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Eight new voting places for Tuesday's primary

By Mike Steely
Senior Writer
steelym@knoxfocus.com

"Lines are going to be long," warned Election Coordinator Chris Davis last week.

Davis noted that there are 10 contested races in Knox County and that all the voting precincts will be open from 8 a.m. until 8 p.m. tomorrow. He also noted that the Republican primary ballot is lengthy and voters should take some time when completing the ballot.

Voters in eight precincts will have new Election Day polling locations.

Precinct 12 voters will vote at the YWCA at 124 Cruze Street instead of the Boys & Girls Club.

Precinct 63 and 63N

voters will vote at Karns Elementary School, 8108 Beaver Ridge Road, instead of Karns Middle School.

Voters in Precinct 64 will now vote at Pellissippi State Community College, 10915 Hardin Valley Road, instead of the Solway Church of God.

Precincts 65E and 65S will report to the Ebenezer United Methodist Church at 1001 Ebenezer Road instead of Shoreline Church.

Precinct 65W and 65SW voters will file ballots at Faith Lutheran Church, at 225 Jamestowne Boulevard, instead of the Farragut Town Hall.

For more information, visit www.knoxvotes.org.

Continue on page 4

All-Tournament Team



Three Knoxville Catholic players and two Knoxville Webb players received All-Tournament medals after Catholic's 53-39 win in the Division II-AA girls championship game Saturday at TTU's Hooper Eblen Center in Cookeville. Pictured (left to right) are Tinsley Walker, Amaya Readd, MVP Sydney Mains, Meeyah Green and Kyndall Mays. Please see the story on the game in the Division II roundup and other high school basketball tourney results in Sports and Recreation, Section C.

Amended growth policy plan approved by Knox Commission

By Mike Steely
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Last Monday's Knox County Commission meeting lasted almost five hours with the majority of time spent discussing amending the Knoxville-Farragut-Knox County Growth Policy. Most public speakers were opposed to the changes and several recommended that the plan's approval be postponed.

The amended policy, which must also be approved by the Knoxville City Council and the

Farragut Board of Aldermen, decreases the amount of rural farmland to make way for more housing developments. Opponents pointed out that no parks, greenways, or improved highways and streets are included in the plan.

Knox County Mayor Glenn Jacobs, who promoted the new plan, spoke to numerous farmers and rural homeowners who chastised the amendments made to the plan. The loss of more rural land zoned currently Agricultural was reflected in the zoning

board session at 7 p.m. During the zoning meeting intermission, seven properties zoned for Agriculture were approved to be rezoned for housing, commerce or industrial use.

After the zoning meeting, the commission turned back to the growth plan and Commissioner Carson Dailey moved to approve the plan. Commissioner Kim Frazier commented that the plan as amended was a "good effort but not perfect."

Commissioner Richie Beeler added a substitute

motion to pass the proposed plan but make it contingent on passing the county's Comprehensive Growth Plan and the two would be activated together at the same time.

The comprehensive plan would further detail future land use in Knox County and must be approved in a state requirement by May 27. Commissioner Larsen Jay agreed with Beeler.

"The status quo is not acceptable," Larsen said of the past growth plans. Beeler's amended motion passed unanimously.



Commissioner Richie Beeler, whose North Knox County District 8 is affected more than any other area by the new growth plan, successfully suggested the amended plan be passed but tied to the upcoming Comprehensive Growth Plan. Stock photo by Mike Steely.

City council's turn to review Growth Policy Plan

By Mike Steely
Senior Writer
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When the Knoxville City Council meets on Tuesday, the first resolution on the agenda may be the Growth Policy Plan. The Knox County Commission revised and passed the plan last week and now it requires passage by the City of Knoxville and Town of Farragut.

The plan, which forecasts growth in urban and rural areas, would then go to the state for approval. The county commission amended the plan to take effect only if a Comprehensive Growth Plan is also approved.

The council will also hear, for a second time, a request from South Bank Apartments to allow the encroachment of one of their buildings onto the public right-of-way. It will also consider transferring the former Sanitary Laundry Building to the Knoxville Community Development Corporation for redevelopment and consider adding

or amending the standards of accessory dwelling units.

Six properties along Pratt Road in Inskip may be rezoned from RN-1 residential to RN-6 general residential with an idea of future residential development and several property zoning changes are before the council including lots on Jefferson Avenue, Kohlmier Road and Delrose Drive.

Portions of five streets will be closed and deeds issued to the adjacent property owners. Part of Topside Road will be renamed "Scenic River Road." The council may approve a \$28,617 agreement with Avalawn Inc. for the upkeep of the Odd Fellows Cemetery and Potter's Field.

The mayor is reappointing Ellen Lee and George Anna Yarbrow to the Knox County Board of Equalization and Councilwoman Debbie Helsley will ask that Jody Mullins become a member of the Knoxville City Golf Course Advisory Committee.

New merit member, Ijams parking, SPC Evans honored

By Mike Steely
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Although much of the Knox County Commission meeting last week dealt with the Growth Plan there were other matters on the agenda that were handled.

Retired California policeman and teacher Michael Crichton was named to the Knox County Sheriff's Office Employees' Merit System Board of Directors by the Knox County Commission last week. Crichton spoke before the commission's work session recently. Anthony Parker, who had also applied, withdrew from the list to replace retired board member John Marshall.

Commissioner Richie Beeler's

idea to have a section of East Emory Road designated as "SPC Jeremy Daniel Evans Memorial Highway" was approved by the commission. Evans was a Gibbs High School graduate and was killed in an accident while serving in Alaska.

Several people spoke out against Ijam's Nature Center charging for parking there. Commissioner Carson Dailey, who said he is an Ijam's board member, responded that visitation is up at the park and the site is "being overloaded." He said the parking fee is voluntary but added that Ijam's is not a Knox County Park and the fee goes to maintenance there. Commissioner Larsen Jay asked that Amber Parker, Ijam's director, speak at a future

commission meeting.

Chairwoman Terry Hill announced a special session for the commission to select a temporary replacement on the school board for the late Mike McMillan. Tomorrow's election will determine the primary winner from the two Republicans seeking the District 8 seat. The winner, on a suggestion by Commissioner Richie Beeler, would be selected as the interim member and then seated when McMillan's term expires in September. There is no Democrat on the ballot for that seat. The two candidates are Tommy Lakins and Travis Wright.

The special commission meeting will take place on Wednesday, March 6.

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Ukraine Has Received Mega-Billions From U.S., Other Countries

From a distance



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

As of mid-January, global aid to Ukraine has reached what the Kiel Institute for the World Economy described as the "staggering" amount of \$278 billion. This means that Ukraine has actually had more money than Russia has been able to spend on this war.

Russia's total GDP of \$1.8 trillion is just slightly over California's GDP and only about eight percent of the total U.S. GDP of over \$23 trillion.

The Congress has previously committed \$114

billion to the Ukrainian war effort, and far too many in Congress want to give them \$61 billion more.

They can far too easily vote for amounts like this because it is almost impossible to humanly comprehend how much \$175 billion is, and because the easiest thing in the world to do is spend other people's money.

If Ukraine loses this war, as it appears they may be close to doing, it will not be for lack of money, and it will certainly not be because the U.S. has not sent this last \$61 billion.

The Democrats are masters of public relations, and it is easier for them since most of the national media has been an arm of the Democrat National Committee for many years.

They are aided, too, by having the bully pulpit of the White House. This is not as big an advantage as usual with the weakest

president ever in the White House, but it does give the Democrats control over what is reported by every department and agency.

The Democrats in Congress are crying crocodile tears over Ukraine. They see the handwriting on the wall and seem to be convinced of a Russian victory.

They seem to be salivating over a Ukrainian defeat that they can then blame on Republicans in the House for holding up this last \$61 billion. The Democrats will never mention the \$278 billion Ukraine has already received from all over the world.

Just before this present war started, the Ukraine government was rated as one of the most corrupt in the world. I hate to think how much of this U.S. taxpayer money has already been wasted and/or stolen.

The Democrats never gave a whit about Ukraine until they panicked over the

2022 mid-term elections. Polls showed that because of crime, high gas prices, and high inflation, the Republicans were about to make big gains.

Even Sen. Bernie Sanders said it would be "political malpractice" to rely just on the abortion issue. But polls showed tremendous sympathy for poor, little Ukraine being invaded by big, bad Russia.

Democrat candidates, especially incumbents, latched on to Ukraine for all it was worth. Both before mid-terms and since, the Democrats have constantly portrayed themselves (falsely) as Ukraine's greatest defender, and Congressional Republicans as mean, selfish, and supporters of bad boy Putin.

In doing this, they have shown little or no concern for U.S. taxpayers and little or no interest in defending our borders.

Aiding the Democrats in

this effort have been the big four U.S. defense contractors.

I voted for the first Gulf War in 1991 after hearing all our top officials tell us how great a threat Saddam Hussein and his "elite" troops were and how he was the second coming of Hitler.

I then saw these same "elite" troops surrendering to camera crews and empty tanks and realized how the threat had been greatly exaggerated.

After a few years in Washington, I saw that every department greatly exaggerated the problem or threat they were dealing with so they could keep getting more money, and the Defense Department was the best at this game.

Most of our wars have been more about money and power than any great threats.

If you doubt this, read the first major speech

President Eisenhower gave after assuming the presidency. It was a speech to the American Society of Newspaper Editors on April 18, 1953. It is probably the most anti-war speech ever given by a U.S. President.

Then read Eisenhower's much better-known farewell address given on Jan. 17, 1961, where he warned us about the evils of military-industrial complexes.

And these were words given by a man who spent almost all of his career in the military.

This is why I sometimes call myself an Eisenhower Republican. Except for a very brief recession in 1958, he gave us eight years of peace and prosperity. He had to fight a Democrat congress for six of his eight years in office, issuing 181 vetoes, only two of which were overturned.

City of Knoxville Resumes Brush Collection

The City of Knoxville's Public Services Department will resume residential brush collection on Monday, March 4. The last four months, the City has been focused on leaf collection, but now they will be switching their machines to allow for brush pick-up.

This process is on a two-week rotation. In order to find out when your street is picked up, go to www.brushpickup.knoxvilletn.gov/ and type in your street. It will tell you if you are on week 1 or week 2.

Collection crews work on a "week-of" collection schedule. Neighbors should make sure brush is set out on Monday of their collection week. One of the most important parts of successful brush collection is a good brush set out. For the most effective set out, follow the tips below:

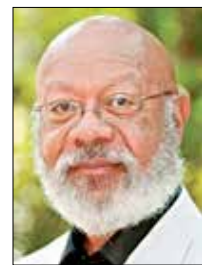
- Place brush where equipment can reach without damaging your property (i.e. away from mailboxes, parked vehicles, utility poles/meters, landscaping, fences, etc.)
- The pile should be within 5 feet of the street; front of property is highly preferred
- Brush pile should not exceed 6' x 6' x 6'
- Brush must be kept separate from trash and cannot include construction or

demolition materials

- No stumps or branches larger than 12 inches in diameter
 - No trees or branches from contractors providing tree services - those contractors should remove materials from owner's property. Large brush piles left by contractors will not be collected and will be flagged by Codes Enforcement.
 - Do not pile brush on public property like medians, islands, sidewalks, greenways, or other public property.
 - One pile per property address - multiple piles along the property line can significantly reduce efficiency.
 - Be sure not to block access to sidewalks or other public infrastructure. Brush placed in alleys is typically collected last due to the need for specialized equipment.
- Open burning is prohibited within city limits, except as provided by the Fire Prevention Code and state and local air pollution control regulations. Knox County residents can obtain a burning permit by contacting the Knox County Department of Air Quality Management at 865-215-5900.
- For any additional information, please contact the City by calling 311 or 865-215-4311.

'B' or 'b'?

A couple of years ago I wrote an article on why the progressive media insists that we capitalize the "b" in black when it refers to race. As was the case with the movement of DEI



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

(diversity, equity and inclusion) and the teaching of Critical Race Theory in our schools, the change was motivated by white guilt associated with the death of George Floyd. The Associated Press changed the case justifying it by saying "AP's style is now to capitalize Black in a racial, ethnic or cultural sense, conveying an essential and shared sense of history, identity and community among people who identify as Black, including those in the African diaspora and within Africa. The lowercase black is a color, not a person. AP style will continue to lowercase the term white in racial, ethnic and cultural senses."

What is interesting is that the so-called conservative media has meekly followed suit. Why? I haven't a clue. The Wall Street Journal capitalizes "b" in its articles but still yields to the wishes of the writers on its opinion pages where some continue not to capitalize "b". I sent the Journal a query as to why. What I got back was the same Associated Press nonsense. The Journal's response in part was that "Black is an identifier that is about more than a skin color. The adjective white doesn't define a cohesive ethno-cultural group in the way Black does, and therefore will remain lowercase in the Journal." Excuse me? What is the "cohesive ethno-cultural group" that the

Journal is talking about? Certainly there is nothing cohesive about blacks in America, Africa, or anywhere else in the world. In fact, American blacks are perhaps the least cohesive

ethno-cultural group in the world. We don't look alike. We don't think alike (much to the chagrin of the progressives). Our African ancestors came from hundreds of tribal groups with different cultures and different languages who were as radically different as the Navaho are from the Apaches. Southern blacks are culturally different from northern blacks. There are distinct differences in blacks in education, nuclear family, and church attendance by regions in the United States. Outside America, there is nothing virtually common about blacks in the Caribbean, those in South America, Central America, various African countries and those in Europe and Asia save having an African ancestor. So please point out the "cohesive ethno-cultural-ness."

Another example of conservatives caving into the progressive nonsense is that of a conservative organization that contracted with me and others to write articles on whether systemic racism exists in education and in housing. In my piece on housing, I did not capitalize black. However, the two white writers capitalized both "black" and "white". The other black writer capitalized "black" but not "white". When the papers were edited, the editor capitalized "black" and not "white." I insisted that my style should remain

the same, as did the others. The editor responded that the conservative think tank was adhering to the University of Chicago style manual which had adopted the AP spelling. Needless to say, I am disappointed that those who claim to be on the right have succumbed to the dictates of the left. Next thing you know, they will be using their preferred pronouns and calling a trans "male" he and a trans "woman" she. Oh wait. They do that too.

Its whites who make these silly rules. Capitalizing blacks but not whites is an artifice. It is an attempt to elevate blacks above whites in a manner that does not alter any existing inequalities. It is an attempt by whites to feel good about themselves without changing anything material. Ask these progressives "How many blacks are in your country club, live in your neighborhood, go to your church, are in your fraternity or sorority, in your book club, in your poker game, in your life?" If progressives and the left really wanted to do something meaningful, they would address the lack of proficiency in reading and math amongst our school children by raising proficiency levels. They have done the opposite and dumbed down curricula and are deemphasizing math and reading. What is apparent is that the left has no interest in furthering the well-being of blacks. Changing our use of the language does not alter a thing. As George Orwell noted, certain word usage narrows the range of thought to the point that individuals in society are not as capable of a broader range of thought. It is time for conservatives to quit adopting the language of the left.



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Publisher's Positions



By Steve Hunley, Publisher
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Buuck's Oponent Running On Federal, Not Local, Issues

David Buuck's Republican opponent's running for Knox County Law Director did motivate him to get a local telephone number and quite probably a local license plate. For quite some time, Buuck's opponent had a New Jersey area code for his telephone and a New Jersey license plate on his car. Considering he offers himself for public office everywhere he happens to land at the time, after the election on Tuesday, he may head back to New Jersey and announce he's running against Robert Menendez, the corruption-riddled U.S. senator from New Jersey. Buuck's

opponent is already running on a platform for federal office rather than local office, so he would be familiar with the issues.

University of Florida Gets Rid Of DEI

The University of Florida has fired all of its Diversity, Equity & Inclusion employees. A memo went out stating, "To comply with the Florida Board of Governors' regulation 9.016 on prohibited expenditures, the University of Florida has closed the Office of the Chief Diversity Officer, eliminated DEI positions and administrative appointments, and halted DEI-focused contracts with outside vendors."

According to a campus newspaper, 13 DEI positions, which were full-time were dismissed and 15 administrative appointments were eliminated.

A regulated was adopted by Florida's Board of Governors in January, which had the effect of limiting the amount of public funding for DEI. The regulation affected those as "any program, campus activity, or policy that classifies individuals on the basis of race, color, sex, national origin, gender identity, or sexual

orientation and promotes differential or preferential treatment of individuals on the basis of such classification."

The savings gave the University of Florida \$5 million to reallocate. It would probably be worthwhile for UT to consider the same thing.

Biden Talks Climate Change At Border

Joe Biden has finally dragged himself to the southern border after three and a half years in office. In January, Biden insisted there was no crisis at the border, but just recently, Old Joe thinks something might be wrong at the border. When Biden got to Brownsville, Texas, he began talking about the wildfires, which led him to chatter about climate change. Biden said those who don't believe in climate change are "Neanderthals." "The idea there's no such thing as climate change. I love that, man. I love some of my Neanderthal friends who still think there's no climate change," Biden said.

The head of the union that represents Border Patrol agents in the U. S., Brandon Judd, had some choice words for Biden.

Judd described Eagle Pass, Texas, as the "epicenter" of the border crisis, while Biden was several hundred miles away in Brownsville. Judd said agents were "mad as hell" Biden went to Brownsville, Texas, instead of San Diego, or Arizona or Eagle Pass.

Mitch McConnell Steps Aside

Mitch McConnell, at age 82, has announced he will resign as Minority Leader in the U.S. Senate, this November, following the elections. Assistant Minority Leader John Cornyn has already announced he will run for the post. The contest will likely come down to Cornyn, John Thune of South Dakota and John Barasso of Wyoming. There are other possibilities as well. Steve Daines of Montana, head of the campaign arm of the GOP senatorial committee, and Rick Scott of Florida who tried to beat McConnell the last time.

Congress Needs To Pass A Budget

Six of Tennessee's congressional delegation in the House of Representatives voted against the continuing resolution last Thursday

that would fund the government from March 8 - March 22. The resolution passed with 320 votes to 99 against. Those Tennesseans voting against the continuing resolution were Tim Burchett, Diana Harshbarger from upper East Tennessee, Scott DesJarlais, Andy Ogles, John Rose and Mark Green. Congressmen Chuck Fleischmann, David Kustoff and Steve Cohen voted for the stop-gap funding measure. Congressman Burchett, who also voted against the proposed temporary spending package, was clear in stating he has no intention of "moving forward with more short-term funding" without the southern border being closed. "We need to pass a budget like the state of Tennessee and the rest of America does," Burchett said.

Green To Run For Another Term

Congressman Mark Green has said he has changed his mind about not running for reelection this year. The lawmaker had previously announced he would not run again and retire from the U. S. House of Representatives at the end of his term. Senator Marsha Blackburn, who

Green succeeded in the House, had urged the congressman to change his mind. Calls from constituents and former President Donald Trump apparently caused Green to rethink his decision.

Tom Spangler Needs Our Prayers And Support

Sheriff Tom Spangler's announcement he is being treated for pancreatic cancer was in keeping with his pledge of being transparent and forthright. The news shocked Sheriff Spangler's many friends and family. The good news is that the cancer has been detected early and the sheriff's prognosis is excellent. Knox County couldn't possibly hope for a better man to serve as its Sheriff. Tom Spangler is fundamentally just a fine man and a wonderful person. As sheriff, Spangler always tries to do his best and never forgets the people he represents. Everyone here at The Knoxville Focus will be praying for Tom Spangler's recovery and victory over cancer.



RE-ELECT DAVID BUUCK KNOX COUNTY LAW DIRECTOR

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Please compare the candidates and you'll see why **David Buuck**, Republican candidate for **Knox County Law Director**, is still the best choice for you and me.

DAVID BUUCK	vs.	OPPONENT
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 44 years of full time legal practice Thousands of cases handled Defended thousands from forced annexation as attorney for Citizens for Home Rule 	Legal Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 years as a divorce lawyer Has handled fewer than a hundred cases
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8 years as Chief Deputy Law Director (2012-2020) 4 years as Knox County Law Director (2020-present) 	Government Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ZERO experience in the Law Director's Office ZERO experience in government law
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overwhelmingly elected Knox County Law Director in 2020 	Elected Office	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unsuccessfully ran for several offices while living in New Jersey and North Carolina and never exceeded 25% of the vote Recently sought appointment as a judicial magistrate and was rejected by all Knox County Sessions Court judges
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Life-long East Tennessee Republican party member and supporter 	GOP Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One disastrous term as Knox County GOP Chairman Eliminated the GOP precinct committees Spent thousands of local GOP dollars with cronies on City Council races and lost every race
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overwhelmingly recommended by Knoxville Bar Association attorneys in a recent poll 	Peer Opinion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommended by less than 10% of attorneys in the same poll

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Federal and state candidates pick up petitions

By Mike Steely
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On the heels of tomorrow's presidential preference and Knox County local primary election is the upcoming primary for state and federal offices.

The Knox County Election Commission has released information about who has picked up petitions for the August 1 federal and state primary and Farragut municipal election. April 4 is the candidate qualifying deadline and April 11 is the last day to withdraw from the races.

Early voting starts on July 12 and the primary Election Day is August 1. The primary ballot will have the following

state and federal offices: U.S. House District 2, U.S. Senate, Tennessee Senate District 6, and state House races in Districts 14, 15, 16, 18, 19, 89 and 90.

Candidates who have picked up petitions for the state and federal primary include Monica Irvine, Republican, for U.S. Senate and Rep. Tim Burchett, Republican, and Jane A. George, Democrat, for U.S. House District 2. In the state Senate race are, thus far, Republican Becky Duncan Massey and Democrat Bryan Domonica.

In the state House races the incumbent representatives with petitions so far are: Jason Zachary of

District 14, Sam McKenzie of District 15, Michele Carringer of District 16, Dave Wright of District 19 and Justin Lafferty of District 89. Incumbent Democrat Rep. Gloria Johnson has a petition for the state's 90th District and is also seeking a primary victory to oppose incumbent U.S. Senator Marsha Blackburn. These state House races are uncontested as of February 26.

Incumbent state Rep. Elaine Davis has a Republican petition and Bryan S. Goldberg has one for the Democratic primary for District 18.

The Farragut municipal race for Aldermen, a non-partisan election, has Alex J. Cain and Joseph M.

Ruffalo seeking the Ward 1 seat and three candidates have petitions for the Ward 2 seat: Drew Burnette, Sean M. Murphy and Randal I. Roberts.

Given the April 4 filing deadline, more candidates will probably pick up and file petitions for the primary election.

August 1 is also the general election for winners of the March 5 Knox County primary. The local offices on the general election ballot are Knox County Commission Districts 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 8 and 9; Assessor of Property, Law Director, and School Board Districts 2, 3, 5 and 8.

Augusta Quarry to close for major upgrades

Augusta Quarry at Fort Dickerson Park will be closed as Southern Constructors Inc. crews begin a nine-month project to add first-ever restrooms, an expanded overlook, an improved pedestrian path to the water, and new floating beach and swim platforms.

The new amenities – a \$3.6 million City investment – are expected to open late this fall.

Combined with a new \$1.77 million entrance and accessibility improvements in Phase I, the investment in Augusta Quarry upgrades totals almost \$5.4 million.

"For many years, transformations have been underway to enhance the unique characteristics of this once abandoned industrial property, and the current phase of work will anchor Ft.

Dickerson Park as a gem of the Urban Wilderness," said Wes Soward, the City's Urban Wilderness Coordinator.

"This has truly been a public-private collaboration, with valuable community input, and the end result will be an Augusta Quarry that's more family-friendly and accessible to more people."

While the quarry and Augusta Avenue entrance and parking lots will be closed, Soward said the Chapman Highway entrance to Fort Dickerson Park and picnic areas will remain open. The upper trails also will remain open.

Future City investment will focus on improving the overlook and enhancing access to the historic Civil War earthworks.

Eight new voting places for Tuesday's primary

Continued from page 1

Early voting down

"Early voting for this election was down 20% from 2020 and 25% from 2016," said Davis.

"With the relatively good weather and an extra voting spot we established up in Corryton, the lower turnout numbers are a little disappointing. However, voters that want to cast a ballot that have not yet voted still have the opportunity on Tuesday, March 5!" he told The Knoxville Focus.

Turnout totals for early and absentee votes were 26,885 with most, 21,440, voting in the

Republican primary. The largest turnout was on the last day of early voting, Tuesday, and the Downtown West Precinct had the largest number of voters, 5,497, with Farragut, New Harvest, Halls, Karns and the Expo Center locations seeing more than 2,000 voters.

Reminders from the election commission

In a release sent Friday, Davis issued the following helpful reminders to Knox County voters.

THE BALLOT

The Democratic ballot is one page. Approximately 20% of early

and absentee ballots issued thus far have been Democratic ballots.

The Republican ballot is two pages. Approximately 80% of early and absentee ballots issued thus far have been Republican ballots.

The biggest challenge the Election Commission has experienced with Republican ballots during early voting is voters voting for more than the maximum allowed number of fourteen delegates in the Delegates at-Large contest and for more than the maximum allowed number of three delegates in the 2nd Congressional District Delegates contest.

All voters, particularly voters that vote a Republican ballot,

are highly encouraged to review the ballot in advance and follow instructions as presented on the ballot. Both Republican and Democratic sample ballots can be found on the home page at www.knoxvotes.org.

PHOTO IDENTIFICATION

A photo ID issued by the State of Tennessee (such as a driver's license) or the Federal Government (such as a passport) is required to vote, unless an exemption applies. Election workers are trained to ask for your photo identification prior to being issued a ballot. Driver licenses from other states are not acceptable forms of ID for voting in the

state of Tennessee.

WHEN DO I VOTE?

Election Day is Tuesday, March 5th, and the polls in Knox County are open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Any voter in line by 8:00 p.m. will be allowed to vote.

WHERE DO I VOTE?

On Election Day, voters must vote at their assigned precinct. For voters that are unsure where they vote, they can visit www.knoxvotes.org and click on the "Where Do I Vote?" box on the front page and enter their residential address. The website will match the voter's address with the correct polling place.

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

Do or Die

The world is too much with us.
Walt Whitman

Punxsutawney Phil “said” to expect an early spring. He may be correct, but the Pennsylvania groundhog is only right ~50% of the time. My Lenten roses and daffodils are blooming and March seems to be coming in like a lion. Time to prune my vineyard and orchard, but that will have to wait after the gully washer we had last Wednesday. My West Coast SIL was visiting some years ago and was amazed by Southern storms which sometimes literally clear our gullies.

The poet Walt Whitman could never have imagined a world connected as we are today by the internet, etc. And I never imagined I would end up as a writer. My education was in science. I never wrote anything, except as a school assignment, until

beginning spiritual journaling in 2001. Apparently, this awakened a dormant talent that science might explain as the activation of a quiescent gene.

I grew up with two brothers who, like me, were science guys rather than men of letters. So where did our love of classical music and my appreciation of poetry come from? My father was a mechanical engineer. Maybe the genetic proclivity came from my mother who was an English major who used to yell at us to turn down the Bach blasting from the stereo.

I wonder if liberalism is genetic. The old conundrum of nurture versus nature is challenging, but I suspect the answer is more environmental than genetic. You’ve heard it said that if you aren’t a liberal at 20, you have no heart, and if not a conservative by 30, you have no brains. I was more liberal when I was

in college, but like Jesus, I “grew in wisdom” (Luke 2:52).

My appreciation for non-science disciplines like history, philosophy, literature and the Bible grew as I aged and through independent study after medical training. Abraham Lincoln was largely self-taught. He especially loved philosophy, the Bible and Shakespeare. I do not share his passion for the Bard.

A country is often judged by the actions and character of its king, leader, etc. This was certainly true in Biblical times. Hezekiah and David were men of God, whereas Ahab and Jezebel were not. Ancient people had no choice in their leaders, yet they either prospered or suffered because of leadership. Arguably, the laws and regulations in the Torah were directed toward the ancient Hebrew nation rather than the individual. Old Testament laws have less import for modern day Christians. We are people of a new covenant, the New Testament.

Americans are blessed because we are able to choose our leaders. But this brings individual responsibility for the disasters we elect. The ancient Hebrews in Jerusalem never thought that the Lord would allow the Babylonians to destroy Jerusalem and desecrate

the Temple. They were wrong. Will God allow us to destroy ourselves? History teaches that He will. Americans must realize the danger we are facing: the end of a once proud and prosperous nation or revival. Many are participating in the destruction by voting for disastrous liberal progressive politicians and their policies. Many are planning to vote for Biden despite his abject failures and divisive leadership. As a result, our country is in a death spiral.

America was founded on Western Judeo-Christian perspectives. I realize some “choke” to hear this truth. My research reveals that Christianity is unique among world religions. No other perspective holds that each of us is loved unconditionally by the Creator of the universe. And since Martin Luther’s time, we understand a personal relationship with God, which is not dependent on a human intermediary, a king or a leader. But this relationship also brings responsibility. We are to love others and be just because each of us will be judged by our conduct and our response to God.

Through the ancient prophet Micah (6:8) God said we are to, “Act justly, love mercy and walk humbly with God.” But can we extend mercy before

justice is done?

We live in an imperfect world and I am far from perfect. But we are challenged to not be of the world. Ashamedly, I focus more on the world than I do on Jesus. However, running away to a monastery is not an option for me. Neither can I ignore my conscience and surrender my principles to go along to get along. Jesus gave his life for humanity, but that is not an option for a mortal. As a result, I try to speak the truth with love and reason and fight on against evil and its calling card, hatred.

In eight months we will vote in the most important election of our lifetime. Every election cycle we hear this, but this election is, to use the overused term, existential. It is far more than between Republicans and Democrats. To paraphrase Yoda, the Jedi Master in Star Wars, “Do or die. There is no try.” The old coot in the White House has got to go. We cannot stand the destructive policies of the liberal-progressive cabal that manages Biden and the White House, walks the corridors of Congress and legislates from the judicial bench. They must be removed from power and the capacity to hurt others. Democrats own illegal immigration, enable criminals to attack police and

citizens, and are complicit in the murder of the nursing student in Georgia and elsewhere.

But all is not lost. More than 50% of Americans are not in thrall to evil and have not lost their minds. We must stand up and vote to save the country. Understandably, we often focus on what is wrong and lose sight of what is working.

Barry Neal is running for Knox County Commission and he facilitated the critical repair of Woodson Drive in the UT Hospital area. A private company, Intuitive Machines, just landed the first American spacecraft on the moon in 50 years. Russia, India and Israel recently failed to do so. NASA defers to the brilliance of Elon Musk’s SpaceX. And true servant hearts can be found with Clint Robinson and Deah Hatmaker, co-managers at Pure Magic Car Wash on Alcoa Highway, who went the extra mile to help my wife recently.

November will decide whether we still deserve the freedoms won by our ancestors. If liberal progressive Democrats prevail, a once proud and prosperous nation will go onto the ash heap of history.

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



PHOTOS BY MIKE STEELY.

Members of Bob Booker’s family and friends received flowers taken from the memorial bouquets. Booker’s family was also presented the flag that draped his urn after the 21 gun salute, prayers and military honors.

Honoring Bob Booker

By **Mike Steely**
Senior Writer
steelym@knoxfocus.com

The recent death of Knoxville’s Robert J. “Bob” Booker surprised many who thought the community leader would live forever.

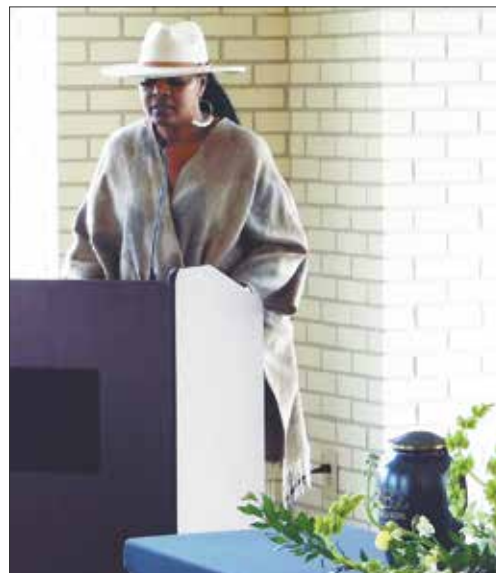
During his long life, Booker was a Civil Rights leader, a founder and director of the Beck Cultural Exchange Center, Knoxville’s first Black state legislator, a historian and writer, a Phi Beta Sigma fraternity member, a member of the state Civil Service Commission, an assistant to former Mayor Kyle Testerman, and so much more.

Booker’s family, friends and followers, elected officials and community members paid respects to the much-loved community leader with services at Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church in Knoxville on Wednesday,

February 28. Thursday morning his ashes were interred in the East Tennessee Veterans Cemetery on Governor John Sevier Highway.

Sgt. Booker served three years with the U.S. Army where, in Germany and England, he was an information education specialist. After service, he attended Knoxville College where he served as a student leader and twice as student president before graduating in 1962.

Thursday’s memorial and interment of Booker’s ashes saw family members and friends watch the formal military ceremony with the Honor Guard, including the presentation of the American flag to the family, a military gun salute, and brief words from Dr. Harold Middlebrook and Beck Center President Rev. Reneé Kesler.



Beck Center President Rev. Reneé Kesler spoke during Sgt. Bob Booker’s interment at the East Tennessee Veterans Cemetery Thursday, honoring one of the founders of the Beck Center and a noted Civil Rights leader.

Knoxville Transportation Authority approves KAT service increases

The Knoxville Transportation Authority (KTA) approved a proposal by Knoxville Area Transit (KAT) staff to return some service to pre-Covid levels, thanks to workforce increases. The service improvements primarily involve service span increases, in particular on Sundays, and will go into effect on Monday, April 8, 2024.

“This has been a long journey of building back our workforce after the pandemic,” says Isaac, Thorne, Director of Transit for the City of Knoxville. “We so appreciate the patience of our passengers, and this helps us prepare for the KAT Reimagined new route network launch we are planning for August of this year.”

- Some of the changes include:
 - All Sunday service returns to pre-COVID service spans, with service from 8:15 a.m. to 8:15 p.m. (service currently ends at 5:15 p.m.)
 - Weekday and Saturday routes previously cut in the evenings return to previous evening service levels.
 - Route 42 Hospital bus returns to 30-minute service (currently once/hour) on weekdays
 - A routing change for South Knoxville routes that will allow easier access in and out of downtown and Knoxville Station

A full list of service improvements and route changes can be found on KAT’s website at www.katbus.com. “It is very exciting to see the service being restored,” says Candace Brakewood, Vice-Chair of the KTA. “I remember a few years ago when we had to cut most of this service and it was a sad day. It is a very happy day to see a lot of the service coming back.”

As new hires continue to come onboard and go through the months long training process, KAT anticipates meeting the bus operator target of 200 in time for the KAT Reimagined network kick-off, currently scheduled for the end of August.

A World of Knowledge



Picture of our World Book Encyclopedias with Yearbooks, by Ralphine Major.

Words of Faith: "And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man."
Luke 2:52 (KJV).

As far back as I can remember, they commanded a prominent place on the bookshelves in our home---a set of World Book Encyclopedias. My brother and I were still in elementary school in the six-



By Ralphine Major
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ties when our parents bought them. A friend of theirs no longer needed them. To our parents, they were a necessity for our schooling. The books looked new with gold embossed lettering on them. Each year we purchased a yearbook with news of that particular year, and tags were included for

cross-referencing. We used the set of encyclopedias through high school and college as our primary source of information. Who among us could have imagined in those days how much technolo-

gy would affect our process of research with computers and the internet today? Even after our school years were behind us, we often referred to the set of encyclopedias in addition to the internet. Technology is great, but there is something unique about turning the pages of a book.

Real life is not on a screen

I heard on the news the other day that the average teen spends approximately six hours a day on social media and games. Most of us old folks condemn that kind of wasted time until we hear



By Joe Rector
joerector@comcast.net

that in our days as teens, we spent about the same number of hours watching television. The one caveat to that statement is that we had only one television for the entire family and watched it as a family. We also spent plenty of time outside. Other boys from the neighborhood came to our house, where we played baseball and tackle football. We also rode bikes

and skateboards without helmets or pads. Yes, it was a dangerous time for children who dared to have fun without being bundled up like the little brother in "A Christmas Story."

These days, it's hard to know whether or not any children live in the neighborhood. They never come outside; instead, their time is spent gazing at the screens on phones, iPads and computers. The only parts of their bodies that are exercised are their thumbs. Some have better setups and can communicate with other friends as they play games. Instead of calling each other, they text.

I don't type fast enough to carry on communications. However, younger people know the shortcuts and zip off long conversations in no time. Spotting a teen who spends too much time on a technological toy is easy. They have no ability to interact with people in social settings.

We oldsters would have said "amen" if we had a personal phone. Instead, we had to hold conversations on the phone on the wall, usually in the kitchen. The entire family might be sitting there as boys asked girls out for dates or when girls tried to talk about the latest news about themselves and other teens. Yes, those conversations were private and caused plenty of embarrassment

for the teen standing in front of parents, brothers and sisters who might be present.

Young folks are also tied to their screens at home so much that they have little interest in learning to drive. They respond "why" when someone asks them if they are excited about getting a license. Many teens don't want to drive. In fact, they seem afraid to sit behind the wheel of a car. I suppose their fears are the result of not being out in public too often. The thoughts of maneuvering through traffic and interacting with other drivers must frighten them. For those of us who walked most places as teenagers, getting a license and borrowing our parents' cars

equaled freedom.

I'm typing this column on a computer as I also listen to the television. No, I don't type well. In fact, I failed the course in high school. I'm thankful for a tool that makes this process easier. Yes, I look at Facebook and YouTube. However, I don't spend an entire day with my face buried in a screen. I need to get up and move around too much, and I am easily bored. My time is much more enjoyably spent working on some project or chore. I wish young people would spend more time outside doing something—working, playing, walking with friends. I'd love for them to get a little dirty sometimes. Maybe more time outside would be a wonderful preventative to

falling ill so often.

I love young people. My grandson Madden is a high school student, and he falls into the very things I've discussed. He also plays soccer and walks with friends throughout their neighborhood. In May, he will have the chance to earn his license and then drive. I'm scared to death for him to begin operating a car, but I'm excited that he's excited about driving. He's rounding into a "normal" teen, at least according to my standards. I want his life to be filled with a variety of experiences, not just those he's had in his room on some doodad with a screen. Life is much better when we're together. Make that teen exit the dark cave and see what else life holds.

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The Strong Man of North Carolina F. M. Simmons

Pages from the Past



By Ray Hill
rayhill865@gmail.com

It would surprise me greatly if one reader out of a thousand knew the name of Furnifold McLendel Simmons. Long ago consigned to the pages of history, there was a time when F. M. Simmons was the most potent political figure in North Carolina. For thirty years, Simmons represented the Tarheel State in the United States Senate.

A diminutive man who seemed much bigger than he was due to an outsized reputation, Simmons parted his thick hair in the middle and sported a mustache. Known for his energy, Simmons was both an aristocrat and by profession, a country lawyer. F. M. Simmons had been born on his father's plantation and was well educated, attending Wake Forest College, and Trinity College (which was later Duke University). At twenty-one, Simmons started practicing law in New Bern, where he lived for the remainder of his long life. At age thirty-three, Simmons was elected to Congress but served only one unremarkable term. When Simmons sought reelection in 1888, the Republican Party was united behind its candidate Henry P. Cheatham, a former slave. Cheatham beat Congressman Simmons in the general election.

In 1892, there was a wave of support in many Southern and Western states for the populist candidate for president, General James Weaver. F. M. Simmons was the chairman of North Carolina's Democratic Party and did all he could to get Democrats in line for their own presidential nominee, Grover Cleveland. Cleveland was returned to the White House and Simmons was rewarded with an appointment as Collector of Internal Revenue for the Eastern District of North Carolina. Simmons welded together an effective political organization and was elected to the United States Senate by North Carolina's state legislature. For the next twenty-eight years, Furnifold McLendel Simmons was the undisputed political overlord for the Tarheel State. Only when Simmons balked at supporting the presidential candidacy of Alfred E. Smith, the Catholic and dripping "wet" governor of New York, was the senator's power broken.

After Simmons had resigned the chairmanship of North Carolina's Democratic Party, Populists and Republicans began to make gains. Within four short years, neither U. S. senator was a Democrat; North Carolina was represented in the Senate by a Republican and a Populist. The Populists

and Republicans, Black and White, formed a combine and called themselves "fusionists." The combination captured not only the state legislature but numerous other local offices as well.

North Carolina Democrats once again turned to F. M. Simmons, begging him to accept the chairmanship of their party. Simmons reluctantly agreed and helped to organize the members of his party. Simmons used every means available to elect a majority of Democrats to the state legislature. Simmons sponsored an amendment to North Carolina's state Constitution to disenfranchise Black voters, who almost unanimously voted Republican. Simmons won a primary in 1900 and was subsequently elected to the United States Senate by the legislature over the incumbent, Marion Butler, who had been elected as a Populist.

While Simmons' single term in the House of Representatives was modest enough, Simmons became a figure in the Senate to reckon with. Simmons was considered one of the leading members of the U. S. Senate and one of that body's most influential senators. Even Republicans respected Simmons, who remained active and busy throughout his long tenure in the Senate.

For the first six years of his senatorship, Simmons served in the dual role of chairman of North Carolina's Democratic Party. Simmons finally relinquished the chairmanship following his reelection in 1907. The legend of the Simmons political machine continued to grow throughout his Washington service. Senator Simmons was shrewd in his use of political patronage and deft in his supporters backing a succession of successful gubernatorial candidates. North Carolina did not then allow governors to serve two consecutive terms; most served four years and then went on to other pursuits or back to their chosen professions.

Once in the Senate, F. M. Simmons worked hard to ensure that his state received its fair share of public favors, usually while a Republican occupied the White House. When Woodrow Wilson won the 1912 election and Simmons ascended to the chairmanship of the Senate Finance Committee, Simmons reached the apex of his usefulness to the people of North Carolina, although he continued to be highly influential inside the Senate. F. M. Simmons did much to improve the ports and waterways of the



NATIONAL PHOTO FROM THE AUTHOR'S PERSONAL COLLECTION.

North Carolina's United States senators Furnifold M. Simmons (left) and Lee S. Overman (right) in 1923.

Tarheel State and continuously carefully tended to the many ordinary chores required of a long-serving U. S. senator. Simmons answered his mail, worked hard to deliver services to his people, and skillfully distributed the patronage appointments available to him to his supporters and friends.

Due to his presiding over a political machine that had proven itself to function smoothly and effectively, Senator Simmons was not usually seriously opposed inside the Democratic primary. That changed in 1912 when Simmons faced three formidable challengers in the primary, including two former governors, William W. Kitchin and Charles B. Aycock. Former Governor Aycock would have been a threat to Senator Simmons, but he died suddenly before the primary. Simmons fended off his opponents and easily won reelection as Woodrow Wilson became the first Democrat since Grover Cleveland to occupy the White House. Simmons became chairman of the Senate's powerful Finance Committee and was a sponsor of the Underwood-Simmons Tariff Bill, which helped to finance the First World War through bond issues and higher taxes on "incomes, corporations and excess profits."

F. M. Simmons was considered a heavy favorite for his expected 1930 reelection campaign. There were rumblings from those Democrats who chafed under the rule of the Simmons machine, but it was Simmons himself who brought about his own political fall. A dedicated prohibitionist, Senator Simmons could not countenance the presidential candidacy of Al Smith. Unlike many Southerners, the senator was not especially bothered by Smith's religion, but the New York governor's views on prohibition, immigration and urbanism were diametrically opposed to those of F. M. Simmons. Simmons was also highly suspicious of Tammany Hall and Smith's proud membership in that notorious political organization. Senator Simmons could

have maintained the "golden silence" adopted later by Virginia's Harry Byrd, but instead he refused to support or vote for his party's presidential nominee. Simmons was also the Democratic National Committeeman from North Carolina at the time and the senator resigned his post in protest when Al Smith was nominated for the presidency.

North Carolina's healthy minority of Republicans were solidly for their own nominee, Herbert Hoover, and there were enough Democrats who followed the lead of Senator Simmons and bolted their own party to carry the state for Hoover.

Oftentimes an aging incumbent seems not to realize change comes whether one likes it or not. The 74-year-old Simmons didn't cultivate younger members of his own party as they rose through the political ranks. The younger folks didn't know Simmons well and had few or no ties to the senator; nor did they have any personal loyalty to the old warrior. Time had also thinned the ranks of his own supporters and friends. Age, illness and death had culled many of his loyal followers from the voting rolls. Josiah W. Bailey, who had run a strong but losing campaign for governor previously, challenged Simmons inside the Democratic primary. Bailey excoriated the senator for North Carolina having fallen into the Republican column in 1928. Josiah Bailey was also significantly aided in his candidacy against Simmons by having the support of Governor O. Max Gardner, who was well on his way to becoming the new strong man of North Carolina's Democratic Party. Another factor that hurt Senator Simmons at the polls was the advent of the Great Depression and the Hoover administration's response to it. Millions of people believe President Hoover and his administration had failed them. In North Carolina, tens of thousands of people faulted F. M. Simmons for having supported Herbert Hoover over Al Smith.

The senator had never

given his political enemies any quarter and he asked for none. Simmons was utterly unrepentant, convinced he had taken the only course available to him. North Carolina Democrats disagreed and Simmons carried only sixteen of the Tarheel State's one hundred counties.

Some years later, W. T. Bost wrote in a newspaper column noting Simmons had taken his political extinction "with great dignity." "He was bigger in it than he ever was in the succession of victories won at the polls and in the Congress." Bost praised the former senator for his ability to "absorb a beating without bitterness."

After completing his service in the United States Senate, Furnifold M. Simmons went home to New Bern, where he lived out his remaining days in retirement. Simmons addressed his apostasy with his biographer, admitting, "I may have erred at times, but my intentions have been honorable. . ." To the very end, Simmons was firmly convinced he had followed the right course in opposing the election of Al Smith. The former senator pointed to a speech he had given at the time saying he would willingly surrender his senatorial toga and retire to private life "rather than vote for Al Smith."

"To this day I have never regretted in the slightest this decision, although I was the only Democrat in either house of Congress to pursue that course. I have never apologized for it, and I have lived to have the satisfaction of knowing that if I needed any vindication, Al Smith's course since then has furnished that vindication," Simmons told his biographer.

By the time he died, even those who disagreed most bitterly with the former senator did not doubt his sincere conviction prevented him from supporting Al Smith.

The ex-senator's retirement years were full of challenges that might well have taken a lesser man down. Simmons had lost considerable money during the Great Depression like so many others and was

forced into bankruptcy. Ill health plagued the former senator, yet Simmons told friends those were the happiest days of his life until his wife died in 1938. Although entirely out of politics, Simmons watched developments in Washington and approved much of Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal. The former senator was especially in favor of the New Deal's agricultural program.

Furnifold M. Simmons died on April 30, 1940, at age eighty-six. The Winston-Salem Journal published an editorial citing the senator's many accomplishments on behalf of North Carolina, noted his leadership of the Tarheel State's Democratic Party for forty years and concluded "Our people are more indebted to F. M. Simmons than to any other man." The Journal opined "Simmons found the supreme happiness that comes to a man who lives with a conscience that has refused to sacrifice principle for expediency."

The Greensboro Daily News editorialized that former Senator Simmons deserved praise but was also realistic about the machine's methods in North Carolina. The editorial acknowledged the restoration of the Democratic Party's rule "was accomplished by ruthless methods which North Carolinians have properly come to disavow." The newspaper also admitted "that these methods, including resort to prejudices" had been employed by the Democratic machine.

The Asheville Citizen-Times published its own editorial about F. M. Simmons and his service to North Carolina. That newspaper likely provided the best summation of the senator's long and fruitful career. "Furnifold M. Simmons was a political boss. There should be no disguising of that fact. But he never wielded his power sordidly or corruptly. He believed in his party and his state and tried earnestly and ably to advance their interests," the editorial concluded.

Former U.S. Senator Furnifold M. Simmons' earthly remains were put to peace in a simple and dignified service. Tributes poured in from all over North Carolina from the mighty and the church was filled to capacity with the old friends who had formed the core of the senator's once vaunted political machine. F. M. Simmons was laid to rest in the inner banks of his beloved New Bern.

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UT Arboretum

Society offers Third Sat. Hike March 16

The UT Arboretum Society's monthly hike for March will be held Saturday, March 16 at the UT Arboretum, 9:00 a.m., 901 S. Illinois Avenue in Oak Ridge.

The theme this month will be a Father-Daughter hike. This is a free program offered by the University of Tennessee Arboretum Society. No registration is necessary. No pets please. This is the twelfth annual Father-Daughter hike, but everyone, regardless of age, is welcome to participate. We encourage grandfathers to bring their granddaughters, uncles to bring their nieces, everyone to bring someone special or just bring yourself! Meet shortly before 9:00 a.m. in the parking lot by the Visitors Center just as you turn into the Arboretum.

Learn about the UT Arboretum's trails on this short trail hike (1 to 1.5 hours). Several experienced volunteers will offer hikes on different trails and at different intensity levels. Participants may choose whatever hike appeals most to them.

This is an early spring occasion to spend some quality time outdoors and to learn about the UT Arboretum's trails.

Please wear clothes appropriate to the weather and boots or good shoes for outdoor walking. We aim for this hike to be suitable for all, but the difficulty level of the hike is dependent on individual fitness. Be sure to bring a water bottle to stay hydrated as you hike. No pets, please. Due to ongoing research projects on our grounds, we are unable to allow pets.

The Forest Resources AgResearch and Education Center, which is celebrating its 60th anniversary in 2024, is one of ten outdoor laboratories located throughout the state as part of the UT AgResearch system. AgResearch is a division of the UT Institute of Agriculture.

To learn more about the Arboretum Society, go to www.utarboretumsociety.org. For more information on the program, call 865-483-7277 or mcampani@utk.edu.



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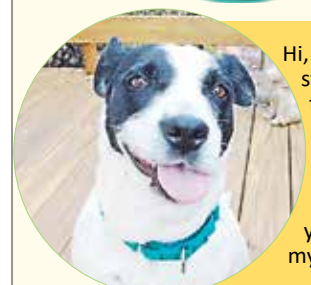
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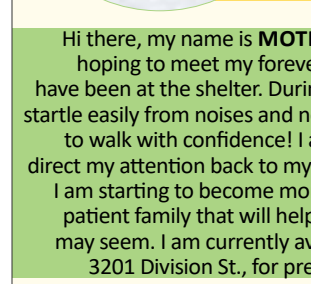
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ALL-KNOX COUNTY BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM

A-E's Mr. Excitement is Player of the Year

Webb's Norris is Coach of the Year

By Steve Williams

You can be sure that many fans have their eyes on Shane Cherry when he takes the basketball court. The Austin-East High School junior guard is exciting to watch ... from his flashy moves to firing long 3-point shots to his wind-mill slams.

The athletic Roadrunner with the long dreads has been voted The Knoxville Focus / Coaches' Knox County Player of the Year for 2023-24.

His title is based on regular season results.

Cherry averaged 27.1 points per game as A-E, which moved into District 2-2A this season, posted an 8-2 district record and tied Alcoa for first place.

The 5-foot-10 Cherry also averaged 3.8 assists, 4.6 rebounds and 3.5 steals as Austin-East posted a 22-10 overall record.

One of his best performances included a 41-point output in the Roadrunners' 69-67 win over rival Fulton on the road in mid-January.

"I've been most impressed with Shane's overall maturity when things aren't going well. He's become a better leader this year. Shane has adjusted playing with a younger team this season. He's also picked up his defense and rebounding."

- A-E Coach Denard Bertrum

The defending Class 3A state champion Falcons got revenge in early February at A-E as Cherry scored 21 in a 68-52 loss.

Shane also is a TSSAA Mr. Basketball finalist in Class 2A, which is based on regular season play.

Runner-up in the Knox County Player of the Year voting was Tyler Lee of Fulton, followed by Drake Ingram of Webb, Devyn Martin of West and Taj Kimber of Fulton.

Continue on page 4



PHOTO BY LUTHER SIMMONS

Austin-East's Shane Cherry drives against Alcoa in the two teams' first battle of the season at A-E on Jan. 30. Cherry is The Knoxville Focus / Coaches' Knox County Player of the Year for 2023-24.

Knox County Boys' Scoring Leaders

2023-24 regular season

Average Per Game

Chris Bozeman, Karns 27.6

Shane Cherry, A-E 27.1

Zack Turner, Gibbs 21.4

Deonte Smith, Berean 18.0

Nate Thompson, S-D 18.0

Dom VanAcker, Farragut 18.0

Justin Nordin, Bearden 17.4

Zane Brown, Carter 17.1

Bubba Faulkner, Karns 17.1

Kaleb Walker, Powell 16.7

Cade Owens, CAK 16.5

Jake Lane, Halls 16.0

Tyler Lee, Fulton 16.0

Cade Murphy, Catholic 16.0

Drew Sloan, CCS 16.0

Zion Oliver, Carter 15.8

Bennett Simerlein, CAK 15.1

Taj Kimber, Fulton 15.0

TJ Tipton, S-Doyle 15.0

Drake Ingram, Webb 14.8

Devyn Martin, West 14.0

Ben Brophy, HVA 13.6

JD Harris, Central 13.2

Cam Mercer, GCA 13.2

Condis Cherry, A-E 13.1

Denaj Kimber, Fulton 13.0

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT TIME

Mains and Lady Irish wrap up second state title

By Steve Williams

The Sydney Mains Era is over at Knoxville Catholic.

She didn't go out in a blaze of glory, but back-to-back Division II-AA state championships will provide a lot of good memories in the years to come.

Mains had a solid performance in her last high school game. Sixteen points and 3 for 3 from behind the arc contributed to the 53-39 win over rival Webb Saturday at Hooper Eblen Center on the Tennessee Tech campus in Cookeville.

Amaya Redd scored a game-high 17 points for the Lady Irish (28-5) and grabbed eight rebounds



PHOTO BY TYLER EDMONDS

Knoxville Catholic's girls basketball team with the rewards that come from winning a TSSAA state championship Saturday at TTU's Hooper Eblen Center in Cookeville. The Lady Irish defeated Knoxville Webb 53-39 for back-to-back state titles.

as Catholic dominated the boards 33-16.

Margaret Frana also

collected nine rebounds and Tinsley Walker matched Mains' 3 for 3 in

26 turnovers, including 11

treys. Catholic's only issue was

times happen when play-

ing as hard and fast as she

Knoxville Webb advanced

does.

Meeyah Green led Webb (21-9) with 12 points. The Lady Spartans were 4 for 16 behind the arc.

Catholic's semifinal contest may have been a tougher game. Christ Presbyterian Academy lost by only five points, 45-40. Mains scored 18 points, but was an uncharacteristic 0 for 4 on 3-point attempts.

Knoxville Webb advanced

Continue on page 4



HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL PREVIEWS

Bearden, West look to be competitive in District 4-4A

By Ken Lay

Mark Allen Bounds is preparing to begin his second season as West High School's baseball coach. He's been pleased with his team's effort in preseason workouts thus far.

"I really like our group," Bounds said at the first annual East Tennessee Baseball Coaches Association Media Day at Dick's House of Sports on Wednesday, Feb. 21. "They're working hard."

As the Rebels prepare for the upcoming season, they know that the competition that they'll face in 2024 may be a bit tougher than what they saw last season.

West, which appears to bounce from league to league from time to time, has changed districts

again. The Rebels have been moved to District 4-4A, the toughest league in East Tennessee and the most consistent in the entire Volunteer State.

The league features both Class 4A 2023 state finalists: defending state champion Farragut and runner-up Hardin Valley Academy. Maryville, William Blount and Bearden also have solid squads every year.

Top returners for the Rebels include Mason Dugan (sophomore, infielder); Emerson Howard (senior, outfielder/pitcher); Konnor Glick (senior, catcher/infielder) and John Whitesell (senior, first baseman).

Meanwhile, Bearden is looking for big things

in 2024, but coach Dave Pritchard knows things won't be easy for his squad because they never are.

"It's good baseball and you're going to have to be ready to play every night," Pritchard said. "If you're not, you're going to get beat, but playing against these teams, the best teams, only makes you better."

Top returners for the Bulldogs include Brooks Wright, (a senior and two-time all-state catcher, first baseman and pitcher, who recently signed with Tennessee); Jonah Koring (a senior utility player and pitcher); Riley Mahan (a senior infielder/outfielder, who will provide power in the middle of the lineup); Brody Benko (a senior pitcher and center fielder)

and Rhys Thomas (a senior who will be a force on the mound and in the batter's box).

The Rebels and the Bulldogs will be chasing Farragut, which has recently won multiple state titles.

The Admirals have a talented roster that includes the likes of Lukas Buckner, Straton Scott, Landis Davila, Brennan Seigler, Michael Delph, Cade O'Leary, Eli Evans, Gavin Brewer, Braxton Lewis, Charlie Bozeman, Jake Merrick and Mason Grube, who have all signed with Division I colleges.

Hardin Valley will likely be strong under the direction of interim head coach David Dillon.

Irish, Spartans must answer early-season questions

By Ken Lay

As the 2024 high school baseball season looms, Catholic and Webb are looking for big things. The Irish, despite a third-place finish in the Division II-AA East Region standings, went on to win the state championship.

The Irish, who went 29-9 in 2023, had to win the season-ending three-game series against the Spartans to reach the postseason. Catholic swept Webb to close out the regular campaign, went on to the playoffs and was the last team standing in Murfreesboro in late May.

Webb, meanwhile, saw its season end after a 10-0 loss to the Irish.

Both Catholic and the Spartans (who finished 11-13 last season) are looking forward to the upcoming season, although both head coaches have some question marks.

"We lost a lot of starters," Irish coach Caleb Moore said. "So we're going to have to have some new guys step up. They'll get plenty of playing time."

"We always have a target on our backs and that target got bigger after we won the state championship, but it's better to be the hunted than it is to be the hunter."

Top returners for the Irish include Hudson Lutterman (senior, shortstop); Cooper Williams (senior, outfielder/pitcher); Grant Tallent (senior, outfielder) and Mason Fields (senior, utility player).

Meanwhile, the Spartans have plenty of familiar faces on their 2024 roster, but some returning players will be in different positions on the diamond this year.

"We have 14 players back and we have experience. We only lost one starter from last year," said Webb coach Jordan Wormsley, who is in his 12th season as the school's head coach. "But one of our biggest concerns is that we'll have people playing in different positions and they'll have to get used to that."

Top returners for the Spartans include: Blake Carter (senior, outfielder/first baseman/pitcher); Carson Dabbs (senior, outfielder/pitcher); Alec Daniels (senior, outfielder); Connor Knight (senior, outfielder); Jack Felton (senior, infielder/pitcher); Griffin Saunders (senior, catcher/infielder/pitcher); Jack Wagner (senior, infielder/pitcher); Asher Harness (pitcher/utility player) and Colten Collier (sophomore, outfielder/pitcher).



PHOTO BY STEVE WILLIAMS

Grace Christian Coach Brent Walsh (right) with AJ Ward and Makai Derry, two of his top returnees, at the ETBCA Media Day on Feb. 21.

GCA ready to compete against tough schedule

By Steve Williams

Grace Christian Academy's baseball team will be "competing to win the district" this spring, said second-year Rams head coach Brent Walsh at the inaugural East Tennessee Baseball Coaches Association Media Day on Feb. 21.

Last season, the Rams finished third in their district with a 6-4 record and an overall record of 14-14.

GCA's season opener on its home field Tuesday (March 5) at 5:30 should be an interesting one against Union County. The Patriots are coming off a banner season in 2023 when they captured their

first-ever TSSAA state championship, defeating Milan 8-3 in eight innings in the Class 2A finals at Middle Tennessee State University in Murfreesboro.

Union County returns three positional starters and seven pitchers.

In addition to Union County, the Rams have two other defending state champions on their schedule this season - Greeneville and Knoxville Catholic.

Grace Christian was represented at Media Day by senior SS-RHP AJ Ward and junior SS-P Makai Derry, a Davidson College commit.

Derry was team MVP and

All-Region in 2023, batting .392 with five home runs and 26 RBI.

Ward was All-District and Newcomer of the Year in 2023, hitting .356 with 22 RBI and 20 runs scored. Defensively, he committed only three errors during the season at his shortstop position.

In addition to Derry and Ward, other top returnees for the Rams are senior catcher JJ Gibson, senior first baseman Luke Huskey, senior OF-RHP Bryson Snyder and senior OF-INF Will Hamilton.

Coach Walsh was an assistant at Anderson County in 2022 prior to his arrival at Grace Christian.

Earlier in his coaching career, his teams won two state championships and were state runners-up twice in South Carolina.

A strong point of the Grace Christian team in 2024, said Walsh, will be the depth of its pitching stable. "We have more quality arms than we have had in the past."

Pharr starts 15th season at CAK

Tommy Pharr is back at it.

The Christian Academy of Knoxville baseball coach is entering his 15th season with the Warriors. Prior to his time at CAK, he was

head coach at Farragut High for 12 years.

Pharr has coached four state championship teams.

Last spring, his Warriors got as far as the Final Four, finishing 26-11 overall and 9-1 in district play.

CAK's season opener is Wednesday (March 6) at home against Webb. The Warriors will host Bearden Thursday and then get ready to go and play in the Gulf Shores Classic at Bob Jones (AL), starting March 11.

"We have a good group of kids and they work hard," said Pharr at the ETBCA Media Day event. "We have a really good

defensive club. There's some scrappiness to us. Plus good unity and close-knit."

Wes Alig, a 5-9, 165-pound senior SS-2B, is a Kennesaw State commit and Christian Academy's top positional player. He was the District MVP for the second year in a row in 2023 and named a Mr. Baseball finalist for Division II-A.

Senior right-hander Jonathan Van Ness is CAK's No. 1 pitcher and a Belmont commit. His twin brother Jamison is his catcher.

Another CAK standout is senior third baseman Christian Rosa.



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Memorable moments in Tennessee football history

Courtesy of the mind's eye



By Tom Mattingly

One thing I've always tried to do, to give context to writing about Tennessee football games, is to let Vol fans know where important moments have happened on the field. It was all about the importance of direction in sports, particularly from the Tennessee perspective.

Consider Dec. 2, 1992, the day of the Tennessee-Vanderbilt game in Nashville and, simultaneously, the Alabama-Auburn game in Birmingham.

That day, Auburn blocked two punts, returning both for touchdowns at the north end of Legion Field. Auburn fans relished the moment as the Tigers overcame a 16-3 deficit to win 17-16. Auburn fans have memorialized the moment as the "Punt, Bama, Punt" game. On hearing the Alabama-Auburn result, someone in the stands in Nashville wondered aloud, "I wonder which way they were going," after hearing about the blocked punts.

At about the same time, Tennessee was leading Vanderbilt 16-10 with the game still very much in doubt. That caused great angst among the Tennessee faithful, who foresaw the same thing happening right in front of them. The Vols eventually won 30-10, but the game, played in a swirling windstorm, was an adventure all the way.

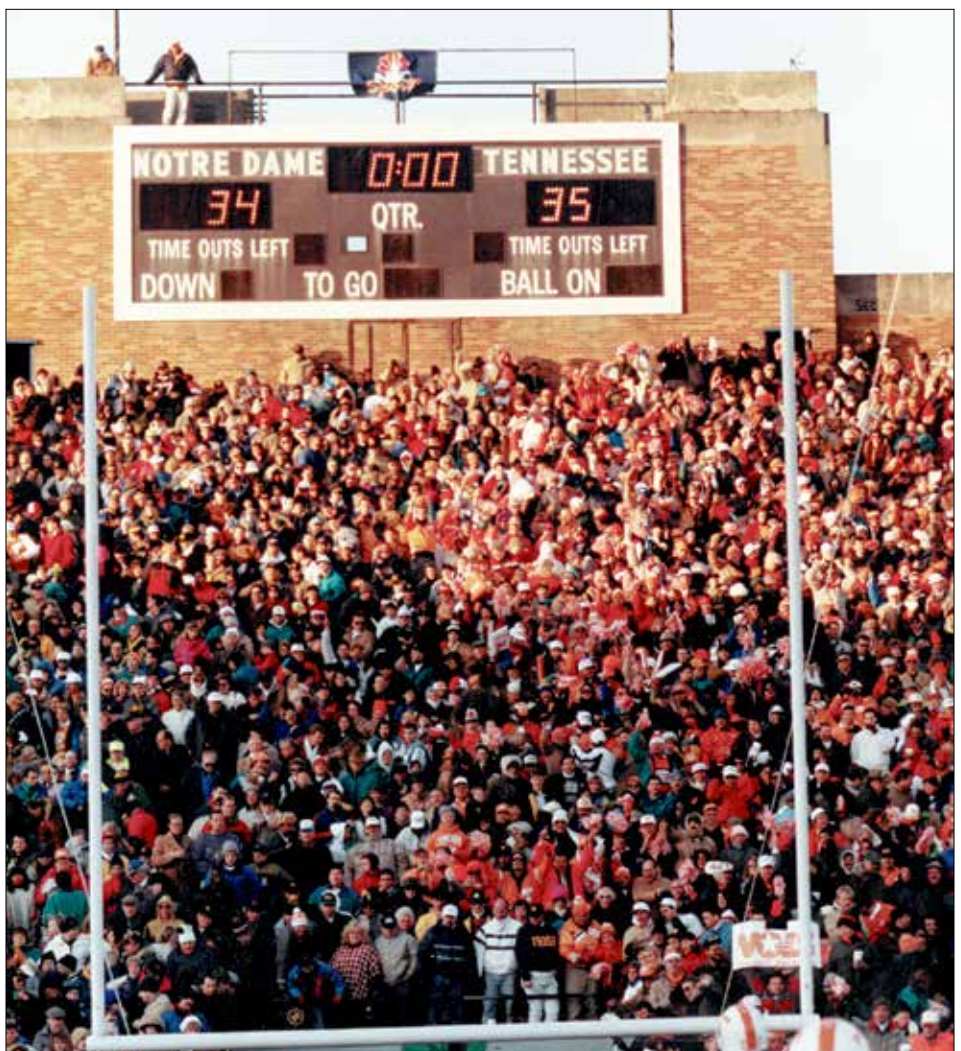
Once plays are captured in the mind's eye, here's an important question. How many significant events have taken place at each end of the field?

Hank Lauricella was going north on his famous run against Texas in the 1951 Cotton Bowl. In 1959, the Vols — most notably Bill Majors, Wayne Grubb, and Charles Severance — stopped LSU's Billy Cannon short of the north goal on a two-point conversion attempt early in the fourth quarter, won by Tennessee 14-13. The Tigers had three other chances to win the game, but could not pull the trigger in Vol territory.

Ken Stabler threw the ball away on fourth down, not third as he thought, at the southeast corner of Legion Field in the final seconds of the 1965 contest against Alabama. For Tennessee, that 7-7 deadlock was one of those "inspirational ties." After the game, Vol captain Hal Wantland said, "Alabama tied us."

Gary Wright's missed field goal was at the south end of Neyland Stadium in the 1966 Alabama game.

Bubba Wyche led the first drives of the 1967 and 1968 games against Alabama to the south end of both Legion Field and Shields-Watkins Field. Both possessions resulted in touchdowns that proved pivotal in Vol victories.



The Vols had a comeback for the ages in the 1991 Notre Dame game. Glenn Thackston photograph

Conrad Graham returned a fumbled pitchout against Penn State in 1971 to the north end, with Franco Harris in hot pursuit. Conrad may not have outrun many people during his time as a Vol, but he did outrun Franco.

Johnnie Jones went 66 yards for a score to the north end of Legion Field in 1983 to help defeat Alabama, 41-34.

Alabama was driving to the north end of Legion Field in 1985 when Dale

Jones made his point-blank interception off Mike Shula.

Tennessee was heading to the north end of Notre Dame Stadium in the 1991 Peyton Manning's 80-yard TD pass to start the 1995 Alabama game in Birmingham went south to north to Joey Kent, on "Play No. 1," as John Ward told uncounted thousands on the Vol Network.

In 1999, Tee Martin's fourth-quarter TD pass to Peerless Price in Tempe went south to north, with Peerless handing the ball

once trailing 31-7 in the second quarter, came all the way back to win and take an improbable victory.

Peerless Price in Tempe went south to north, with Peerless handing the ball

to the official after he scored, just the way he was supposed to. That play helped bring the National Championship home to Knoxville.

Buck Fitzgerald's play against Jabar Gaffney in the 2001 Florida game was at the southeast corner of Florida Field/Ben Hill Griffin Stadium, helping protect a 34-32 lead. It was Steve Spurrier's final game on the home side in Gainesville.

Chase McGrath kicked a 40-yard field goal at the south end to cap a 52-49 triumph over Alabama in one of the best games ever played on Shields-Watkins Field. That led to a celebration that lasted well into the evening, including one of the goalposts ending up in the Tennessee River.

Is there a pattern here? Do the Vols play better at the north or south end of the field? Or does it matter?

IN MEMORIAM: Over the years, Bob Booker and I shared a friendship and a love for the written word. Getting words on the computer screen or typewriter through to the printed page is never easy, but Bob made it look easy. He was a multi-talented man, perhaps even a "Renaissance Man," who left his mark on the Knoxville community. He lived a life full of memorable moments and earned the respect of thoughtful men and women. Requiescat in pace.

Tennessee vs. the NCAA

By Mark Nagi

The University of Tennessee has its share of rivals when it comes to its athletics teams.

Lady Vols basketball against UConn. Vols football and men's basketball against Alabama, Georgia, Florida, and the rest of the SEC. UT baseball against... everyone.

But there might not be a bigger, and more important rivalry for Tennessee than its battles with the NCAA. This is a rivalry that not only will play a part in the future of UT's athletics program, but the entire collegiate athletics system.

On Friday, February 23, a federal judge in Greenville granted a preliminary injunction, basically ruling that the NCAA could no longer legally enforce its NIL policies.

"The NCAA's prohibition likely violates federal anti-trust law and harms student-athletes," U.S. District Judge Clifton Corker wrote in his decision.

Anthony Skrmetti, Tennessee's attorney general who teamed up with the Virginia attorney

general in this lawsuit against the NCAA, said in a statement, "The NCAA is not above the law, and the law is on our side."

The NCAA released a statement in response to that federal injunction, and it read just as you would expect it to read.

"Turning upside down rules overwhelmingly supported by member schools will aggravate an already chaotic collegiate environment, further diminishing protections for student-athletes from exploitation. The NCAA fully supports student-athletes making money from their name, image and likeness and is making changes to deliver more benefits to student-athletes, but an endless patchwork of state laws and court opinions make clear partnering with Congress is necessary to provide stability for the future of all college athletes."

Keep in mind that the NCAA spent decades fighting to keep student-athletes from getting an extra box lunch from Chick-fil-A. They spent tens of millions of dollars on lawyers

in efforts to stop student-athletes from receiving any money at all for their own hard work and God given talents.

But we are supposed to believe that the NCAA "fully supports student-athletes making money" from NIL? If you believe that I have a terrific bridge to sell you in Brooklyn.

The ramifications from this ruling, and the other lawsuits still making their way through the judicial

system, could be the end of the NCAA as we know it.

"Short of intervention by Congress, the demise of the NCAA now seems inevitable based on nothing but a financial analysis, as it appears the NCAA is poised to lose all of its upcoming antitrust cases," said attorney Tom Mars, who is working with Tennessee collective Spyre Sports Group. "The cumulative effect of which could make the NCAA financially

insolvent."

"A bad case is a bad case, and they've put all their defenses forward," Mars added. "And there's no precedent anywhere in the United States that supports their defenses."

Despite the overwhelming popularity of college football and the NCAA tournament for men's basketball, the collegiate athletics model is broken. The NCAA could have been working towards finding solutions,

but instead has acted as obstructionists. Maybe the only surprise is that it took this long to get to get here.

Make no mistake, most of the colleges and universities were happy to see Tennessee take charge and bring the fight to the NCAA.

Certainly, the NCAA will keep fighting against these rulings, but the toothpaste is out of the tube.

And Tennessee is doing all it can to make sure it doesn't find its way back in.

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ALL-KNOX COUNTY BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM

A-E's Mr. Excitement is Player of the Year

Knox County
Boys' Stat
Leaders

2023-24 Regular Season

Average Per Game

Rebounds

Nate Thompson, S-D 11.0
Drew Sloan, CCS 10.5
TJ Tipton, S-Doyle 10.0
Tyler Lee, Fulton 8.0
Devyn Martin, West 7.7
Zion Oliver, Carter 7.3
Kamen Shown, Gibbs 7.1
Bubba Faulkner, Karns 7.0
Dom VanAcker, Farragut 7.0
Brody Smith, Bearden 6.5

Assists

Bubba Faulkner, Karns 8.0
Zack Turner, Gibbs 7.3
Chris Bozeman, Karns 6.0
Denaj Kimber, Fulton 6.0
Zane Brown, Carter 5.6
Deonte Smith, Berean 5.0
Justin Nordin, Bearden 4.2
Nate Thompson, S-D 4.0
Shane Cherry, A-E 3.8
Jaylen Pompey, Webb 3.8

Steals

Condis Cherry, A-E 4.1
Chris Bozeman, Karns 4.0
Denaj Kimber, Fulton 4.0
Taj Kimber, Fulton 4.0
Shane Cherry, A-E 3.5

Blocked Shots

TJ Tipton, South-Doyle 3.0
Devyn Martin, West 2.5
Nate Thompson, S-D 1.0

Cont. from page 1

Webb's Ricky Norris was voted the Knox County Coach of the Year. In his 15th season as the Spartans' head coach; his team (7-1, 23-4) shared the Division II-AA East Region title with Chattanooga Baylor.

Runners-up in the Coach of the Year voting were Denard Bertram of Austin-East and Lin Holloway of Berean Christian, followed by Lee Henson of Karns and JaJuan Smith of Catholic.

Other first-team honorees

Tyler Lee, Fulton: One of three FHS players to land on the squad as the Falcons went undefeated in District 3-3A and 26-2 overall. The 6-5 senior power forward also is a TSSAA Mr. Basketball finalist. Lee averaged 16 points and eight rebounds and was the District 3-3A Player of the Year. He hit 65 percent of his 2-point field goal attempts and 53 percent from 3-point range.

Denaj and Taj Kimber, Fulton: The senior twins also represent Fulton. Taj, who plays on the wing, averaged 15 points, five rebounds and four steals and connected on 55 percent of his field goal attempts. Denaj, point guard, averaged 13 points, six assists and four steals.

Drake Ingram, Webb: The senior wing averaged 14.8 points, shooting 43 percent from 3-point range and 88



PHOTO BY LUTHER SIMMONS

Webb's Ricky Norris coaches up his players during a timeout in a rivalry game at Knoxville Catholic on Feb. 1. Norris is The Knoxville Focus / Coaches' Knox County Coach of the Year for 2023-24.

percent from the free throw line. "He's one of the better shooters in our area," said Coach Norris.

Jaylen Pompey, Webb: The junior point guard averaged 12.2 points, 3.8 assists and only one turnover a game. "Hands down, he's one of the best point guards in our area," said Norris. Jaylen also made 43 percent of his shots behind the 3-point arc and 78 percent at the FT line.

Christian Bozeman, Karns: The senior transfer from Central nipped Cherry for the individual scoring title as he averaged 27.6 points per game. "Christian is a prolific guard in this area," said Assistant Coach Chris

Hartsfield. "He has the ability to score at all three tiers of the court. He is an explosive guard who can take over a game and change the outcome quickly." Bozeman also averaged four steals and six assists per game for the Beavers.

Justin Nordin, Bearden: The 6-1 guard is the lone sophomore on the first team. He averaged 17.4 points, 4.2 assists, 3.8 rebounds and two steals for the Bulldogs (6-4, 24-6). A marksman, Nordin connected on 45.3 percent on 3-point shots, 61.8 percent on 2-point attempts and 85 percent at the foul line.

Kaleb Walker, Powell: The senior led the Panthers

(6-4, 21-6) and was the District 3-4A MVP. He averaged 16.7 points, 4.4 rebounds and 2.5 assists.

Nate Thompson, South-Doyle: The junior forward was strong on the boards for the Cherokees (5-3, 15-10) as he averaged 18 points, 11 rebounds, four assists, three steals and one block per game.

Zack Turner, Gibbs: Scoring was his forte as he averaged 21.4 points. He shared the ball too and dished out 7.3 assists per game. The District 4-3A Player of the Year also averaged 4.3 rebounds and three steals.

Devyn Martin, West: The junior power forward led

SECOND
TEAM

Zane Brown, Carter, sr.
 Condis Cherry, A-E, jr.
 Bubba Faulkner, Karns, sr.
 JD Harris, Central, sr.
 Cade Murphy, Catholic, so.
 Zion Oliver, Carter, jr.
 Caden Owens, CAK, jr.
 Drew Sloan, CCS, sr.
 Brody Smith, Bearden, so.
 Deonte Smith, Berean, jr.
 TJ Tipton, S-Doyle, jr.
 Dom VanAcker, Farragut, jr.

HONORABLE
MENTION

Demarcus Allen, A-E, sr.
 Noah Brewer, Powell, sr.
 Drew Brillhart, Bearden, sr.
 Ben Brophy, HVA, jr.
 Connor Copeland, Berean, jr.
 Neyland Dugger, Powell, jr.
 King Hubbard, Bearden, jr.
 Demarcus Johnson, A-E, jr.
 Jake Lane, Halls, sr.
 Dexter Lewis, Fulton, sr.
 Cam Mercer, GCA, jr.
 Berkley Naro, Farragut, sr.
 Kamen Shown, Gibbs, so.
 Bennett Simerlein, CAK, sr.
 Cam Swearingen, Webb, so.
 Aiden VanAcker, Farragut, sr.

the Rebels to a solid showing in District 4-4A (6-4, 15-8). Martin averaged 14 points, 7.7 rebounds and 2.5 blocks. "He was our top scorer and rebounder and definitely our all-round best player," said Coach Aubin Goporo. "He controlled the lane on defense."

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT TIME

Mains and Lady
Irish wrap up
second state title

Cont. from page 1

to the finals with a 48-41 win over Webb Bell-Buckle. The Lady Spartans got a 1-2 punch from Green (27 points and eight rebounds) and eighth grader Kyndall Mays (16 points and seven rebounds).

In Division II-A girls tourney action, Christian Academy of Knoxville lost another close one, falling to University School of Jackson 36-35. Colie Thompson, who led the Lady Warriors with 11 points and six rebounds, hit a 3-point shot with 46 seconds remaining to give CAK a 35-34 lead. But Ellen Driver sank two clutch free throws with 0:17 on the clock for the winning margin.

The King's Academy also was eliminated in the semifinals, bowing to Goodpasture 58-47. Skylar Walden led TKA with 17 points but committed eight of the Lady Lions' 21 turnovers.

USJ toppled

Goodpasture 70-58 for the Division II-A girls title.

Webb's boys were in a close game with Brentwood Academy in their Division II-AA semifinal matchup, but the Eagles pulled away in the second half for a 63-48 victory. Tyler Tanner poured in 36 points to lead BA.

Point guard Jaylen Pompey paced the Spartans (24-5) with 17 points. Drake Ingram added nine points and six rebounds. Alex Leeth chipped in nine points. Webb shot 3 for 15 from 3-point range.

In the Division II-AA boys title game, red hot Briarcrest Christian hit 29 of 43 field goal attempts, 3 of 4 treys and 19 of 22 foul shots to beat Brentwood Academy 80-71. Fred Smith powered the Saints with 29 points and 15 rebounds. Tanner (22 points) and George MacIntyre (21) led the Eagles.

By Ken Lay

Coming into the 2023-24 high school basketball season, the Farragut Lady Admirals had not gotten a victory over rival Bearden in seven years.

Now, the Lady Admirals have beaten the Lady Bulldogs twice in three weeks. Bearden notched a win in between Farragut's victories in February. But that didn't seem to matter Wednesday night when Farragut snapped another long losing streak against the Lady Bulldogs.

Farragut earned a hard-fought win, toppling Bearden, 56-49, in the latest chapter of the long-running Kingston Pike rivalry. It was Farragut's first win over the Lady Bulldogs at Bearden in nearly a decade.

It also earned the Lady Admirals a Region 2-4A Championship. Ironically the last time Farragut defeated the Lady Bulldogs on the road, it won a region championship in 2015.

"It's been a long time since we've won over here. I think it was for the region championship in 2015," Lady Admirals' coach Jason Mayfield said.

The two bitter and longtime rivals have met four times this season. Both teams won at home during the regular season before the Lady Bulldogs (30-3) won the District 4-4A Tournament Championship in Maryville.

All four games this season were decided by less than 10 points.

Early this season, the Lady Admirals struggled and they were 7-10 just after Christmas, but they turned things around and they've won 14 of their last 16 games, losing only to Bearden after the winter holiday break.

"This team has improved by leaps and bounds and this was a big win for us," said Farragut sophomore forward K.J. McNealy, who scored 16 points, including 12 after halftime, on her way to

Girls Sectional Games
 Played Saturday
Sevier County 69, Bearden 55
Kingsport Dobyns-Bennett 54, Farragut 47

earning tournament MVP honors. "Any win against Bearden is a good win."

The Lady Admirals (21-12) appeared to have a bit of an edge all night as they led, 12-11, at the end of the first quarter before extending their advantage to 23-19 by halftime. Farragut was ahead 34-29 heading into the final eight minutes.

"I give all the credit to Farragut. They were better than us in every facet of the game," Bearden coach Justin Underwood said.

McNealy was the brightest offensive star of the night but she had plenty of help from her supporting cast as Annie Priest scored 14 points and Jaci Neubert had eight points, including five in the fourth quarter. Mya Johnston scored six points, but her biggest contribution came on defense as she was assigned the responsibility of guarding Bearden sophomore Natalya Hodge.

Hodge had a game-high 24 points but scored only

five over the first 16 minutes and made only one 3-pointer. That was in the fourth quarter.

"Mya did a great job guarding Natalya," McNealy said.

Farragut's Carly Vining chipped in with three fourth-quarter free throws to help the Lady Admirals pull away.

Aisha Patel scored all eight of her points in the fourth quarter for Bearden and kept the Lady Bulldogs within striking distance as she buried a pair of long-range jumpers early in the final frame.

Farragut and Bearden each advanced to the state sectionals, which were contested on Saturday.

In other region tournament games on Monday, Feb. 26: Bearden defeated Maryville, 67-48, and Farragut eliminated Oak Ridge with a 48-36 victory.

In Region 2-3A: Northview Academy defeated Fulton, 63-48 on Feb. 26.

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HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT TIME

Roadrunners fall 86-85 in 'classic' battle at Alcoa

By Steve Williams

Nobody hurt more than Shane Cherry after host Alcoa pulled out an 86-85 win over Austin-East in the Region 1-2A championship game Thursday night.

After having scored 40 points, the Roadrunners' star player fouled out with 5:24 remaining and A-E leading 74-71.

"It was just heartbreaking because I feel like this one is on me," said Shane after coming out of the locker room. "If I didn't have five fouls, maybe we would have won that game. "We've got to keep fighting and move forward."

Austin-East Coach Denard Bertrum said his team has the same opportunity as Alcoa to get to state; they've just got to win their Sectional game on the road, while the Tornadoes will be playing at home.

"We'll prepare them and we will be ready to go Monday," said Bertrum.

The Roadrunners (22-11) will play at Chattanooga Brainerd (15-14), while Alcoa (22-13) hosts Chattanooga Tyner (24-6).

Sectional winners advance to the boys' state tourney, which begins

March 13 at MTSU in Murfreesboro.

Alcoa had a 40-point scorer in the game too in senior guard Jahvin Carter. The Penn State commit also reached the 3,000-point mark in his prep caeer. Brady Haun added 13 points and freshman Jamir Dean 11.

Both Carter and Cherry are TSSAA Mr. Basketball finalists in Class 2A.

Condis Cherry, Shane's freshman brother, contributed 16 points to the A-E total and Juwaan Troutman had a strong game inside with 12 points.

"I think people are always going to talk about this one as an absolute classic," said Alcoa Coach Ryan Collins. "Just two heavyweights going at it."

Cherry also didn't score in the first five minutes of the game, making his first basket - a 3-point shot at the top of the key - with 2:50 on the clock.

Alcoa jumped out to an 11-point lead (15-4) before A-E got rolling and pulled within 23-21 at the first stop. The Tornadoes retained a small lead (41-40) at halftime, but the Roadrunners built their

biggest lead (60-52) on a 3-pointer by Cherry midway through the third period. Alcoa battled back to cut the deficit to one (65-64) at the end of the third.

The Tornadoes tied the score at 76-all midway through the final period. Carter sank six of six free throws in the final 1:04 to give Alcoa its winning margin.

"We knew it was going to be close and I just hate it that we came out on the losing end," said Coach Bertram. "But congrats to them. I mean they beat us. We didn't give it to them, they beat us."

It was the fourth meeting of the two teams this season. Austin-East won the first matchup at Alcoa, but has lost the last three.

When asked what the chances are of Austin-East playing Alcoa again in the state tournament, Bertrum said he believes "there's a strong chance. I believe that and our guys believe that."

Shane Cherry added: "We've run into each other a lot this year and to be playing the last one for state, that would be a crazy one."



Austin-East freshman Condis Cherry goes up for a shot in the lane as Eli Graf defends in the Region 1-2A championship game Thursday night at Alcoa. The Tornadoes pulled out an 86-85 win in a game that AHS Coach Ryan Collins called "an absolute classic." Photo by Luther Simmons.

Fulton wins region title, South-Doyle earns first trip to state sectionals

By Ken Lay

Four area high school boys basketball teams competed for region tournament championships Thursday night.

Fulton won the Region 2-3A Championship in dominant fashion as it defeated Union County, 96-44 at Anderson County High School.

The Falcons (31-2) won their third consecutive region title and will host Bristol's Tennessee High tonight (March 4) at Jody Wright Arena in a state sectional tilt.

Tipoff between the Falcons and the Vikings (18-16) is slated for 7 p.m. A victory would punch a ticket to next week's Class 3A State Tournament for Fulton, which is the defending state champion.

On their regional run in 2024, the Falcons breezed past Scott, Clinton and the Patriots.

In Tuesday's win over the Dragons in the region semifinals, the Falcons won their 12th consecutive game as they notched an 82-40

Boys State Sectional Games
All will be played today (March 4) at 7 p.m. unless otherwise noted

Class 2A
Austin-East at Chattanooga Brainerd

Class 3A
Tennessee at Fulton
South-Doyle at Upperman, 8 p.m.

Class 4A
Bearden at Morristown East

victory. Denaj Kimber scored 21 points for Fulton, while Denaj Kimber (his twin brother) scored 13 to help Fulton qualify for the state sectionals.

In Region 3-3A: South-Doyle, despite losing in its first-ever region championship game appearance to Red Bank Thursday, will play in its first-ever state sectional tonight.

The Cherokees will travel to Baxter to face Upperman tonight with a state tournament berth hanging in the balance.

South-Doyle (19-11) earned its first trip to the regional final with a

62-58 victory over Signal Mountain at East Ridge High School.

The Cherokees had three players post double figures in the scoring column in the regional semifinals. T.J. Tipton scored 17 points, while Elgil Mikkelsen added 16 and Troit Patterson finished with 10.

Meanwhile at Bearden, the host Bulldogs dropped the Region 2-4A title game to District 4-4A rival Maryville, 55-48. Sophomore Justin Nordin, who sent Bearden to the title tilt with a big shot Tuesday night, had 12 points.

Nordin's 3-pointer as time expired lifted the Bulldogs to a 48-47 victory over Oak Ridge Tuesday night at William Blount in the region semifinals, eliminating the Wildcats (the District 3-4A

Champions) from postseason contention.

Bearden (28-8) will play at Morristown East tonight at 7 in a state sectional contest.

In Region 1-2A: Alcoa

defeated Austin-East, 86-85, despite 40 points from Shane Cherry, a junior guard and University of Tennessee recruiting target.

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Murphey receives congratulations from Sloan

Both have earned a place in TSSAA record book

By Steve Williams

One goal accomplished and another is still in her plans.

Ella Murphy's victory in the 185-pound weight class at the Williamson County Ag Expo Center – pinning Carter Grissom of Murfreesboro Riverdale in 2 minutes and 34 seconds – capped her four-year goal of going undefeated and winning four state titles in her prep career.

It all started in 2021 when Ella was a freshman and heard about Hardin Valley's Kenya Sloan capturing four state titles and going unbeaten (2015-18).

"The fact that two four-time state champions went to Hardin Valley is just insane because there's not really a girls program," said Murphey. "We both were pretty much the only girl; we were the only consistent girl on the team. It's a great big coincidence that we both went to the same school."

Sloan won her first three titles in the 165-pound weight class and her fourth at 160. Murphey won the 190-pound weight class as a freshman and earned her last three state crowns at 185. Ella received congratulations from Kenya last week.

Sloan, who went on to compete successfully at Campbellsville University in Kentucky, is now a girls wrestling coach at Knoxville Catholic, said Murphey, who will be continuing her wrestling career at Oklahoma City University under Coach Nicole Tyson.

Murphey said Tyson is the reason she chose to go to OCU. Ella's "end goal" is making it to the Olympics.

By the way, women's wrestling will be held at the Paris Olympics



this summer and in Los Angeles in 2028.

No action taken on FBA and BCS proposal

The TSSAA Board of Control took no action on the proposal of First Baptist Academy and Berean Christian School asking to consider dividing Division II from two classifications to three classifications in boys' and girls' basketball and girls' volleyball.

Karns' Krickett Jones wins state mat title

Karns senior Krickett Jones won her first TSSAA state wrestling title over Science Hill sophomore Sawyer Ward with the fall coming at 3:31 in the 152-pound weight class at Franklin on Feb. 24.

Ward came into the match with an impressive 42-2 record, while Jones was 18-8.



Krickett Jones jumps into the arms of Karns wrestling coach Hunter Fendley after winning the TSSAA state championship in the 152-pound weight class on Feb. 24 in Franklin.



Wearing a crown and her TSSAA championship medals, Hardin Valley's Ella Murphey smiles on the podium after completing her four-year goal of winning four state titles and going unbeaten. She is believed to be one of only five women to ever complete this feat.

But Karns Coach Hunter Fendley said: "Krickett was razor focused and well prepared. She avenged losses to three different ladies on her way to the state title."

Fendley added that Karns was fortunate to have Marcus Bergan as mat coach and he's been extremely beneficial in building the program.

"His teaching ability has brought stability and consistency to Karns wrestling which it hasn't seen since the Dan Dugger days.

"Krickett was an exceptional leader this past season and helped to bring out the best in all our wrestlers. We will truly miss her and all she has done for Karns wrestling."

Fendley said Jones plans to go to TCAT and become a welder.

Knox County also had three runners-up at the state tournament – Halls' Sophia Satterfield (29-1) in the 132-pound weight class, freshman Delilah Queen of Catholic in the 138-pound

division and Catholic senior Rebecca Deyo (27-3) at 165.

Gibbs' girls placed fifth in the team scoring, with freshman Cora Finstad (100) and junior Delaney Nichols (126) each placing third. Espe Cruz (114) took fifth and Alli Scaggs (138) sixth.

Jim Carter makes his mark in TSSAA

Jim Carter, son of former TSSAA Executive Director Ronnie Carter, is being honored as a 2023-24 Distinguished Service Award winner.

Jim is now athletics director and baseball coach at Goodpasture Christian School in Madison and nearing 1,000 games as a head baseball coach. He has been involved in coaching, educating and helping young people for over 25 years.

Carter's 2022 Goodpasture team captured the Division II-A state title and he has had four other state runner-up teams.

Local wrestlers earn medals at State Championships

By Ken Lay

The 2023-24 boys high school wrestling season came to a close recently at the TSSAA State Championships at the Williamson County Expo Center in Franklin.

The two-day event concluded on Saturday, Feb. 24, and several area wrestlers were on the podium receiving medals to culminate a successful campaign.

In Class A, Seymour High School's Samuel Comes won the state title in the 113-pound weight class as he recorded a major decision victory, defeating Soddy-Daisy's Ayden Jones

Comes, a sophomore, compiled a 57-2 record in his bouts this season. Seymour's Cayden Ziets (120 pounds) finished sixth in his division.

Also in Class A, Gibbs High juniors Ezra Finstad and Brody Ford each finished third in their respective weight classes. Finstad, who competes in the 126-pound weight class, won his 150th career bout in the Midstate. Ford was fourth at 132.


In Class AA: Halls, the 2023 Class A State Champion, finished seventh as a team after being re-classified.

Harlen Hunley (150 pounds) was state runner-up. Barrett Whaley (157) finished third. Jordan Sexton was fifth (132), while Blair Whaley (190) and Caleb Turner (285) each came in fifth.


Hardin Valley Academy's Brock Connatser finished third in the 113-pound weight class. He was 56-3 this season.

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The Default Start Time for Court is 9 a.m.

When there is an upcoming hearing on a case it is incredibly important that the lawyers make sure they get their clients to court in the right place and at the right time.



By Jedidiah McKeehan
 jed@attorney-knoxville.com

Why is 9:00 a.m. the default start time for court? I have no idea. Perhaps it gives the judge and court staff time to arrive at the courthouse at the normal workday start time of 8:00 a.m., get themselves settled,

and then start hearing cases in the courtroom. That is just a guess though. The takeaway for you should be that if you have to show up for court and you are unsure at what time court starts, the likely answer is 9:00 a.m.

and then start hearing cases in the courtroom. That is just a guess though. The takeaway for you should be that if you have to show up for court and you are unsure at what time court starts, the likely answer is 9:00 a.m.

If you ever have any doubt in your mind about what time to show up, the default time is 9:00 a.m.

This goes without saying, but I will say it anyway, you probably do not want to be walking into court right at 9:00 a.m. It is always a good idea to show up at least 15 minutes early, and if you are going somewhere that you have never been before, it may be a good idea to show up even earlier than that.

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

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 2 BR, 700 SQ FT APARTMENTS
 \$900/ MONTH
865-573-1000

HELP WANTED

RETIREE NEEDS DEPENDABLE HELPER TO ASSIST WITH MORNING ROUTINE - BREAKFAST, LOADING DISHWASHER, LOAD OF LAUNDRY, ETC. TWO HOURS PER DAY, 3 TO 4 DAYS A WEEK. \$18 HR. JOHN SEVIER HWY. AREA. CALL FOR INTERVIEW. 865-337-7137.

WANTED

*****WANTED*****
MILITARY ANTIQUES and SOUVENIRS, ALL ERAS
 ESPECIALLY WWII - VIETNAM
 UNIFORMS, MEDALS, HELMETS, SWORDS, ETC.
CALL 865-368-0682

*****WANTED*****
 BROKEN PUSH OR RIDING \$10-20 PUSH OR \$40-100 RIDING MUST BE COMPLETE
865-933-9660
 LEAVE PHONE # IF NO ANSWER

Call or email Ruthie at 865-686-9970 or ruthie@knoxfocus.com to place your Classified or Service Directory advertisement!

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

FORECLOSURE NOTICES

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE'S NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

WHEREAS, on the 15th day of May, 2023, Jason Charles Swanson and Chelsea Erin Fontaine executed a Wrap Around Deed of Trust to Wagon Wheel Title & Escrow, LLC, a resident of Davidson County, Tennessee, as Trustee for the benefit of First to Fight, LLC, a Texas limited liability company, to secure a promissory note in the principal amount of \$235,000.00, all as fully set forth in said Deed of Trust that is recorded at Instrument No. 202305230062746, in the Register's Office for Knox County, Tennessee, to which reference is hereby made; and

WHEREAS, the holder of the Note, pursuant to the authority granted in the Deed of Trust, has appointed C. Dan Scott as Substitute Trustee, with the same powers as the original Trustee; and

WHEREAS, default has been made in the payment of said indebtedness, said indebtedness being now past due and the entire amount thereof having been declared due and payable in accordance with the terms of said Note and the Deed of Trust.

NOW THEREFORE, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that by virtue of the authority invested in me, I will on the **27th day of March, 2024** at 11:00 a.m. (EST), offer for sale and sell at the front door of the City and County Building, Main Street Entrance, located at 400 Main Street, Knoxville, TN 37902, in Knox County, Tennessee, to the last, highest, and best bidder for cash in hand, the following described real estate to-wit:

SITUATED in Civil District Number Eight (8) of Knox County, Tennessee, and without the corporate limits of the City of Knoxville, Tennessee, and being more particularly described as follows:

BEGINNING at a point in the South line of Strawberry Plains Pike, distant 497 feet, more or less, Westerly from the center line of Mollie Bright Road and said point being distant 30 feet from the center line of Strawberry Plains Pike; thence from said beginning point, South 16 deg. 20 min. East 435 feet to a 10 inch persimmon tree on the hill; thence South 76 deg. 10 min. West 343.4 feet to an iron pin; thence North 04 deg. 06 min. West 439.7 feet to an iron pin in the South line of Strawberry Plains Pike; thence with said line, North 75 deg. 54 min. East 250 feet to the **POINT OF BEGINNING**.

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

BEING the same property conveyed to Jason Charles Swanson and Chelsea Erin Fontaine by deed of record at Instr. No. 202305230062746, in the Register's Office for Knox County, Tennessee.

The real property will be sold AS IS, WHERE IS, with no warranties or representations of any kind, express or implied, including without limitation, warranties regarding condition of the property or marketability of title.

THE REAL PROPERTY WILL BE SOLD SUBJECT TO the terms and provisions of the Deed of Trust granted by Monique Lisa K. Resto, a single woman, securing indebtedness in the original principal amount of \$225,000.00, that is of record at Instr. No. 202212300037518, in the Register's Office for Knox County, Tennessee, to which reference is here made.

All references to recorded documents refer to recordation at the Register's Office for Knox County, Tennessee.

The right is reserved to adjourn the day of sale to another day certain, without further publication and in accordance with law, upon announcement of such adjournment on the day and at the time and place of sale set forth above

The address of the property, but not a part of the property description, is believed to be 8218 Strawberry Plains Pike, Knoxville, TN 37924.

This notice shall be published in the The Knoxville Focus, a newspaper published in Knox County, Tennessee, on March 4, 2024, March 11, 2024, and March 18, 2024.

Date this the 28th day of March 2024.

s/C. Dan Scott, Trustee

Scott Law Group, PC
P.O. Box 547
Seymour, TN 37885
865-246-1050

COURT NOTICES

NON-RESIDENT NOTICE

KENNETH DOWELL MIDKIFF-Vs- PATRICIA DIANE MIDKIFF
Docket# 157961

IN THE FOURTH CIRCUIT COURT OF KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE

In this cause, it appearing from the Complaint filed, which is sworn to, that the defendant PATRICIA DIANE MIDKIFF is 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 PATRICIA DIANE MIDKIFF.

IT IS ORDERED that said defendant file an answer to an action of COMPLAINT FOR DIVORCE filed by KENNETH DOWELL MIDKIFF, Plaintiff herein, with the Fourth Circuit Court in Knoxville, Tennessee, and with JERRY R. GIVENS, Plaintiffs Attorney whose address is 89724 KINGSTON PK. STE 504, within thirty (30) days of the last date of publication, and if you do not answer or otherwise respond, a Default Judgment may be entered against you on the thirtieth (30th) day after the fourth (4th) publication. This notice will be published in The Knoxville Focus for four (4) consecutive weeks. This the 5TH day of FEBRUARY, 2024.

Mike Hammond
Clerk
Michelle Henry
Deputy Clerk

NON-RESIDENT NOTICE

TO: CINDY ALLEBACH, DANA ALLEBACH, DEAN ALLEBACH, C.A. HENRY, H. VINCENT OLSON, DEBBIE ASH, GARY ASH, ROY BALES, AND THEIR HEIRS AT LAW, AND ALL OTHER UNNAMED INTERESTED PARTIES.

IN RE: REGIONS BANK v. CINDY ALLEBACH, DANA ALLEBACH, DEAN ALLEBACH, C.A.

HENRY, H. VINCENT OLSON, DEBBIE ASH, GARY ASH, ROY BALES, AND THEIR HEIRS AT LAW, AND ALL OTHER UNNAMED INTERESTED PARTIES.

NO. 207718-3

IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE

In this Cause, it appearing from the Complaint filed, which is sworn to, that the defendant CINDY ALLEBACH, DANA ALLEBACH, DEAN ALLEBACH, C.A. HENRY, H. VINCENT OLSON, DEBBIE ASH, GARY ASH, ROY BALES, AND THEIR HEIRS AT LAW, AND ALL OTHER UNNAMED INTERESTED PARTIES, and all persons unknown, claiming any legal or equitable right, title, estate, lien, or interest in the property described in the complaint, a non-resident of the State of Tennessee, or whose whereabouts cannot be ascertained upon diligent search and inquiry, so that the ordinary process of law cannot be served upon CINDY ALLEBACH, DANA ALLEBACH, DEAN ALLEBACH, C.A. HENRY, H. VINCENT OLSON, DEBBIE ASH, GARY ASH, ROY BALES, AND THEIR HEIRS AT LAW, AND ALL OTHER UNNAMED INTERESTED PARTIES and all persons unknown, claiming any legal or equitable right, title, estate, lien, or interest in the property described in the complaint is ordered that said defendant, CINDY ALLEBACH, DANA ALLEBACH, DEAN ALLEBACH, C.A. HENRY, H. VINCENT OLSON, DEBBIE ASH, GARY ASH, ROY BALES, AND THEIR HEIRS AT LAW, AND ALL OTHER UNNAMED INTERESTED PARTIES, file an answer with The Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court at Knoxville, Tennessee and with B. Anthony Saunders, an Attorney whose address is 333 Commerce Street,

Suite 1050 Nashville, Tennessee 37201 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 The Knoxville Focus Newspaper for four (4) consecutive weeks. This 13TH day of FEBRUARY 2024.

J. Scott Griswold
Clerk and Master

NON-RESIDENT NOTICE

TO: CAROLINE CLEVENGER, CATHY G. STEVENS, RANDY MESSER, MARIE SANTOS, EDWARD EICKHOFF JR., ALL UNKNOWN HEIRS OF CLARENCE RIGGS, ALL UNKNOWN HEIRS OF THE ESTATE OF JUANITA EICKHOFF, AND ALL UNKNOWN HEIRS FOR THE ESTATE OF RONNIE RIGGS

IN RE: RUBIN LUBLIN TN vs. CAROLINE CLEVENGER, CATHY G. STEVENS, RANDY MESSER, MARIE SANTOS, EDWARD EICKHOFF JR., ALL UNKNOWN HEIRS OF CLARENCE RIGGS, ALL UNKNOWN HEIRS OF THE ESTATE OF JUANITA EICKHOFF, AND ALL UNKNOWN HEIRS FOR THE ESTATE OF RONNIE RIGGS

NO. 206313-2

IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE

In this Cause, it appearing from the Complaint filed, which is sworn to, that the defendant CAROLINE CLEVENGER, CATHY G. STEVENS, RANDY MESSER, MARIE SANTOS, EDWARD EICKHOFF JR., ALL UNKNOWN HEIRS OF CLARENCE RIGGS, ALL UNKNOWN HEIRS OF THE ESTATE OF JUANITA EICKHOFF, AND ALL UNKNOWN HEIRS FOR THE ESTATE OF RONNIE RIGGS, and all persons unknown, claiming any legal or equitable right, title, estate, lien, or interest in the property described in the complaint, a non-resident of the State of Tennessee, or whose whereabouts cannot be ascertained upon diligent search and inquiry, so that the ordinary process of law cannot be served upon CAROLINE CLEVENGER, CATHY G. STEVENS, RANDY MESSER, MARIE SANTOS, EDWARD EICKHOFF JR., ALL UNKNOWN HEIRS OF CLARENCE RIGGS, ALL UNKNOWN HEIRS OF THE ESTATE OF JUANITA EICKHOFF, AND ALL UNKNOWN HEIRS FOR THE ESTATE OF RONNIE RIGGS, file an answer with the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court at Knoxville, Tennessee and with PATTY WHITEHEAD, an Attorney whose address is 3145 AVALON RIDGE PLACE, SUITE 100 PEACHTREE CORNERS, GA 30071 within thirty (30) days of the last date of publication or a judgment by default will be taken against you and the cause will be set for hearing Ex-Parte as to you before Chancellor Richard B. Armstrong, Jr., at the Knox County Chancery Court, Division II, 400 Main Street, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902. This notice will be published in a The Knoxville Focus Newspaper for four (4) consecutive weeks. This 6th day of FEBRUARY, 2024.

J. Scott Griswold
Clerk and Master

NON-RESIDENT NOTICE

TO: NATHAN PODEWILS

IN RE: MATTHEW DEAN PODEWILS, a minor By Natural Parent and Guardian, LYSA NICOLE COLLINS Petitioner.

NO. 207869-1

IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE

In this cause, it appearing from the Complaint filed, which is sworn to, that the defendant NATHAN PODEWILS 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 NATHAN PODEWILS, it is ordered that said defendant NATHAN PODEWILS file an answer with the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court at Knoxville, Tennessee and with SARAH R. JOHNSON, an Attorney whose address is 11907 KINGSTON PIKE, STE. 201 KNOXVILLE, TN 37934 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 20TH day of FEBRUARY, 2024

J. Scott Griswold
Clerk and Master

PUBLIC NOTICE CHANCERY COURT SALE OF VALUABLE PROPERTY

D. CHRISTIAN CAIN, Petitioner, v. SUSAN B. CAIN, Respondent.
No. 205772-1

LOCATION: SITUATED in District No. Nine (9) of Knox County, Tennessee, without the corporate limits of the City of Knoxville, Tennessee, being known and designated as Lot 2, RESUB OF LOT 1, B. A. BOWER ESTATE AND TRACTS 1 & 2 OF KNOXVILLE CANVAS CRAFTERS, as shown on the plat of the same record being Instrument No. 200107050000906, in the Register's Office for Knox County, Tennessee.

TOGETHER WITH AND SUBJECT TO the rights and obligations in and to a 50-foot joint permanent easement as shown on the recorded map of record in Instrument No. 200107050000906, in the Register's Office for Knox County, Tennessee, and by Joint Permanent Easement Agreement of record in Deed Book 1807, page 461, in the Register's Office for Knox County, Tennessee.

TOGETHER WITH AND SUBJECT TO the rights and obligations in and to a 25-foot joint permanent easement as shown on the recorded map of record in Instrument No. 200107050000906, in the Register's Office for Knox County, Tennessee, and as set out in Declaration of Permanent Easement of record as Instrument No. 200107050000895, in the Register's Office for Knox County, Tennessee.

FURTHER CONVEYED SUBJECT TO Fire Protection Agreement of record in Deed Book 1807, page 473, in the Register's Office for Knox County, Tennessee.

BEING the same property conveyed to D. Christian Cain and wife, Susan B. Cain Janet S. Bower by Warranty Deed dated October 8, 2002, and recorded as Instrument No. 200210100031093, in the Knox County Register of Deeds Office.

This parcel is commonly known as 8910 Valgro Road, Knoxville, Tennessee 37920, and bears Tax Parcel No. 138-273.03.

The sale is being conducted by the Clerk and Master for the Knox County Chancery Court on behalf of the Knox County Chancery Court pursuant to the Order entered October 27, 2023, in the above cause of action.

DATE AND TIME OF SALE: Friday, April 5, 2024, at 11:00 a.m.

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

TERMS: The sale will be for cash. The purchaser may either (i) pay the entire purchase price at the time of sale or (ii) pay 10% of the purchase price at the time of sale and execute a note for the balance, without interest, to be paid in full within 30 days from the sale date. As security for the note, a Knox County resident must sign the note as surety and the Clerk and Master will retain a lien on the real property until the note is satisfied. All funds must be paid by check drawn from a bank where the Clerk and Master can independently verify funds are available. If the person bidding is an agent of another person or entity, the person bidding must present sufficient evidence to the Clerk and Master, at the time of the sale, to establish his or her authority to bid.

The Clerk and Master is further authorized to accept an upset bid within ten (10) days following the sale and reopen bidding in accordance with Tenn. Code Ann. § 35-5-110. Any upset bid shall be at least one hundred ten percent (110%) of the original winning bid. If the Clerk and Master receives an upset bid, he shall conduct an upset sale on April 19, 2024, at 11:00 a.m., at the same location as the initial sale.

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

PUBLIC NOTICE CHANCERY COURT SALE OF VALUABLE PROPERTY

Mabel Harris, Petitioner, v. Edward Beysolow, Respondent.
No. 197651-1

LOCATION: SITUATED in District No. Nine (9) of Knox County, Tennessee, within the 25th Ward of the City of Knoxville, Tennessee, being known and designated as all of Lot 6 and part of Lot 5, Block C, GALBRAITH'S SUBDIVISION of the Western Park of the Welker Property, as shown on the map on the same of record in Map Book 7, page 54, in the Register's Office for Knox County, Tennessee, and according to the survey of Smoky Mountain Land Surveying Company, Inc., Howard T. Dawson, Surveyor, dated January 12, 2001, bearing Drawing Number 010016, and being more particularly bounded and described as follows:

BEGINNING at a new iron pin in the southeastern right-of-way of Greenwood Avenue, corner to Lot 7, said iron pin being located in a southwesterly direction 748.33 feet, more or less, from the point of intersection of Woodlawn Pike and the southeastern right-of-way of Greenwood Avenue; thence with the line of Lot 7, South 35 deg. 00 min. 26 sec. East, 250.30 feet to an existing iron pin corner to Lot 20; thence with the line of Lot 20, South 56 deg. 33 min. 04 sec. West, 85.00 feet to an iron pin; thence with a severance line of Lot 5, North 35 deg. 00 min. 00 sec. West, 247.30 feet to a new iron pin in the southeastern right-of-way of Greenwood Avenue; thence with the southeastern right-of-way of Greenwood Avenue, North 54 deg. 31 min. 43 sec. East, 84.94 feet to the point of BEGINNING.

BEING the same property conveyed to Edward Beysolow and Mabel N. Beysolow, husband and wife, from Lance Truax and Beth M. Truax, husband and wife, by Warranty Deed dated March 31, 2006, filed for record as Instrument No. 200604030082117, in the Knox County Register of Deeds Office.

This parcel is commonly known as 232 Greenwood Ave. Knoxville, TN 37920 and bears Tax Parcel No. 1090C.006.00.

The sale is being conducted by the Clerk and Master for the Knox County Chancery Court on behalf of the Knox County Chancery Court pursuant to the Order entered March 31, 2023, in the above cause of action.

DATE AND TIME OF SALE: Friday, April 5, 2024, at 11:00 a.m.

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

TERMS: The sale will be for cash. The purchaser may either (i) pay the entire purchase price at the time of sale or (ii) pay 10% of the purchase price at the time of sale and execute a note for the balance, without interest, to be paid in full within 30 days from the sale date. As security for the note, a Knox County resident must sign the note as surety and the Clerk and Master will retain a lien on the real property until the note is satisfied. All funds must be paid by check drawn from a bank where the Clerk and Master can independently verify funds are

available. If the person bidding is an agent of another person or entity, the person bidding must present sufficient evidence to the Clerk and Master, at the time of the sale, to establish his or her authority to bid.

The Clerk and Master is further authorized to accept an upset bid within ten (10) days following the sale and reopen bidding in accordance with Tenn. Code Ann. § 35-5-110. Any upset bid shall be at least one hundred ten percent (110%) of the original winning bid. If the Clerk and Master receives an upset bid, he shall conduct an upset sale on April 19, 2024, at 11:00 a.m., at the same location as the initial sale.

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

PUBLIC NOTICE CHANCERY COURT SALE OF VALUABLE PROPERTY

JAMES B. SHARP, Petitioner, v. WILLIAM C. SHARP, GARY DEAN SHARP SR., VIVIAN MINCEY, BOBBIE JUNE WIGGLESTON, KENNETH CARL LOVEDAY, BECKY SHARP, ANDREW JAY SHARP, NATALIE NICOLE SHARP, SHON MICHAEL BERRIER, JOSHUA ALLEN SHARP, JUSTIN WAYNE SHARP, DIA NICOLE SHARP, JAMIE SPICKARD, MELISSA LANDIS and CYNTHIA ROCHAT, Respondent.
No. 205448-1

LOCATION: SITUATE in the Second (2nd) District of Knox County, Tennessee, and within the 11th Ward of the City of Knoxville, Tennessee, lying and being at the Southeast corner of Scott Avenue, and being more particularly bounded and described as follows:

BEGINNING on a point located in the Southeast line of Scott Avenue, the same standing North 42 deg. East, 44.1 feet from the intersection of the Southeast line of Scott Avenue, North 42 deg. West, 25.9 feet to an iron pin; thence at right angles to Scott Avenue, South 48 deg. East, 82.5 feet to an iron pin; thence parallel with Scott Avenue, 42 deg. West, 25.9 feet to the Southeast corner of the property now belonging to J.A. Lyon, et ux Cora J. Lyon thence with the Northeast line of the property of said J.A. Lyon, et ux Cora J. Lyon, and at right angles to Scott Avenue, North 48 deg. West, 82.5 feet to the point of BEGINNING.

There is also conveyed a twelve foot easement or right-of-way from Cornelia Street over property of J.A. Lyon, et ux Cora J. Lyon, described as follows: **BEGINNING** at a point in the Northeast line of Cornelia Street, said point standing South 48 deg. East, 64.3 feet from the Southeast corner of Scott Avenue and Cornelia Street; thence parallel with Scott Avenue, North 42 deg. East 44.1 feet to a point, thence at right angles with the Northeast line of Cornelia Street, North 48 deg. West 12 feet to the point of BEGINNING, AS SHOWN BY SURVEY OF Sehorn & Kennedy, Engineers, Knoxville, Tennessee, dated October 31, 1941.

BEING the same property conveyed to Betty Sue Johnson, single for her lifetime, with the remainder to all the children of Doris Evelyn Sharp, deceased, by Quitclaim Deed dated June 5, 1999, of record in Instrument 200607270007816 and by Warranty Deed dated April 5, 2001, of record in Instrument 200607270007815, both in the Knox County Register of Deeds Office. Betty Sue Johnson is deceased.

This parcel is commonly known as 304 E. Scott Ave. Knoxville, TN 37917, and bears Tax Parcel No. 0811Q.002.00.

The sale is being conducted by the Clerk and Master for the Knox County Chancery Court on behalf of the Knox County Chancery Court pursuant to the Order entered September 08, 2023, in the above cause of action.

DATE AND TIME OF SALE: Friday, April 5, 2024, at 11:00 a.m.

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

TERMS: The sale will be for cash. The purchaser may either (i) pay the entire purchase price at the time of sale or (ii) pay 10% of the purchase price at the time of sale and execute a note for the balance, without interest, to be paid in full within 30 days from the sale date. As security for the note, a Knox County resident must sign the note as surety and the Clerk and Master will retain a lien on the real property until the note is satisfied. All funds must be paid by check drawn from a bank where the Clerk and Master can independently verify funds are available. If the person bidding is an agent of another person or entity, the person bidding must present sufficient evidence to the Clerk and Master, at the time of the sale, to establish his or her authority to bid.

The Clerk and Master is further authorized to accept an upset bid within ten (10) days following the sale and reopen bidding in accordance with Tenn. Code Ann. § 35-5-110. Any upset bid shall be at least one hundred ten percent (110%) of the original winning bid. If the Clerk and Master receives an upset bid, he shall conduct an upset sale on April 19, 2024, at 11:00 a.m. at the same location as the initial sale.

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

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF SALLEY BROOKS
DOCKET NUMBER 88947-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 14 day of FEBRUARY 2024, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of SALLEY BROOKS who died Jan 5, 2024, 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 the 14 day of FEBRUARY, 2024

ESTATE OF SALLEY BROOKS

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
MELISSA MARIE BENJAMIN; EXECUTRIX
3934 CONLEY LANE
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37918

ESTATE OF SALLEY BROOKS

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
MELISSA MARIE BENJAMIN; EXECUTRIX
3934 CONLEY LANE
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37918

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF JUDY F. BURROUGHS
DOCKET NUMBER 89955-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 23 day of FEBRUARY, 2024, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of JUDY F. BURROUGHS who died August 24, 2023, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above-named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

This the 23 day of FEBRUARY, 2024.

ESTATE OF JUDY F. BURROUGHS

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
THE TRUST COMPANY
4823 OLD KINGSTON PIKE, SUITE 100
KNOXVILLE, TN 37919

CAROLYN LEVY GILLIAM ATTORNEY
10805 KINGSTON PIKE, STE. 200
KNOXVILLE, TN 37934

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF A. J. BUSSELL
DOCKET NUMBER 88949-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 16 day of FEBRUARY 2024, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of A. J. BUSSELL who died Dec 25, 2023, were issued the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above-named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

This the 16 day of FEBRUARY, 2024.

ESTATE OF A. J. BUSSELL

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
A J BUSSELL JR.; EXECUTOR
11905 BURDAK CIRCLE
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37934

ESTATE OF A. J. BUSSELL

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
JEFFERY TROUTMAN; ADMINISTRATOR
807 GRAVES STREET
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37915

ESTATE OF A. J. BUSSELL

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
JEFFERY TROUTMAN; ADMINISTRATOR
807 GRAVES STREET
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37915

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF LAVERNE T. CARTER AKA FRANCES LAVERNE T. CARTER
DOCKET NUMBER 89036-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 22 day of FEBRUARY, 2024, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of LAVERNE T. CARTER AKA FRANCES LAVERNE T. CARTER who died January 20, 2024 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 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 FEBRUARY, 2024.

ESTATE OF LAVERNE T. CARTER AKA FRANCES LAVERNE T. CARTER

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
WILLIAM JACKSON CARTER
9032 MASCOT ROAD
MASCOT, TN 37806

FROM THE MOUNTAINS BY JADON GIBSON

Justice by lynching

By Jadon Gibson

Eight men were murdered in Lee County, Kentucky, in a three-year period in the early 1890s but the trial results had the citizens around Beattyville irate. One man was given a life sentence but the others received light sentences.

Some were already back on the streets when a murder occurred on October 13, 1894, that lit the fuse to a powder keg of public sentiment.

Oscar Morton was a bully and braggart who wasn't above threatening lawmen and public officials. Sheriff Will Simms, a young, conscientious, family man with a wife and three young children, was well-liked by the law-abiding citizens of Lee County.

Morton bushwhacked the 30-year-old sheriff, shooting him in cold blood during a Friday night spree. The public not only mourned the loss of Simms but they were maddened that a sorry nobody such as Morton had carried out his threat against the young sheriff.

They talked among themselves and decided they couldn't take a chance on Morton being given a slap on the wrist. As nightfall neared numerous riders entered Beattyville and disappeared into various homes and businesses. Horses were hitched

to posts, fences and trees around town but all was quiet. No one was to be seen except for the occasional residents scurrying to unknown destinations.

As the hours passed there was little change. It appeared the entire town was sleeping except for the horses still hitched throughout Beattyville.

Before the strike of midnight, several mysterious figures could be seen creeping toward the railroad bridge. This continued until nearly a hundred men had gathered, murmuring in a quiet hush with their hats pulled low and their collars high. Several had handkerchiefs tied across their faces but no one was really interested in who was present. They all had a common purpose. They were members of a lynching party. They had decided that justice must be done.

Finally, as many as half of the crowd began making their way toward the courthouse that housed the jail. The jailer was sleeping and didn't answer the rapping on the door. A second series of knocks woke him and he peeked through the curtain. When he saw the lynching party he headed for the opposite door to fetch the new sheriff, William P. Jones, who had been appointed by Judge Maloney to complete

the term of the slain Will Simms.

When the jailer opened the door he was met by several armed men who were waiting at that door as well. They directed him to open the other door and allow the others to enter.

"Tackett, we're telling you one time only," one of the masked men said in a disguised voice. "We mean you no harm but we want the keys to that murderer's cell."

The jailer started to resist but soon learned the determined resolve of the lynching party. When the cell was unlocked they found Morton fast asleep. They tied his arms and dragged the resisting man out into the darkness.

The secretive party quietly marched to the Old Upper Creek Railroad bridge with Oscar Morton in tow. A tied rope was already hanging from the bridge, awaiting Morton. It was placed around his neck.

"Morton, do you know why you're being hung?" he was asked.

"Yea, I'm afraid I do, it's cause I shot Sheriff Simms," he answered.

With that, someone hit him hard on the side of the head causing him to fall to one knee. He stayed down and, realizing his days on this earth had come to an end, he began mumbling a prayer.

The lynching party allowed him to finish praying before he was brought to his feet. Someone then commanded, "Haul away!" As many as could grasp part of the rope began tugging..... raising Morton's thrashing body into the air up and up toward the bridge. Finally, the body became still in death.

A note was pinned to his shirt saying, "Look out and take warning! What we have done tonight is an example that we have

set for murderers in eastern Kentucky. We mean to stop this murdering business and we find this rope is the quickest and surest way. Heed this warning! Committee of Lee County."

The next morning word quickly spread about the lynching as hundreds of people came by the railroad bridge to view the suspended body.

Oscar Morton's father claimed his son's remains and took him to Powell County for burial.

A few days later several thousand people attended a memorial service in Beattyville for the slain sheriff.

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

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LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF DAVID IRWIN HEIER
DOCKET NUMBER 88674-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 16 day of FEBRUARY, 2024, Letters Testamentary (or Letters of Administration as the case may be) in respect of the Estate of DAVID IRWIN HEIER, who died on August 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) below, 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 16 day of FEBRUARY, 2024.

ESTATE OF DAVID IRWIN HEIER

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
BARON U. DESMOND
74335 THETA AVENUE
COVINGTON, LA 70435

O.E. SCHOW, IV ATTORNEY
900 SOUTH GAY STREET, 9TH FLOOR
P.O. BOX 900
KNOXVILLE, TN 37901-0900

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF TERRY DEAN LEACH, SR.
DOCKET NUMBER 89001-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 16 day of FEBRUARY, 2024, Letters of Administration in respect of the Estate of TERRY DEAN LEACH, SR. who died November 29, 2023, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the Clerk of the above-named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

- (1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first date of the publication of this Notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this Notice to Creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication; or
 - (B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the Notice to Creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or
 - (2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death.
- This the 16 day of FEBRUARY, 2024.

ESTATE OF TERRY DEAN LEACH, SR.
MS. SHANNA OSBORNE
2719 HOLBROOK DRIVE, APT. 19
KNOXVILLE, TN 37918

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

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF ALEXANDRIA ELIZABETH NUNN
DOCKET NUMBER 88750-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 14 day of FEBRUARY 2024, letters administration in respect of the Estate of ALEXANDRIA ELIZABETH NUNN who died Oct 16, 2023, were issued to 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 14 day of FEBRUARY, 2024.

ESTATE OF ALEXANDRIA ELIZABETH NUNN

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
KEVIN DARREL NUNN; ADMINISTRATOR
5023 TRAVIS
POWELL, TN. 37849

REBECCA BELL JENKINS ATTORNEY
9724 KINGSTON PIKE
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37922

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF JENNIFER LOU DELLER PECK
DOCKET NUMBER 88973-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 14 day of FEBRUARY, 2024, letters testamentary (or letters of administration as the case may be) in respect of the Estate of JENNIFER LOU DELLER PECK who died on November 20, 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 FEBRUARY, 2024.

ESTATE OF JENNIFER LOU DELLER PECK

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
CARL TATE PECK, II
8105 MEADOWOOD LANE
KNOXVILLE, TN 37919

MITAL D. PATEL ATTORNEY
217 S. PETERS ROAD
KNOXVILLE, TN 37923

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF BERNARD IVAN POE
DOCKET NUMBER 88731-2

Notice I hereby given that on the 1 day of FEBRUARY, 2024 letters testamentary (or letters of administration as the case may be) in respect of the Estate of BERNARD IVAN POE who died October 11, 2023, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident, and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above-named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

- (1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication; or
 - (B) Sixty (60) days after 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 1 day of FEBRUARY, 2024.

ESTATE OF BERNARD IVAN POE

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE (S)
SANDRA KAY LAWRENCE
131 BLUE RIDGE TRAIL
NORTH CHARLESTON, SC 29418

SARAH R. JOHNSON, ATTORNEY
11907 KINGSTON PIKE, SUITE 201
KNOXVILLE, TN 37934

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF CHRISTINA NOEL
MCLAUGHLIN BERNOT POOLE
DOCKET NUMBER 89011-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 12 day of FEBRUARY 2024, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of CHRISTINA NOEL MCLAUGHLIN BERNOT POOLE who died Jan 8, 2024, were issued to 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 FEBRUARY, 2024.

ESTATE OF CHRISTINA NOEL
MCLAUGHLIN BERNOT POOLE

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
ANNE M BERNOT; EXECUTRIX
3864 HIGH VIEW LANE
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37931

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF THOMAS S RODDY, SR.
DOCKET NUMBER 89017-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 12 day of FEBRUARY 2024, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of THOMAS S RODDY, SR. who died Jan 4, 2024, were issued to 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 FEBRUARY, 2024.

ESTATE OF THOMAS S RODDY, SR.

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
BRYAN SCOTT RODDY; EXECUTOR
1822 WATER MILL TRAIL
KNOXVILLE, TN. 37922

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF ROBERT A ROWAN
DOCKET NUMBER 89020-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 14 day of FEBRUARY 2024, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of ROBERT A ROWAN who died Dec 16, 2023, were issued to 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 14 day of FEBRUARY, 2024.

ESTATE OF ROBERT A ROWAN

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
ROBERT A ROWAN, JR.; EXECUTOR
722 WEST BEAVER CREEK ROAD
POWELL, TN. 37849

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF GAIL P. SHOWALTER AKA
ADELAIDE POST SHOWALTER
DOCKET NUMBER 88985-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 15 day of FEBRUARY, 2024, letters testamentary (or letters of administration as the case may be) in respect of the Estate of GAIL P. SHOWALTER AKA ADELAIDE POST SHOWALTER, who died on December 11, 2023, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above-named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

- (1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of 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 15 day of FEBRUARY, 2024.

ESTATE OF GAIL P. SHOWALTER
AKA ADELAIDE POST SHOWALTER

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
ZACHARAY NICHOLAS SHOWALTER
6711 STONE MILL DRIVE
KNOXVILLE TN 37919

ADELAIDE A. SHOWALTER MITCHELL
8100 PINE OAKS DRIVE
KNOXVILLE TN 37919

LEE A. POPKIN

1111 N. NORTHSHORE DRIVE SUITE S-700
KNOXVILLE TN 37919

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF DOUGLASS ROBERT SPENCER
DOCKET NUMBER 88422-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 16 day of FEBRUARY, 2024, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of DOUGLASS ROBERT SPENCER who died June 15, 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 16 day of FEBRUARY, 2024.

ESTATE OF DOUGLASS ROBERT SPENCER

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
KATE BLEDSOE SPENCER
2561 MOSS CREEK ROAD
KNOXVILLE, TN 37912

NATHAN D. ROWELL ATTORNEY
100 EAST MAIN STREET, SUITE 400
SEVIerville, TN 37862

MISC. NOTICES

NOTICE OF LIEN SALE

The following described vehicle(s) impounded/ repaired/towed will be sold at public and/or private auction on March 24, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. in compliance with the Tennessee Public Acts 1967, Chapter 240, House Bill 379. The sale will be held at Sutherland Avenue Wrecker Service, Inc. vehicle impoundment lot located at 2607 Sutherland Ave., Knoxville, Tennessee 37919. These vehicles have been checked through the files of the Commissioner of Revenue, Title Section, Division of Motor Vehicles Department, Department of Revenue, State of Tennessee. In appropriate cases, the vehicles have been checked in other states and the owners and/or lienholders have been notified by certified mail. In those instances where no vehicle identification/serial number or license number was available, this Public Notice in the newspaper will comply with the law. The failure of the owner/lienholder to exercise their rights to reclaim any vehicle listed below not bearing a VIN/serial number shall be deemed a waiver of all rights and title and authorization to sell said vehicle.

2013 FORD ESCAPE
VIN 1FMCU9G6X7DUB16525

APPLICATION FOR TITLE

Public Notice
Application for title:
Charles Frazier hereby serves notice that he/she intends to apply for a title on a vehicle described as follows: 1998 PONTIAC BONNEVILLE, Vehicle Identification Number 1G2HX52K3W4211838. Any and all parties holding an interest in said vehicle must contact Charles Frazier by certified mail, return receipt requested, within ten (10) business days of the date of this publication to PO Box 6704, Knoxville, TN 37914.

Published in The Knoxville Focus Monday, March 4, 2024.

LEGAL SECTION

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

Bid 3538, Innovative School Model Renovations - Phase 2, due 4/3/24

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. To bid on Knox County surplus items, go to www.govdeals.com.