts they may make for their actual freedom." This was of extreme importance since in earlier years of the war, runaway slaves were often not aided by the federals and were sometimes returned to the confederate lines. Also after the proclamation, the federals started wholesale enlistments of black troops. Although the vast majority were freemen, many were runaways. In the end, more than 200,000 blacks wore union blue and historians find that the superiority of manpower of the federals enhanced by the blacks in blue, hastened the end of the war. Finally, did my history teacher concede? No. She simply stated that Lincoln through the

emancipation laid the foundation for freedom and had motivated the 13th Amendment which was passed in the Senate before Lincoln's assassination.

Lincoln was emboldened by the Union victory at Antietam in September 1863 which lifted northern spirits after a series of defeats by Lee's army. It prompted him to issue the Proclamation in hopes of dissuading the anti-slavery governments of Britain and France from recognizing the legitimacy of the confederate government. It also allowed him to allow the enlistment of black troops. However, the Proclamation was not met with universal favor in the north, leading to riots in some cities. So should January 1st be "Emancipation Day?" Texas, and many blacks, had long celebrated Juneteenth Day as Emancipation Day. Juneteenth (June 19, 1865) marked the end of slavery in Texas and is now a federal holiday. Fittingly, Texas first enshrined the date as a state holiday in 1980. By 2019, Juneteenth was recognized by 47 states and the District of Columbia. Thus, whether accurately or not, Juneteenth rather than January 1st is Emancipation Day.

freed the slaves. However, I remember a conversation I had with my great-grandmother (Ma Mat) who said she was picking cotton on Bonner's Hill in Clinton, Georgia, in December 1864 "when Sherman marched up the hill." She

Later at home, I went to the Encyclopedia Britannica to actually read the Emancipation Proclamation and sure enough it stated that "all persons held as slaves" within the rebellious states "are, and henceforward shall be

### SOUTH-DOYLE CHORAL PROGRAMS

The South Doyle High School Singers is an audition choir at South-Doyle High School. They are a group of seventeen 10th-12th graders who participate in this ensemble year-round. This past spring, Singers traveled to New York City to perform at Carnegie Hall with over 250 students from around the country. This choir enjoys caroling to all seven elementary feeder schools and the middle school each year around the holidays.

This past November the SDHS Singers sent ten students in 9-12th grade to the Tennessee All East Honor Choir at Lee University: Liam Milbourn, Alex Young, Paige Loy, Charity Davis, Lexy Garren, Annika Kallstrom, Zane Kragebrink, Titus Hunter, Claire Overdorf, and Chloe Wise.

Every year the South Doyle Choirs put together a Madrigal Dinner for the community. The SDHS Madrigal Dinner brings in over 225 people for dinner and a show set in the 1600s. It is a time-honored tradition of the South Doyle Choral Department.

This year's spring musical is "Mamma Mia" with music from the famous pop group ABBA. The show runs April 18-20 at 7 p.m. and a 2 p.m. matinee show on April 20 in the SDHS Auditorium. The choir department will also participate in the JB Lyle Choral Festival and the Dollywood Choral Festival this coming spring. The final choral concert of the year is Monday, May 13 at 7 p.m.

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Published by Fountain Printing and Publishing, Inc.  
 Deadline for ad design is Monday at 5 p.m.  
 Deadline for Classified ads is Thursday at noon.  
 Deadline for submissions is Thursday at noon.  
 Articles, announcements, photo attachments and outlines may be submitted by e-mail to [staff@knoxfocus.com](mailto:staff@knoxfocus.com).

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# Publisher's Position America's new fascists, the radical Left



**By Steve Hunley,**  
**Publisher**  
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are talking about as their connection to reality was broken some time ago. They have changed the meaning of more words than I can count, and their hypocrisy knows no bounds and they are either too stupid or too evil to realize it. Fascism is national socialism, which isn't something conservatives in America pine away for, but it certainly is the stuff dreams are made of for the progressive Leftists.

The very same people who prattle endlessly about diversity, equity, and inclusion are ready to march against Jews, always ever ready to cancel and/or destroy the lives of any person who disagrees with them. Silencing the opposition is at the root of any authoritarian movement.

The honest folks on the Left recognize the problem and are calling it out, loudly and much to the surprise and dislike of the clueless progressive Leftists.

The fact is, the progressive Left in this country are the fascists who want to stamp out the right to free speech, extinguish civil liberties, the rights of individuals and impose their own beliefs on everyone else.

The progressive Leftist fascists believe one size fits all. We've seen that in two entities which play an outsized role in attempting to shut down any opinion but their own: Big Tech and the great majority of the national news media. The nationally run media of the Nazis and the Soviet Communists routinely lied to their own people. The Nazi Minister of Propaganda boasted, "Tell a lie often enough, it becomes the truth," which the news media here practices daily.

The same progressive Leftist fascists who cried that words can be violent, ignored or refused to believe the actual slaughter of innocent civilians in Israel. Those same fascists of the progressive Left, have tried to make excuses for the brutal rape and murders of Israeli women and girls. The very same people who cry crocodile tears for the civilians of Gaza being killed in a war started by the government they elected, barely blink, much less shed a tear for the slaughter of Israeli citizens. The truth about these progressive Leftist fascists is as ugly as the reality of their beliefs. The ends justify

the means and any means is reasonable to exterminate any group or person they deem as an oppressor.

These are the same people who deride Christianity and Christians, but never open their mouths about a religion that sanctions the ill-treatment of women and the murder of gay people. Oh, no, these are the same people who try and obscure their anti-semitism by crying "Islamophobia."

Those progressive beacons of diversity, equity and inclusion are in truth fascists who hold a rigid ideology and have a brutal intolerance for any belief but their own. The fact is Congresswoman Rashida Tlaib is as antisemitic as any real Nazi. Why do you suppose so few fellow Democrats are afraid to call Tlaib out for what she is? They don't want to be canceled.

During the Covid crisis, the authoritarian progressive Left demanded absolute obedience and commanded everyone to take an injection and everyone to wear a mask. Many of them believed what the elitists were saying; take the vaccination and you couldn't get Covid. That,

too, was a lie. Pointing out anyone who died of Covid and had been inoculated was to cause a fury of frustration because it violated their accepted political dogma. The notion Covid came from a Chinese lab was instantly labeled a "conspiracy theory" and "disinformation" by Big Tech and the authoritarian left in Big Media. Yet the Director of the FBI has since stated that is likely the case. And just like every authoritarian government, just like Hitler's Nazis and Stalin's Soviet Communists, only they can discern and decide what is true and what is "disinformation". The evidence is already piling up that they have been wrong far more often than they have been right.

What civilized society can and would sanction any kind of pornography inside of schools? We have a ratings system for movies, but subject matter, gay or straight, that reeks of pornography is obscene, period. But these fascists believe parents should have fewer rights than the state over their own children. Who ever thought we would live to see our

own government label parents as domestic terrorists for protesting things they believe are inappropriate in the schools of their children?

These modern-day progressive Leftist fascists have a never-ending desire for the control of the government and the lives of our citizens; their loathing of free speech, and open antisemitism is becoming so readily apparent their allies in the national news media can't hide or disguise it any longer.

Who is the threat to our democracy? They are. Who are the real fascists in this country? Not conservatives, but the progressive Leftists who demand unquestioned obedience and one world view. They want no diversity of thought. They want no inclusion of those who do not believe as they believe. Their notion of equity is resegregating our society according to their own vision. Who is it that demands that every person worship at the foot of their fanaticism? America's new fascists, the progressive Left.

# The time is right to START

**Cont. from page 1**  
offers a lot of opportunity," he said.

Chaney said one of the great things about the new partnership is that it helps build a stronger trades program throughout Knox County.

"This can elevate our citizens because trades skills are in such demand," she said "The jobs are here and the training is here. And it helps people stay at home, stay close to their families, and go to school and potentially work at the same time.

"Work is a big draw for this program – not only learning a skill, but potentially earning money while doing so.

"And when they finish school they are ready to transition into a full-time job," Chaney said.

Crownover said students, "Apply, have help finding a job in a trade, work during the day, and go to class two nights a week."

The new partnership allows for dual enrollment

and allows students to enter into their program after graduation.

ABC currently offers electrical, carpentry, HVAC and welding.

The training is just like going to college: Four years from September through March – except for carpentry which is only three years.

The difference is the cost. ABC costs \$2,000 a year and Crownover said that after four years you have received your certificate (three if it's carpentry) and it has cost \$8,000 with no college debt.

And not only that, he said. "We are training the next generation of skilled construction workers."

Mayor Jacobs noted that COVID had a major role in delaying the beginning of the partnership. "Supply issues, because of COVID, are real," he said.

There was also a matter of finding the right building in what the mayor said was a tight commercial real estate market. "There were

just a lot of little pieces. My hats off to a lot of determined people, to ABC, the contractor, people in the mayor's office.

"I'm really excited about this. It's going to give people the opportunity to change their lives, to advance up the economic ladder. That's what all these organizations are trying to achieve," Jacobs said.

Crownover said ABC had a lot of success in Nashville and wanted to expand to Knoxville because the region is booming and there is a need for a skilled workforce. He said ABC started the process of opening a Knoxville campus about four years ago and as Jacobs pointed out, COVID delayed the process but didn't bring it to a halt.

"We built the facility. We sublease the building from the county. We provide the curriculum and the instructors," he said.

Crownover also said TCAT will use the facility during school hours for current

high school students in the mornings.

ABC will be taking

applications this spring for next fall's class. To apply, those interested may go to

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# A look back at 2023, part 2

By Mike Steely  
Senior Writer  
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The second half of 2023 saw a small turnout for the Knoxville City Elections with one new councilmember elected as well as a new city judge. Mayor Indya Kincannon was re-elected with an overwhelming vote during the city primary.

Councilwoman Janet Testerman chose not to seek re-election and went on to see the city and county grant approval for Young-Williams Animal Center to take over all animal control duties. Testerman is CEO of YWAC.

The local 2024 races for offices in Knox County kicked off with campaigns for commission, school board, property assessor, law director and criminal court judge. Both the city and county governments focused on housing issues and ground was broken for the mixed-use stadium downtown. The Focus featured various neighborhoods in an ongoing series.

## July

The Knoxville-Knox County Emergency Communications District Board heard a report from Finance Director John Fugate, who reported a \$4 million boost to take the agency to a \$13 million budget, which would allow an increase in employees and finance a back-up center in the new Safety Center.

The Knox County Commission honored the East Tennessee Veterans Honor Guard and chose attorney Spencer Reed over Troy Jones to replace Magistrate Ray Jenkins. The new Knox County Mental Health Board Committee met for the first time.

The commission looked at parks, a property swap with Axel Logistics, and voted on the meaning of "swimming pool." The Board of Education heard of needs for Special Need Kids and the Merit Board dismissed a grievance by Charles Faircloth.

An Alternative Response Team was created by the Knoxville City Council, which would also discuss affordable housing, zonings, city buses and the departure of Deputy Chief Brooklyn Sawyers Belk from the police department during July meetings.

The Knoxville Fire Department hosted an open house at Station 11 and Sutherland Avenue saw an active shooter drill.

Candidates for city mayor were asked about a possible future merger between city and county departments and their thoughts on the Alternative Response Team.

Farragut High coach Eddie Courtney was the Grand Marshal of the town's July 4th parade and Fred Moffatt was honored in a History Project luncheon.

As Knox County Schools began to gear up for the new school year, the Fifth Annual School Mania, a drive-through event, was hosted by Mayor Glenn Jacobs at the Jacobs Building in Chilhowee Park. Two Men and a Truck began an effort to collect school supplies for disadvantaged students.

A Medal of Honor plaque was dedicated at Pond Gap's National Guard headquarters.

The Focus selected the 2023 All-County Boys and Girls Tennis Teams and Grant Williams spoke at the 42nd Greater Knoxville Sports Hall of Fame meeting at the Convention Center.

The Focus featured "TSSAA Dead Period Doings" to see what coaches were doing on summer break and Halls wrestling coach Shannon Sayne reported he caught a Spinner shark in South Carolina. After the summer break, high school football practice began and The Focus started previewing each team for the upcoming season.

High School referee Andronicus "Bam" Thomas, the first Black president of the Knoxville Football Officials Association, was featured in The Focus. The West Knoxville Champion Force cheer team placed in the national championships.

## August

City and county officials met together to discuss the mental health needs of the community. Knox County Commissioner Kyle Ward wrote a letter to Governor Bill Lee asking for state support to build a mental health facility in the county. The Knox County Sheriff's Office Employees' Merit System Board met to talk about updating the regulations of their group.

The special education efforts of the school system saw an improvement plan and the Knox County Ethics Committee met briefly with no complaints filed.



The Knoxville Focus front page for July 31, 2023

Commissioner Carson Daily and the commission discussed establishing short-term home rental fees and regulations.

The city council continued to look for solutions to the housing shortage and candidates for Knoxville City Council began answering Knoxville Focus questions. Early voting began in Knoxville and was described as "lackluster" although it picked up in the final days. The funding by the city of a program to reduce gun violence was questioned.

The Conner family celebrated 77 years of Corryton Elementary involvement and Lonsdale celebrated its 38th annual homecoming. TVA employees collected 350 bicycles to donate to children. Office of Neighborhood's Neighborhood Fair draws lots of attendance and 80 different community organizations. Zoo Knoxville began planning its 75th Anniversary. Knox County school football teams kicked off the season with the annual jamboree and the longevity of several coaches was featured.

South-Doyle High School graduate David Witenbarger was saluted by the school and Gibbs High School played its first game on the new football field. The Knoxville Sports Hall of Fame held its annual induction ceremony.

## September

The race for Knoxville city council would see only three contested seats following the August 29 primary. Primary candidate and beloved community leader Cameron Brooks died unexpectedly on September 1 and The Focus featured his life and legacy.

The city council voted to accept \$20 million from the state to help finance the proposed pedestrian bridge linking South Knoxville to the UT campus. The council would also look at protecting renters in September.

The Police Advisory and Review Committee heard a request for training and charges of racism in its quarterly meeting.

Commissioner Terry Hill was selected as the new Knox County Commission Chair with Commissioner Gina Oster chosen as vice chair. The commission voted to change the meaning of "swimming pools" in the county charter.

The commission was updated on the bids for county-wide ambulance service. The commission took up proposals to alter merit board regulations. The health department sought \$1.2 million from the state for recruitment, retention and training.

The Tennessee Valley Fair kicked off its 103 year and Angelic Ministries cut the ribbon for Zion's Ranch for Men. Governor Bill Lee visited the annual Conference on Tourism and state Senate Speaker Cameron Sexton addressed the Halls Republican Club.

Caroline Archdale of Hardin Valley Academy was featured after winning the two-mile race at Victor Ashe Park. Central High School's Lady Bobcats started their soccer season with seven straight victories. Halls High School honored outstanding 2023 student-athletes in its fifth Road to Fame.

## October

Sheriff Tom Spangler and Sessions Judge Chuck Cerny discussed the new

mental health court and the school board voted to buy property in Farragut for a new school.

The Knox County Commission ruled that KCSO employees may run for political office and a motion by Commissioner Rhonda Lee about protecting innocent children failed in commission because the language was too broad. Krystal Gibson and Marcus A. Hilliard were chosen by the county commission as new members of the Ethics Committee.

Knox County farmers voiced their concerns on the county's new Growth Policy and Commissioner Carson Dailey was honored as East Tennessee's Commissioner of the Year.

The Police Advisory and Review Committee looked at their duties after a new state law removed its investigative powers. Knoxville looked at opening commercial corridors up for housing and the council voted to buy property on West Blount Avenue for the proposed pedestrian bridge linking South Knoxville with the University of Tennessee.

Councilwoman Amelia Parker received an award at 2023 Local Legislator of the Year from the National Homeless Law Center.

With State Representative Gloria Johnson announcing a run for U. S. Senate, Knoxville Councilmember Seema Singh announced she would seek Johnson's Tennessee House seat in the 2024 primary.

The 9/11 attack on the World Trade Center was remembered in the city and county with local firemen climbing up the stairs several times at the SunSphere. Harold Maples, a Powell native, talked about his book on service and life after the Korean War.

Talks began of naming a proposed park for the late Norwood leader, Lynn Redmon. The late Larry Cox was featured in a Focus story and later honored by both the Knox County Commission and Knoxville City Council. General Sessions Judge Chuck Cerny was honored with an award of excellence. Marshal Andy Smalls was honored on his retirement from PBS's "Riders of the Silver Screen."

Rev. Dana Fachman, pastor of the Meridian Baptist Church, retired after 35 years of service. Knoxville's Wreaths Across America sought donations and volunteers for its upcoming Christmas decoration of more than 18,000 veteran graves in the Knoxville area.

Lonsdale became the first of five schools to receive bicycles from All Kids Bikes. The Concord Christian School performed a Willy Wonka musical.

UT Basketball Coach Rick Barnes hosted the annual Emerald Youth Foundation Golf Tournament. West High, CAK and Knoxville Catholic girls and Bearden High, FBA and CAK boys golf teams qualified for the state tournaments.

Girls soccer teams at Central, Seymour and Bearden won their district titles with Bearden advancing to win its regional.

Central, Austin-East, Fulton, Gibbs, Carter, Powell, Halls, West, Bearden, CAK, Webb and Catholic football teams claimed playoff games.

## November

The Knox County Commission quizzed and then re-hired American Medical Response (AMR) as the county's official ambulance service. The Merit Board, in a split vote, asked the commission to free its volunteer members from prohibiting support for political candidates. The commission voted "No" but Approval of a charter school agreement with Knoxville Preparatory School failed a Board of Education vote but passed in a later vote. loosened up some restraints placed on the board and employees of the Sheriff's Department. The Knox County Fire and Technical Rescue Committee heard from Dwight van de Vate, the county's chief operating officer, concerning the ambulance service. The commission voted to pass along the Sheriff's Department Animal Control Division to Yong-Williams Animal Center

Voting picked up in the closing days of the city primary but still was less than desired. Municipal Judge John Rosson was defeated by attorney Tyler Cavinness. Three incumbent council members, Charles Thomas, Lynne Fugate and Amelia Parker, were re-elected. New to the board is Debbie Helsley, who replaces Councilwoman At-Large Janet Testerman.

The city council continued to wrestle with the housing shortage, considering changes that would permit more "Missing Middle Housing." Knoxville sought input from the public on the future use of the McClung Warehouse site.



The Knoxville Focus front page for November 6, 2023

Construction on the new downtown mixed-use stadium continued with an opening projected for 2025. Ground was broken for a new park in the Hardin Valley community on Hickory Creek Road.

The 98th Veterans Day Parade downtown drew a large and cheering crowd. Sgt. Sammy Davis was announced as the special guest of a Pearl Harbor Day event at the Expo Center and the Retired Teachers Association announced nine scholarships in its annual awards luncheon. Darryl Strawberry, the former baseball star, shared his story with inner-city kids at Emerald Youth Foundation.

The Bearden Lady Bulldogs captured the state soccer title and Thomas (TJ) Polen, a South-Doyle cross country standout who committed suicide, was remembered and honored by his father.

High school football playoffs continued with Bearden, West and Powell advancing. Outstanding high school players were chosen by the coaches and The Focus for the All-Knox County Football Team.

Colin Eckerman of Webb School set a cross country record at the state championships where Farragut boys and Webb girls took team championships.

## December

Mike McMillan announced he would not seek re-election to the board of education after serving for 13 years. Ten new school security officers graduated and the city council postponed and then approved Young-Williams Animal Center taking over city animal control. The council was interrupted by protesters demanding the city sponsor a call for a ceasefire in the Israel-Palestine conflict.

The newly elected and re-elected Knoxville council, mayor and municipal judge were sworn into office in an elaborate ceremony. The city council met for its final 2023 session, the last meeting for outgoing council member Janet Testerman who also served as beer board chair. She was honored by the Knoxville City Council. The council met briefly following the oaths and chose Tommy Smith as vice mayor, Lauren Rider as beer board chair, and Helsley as representative to the Knoxville Transportation Authority.

The Knox County Commission gave its approval of a tax break for "Prosperity Crossing" a mixed-use development off El Camino Lane and voted, on first reading, to restrict merit board members from all political activity including the sheriff's race. Commission agreed to allow KCSO employees the option to file a grievance regarding any suspension that resulted in a loss of pay.

Knox County Commission called for high school applicants for its second year of "Junior Commission." The commission continued to look at urban renewal tax breaks and opening up agricultural land for housing.

The Three River Republicans celebrated Christmas and held a cake auction with the proceeds going to Mission of Hope and Isaiah 1:17 House.

West High School won the Class 5A State Championship in Chattanooga with a win over Page High School in a 42-19 victory. Student-athletes at Powell, Central, HVA and Bearden became "Holiday Helpers" during the Christmas season. Local high school basketball got well underway.



**The Doctor is in**  
a weekly column by  
**Dr. Jim Ferguson**

## The Thirty-Three Percent

“Without God, there could be no American form of government, nor American way of life. Recognition of the supreme being is the first, the most basic, expression of Americanism.”

President Dwight Eisenhower  
If you're reading this essay, it's 2024. And hopefully the year-in-reviews are done. Frankly, I don't want to go back and review the disasters of last year. I'm done with 2023.

Unfortunately, we are “not done” with the 33% who purportedly approve of Joe Biden's presidency. Who are these people? We read about them in polls and then wonder if the posters' questions were just misleading. But if there's any semblance of truth in the surveys, it's shocking. I have a hard time conceiving of someone so disconnected, ideologically motivated or driven by such hatred of President Trump that

causes them to deny reality and support Biden and the Democrats. But then we are told we must accept the twisted reality that a man can get pregnant, or children with gender dysphoria should be treated with castration. Liberals, aka progressive Democrats, and leftists have lost their minds. The guardrails of rational thought, behavior and morality have been removed by their brand of humanism.

We are in dangerous times, folks. And my predictions for 2024? You can expect even worse until Democrats, or whatever they call themselves these days, are removed from power and are no longer able to hurt others.

I do not believe man is perfectible, so I understand bad behavior. The Founders of our country understood the lessons of history and studied the mistakes of the past, so

as not to repeat the errors. Our modern-day geniuses revel in repeating the mistakes of the past. Socialism has never worked, but progressive Democrats say it will when “the adults are in control.” That's what Biden said in 2020. How's that working?

I read that during the American Revolution only a third of colonials fought the British tyrants, a third stayed out of the war and the last third sided with the British. Apparently, we haven't changed. One-third still side with tyrants who accuse President Trump of the things they are doing. An obvious example is election interference using the injustice system, aka law-fare. Accusing others of what you are already doing seems to be a recurring theme of so-called Democrats like Hillary Clinton, Biden and others. This has become the modus operandi of Democrats who are anything but democratic. In fact, Democrat politicians now preach, “Our democracy.” But that's the problem. Their definition is not Mr. Webster's, nor American.

GK Chesterton was a polymath, which is a modern-day word to describe someone like Leonardo da Vinci, a multi-talented man of the Renaissance era. Since learning should never cease — and at least

33% need reeducation — I'll share the concept of the Chesterton Fence. Simply stated, you should not tear down a fence before you've considered why the fence is already in place. The progressive geniuses who control Biden and the White House should have considered why President Trump was constructing a fence along the southern border and why the “remain in Mexico policy” was in the best interests of America, if not migrants. I feel so sorry for the illegals who are freezing in sanctuary cities this winter, being used as Democrat pawns or being trafficked. But perhaps this disaster is what the Democrats intended.

Apparently 33% believe Biden and the government will be able to fix the messes they've created. There are good people in government, but collectively our government is a disaster and our “best and brightest” are anything but. They've even managed to destroy Americans' faith in institutions like the Justice Department and the FBI. And anyone who has been to the grocery or bought Christmas presents lately knows Bidenomics is as big a failure as our demented leader. Now, we have cocaine in the White House, sexcapades in Congress, bribes paid in gold bars or wired from

America's enemies to sham LLCs. Crime is rampant and our cities are now dangerous to citizens. Drugged zombies poop on the streets and chaos rages in Ukraine, Palestine and the Horn of Africa, while our soldiers are attacked across the Middle East. All the while, China threatens Taiwan and Southeast Asia.

So, as 2024 dawns, “How Should We Then Live?” This was the title of Francis Schaeffer's book derived from a passage in Ezekiel 33. God appointed the prophet Ezekiel as a Watchman to the ancient Hebrews. He was sent to warn them of their wicked ways and the need to repent or die. Schaeffer concluded that we should have compassion for the confused (33%). Nonetheless, we must speak the truth (rather than what is politically correct or safe). The Bible is a great compendium of wisdom, history and truth. Finally, Schaeffer proclaims that God is with us.

I find these perspectives reassuring and claim them as marching orders for 2024. Despite our difficulties we are blessed, but it's time to step up and be counted. We must defeat the progressives who have become regressive. We must become informed and vote. I am boycotting woke companies and will not be “gaslighted” (shamed)

into accepting non-reality. Therefore, I will continue to speak the truth in this opinion column, and if it goes silent, you will know they have come for me and you will be next. Lastly, I will continue to study God's word and pray for the 33%.

My minister recently said, “You may have forgotten about God, but he has not forgotten about you.” And I pray that he will remember America.

My science background demands objectivity or observable data. However, we cannot know everything nor will we ever. This was true 3000 years ago (Proverbs 3:5) and remains true today.

I find it amazing that people embrace the notion that the Universe just happened because of some quantum flux, like a soap bubble arising in the bathtub. Since there is a Creator, I find a Creator a far more compelling argument — even if I can't write a mathematical equation to explain it.

And I also embrace the unique Christian notion that each of us is loved by the Creator. I find this more compelling and life affirming than any notion of humanism. This, I pray, will sustain me in 2024 and beyond.

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



Stevie Hawkins

## Stevie Hawkins, a bluesman from Knoxville

By Joe Rector

Blues singer and drummer Stevie Hawkins recently attended the Indie Channel Awards and was named the Best Blues Artist for 2023. In 2022, he won the same award, along with those as the best blues performer, best blues producer, songwriter, and producer of the year 2022. From humble beginnings in Knoxville, the man has become a highly successful entertainer across the U.S.A. and other countries.

Steve grew up in Knoxville and spent his younger years living with his grandmother and aunt in the Lonsdale area. It was in that house on Minnesota Avenue that the music bug bit Steve. He watched the

Beatles perform on the “Ed Sullivan Show” and decided performing was what he wanted to do with his life.

At the age of 8, he built his first drum set. He used an empty gallon can as his snare and the top of the can as his cymbal. An empty oatmeal container served as a tom-tom, and an upside-down plastic trashcan fit his needs for a bass drum. He straightened a wire coat hanger, suspended it from the ceiling, and placed a microphone made from aluminum foil in the other end. Then he played his trap set and sang along with songs on the radio or record player.

Steve began his professional music career at the age of 16. He played drums with Bill Crawford. From the

years 1979-1982, Steve teamed up with his mother, the late Peggy Hawkins, and they played in clubs in Knoxville and surrounding areas.

This young drummer wasn't satisfied with only playing drums. His ambitious nature led him to produce music. Once again, his imagination helped him to set up a studio in his apartment. In no time, he was recording songs and commercials. Many long-time Knoxville residents remember Steve's commercial for Smoky Mountain Market. He also helped to produce jingles for local companies such as Clayton Motors, Harb's Carpets, and Delmar Haynes Pontiac. Steve recorded and produced a commercial that

Con Hunley performed for Dean Stallings.

In 1983 Hawkins moved to Atlanta, and it was there that his career began to grow. He still recorded and produced music in his apartment. At the same time, he was always on the go as the drummer for such well-known individuals as Percy Sledge, Leon Russell and Chuck Berry. Until 1996, Stevie had performed covers of other people's songs, but he decided to drop that and sing his own music with his own voice. He came to realize that that voice inside him was made for a different kind of music.

“My style is southern soul blues with rock overtones.”

Steve's love and passion

**Continue on page 2**



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Picture of a rural white Christmas scene in 2020, a gift during the lockdown pandemic year, by Ralphine Major.

## The Promise of Christmas

By Ralphine Major  
ralphine3@yahoo.com

A brief look back at this year is a reminder that 2023 brought its share of change and news. A brilliant red sky ushered in the winter, Gibbs Community lost one of its oldest members in Clayton Sharp, and the Midway IGA changed ownership as the Longmire

brothers retired. Asbury University in Kentucky was in the national news for weeks as a great revival took place on the campus.

Spring saw a magnificent carving of "The Last Supper" installed as an altarpiece at Clapp's Chapel in Corryton in time for the Easter season, and

Knox County Schools honored the McGinnis family for their "century" of school bus service. Summer celebrations included Fourth of July and Wallace Memorial Baptist Church's 70th Anniversary. More losses in the Knoxville Community included former Knox County Executive Dwight Kessel, TV personality and chef Walter Lambert, and two heroes: Knox County Sheriff's Office Deputy Tucker Blakely and United States Army Specialist Jeremy Daniel Evans. Who among us could have imagined the horrific attack on Israel in beautiful autumn?

Time continued to tick by bringing families together for Thanksgiving. Advent led into Christmas, but we

had no "White Christmas" this year. Yet, the spirit of Christmas can live in our hearts all year long for it is not a one-day-a-year celebration. Rather, Christmas is the glorious gift of God's Son, Jesus, who came to save the world from their sin. It is the message of Christmas that gives sinners eternal life if they only believe that the baby born on Christmas is the Savior. The message of Christmas makes any Christmas beautiful.

*Words of Faith: "Then the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told them." Luke 2:20 (NKJV).*

## 'Our Wintertime Songbirds' virtual program this week

Winter brings more birds to our backyards. Most of us have House Finches at our feeders year-round. In the winter, the House Finch is joined by a second "reddish finch," the northern Purple Finch who spends the cold weather months in East Tennessee. How do you tell the two apart? Join UT Arboretum Education Coordinator, Michelle Campanis, and naturalist, author, and artist Stephen Lyn Bales via Zoom for "Our Wintertime Songbirds," a virtual presentation on Thursday, January 4 at 7 p.m.

Stephen Lyn will be talking about the two red finch species and their field markings. He will also discuss creepers, sapsuckers, kinglets, Hermit Thrushes, winter wrens and many more.

The January First Thursday Nature Supper Club presentation is hosted by the UT Arboretum Society. The program is free, but registration is required to receive your Zoom link and

the recording. 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 Forest Resources AgResearch and Education Center will celebrate its 60th anniversary in 2024. It is one of the ten University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture AgResearch and Education Centers located throughout Tennessee. The Institute of Agriculture also provides instruction, research and public service through the UT Herbert College of Agriculture, the UT College of Veterinary Medicine, UT AgResearch and UT Extension offices, with locations in every county in the state.

To learn more about the Arboretum Society, go to [www.utarboretumsociety.org](http://www.utarboretumsociety.org)

## Stevie Hawkins

*Cont. from page 1*

for music come from his desire to be creative and give life to notes and words. His partner, Charlotte Hammon, has written lyrics with him for nearly 20 years. During his career, Hawkins has put out three albums and well over 100 songs. He's putting together the technical ends of a planned tour that will begin in

Europe in 2024.

Steve plans to continue writing, producing and performing music for as long as he's able. His contributions have already had major impacts on blues. His work has been so significant that in April he will be inducted into the Blues Hall of Fame.

That's not too shabby for a boy from Knoxville.

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# Behind the Curtain

## Women Come Into Their Own

Pages from the Past



By Ray Hill  
rayhill865@gmail.com

With women occupying a majority of the seats on the Knox County Commission and the recent centennial of Tennessee being the state to give women the right to vote, it occurred to me to write a column about some women who were prominent, yet largely unknown. There was a time when congressmen and senators only employed women in a secretarial capacity; at that time, those were usually known as "stenographers" but there were several men who had mastered the relatively new art of the typewriter. Before women got the right to vote, it was almost unheard of for women to occupy the highest staff position in a congressman or U.S. senator's office.

Tennessee's first popularly elected United States senator was Kenneth D. McKellar. McKellar, while a life-long bachelor, was highly supportive of women and was a strong advocate of ratification of the Nineteenth Amendment to the Constitution, giving women the right to vote. One of the most notable of Tennessee's suffragists was Sue Shelton White, who worked on McKellar's Senate staff. At the time, the top staffer in a congressman or senator's office had the title of "secretary," which was the equivalent of today's chief of staff. Even the top staff member to the president of the United States was referred to as the secretary. McKellar named Miss Shelton as his top staffer. Eventually, Miss Shelton left McKellar's staff and became a practicing attorney, although she returned to federal service under Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal.

Some of the women who rose to the top staff positions on Capitol Hill became powerful in their own right. Catherine Blanton was a girl from Sikeston, Missouri, who learned to type and that skill, as well as a determined work ethic and a native shrewdness took her all the way to Washington, D.C. Miss Blanton's first secretarial job was part-time while she was in high school. In 1925, Miss Blanton left Christian College, where she was the secretary to the president of the institution, to go Capitol Hill with Congressman William L. Nelson. She became the top assistant to Congressman Nelson. Catherine Blanton remained in Washington and the center of events through the administrations of Presidents Calvin Coolidge, Herbert Hoover, Franklin Roosevelt, Harry Truman, Dwight Eisenhower, John F.

Kennedy and Lyndon Johnson. While working for Congressman Nelson, Miss Blanton later recalled, "Since I was permitted to close up the office any time a senator of note was scheduled to make a speech, I heard many orations made by Sen. James A. Reed of Missouri, Sen. Pat Harrison of Mississippi and Sen. William E. Borah of Idaho." In 1929, Miss Blanton became the chief of staff for Senator Pat Harrison, a gregarious and influential senator who became even more so during the New Deal when he chaired the Senate Finance Committee. Harrison failed to become Senate Majority leader by a single vote, losing to Alben Barkley of Kentucky in 1937.

"Particularly do I recall the time I escorted two dear Mississippi friends of Senator Harrison's down to greet President Franklin D. Roosevelt," Miss Blanton remembered after celebrating at her retirement party. "We had been allotted five minutes. And - - - while I thought I was sophisticated - - - when we were about to leave, he asked me to come over to his desk, put out both his hands, and I placed mine in them. He looked up at me, giving me his famous smile, with, 'Well, this is the little girl I have heard Pat say so much about!' I wilted under his charm as did everyone else."

Senator Harrison, after having been either in the House of Representatives or the United States Senate for thirty years, died of stomach cancer in 1941 at age fifty-nine. Miss Blanton left Capitol Hill and became the manager in Washington, D.C., for General Motors. Catherine Blanton married James O'Connor Roberts in 1946, who was a very prominent attorney. Roberts died in 1952 and his widow decided to go back to what she loved best: politics and Capitol Hill. Stuart Symington was a freshman U.S. senator from Catherine Blanton Roberts' home state of Missouri, having beaten Republican incumbent James P. Kem. When Symington took office in January of 1953, Catherine Blanton Roberts joined the new senator's staff as the senator's executive assistant. "Working for Senator Symington was not like being with a 'first term' senator, since he had served in so many official positions under President Truman," Mrs. Roberts explained to a reporter.

An old pro, Mrs. Roberts attended the 1956 Democratic National Convention with Senator and Mrs. Symington. Catherine Blanton Roberts began experiencing



FROM THE AUTHOR'S PERSONAL COLLECTION.

Miss Will Harris, Cordell Hull's right hand, is greeted by under Secretary of State Dean Acheson. The sculpted bust in between them is, of course, Cordell Hull.

problems with her health. "Not being able to spend a full day at the office was most frustrating, and for that reason, I finally persuaded the senator to permit me to retire," Mrs. Roberts explained. When she retired, Senator Symington paid tribute to her long years of service.

"The days of the New Deal were my most thrilling," Catherine Blanton Roberts confessed, "but I've actually loved every minute of it."

"No one in this government is more highly respected or has more friends than Catherine Roberts. Her leaving government will be a deep loss, not only to me and her host of friends on the Hill, but also to thousands of Missourians for whom she has worked ably and well over the years," Symington said.

Catherine Blanton Roberts suffered from osteoporosis of the spine severely enough that she had to wear a body cast. Retiring in 1965, she died suddenly in 1968. Mrs. Roberts was the youngest sister of many siblings and one brother, who published the Daily Sikeston Standard newspaper in their native Sikeston, lamented the loss of the sister of whom they had been so proud.

Marshall Adams once wrote in the Philadelphia Inquirer, "Capitol Hill in Washington never has been likened to a stage set; actually, it is the biggest performance, with the most exciting cast of characters and the most interested audience, of all time." Certainly, Ruth Overton looked very much like one of the glamorous movie stars of the 1940s. Yet Miss Overton was one of the players in Washington, D.C., where she served as the chief of staff to her father, United States Senator John Overton of Louisiana. Beautiful and blonde with a low-pitched voice, Miss Overton was charming enough to calm those constituents with

a bone to pick. Privately, Ruth Overton was involved in a relationship with Warren Magnuson, a congressman and senator from Washington State.

Miss Overton had been beautiful and talented enough to be associated with show business. She appeared on Gary Moore's radio program several times and had been under contract to the CBS radio network. Ruth Overton had once been selected as queen of Washington's Cherry Blossom Festival.

Warren Magnuson's biographer, Shelby Scates, quoted Mrs. Herbert Kraushaar about Ruth Overton: "She was smart, sophisticated, and lived much of the time in Washington where her father was in the Senate. She was very lovely and gracious, outgoing but not pushy --- a lady, a Southern lady."

The affair with Magnuson, like most of Magnuson's relationships with women, blew hot and then cold. Ruth Overton had less tolerance for other women in her beau's life. "She was not old-maidish," Mrs. Kraushaar remembered, "but I don't think she had another serious romance after she came back to Alexandria, after the congressman."

It was very serious with Magnuson. She lived in the old family home, never married, not to the congressman or anyone else. Her father, Senator Overton, ended it. He told her he did not think Magnuson would ever amount to anything. She could not go against her father's wishes.

Senator John Overton died in 1948 following surgery for an abdominal obstruction. Ruth Overton returned home to Alexandria, Louisiana. An Overton family member coming into the old home late one afternoon in 1973 smelled an unusual and sickening smell. Realizing what it was, the family member hurried up the stairs and rushed into Ruth's room rolled her

off the burning mattress and put out the fire. Ruth Overton died from her injuries. She was only sixty years old.

One of the powers on Capitol Hill was Nevada's United States Senator Pat McCarran. McCarran headed the Senate's powerful Judiciary Committee and he was a fierce anti-Communist. Silver-haired and portly, McCarran dominated his home state's politics, largely due to his excellent constituent service and formidable staff. McCarran's chief assistant for years was Eva Adams. Ms. Adams was remarkably efficient, and McCarran's staff was acknowledged by veteran Capitol Hill observers as one of the best in government. Senator McCarran, aided by his staff, was relentless in his efforts to help a fellow Nevadan. McCarran's machine in Nevada had become a bit wobbly and the 78-year-old senator was facing political difficulties. Hoping to cobble together a peace inside Nevada's Democratic Party, McCarran was campaigning for the Democratic ticket when he fell over dead of a massive heart attack at a rally in Hawthorne, Nevada, in 1954.

McCarran, who could be a trial to work with, once imbibed too much at the open bar of the secretary of the Senate one evening. Returning to his office, McCarran dictated a slew of obnoxiously rude telegrams to the most important people in Nevada. The next morning the senator came to his office shaky and white-faced. "My God, did you send those telegrams?" Senator McCarran asked Adams. She snapped, "No, and I'm resigning!" McCarran began to laugh. "You don't have to resign and thank you for not sending them."

Eva Adams' well-deserved reputation for efficiency kept her in the top staff position under Republican Ernest Brown, who was appointed to

succeed McCarran briefly, before losing the general election to Democrat Alan Bible. Bible was reelected to a full six-year term in 1956, but Senator Bible and Eva Adams never got along particularly well. Bible realized Adams had made a host of friends throughout the Silver State throughout her time in Washington and firing her would carry enormous political fallout. Senator Bible urged President John F. Kennedy to appoint Adams as the director of the United States Mint. In 1961, John F. Kennedy invited Eva Adams to lunch at the Senate cafeteria and asked her to serve as director of the Mint. Because precious metals ranked at the top interests of any Nevada politician, Eva Adams had a keen understanding of many of the issues important to the Mint. The U.S. Mint experienced its fastest growth under Eva Adams.

Miss Adams was reappointed in 1966 by Lyndon Johnson and served until 1969 when she became a special advisor to the chairman of the board of the Mutual of Omaha Insurance Company.

Miss Adams once said in her day, a woman working as an administrative assistant (chief of staff) was expected to "dress like a Queen, act like a lady, think like a man, and work like a dog."

Cordell Hull's time in Washington as a congressman, U.S. senator and as our country's longest-serving Secretary of State saw his primary assistant Miss Will Harris move from one office to another. Miss Will was a native of Livingston, Tennessee, and although she remained behind at the State Department after Hull's retirement in November of 1944, she worked only a few months longer. After that, she returned to working for Cordell Hull in his declining years. Miss Will Harris had been employed by A. H. Roberts, an attorney who served a term as governor of Tennessee from 1919 to 1921. Miss Will frequently traveled with Mr. Roberts by horse and buggy when he practiced law in the courts of neighboring counties. After his election to Congress in 1904, Hull approached Roberts and asked for his permission to hire Miss Will Harris. Hull reassured a very reluctant Roberts he only expected to be in Congress for a few years.

That few years turned out to be fifty.

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## FORECLOSURE NOTICES

### NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE

WHEREAS default has occurred in the payment of a debt due Barbara Jean Shagan, secured by a Deed of Trust dated 2/11/11 from Kathleen R. Thompson, and recorded at Instrument # 201102170049923 in the Register's Office for Knox County, Tennessee; and whereas A. Scott McCulley has been appointed as Substitute Trustee by Instrument dated 11/29/23 and recorded at Instrument # 202312080029033 in the Register's Office for Knox County, Tennessee; and whereas A. Scott McCulley, Substitute Trustee has been requested to sell the property securing the debt, the following said property will be sold at the front door of the City County Building, 400 Main Street, Knoxville, Tennessee on 1/10/24 at 1 p.m.

SITUATED in District No. One (formerly Two) of Knox County, Tennessee, within the 13th Ward of the City of Knoxville, Tennessee, and being known and designated as part of Lots 1 and 2 of J. C. White's First Addition to the City of Knoxville, Tennessee, being more fully described as follows:

BEGINNING at an iron pin in the southern line of McCalla Avenue, which said iron pin is distant 13.1 feet in a westerly direction from the point of intersection of the southern line of McCalla Avenue with the western line of Fern Street if these line be extended; thence along the southern line of McCalla Avenue South 41 deg. 10 min. West, 63.20 feet to an iron pin in said line of McCalla Avenue; thence South 37 deg. 59 min. East, 99.15 feet to an iron pin in the line of a fence; thence along said fence line North 45 deg. 57 min. East, 24.9 feet to a point at the steps to a porch of a dwelling house; thence North 38 deg. 16 min. West, 42 feet to an iron pin; thence North 41 deg. 45 min East, 57.3 feet to an iron pin in the western line of Fern Street; thence with said line of Fern Street, North 43 deg. 50 min. West, 58.97 feet to a point designated by a cut in said line of said Street; thence on a curve to the left in a northwesterly direction a distance of 19.9 feet to an iron pin in the southern line of McCalla Avenue, the place of BEGINNING, as shown by survey of W.S. Lack, Engineer, Knoxville, Tennessee, dated 20 November 1959.

Being the same property conveyed to Kathleen R. Thompson from Barbara Jean Shagan by Deed dated 2/8/11 and recorded at Instrument # 201102170049922 in the Register's Office for Knox County, Tennessee.

This conveyance is made subject to all applicable easements, restrictions and building setback lines of record in Knox County, Tennessee.

The Property, known as Parcel: 822DL4, will be sold for cash in bar of right and equity of redemption and dower rights. The property is sold subject to applicable easements, restrictions, covenants, prior encumbrances and unpaid taxes.

The sale held pursuant to this Notice may be rescinded at the Substitute Trustee's option at any time. The right is reserved to adjourn the day of the sale to another day, time and place certain, without further publication, upon announcement at the time and place for the sale set forth above.

Other parties of interest: City of Knoxville  
Publication dates: 12/18/23, 12/26/23, 1/2/24

THIS COMMUNICATION IS FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR. THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION RECEIVED MAY BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

This 12th day of December, 2023.

A. Scott McCulley, Substitute Trustee,  
535 W. Lamar Alexander Pkwy.,  
Maryville, TN 37801  
865-243-3363.

## COURT NOTICES

### NON-RESIDENT NOTICE

TO: LUAY M. S. ISLAM OR ANY LIVING HEIRS

IN RE: DEBRA GREEN AND WESLEY GREEN, v. LUAY M. S. ISLAM AND /OR HIS UNKNOWN HEIRS AND ASSIGNS,

NO. 207818-1

IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE

In this cause, it appearing from the Complaint filed, which is sworn to, that the defendant LUAY M. S. ISLAM 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 LUAY M. S. ISLAM, it is ordered that said defendant LUAY M. S. ISLAM file an answer with the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court at Knoxville, Tennessee and with A. SCOTT MCCULLEY, an Attorney whose address is 535 W. LAMAR ALEXANDER PKWY., MARYVILLE, TN 37801 within thirty (30) days of the last date of publication or a judgment by default will be taken against you and the cause set for hearing Ex Parte as to you before Chancellor JOHN F. WEAVER at the Knox County Chancery Court, Division I, 400 Main Street, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902. This notice will be published in a The Knoxville Focus Newspaper for four (4) consecutive weeks.

This 5TH day of DECEMBER, 2023

J Scott Griswold  
Clerk and Master

### NON-RESIDENT NOTICE

TO: TIMOTHY KIRKPATRICK

IN RE: THE ADOPTION OF JAXSON NOAH COUCH

ASHLEY GAIL ROLAND, ROBERT DAVID ROLAND and TEAGAN ALECEA COUCH v. TIMOTHY KIRKPATRICK

NO. 207819-2

IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE

In this Cause, it appearing from the Complaint filed, which is sworn to, that the defendant TIMOTHY KIRKPATRICK, 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 TIMOTHY KIRKPATRICK, it is ordered that said defendant, TIMOTHY KIRKPATRICK, file an answer with the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court at Knoxville, Tennessee and with Mikaela M. Smith, an Attorney whose address is Two Centre Square, Suite 600 625 Gay Street P.O. Box 870 Knoxville, TN 37901 within thirty (30) days of the last date of publication or a judgment by default will be taken against you and the cause will be set for hearing Ex-Parte as to you before Chancellor Richard B. Armstrong, Jr. at the Knox County Chancery Court, Division II, 400 Main Street, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902. This notice will be published in a The Knoxville Focus Newspaper for four (4) consecutive weeks.

This 5TH day of DECEMBER, 2023

J Scott Griswold  
Clerk and Master

ing Ex-Parte as to you before Chancellor Richard B. Armstrong, Jr. at the Knox County Chancery Court, Division II, 400 Main Street, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902. This notice will be published in a The Knoxville Focus Newspaper for four (4) consecutive weeks.

This 4th day of December 2023.

J Scott Griswold  
Clerk and Master

### NOTICE OF SERVICE BY PUBLICATION

IN THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT FOR THE STATE OF TENNESSEE  
CHANCERY DIVISION AT CLINTON, TENNESSEE  
Case No. 23CH5570

Dairian Leshawn Hughett  
Whereabouts Unknown

Last Known Address:  
Unknown

Angela Minga, Petitioner  
Vs.  
Dairian Leshawn Hughett, Respondent

### NOTICE OF SERVICE BY PUBLICATION

It appears from the pleadings filed in this cause that Dairian Leshawn Hughett whereabouts are unknown. In compliance with the provisions of T.C.A. 21-1-204 and the Order of Publication of this court entered December 7, 2023, service of process will be made by publication.

Dairian Leshawn Hughett IS THEREFORE, HEREBY REQUIRED TO APPEAR ON OR BEFORE THIRTY (30) DAYS AFTER THE LAST DATE OF PUBLICATION before the Clerk and Master of Chancery Court, located at 100 N. Main Street, Suite 308, Clinton, Tennessee 37716 and make defense to the complaint filed in the foregoing case styled above. Otherwise, said complaint will be taken for confessed, and a Judgment by Default entered. Dairian Leshawn Hughett is required to file responsive pleadings with the court and Petitioner's Attorney, H. Daniel Forester III, 224 N. Main St., Clinton, TN 37716. It is further ordered that this Notice be published in the Knoxville Focus for four consecutive weeks.

This December 11, 2023.

Harold P. Cousins Jr.  
Clerk and Master  
By: Blake Williams  
Deputy Clerk

### NON-RESIDENT NOTICE

TO: PRESSTIN MANAGEMENT GROUP, LLC., ADRIENNE J. BAILEY, MANAGING MEMBER, ANY OTHER MEMBERS OF PRESSTIN MANAGEMENT GROUP, LLC, AND ANY UNKNOWN HEIRS AND CREDITORS OF PRESSTIN MANAGEMENT GROUP, LLC.

IN RE: PAMELA D. GROVES v. PRESSTIN MANAGEMENT GROUP, LLC., ADRIENNE J. BAILEY, MANAGING MEMBER, ANY OTHER MEMBERS OF PRESSTIN MANAGEMENT GROUP, LLC, AND ANY UNKNOWN HEIRS AND CREDITORS OF PRESSTIN MANAGEMENT GROUP, LLC.

NO. 207631-3

IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE

In this Cause, it appearing from the Complaint filed, which is sworn to, that the defendant PRESSTIN MANAGEMENT GROUP, LLC., ADRIENNE J. BAILEY, MANAGING MEMBER, ANY OTHER MEMBERS OF PRESSTIN MANAGEMENT GROUP, LLC, AND ANY UNKNOWN HEIRS AND CREDITORS OF PRESSTIN MANAGEMENT GROUP, LLC., 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 PRESSTIN MANAGEMENT GROUP, LLC., ADRIENNE J. BAILEY, MANAGING MEMBER, ANY OTHER MEMBERS OF PRESSTIN MANAGEMENT GROUP, LLC, AND ANY UNKNOWN HEIRS AND CREDITORS OF PRESSTIN MANAGEMENT GROUP, LLC., it is ordered that said defendant, PRESSTIN MANAGEMENT GROUP, LLC., ADRIENNE J. BAILEY, MANAGING MEMBER, ANY OTHER MEMBERS OF PRESSTIN MANAGEMENT GROUP, LLC, AND ANY UNKNOWN HEIRS AND CREDITORS OF PRESSTIN MANAGEMENT GROUP, LLC., file an answer with the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court at Knoxville, Tennessee and with GAIL F. WORTLEY, an Attorney whose address is 3715 Powers Street Knoxville, TN 37917 within thirty (30) days of the last date of publication or a judgment by default will be taken against you and the cause will be set for hearing Ex-Parte as to you before Chancellor Christopher D. Heagerty at the Knox County Chancery Court, Division III, 400 Main Street, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902. This notice will be published in a The Knoxville Focus Newspaper for four (4) consecutive weeks.

This 14th day of DECEMBER, 2023.

J Scott Griswold  
Clerk and Master

### NON-RESIDENT NOTICE

TO: JAMES WAYNE HUNTER

IN RE: WILSON & ASSOCIATES, PLLC, ATTORNEY IN FACT V. JENNIFER HAWKINS AND JAMES WAYNE HUNTER

NO. 206747-1

IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE

In this cause, it appearing from the Complaint filed, which is sworn to, that the defendant JAMES WAYNE HUNTER 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 JAMES WAYNE HUNTER, it is ordered that said defendant JAMES WAYNE HUNTER 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 set for hearing Ex Parte as to you before Chancellor JOHN F. WEAVER at the Knox County Chancery Court, Division I, 400 Main Street, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902. This notice will be published in a The Knoxville Focus Newspaper for four (4) consecutive weeks.

This 15TH day of DECEMBER, 2023

J Scott Griswold  
Clerk and Master

### NON-RESIDENT NOTICE

TO: JOSH LAWSON AND APRIL LAWSON

IN RE: WILSON & ASSOCIATES, PLLC, ATTORNEY IN FACT V. LEKESHA R. MYNATT, JAVON RODGERS, JONATHAN LAWSON, JOSH LAWSON, APRIL LAWSON, AND KNOXVILLE NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSING COMMERCIAL SERVICING, INC.

NO. 207032-1

IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE

In this cause, it appearing from the Complaint filed, which is sworn to, that the defendants JOSH LAWSON AND APRIL LAWSON 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 JOSH LAWSON AND APRIL LAWSON, it is ordered that said defendants JOSH LAWSON AND APRIL LAWSON 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 set for hearing Ex Parte as to you before Chancellor JOHN F. WEAVER at the Knox County Chancery Court, Division I, 400 Main Street, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902. This notice will be published in a The Knoxville Focus Newspaper for four (4) consecutive weeks.

This 15TH day of DECEMBER, 2023

J Scott Griswold  
Clerk and Master

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF SAMUEL ALVIN BALLOFF  
DOCKET NUMBER 88830-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 19 day of DECEMBER, 2023, Letters Testamentary (or letters of administration as the case may be) in respect of the Estate of SAMUEL ALVIN BALLOFF, who died on September 30, 2023, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above-named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

- (1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication; or
- (B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication as described in (1)(A); or
- (2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death.

This 19 day of DECEMBER, 2023.

ESTATE OF SAMUEL ALVIN BALLOFF  
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
DAVID HENRY BALLOFF  
8844 ROSEMONT BOULEVARD  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37923

K. RAY PINKSTAFF, ATTORNEY  
P.O. BOX 31408  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37930

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF TUCKER CARMICHAEL BLAKELY  
DOCKET NUMBER 88828-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 12 day of DECEMBER 2023, letters administration in respect of the Estate of TUCKER CARMICHAEL BLAKELY who died Oct 2, 2023, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above-named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred.

- (1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of this first publication; or
- (B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or
- (2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death.

This 12th day of DECEMBER, 2023.

ESTATE OF TUCKER CARMICHAEL BLAKELY  
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
KATARINA A. BLAKELY; ADMINISTRATRIX  
7014 RYE LANE  
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37918

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF JOHNNY LEE CRUZE  
DOCKET NUMBER 88811-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 15 day of DECEMBER 2023, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of JOHNNY LEE CRUZE who died Jul 29, 2023, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above-named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

- (1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of this first publication; or
- (B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or
- (2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death.

This 15th day of DECEMBER, 2023.

ESTATE OF JOHNNY LEE CRUZE  
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
ROBIN JEANETTE CRUZE; EXECUTRIX  
1720 GOFF ROAD  
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37920

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF SAROLYN H DAVIS  
DOCKET NUMBER 88791-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 12 day of DECEMBER 2023, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of SAROLYN H DAVIS who died Nov 24, 2023, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above-named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

- (1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first date of the publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication; or
- (B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or
- (2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death.

This 12th day of DECEMBER, 2023

ESTATE OF SAROLYN H DAVIS  
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
C RANDY MASSEY; EXECUTOR  
3204 REGAL DRIVE  
ALCOA, TN. 37701

MARK GRAYSON ATTORNEY  
3204 REGAL DRIVE  
ALCOA, TN. 37701

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF ELIZABETH D DAVIS  
DOCKET NUMBER 88817-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 15 day of DECEMBER 2023, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of ELIZABETH D DAVIS who died Aug 27, 2023, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above-named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

- (1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first date of the publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication; or
- (B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or
- (2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death.

This 15 day of DECEMBER, 2023

ESTATE OF ELIZABETH D DAVIS  
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
WADE M BOSWELL; EXECUTOR  
3311 BUNKER HILL DRIVE  
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37920

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF TERRY LEE DAVISON  
DOCKET NUMBER 88424-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 4 day of DECEMBER 2023, letters administration in respect of the Estate of TERRY LEE DAVISON who died Feb 21, 2023, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above-named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred.

- (1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication; or
- (B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or
- (2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death.

This 4 day of DECEMBER, 2023.

ESTATE OF TERRY LEE DAVISON  
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
LINDA DAVISON; ADMINISTRATRIX  
3551 WADE DANIEL WAY  
POWELL, TN. 37849

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF NANCY MCMILLAN EWELL  
DOCKET NUMBER 88833-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 19 day of DECEMBER, 2023, Letters Testamentary in respect of the Estate of NANCY MCMILLAN EWELL, who died on November 22, 2023, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the Estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above-named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

- (1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication; or
- (B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or
- (2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death.

This 19 day of DECEMBER, 2023.

Estate of NANCY MCMILLAN EWELL  
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
MICHAEL W. EWELL  
550 W MAIN ST., STE. 500  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37902

MICHAEL W. EWELL, ATTORNEY  
550 WEST MAIN STREET, SUITE 500  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37902

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF PATRICIA ANN FAULKNER  
DOCKET NUMBER 88826-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 20 day of DECEMBER 2023, letters testamentary (or letters of administration as the case may be) in respect

of the Estate of PATRICIA ANN FAULKNER who died on September 30, 2023 were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident, and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above-named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

- (1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication; or
- (B) Sixty (60) days from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or
- (2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death.

This 20 day of DECEMBER, 2023.

ESTATE OF PATRICIA ANN FAULKNER  
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
ALLEN DEWAYNE WEST  
9067 N. SANGUINE DRIVE  
TUCSON, AZ 85743

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

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF HALEY NICOLE FERGUSON  
DOCKET NUMBER 88757-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 14 day of DECEMBER, 2023, Letters of Testamentary/ Administration in respect to the Estate of HALEY NICOLE FERGUSON, deceased, who died on May 22, 2023, were issued to the undersigned by the Probate Court for Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured against his/her Estate are required to file the same in triplicate with the Clerk and Master of the above-named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claim will be forever barred:

- (1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication; or
- (B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication as described in (1)(A); or
- (2) Twelve (12) months from the Decedent's date of death.

This 14 day of DECEMBER, 2023.

Estate of HALEY NICOLE FERGUSON  
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
ERIN FERGUSON ATTORNEY  
6222 ELLESMERE DRIVE  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37921

SCOTT HAHN ATTORNEY  
5344 N BROADWAY, SUITE 101  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37918

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF JACK DAVID FRAKER  
DOCKET NUMBER 88793-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 15 day of December, 2023, Letters Testamentary in respect to the Estate of JACK DAVID FRAKER, who died on October 10, 2023, were issued to the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the above captioned Estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above-named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in paragraphs numbered one (1) or two (2) below; otherwise, their claims will be forever barred:

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



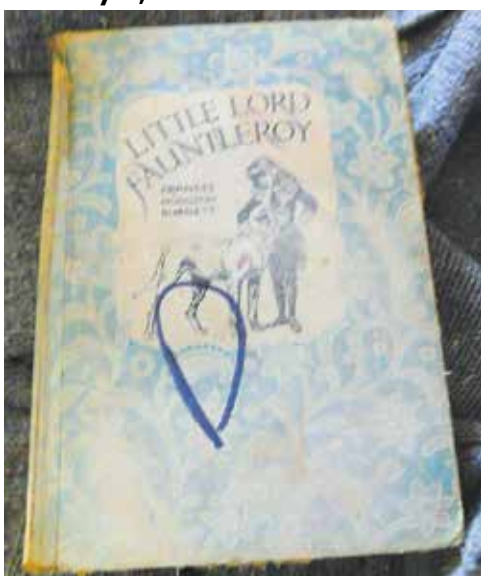


PHOTO BY MIKE STEELY.

*“Little Lord Fauntleroy” was a rare find in a book bin and just as interesting were the names of those who checked it out from the Norwood Elementary library.*

# A book with a backstory

Sometimes a find in a used book bin can lead to an interesting story about the book and the author. The battered book I recently found in a discard pile, “Little Lord Fauntleroy,” was written by

## A Day Away



By Mike Steely

Frances Hodgson Burnett, a British-American author who had lived in East Tennessee.

Inside the book is a Norwood Elementary School borrower’s card filled with names

from 1968 until 1988 with the last person to check out the famous novel penciled in as “Sarah Brock.” Frances Hodgson Burnett was an English girl whose family relocated to New Market, Tennessee.

The family’s home in the little town just off Highway 11E near Jefferson City is still there today, marked with a historic sign in the front yard. Holston

Springs, a noted historic deep well spring where a visitor can still fill a jug with “health-giving” waters, is next door to the house.

Frances began writing at age 19 and her family relocated again, to Knoxville, and Frances married Doctor Swan Burnett. She traveled often and lived in England, Paris, Washington, D.C., and a second marriage eventually saw her settle in Nassau County, New York.

She became a prolific and successful writer and is also well known for “The Secret Garden” and “A Little

Princess.” She died in New York at age 74 in 1924. She is buried in the Roslyn Cemetery and New York’s Central Park has a memorial to her.

The introduction of “Little Lord Fauntleroy” says that Burnett’s two sons, Lionel and Vivian, asked her to write a book that little boys would like to read. Her son, Vivian, was chosen by her to be immortalized as the main character, a young English Lord who had many adventures.

The book became a hit and is now viewed as a “period piece” still read and enjoyed.

**Continue on page 6**

## FROM THE MOUNTAINS BY JADON GIBSON

# Age of the Body Snatchers

By Jadon Gibson

The 1800s brought an increased interest in the medical profession with medical schools increasing in size and number.

English writer Mary Shelley is best known for her horror novel “Frankenstein,” or the secondary title “Modern Prometheus,” in 1818. With a growing interest in the human body in the 1800s there was a marked increase in grave robbing in North America, Europe and other parts of the world.

Daniel Rudolph committed suicide in Topeka, Kansas, in late 1879 and his body was shipped to Sugar Grove, Ohio, for burial. Grave robbing was at epidemic proportions in Ohio at the time because of the numerous medical schools located there. Several individuals at Rudolph’s funeral noticed three or four strangers prowling around the graveyard after the interment. The overseers of the graveyard, called

sextons at the time, was aware of the increased incidence of grave robbing and made it a point to visit the grave during the next two nights.

Just before midnight on the second night he spotted three human forms near the new grave as he approached. The moon shone bright as he neared the fencing and it enabled him to see a pile of dirt that the men had shoveled from the grave. He knew they were grave robbers and could tell by the size of the dirt pile their mission was nearly complete.

“Hey, what’s going on here?” the graveyard overseer shouted before discharging his pistol into the air several times. He didn’t want to make himself a target should they be armed, so he remained undercover. He knew they would either take to their heels or if armed, they may force the issue with him. As he hoped they quickly ran into the

darkness. In the village of Gann, Ohio, near the same time three men were attempting to rob a grave when their shovel struck a bomb of sorts that had been placed atop a concrete slab above the casket. The device, which was called a torpedo in the newspapers of the day, was devised to prevent the grave from being robbed and to discourage grave robbers. One of the men was killed by the blast and another suffered a broken leg. The third who was assigned to watch hoisted his comrades into their horse-drawn sleigh and took flight.

The Ohio General Assembly passed a measure the following year legalizing human dissection in the state’s medical schools. It was a paradoxical situation as the public opposed the practice of human dissection yet expected medical practitioners to be well trained. Bodies were needed for study and dissection. Lawmakers

refused to pass laws that would permit medical schools to use unclaimed bodies. Medical schools would have to discontinue dissection or bodies would have to be procured through grave robbery. Does this remind you of the great Frankenstein movies of the past? Frankenstein was comprised of parts from more than one body.

An investigation of these thefts in Ohio suggested as many as 5,000 graves were disturbed and bodies stolen for anatomical instruction during the 1800s. The practice was not unique to Ohio as all areas with medical schools needed cadavers.

“Bodies are buried by day and forbidden resurrectionists dig them up by night,” the Ohio State University Journal reported in a release Feb. 17, 1871.

“As the medical colleges are beginning winter terms every good citizen would do well to be on the alert to prevent grave

robbing. “The trustees of Ohio State University have appropriated \$40 for hauling dead horses, cows and other animals too large for the students to carry to the zoology laboratory,” the Columbus paper reported. “These snatchers are much less to be feared than those who take corpses for medical colleges.”

Dr. Frederick C. Waite said it was a misconception that grave robbing was a normal part of life for medical students but it was a practice at times. Some heard doctor’s stories of bold adventure and hair-breadth escapes while robbing graves during the time they were in medical school.

Jadon Gibson, a graduate of Caney Junior College (now Alice Lloyd College) and the University of Kentucky now resides in Harrogate, Tennessee. Thanks to Lincoln Memorial University, Alice Lloyd College and the Museum of Appalachia.

# LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF ROBERT W. MINGE  
DOCKET NUMBER 88790-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 14 day of DECEMBER, 2023, letters of administration in respect of the estate of ROBERT W. MINGE who died October 17, 2023, were issued to the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and nonresident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above-named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2); otherwise, their claims will be forever barred:

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication; or (B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or (2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent’s date of death.

This the 14 day of DECEMBER, 2023.

ESTATE OF ROBERT W. MINGE

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
BARBARA BAIR, ADMINISTRATRIX  
6600 HILDA LANE  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37921

BILL FIX, ATTORNEY  
P.O. BOX 31632  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37930

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF KENNETH RAY PATE  
DOCKET NUMBER 88825-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 19 day of DECEMBER, 2023, letters testamentary (or letters of administration as the case may be) in respect of the Estate of KENNETH RAY PATE who died July 25, 2023 were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above-named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or (B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or (2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent’s date of death.

This the 19 day of DECEMBER, 2023.

ESTATE OF KENNETH RAY PATE

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
DONNA GAIL MCGHEE

2824 CECIL AVENUE  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37917

M. SAMANTHA PARRIS, ATTORNEY  
2908 TAZEWELL PIKE SUITE G  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37918

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF MORGAN WAYNE QUINN  
DOCKET NUMBER 88778-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 14 day of DECEMBER, 2023, Letters Testamentary in respect to the Estate of MORGAN WAYNE QUINN, who died on November 1, 2023, were issued to the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court, Probate Division of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above-named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred;

(1) (A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication; or (B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1) (A); or (2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent’s date of death.

This the 14 day of DECEMBER, 2023.

ESTATE OF MORGAN WAYNE QUINN

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
ADAM B. QUINN  
1000 18TH STREET NORTH  
BIRMINGHAM, AL 35203

H. STEPHEN GILLMAN, ATTORNEY  
P.O. BOX 870  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37901

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF HAROLD WAYNE RIDENOUR  
DOCKET NUMBER 88578-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 13 day of DECEMBER 2023, letters administration in respect of the Estate of HAROLD WAYNE RIDENOUR who died Sep 12, 2023, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above-named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred.

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of this first publication; or (B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or (2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent’s date of death.

described in (1)(A); or (2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent’s date of death.

This the 13 day of DECEMBER, 2023.

ESTATE OF HAROLD WAYNE RIDENOUR

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
PAMELA RIDENOUR; ADMINISTRATRIX  
6804 TEXAS VALLEY ROAD  
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37938

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF ROBERT JOSEPH SCARBROUGH  
DOCKET NUMBER 88748-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 14 day of DECEMBER, 2023, letters testamentary (or letters of administration as the case may be) in respect of the Estate of ROBERT JOSEPH SCARBROUGH who died September 4, 2023, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above-named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication; or (B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or (2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent’s date of death.

This the 14 day of DECEMBER, 2023.

ESTATE OF ROBERT JOSEPH SCARBROUGH

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE  
ROBERT ALLEN SCARBROUGH  
141 COCHISE DRIVE SE  
CLEVELAND, TN 37323

STEPHEN M. BOYETTE, ATTORNEY  
800 S. GAY STREET STE. 1200  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37929

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF CLAYTON E SHARP  
DOCKET NUMBER 88753-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 12 day of DECEMBER 2023, letters administration in respect of the Estate of CLAYTON E SHARP who died Jan 18, 2023, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above-named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred.

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

is four (4) months from the date of this first publication; or

(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or (2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent’s date of death.

This the 12 day of DECEMBER, 2023.

ESTATE OF CLAYTON E SHARP

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
JUDY RULE; ADMINISTRATRIX  
6839 TINDLE LANE  
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37918

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF JAMA SHINLEVER  
DOCKET NUMBER 88823-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 20 day of December, 2023, Letters of Administration in respect of the Estate of JAMA SHINLEVER who died on November 25, 2023 were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the Estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above-named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred.

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication; or (B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or (2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent’s date of death.

This the 20 day of DECEMBER, 2023.

ESTATE OF JAMA SHINLEVER

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
JIMMY WATSON, ADMINISTRATOR  
10708 DEEP WOODS LANE  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37934

JOHN EDWIN BAUGH ATTORNEY  
4617 CHAMBLISS AVENUE  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37919

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF RICHARD EARL TUMBLIN  
DOCKET NUMBER 88784-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 8 day of DECEMBER 2023, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of RICHARD EARL TUMBLIN who died Oct 22, 2023, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above-named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred.

otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of this first publication; or (B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or (2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent’s date of death.

This the 8 day of DECEMBER, 2023.

ESTATE OF RICHARD EARL TUMBLIN

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
CATHY GRAVES; EXECUTRIX  
5333 TAZEWELL POINTE WAY  
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37918

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF CAROLYN F. WILLIAMS  
DOCKET NUMBER 88775-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 15 day of DECEMBER, 2023, Letters Testamentary in respect of the Estate of CAROLYN F. WILLIAMS, who died October 18, 2023, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured against the estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above-named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred.

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice, if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication; or (B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or (2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent’s date of death.

This the 15 day of DECEMBER, 2023.

ESTATE OF CAROLYN F. WILLIAMS

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
TERRY WILLIAMS  
1103 ADAIR DRIVE  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37918

MELISSA WORTLEY LAWING ATTORNEY  
3715 POWERS STREET  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37917

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF WESLEY JOSEPH BOATMAN  
DOCKET NUMBER 88806-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 22 day of DECEMBER, 2023, Letters Testamentary in respect of the Estate of WESLEY JOSEPH BOATMAN, who died on November 9, 2023, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All

persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the Estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above-named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication; or (B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or (2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent’s date of death.

This the 22 day of DECEMBER, 2023.

ESTATE OF WESLEY JOSEPH BOATMAN

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
JOY LYNN LAMBERT HUX  
179 POINT PLEASANT DRIVE  
PALM COAST, FL 32164

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

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF JASON ALLEN CURTIS  
DOCKET NUMBER 87869-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 9 day of OCTOBER 2023, letters administration in respect of the Estate of JASON ALLEN CURTIS who died Jan 8, 2023, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above-named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred.

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of this first publication; or (B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or (2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent’s date of death.

This the 9 day of OCTOBER, 2023.

ESTATE OF JASON ALLEN CURTIS

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
JENNIFER CURTIS; CO-ADMINISTRATOR  
9132 ANDERSONVILLE PIKE  
POWELL, TN. 37849

DAN CURTIS; CO-ADMINISTRATOR  
P.O. BOX 12346  
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37929

JOHN P VALLIANT, JR., ATTORNEY  
800 S GAY STREET, SUITE 1650  
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37929

# Laws Regarding Jails and Prisons

If you read through Tennessee law, there are some fairly interesting laws regarding jails and prisons that are still in place. Jail is generally the place where inmates are held who are awaiting trial or are serving a sentence of less than one year. Individuals who have had their trial and are sentenced to serve more than one year are typically sent to prison.

Let's run through some short, active laws regarding jails and prisons in Tennessee that may seem a little antiquated:

Tennessee Code Annotated (TCA) 41-1-109 - The warden may, with



**By Jedidiah McKeehan**  
jed@attorney-knoxville.com

the consent and advice of the commissioner of correction, make repairs and improvements and build additional cells, as may be necessary, using for those purposes the labor of the inmates as far as practicable.

41-4-109 - The jailer shall furnish adequate food and bedding.

41-4-110 - Male and female prisoners, except husband and wife, shall not be kept in the same cell or room in jail.

41-4-111 - The jailer shall enforce cleanliness in their respective jails. They shall furnish the necessary apparatus for shaving once a week, shall provide

bathing facilities separate for males and females, shall furnish hot and cold water, clean and sufficient bedding, and laundering once a week to those prisoners who are not able to provide such for themselves. The jailers shall keep the jails clean and shall remove all filth from each cell once every twenty-four hours.

41-4-112 - It is the duty of the sheriff, where the jail is not fireproof, and so long as any person is confined in the jail, to be constantly at the jail or to have constantly in possession all keys necessary to liberate all of the prisons in the jail in case of fire.

41-4-113 - The sheriff or other person shall remain in the jail every night from 8:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m.

41-4-120 - Whenever any officer has to pay necessary expenses for board in guarding a prisoner, the expenses shall be allowed to the officer, to be taxed in the bill of costs not to exceed thirty-five cents per meal each for the officer, the prisoner and the guard.

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

# A book with a backstory

**Cont. from page 5**

New Market is an interesting little town with less than 2,000 residents. It has the historic Presbyterian Church, built in 1885 and listed on the National Register of Historic Places. It is also the home of the Highlander Research and Educational Center.

You can find New Market on the internet or turn south off Highway 11E at Red Bull Road and take the first left, Old Andrew Johnson Highway. Follow it until you see Houston's Miner Waters building. The

house is to the right of the building.

If you're returning to Knoxville you may want to take another side trip through "downtown" Strawberry Springs and continue along Old Andrew Johnson Highway to visit the McBee Ferry Landing Park. If you choose you can then turn right and cross the Mascot Rainbow Arch Bridge.

The Mascot Road will take you to Rutledge Pike and a left turn there will bring you back to Knoxville.

## LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF EDNA MAE THURMAN HUBBS DOCKET NUMBER 88809-2**

Notice is hereby given that on the 18 day of DECEMBER 2023, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of EDNA MAE THURMAN HUBBS who died Aug 12, 2023, were issued by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above-named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

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

This the 18 day of DECEMBER, 2023

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF NANCY W KITTS DOCKET NUMBER 88842-2**

Notice is hereby given that on the 18 day of DECEMBER 2023, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of NANCY W KITTS who died Nov 1, 2023, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above-named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

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

This the 18 day of DECEMBER, 2023.

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF LAWRENCE C. ROBINSON DOCKET NUMBER 88820-1**

NOTICE is hereby given that on the 22 day of DECEMBER, 2023, letters of administration in respect to the Estate of LAWRENCE C. ROBINSON, who died on the 30th day of November, 2023, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident having claims, matured or unmatured against the estate are required to file same with the Clerk, of the above-named court, on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise, their claims will be forever barred.

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

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

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

This the 22 day of DECEMBER, 2023.

**ESTATE OF EDNA MAE THURMAN HUBBS**

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
ROBIN J CRUZE; EXECUTRIX  
1720 GOFF ROAD  
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37920

**ESTATE OF NANCY W KITTS**

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
KENNEDY W KITTS; EXECUTOR  
9921 SIERRA VISTA LANE  
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37922

**ESTATE OF LAWRENCE C. ROBINSON**

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
TERRY L. HENSON  
635 BEAVER CREEK ROAD  
STRAWBERRY PLAINS, TN 37871

**RONALD J. ATTANASIO, ATTORNEY**  
625 MARKET STREET, SUITE 700  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37902

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF DAVID LANGSFORD HUBBS DOCKET NUMBER 88812-2**

Notice is hereby given that on the 18 day of DECEMBER 2023, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of DAVID LANGSFORD HUBBS who died Aug 19, 2023, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above-named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

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

This the 18 day of DECEMBER, 2023.

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF JAMES A MCMANIGAL DOCKET NUMBER 88839-2**

Notice is hereby given that on the 18 day of DECEMBER 2023, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of JAMES A MCMANIGAL who died Nov 15, 2023, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above-named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

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

This the 18 day of DECEMBER, 2023.

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF JEAN ELIZABETH SELLERS DOCKET NUMBER 88843-3**

NOTICE is hereby given that on the 22 day of DECEMBER, 2023, letters of administration in respect of the Estate of JEAN ELIZABETH SELLERS, who died on November 19, 2023 were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the abovenamed court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

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

This the 22 day of DECEMBER, 2023.

**ESTATE OF DAVID LANGSFORD HUBBS**

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
ROBIN J CRUZE; EXECUTRIX  
1720 GOFF ROAD  
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37920

**ESTATE OF JAMES A MCMANIGAL**

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
DAN ALAN MCMANIGAL; EXECUTOR  
2509 SILVER GRASS LANE  
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37931

**ESTATE OF JEAN ELIZABETH SELLERS**

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
GREGORY NICHOLAS SELLERS  
5705 WASSMAN ROAD  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37912

**MATTHEW T. McDONALD, ATTORNEY**  
116 AGNES ROAD  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37919

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF HIRAM KIMBER DOCKET NUMBER 88680-2**

Notice is hereby given that on the 22 day of DECEMBER 2023, letters administration in respect of the Estate of HIRAM KIMBER who died Sep 27, 2023, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above-named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred.

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

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

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

This the 22 day of DECEMBER, 2023.

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF ORA ANN RICHMOND DOCKET NUMBER 88819-3**

Notice is hereby given that on the 20 day of DECEMBER 2023, letters administration in respect of the Estate of ORA ANN RICHMOND who died Sep 14, 2023, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above-named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred.

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

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

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

This the 20 day of DECEMBER, 2023.

**ESTATE OF HIRAM KIMBER**

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
SELENA JENKINS; ADMINISTRATRIX  
2929 SELENA DRIVE, APT AB  
NASHVILLE, TN. 37211

**ESTATE OF ORA ANN RICHMOND**

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
KIMBERLY RICHMOND; ADMINISTRATRIX  
5617 REINHARDT LANE  
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37924

## MISC. NOTICES

### LEGAL SECTION 94

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

Bid 3511, Produce for Government, due 2/1/24.

For Additional Information call 865-215-5777, stop by the Procurement Division, 1000 North Central St., Suite 100, Knoxville, TN 37917, or visit our website: [www.knoxcounty.org/procurement](http://www.knoxcounty.org/procurement). To bid on Knox County Surplus items, go to [www.govdeals.com](http://www.govdeals.com)

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

The Knox County Investment Committee shall meet on Thursday, January 11, 2024 from 2:30-4:00 p.m. on the 6th Floor Commission Conference Room in the City-County Building.

AGENDA

- 1.) Call to Order.
- 2.) Approval of Minutes from July and October 2023 Meetings.
- 3.) Justin Biggs, Trustee's Report
- 4.) Review of investment portfolio performance of bond proceeds and other funds invested with Raymond James.
- 5.) Discussion.

**Cont. from page 5**

New Market is an interesting little town with less than 2,000 residents. It has the historic Presbyterian Church, built in 1885 and listed on the National Register of Historic Places. It is also the home of the Highlander Research and Educational Center.

You can find New Market on the internet or turn south off Highway 11E at Red Bull Road and take the first left, Old Andrew Johnson Highway. Follow it until you see Houston's Miner Waters building. The

house is to the right of the building.

If you're returning to Knoxville you may want to take another side trip through "downtown" Strawberry Springs and continue along Old Andrew Johnson Highway to visit the McBee Ferry Landing Park. If you choose you can then turn right and cross the Mascot Rainbow Arch Bridge.

The Mascot Road will take you to Rutledge Pike and a left turn there will bring you back to Knoxville.

# classifieds

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HIGH SCHOOL BOYS BASKETBALL

# Falcons stay on the go against tough opposition

By Steve Williams

Coach Jody Wright's Fulton Falcons may be in second place in the District 3-3A standings at the moment, but his defending state champions have been tuning up for another title run since the season tipped off in mid-November.

Fulton had a 13-0 record as it finished up holiday tournament play in Middle Tennessee last week against St. Benedict and Murfreesboro Central Magnet at Page High in Franklin.

It was the fourth tourney the Falcons had participated in this season, starting with a 70-67 win over Morristown East in the RecruitMe Thanksgiving Classic at Farragut.

Fulton also beat highly-regarded Bearden 73-67 in the Doubletree Roundball Classic in Johnson City on Dec. 9 and toppled Maryville 66-57 in the 5Star Preps' Hoops Jam at Oak Ridge on Dec. 16.

Coming up this week for the Falcons, as the calendar flips to 2024, will be a battle at William Blount Tuesday and a home district game against Cocke County Friday.

Fulton is currently 2-0 in district play, a game behind Carter in the win column.

The 12-week regular season is pretty much half over, but many teams, particularly those in larger districts, still have most of their district games to play. For example, in District 4-4A, Hardin Valley and Maryville have yet to play a district game and will play 10 district games and two non-district games in the second half.



Above: Fulton senior Ra'tyler Lee (No. 44) works for a shot in between two Stone Memorial players in the 5Star Preps' Hoops Jam at Oak Ridge on Dec. 15. Photo by Luther Simmons.



Left: New Central Coach Marcus Huie speaks during a break in the action in his Bobcats' 72-59 loss at Austin-East early in the 2023-24 basketball season. This is Huie's first season as a high school head coach. In the two teams' rematch in Fountain City, Central lost 65-63. Photo by Steve Williams

The following is a brief look at other boys' teams in The Focus' coverage area.

**Bearden (15-2):** Its best wins have been against Tennessee High, Tri-Cities Christian and Alcoa. The Bulldogs also beat Sparkman, Ala., 73-61 in the Adidas Shootout at Murfreesboro Riverdale Dec. 21. Up next: Jan. 9 in district game at Maryville.

**Powell (12-1):** The Panthers

opened their season with a Hall of Fame win over Kingston at Clinton. Other top wins came against Anderson County and South-Doyle twice, including a 61-52 win in the Loudon Christmas Classic Dec. 21. Powell's lone loss was a district game to Oak Ridge, 85-73. Up next will be a game at Jefferson County Saturday.

**Webb (12-3):** Notched best wins against Morristown East,

Cookeville, Stone Memorial, Ensworth, Brentwood Academy and Austin-East. Next game on schedule is against Tri-Cities Christian at home on Jan. 9. Note: First meeting with Catholic this season will be on Jan. 19 at Catholic.

**Austin-East (10-6):** Best wins: Sevier County, West and Oak Ridge. Roadrunners are in a new district this season (District 2-2A) and will play their first district game Friday at Alcoa.

**West (9-3):** Best win of season so far was 72-67 at Bearden in district play. Other top wins: Alcoa, Dobyms-Bennett and A-E. Up next: Alcoa at home on Thursday.

**Catholic (9-4):** Best wins: Austin-East and West. Up next: McCallie visits in a region game Friday. The Fighting Irish has a road trip to Tri-Cities Christian in Johnson City Saturday.

**South-Doyle (8-4):** Best wins: 74-72 in overtime at Halls and 63-62 at Lenoir City. Cherokees had a close loss at Powell, 58-53. Up next: at Central Friday.

**Hardin Valley (8-5):** Best wins: Alcoa and A-E. Up next: Hawks will host Maryville in district play Friday.

**Berean Christian (7-4):** Eagles notched a district win at CAK. Another top win was over Maryville Christian. Up next: home district game Friday versus Providence Academy.

**Grace Christian (6-4):** A victory over Concord Christian capped six wins in a row after a 0-2 start. Up next: A Thursday game at Washburn.

**Central (7-7):** Best wins: Unicoi County and South-Doyle. Bobcats lost 65-63 to Austin-East in a rematch on Dec. 14. Up next: Friday home game versus S-D.

**Halls (7-7):** Best win: 66-57 at Campbell County in a district game. Red Devils lost to South-Doyle 74-72 in OT. Up next: at Carter Friday.

**Gibbs (6-6):** Best win: Berean. Gibbs lost in three overtimes to Carter. Eagles entertain Pigeon Forge Thursday and Seymour Friday.

**Concord Christian (5-5):** Best wins: Maryville Christian and Berean Christian. Up next: District game at home Thursday versus CAK.

**Other teams with won-loss record:** Carter 5-8, Karns 5-8, CAK 3-9, TKA 3-9, Farragut 3-11, Seymour 2-11, FBA 0-9.

## Sonny Trotter announces retirement from coaching

By Ken Lay

When the 2024 high school girls soccer season begins in August, it will do so without one of its most successful and popular coaches.

Sonny Trotter, a fixture on the high school soccer scene for nearly three decades, has announced his retirement from the game.

Trotter spent the last 10 seasons as the Webb Lady Spartans' head coach, and was relieved of his duties in late November. In a decade at his alma mater, he guided Webb to 100 wins, three district titles and four state quarterfinal appearances.

He also coached five all-state players and one high school All-America standout and 15 players who continued to play soccer in college in his career.

Before taking the reins for the Lady Spartans, Trotter coached at West High School. He coached the Lady Rebels for 16 years, from 1998-2014.

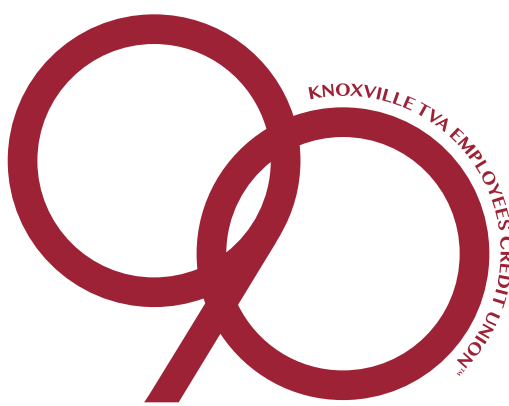
At West High, he was a two-time Knoxville Interscholastic League Coach of the Year. He guided the Lady Rebels to league championships in both District 3-3A and District 4-3A. Trotter also guided the Lady Rebels to eight regional appearances and three region championship matches and three appearances in the state sectionals.

Trotter also started the KIL Girls Soccer Jamboree, a preseason play day that raised money to alleviate insurance costs for high school athletes.

He guided the Lady Rebels to 223 victories.

After he was dismissed from Webb just before Thanksgiving, he considered taking the opportunity to coach at Oak Ridge High School after Lady Wildcats' head coach Donnie Green stepped down to begin

**Continue on page 4**



# 90 YEARS

## of People Helping People



## HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS BASKETBALL

## Catholic, Webb and Bearden lead the way

By Steve Williams

When talking about high school girls' basketball in Knox County in 2023-24, you can start with the Big Three – Knoxville Catholic, Webb School and Bearden High.

Travis Mains' Lady Irish is the defending state champion in Division II-AA and the Lady Spartans appear to be gaining ground on their chief rivals under the direction of new coach Greg Hernandez, who formerly coached at Seymour High.

Bearden went 35-0 in Class 4A last season before falling in the opening round to Bradley Central 55-53 in what looked every bit like a de facto state title game.

Justin Underwood's Lady Bulldogs started off this season with 11 straight wins, but Webb snapped that streak Wednesday morning with a 65-45 victory over the Lady Bulldogs in the Andrew Johnson Bank Ladies Classic at Hal Henard Gymnasium in Greeneville.

The following is a brief look at girls' teams in The Focus' coverage area.

**Knoxville Catholic (13-2):** Its best wins to date have been over Notre Dame 62-36 and Shelbyville 92-15 in the Notre Dame Thanksgiving Classic in Chattanooga, York Institute 51-45, The King's Academy twice, Ensworth 61-48 in a Dec. 9 rematch of last season's state finals, Tennessee High 71-54 on Dec. 22 and South Greene 75-47 on Dec. 27.

Catholic's first loss came against Grace Christian NC 62-52 in the Hall of Champions on Nov. 18. The Lady Irish also lost at Bradley Central 64-42 on Dec. 11.

Next up: a home game Friday against GPS.

**Webb (10-4):** Best wins in addition to the recent victory over Bearden: Dobyne-Bennett and Alcoa.

The Lady Spartans lost three in a row – at Cookeville, at Cleveland and Cookeville – the last week of November into the first week of December.

Webb will play at Catholic

on Jan. 19.

**Bearden (11-1):** Best wins: Dobyne-Bennett, Cleveland, Alcoa.

Up next: Tuesday, TBA (She Got Game Classic at Atlanta) and Jan. 9 at Maryville in a district game.

**TKA (9-4):** Best wins: Cocke County, Providence Academy and Grace Christian Academy. Next up: Home games versus Boyd Buchanan Tuesday afternoon, Clayton-Bradley Academy Thursday night and Maryville Friday night.

**Seymour (9-4):** Best wins: Morristown East and Clinton. Up next: Friday at Gibbs.

**CAK (9-6):** Best wins: Cleveland, GCA, Lakeway Christian and MTCS. Up next: Thursday at Concord Christian and Saturday TBA (She Got Game Classic in Atlanta).

**Hardin Valley (8-6):** Best wins: Clinton and Clarkrange in Hammer's Christmas Classic. Up next: Thursday versus Maryville in a district game.

**Karns (8-7):** Best wins: Notre Dame in Thanksgiving Invitational, Campbell County and 57-45 over Academy of the Holy Names, Fla., in Tampa Bay Christmas Invitational. Up next: Farragut at home Friday.

**Gibbs (7-5):** Best wins: District win over Cumberland Gap and 64-57 overtime win over Central in Carter Christmas Classic. Up next: Thursday Pigeon Forge at home and Friday Seymour at home.

**Farragut (7-7):** Best win: 50-45 over CAK. Next: Friday at Karns.

**Grace Christian (6-6):** Best win: Concord Christian. Next: Thursday at Washburn and Friday district game at home against Maryville Apostolic.

**Austin-East (4-3):** Best win: 53-37 over Knoxville Ambassadors. Next: District game Friday at Alcoa.

**Other teams and won-loss record:** Central 6-9, Powell 5-9, South-Doyle 4-9, Halls 4-10, Carter 4-11, Concord Christian 3-5, Fulton 2-11, FBA 1-5, Berean Christian 0-9, West 0-9.



*Barry Houchin Photography*



*Above: Central defenders trap an Oak Ridge player in a loss to the Lady Wildcats this season. Photo by Barry Houchin.*

*Left: New Webb girls' basketball coach Greg Hernandez cheers on his Lady Spartans in a 65-47 win over Elizabethton on Dec. 26 in a holiday tournament at Greeneville. Photo by Luther Simmons.*

## Meet The Knoxville Focus All-County Volleyball Team

By Ken Lay

The 2023 high school volleyball season was full of excitement as some of the top players were playing for teams in Knox County.

The Knoxville Focus recognizes some of the area's top players on

its All-County Volleyball Team.

**Coach of the Year: Joy Waller, Hardin Valley Academy:** The Lady Hawks finished second in the District 4-3A Tournament and made a run to the state sectionals before being eliminated by

West Ridge in a five-set thriller in Waller's fifth year at the helm for the program.

**Player of the Year: Tinsley Brown, Hardin Valley Academy:** A senior outside hitter for the Lady Hawks, Brown was the District 4-3A Co-Most Valuable Player. In a four-year high school career, she amassed more than 1,000 kills and helped HVA reach the sectional round of the Class 3A state playoffs. She had 492 kills, 325 digs, 31 blocks and 30 assists for the Lady Hawks in 2023.

## All-County Standouts

**Reese Harvey, Central High School:** Harvey was named District 3-3A Server of the Year by the league's coaches.

**Ally Bryant, Central High School:** Bryant was named District 3-3A Rookie of the Year by the coaches in the district.

**Genevieve Kwak, Powell High School:** A senior middle blocker, Kwak helped the Lady Panthers reach the District 3-3A Tournament Championship Match and qualify for the regional

tournament. She was named the league's Blocker of the Year and made the all-tournament team in the district tournament.

**Lennox Langham, Webb School of Knoxville:** A junior outside hitter for the Lady Spartans, Langham was the Division II-AA East Region Most Valuable Player. Webb finished third in its region. Langham hit .278, recording 413 kills, 41 service aces, 273 digs and 24 blocks.

**Landyn Langham, Webb School of Knoxville:** Webb's senior setter was an all-region performer as she tallied 751 assists, 172 kills and 89 aces as the Lady Spartans won 29 games in 2023.

**Annah Cate Hyatt, Hardin Valley Academy:** Hyatt, a senior setter for the Lady Hawks, was the District 4-3A Server of the Year. Throughout her career at HVA, she was one of Knox County's top passers, surpassing 2,000 career assists.

**Elsa Morrison, Farragut High School:** A two-sport star for the Lady Admirals, Morrison has committed to play softball at Tennessee. She's an outside

hitter on the volleyball court and was a first-team all-district standout and the District 4-3A Hitter of the Year.

**A.C. Myers, Bearden High School:** Myers, a senior middle blocker for the Lady Bulldogs, who finished third in District 4-3A, was the league's Blocker of the Year in addition to earning all-district honors.


**Bellamy Parker, Knoxville Catholic High School:** Parker helped the Lady Irish reach the Division II-AA State Quarterfinals and was an all-region standout.

**Alex Mendillo, Knoxville Catholic High School:** Mendillo was chosen for the Division II-AA East all-region standout for the Lady Irish.

**Calleigh Ringle, Hardin Valley Academy:** Ringle was a second-team all-region player for the Lady Hawks, who reached the state sectionals.


**Brooke Dawson, Bearden High School:** A libero for the Lady Bulldogs, Dawson, a junior, was named the District 4-3A Libero of the Year.

Ad space donated by The Knoxville Focus.




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10 a.m. - 6 p.m. daily  
Closed 1-2 p.m. for animal quiet time

# 'Memories by the bushel'

Over the years, football fans seem to make critical, life-changing decisions about team allegiances in their most tender years and live with the impact of those decisions through the rest of their lives. College football fans rarely change their allegiances except under the most dire circumstances.

David Housel's experience is a classic. Housel, former sports information director and athletic director at Auburn and an unswerving Tiger loyalist, attended his first Auburn-Alabama game in 1956 (Auburn 34, Alabama 7). Afterwards, Housel, then 10 years old, wrote letters to both schools, asking for information about their teams.

Housel has recalled that Auburn sent him a football guide, along with a note thanking him for being an Auburn fan. Alabama sent him a media guide and a bill for two dollars. As a result, Alabama got its two bucks. Auburn got his heart. Clay Travis, author of "On Rocky Top: A Front Row Seat to the End of an Era," remembered what it was like when he was six years old as his family prepared to watch the 1986 Sugar Bowl game against Miami. "As the seconds ticked down to kickoff," Clay wrote, "the University of Tennessee's 'Pride of the Southland Marching Band,' wearing fluorescent

orange, formed the T and the UT players rushed out from the tunnel into the bright lights. For the first time in my life, I felt butterflies in my stomach."

Tennessee fans know, perhaps instinctively, they wouldn't want to be anything but Vol fans. Fans of other schools may also feel that way, but they can tell their story themselves. Fans remember carefully what has transpired, harkening to the drama and excitement that are part of Vol football. There are stories, stories, and more stories, some embellished over the years and some not needing to be.

"Tennessee football is long-winded discussions about which group was greatest and who was the best player of all-time," Marvin West once wrote. "Was it Gene McEver or Bob Foxx or Bert Rechichar or Condredge Holloway or Carl Pickens? Bob Suffridge thought it might have been Bob Suffridge. Peyton Manning would have never been so presumptive."

There are memories by the bushel, from a passel of influential people who wore orange and white on Saturday afternoons and evenings. It doesn't take much to get the memory banks cranked up, the discussions started. Someone says, "That reminds me of the time," and things are off and running. Everyone has a favorite Tennessee memory. Most of them are true. Here are a few of the best from the 1960s and 1970s.

In the 1964 season, team captain Steve DeLong



Condredge Holloway (7) is shown at the line of scrimmage with center Steve Urubek (50) and running back Bill Rudder (36) during an early 1970s Tennessee-Georgia Tech game

dominated the defensive front, winning the Outland Trophy while playing for a 4-5-1 team.

Dewey "Swamp Rat" Warren earned a chance under center against Ole Miss in 1965 and somehow found his way to the winning score in the UCLA game a few weeks later. Frank Emanuel also earned All-American honors that season.

There were an amazing three years of Tennessee-Alabama, 1965-1967, when the tally was 1-1-1, yet either team could have won all three games. Each went down to the final frantic moments.

Gary Wright deserves another shot at a game-winning field goal at the south end of Shields-Watkins Field in the rain against Alabama in October 1966. How does Tennessee 13, Alabama 11, sound in retrospect, instead of Alabama 11, Tennessee 10?

Bubba Wyche led the final drive against Georgia in 1968, completing a touchdown pass to Gary Kreis and a two-point conversion to Ken DeLong after time had run out.

Then there was Condredge Holloway (1972-74), continually making something out of nothing, evading tacklers time after

time and looking brilliant while doing so.

We might wish for Bill Dyer to draw one more DyerGram. We might also want to take one more look at the scoreboard clock on the Hill that was really a clock, with minute and second hands.

When it comes to loyalty and service to their fellow teammates, more people should know what Elliott Gammage and Rod Harkleroad, both now deceased, did for Steve DeLong in his hour of greatest need. When they reunited Steve and Doug Dickey at a North Knoxville health-care facility, there were

precious few dry eyes in the room.

Elliott was an inspiration to everyone he ever knew. The same can be said about Rod.

Dave Loggins, a native of Mountain City, wrote and performed a song called "Orange Memories," as part of the "100 Years of Volunteers" ceremonies in November 1990. It's about five minutes long and is full of memories of the players and games that have enriched and defined the fan experience and added excitement to all our lives. You can find it on Vimeo "Orange Memories."

## Heading North for a Birthday Weekend

By Mark Nagi

Regular readers of this column know just how much I enjoy traveling. Getting the opportunity to see new things, have new experiences, visit new places... it's good for the soul and makes you appreciate what you have at home.

Well, this time my travel centered around all sorts of places that I've been previously. And if you have a few minutes, I'll tell you all about it.

Recently I celebrated my birthday (at my age "celebrated" is a subjective term of course) back in my home state of New York. My birthday happened to fall on December 17, the same day that my favorite pro football team, the Dallas Cowboys, played in Buffalo. Being from New York, it wasn't like I could watch Dallas play in person very often. In fact, this would only be the second time I've ever actually been able to do so.

Now, before I get the "you are a bandwagon Cowboys fan" comments, let me mention a couple of things. First, I've been a Dallas fan since I was a little kid. My Dad was in the Navy and the Cowboys had a Navy guy, as their quarterback. Roger Staubach remains my favorite NFL player to this day.

There was a lot of bad football before the Cowboys went on their title run in the early 1990s and I've liked them during the Gary Hogeboom/Steve Peuller days. Also, while Dallas has five Super Bowl wins, you really can't say that there's

a bandwagon effect at play here. The Cowboys haven't played in a conference championship game since January 1996. That's over a quarter century of futility.

If I was a bandwagon fan, I'd be rooting for Kansas City.

My girlfriend and I flew to Rochester and made the less than two-hour drive to Niagara Falls. Passports in hand, we crossed the border into Canada, where the views of the Falls are much prettier. It's an easy crossing, one that took about 10 minutes.

The next morning, we drove back over to America and drove over to Orchard Park, home of the Bills. For me, this is such a fun time, not only to watch the Cowboys play, but because I have so many college friends that live in the area. We tailgated with some of my old fraternity brothers. We are all a little grayer with a few extra pounds, but it feels like yesterday when we were at SUNY Geneseo.

We talk about our families, our jobs, our lives... even nearly 30 years later we have that connection. College is a wonderful experience for many, not only for personal and professional growth, but what it gives us decades down the line.

The weather was cloudy, rainy, and cold. Just the way I like it. For real, overcast skies and spitting rain are my favorite. Walking to the game we saw a ton of Cowboys fans. I was expecting fights in the stands... but when your team is getting destroyed you simply

accept the reality of the situation.

Buffalo played their best game of the season while Dallas played its worst. The Bills won 31-10 and the game wasn't even that close. This game is proof to me that Dallas can't get to a Super Bowl unless they get a one seed and home field advantage, or at a minimum get to play all their games in dome stadium. They aren't built to play out in the elements and unfortunately to win in January you often need to be in the Santa Clara cold or the Philadelphia sleet.

The next day we needed to fly back to Knoxville but took a detour to go to America's greatest college

town. Geneseo, New York has less than 11,000 residents. It has a main street filled with your typical college town stores and restaurants, including Mama Mia's pizzeria. This is a personal favorite and worth the extra hour's drive. We had lunch with college friends, drove through campus, and then headed back to Rochester, eventually flying home to East Tennessee.

I'm 51 now. I'm healthy, have terrific daughters, a house, a job, the best dog in the world... I'm blessed beyond belief. And I don't take any of that for granted.

It was a wonderful birthday weekend.

Even if Dallas got throttled.

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# McNabb youth troubleshoot Knox Esports gear

By Ken Leinart

Gamers, you now have a state-of-the-art venue to show off your skills at Knox Esports, 108 N. Peters Road.

Josh Witt and Chris Castleberry saw the need and took on creating the venue. Knox Esports opened its doors Saturday, Dec. 16.

"It's the first fully dedicated esports gaming center in Knoxville," Castleberry said. "There's a big gaming community here and there wasn't a good place to gather, to host tournaments, or a base spot to host leagues."

Castleberry said he sees the future of Knox Esports as the "hub of gaming in East Tennessee."

A big part of getting Knox



Jason Costner, a chaperone with the Helen Ross McNabb Center, looks on as a youth from the center tests one of the gaming systems at Knox Esports. "This is incredible," Costner said of the venue.

Esports ready for opening day involved testing the equipment.

Castleberry is on the board of directors of the Helen Ross McNabb Center.

The McNabb Center is the

region's leading nonprofit provider of mental health, substance use, social and victim services. The Center offers a large variety of programs for youth including the Children's Crisis Stabilization Unit

at Children's Hospital, a Family Walk-In Center offering care seven days a week and Elevate Recovery High School for students struggling with substance misuse.

Castleberry reached out and about 30 gamers who are enrolled in the McNabb Center came out to help test the equipment at Knox Esports prior to the grand opening.

The reaction of the kids ranged from jaws dropping to high fives and hugs for Castleberry and his staff.

"We needed some groups to come in and help test the equipment, all the software, all the control mechanisms," Castleberry said. "We worked with Helen Ross McNabb to get some high schoolers and

middle school age kids to come in and just play."

"It's great to see the East Tennessee community supporting our students. We have a lot of 'gamers' in our group, and Knox Esports is providing a sober, fun experience to build a positive community among youth. They're going to have a blast," says Lauren Bobrowski, senior director of DCS Programming for the McNabb Center.

Castleberry said Knox Esports is "set up to game." The equipment is state-of-the-art, the internet is "faster than what anybody can get at home," and the games themselves ... Well, if it's not in the system already, Knox Esports can download it.

"You basically never have

to buy another video game, ever," Castleberry said.

There are day and night passes, as well as memberships available.

Castleberry said it's a safe, family friendly environment. There is also a "party" room for birthday celebrations, tournaments, even business get-togethers. There are two party rooms, but a door can be opened between the two rooms to make one room, expanding the number of consoles from 10 per room to 20.

Knox Esports is open from noon - 10 p.m. Sunday - Thursday; noon - midnight on Friday; and 10 a.m. - midnight on Saturday.

Esports is one of the fastest growing markets in the United States.

## Price twins take the reins at Grace Christian Academy

By Steve Williams

Grace Christian Academy has filled its football coaching vacancy with the Price twins, well-known coaching brothers in this area.

The announcement of Justin and Matt Price was announced Dec. 21. They are replacing Justin Long, who is returning to Fulton High, his alma mater, after coaching the Rams the past three seasons.

Neither Justin nor Matt was designated as head coach in the announcement, and it is assumed they will operate as co-head coaches, with Justin the offensive coordinator and Matt



the defensive coordinator.

The brothers reportedly were attracted to Grace Christian because it gave them an opportunity to be part of a Christ-centered school, and feel they can maximize the potential of the football program.

The Rams play in the TSSAA's Division II-AA classification, along with local teams CAK and

Webb.

The Price brothers previously were assistant coaches at Anderson County High School and took over the Campbell County High program in 2011, where they had a 72-68 win-loss record in 13 seasons - the Cougars' most successful run in school history.

### Mays resigns at Austin-East

Antonio Mays has stepped down as head football coach at Austin-East after four seasons.

In a statement, Mays said he wants to "refocus my energy

on another path ... It's been an honor to represent both A-E and East Knoxville."

Mays took over the Roadrunners' program in 2020 and had a 9-34 win-loss record. His team this past season won its first-round playoff game at Unicoi County before losing at Alcoa in the second round.

Prior to Mays, A-E graduate Jeff Phillips coached the Roadrunners for seven seasons before leaving to teach and coach in high school in Georgia.

Phillips had a 52-33 win-loss record at Austin-East and guided the Roadrunners to the state quarterfinals in 2017-19.

## Sonny Trotter announces retirement from coaching

Cont. from page 1

the women's soccer program at Roane State Community College.

But it wasn't to be.

"I am retiring after 26 years of coaching," Trotter said. "I thought about the Oak Ridge position, but I think it is time for me to retire."

"You know my passion has always been to help others, and I strongly believe that I have made a difference in hundreds of young people's lives. Outside of my family, I truly cannot think of anything else that I have done in my life that I have enjoyed more than coaching."

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