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## Karns Fire Department explains rising costs

By Joe Rector

Businesses and homeowners in the Karns Fire Department coverage area were surprised this year by the increase in the cost of a yearly subscription. An approximate 14% increase was added, and subscribers wanted to know why rate hikes seem to be a yearly thing. The Karns Fire Department board chairman and counsel Jimmy Carter and Fire Chief Daron Long gave answers in an interview to questions from

people in the Karns, Ball Camp, Hardin Valley and Solway communities.

The department serves a population of approximately 52,000, which includes 355 commercial sites. However, subscriptions from such a large area stand at an anemic 48-52%. Carter states that in the past, Karns was a volunteer fire department, and firefighters went from house to house to ask residents to donate money.

“Even then, the money

donations came from about the same percentage of people and businesses.”

The subscription rate is based on 16 cents per square foot. Many people refuse to pay that fee because they think that their homes are covered by insurance companies. Carter said that some companies offer discounts to subscribers and that some insurance companies set a limit of the amount of coverage paid if the insured

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PHOTO BY JOE RECTOR

Station 2 in Hardin Valley is one of the four stations operated by the Karns Fire Department.



PHOTO BY KEN LEINART

Yadira Lopez prepares a lunch meal during Wednesday's "Lunch Mob" at Time Out Deli.

## Time Out Deli welcomes Lunch Mob

By Ken Leinart

The last four years have been tough for Yadira Lopez and her husband, Raja, owners of Time Out Deli at 2012 North Broadway in Old North Knoxville.

The stretch of this vital causeway in the heart of the north end of town is undergoing a remake, as it were. But that work isn't pain-free for businesses along that route.

A "Lunch Mob," held Wednesday, April 10, may

have helped erase some of the hardships the family-owned eatery is facing while that work is being done on Old North Broadway.

First there was the pandemic and Yadira said, "It was brutal." The few employees the deli could afford were let go.

"It was hard," she said. "It was just us," she said. "It's a family business. We couldn't get help from the government."

They endured, though. Yadira said they had loyal customers, a good lunch-time crowd. Time Out Deli became a popular eatery in Old North Knoxville, but ...

And there is always a "but" in these scenarios.

The water and sewer lines along Old North Broadway, the section along US 441 near Fulton High School, needed to be replaced.

The four-lane stretch of US 441 has become three lanes, sometimes down to

two, as the 100-year-old water and sewer lines are replaced.

There are large Caterpillar earth-moving machines lined up along Old North Broadway. What were once visible driveways are hidden behind traffic cones and storefront signs are hidden by machinery.

"Six weeks ago?" Yadira said. "Maybe eight ... I can't remember. It's been ... Hard.

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## Changes coming for Knox Fire and Rescue Committee

By Mike Steely

Senior Writer steelym@knoxfocus.com

group to 13 members this month.

The Knox County Fire and Technical Rescue Committee has many changes coming this year including expanding the group to include an emergency services ambulance provider representative and one at-large commissioner.

Dwight Van de Vate, Knox County Chief Operation Officer, outlined the proposed expansion during the regular meeting of that committee Wednesday afternoon. Currently the committee has 11 members including Van de Vate, a county commissioner, communications district director, director of the emergency management agency, finance comptroller, health department emergency response coordinator, community development director, and the four chiefs of fire and rescue organizations.

The Knox County Commission will review the resolution to increase the

In other business, Chief Jerry Harnish of Rural Metro Fire informed the committee that he would be stepping down as its chair due to changes in his company and a new member will be named to replace him. The committee moved to rotate the chairmanship between fire chiefs. Chief D.J. Long of Karns was chosen as the new chairman and Chief John Linsenbigler of Seymour was chosen as vice chair.

The committee also heard a report on the upcoming recommendations on the distribution of American Rescue Plan Act funds. Those funds will probably be introduced in June or July and passed along for approval by the county commission.

The KGIS maps need to be updated because of overlapping jurisdictions of some fire departments including in the Seymour community.

Continue on page 4

## City prepares to transfer the McClung Warehouse site

By Mike Steely

Senior Writer steelym@knoxfocus.com

The Knoxville City Council is being asked by city administration to approve a quitclaim deed to transfer the property of the former McClung Warehouse. The historic West Jackson Avenue property was destroyed in two fires in 2007 and 2014 and then demolished by the city.

David Brace told The Focus the city will be transferring the now empty property to Knoxville's Community Development Corporation which will issue a Request for a Proposal for possible development of the prime Jackson Avenue site.

"It's the most development-ready site downtown, he said.

The council will also hear two appeals from citizens on recommendations by the planning commission. Planners approved Maple Lane

Homes LLC for a two-family dwelling on Westridge Drive. The West Hills Community Association wants the city to overturn the decision allowing such a dwelling in an RN-1 single-family neighborhood.

The planning commission also approved a special use application by Batson, Himes, Norvell and Poe for a new driveway on Topside Road and expansion of a right turn lane at 3330 W. Governor John Sevier Highway. Citizens are asking the planning decision be overturned.

An amendment on a lease with Legacy Parks Foundation for water access at the Bicentennial Park for a non-motorized boat launch may be approved.

A zoning request for changing two lots on Hollywood Road from RN-1 to RN-2 is on the agenda as is a request to reclassify a property on Western

Avenue from general industrial to general commercial.

The council may also approve condemnations for properties at 1509 North Fourth Avenue and 412 Ocala Drive in recommendations from the Abandoned, Blighted and Vacant Properties Committee.

Knoxville's Community Development Corporation could be approved to manage \$20M for planning and redevelopment involved in the South Waterfront Pedestrian and Bicycle Bridge Project.

The council may also extend the six-month prohibition of intelligent robotic delivery vehicles downtown until something can be worked out with the city law department. Currently, the automated delivery robots are only permitted at some University of Tennessee sites.



PHOTO BY MIKE STEELY

Karns Fire Chief D. J. Long was chosen as the new chairman of the Knox County Fire and Technical Rescue Committee Wednesday. The committee faces many changes this year including two new members.

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# A Beautiful Wedding And A Wonderful Concert

## From a distance



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

Weekend before last, Vickie and I had the privilege to attend a beautiful wedding on Friday night and a wonderful Knoxville Symphony Orchestra concert on Saturday night.

I have had the honor of performing more than 100 weddings – most while I was a judge, and several since then because I am still allowed to do so as a former judge.

I think I may be the only congressional candidate whose very first action on the campaign trail was to marry a young couple.

The first morning of my first campaign for Congress, I went to the Loudon

County Courthouse to see Slim Schrimpsner, a very popular county official. He had just issued a marriage license to a couple.

He told them I was a judge, and they asked me to marry them. We stepped outside and had the ceremony at the front door of the courthouse. I hope they are still together.

All weddings, large or small, are very special, and I have attended very many. But the wedding of Anne McCall Stansberry and Reese Catron on Friday, April 5 was almost perfect.

Anne McCall is the daughter and only child of Jennifer and Judge Tony Stansberry. Jenny was the manager of my Knoxville Congressional Office for the entire 30 years I was in office.

No member of Congress ever had a kinder, more competent employee, and I along with the several thousand constituents she helped – in both big and little ways – owe her a debt that can never adequately

be repaid.

The Stansberry-Catron wedding was held at The Quarry on Keller Bend Road. I had never been there, and I was amazed at the genius of the free enterprise system that could take an abandoned rock quarry and turn it into a majestic wedding site.

I have heard it said that a woman is most beautiful on her wedding day. I personally believe a woman is most beautiful, even without make-up, when she holds her newborn baby in her arms for the very first time.

But everything about this wedding was beautiful – the setting, the flowers, the music, the food, the bride's mother and the most beautiful of all – the bride.

Reese Catron is a very lucky young man, and I think he knows it. He seemed to just glow with happiness. Anne McCall is kind, intelligent, and just outstanding in every way. This is a young couple with a great future.

I was most impressed by

the words of the father of the bride, possibly since I have been in that role two times myself. Judge Tony said Anne McCall had been his "little angel for 25 years" and added that Reese was the kind of young man any father would want for his daughter.

It is always good to see a man and woman come together in love, and this was a wedding that everyone will remember for a long time to come.

On the next night, Vickie and I went to see the Knoxville Symphony Orchestra's presentation of an Oscar and Hammerstein Celebration. It was wonderful.

They brought in three top singers from Broadway, all of whom had been stars in famous musical productions in New York and around the country. They all had beautiful voices.

Their renditions of songs like "Climb Every Mountain," "You'll Never Walk Alone" and "Some Enchanted Evening" – all favorites

of mine – were just great.

Their version of "Edelweiss" was beautiful and had special meaning for Vickie and me. She chose that as the song she walked down the aisle to at our wedding, and it was one of the songs I always sang to my children when I would walk them around at night when they were babies.

Also the conductor, Régulo Stabiliato, was so into the music and moved around and led with so much enthusiasm that he added a lot to our enjoyment of the program.

I love music and have always found it very inspirational. One of the Capitol Hill newspapers used to occasionally ask biographical questions of congressional staffers, and sometimes they asked if they had to give up either television or music, which would it be? For me, it would definitely be television that I would give up.

I have many favorite songs, but I guess "The

Impossible Dream" and "Climb Every Mountain" would be the top two. I don't even understand the words in most of today's newer songs, and probably because I am old now, most of the music I like would be classified as oldies.

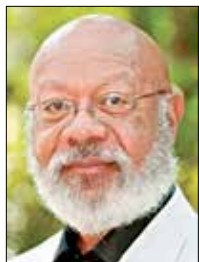
Saturday night, Vickie said the audience looked like a cotton field because so many, including yours truly, had white hair.

But one man, with whom we go to church, brought his niece and her daughter and said they loved it. I believe many young people would love much of Broadway-type music if they were exposed to it.

My Dad had to overcome opposition to build the Coliseum-Auditorium when he was mayor of Knoxville. That auditorium has been a real asset to this entire area since 1967. We are also very fortunate to have the great Knoxville Symphony Orchestra.

# Happy Tax Day

I have long advocated for no mandatory withholding. Withholding should be optional. If people opted to pay all their federal income taxes on April 15 there would be a lot more pressure



By Dr. Harold A. Black  
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on our national politicians to reduce spending. Federal spending is out of control. It doesn't really matter what party is in power, federal spending continues to grow. Once spending increased during economic downturns and decreased during periods of prosperity. No longer. Spending is completely independent of the nation's economic health. Federal spending as a percent of GDP is steadily increasing. While

on average it has been around 19%, the budget submitted to Congress by Biden is a jaw-dropping 24%. While the percentage of federal taxes to GDP has been around 17%, it is over

19% in the Biden budget, guaranteeing a larger deficit. Biden's claim in his State of the Union address "We've already cut the federal deficit by over \$1 trillion" has to be given 10 Pinocchios. Biden did nothing to reduce the deficit. It declined due to the high levels of federal spending during the pandemic. Federal debt keeps climbing and the deficit with it to the point where the interest paid by the government on

the debt will soon eclipse the budget for the Pentagon. In fact the deficit is now 25% higher than when Biden took office.

There is no political will to reduce spending regardless of which party is in the White House and which party controls the Congress. Even proposals to decrease the rate of increase in spending (mathematicians call this the second derivative) are greeted by howls of indignation in Congress and amongst the lobbyists for all the special interests feeding at the federal trough. Don't get me wrong. We all belong to special interest groups and very few of us want to give up that subsidy from the Feds.

Biden's budget is a whopping \$7.3 trillion wish list with little chance

of passage in the House. However, don't be surprised if a large portion of it does pass. The budget also calls for a \$5 trillion tax increase over 10 years. The resulting taxes would be among the highest in the developed world with a top individual rate of 45.4%, a capital gains tax of 49.8% and a corporate rate of 32.2% (estimates from the Cato Institute). Biden claims that over 10 years the deficit will be \$3 trillion less. This is not true. What he is assuming is that the sharp increases in taxes will not decrease federal revenue growth. However, there will be increased incentives to move corporate activity offshore to lower-tax countries. There will be increased incentives by individuals to shelter income. Most economists would predict a slowdown in the rate of growth of federal tax receipts due to the increased tax burden resulting in a larger, not smaller, deficit. This has often been the case when taxes go up.

I have made several proposals to control federal spending – none of which have a snowball's chance in Hades of being adopted. One is to limit federal spending to the historic level of 19% of the previous year's GDP. This could only go up on a

one-year basis if the president declared an emergency and received a two-thirds vote in Congress. I would institute a flat tax of 20 percent of income with no exemptions. That also could only change with a declaration of emergency from the president and a two-thirds vote in Congress.

I also know how to radically reduce federal spending while increasing the well-being of the poor. Generally, any proposal to reform welfare is met with howls of "You are trying to balance the budget on the backs of the poor!" Well currently, we spend \$1.7 trillion on welfare programs. The poverty level for a family of four is \$27,750. There are around 38 million poor in the United States. Thus, we spend \$42,105 per poor person! I propose that we eliminate all welfare programs and administrators and simply give each poor person \$10,000. A family of four would receive \$40,000 with the amount decreasing for each additional child, eliminating poverty in the United States. If every poor person received \$10,000 the total expenditure would be \$380 billion rather than the \$1.7 trillion we currently spend. Voila! Federal spending is decreased by \$700 billion! So Happy Tax Day.

# Time Out Deli

Cont. from page 1

"It's hurt us."

She reached out to Knoxville City Councilwoman Lauren Rider (Fourth District) to see if anything could be done.

Rider organized the "Lunch Mob" to encourage city, county and KUB officials to have lunch at Time Out Deli.

"This is big, this is good for us," Yadira said.

Is it enough?

Yadira said their lunch crowd, even the "regular people" are "way down."

The utility work has taken a toll.

And, she said, the loss of business during events like the recent NCAA basketball tournaments has been noticeable.

"I'd say we lost ... 50-percent," Yadira said. "That's big for us."

But it's not just the loss of customers during the big events, the NAAs.

It's the everyday customer traffic.

"Our people (regular customers) think we're closed," she said. "People don't know we are open."

Yadira said she has been told the water and sewer line work could continue until late June or early July 2024.

"We're still here," she said

Councilwoman Rider was busy Wednesday during lunch, ushering diners into the restaurant, and telling everybody Old North Broadway is still open for business.

"She (Rider) came to council with this and it's a good thing, and we support it," Knoxville City Councilman Andrew Roberto said Wednesday.



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# Publisher's Positions



By Steve Hunley, Publisher  
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## Kennedy Grills Mayorkas

Senator John Kennedy of Louisiana last week faced Home Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas. Kennedy said to Mayorkas' face what most everybody has known; that the Biden administration has left the border open and invited illegal immigration into this country to help Democrats politically.

"Isn't in fact, Mr. Secretary, that the number of illegal immigrants you and the president allow into our country counts for congressional district reapportionment?" Kennedy asked.

Mayorkas said he didn't understand the question

but stated he disagreed with the phrasing.

Senator Kennedy tried rephrasing the question slightly. "Isn't it true, Mr. Secretary, that the number of illegal immigrants that you and President Biden have allowed into our country counts for allocating electoral votes?"

Mayorkas once again said he didn't understand the question, but flared up and said it was "nothing short of preposterous" and pouted it was "disrespectful" to the Biden administration and the Department of Homeland Security and its personnel.

Kennedy said Mayorkas realized exactly what the senator meant and said, "And you've done nothing for four years - - - zero, absolutely zilch. And, in fact, the only people I know in this country who are better off today than they were four years ago are illegal immigrants. And that's a result of your policy."

Senator Kennedy added, "I don't think that they will be able to sweep the issue - - - maybe your impeachment, but not the issue - - - under a rug as big as the

United States."

## U.S. Debt Out Of Control

The U. S. government is borrowing at the rate of \$6 billion per day. According to figures released by the U. S. Department of the Treasury, our government borrowed \$236 billion in March.

## Only U.S. Citizens Should Be Able To Vote

The U. S. House will soon be voting on a bill requiring every person voting in federal elections to be an American citizen. Democracies don't allow people who are not citizens to vote in their elections. We'll soon see just how much Democrats are for democracy in this country.

## Berliner Says NPR Is Biased

Uri Berliner has caused heads to explode over at National Public Radio by writing an essay for the Free Press about the agency's leftist groupthink.

Even the New York Times has reported on the "internal tumult" caused by Berliner's article on his colleagues and the higher-ups at NPR. Berliner outlined mistakes made by NPR in covering news in keeping its leftist bias in shaping the news. Uri Berliner had written the network had made diversity its "North Star" and noted 87 of its editors were Democrats while there was not a single Republican. Berliner recalled listening "as one of NPR's best and most fair-minded journalists said it was good we weren't following the [Hunter Biden] laptop story because it could help Trump."

It reiterates what most of us already know and explains why so few conservatives bother to listen to NPR.

## Far Left And Far Right Hurt Democracy

There's becoming a trait in our politics that is becoming true of some people in the Republican party and just about everybody in the Democratic

Party. The moment someone disagrees with one of their beliefs, the person who disagrees is evil and must be pitched off the nearest cliff. Nothing else will do. Anyone with a still-functioning mind would realize expecting everyone to agree with you 100% of the time is practically insane in a free society. In Nazi Germany, Communist China or the Soviet Union, not so much.

The folks who expect rigid agreement on every point, every issue, every vote are the biggest threats to our Democracy. When Democrats talk about threats to our democracy, they don't mean free government or a free people, they mean it is a threat to the Left and the Democratic Party.

There is a minority inside the Republican Party who expect every officeholder or party official to view things exactly as they do. They are unable to work inside any organization; like a cancer they try and subsume it and eat it alive. That explains much of what happened to Speaker Kevin McCarthy and the fact Marjorie Taylor

Green is running around threatening the tenure of Speaker Mike Johnson is not only absurd, but just plain stupid. Marj doesn't seem to realize infighting amongst Republicans helps the Democrats, who don't agree with Republicans about anything at all. Turning the House over to the Democrats isn't going to help the American people.

These are the same people who openly lie every time their mouths move. The economy is booming, new jobs are popping up every day, crime, especially violent crime, is down, people are safer in their homes, if they can afford a home, than ever before. Joe Biden is either the biggest liar that has ever lived, or doesn't know where he is any longer. These are the same people, many of whom live behind gates in protected communities, who think it is just terrible people would not vote for Biden because of the cost of milk, eggs and meat.

Rally around common sense for a little bit, why don't you?

## Two slots on August ballot for Farragut aldermen seats

By Mike Steely  
Senior Writer  
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With the petitions now filed in the non-partisan municipal election in Farragut, only one incumbent is on the ballot. Farragut residents will select two aldermen on August 1 Election Day.

On the ballot to replace Ward 1's Louise Povlin, who currently serves as vice mayor, are Alex J. Cain, Jeffrey Devlin and Joseph M. Ruffalo. Ward 2's incumbent alderman, Drew Burnette, is challenged by Randal L. Roberts.

The terms of Farragut's mayor and two other aldermen do not expire for two more years.

### GROWTH PLAN APPROVED

In the Farragut Board of Mayor and Aldermen's regular meeting Thursday evening, the Knox County Growth Policy Plan was approved in a 3-2 vote. Several speakers objected to the flipped vote, calling the reconsideration illegal, and threatened lawsuits. Aldermen Burnette and David White voted against and Mayor Ron Williams, Povlin and Alderman Scott Meyer voted to approve the plan.

The previous board meeting saw a 3-2 vote against the plan but Alderman Meyer changed his mind after meeting with Knox County Mayor Glenn Jacobs and county commissioners.



The Major "3"

Wayne, Juanita and Ralphine Major are pictured at the 2019 Grainger County Tomato Festival. Photo courtesy of Steve Ellis, Light House Studio.

## In Memoriam

# Wayne Allen Major



Wayne and Ralphine Major in Gibbs blue with turkeys on the farm.

It is with a heavy heart that The Focus shares that Wayne Major, brother of long-time columnist Ralphine Major, passed away last week.

In her column over the years, Ralphine has shared many fond memories of growing up with Wayne on the farm in Gibbs and their more recent experiences in publishing their tales of "Piddle Diddle, the Widdle Penguin."

The Focus family feels very fortunate and blessed to have known Wayne and is certainly keeping the Major family close in our hearts.

- Marianne Dedmon

### Wayne Allen Major, age 66, passed away peacefully at home on Monday, April 8, 2024, surrounded by his loving mother and devoted sister following a brief illness.

Wayne was born on September 25, 1957, to Ralph and Juanita Major in Knoxville, Tennessee. He is preceded in death by his father, Ralph O. Major, paternal grandparents George and Anna Major, and maternal grandparents Mandy Katherine and Tecil C. Torbett. Wayne is survived by his mother, Juanita Delores Torbett Major, and sister, Kay Ralphine Major.

Wayne was a retiree of the Department of Human Services, State of Tennessee, with 26 years of service. As a young boy, Wayne was saved at Fairview Baptist Church in Corryton and was currently a member of Wallace Memorial Baptist Church in Knoxville, where he sang in the choir, helped teach kindergarteners in Sunday School, and served as a waiter at church banquets to help raise funds for missions. It was in the choir several years ago that Wayne heard a voice tell him, "You need to write children's books." He created the character Piddle Diddle, the Widdle Penguin, a registered trademark. Wayne was proud to be a published author of Jan-Carol Publishing, Inc., in East Tennessee. He co-authored five books in the series with his sister.

Wayne was a graduate of Gibbs High School and The University of Tennessee (Marketing). He often titled columns written by his sister for The Knoxville Focus. Wayne loved hearing the timeless old hymns and watched several church services each week to hear them. He was also a fan of the westerns and was thrilled to meet Hollywood cowboy heroes James Drury (The Virginian) and Robert Fuller of Wagon Train and Laramie.

Receiving of friends will be on Tuesday, April 16, from 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. at Mynatt's Funeral Home in Fountain City (2829 Rennoc Road). A Celebration of Life Service will follow at 6:00 p.m. with Rev. Kent Williams, Rev. Mark Kitts, and Dr. Mike Boyd officiating. On Wednesday, April 17, family and friends will meet at Mynatt's Funeral Home in Fountain City at 12:15 p.m. to leave in procession to Fairview Baptist Church Cemetery, Corryton, Tennessee, for a 1:00 p.m. graveside service. The soloists are Ashley Boruff and Mike Tipton. Pallbearers are Tim Boruff, Dan Dunkel, Steve Hunley, Jeff Robbins, Dr. Michael West and Buddy Wheeler. Honorary Pallbearers are Marvin Boruff, Don Hughes and Eddie Snyder.

Wayne was an animal lover and did not want to see any animal go hungry. His family requests that in lieu of flowers contributions be made to Young-Williams Animal Center. Condolences may be left at www.mynattfh.com.



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# Changes coming for Knox Fire and Rescue Committee

**Cont. from page 1**  
Each fire and rescue unit in the county was advised to update their memorandums of understanding with the state to include insurance information, hours of in-service training, membership, operating licenses and any other

changes.  
Steve Hamby, emergency response coordinator at the Knox County Health Department, also spoke to the committee briefly.  
The committee, given the expansion, also discussed possibly changing the name of the group to better

reflect its membership and purpose. The name "Emergency Services Committee" was one suggestion.  
Knox 911 Director Brad Anders also spoke briefly about confusion on street addresses and responding to emergency calls at conflicting addresses.

# Greenbrier wins campground, fishing awards in United States, Canada

The Greenbrier Campground, located at the base of the Great Smoky Mountains, was just awarded three prestigious 2024 Campspot Awards.  
Greenbrier Campground was awarded the "#1 mid-size campground in the U.S.," the "#1 campground in the U.S. for fishing" and the "#2 overall campground in the U.S." Campspot is the leading online marketplace that supports over 2,000 premier campgrounds in the U.S. and Canada.

we have finalists in 15 different categories based on internal data including reservations, reviews, searches and more as well as Marketplace listing completion and photography," said Campspot.  
Greenbrier Campground offers 120 full hookup campsites ranging from premier river frontage sites to wooded sites. The Little Pigeon River runs around the campground, offering campers the best swimming hole in the Smokies, the famous Flint Rock, with private beach and excellent trout fishing along the banks of the river. The Greenbrier entrance to the Great Smoky Mountain National Park is less than a half mile from the Greenbrier Campground.

"We are so excited and thrilled to win these 3 prestigious awards. It is such an honor to win since we were competing with some of the top campgrounds in the US," said Courtney Belmont, general manager of the Greenbrier Campground.  
"With these awards, we recognize campgrounds on Campspot who are leading the way when it comes to top notch destination escapes, camper experiences, unique offerings and more. This year

Greenbrier Campground is open year-round and is located at 2353 East Parkway in Gatlinburg, Tennessee. For more information or reservations call (865) 430-7415 or visit [www.smokymountaincamping.com](http://www.smokymountaincamping.com).

# Karns Fire Department explains

**Cont. from page 1**  
fails to take advantage of the coverage.

Those homeowners and businesses that choose not to pay the subscription fee face stiff charges if they are needed. In the event of a residential fire, a nonmember would have to pay \$2,000 for the initial hour. Thereafter, a charge of \$1,000 an hour for each apparatus would be levied. A brush, trash or unauthorized fire would cost \$1,000 per hour per apparatus. Emergency medical calls motor vehicle accidents with injury are charged at \$200. Additional charges are added when extrication or fire equipment is used.

Chief Long, who has been with the department for 32 years, explained the rising costs.

"The cost to outfit one person in basic firefighting gear is \$7,000. We share radios, but that adds another \$3,000 to the cost."

Long also said that the 29 members of the Karns Fire Department must be trained to meet standards set by the National Fire Protection Association. Every individual also has received

EMT training.  
"This training is required and benefits the people in the communities we serve."  
Long also talked about the rising cost of equipment. A basic fire truck cost \$650,000 in 2017. The same truck would now cost \$1.2 million. Air tanks that firefighters use are only good for a set number of years. Then they must be destroyed, according to federal law. The replacement of them is expensive for the department.

The department received a rating of 4 from the Insurance Services Office. That is a high rating for a department the size of the one in Karns. A department with a similar coverage area and population should have 60 employees according to NFPA standards.

As of now, buildings are in place in all communities. In the near future, a new building that will serve as a fire station and headquarters will be located off Shaffer Road. Additionally, the 10-acre site will have a training center for new and veteran firefighters. The present headquarters on Oak Ridge Highway will be sold.

At present, half of the potential subscribers are covering the costs for all in the area. Carter stated that an increase of only 25% of the existing subscriptions could bring in the money needed to provide continued quality services.

"More businesses and homeowners joining us will make an even better operation that provides protection to the entire area."

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

## Ensoulement

And the Lord God formed a man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and he became a living soul.

Genesis 2:7

It finally looks like winter is done, March Madness is over, the eclipse hoopla has subsided and the world continues to turn as time metaphorically marches on.

The eclipse was a big nothing burger in Knoxville, Tennessee. It was overcast last Monday with drizzle, and we were only going to have 80% occlusion of the sun in our area. I don't understand why everyone was so hyped because we experienced a "real" 100% eclipse of the sun in August 2017.

Perhaps it was the novelty of an eclipse and the temporary distraction from the problems of the world. The eclipse did cause us to

look up and consider the wonders of the Creation and hopefully our place in it. What we know and perceive at the moment is not all there is.

Some might consider an eclipse and the darkness within totality a metaphor for the state of our country. I won't elaborate on what the utterly vacuous Sunny Hostin of The View and Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee said. If you're curious, look it up. Since antiquity, eclipses have been harbingers of doom or warnings. However, celestial events follow Newtonian physics and carry no portent for me. Far more disturbing is mankind's fealty to idols and the substitution of government for God.

These days, my weekends start early. Throughout my medical career my days began at 6 a.m. and still do. But I no longer rush to the hospital to make rounds

and then hustle to the office. Previously, my life was constructed around night and weekend call schedules. These days, if I didn't have an essay to post every Thursday afternoon, two weekly Bible study groups and church on Sunday, I might not know what day it is.

As usual, my essay topic for the week found me. Perhaps it is unwise to reflect on abortion, but it is everywhere again after President Trump posted his thoughts on this controversial and contentious issue. You should read or listen to President Trump's statements on abortion rather than accept what Biden and his agitprop media and Democrats are spinning or even accept what I say. However, what I heard Trump say was a pragmatic attempt to gain consensus similar to Abraham Lincoln's approach to the slavery debate.

President Trump said people must follow their hearts and minds regarding abortion. And like Ronald Reagan, Trump believes there should be exceptions for rape, incest and life of the mother. Trump also supports in vitro fertilization and said he would not sign a national abortion ban. Finally, Trump believes the states and the people should decide abortion

policies instead of Federal dictates. This is consistent with Amendment X of The Constitution which says, "The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the states, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people."

President Trump's statements on abortion are incremental toward the preservation of life. Trump's position is vastly different from Democrat leadership's "abortion on demand" policy, even in the third trimester of pregnancy. However, Trump realizes you must win elections to change policy and "save our country which is currently, and very sadly, a nation in decline."

Since the 1960s numerous methods of contraception have become available. BCPs (birth control pills) are effective and reliable as are vasectomy and tubal ligation. But nothing is fool-proof except abstinence.

IUDs (intrauterine devices) work by hindering implantation of fertilized eggs as do the morning after pills and other abortifacient, "miscarriage making" therapies.

In the abortion debate, the most important question for me is, "When does human life begin?" Neither sperm nor an egg has a full

complement of DNA which is necessary for life. At conception a proto-human exists that if allowed to proceed a human being will result. A crude analogy is the ingredients of a cake, subsequently baked in an oven.

I will continue to struggle with abortion until doctors, scientists, ethicists and theologians can decide when a fertilized egg becomes a human being. Remember, the definition of viability is artificial and continues to change with technology.

As I've researched the abortion issue, consideration of the soul is conspicuously absent. I imagine the soul as the non-anatomical essence of a human being. Since you can't measure the soul, some would argue that it doesn't exist. I think they are wrong.

Imagine your brain. It can be touched, seen, and perhaps smelled or tasted. In other words, it can be objectively known. However, I have a mind and thoughts which cannot be measured. This concept is called Cartesian dualism after Rene Descartes' thought experiment and his proclamation, "Cogito ergo sum" (I think therefore I am.) In other words, my thoughts are nonobjective, but nonetheless real, as is my soul.

I used the Biblical quote from Genesis to address the notion of ensoulment. The NIV translation of Genesis 2:7 reads, "The Lord God formed a man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being." Perhaps the man was not fully constituted as a human being without a soul. I believe these thoughts are germane to abortion, but also miscarriages, by raising the question of when a human exists. Perhaps the early fertilized clump of cells which science labels a morula - after a mulberry - is not yet ensouled and does not yet possess an essence.

It's complicated, as the 2009 movie title proclaims. Hindus believe in karma which suggests souls are recycled. I don't believe in karma because I'm a Christian whose belief and hope is that the soul is transcendent. God told the prophet Jeremiah, "Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you" (Jeremiah 1:5).

Yes, "I wonder as I wander out under the sky." But like the Proverbist (3:5), I trust in the Lord more than my own understanding.

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

# Veterans Park will overlook Volunteer Cemetery

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

Legacy Parks is moving ahead with a park to remember East Tennessee military veterans on a bluff overlooking the East Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery.

The East Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery averages three burial services each day and hosts other events. Legacy Parks feels the park site is ideal for reflection, commemorations and celebrations. Within the park will be a pavilion and a viewing area overlooking the veterans cemetery.

The future parkland was donated in 2018 by Blue Water Industries as a gathering place for up to 250 people.

The new park will feature overlooks of the cemetery and French Broad River, a one-eighth-mile memorial walk, a reflective garden, a natural surface nature trail looping through the woods and a memorial wall to honor individual veterans. The parking lot planned will hold 60 cars and the park will be ADA accessible.

Veteran organizations and the East Tennessee Community Design Center are creating the design of the future park. Once it is built, the site will be donated by Legacy Parks to become a Knox County public park.

"We just kicked off a mini-campaign to raise the rest of the funds needed for the final construction costs," said Sarah Rump, Legacy Parks marketing

manager.

"We are almost ready to break ground and the timeline is still on track for opening this fall," she told The Focus.

Donations are being sought by Legacy Parks to fund enhancements to the park design and create a maintenance fund. You can find Legacy Parks Foundation on the internet or mail a donation for the park to Legacy Parks, 900 Volunteer Landing Ln, Knoxville, TN 37915 or call the foundation at (865) 525-2585.

So far, donations have come from Knox County, the Captain Bill Robinson Chapter of Vietnam Veterans of America, the AMVETS of Tennessee, the state of Tennessee, and various veterans groups.



PHOTO BY MIKE STEALY

Old Glory can be seen from the East Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery along Governor John Sevier Parkway. The flag marks the future 8.5-acre site of a yet-unnamed veterans park high atop the bluff overlooking the French Broad River.



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This sweet but scared baby is **NALA KOALA**. Since she has been with us, she has been very scared and anxious. She is two years old. She is under-socialized, but with time she will warm up to you. She has interacted with other dogs while at the shelter. She was both tolerant and sweet. While playing with other dogs she is very bouncy and energetic. While in our care she has been seen to be snuggly, food motivated, (Snacks are the best!) and she loves toys. When meeting new people, a slow and passive approach is recommended as she needs time to feel comfortable. She is an absolute doll when she warms up to you. While at the shelter, she is known to be potty-trained as she likes to keep her space clean. Come meet Nala Koala and other adoptable animals at YWAC, 3201 Division Street.

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

# Visiting the Whales in Chattanooga

## A Day Away



By Mike Steely

You'd never think about visiting whales within a two-hour drive from Knoxville but if you are into the world's largest mammal or you simply like 3-D movies, you might think of Chattanooga and the Tennessee Aquarium.

No, there are not large whales at the aquarium, which by the way has two different buildings featuring freshwater and salt-water creatures. But the Tennessee Aquarium's IMAX Theater is featuring a fantastic 3-D film on blue whales.

My wife and I drove



PHOTO BY MIKE STEELY

*The IMAX Theater is part of the Tennessee Aquarium complex in Chattanooga and you can see the "Blue Whales: Return of the Giants" 3-D feature through September.*

down recently and found a paid parking spot at the Aquarium, walked to the theater across the street and settled into the large auditorium not really

knowing what to expect. We put on the 3-D glasses and spent about 45 minutes in awe of those large creatures, their life-cycle, their birth and their

adventures.

It was mind-blowing and so real it felt as if we could reach out and touch the creatures. The narration and music were great and

the images were very well done and impressive.

"Blue Whales: Return of the Giants" tells the story of the revival of that population in an award-winning feature. It airs each day at noon, 2:30 and 5 p.m. and runs through September. A ticket is included with a Tennessee Aquarium admission of \$47.95 for adults and \$37.95 for children. Or you can visit the IMAX whale show for \$9.95 per person. A special rate for military and veterans may be available.

The different levels of the aquarium contain sea and river creatures, everything from turtles to sharks, stingrays to sturgeons, and, yes, they have penguins.

The complex is next to the Tennessee River and is part of Chattanooga's restored riverfront development. The view from the aquarium's upper floors is great. The complex is wheelchair accessible and offers special tours for

things like a reef feeding event in its "Deeper Dive" tour.

Getting to the Tennessee Aquarium and the IMAX Theater was a bit confusing but we followed I-75 south to Interstate 24, went west to I-24 and got off at 4th Street and followed the signs. Paid parking at the complex was crowded but we found a spot, bought the parking on an outdoor computer, and walked through the aquarium over to the theater.

After the "Blue Whale" film we walked over to the two buildings of the aquarium and spent our time watching the sea animals.

Chattanooga has spent many years developing its riverfront with attractions, hotels, events and commerce.

You can get more information about the Tennessee Aquarium and the IMAX theater online or you can call (800) 265-0695.

## The Better Parts of School

I am lucky to have grown up when I did. A member of the Baby Boomer generation, I spent my youth worry-free. The most important things involved having fun and just being a boy

in the country community of Ball Camp. Even school, where education never got in the way of having a good



By Joe Rector  
joerector@comcast.net

time, wasn't so bad.

The old Ball Camp School was the best school. The building had those big windows along one wall. Most of the year, they stayed open, either just a tad

or wide open. The rooms were stifling hot when we entered them on the Tuesday after Labor Day,

the official end of summer and freedom. Even in the dead of winter, elementary school students labored to breathe in rooms heated by radiators. The windows, as well as the students, sweated from the elevated temperatures.

In first grade, the smell from the ground-floor lunchroom starved students. For the smaller students, a brief reprieve came mid-morning. We reached for the cartons of warm milk

and pulled snacks from paper sacks. The first sip was warm, and the taste was worse as it soaked through the paper straw. Lunch was good for most students. Several ate for free, and they often asked for seconds. Lunch ladies passed out scoops of soup beans or corn, but some days the only extra item was a piece of white bread. Many students brought lunch from home. My mother would make peanut butter and jelly sandwiches and saltines with peanut butter. Sometimes, I found a raisin cake or jelly roll that Daddy had bought at the day-old bread store. Even though the desserts were sweet, they were freezer-burned from sitting in the chest freezer that was in our bedroom.

When the school burned and our sixth-grade classes were moved to an empty building across Middlebrook Pike, students froze in the winter and sweltered in the spring. We circled our desks, and

the temporary classroom became a lunchroom. Beside our room, a kitchen area was located. We could smell coffee brewing and anything our teachers brought for lunch cooking. That year might have been the best one during elementary school. Students learned to deal with rough conditions, to make the best of the situation in which they were placed.

By eighth grade, the new parts of the school were opened. Several classrooms were available, a new cafeteria and a new gym were opened. The new smell of construction and painted walls filled the place. The gym had a parquet floor, and we players felt as if we were playing on a Boston Celtic site. The cafeteria was lighter than the old one, but it just didn't feel right to eat in the place. The food was the same, but the atmosphere of the former cafeteria was gone.

For the first time, students had dressing rooms

for gym classes. The boys' area was always kept clean, but the raw smell of hormone-ridden boys mixed with cologne and Right Guard deodorant was overwhelming. A stage was set at the far end of the gym, and from there, students presented choral and instrumental concerts, and schoolwide movies were shown on a screen set there.

Ball Camp Elementary long ago moved students to middle schools, and I'm not so sure that doing so helped students or education. Something is special about a community school. Parents and students look to such a place as the center of the community and as a place into which pride is poured. I am one of the lucky ones who had the opportunity to enjoy eight years at the same school. Maybe going back to that model for schools could stop many of the problems that education in general and students in particular face these days.

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## TAA to meet April 18

The Tennessee Artist's Association will hold its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, April 18 from 7:00

- 8:30 p.m. at Westminster Presbyterian Church, 6500 Northshore Dr., Knoxville. This meeting is free and

open to anyone interested in the arts in East Tennessee. Refreshments will be served.

The program will feature artist Pat Apling. Apling is an oil painter with extensive teaching experience. She enjoys interacting with students and helping them reach new levels of success and skill. Apling has studied under Joyce Ortner, Mary Carole Larson, Brenda Harris and many others. She has trained Bob Ross instructors, and has appeared on QVC TV network and other networks.

Tennessee Artists Association - A place to learn and grow as an artist. Monthly programs of TAA include practical art demonstrations, discussions, and opportunities for individual artists to get involved in learning, community and shows. More on the Tennessee Artist's Association can be found on the web at <https://tnartists.org>, on Instagram at @tn\_artists, and on Facebook at TNArtistsAssociation.

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# Owen Brewster of Maine

## Pages from the Past



By Ray Hill  
rayhill865@gmail.com

Ralph Owen Brewster was a fixture in Maine politics for decades. A frequently controversial figure, Brewster was elected to every important office within the gift of the people of Maine. Owen Brewster was one of the few individuals to serve as governor, congressman and United States senator from the Pine Tree State. Brewster was quite a speaker and a past master at the art of moving from one town in Maine to the next hamlet, shaking hands and making friends. It was generally while serving in office that Ralph Owen Brewster made enemies. If Owen Brewster didn't quite court controversy, he was certainly quite well acquainted with her. So, too, was the oftentimes brushed by scandal.

A highly conservative Republican, Owen Brewster was never a favorite of the news media. One correspondent for the most widely read news magazine of the day, TIME, described Brewster as the "toothy, slack jawed" representative from Maine. The Portland Press Herald remembered Brewster more generously, recalling the senator had been in great demand as a speaker. "He had a large vocabulary, a flowing style and a nasal twang that to many was typical of a Down-East constituency."

Brewster was an enthusiastic backer of the aviation industry at a time when air travel was secondary to folks traveling by train. Senator Brewster oftentimes represented the United States at aviation conferences here and abroad during his career, but Brewster's ties to the aviation industry would eventually become a source of embarrassment to him. From his election to Congress in 1934 until his defeat in 1952, Owen Brewster was, according to the Portland Press Herald, "Maine's most potent political figure."

Owen Brewster was a man of ability and some intellect. To pay his way through Harvard, he waited on tables and was a member of the Law Review, along with his future senatorial colleague, Robert A. Taft. Brewster's roommate at Bowdoin and Harvard was Harold H. Burton, another future Senate colleague and justice of the U. S. Supreme Court. Throughout the first twenty years of his public career, he had been known as Ralph Owen Brewster; in 1943, the senator abruptly shortened his name to Owen Brewster.

Ralph Owen Brewster's political career was controversial from the beginning. Brewster won the election as governor of Maine in 1924, aided by the Ku Klux Klan, which was making its presence felt in numerous states outside the South.

Brewster won a second term two years later. In 1928, Governor Brewster challenged perhaps the most formidable figure in Maine politics, Senator Frederick Hale. The senator possessed a pristine political pedigree for any Republican.

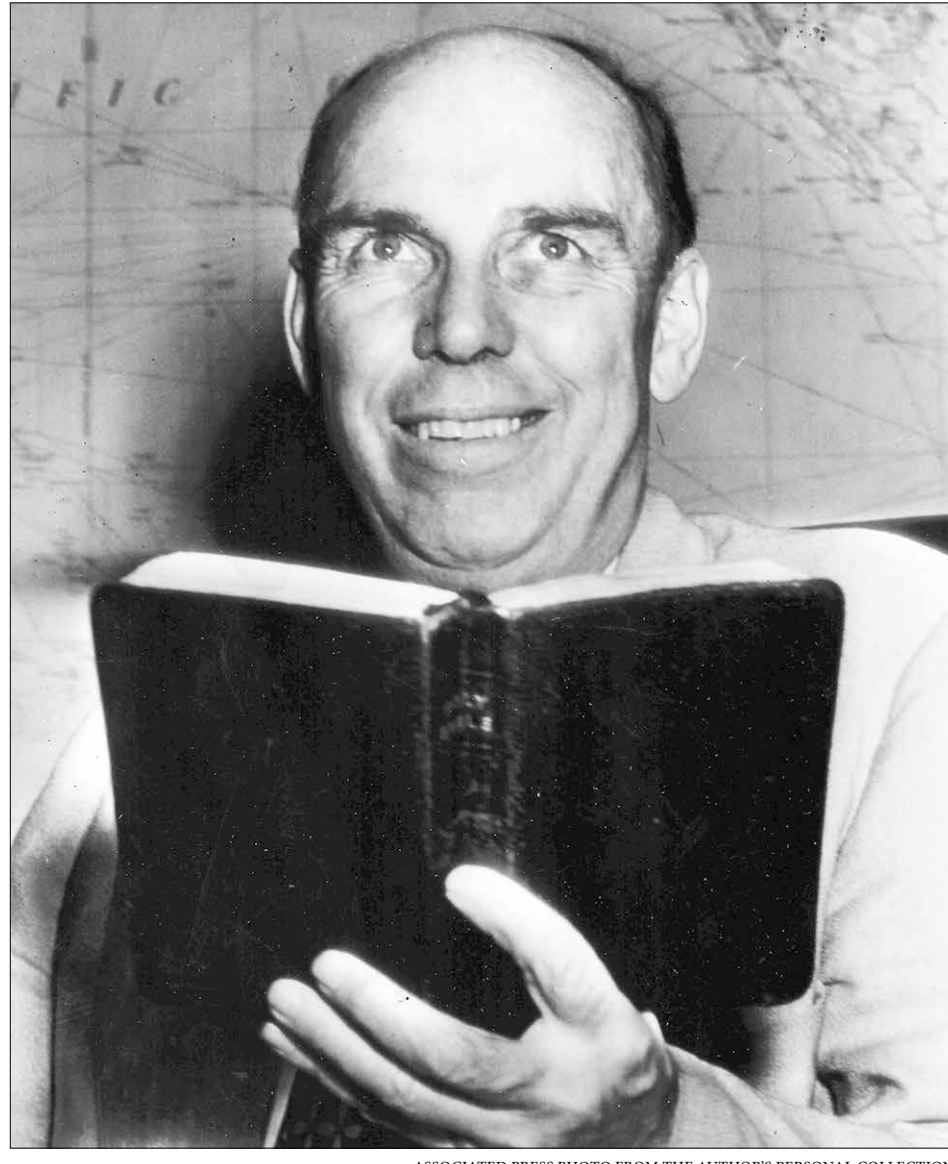
Hale was the son of one of Maine's most powerful politicians, Eugene Hale, who had preceded him in the United States Senate. Frederick Hale was also the grandson of another United States senator as his mother's father was Zachariah Chandler of Michigan. Chandler had also been one of the founders of the National Republican Party. Brewster campaigned hard, but the power of the Klan had ended in Maine and Hale was too firmly entrenched. Senator Hale gave Ralph Owen Brewster a thorough thrashing, winning by 63% of the ballots cast.

Undeterred, Brewster ran for an open seat in the U.S. Senate when Arthur Gould announced he was not running again. The former governor faced probably the second-best pedigreed Republican in the State of Maine in Wallace H. White, Jr. White's grandfather was William P. Frye, a former U.S. senator who had served 30 years in that body. Frye might have served longer had he not died in office. White had been in the House of Representatives since 1917 and won the GOP primary decisively over Brewster and another challenger.

Two years later, Ralph Owen Brewster lowered his sights to a seat in the House of Representatives. The former governor entered the Republican primary against incumbent Congressman Donald F. Snow along with three other challengers. Brewster won the GOP nomination with less than 40% of the vote and faced a credible opponent in John G. Utterback. Utterback, a former

mayor of Bangor and a successful automobile dealer, was well-known in the district. The campaign was hard fought and close. Eventually, Utterback won by 294 votes.

Owen Brewster was never one of those to whom things came easily; rather Brewster's success was largely self-made through a combination of hard work and steely determination. After three successive electoral losses, many thought Brewster had been consigned to the political scrap heap. Ralph O. Brewster sought a rematch with Congressman John Utterback for his seat in the House of Representatives in 1934. Brewster ran as a foe of public power after his constant battles as governor with the Insull interests and as a supporter of the Townsend Plan, a questionable spending plan to



ASSOCIATED PRESS PHOTO FROM THE AUTHOR'S PERSONAL COLLECTION.

U.S. Senator Owen Brewster of Maine poses with the Bible, 1955.

provide money for seniors when there was no Social Security.

As a freshman congressman, Brewster managed the impressive feat of slicing off a \$36 million appropriation work relief project "to harness the tides below the Passamaquoddy Bay" inside his congressional district with "a great government dam." As the House wrangled over a provision of a Public Utility Bill's "death sentence" provision, Congressman Brewster, the adversary of the private power companies, sided with them, which in turn, raised a considerable number of eyebrows. Brewster rose on the floor of the House of Representatives to explain his stance. Brewster's voice was "throbbing with righteous indignation" as he accused Thomas Corcoran, then a member of President Roosevelt's "brain trust" and chief lobbyist on Capitol Hill, of having threatened to stop construction on the Passamaquoddy Dam if he did not vote with the administration. Without saying as much, Congressman Brewster inferred his vote was a protest against unethical lobbying by the Roosevelt administration. In a close and exceedingly hard-fought battle over the public utilities bill, the House Rules Committee convened to investigate allegations of "undue influence" on the part of the president or the private power interests.

When Tommy Corcoran told his part of the tale, it seemed more plausible than that of Ralph Owen Brewster. Corcoran also produced a witness, Dr. Ernest Gruening, then director of the Interior Department's Division of Territories & Island Possessions, who had previously been the editor and publisher of the Portland, Maine Evening News and an admirer of Ralph Owen Brewster. Gruening testified, giving an account that matched Corcoran's to "the last detail."

Yet it did Brewster no lasting political damage, but it became one more arrow in the quiver of questionable things throughout

Brewster's political career.

The vagaries of politics have much to do with a congressman's reactions to events as they happen. It also has much to do with a congressman's looking after the home folks. Aroostook County in Brewster's congressional district was one of the leading producers of potatoes in the country in 1935. Southern congressmen and senators, with their accrued seniority and prime positions on the most influential committees in Congress, had well looked after the two biggest cash crops in their region: cotton and tobacco. Congressman Owen Brewster complained, "Potatoes are the Forgotten Crop." Some 36 million pounds of potatoes sat in storage and were worth a measly 37 cents per bushel as compared to \$1.37 in 1930. The drop in prices was reflected in the relief rolls for Aroostook County, which ran some \$100,000 per month.

Reelected to the House by increasing majorities in 1936 and 1938, Brewster's ambitions to serve in the United States Senate were realized in 1940 when Senator Frederick Hale retired. Brewster defeated Governor Lewis Barrows for the Republican nomination somewhat handily and went on to win the general election where he faced the most popular Democrat in Maine, former Governor Louis J. Brann. Senator Brewster's first six years in the Senate brought him a triumphant reelection in 1946.

The premier muckraker in the national news media of the day was columnist Drew Pearson, who also had radio and television programs. Pearson was an active liberal and frequently involved himself in matters pending before Congress and the columnist was not always anchored to the truth. While Brewster was engaged in a close primary match with Governor Frederick Payne, Pearson charged Charles Patrick Clark, a very well-paid lobbyist on behalf of the Spanish government, with having used undue influence to get

Senator Brewster to sponsor legislation providing aid for Spanish dictator Francisco Franco's regime. Many Washington insiders believed Pearson's charges contributed to Brewster's narrow defeat in the Republican primary in 1952. Lobbyist Clark caught Pearson out after lunch in Washington and beat the hell out of the columnist.

Yet perhaps the most politically harmful episode in Owen Brewster's political career came with the senator's highly publicized dispute with millionaire Howard Hughes while chairing a special investigative committee. That dispute was illustrated in the movie "The Aviator" starring Leonardo DiCaprio. Brewster was portrayed on the screen by Alan Alda, who looked nothing like the senator from Maine. Hughes alleged Brewster was doing the bidding of Juan Trippe, the head of Pan American Airways, and was attempting to muscle him into merging his own TWA airlines with that of Pan Am. Brewster, who had been confident throughout the proceedings, seemed to inwardly crumble as the tables turned. Brewster took the highly unusual step of waiving his senatorial immunity and appearing before his own subcommittee as a witness to refute the accusations made by Hughes.

Hughes never forgot nor forgave Owen Brewster. When Governor Frederick G. Payne announced he would run against Senator Brewster in the Republican primary in 1952, there were rumors it was made possible by \$50,000 from Hughes. Brewster had been solidly for his friend Bob Taft for the GOP presidential nomination, while Payne had been for Dwight D. Eisenhower. The primary was a bitter contest between the governor and Senator Brewster. Charges of corruption were tossed into the election by a wine bottler who claimed he had paid an influence peddler \$12,000, a large sum for the time, to get his product on the shelves of the state's liquor stores. The money was supposedly

paid to influence Governor Payne, a charge which he hotly denied. Payne wondered if Brewster had not instigated the charges, which the senator equally vehemently denied. Although he won both the primary and general elections, Frederick Payne entered the United States Senate with something of a cloud over his head.

Even with the many brushes with scandal, Owen Brewster proved to be a hard man to defeat. Payne won by only 3,356 votes.

Following his defeat inside the Republican primary, Owen Brewster lingered in Washington, D.C. Buoyed by the victory of Eisenhower and a Republican Congress, Brewster sought an appointment. According to TIME magazine, Brewster had wished to be the Under Secretary of State for Congressional Relations. When that appointment didn't materialize, the former senator sought to be "a member of the Maritime Commission, a Pentagon official, a Commerce Department officer, a Tariff Commission member." As TIME noted, Owen Brewster wanted any appointment available to a former member of the United States Senate. Yet the Eisenhower administration was wary of Brewster and the Maine senator's ties to Henry Grunewald.

Joe McCarthy of Wisconsin proposed Brewster for the modest post of counsel to the Government Operations Committee. After some maneuvering, the Democrats on the committee refused to approve Owen Brewster, a breach of the usual courtesy extended by Senate members to those who had once served as a member of that body.

Following his defeat and subsequent failure to win an appointive post in the Eisenhower administration, Brewster volunteered much of his time to activities involving Americans for Constitutional Action, which was the political polar opposite of the liberal Americans for Democratic Action. Brewster was a regular, moving around the state making talks before small groups and although 70 years old at the time, indicated he would be willing to run for the Senate once again should Frederick Payne opt not to seek reelection in 1958.

Owen Brewster died while attending a Christian scientist retreat in Boston on Christmas Day in 1961. The former senator was suffering from cancer, although his death was unexpected.

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## If You Call the Police, Can You Still Be Arrested?

Occasionally, I will represent someone charged with a crime and they will say something to me like, "They arrested me, and I am the one who called the police!"

Unfortunately, if you call the police, and they arrive and they believe that you have committed a crime, they will arrest you, even if you initially called the police seeking assistance.

This circumstance most



**By Jedidiah McKeegan**

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often arises in domestic violence disputes. Someone calls the police to intervene in a domestic dispute, and then the police arrest the person who called them to the scene of the dispute.

The reason this may happen can likely be traced to Tennessee Code Annotated section 36-3-619.

It states that when an officer is responding to a scene, and when they

arrive both people make complaints about the other person's behavior, the officer is to determine which person is the primary aggressor.

The law states that "Arrest is the preferred response only with respect to the primary aggressor. The officer shall presume that arrest is not the appropriate response for the person or persons who were not the primary aggressor. If the officer believes that all parties are equally responsible, the officer shall exercise such officer's best judgment in determining whether to

arrest all, any or none of the parties."

So, if you call the police out to the scene of a domestic incident, but the officers determine that you were the primary aggressor in the incident, they may arrest you anyway.

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

## Knox County Mental Health Court Board meets

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

Members of the Knox County Mental Health Court Advisory Board met in a Zoom internet session Tuesday and heard from Ron Morton, vice president of NAMI Knox.

NAMI is short for the National Alliance for Mental Illness and Morton talked about what the organization does locally as an advocate for families with mental illness.

"We have to put away our old ideas about

mental illness," he said. Several members had questions for Morton, who has promised to reach out to other organizations and even attend a CareCuts event.

Court case manager Sabrina Greene talked about SEED's career program teaching construction skills and a four-week paid boot camp for youth. She also spoke about the Knoxville Urban League and its counseling and guidance services for employment.

FROM THE MOUNTAINS BY JADON GIBSON

# Indian warriors were fierce, cunning

**By Jadon Gibson**

When James Harrod led a party of about 50 rugged pioneers down the Ohio River and then up the Kentucky River in 1774, they were watched closely by the Shawnee and other tribes. The settlers went ashore at a place that became known as Harrod's Landing and traveled from there to the head of Dick's River where they planned their settlement Harrodsburg.

When Harrod's party started chopping trees and erecting log cabins, the Indians were incensed.

They watched with rage as the white men attempted to settle on their hunting ground, all the time knowing that it wouldn't stop there. They had long heard of the growth in numbers of the paleface on the eastern seaboard and their ever-increasing movements inland, pushing the red

man's brethren from the land of their forefathers. The Indians knew their homes north of the Ohio River were also in jeopardy.

The Indians fiercely attacked the settlers. Early writers called them born warriors whose ambition centered on war. A warrior's standing within a tribe was based on his prowess in combat and it was even believed that his reception after death by departed ancestors was based on his performance in war.

They were expert at woodcraft and war although in the movies they are sometimes shown encircling the pioneers or wagon trains as they get picked off one by one. In reality, they were much more cunning.

Instead of attacking en masse, most often they divided their forces to attack in smaller bands, creating havoc in perhaps ten different places at the same time. They attacked small groups,

the weakest links among the pioneers.

When the number of pioneers was too great or if they appeared to be too well entrenched, the Indians would withdraw to find a battle more to their advantage. Although a few early Americans looked on this as a lack of courage on the part of the Indians most who fought with the red men over the years knew that courage was one thing they did not lack.

They did lack in marksmanship and there were several reasons for this. Usually, their guns were older and inferior. The pioneers and traders bartered their worst guns, keeping the best for themselves. Rarely did the Indians have spare parts and they weren't as adept in repairing damaged firearms.

Nor did the Indians have a reliable supply of gunpowder so they seldom took target practice,

electing to save their powder for combat. Since their supply of gunpowder was generally low, they undercharged their weapons and this adversely affected their accuracy and range.

What the Indians lacked in weaponry however they made up for in savvy.

The small bands of warriors were tireless and could travel long distances without food although they often carried parched corn. The Indians hunted and found their food along the trails.

They mounted attacks and quickly withdrew only to attack soon thereafter a good distance away leaving burning cabins and scalped bodies, often electing to take captives. During the second half of the 1700s, when the Indians fought against the settlers, his proudest badge was his string of bloody scalps.

The lack of food and supplies was a secondary reason for

the Indian's penchant for quick strikes instead of sieges. In the wooded country, the Indian was as much at home as a deer. Here he fought on his terms whereas he was less effective while encircling the palisades of a fort.

When the Indians struck James Harrod and his Harrodsburg settlers there was a general alarm sent among the pioneers causing them to quickly withdraw.

The pioneers would continue to return however and their numbers grew. The cunning and bravery of the red men was not enough.

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

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## TSSAA honors McCarter, Wright

The TSSAA Hall of Fame added eight new inductees on Monday, April 8. On the back row (left to right) are Joe Gaddis, former Oak Ridge football coach; Jerry McCarter, a Knox-South basketball official and supervisor; Bernard Childress, former TSSAA Executive Director; and Jody Wright, Fulton boys basketball coach. On the front row (left to right) are David Garrett, Steve Trussler, official from Manchester; Glenn Falls, coach from Nashville; and Phil Clark, coach from Bartlett. (David Garrett accepted the Hall of Fame medal for Chris Snoddy, a contributor from Nashville, who passed away Jan. 20, 2023. David was Chris' best friend.) See stories on C4.



## HIGH SCHOOL SOCCER Hardin Valley uses PK shootout to end futility against Bulldogs

By Ken Lay

It took a little overtime and a penalty kicks shootout but Hardin Valley Academy's boys soccer team ended nearly a decade of futility against one of its biggest rivals on a cool Friday night. The Hawks played Bearden to a 1-1 draw through 80 minutes of regulation and 20 minutes of overtime, sending the game to a shootout where

Hardin Valley prevailed, 7-6, after nine rounds of PKs. It was HVA's first win over Bearden in nine years and ended a winless streak against Bearden that began in 2015. That was Ryan Radcliffe's first year as the Bulldogs' head coach. The celebration was a bit wild for the Hawks (10-0-1 overall, 3-0-1 in

**Continue on page 2**

## Helton glad to be back, but turns spotlight on the kids

By Steve Williams

The 'Welcome Home' event for Todd Helton last week at Lindsey Nelson Stadium was a two-for-one treat for Helton, as he got to see his former high school team (Central) play a game at the site where he played in college (UT). Helton, who will be inducted into the Major League Baseball Hall of Fame on July 21 in Cooperstown, was introduced to the crowd on hand and a list of his impressive accomplishments were announced, followed by a lengthy ovation. "They didn't have to read off all that; that was a little too long," said a modest Helton. "But I appreciate it. I think my good buddy Andy wrote it. He was very nice to me."

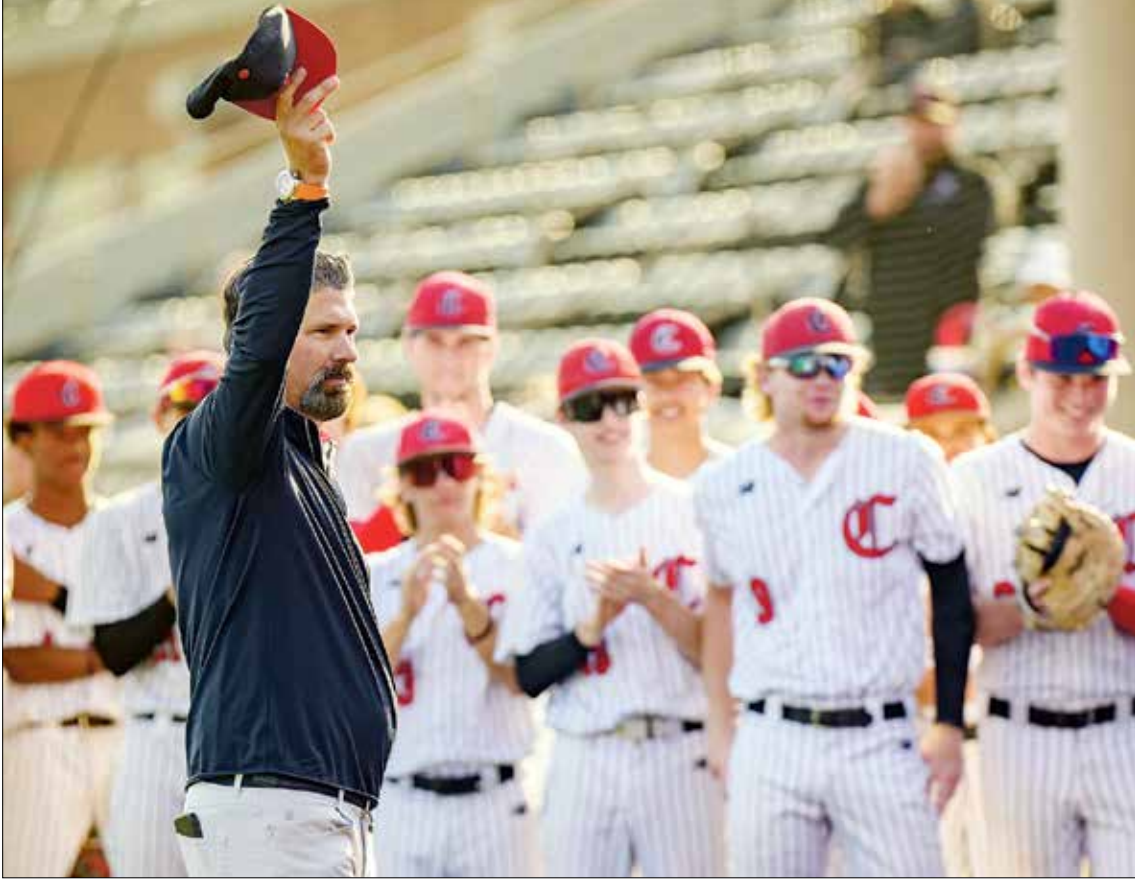


PHOTO BY JOHN VALENTINE

**Hometown hero Todd Helton waves to the crowd and Central High players join in on the applause at last week's 'Welcome Home' event at UT. Helton will be inducted into the Major League Baseball Hall of Fame in July.**

Yes, it was Andy Bolton's doing. He was a teammate of Todd on the undefeated 1990 CHS state championship team. A few other highlights on Helton's resume included leading Tennessee to the 1994 and 1995 SEC baseball titles and a third place finish in the 1995 College World Series ... In 2000, Todd led the MLB with a batting average of .372 ... He was captain of the Colorado Rockies' 2007 National League Championship team that played in the World Series. It had rained most of the day, but the sun popped out about two hours before Helton's ceremonial first pitch, which sailed over the catcher's head. "That's the first ball I've probably thrown in 10 years," said Todd, "unless I'm playing catch with the dog." Helton was scheduled to throw

out another first pitch before the LSU game this past Saturday and the odds were probably high that the southpaw would throw a strike this time. When asked what the 'Welcome Home' event meant to him, Helton answered: "It means a lot that (UT skipper) Tony Vitello would let these two high school programs come here and play. I'm truly grateful for that. But for me personally, I get to see a lot of people that I haven't seen in many, many years. I lived out of

state for 20 something years. I'm a home body now and I don't like to get out too much. So I don't catch many games." Vitello said after the event last week that "Helton doesn't like the limelight" and is a little shy. "A lot of people think he's just a hitter. Really what he is is a winner." This reporter told Todd about having known his late Uncle Joel Helton quite well and about the time he playfully bear-hugged me and slammed me to the ground when I was working for

The Knoxville Journal and he was Central's head football coach. "He was crazy," said Todd. "We miss him." "My dad (Jerry) would have been over the moon that I made the Hall of Fame," added Todd. "I can't even put into words how excited he would have been. I know they're up there looking down and are proud of me and happy that I made the Hall of Fame." Todd's mom (Martha) is still living. "God willing, she'll be at

the Hall of Fame and to me that is going to be very special." Helton's oldest daughter, Tierney, was at the 'Welcome Home' event. She's a junior at UT and also in the photography business. Youngest daughter Gentry is in the eighth grade at CAK. "I haven't watched a high school game since I played in one," said Helton. "I've always been playing (in college and in major league). I plan on catching a few more now that I'm back in Knoxville." "When people ask me, I do say I'm retired," continued Todd. "But I still work for the Rockies as a special assistant to the general manager, which means I go out to minor league ball parks and I work with the kids mentally and physically. I enjoy watching minor league baseball; I really do. Those guys are hungry; just like college baseball players." Helton said he gets a lot of satisfaction out of his work with the Rockies' minor leaguers "when they do well." "Outfielder Jordan Beck (former UT player and Colorado's No. 2 pick in 2022), for instance. He's starting out in Triple-A this year. And Chase Dollander (former UT pitcher and Colorado's No. 1 pick in 2023), I get reports on him and he pitched unbelievable the other day." With rising players like Beck, who currently is at Albuquerque, and Dollander, who was assigned to Spokane in the High-A Northwest League, Helton thinks better days could be just around the corner for the Rockies, who have been down lately.

# Hardin Valley uses PK shootout to end futility against Bulldogs

**Cont. from page 1**

District 4-3A).

And why not?

Hardin Valley did something it hadn't in nine years --- knock off a district foe that is constantly among the top teams in the Volunteer State. But first-year HVA head coach Ray Dover made one thing perfectly clear to his team after the match was contested and concluded on the pitch at Turner-Allender Field before a spirited crowd.

"I'm going to tell the boys that they've done something that nine previous Hardin Valley teams couldn't do, and that's beat Bearden," said Dover, who knows all too well how tough the competition in District 4-3A always is, having played high school soccer at Farragut, and later serving as the Admirals' head coach after a stint as an assistant to Catholic's Gordon Heins when the Irish resided in the district. "This was a win, even though it went to PKs, but it was a regular-season game and it wasn't for a trophy, or anything like that."

"So we really haven't accomplished anything and we're going to have to stay focused if we're going to get where we want to go."

Hardin Valley captured the first of four meetings between the two sides. Bearden and the Hawks could potentially meet three more times in the district tournament, the region championship and in Murfreesboro in the state tournament.

There were plenty of smiles for the Hawks, who got the clinching goal in the shootout from an unlikely hero, Marques Powers, who ended the long session of penalty kicks.

"I don't usually take

PKs," Powers said. "But I knew I had to make mine because everybody else made theirs and I didn't want to be the one that let my team down."

His successful PK ended a match that had plenty of drama.

"It was an instant classic," Dover said. "It was just two great teams going at it."

Hardin Valley dominated the first 40 minutes of the match and took a 1-0 lead when Ben Brophy fired a shot past the keeper with just over 18 minutes remaining the first half.

"They killed us in the first half," Radcliffe said.

The Hawks held their advantage until late in regulation.

But they were whistled for a handball foul in the goal box and were called for the penalty.

Jack Raulston converted the subsequent penalty kick to tie the match for the Bulldogs (7-2-1, 0-0-1) in the 64th minute.

From there, Bearden picked up some momentum.

"I thought we played better late and into overtime," Radcliffe said. "But this one is on me because we haven't really worked on penalty kicks in practice, but we'll work on them on Tuesday."

Bearden has to play William Blount tonight (April 15) in a district match before facing rival Farragut on Friday night.

"We play William Blount Monday and then we play Farragut Friday, so we don't have much time to hang our heads," Radcliffe said. "This was our first district game, so we're just getting into the meat of our schedule."

The Hawks have three matches in four days next week as they host Heritage Tuesday, entertain Powell Thursday and then Loudon on Friday.

## HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL



PHOTO BY JOHN VALENTINE

Central's Andrew Hill delivers a pitch against Halls last week at UT. The senior right-hander was the star of the game as he hurled a one-hitter and struck out 10. He also contributed a RBI single in the Bobcats' 4-0 win.

# Hill leads Central to win on 'special day'

By Steve Williams

Central High ace Andrew Hill made quick work of rival Halls in the 'Welcome Home' Todd Helton event at UT's Lindsey Stadium last week.

The tall right-hander and ETSU signee plunked the Red Devils' leadoff batter to start the contest, but sailed through the rest of the game with a one-hitter and struck out 10.

"The key with this special day was kind of controlling the emotions, controlling the nerves a little bit and I thought Andrew Hill did a really good job," said Central Coach Brandon Roberts. "He set the tone for us."

Nick Riordan had an infield hit in the bottom of the first, but the inning ended with both teams scoreless.

Central's Miles Johnson took care of that in the second as he drove in courtesy runner Jaden Seiber with a bouncing single up the middle off of Halls

pitcher Dayde Young.

In the third inning, the Bobcats' Kaylin Chesney had a leadoff walk and scored on Hill's single up the middle to make it 2-0.

With one out in the decisive fourth, Central's Jack Goode got aboard a base on balls. Johnson beat out an infield hit to shortstop. David Grimes' sacrifice bunt advanced the runners to second and third. On a 3-1 count, Halls elected to load the bases. Chesney made the Red Devils pay as he hit a two-run single past the second baseman, giving the Cats their four-run upper hand.

"Kaylin did a good job with two strikes," said Coach Roberts. "He put the ball in play."

Hill made a nice defensive play in the fifth as he fielded a grounder between the mound and home and fired to first baseman Cole Wessel for the out.

Reserve Owen Porter singled to left field in the bottom of the fifth and

pinch-runner Chris Peters stole second, but the Bobcats couldn't get him home.

Hill capped his shutout by retiring the side in order in the seventh.

With the great pitching and defensive play, it took only 1 hour and 18 minutes to play the game.

The victory upped Central's record to 14-6 overall and 6-1 in District 3-4A. Halls slipped to 8-12 and 5-2.

"I'm proud of our team," added Roberts. "The crowd that was here was amazing and I think it says a lot about how our guys have been playing. Obviously, Todd Helton is a big part of it. For this atmosphere for high school baseball is a really cool thing for our players to experience. I'm really proud of that."

"Just him (Helton) coming tonight was really appreciated and the guys are on Cloud Nine."

Halls Coach Ryan Gentry felt both teams competed

hard and his team battled. "The difference tonight was their guy (Hill) on the mound had everything working. He did a great job and got the job done."

As far as playing at UT's stadium, Gentry said: "I think they enjoyed getting to be out here and to compete at a place where they come out and watch guys that they cheer for compete."

"Todd came over and introduced himself and spoke to some of the kids before the game. You know, it's always great to get to meet one of your heroes, so I think they had a good time with that."

### CAUGHLIN RECOGNIZED:

Central graduate Jason Coughlin received a nice ovation on the field between innings early in the contest. He graduated from school early and completed boot camp in the Marines in January.

# Fulton twins are 'college ready' for Tusculum

By Steve Williams

Taj Kimber said he and his twin brother Denaj had never considered going to separate colleges. The plan has always been to go to the same school and play basketball together.

And so it is. The Fulton High twins will soon be the Tusculum University twins.

Denaj and Taj, who were four-year starters, signed scholarship papers Wednesday in the Larry Cox Room in the lower level of the Jody Wright Arena, where they helped the Falcons capture back-to-back state championships the past two seasons and win a school record 35 games this year.

Teammate Tyler Lee, a 6-5 forward and the TSSAA Class 3A Mr. Basketball in 2023-24, also has announced his college choice and will be going to Central Arkansas University. His signing ceremony will be Wednesday.

FHS Coach Jody Wright was asked what he thought the colleges would be getting from these three student-athletes on and off the court the next four or five years?



Family members and Fulton coaches celebrate with twins Denaj and Taj Kimber their signing with Tusculum University's basketball program last week at FHS. From left to right are Head Coach Jody Wright, parents Jazz and Denotra Kimber next to their sons and nephew Zy'aire Cummings (below), and assistant coaches Jerel Hayward, Steve Hampton and Adrian Wannamaker.

"They are going to get three guys that have prepared for this moment," said Wright. "I think they are college ready from a skill standpoint, from a mindset standpoint, from a defensive standpoint,

which is a gap that most high school kids go into college with. They're ready to step on the stage from the moment they step on campus.

"As far as the type of young men, I can't say

enough good things about them. They are quality young men; they really are. They are character guys. They are easy to like. They are easy to coach. They are humble. That's probably why they are three of the

most popular guys in this school. Let's be honest - those guys are superstars. Everybody in the state knows who they are. But you would never know it."

J.T. Burton is the head coach of the Tusculum

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# 'One of the stormiest chapters in SEC basketball lore'

A game at Vanderbilt helped define the 1968-69 basketball season and the ever-growing legend of University of Tennessee head coach Ray Mears.



By Tom Mattingly

The 1968-69 Vols finished 21-7 overall and 13-5 (SEC), with an appearance in the NIT. It featured yeoman-like work from Bill Justus, Billy Hann, Bobby Croft, Jimmy England, and Don Johnson.

Longtime fans will remember that freshmen were not eligible for varsity play until the 1972-73 season, so there were games played earlier in the evening between each school's rookies, just to whet the appetites of the early arrivals. Over the years, there was some pretty good basketball played in these "preliminary games."

The games between the Vols and Commodores were always fiercely contested, and the rivalry, especially in Nashville, carried over into the freshman game.

Late in the early game, Mears walked in front of the Vanderbilt partisans to the team bench area. To say it caused a stir would

be an understatement. Knoxville Journal sports-writer Ben Byrd wrote that Mears' stroll down the Memorial Gym sideline that season caused "one of the stormiest chapters in SEC basketball lore."

Historically, it's called the "Long Walk," and, for Mears, it was a stroke of genius, one of many in his heralded career. Ray always delighted in the little gimmicks, once going as far as wearing a brown suit at Kentucky, just to get under Adolph Rupp's skin. Byrd wrote that Mears, resplendent in his orange blazer, was greeted by a "cacophony of boos, jeers, catcalls, and other derisive noises," in an attempt to intimidate the Vols on the floor... and those in the dressing room. It was a product of the tumultuous 1960s.

However, Mears told Byrd, with a straight face, that his walk at Nashville was not "premeditated."

It was merely a matter of geography.

"Our dressing room at Vandy then was at the opposite end of the floor from where the team bench was," Ray said. "During the freshman game, I went up in the last half to watch the final 10 minutes or so. I waited for a timeout to

walk the length of the floor to our bench."

The reaction was surprising, even to Mears, who really didn't seem to expect to create such uproar. "I knew they'd boo me — they had been doing that for years — but I didn't expect anything as violent as I got."

What happened was one of those stories where Tennessee's freshman and varsity teams each pulled together and met the moment head-on. The ruckus also helped the Vol varsity, who came out a 70-60 winner, in a game many Vol fans had mentally chalked up as a loss.

"The crowd got our freshmen so stirred up they went ahead and won the game," Mears added.

The outburst that night led to more than one occasion when the Vols were pelted with oranges, before (and even during) their games at Vanderbilt. John Ward once said there wasn't an orange to be had in Davidson County on the day of a Tennessee-Vanderbilt basketball game.

In 1971, Tennessee point guard Dickie Johnson, all 5-8 of him, was hit with an orange, threw the basketball at one of his assailants, and was assessed

a technical foul for his actions. The Vols won that night, too.

There are other sidebars to all this tomfoolery.

Mears made his 1970 stroll at Vanderbilt with Vol track star Bill Skinner, all 6-7 and 250 pounds of him at his side, likewise in an orange blazer, perhaps a 50 XL. Marvin West called that move "part of the psychological warfare, the flag before the bull."

Tennessee warmed up with an orange and white basketball in those days, and there was a time when Vandy students grabbed the spheroid and wouldn't let go. Mears tried the normal routine, sending a manager into the crowd, but all that did was embolden the masses.

Mears then dispatched Skinner, who went into the mass of humanity and requested the ball. Whoever had it, let go... very quickly.

There was also a piece of intriguing irony in one of the last Tennessee-Vanderbilt games at Stokely Center. In the midst of a close finish, an orange came sailing onto the court. As the perpetrator was apprehended, leaving with a police escort, the noise level in the old arena swelled when fans got a glimpse of his black

and gold jacket. In his Tennessee career, Mears fashioned his own brand of "Memorial Magic." Mears' teams were 20-10 against the Commodores, 9-6 in Memorial Gym, along with an 11-4 mark in Knoxville.

As things normally happen, the SEC powers that be swooped in and put a halt to the "Long

Walk," citing safety concerns and all that. For a while, Tennessee's dressing room was moved closer to its bench area. If it were possible, life became more peaceful in Memorial Gym.

However, Mears had made a statement. "The art of one-upmanship is a long way from being dead," Byrd wrote.



Ray Mears brought intensity to the arena, against any team the Vols might be playing.

## HIGH SCHOOL SOCCER

# Bobcats outlast Halls in double OT district thriller

By Ken Lay

The race for the District 3-3A soccer title took another turn on a rainy Thursday night at Halls High School.

The Red Devils hosted longtime Black Oak Ridge rival Central at Dinzie "Dink" Adams Field in a crucial league match. And the Bobcats had to work a little overtime to come away with a 3-2 double-overtime victory in hostile territory.

It was the first district meeting between the two rivals since 2017, and with the victory Central now has the upper hand in the district standings. Coach Chris Quinn, knows, however, that the Bobcats can't afford to take anything for granted as the 2024 campaign continues.

"I don't remember this district ever having this much parody," Quinn said after his side notched a crucial league road win against the Red Devils, who have already won at Oak Ridge in a penalty kicks shootout. "You have Powell, Halls, Central, Oak Ridge and Karns, and any of these teams can win this district."

On Thursday, the Bobcats (6-5 overall, 2-0 in District 3-3A) had to battle a hostile crowd in enemy territory and if that wasn't enough, Central and the Red Devils (7-1-1, 1-1) had to tangle during periods of driving and swirling rain. Additionally, the two teams had to sit through a lightning delay before even kicking off the match.

But that didn't temper the excitement on this night.

"It was the most exciting game that I've ever been a part of, and last night was a helluva step for us," Quinn said. "Halls is a tremendous team and they deserve the attention that they're getting."

It was the first loss of the 2024 campaign for the Red Devils, who made a run to the Class 2A State Tournament in 2023.

The Bobcats took a 1-0 lead in the first half on a goal by senior Silas Geasland only to see Halls tie things before halftime when Chase Burnett converted a penalty kick to knot the match, 1-1.

"I've been preaching discipline all year and we come out and take the lead off a header on a set piece," Quinn said. "Then we play undisciplined soccer and we give up a PK and they equalize."

The Red Devils took their first lead of the match after halftime when Aydan Slover found the back of the Bobcats' net.

They held the lead until late in the match when Geasland tallied the game-tying marker with 1 minute, 52 seconds remaining in regulation."

The score remained tied through the first 20-minute overtime period and went to a sudden death overtime period before Geasland ended things by completing a hat trick with 8:21 to go.

"We were 8:21 away from going to penalty kicks when Silas scored to win the game," Quinn said.

Geasland was certainly the hero, scoring his goals while playing the majority of the match on Central's back line.

But Quinn gave the biggest nod to a freshman defender, Daniel Greenleaf, who enjoyed a solid overtime performance after struggling during regulation.

"We had a freshman on our back line who had a tough game (in regulation) and during the break, I looked at him and told him that we're all going to have a tough game," Quinn said. "I told him that I'm going to have a tough game coaching and that players are going to have tough games."

"At the break, I told him that we were going to all have to have short memories and that we needed him."

And in overtime, Greenleaf responded.

"Halls attacked him all during regulation, but in overtime, nobody got around that kid," Quinn said. "I called him after the game and I told him how proud I was of him. That's a hard thing to do, to look a tough game in the face and go into extra time and perform."

The victory over Halls was Central's second road win of the week. The Bobcats outlasted Morristown West, 5-3, Tuesday night as Brody Hawkins and Bailey Weaver each scored twice against the Trojans. Xavier Avila also had a goal in Morristown.

Playing with heavy hearts: Central dedicated Thursday's game to Nancy Jackson, a longtime supporter of the program.

Jackson, who suffered a stroke early last week, is a friend of Quinn and his family.

"Nancy is like my second mom and she always takes care of the kids and she comes to the games when she can," Quinn said. "I was on the way home Tuesday night and my wife called me and told me that she had had a massive stroke."

"She's in the hospital and the kids all wore armbands with her name on them."

# Lady Vols Hire Kim Caldwell

By Mark Nagi

The Tennessee Lady Volunteers are one of the most storied basketball programs in the history of the sport. 17 SEC Regular Season Championships and 17 SEC Tournament Championships. 18 Final Fours. 8 National Championships.

But it's been a long time since they have been a national powerhouse. UT hasn't been to a Final Four since 2008 not won an SEC title or any type since 2015.

University of Tennessee Vice Chancellor/Director of Athletics Danny White believes that he found the person who will turn things around, hiring Marshall's Kim Caldwell to replace Kellie Harper as the 4th head coach in program history.

"You want to be somewhere where the expectations are high," said Caldwell. "I've had a lot of opportunities in my career to look at jobs and was never interested in a job that did not have high expectations, did not have a loyal fan base, did not have a hungry crowd that wanted to pay attention to what was going on. So, I think that was something that makes this program incredibly special, and I'm going to work very, very hard to make sure that we keep it there."

"We are never going to hire a head coach who lacks integrity and strong character," said White. "We want someone who cares about student-athletes and is coaching for the right reasons. We have that person. We wanted someone who is competitive and confident. You will see that we have a very competitive new coach. We wanted someone who wasn't afraid of the challenge to restore this legendary program to where we all want it to be."

Caldwell might not be a big name in the sport, but that doesn't mean that she hasn't been a success. She has a career record of 217-31 in eight years of coaching, seven of those at Division II Glenville State. She also won a national title at GSU in 2022.

The style of play for Caldwell's teams should be attractive for Lady Vols fans. Last season at Marshall (her only season with the Thundering

Herd) were among the top teams in the country in forced turnovers, turnover margin as well as three-point makes and attempts.

"It looks like a lot of pressure and a lot of shots being taken," said Caldwell. "It's playing a lot of players, trusting your players, giving them freedom, and putting them in situations where they can make good choices and have a lot of athletes on the floor. We are going to cross half-court a lot but press almost non-stop. It's a really aggressive and fun style of play."

Lady Vols guard Jewel Spear said, "She wants to cross half court a lot, get a lot of threes up, a lot of shots from different players, fast paced and then, defensively, get in people's grills, really try to turn people over and really force the hand."

Caldwell will have to get used to recruiting against teams like South Carolina, LSU, and other national powers.

"Everyone I text has responded to me, so that's the difference," said Caldwell. "It's really nice, but it's the same thing. Players are players. People who are transferring and high school players are looking for the same thing but at different levels. They just happen to be taller in the SEC."

Tennessee used to be the gold standard in the sport but hasn't been near that level since the retirement of Pat Summitt. The climb back to the top was one UT couldn't make under Holly Warlick or Jolly. We will find out if Caldwell can get them to the point that more banners can be placed in the Food City Center rafters.

"We want to be the hardest-playing team in the country," said Caldwell. "We want to establish our culture. We want to score a lot of points and be an exciting brand of basketball in the SEC. We want to make people proud. We want to make sure that we get back on top."

"She seems like a good personality, fun, upbeat person," said Spear. "You could tell she really cares for us, and she wants what's best for us."

2024 TSSAA HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

# Wright is not going anywhere, just getting ready for next year

By Steve Williams

Jody Wright's high school basketball coaching career got off to a slow start. As a 23-year-old new coach, he won only two games in his first season (1984-85) at Horace Maynard High School in Maynardville and after that just 13 games in his first three years combined at Fulton.

Today, after 40 seasons, he has notched (unofficially) 870 victories and ranks in the Top 10 in the state.

Wright, 62, was inducted into the TSSAA Hall of Fame on April 8. Former Fulton football coach Buck Coatney, a previous TSSAA Hall of Fame inductee, had the honor of putting the awards medal around Jody's neck - a TSSAA tradition.

Wright said he felt "very honored" and went into the Hall of Fame with a distinguished 2024 class.

"I look back at my career and I have been so blessed to work with some fantastic assistant coaches

alongside me," he said. "And I have been so fortunate to coach some of the best kids in Knoxville and I mean that. Just fantastic young men, and they've made me look good through the years."

With his Falcons coming off back-to-back state championships this season, Wright now has guided Fulton to five state titles and five state runner-up awards.

"Somebody," pointed out Jody, "said to my daughter Lauren in the stands after we won the state championship that 'I'll bet he'll just retire with the twins having won two titles in a row. I'll bet he'll retire.' And she looked at him and said, 'You don't know him real well, do you.'"

"So no, I'm not going anywhere. My fire still burns pretty hot. We're celebrating the success of last year right now, but we're getting ready for next year. So no, I'm not going anywhere."

In addition to coaching, Wright has



PHOTOS BY STEVE WILLIAMS

A peeved Jody Wright walks away from the action during Fulton's state championship win this past season. But Wright has experienced many more ups than downs in his coaching career and was inducted into the TSSAA Hall of Fame last week.

been an assistant principal and athletic director for years at FHS and a TSSAA Board of Control member since 2011.

Wright proudly noted too that he and his late father, Gene Wright, are the only dad-son inductees in Lincoln Memorial University's Athletes Hall of Fame.

## McCarter earned his stripes and now helps train others

By Steve Williams

Jerry McCarter, who was inducted into the TSSAA Hall of Fame last week in Murfreesboro, began his career in sports officiating in 1968. He spent the first 32 years as a basketball official and now has been a supervisor in the Knox-South Association for 23 years, giving him a total of 55 years and counting.

"It's amazing," said McCarter of his induction into the Hall of Fame. "It's something that I didn't dream of, but it's just a big honor. Let's put it that way." Kenny Coulter, a long-time supervisor in the Knox-South Association who was inducted into the TSSAA Hall of Fame in 1993, had the honor of putting the awards medal around Jerry's neck.

Coulter said McCarter's induction was very deserving. "He's always been a perfect gentleman and does a good job as a supervisor, too. He has been an outstanding friend and very loyal."

On the court, "Jerry was even tempered and always the same," added Kenny.

Through the years, McCarter, who lives in Powell, officiated numerous district, region and sub-state tournament games. He also worked three state tournaments in 1981, 1985 and 1992.

In addition to his service with the TSSAA, McCarter enjoyed an 18-year stint with collegiate basketball. He officiated at the NAIA and JUCO levels, further strengthening his reputation within the basketball community.



Jerry McCarter, an official from the Knox-South Association, works the 1985 TSSAA state boys' basketball tournament at Vanderbilt in a two-man crew. It was the last year the state tourney was held at Vandy.

His long career is a testament to both his love for basketball and his enduring commitment to the highest standards of officiating.

McCarter has seen a lot of changes in the game over the years, including TSSAA girls' basketball switching to the 5-on-5, full-court format in 1980.

Most of the 3-on-3 half-court girls games, where teams had three offensive players on one half of the court and three defensive players on the other half, were played at the Blount and Sevier County schools.

In addition to Knoxville's McCarter and Coach Wright, the 2024 Hall of Fame Class included: Bernard Childress, administrator from Murfreesboro; Phil Clark, coach from Bartlett; Glenn Falls, coach from Nashville; Joe Gaddis, coach from Oak Ridge; Steve Trussler, official from Manchester; and the late Chris Snoddy, contributor from Nashville.

New TSSAA Hall of Fame member Jody Wright received the game ball and Coach's Award after his Fulton Falcons notched their second state title in a row this past season. Kim VanAtta with the Governor's Highway Safety Office and TSSAA Board of Control President Mike Reed made the presentations.



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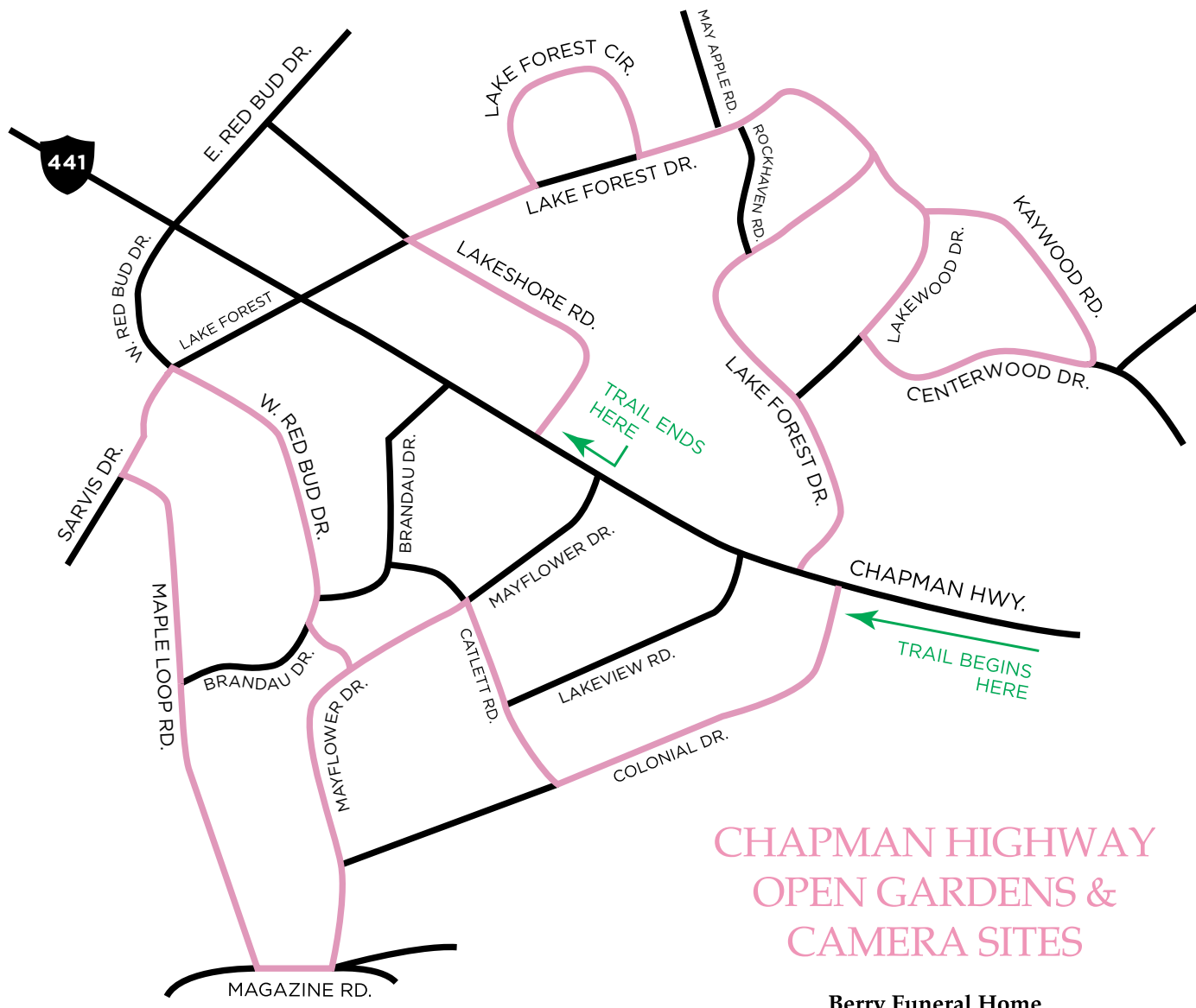
# 2024 DOGWOOD TRAILS: South Knoxville

## CHAPMAN HIGHWAY

3.6 Miles | Established in 1957 | Trail begins at 101 Colonial Drive (37920)

This trail is a two-part story made up of Colonial Village on the West side of Chapman Hwy and Lake Forest on the east. Colonial Village is a wonderful example of a neighborhood developed during the post-World War II building boom. Most of the homes here were built during the 1940s and 1950s, so ranchers and cottages abounded with their modest sizes and larger yards making them perfect for young families. Colonial Village was once a part of the 200 acre McCall family farm first listed in the city deed books in 1940. As Chapman Highway became an increasingly popular commercial corridor, the neighborhood developed quickly due to its proximity to the corridor. Colonial Village is about four miles south of Downtown, just off Chapman Highway across from Lake Forest. Today, the neighborhood is home to four churches, one elementary school, one city park, and a pretty nifty duck pond, which is also known as McCall's Pond or Butterfly Lake. This quaint community is a diverse mix of many age groups, and its large mature flowering trees and shrubs offer a beautiful springtime display.

Across Chapman Highway, the trail continues into the Lake Forest community where examples of Tennessee Pink Marble are found in the architecture of its homes. Once mined by over 35 quarries in the Knoxville area, larger blocks of marble were used in buildings all over the U.S., including Washington, D.C., and carved into monuments, such as the famous lion statues in front of the New York Public Library. Local builders used the smaller left over pieces to construct retaining walls, arched doorways, chimneys, patios, and whole houses. To celebrate the heritage and architecture of the neighborhood, a five-ton pink marble entry sign was added in 2014.



East Lake Forest Drive leads to an entrance to The Urban Wilderness Loop, a popular outdoor recreation spot, which connects to the William Hastie Natural Area (3.5 miles of trails) with Ijams Nature Center where you can enjoy early spring wildflower hikes.

### CHAPMAN HIGHWAY OPEN GARDENS & CAMERA SITES

**Berry Funeral Home**  
Camera Site  
3704 Chapman Highway, 37920

**Charmaine Nichols & Mitchell Ruff**  
Camera Site  
204 Sarvis Drive, 37920

**Owen & Maggie Tharp**  
Open Garden  
202 Maple Loop Rd, 37920

Affectionately dubbed 'the Magic Garden,' this over 40 species food forest is designed to make you rethink what defines a landscape plant. Edible plants are interspersed with insect-loving flowers to mimic a natural setting. With beauty and usefulness in mind, this garden's spring bloomers hosts edibles such as serviceberries, apples, blueberries, and garlic alongside heavily fragrant hyacinth.

**Marcia Doyle**  
Camera Site  
113 Lake Forest Circle, 37920

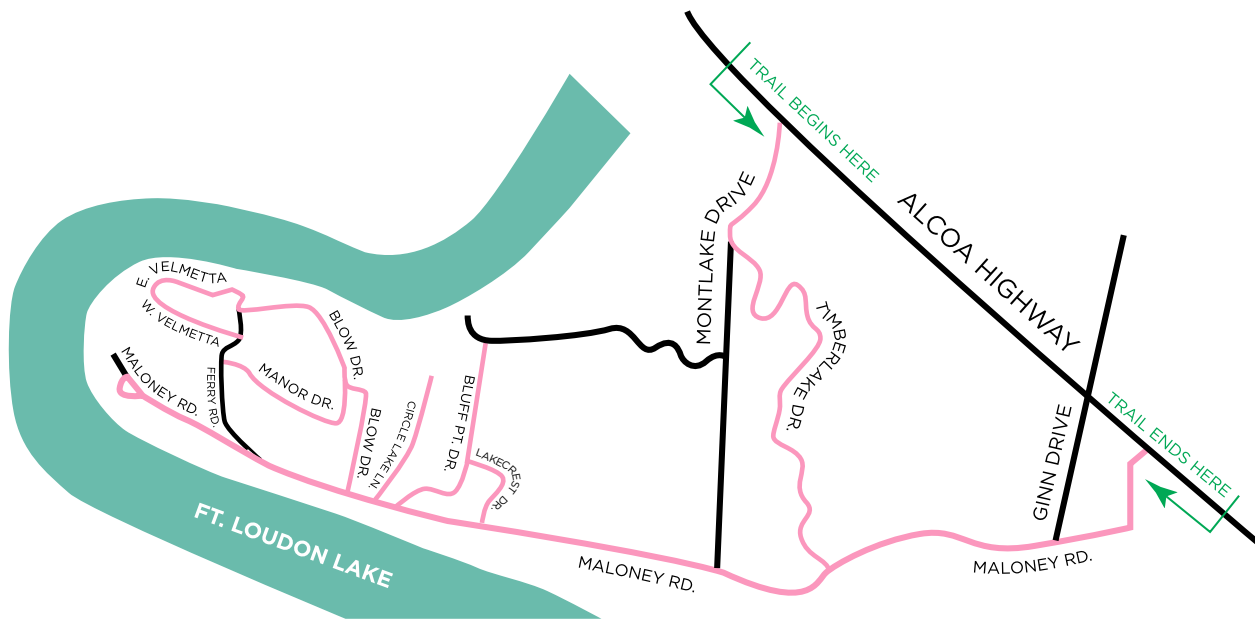
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## LAKEMOOR HILLS

7.8 Miles | Est. in 1965 | Trail begins at 3113 Montlake Dr. (37920)



Often referred to as 'the quiet side of the river' in south Knoxville, the Lakemoor Hills trail, est. in 1965, is in a beautiful neighborhood with large manicured lots, water views, mature trees, and an abundance of spring-blooming dogwoods. Home styles include ranchers and contemporary multi-levels built in the 60s and 70s along with some Barber McMurry-designed homes. There is also a mix of newer construction homes, most notably with lovely river frontage.

Due to the wonderful, heavily-treed areas, the temperature drops several degrees in the summer when entering this neighborhood. The nearby Lake Hills Presbyterian Church offers a walking trail with basketball and tennis courts available to anyone in the neighborhood. Maloney Park, a wonderful neighborhood amenity, is located on the lake and has a boat ramp, playground, picnic pavilion, and a walking trail.

Lakemoor Legacy Park & Garden, on Circle Lake Lane, is a little gem in the heart of the neighborhood which provides a quiet sanctuary for people to enjoy native plants and observe diverse wildlife. Est. in 2017, this certified wildlife habitat is also a rain garden demonstration project.

### LAKEMOOR HILLS OPEN GARDENS & CAMERA SITES

**Lakemoor Legacy Park and Gardens**  
Open Garden  
Circle Lake Ln., 37920

Located at the end of Circle Lake Lane, this little gem in the heart of the neighborhood provides a quiet sanctuary for people to enjoy native plants in a certified wildlife habitat. The park is also home to a rain garden demonstration project.

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