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## Knox 911 passes annual budget with 2.4% increase

By Mike Steely  
Senior Writer  
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Knox County Emergency Communications District (Knox 911) met Wednesday morning and voted to set \$19.74 million for its 2025-2026 budget, an increase of 2.4%. Director Brad Anders also added, with the board's approval, \$12,000 to increase the salary of an open position. Knox County Mayor Glenn Jacobs chaired the meeting

and co-chair Indya Kincannon, Knoxville's Mayor, noted that the agency has a "very healthy fund balance." The employees will get a 4% to 6% raise, depending on position.

Jacobs called for any public comment on the budget proposal and there was none.

Anders and the board honored Darlene Tate, who started with Knox 911 in 1986 and plans to retire this year. He also reported

that an increase in phone rates to support emergency calls passed the Tennessee Senate but was bogged down in the state House. He said that if passed, it would mean about \$1 million coming to the local agency.

Anders also reported on the training of local EMS employees and said that that service will be taken over in July. He said that plans are underway to renovate the Baxter Avenue  
**Cont. on page 4**



*The Knox 911 board met Wednesday and approved a budget for the new fiscal year that is 2.4% higher. Director Brad Anders also reported on the upcoming renovation of the Baxter Avenue headquarters.*

## 2025 MLK March/Parade and Juneteenth Celebration



Children rushed to high-five a character representing civil rights leader Fannie Lou Hamer at last week's 2025 MLK Jr. Parade/March and Juneteenth Celebration presented by the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Commission. Thursday's parade was followed by a celebration with live entertainment, a DJ, music performances, dancing, a drill team, a kids' area and vendors.

## One-half percent sales tax increase, two annexations on city agenda

By Mike Steely  
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The Knoxville City Council may approve putting Mayor Indya Kincannon's ½ of one percent sales tax increase before all city voters in November. This final approval may come when the council meets on Tuesday and will probably include exempting all food and food ingredients from the increase.

A related item on the agenda is the Neighborhood Infrastructure Five-Year Investment Plan if voters give their approval of the tax in November. That plan may detail the physical improvements that would be paid for by the increase.

The council may also take up a matter it hasn't dealt with very often: annexation. Two properties, a ½ lot on North Galaher Road and a 5.56-acre property on Dresser Road, are asking to come into the city.

The Office of Community Safety and Empowerment is asking for funds for social emotional learning workshops, counseling for individuals and groups for victims of gun violence and their families, and an agreement with UT Medical Center and the Office of Community Safety to develop and implement a hospital-linked violence intervention program.

The Knoxville-Knox County Emergency Management Agency (Knox-911) may be approved to accept \$22,500 from Homeland Security for equipment and software

for the Mobile Command Post and Emergency Operations Center.

The council may also consider amending the city code to include guidelines on converting an existing building into a two-family dwelling, using standards set for existing two-family units.

Zoning requests before the council include 1203 Murray Drive from RN-1 to RN-5, general residential neighborhood. Two lots on Kingston Pike, 4301 and 4311, may be approved to change from RN-1 to RN-3, general residential neighborhood.

A property on North Cherry Street may go from general commercial to highway commercial. A Ball Camp Pike property is asking to be rezoned from RN-1 to RN-3, general residential neighborhood.

Gresham Smith may get a boost of \$28,935 for the Gay Street Signal Pole Replacement Project and the same project may see Stansell Electric Company get a \$889,604 contract.

The council may approve the funding of Knoxville Community Media for public, educational and governmental cable channels for the city. Ijams Nature Center may get a \$50,000 bump, bringing the city contribution to \$197,750 in their annual agreement.

Augusta Quarry Park may see River Sports Outfitters provide professional services for \$168,200.

Applications for grants are also on the agenda, with a request to the  
**Continue on page 3**

## Juvenile detention center's future on commission agenda

By Mike Steely  
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Opposition to Knox County Mayor Glenn Jacobs putting the sheriff's department in charge of the Richard L. Bean Juvenile Service Center seems to be growing within the Knox County Commission. Two different agenda items about who should run the facility are on today's agenda.

Fourth District Commissioner Shane Jackson voiced his concerns during the commission's agenda review meeting and posted the following in the commission's online forum: "I do not support a

permanent transfer of control to the Sheriff's office without a comprehensive and transparent evaluation of all options. Juvenile detention should be a space focused on trauma-informed care, education, and mental health support for vulnerable young people, not an extension of prison. Similarly, I have reservations about transferring permanent oversight to the Department of Children's Services or other state department. Such a move could remove local control and diminish public accountability. "I am open to a temporary transition to address

immediate concerns. However, I believe it is essential for the Commission to maintain oversight of the Juvenile Detention Center's governing board. Before moving forward with a permanent solution, I request the following actions by the

Executive branch:

- Conduct an independent assessment of current operations, conditions, and outcomes, and ensure that Commissioners have an opportunity to tour the facility.

**Continue on page 4**



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# Leading Jews Attack Netanyahu's Wars

From a distance



By John J. Duncan Jr.  
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On May 27, Ehud Olmert, a former prime minister of Israel, published a column in which he wrote: "What we are doing in Gaza now is a war of devastation: indiscriminate, limitless, cruel and criminal killing of civilians ... Yes, Israel is committing war crimes."

Olmert, who was prime minister of Israel from 2006 to 2009, said, "Never since its establishment has the state of Israel waged such a war... the criminal gang headed by Benjamin Netanyahu has set a precedent without equal in Israel's

history..."

He added: "Recent operations in the Gaza Strip have nothing to do with legitimate war goals. This is now a private political war."

Rabbi Linda Holtzman said, "We cannot allow one tragedy to justify another," and wrote that she was joining "thousands of American Jews who were calling on the United States Government to end the Israeli military's destruction of Gaza."

She added: "It is my prayer that we can continue to resist and speak out as we see the people of Gaza being bombed, starved and buried under rubble."

Another rabbi, Alissa Wise, an organizer with Rabbis for Ceasefire, said: "Israel is not a Jewish person. Israel is a state. God forbid we should not be able to cry out when states are committing horrific genocidal violence in the name of the Jewish people."

Peter Beinart, a leading

Jewish columnist and author who describes himself as an observant Jew, became so upset that he wrote a book called "Being Jewish After The Destruction Of Gaza."

He said he wrote the book to explain why "our community has gone so profoundly wrong" and why "I believe what we are doing is in violation of our best ethical and religious tradition."

Beinart spoke in an interview about the "number of children being killed" and there being more "child amputees than any other place in modern history." He said, "I can't believe this is happening." He added that he was seeing "so many good and decent people who I know, who seem to be able to block out the screams."

Thomas Friedman's New York Times column of May 9 was headlined "This Israeli Government Is Not Our Ally," and he wrote, "Netanyahu is not our friend."

Over 1,000 members of the Israeli Defense Force signed letters in early May "calling on Netanyahu to stop the war." One of the signers was Dan Halutz, the former head of the Army.

On April 19, the 36 members of the Board of Deputies of British Jews sent a letter which said: "Silence is seen as support for policies that run contrary to our Jewish values." The letter criticized what it called this "most extremist of Israeli governments" and said, "We stand against the war."

Jeffrey Sachs, a Jewish Columbia professor and renowned foreign policy expert, said in an interview that Netanyahu is "one of the most violent and dangerous people in the world" and "is leading Israel into the greatest insecurity of its modern history – complete diplomatic isolation."

Dave Smith, a very well-respected Jewish comedian and podcaster, said on

one of his podcasts: "I think Israel's treatment of the Palestinians is horrific and excusable," and "to watch us flirt with another war in the Middle East is just insane to me."

Now, the indicted war criminal Netanyahu has expanded his killing rampage from Gaza to the West Bank, Lebanon, Syria, Yemen and Iran. These are really not wars. They are really one-sided slaughters of women, children, old people, and almost defenseless soldiers.

Sen. Charles Schumer, the highest-ranking Jewish official in the U.S., said in a Senate Floor speech last year that Netanyahu had been "too willing to tolerate the civilian toll in Gaza, which is pushing support for Israel worldwide to historic lows."

In a speech in the Senate a few months later, Schumer said he would not "label most criticism of Israel and

the Israeli government as antisemitic. I don't believe that criticism is."

Now, though, because of massive campaign contributions for members of Congress, or fear of campaign contributions against them directed by the Israel Lobby, the U.S. Congress and our policy in the Middle East are totally controlled by Netanyahu. He led us into an unnecessary war in Iraq, and now in Iran.

As the late syndicated columnist Charley Reese wrote in 2005, almost all the terrorism against the U.S. has been because of our "one-sided support" for Israel's bombing and killing throughout the Middle East.

The Bible tells us in both the Old and New Testaments to "Seek peace and pursue it." We will not be doing this as long as we continue to support all of Israel's wars.

# The Illogic of National Security Tariffs

Imports fell 16% in April, narrowing the trade deficit to \$61 billion. I guess Trump is doing high-fives since he thinks that trade deficits harm national security. The problem with this thinking is similar to a person with a hammer seeing every problem as a nail. Did anyone ask, "What deficits impair national security?" Surely it is not the trade deficit on socks, belts and pantyhose. So why impose tariffs on them? But what about rare earth minerals? The problem with Trump's tariffs is that they are universal; they apply to fabrics from Lesotho to lithium from China. Does that make sense to anyone other than Trump and his Harvard Phd advisors? It is probably too much to ask that this administration ponder lifting all tariffs and then subsidizing those items that are considered vital to national security.

Aren't aluminum and steel vital to national security? Of course they are. But then why did Trump double the tariffs on these metals to 50%? Some specialty steel used by the U.S. military is imported. It makes no sense to raise their tariffs. Won't that imperil national security if they are too expensive to import due to the tariffs? Trump and his people have seemingly forgotten that aluminum and steel are inputs in production as well as outputs. In his last dalliance with tariffs, when he raised them to 25% during his first term, the impact was a growth in new domestic steel employment of around 1,000 but a loss of over 75,000 jobs. This is because more workers are employed in positions that use steel as an input than those who manufacture steel as an output. Look for the same to occur this time. Taken another way, Trump's tariffs imperil national security rather than enhance it.

What about rare earth minerals? China dominates rare earth minerals, which are indeed vital to our national security. It produces 84% of them. Why put tariffs on them? That seems to be perverse (in the economic sense). Economics says that there should be no tariffs on those items that are vital to national security. Why make them more expensive? Rather, a rational solution would be to make these imports as cheap as possible. Then, heavily subsidize industry to mine/produce them domestically. One drawback will be all the environmental rules dictating domestic production. Waive them. If we can mine lithium, cobalt and all the 17 rare earth minerals, then do it and do it regardless of the cost – if they are so vital to national security.

But no. The administration has adopted the opposite tactic, which is economically perverse. It has imposed universal and not selective tariffs. It has made the importation of vital items more expensive instead of less expensive. In so doing, it has alienated everybody, (former) friend and foe. It has actually brought our (former) allies and current enemies closer by encouraging them to trade with each other in greater volumes to make up for the loss of the American market.

Virtually all of the U.S.'s rare earth mining is at one facility in California, which produces less than four percent of the total utilized in the country. Adding to that capacity would not be cheap nor easy. It would cost billions of dollars to build the infrastructure, mining and processing facilities. It would have to overcome all the environmental obstacles and lawsuits from the greensies. Then there is the expertise. It was noted that, in the iPhone realm, the U.S. lacked the engineers necessary for iPhone production. However, China had them by the boatloads. The same is true for rare earth mineral production.

So what can be done? Subsidize. Contract with private corporations to provide what is needed to build the industry from scratch. Offer grants and aid to attract engineering majors. Pay large salaries and bonuses to existing engineers. Go out and buy the expertise. India and Australia have mining operations and engineers. Even hire the Chinese and subsidize foreign engineering students. Have the government completely finance the construction of the facilities and buy all the products at market prices. This is not going to be a task that private enterprise would undertake under almost any rational set of reasoning. So let the government do it. If it is a money loser, then so be it – if it is truly vital to national security.

The U.S. can build a domestic rare earth industry. That private enterprise has not done so is an indicator that such a task is unprofitable when all the costs and legal hurdles are considered. The obvious solution is to let the government provide the financing and private industry provide everything else.



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# Publisher's Positions



By Steve Hunley,  
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## Leftist Violence Disgusting

The political violence in this country is getting out of hand. The horrific murders of Melissa Hortman, her husband and her dog were unspeakable, as was the shooting of a state senator and his wife. It is reminiscent of the shooting of Republican congressmen while practicing for the annual softball game and almost cost Steve Scalise his life. Violence begets violence. It wasn't so long ago when a so-called journalist who expressed her personal "joy" at the murder of a health care executive - a human being with a family - would have been shunned forever after. The worship of the alleged killer, Luigi Mangione, is disgusting and indicative of a new and horrifying rot inside the body politic and the minds of far too many people. In today's world, these people

are everywhere. The idea that because someone doesn't like someone else's political beliefs it is fine to burn their Tesla automobile in "protest" or "protest" by destroying private or government property with impunity is just plain wrong. It is illegal, and the fact that some public officials refuse to allow law enforcement to do their jobs, therefore endangering the very people they are supposed to protect, is also illegal. Destroying anything that does not belong to you is illegal, and the person who destroyed it should be forced to pay restitution and serve time in jail.

There should be severe consequences for those public officials and the perpetrators of what is rioting, not protesting. Setting fire to anything is the beginning of rioting and has nothing to do with protesting.

Of course, the legacy media have been complicit in lying throughout the coverage of what they have persisted in calling "mostly peaceful" protests. It is a constant reminder that the corporate media in this country is not merely deceptive in peddling its preferred narrative - it is no longer in the business of reporting news and simply willing to lie in its pursuit of its narrative. The only thing worse is their constant belief that the American people as a whole are

entirely too stupid not to see through their blatant lies and understand the truth.

When idiots (like Whoopi Goldberg, who has an estimated net worth of \$60 million) make statements inferring that conditions for Black people in this country are like that of people in Iran, they need to acknowledge that they have the right to say such puerile and false things because we have freedom of speech in this country. Yes, here in America Goldberg has the right to reveal her own ignorance, as when she questioned the reality of the Holocaust before a national television audience.

Just why a round table of rich women, who have largely failed in their chosen fields of occupation and who know as much about government and politics as a kindergarten knows about aerospace engineering, is a commentary on the state of American television programming and explains why most Americans prefer streaming to network TV. Nobody in his or her right mind could possibly take those people even remotely seriously.

Accepting political violence for any reason or in any instance will cause it to continue, escalate and proliferate. It will ruin our country if it does not stop.

## Senator Blackburn Abhors Political Violence

Senator Marsha Blackburn of Tennessee has released a column that hits the nail on the head as to the rioting in Los Angeles. Blackburn fully supports restoring peace and law and order to the streets of Los Angeles for the law-abiding people who pay the bulk of all the taxes in this country. Senator Blackburn points to Governor Gavin Newsom's silly pronouncement that ICE agents arresting criminals and people in this country illegally "are as reckless as they are cruel." Blackburn notes the equally foolish statements issued by Mayor Karen Bass, who should win an award as the most incompetent municipal official in the United States. It was Bass who was swilling cocktails at the inauguration of the president of Ghana, after having pledged during her campaign she would not travel to foreign countries at the expense of taxpayers, all while Los Angeles began to burn. The lives of firefighters were endangered, and many people lost everything they owned because there was no water in the hydrants. Mayor Bass had been warned about the seriousness of the conditions should fires break out, but did nothing.

"In recent days, thousands of far-left activists

have set vehicles on fire, looted businesses, thrown rocks and shot fireworks at police officers, blocked off freeways, burned and desecrated American flags, and unleashed chaos across the city," Blackburn said in her statement. "According to Democrats, the riots are 'peaceful.' Anyone can see this is violence out of control. Even L.A.'s police chief said that his officers were 'overwhelmed'."

Senator Blackburn is spot on in stating the facts of what has been occurring in California, and the leadership of the state has shown no ability or desire to stop the political violence.

## Wages Are Rising

Blue-collar wages have risen to the highest level in nearly sixty years in this country under President Trump, according to Secretary of the Treasury Scott Bessant.

## Ammons Best Choice For Criminal Court Judge Appointment

The names of three finalists to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Judge Steve Sword of the Knox County Criminal Court have been sent to Governor Bill Lee. One of those names is that of J. Franklin Ammons, who has sterling qualifications to sit on the criminal court bench.

Ammons has worked as a criminal defense attorney and is now presently working as a prosecutor in the office of Knox County District Attorney General Charme Allen. Allen has assembled an excellent staff, perhaps the best of any attorney general in the state.

The finalists are selected by a commission charged with reviewing the qualifications and attributes of each candidate who has applied. The names of the top three candidates are then sent to the governor for consideration. Whomever is appointed will have to run for the remainder of the term in next year's election.

Ammons is young, highly intelligent, articulate, and able and will make an excellent candidate should he be selected. Knox County has been fortunate in having a large surplus of excellent legal talent in our community. Governor Lee has made some appointments that can only be described in the most superlative terms in elevating men and women to the bench, including judges Kyle Hixson, Kristi Davis, Sarah Campbell, Dwight Tarwater, Mary L. Wagner, Chris Haegerty, Hector Sanchez, and Steve Sword. The appointment of Franklin Ammons to serve on the Criminal Court would be equally superlative for the people of Knox County and East Tennessee.

## City agenda

Continued from page 1

federal government for \$525,924 for a Fire Prevention and Safety Grant Program with a \$27,680 city match. The council could agree to submit a grant request to the federal Justice Department for \$500,000 for de-escalation training, and the Justice Department is also being asked for grant money to increase community policing and address public safety problems.

## Jacobs won't ask for tax increase

"Any indication that Knox County might join the city in the 1/2 cent sales tax?" That was the question that The Focus asked Knox County Mayor Glenn Jacobs.

"Mayor Jacobs is not going to propose a sales tax increase," Knox County Director of Communications Mike Donila answered. Mayor Jacobs told The Focus on Wednesday that the county could join the tax increase referendum if the Knox County Commission voted to do so.

That means that only Knoxville voters may decide on the increase if it passes a second reading at Tuesday's City Council meeting and is on the November ballot.

## Commissioner Fox wants fluoride out of water

By Mike Steely  
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Knox County District 9 Commissioner Andy Fox, who opposes any grants from the federal government, has set his sights on removing fluoride from treated drinking water. His proposed resolution is on the commission agenda to be heard in the regular meeting today.

The subject came up during the Knox County Commission's agenda meeting last week, and Fox had no hesitation in speaking to his idea, both at the meeting and on the Commission Forum, which is an online forum with other commissioners.

Fox cites a Missouri case where the U.S. Supreme Court ruled an action of a citizen to refuse state-imposed medical treatment, and that, although regulated by the Food and Drug Administration, fluoride is a "toxic contaminant."

He also claims that fluoride reduces the IQ in children and cites studies and other court cases in his resolution. He also says that Tennessee has no laws mandating fluoridation of drinking water and that dozens of utility districts do not add it to drinking water. He notes that Utah banned adding fluoride to public water systems.

The resolution asks the commissioners to vote to ban fluoride as "whatever benefit may exist towards the prevention or controlling of the disease of dental caries ... is outweighed by the unreasonable risk of neurotoxic harm to humans." He also refers to the 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution and common law rights of a person to refuse medical treatment and only receive medical treatment upon informed consent.

The Fox resolution calls for the Knox Chapman Utility District, which serves South Knox

County, to permanently cease fluoridation of its water supply.

In its annual report, the Knox Chapman Utility District reported the addition of fluoride in the treated drinking water "for strong teeth."

During the meeting to set the agenda, Fox called fluoride a "toxic substance" and said any citizen has the right to reject imposed medical treatment, including the addition of fluoride in drinking water. He said he had discussed removing it from the drinking water with the utility district and said the district agreed to do so if the commission approved.

Commission Chairwoman Gina Oster countered Fox, saying she spoke to the utility district board and it "was not in favor" of removing fluoride, adding the board plans to attend today's meeting. Other commissioners also responded to Fox's statements, asking him to post his references

about the dangers of fluoride so the commission can read them, and added that they would like to hear from the utility board.

When asked if the commission could regulate the utility district, Deputy Law Director Mike Moyers replied that only the state Public Utilities Commission could do so, and any attempt to do so locally "might not have the force of law."

Commissioner Terry Frazier noted that state law requires fluoride and the amount of it that is added to drinking water. She said that a motion to eliminate the chemical from drinking water in the past failed to pass as a state law.

Commissioner Angela Russell said that some of the people in her district had reached out to her with their concerns about fluoride.

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# Knox 911

Cont. from page 1

facility, and the operation will move to the Knoxville Public Safety Building's 911 backup facility during the renovation.

Knox 911's Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) is being updated over the next 16 months and will give the agency a better means of finding new roads and bridges in real time. Anders also said efforts are underway to create a local 911 website that can be used to notify the public in times of emergency. He said the current system limits the number of characters that can be used

# Juvenile detention center's future

Cont. from page 1

- Invite input from juvenile justice experts, community leaders, families, and advocates;

- Evaluate all governance models with attention to best practices and legal responsibilities;

- Establish a permanent oversight mechanism for the Commission to ensure transparency, accountability, and continuous improvement—regardless of who operates the facility.”

District 2 Commissioner Courtney Durrett's resolution calls for the mayor to “hire a qualified Transition Advisor/Interim Superintendent to serve through December 31” and requests the County Technical Assistance Service (CTAS )to complete “a comprehensive assessment.” Durrett's resolution also requests that the Tennessee Department of Children's Services Office of Child Welfare Services continue its weekly monitoring visits.

The county mayor's proposal is listed on the agenda as an “Emergency Ordinance” and calls for the part of the county

charter related to the juvenile detention center to be repealed, give operations to the sheriff and create a board of directors.

Jackson told the meeting that the mayor is “moving too quick” and the mayor's plan is “premature.”

Knox County Chief Operating Officer Dwight Van de Vate told the meeting that if the mayor's proposal passes, the current juvenile center's board would be “dissolved” and five positions at the facility would be created, with the sheriff taking over on January 1.

“The sheriff needs about six months to recruit and train a staff,” he said.He also said the current situation creates “essentially an emergency.” He said a review of the facility could be made in a year or two.

Problems at the juvenile detention center came to light after the only nurse and a second employee were dismissed, and Superintendent Bean offered to retire. Bean, the center's namesake, served there for much of its 58-year history.

Seventh District Commissioner Rhonda Lee

asked Van de Vate what other options there are for the facility's administration. He replied that a third party could operate it. He said he spoke to the Department of Children's Services, but it is not interested in operating it.

Andy Fox, ninth district commissioner, asked who operates similar facilities in other counties. Van de Vate said that in seven counties, the sheriff's department operates them.

# Audit committee privately updated by state comptroller

By Mike Steely  
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The quarterly meeting of the Knox County Audit Committee last week heard a presentation on the sheriff's office fleet audit and an update on the hotline use. The meeting ended with a private executive session to hear a report from the internal auditor and the Tennessee Comptroller's Office.

The closed executive session may have addressed the comptroller's investigation of the trustee's office potentially exceeding allowed expenses for travel and lodging and the use of county vehicles. Problems


in the trustee's office apparently began with a hotline tip, which was referred to the state for investigation. There's no date set for the release of the comptroller's investigation results.

During the open session of the Audit Committee, chaired by Matthew Warren, county auditors described their audit of the Knox County Sheriff's Office fleet and recommended a formal vehicle management manual, regular training for civilian drivers of department vehicles, and random drug testing.


Internal auditor Zac Fullerton reported plans to do

random vehicle selection for required maintenance, travel expenses by employees, and a payroll audit. He briefly touched on the juvenile detention center problems and said a study is planned on the Knox County Sheriff's Office Employees' Merit System Board policies and procedures.

Fullerton also said Internal Audit is looking at the KCSO's use of department vehicles for off-duty security work by officers and the personal use of county vehicles. It will be asking for a list of take-home vehicles within the county.



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**CHAPTER 24**



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# Marsha Blackburn

For U.S. Senate

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**Marsha Blackburn**

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## Two Americas

America will never be destroyed from the outside. If we lose our freedom, it will be because we destroyed ourselves.

Abraham Lincoln.

As bedbugs infest Las Vegas hotels, maggots riot in our cities. Meanwhile, President Trump and patriots celebrated the U.S. Army's 250 years of service to the country. How appropriate that June 14 was also Flag Day and the president's birthday. Personally, I don't care for parades, but this one was different, and the contrast between our best and brightest versus leftist Democrat street thugs was striking.

It is a challenge to be contemporaneous with a once-a-week newspaper column, but I felt in good company after the Father's Day weekend when editor Miranda Devine of the New York Post expressed my feelings in her column. And as I

started this essay, multiple sources were using the title I had chosen.

The focus of the Army parade was not military might as is often displayed in communist countries. Ours was a celebration of the army through the centuries using vintage uniforms, period vehicles and marching bands with patriotic music. And the magnificent operatic soprano voice of Staff Sgt. Jesse Nice singing our National Anthem stirred my heart with pride.

We will need patriots and our best and brightest as we try to prevent Iran from making a nuclear bomb. For years, presidents have averred that Iran must not have a nuclear weapon, but talk and appeasement have been useless. Lindsey Graham referred to the Iranian regime as religious Nazis and negotiating with fanatics has proven useless. Iran with a nuclear weapon would pose an existential

threat to Israel first, then to the U.S., which Iran has called The Great Satan for forty years. The movie "The Sum of All Fears" depicted a nuclear bomb smuggled into Baltimore by a terrorist regime/group.

Watching the delusional rage of the so-called "mostly peaceful" protesters made me think of a recent article about forgiveness. James Kimmel Jr. JD is a lecturer in psychiatry at the Yale School of Medicine and in his book "The Science of Revenge," he maintains that revenge is an addiction, where the pain of anger becomes reinforced within the craving and reward neural brain chemistry, mediated through dopamine.

There are Biblical examples of rage (Cain's murder) or secular (Trojan War) examples. More modern examples are the Hutu/Tutsi ethnic genocide and the generational Arab/Jew animus, where rage reinforces rage. Experts advise counseling, medication and forgiveness to break the cycle in an individual. Remember the movie "The Mask" where Jim Carey pleads, "Somebody stop me!" The same might be necessary for the Senate rants of Corey Booker, aka Spartacus.

In a recent sermon, our minister spoke about what we call an individual's breaking point. I've had my share

of tough times, but I could not recall a breaking point. Perhaps this is because I am blessed to have a good support system. Even during my cancer journey, Becky was there to support me, and I had the Lord. Anecdotaly, I remember coming home from work one evening and the oh-so-kind Becky met me at the door to hand over our young daughters, exclaiming, "You need to take these two kids before I explode!" I understand how people can lose it if they don't understand and embrace the wisdom of Ecclesiastes 4:12.

Rage and hatred are poisonous. I disagree with what the Democratic Party has become. I think their policies are wrong, but I bear no hatred for anyone. The Democrat leadership, like Chuck Schumer, has been proven dangerous. Remember when Schumer threatened SCOTUS judge Kavanaugh during the Roe v Wade hearings, saying Kavanaugh would "reap the whirlwind"? The media has also fomented hatred and contributed to the delusions of emotionally unstable people. Arguably, assassination attempts of President Trump and the murders of state representatives in Minnesota have been influenced by hate-filled rhetoric.

A friend related that she caught TV coverage of one of the No Kings marches

and was immediately struck by the vile, hate-filled language of the so-called protesters. I observed the same, which caused me to recall crowd scenes in Mel Gibson's movie "The Passion of Christ." The movie depicted the androgynous, malevolent force of evil moving invisibly among the crowds, causing faces to become twisted and tormented with hatred. To this day, I carry that vision which I now see on the streets of America.

My job as a doctor was to prevent illness and to diagnose and treat problems. I've been blessed with a long and fruitful life. And I was given the insight to make medical diagnoses and to understand right and wrong. The sickness in America is complicated, but a manifestation of this malady is irrational hatred. President Trump is not a Nazi, a destroyer of democracy or a king. The leaders of the Democratic Party and the media know this, but are manipulating people and using them as shock troops to promote Democratic power. It is a twisted and perverse policy. We should all be terrified. Similarly, I was terrified by the personified evil in "The Exorcist."

I began this essay with a quote from President Lincoln. He saw the evil of slavery, whose divisiveness was only abolished at

great cost. President Trump sees the "clear and present danger" of religious fanaticism and generational hatred of the Iranian mullahs as an existential threat to Israel first, America next and then the Western world. Even German Chancellor Friedrich Merz recognized "the dirty work that Israel is doing for all of us" and acknowledged Israel's courage. Thankfully, we have a courageous, functional and competent President Trump to lead us because we are "The Great Satan" to Iran's mullahs. Sane Democrats, like Harold Ford Jr. and Pennsylvania Senator John Fetterman acknowledged this.

We should be united as a nation against the Iranian mullahs and pray that our leaders will make the right decisions about the Fordow nuclear facility in Iran instead of marching and howling about "kings." But then evil is the great liar, manipulator and destroyer of souls.

Our true enemy is not a Hatfield or a McCoy, Capulet or Montague, Sunni or Shia, Arab or Jew, Catholic or Protestant. It is evil. With God's help, we must see the influence of evil and look beyond skin color or creed. We must "Resist the devil, and he will flee from you" (James 4:7).

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

OLD MAN'S  
STAMP  
STORE

By Harry Brooks  
[hbrooks68@gmail.com](mailto:hbrooks68@gmail.com)

As a collector, a most significant opportunity for those living in East Tennessee is the Knoxville Philatelic Society. A number of communities our size and even larger do not have an active and thriving stamp club. As a collector, I am blessed.

What is the value of being a member of a stamp

# KPS ... What is this?

club? KPS provides its members with a number of opportunities. While developing a strong relationship with other members, equally significant is learning from their experiences and knowledge. On many occasions, I have sought and found knowledge or information concerning a stamp or even its estimated value. The society has developed a strong inventory of stamps to sell to its members, valued at over \$500,000. Some of these stamps are available for purchase by club members for as little as ten cents each. Other pricier stamps might cost twenty to thirty percent of the book value.

Some thousand-dollar valued stamps are sold at a club auction.

Our current membership of 165-plus results in interesting and active club programs. These programs and topics of discussion relate to foreign stamps as well as U.S. stamps. Our membership appears to be growing in contrast to a declining membership during Covid. Very few clubs in the nation can boast of our membership size and growing member numbers.

One of our members has worked on developing historical information concerning the Knoxville area stamp clubs. Early

records indicate a formal and active stamp club in the 1880s. In the 1890s (best estimate of 1894), the stamp collectors organization called itself Home Worker, also boasting of a newspaper/newsletter-like publication. Over the years, since 1900, the stamp club organization in Knoxville since seemed to be either very active or at times had no activity at all. After a number of inactive years, a group began the World's Fair Society, which evolved into the Knoxville Philatelic Society. Currently, the KPS, an official nonprofit, is one of the most active stamp clubs in the nation. Our

newsletter of recent years has won several national accolades and recognition. While many stamp clubs in the country have closed their organization, KPS has grown.

Club activity, whether social, educational, or just looking to purchase stamps, is rewarding. While most of our activity lacks media attention, some meetings have been very noteworthy. One such meeting allowed members to see one of the rarest stamps in U.S. postal history - the C3a (Inverted Jenny). Mr. Herman Herst Jr. stopped in Knoxville as he traveled to his stamp

**Continue on page 4**

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# New Music

I love music. No, that doesn't include every genre. Hip-hop is one that I don't understand; neither am I a fan of opera. Otherwise, I'll lend an ear to music, at least for a song or two. My life can be traced through the songs that were playing at any point in time. When television offers nothing on the hundreds of channels and streaming services, a visit to YouTube to listen to "one hit wonders" from several years ago is just the



**By Joe Rector**  
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right activity.

My iPhone contains a partial library of songs I enjoy. Many of them played on the radio during my teen years. Others were popular when I attended college, met Amy, and fell

head-over-heels in love. Yes, some remind me of the times when Lacey and Dallas were young, and as we tried to figure out how to be everywhere at the same time.

A simple song can light up my face when I hear just the

first couple of notes. The song "39-21-40 Shape" is humorous simply because of the numbers, but I smile as that song takes me back to being a high school freshman who sat in a garage and listened to the neighborhood kids work on their set lists. By my senior year, Chicago and Blood Sweat and Tears became my favorites. Sprinkled in were other such classics as "Heard It Through the Grapevine" and "My Girl."

Instead of "my life being measured out in coffee," it's been set in motion with 4/4 or 3/4 time. I was never a listener to only one genre of music. I liked the early Beatles stuff, but I also stayed true to Elvis. At some point, rock music strayed into the "strange phase" just a bit too much for me, and I became a country fan. To this day, I

like artists who have that unique sound that mixes twang with lyrics about broken hearts or muddy water and barrooms.

I celebrated another birthday not long ago, and since then, I've been feeling old. Many people would quickly agree that I am a senior citizen, and that's all right. The benefits of being freed from conventions and appropriate behavior work just fine for me. The problem with getting old is that I don't seem to be able to find any new music. Of course, I'm speaking metaphorically. All I hear are the same things from a lifetime of good and bad times.

We of the Baby Boomer generation still take up plenty of space on this planet, but in so many ways, we were "stuck in the mud" of what used to be. Our only hope is to find

new things to try. My woodworking hobby has been a blessing, although I've managed to cut off one finger, and still struggle to saw a straight line or align pieces of projects.

My golf game has progressed slightly. Being unable to swing hard has actually improved my game, as shots tend to go in the general direction I am aiming. Golf is a young man's sport. I watched brother Jim's grandson crush balls that resembled home runs in ballparks. I like the game of golf; however, I know the day after, I'll be reaching for the Ben Gay and swallowing a handful of Tylenol.

Many people would suggest I just sit back and enjoy my golden years. That's not something I can do. The old adage is that when an old man sits down, he is marking time until the end comes. Besides, I am too easily bored to sit around all day. Amy swears I am always piddling to keep from spending time with her, but that's not true. I want to keep moving as long as my old body allows me.

For several years, I've visited a workout facility at least a couple of times

each week. Even though I hate weight training, I hate being sedentary more. Last week, I managed to in some way pull, strain, rupture, or break something. My gym days are on hold as my body tries to fix what is out of whack. I'm hoping that comes sooner than later because an old guy like me can put on the pounds quickly.

I've always enjoyed new music. As the years pass, my ear turns more toward religious songs. Old hymns are wonderful, and some new songs also bring comfort and enjoyment. Heck, I've even sung a couple of solos at church. They aren't spectacular, but I made it through them without anyone running for the doors or God sending an angry bolt of lightning at me to shut me up. Maybe I am finding a couple of new types of music in this remaining time on earth.

I hope all are able to enjoy the music that fills their stories on this earth. I also hope folks will find new music that excites them and gives them the energy to push on through. Live hard now! Hear new melodies in the waning years of life. We will have plenty of time to rest before long.

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# William O. Bradley of Kentucky

## Pages from the Past



By Ray Hill  
rayhill865@gmail.com

William O’Connell Bradley was the first Republican to serve as governor of Kentucky. Bradley had a long and notable political career, albeit with mixed results as Kentucky remained a mostly Democratic state. During his zenith, many media outlets considered Kentucky less a border state than a southern state. William O. Bradley was one of the few Republicans to flourish in a border or southern state.

An impressive-looking man with a full, clean-shaven face and somewhat portly build, Bradley was known as a powerful orator. William O. Bradley had been something of a prodigy; his father was one of the leading criminal defense attorneys in the Bluegrass State, and the elder Bradley’s financial success allowed him to have his son schooled privately, as well as employ tutors. William was the only surviving son and had five sisters. At 14, W. O. Bradley left school without his father’s permission to join the Union Army during the Civil War twice. Both times, Robert McAfee Bradley had his son severed from the service because of his being so young. At the time, law students didn’t necessarily have to attend law schools or universities; one could “read” the law under the supervision of a qualified attorney before taking the bar examination. Bradley was fortunate enough to study the law under his father’s tutelage and wanted to take the bar exam at 18, although state law required one to be 21 to do so. The Kentucky legislature passed a special act permitting William O. Bradley to be examined by two sitting judges of the Circuit Court and found him to be competent in the law. Bradley passed and joined his father’s firm in 1865.

Five years later, William O. Bradley began his political career, running for and winning election as the prosecuting attorney for Garrard County. Two years later in 1872, the ambitious young man made a bid for the U.S. House of Representatives and won the Republican nomination for Kentucky’s Eighth Congressional District. The GOP nomination was largely an empty honor inasmuch as the Eighth District was heavily Democratic. Bradley faced former Circuit Judge Milton John Durham in the general election and lost.

Although young, Bradley was widely admired by Kentuckian Republicans who liked his fighting spirit and enjoyed his ability to make a fine speech. Indeed, the “matchless voice” of William O. Bradley would be long remembered by Kentuckians. Bradley was well able to articulate his point of view and that of his party on a wide array

of issues. In 1875, United States senators were still elected by the members of the state legislatures. Kentucky Republicans selected William O. Bradley as their nominee that year and the young attorney won the vote of every GOP member. It was largely a symbolic honor as Bradley was not even 30 years old, the age required by the Constitution to hold a seat in the U.S. Senate.

Bradley was persistent in his pursuit of public office and tried once again for Congress, challenging Congressman Milton Durham in 1874. William O. Bradley demonstrated an ability to win votes, running well ahead of his ticket, but he was still a Republican mired in a very Democratic district. Bradley’s speaking ability attracted notice outside his own state of Kentucky, and he was selected to speak before the 1880 Republican National Convention. That year, Ulysses S. Grant was proposing to come out of retirement and seek an unprecedented third term as president of the United States. Grant was by no means a unanimous choice of Republicans, as there were numerous delegates opposed to the former general’s nomination. Grant’s nominating speech was made by the famous and flamboyant Senator Roscoe Conklyn of New York, and the main seconding speech was made by young William O. Bradley of Kentucky. Amongst the delegates and Republican leaders, Bradley’s speech made perhaps a deeper impression than had Conklyn’s. The Louisville Courier-Journal noted that, at least in terms of “metaphors and gyrations in the clouds with oratorical flashes the Bradley speech surpassed that of Conklyn.”

In 1887, Bradley won the Republican nomination to run for governor of Kentucky. The 40-year-old GOP candidate faced a formidable foe in Simon Bolivar Buckner, a silver-haired and impressively white-bearded former Confederate general. Although Kentucky had not seceded from the Union during the Civil War, its voters had a habit of sending former Confederates to Congress and electing them as the state’s chief executive, a practice Bradley roundly criticized. Bradley lambasted former democratic administrations for big and wasteful spending and a stale state economy.

The two candidates appeared together only once during the campaign after agreeing to several joint debates. General Buckner got to his feet and demanded to know if Bradley had made the accusation that a former governor had written a speech he had given. Bradley readily admitted he had been told



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Governor & U. S. Senator William O. Bradley of Kentucky.

as much and had repeated it before an audience. Buckner snapped that the accusation was not true and promptly announced he felt free to withdraw his acceptance of further joint speaking appearances. Bradley lost the general election but made the best showing of any Republican candidate at that time.

William O. Bradley had constantly assailed the state’s finances and the handling of those finances during the gubernatorial election. Bradley’s insistence for state officials to examine the books of the treasurer was picked up by members of the state legislature. Governor Buckner had the accounts audited and the people of Kentucky were astonished when the state treasurer, James William “Honest Dick” Tate, disappeared with \$250,000 (more than \$8 million today) of the taxpayers’ money. Tate did indeed have a reputation for honesty, but he boarded a train bound for Cincinnati and was never seen again, leaving his wife and daughter in Kentucky. As best as could be ascertained, a combination of embezzlement, thievery, and barely any bookkeeping had occurred during Tate’s administration as state treasurer.

Bradley’s having brought the issue to light did his own reputation no damage and left Kentucky’s Democrats badly humiliated. The small Republican minority in the legislature nominated William O. Bradley as their candidate for the United States Senate once again in 1888, but he lost to the Democratic nominee. Bradley’s successful opponent in that senatorial contest, James B. Beck, apparently had no bad feelings for his Republican competitor. It was Senator Beck who recommended William O. Bradley for a post in the administration of GOP President Benjamin Harrison. Bradley was offered the ambassadorship to Korea, but the Kentuckian preferred to remain at home.

William O. Bradley announced he would make another bid for the governorship in 1895, and he seemed to be the nearest thing to a unanimous choice by Kentucky Republicans. Bradley was nominated and embarked upon a heated campaign against the Democratic nominee, Parker W. Hardin, Kentucky’s State Attorney General. Democrats across the country were deeply divided, both nationally and in many states, over the “free silver” question that would bring an obscure Nebraska congressman to national prominence and a presidential nomination a year later. President Grover Cleveland, as well as his Secretary of the Treasury, John Carlisle, a Kentuckian, were both adamantly opposed to free silver, insisting on “sound money,” meaning the gold standard. Hardin won the Democratic nomination for governor while many of Kentucky’s most influential Democrats were sound money men. Attorney General Hardin pledged to support the platform adopted by the state convention, which was a sound money platform. Once he had the nomination in hand, Parker W. Hardin came out with a full-throated endorsement of free silver. In part, Hardin retreated to his original position to fend off the Populist gubernatorial candidate from taking away votes in rural counties. Bradley ran hard in the general election, and Hardin was pressed, eventually having to resort to reminding voters of the “carpetbaggers” of Reconstruction following the Civil War, as well as the charge that electing a Republican would mean the domination of the Bluegrass State by Blacks. It availed him little as William O. Bradley won the general election.

Almost immediately, Governor Bradley was confronted with an out-of-control session of the state legislature, which became deadlocked while trying to elect a United States senator. Once again, Democrats

were divided by the money question and as incumbent Senator Joseph Clay Stiles Blackburn was a strong supporter of free silver, the “gold bug” Democrats in the legislature refused to reelect him. As the days passed, the situation grew worse with some Democrats carrying guns and attempting to keep Republican legislators from entering the House Chamber. The threat of violence was escalating quickly, and Governor Bradley called out the state militia to maintain order. That caused some tempers to flare with a few Democrats attempting to censure the governor, fine him, and sentence him to a six-month term in jail. Governor Bradley was forced to call a special session of the legislature to resume the voting to elect a United States senator.

It took 112 ballots before the legislature picked a senator. Despite the majority Democrats enjoyed, William J. Deboe, a member of the state Senate and a Republican, was elected. Deboe was the first Republican to be sent to the United States Senate from Kentucky.

During his time as governor, William O. Bradley was a fierce opponent of lynchings and insisted that violence against Black people be prosecuted. When President Grover Cleveland left office and was replaced by Republican William McKinley (who defeated free silver advocate William Jennings Bryan) in 1897, Kentucky Democrats resolved to do nothing to advance Governor Bradley’s agenda. Reinforced by big majorities won in Kentucky 1897 off-year elections, petulant Democrats made life as miserable as possible for the governor. When Bradley pointed out the deficiencies of the governor’s mansion, which was in desperate need of repairs and renovations, the legislature ignored him. A resulting fire from a faulty fireplace flue gutted much of the mansion, causing the

governor to move his family in with neighbors before he resided in a hotel. The Democrats were not going to lift a finger to accommodate a Republican governor.

Following his term as governor, William O. Bradley was once again the GOP nominee for a seat in the United States Senate in 1900. After experiencing some success, Kentucky Republicans began fighting with one another when they were a distinct minority in the Bluegrass State. Nationally, the former governor was still highly regarded. The Kentucky Advocate remembered Bradley’s word “was law” during the presidential administration of William Howard Taft as to the distribution of appointments and patronage in Kentucky.

In 1907, Republicans were successful in electing August Willson as governor, and the GOP nominated William O. Bradley for the Senate once again in 1908. Once again, Democrats engaged in a bare-knuckled political brawl. The impediment was the candidacy of former governor J. C. W. Beckham, a Democrat who drank “wet” but voted “dry.” Former Governor William O. Bradley was an opponent of prohibition, and after two months of stalemate, four Democratic legislators crossed over, tipping the election to William O. Bradley. After repeated attempts, W. O. Bradley had finally achieved his cherished dream of sitting in the United States Senate.

Bradley announced he would not be a candidate for reelection, although the 1914 election would be the first time the people of Kentucky chose their own U.S. senator by direct election. Bradley was intending to retire from public life. The same day the senator made his announcement, he fell while attempting to catch a streetcar and seriously hurt himself, breaking at least two fingers and gashing his forehead. Initially, it was thought Bradley might have suffered internal injuries. Within a couple of days, he was back in his office, although he soon complained of feeling poorly again. A few days later, while dictating to a secretary, Senator Bradley was gripped by a “painful seizure” and taken home and put to bed. The senator never got out of that bed, already suffering from prostate and kidney ailments. W. O. Bradley died May 23, 1914. William O. Bradley was 67 years old, which is relatively young, but it is interesting to remember that it had been almost 40 years since he had first been nominated to serve in the United States Senate.

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## KPS ...

## What is this?

**Cont. from page 1**

operations office to become a presenter at our club meeting. It was a very extraordinary KPS meeting to see the very extraordinary stamp. A very limited number of these stamps were put into public circulation. Special thanks to club member Bruce Roberts for helping me with this historical information.

Whether you are a current collector or have

an interest in becoming a collector, check out [www.KnoxStamps.com](http://www.KnoxStamps.com). Join us at our scheduled meeting the first Tuesday of each month at the Universalist Church on Kingston Pike. Hope to see you there.

If you have any questions where I can be of assistance, call me at (865)604-0164 or email me at [hbrooks68@gmail.com](mailto:hbrooks68@gmail.com).

# W James Taylor to perform with Knoxville Symphony Orchestra at 41st Annual Independence Day Concert

W James Taylor announced that he has been selected by Knoxville Symphony Orchestra Music Director Aram Demirjian to perform with the Orchestra at its 41st Annual Independence Day concert. The Concert will be held on July 4, at 8:00 p.m. at the Tennessee Amphitheater at World's Fair Park.

"I am deeply honored to be asked to join the Knoxville Symphony Orchestra's 41st Annual Independence Day Concert. Among my great loves is sharing my music with

others. It thrills me to be doing so accompanied by our hometown orchestra, which is renowned for its excellence and beloved by us all," said Taylor.


Taylor will perform "Stay" and "While You're Living" (original compositions); "I am Amazed" (written by close friend John Balic, MD); and "America the Beautiful."

Additional information about the Knoxville Symphony Orchestra's 41st Annual Independence Concert may be accessed here.

Born and raised in Knoxville's Lonsdale Homes neighborhood, Taylor is an award-winning singer/songwriter. He was among four Black area music creators featured in Tennessee Theatre's "Pass the Mic: Creating a Stage for Change" (S2 Ep4), which airs on PBS. In 2022, he served as a judge for the 2nd Annual Morning Pointe Foundation Seniors Got Talent Knoxville competition, after taking first place in the 2021 premier Morning Pointe Foundation Seniors Got Talent Knoxville competition. Every Knoxville First Friday, Taylor serenades visitors to his gallery.

Taylor is also an award-winning pastel artist. With daughters Geneva and

Briana, he founded the Multicultural Fine Art Camp (MFAC), now in its 7th year, to provide under-served Knoxville-area young people (ages 6 through 14) with instruction in fine art disciplines and materials, and provide area professional artists with experience teaching children. In addition to serving as an instructor, Taylor provides attendees with acoustic guitar breaks with singalongs. His gallery—Geneva Galleries Inc. (named for his mother Geneva)—is in The Emporium Center in downtown Knoxville. He is a former Mayor-appointed member of the Knoxville Arts Committee (2016-2023), and a former board member of the Fountain City Art Center.



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HIGH SCHOOL LEADERS IN 2024-25

Hey Bella and Jonah, Take a bow!

By Steve Williams

Whew! Bella Lawson has been a busy young lady in her high school career at The King's Academy. It really began 13 years ago when she started cheering around five years old. She ended up being the cheer captain for three years at TKA and a UCA All-American in the Universal Cheerleaders Association. "Bella is an amazing athlete and Christ-centered young lady," said Natoisha Hager, the cheer coach at the academy in Seymour. "This past season she helped propel her cheerleading team to win a regional championship and to become Top 20 at the National High School Cheerleading Championships in Orlando, Florida for the second time."

Coach Hager also touched on Lawson's participation in golf and track as well as cheerleading and noted that she was a TSSAA Regional golf qualifier and served as team captain of the golf team, too. "It has been an honor and a privilege to watch her grow as an athlete and a person for the past four



Bella Lawson and Jonah Weber are Student-Athletes of the Year for The King's Academy.

years!" Athletic Secretary Cyndie Webber submitted Lawson and Jonah Weber as TKA's female and male Student-Athletes of the Year and both were outstanding choices. Bella also had played golf since elementary school and her game garnered a fifth place showing in the region tournament this

spring. Lawson also got involved in track and field for the first time her junior year. In addition to athletics, Bella graduated with high honors and was in the Top 10 percent of her class. Much more also came her way. She was President of her Senior Class, the Teen Board of Knoxville's Distinguished Teen of the

Year, a member of the NHS, Beta Club and Honors Choir plus an ETSU faculty memorial scholarship recipient. Weber certainly has an outstanding list of honors as well. In academics, he had all As on the Honor Roll and was Salutatorian. Jonah also received Highest Grade Awards for Honors Pre Calculus and

Computer Science and was the recipient of the William F. Hall Memorial Award for highest GPA this year. On the athletic side, Weber was All-District, All-Region and All-State in tennis. "As a coach, it has been an honor to watch Jonah grow into the exceptional young man and Christ honoring athlete that he is," said Jenny Cook. "He set his goal on reaching state each year and stayed focused through each workout, practice and match to get there. He and his doubles partner not only got there this year, but they took the state champion title! So proud!" Weber will be going to the University of Tennessee to study Business and Dentistry. He plans to play club tennis. As for Bella, she will be attending East Tennessee State University and major in Nursing with hopes to obtain an advanced Nursing degree. She plans to participate in intramural sports.

Last but not least!

We like to call our fourth and last week of recognizing Student-Athletes of the Year our Grand Finale! CAK, Gibbs, Powell, The King's Academy and Webb make up this year's last bunch. We didn't hear from 100 percent of our schools this year, but with 23 of 25 schools in our coverage area sending in their top female and male Student-Athletes, we graded out at 92 percent, so maybe that's still an "A" these days. Thanks to all the athletic directors, coaches, and teachers for helping us shine the spotlight on many of our finest! And for the last time this year, we hope you will join us this week in learning about the honorees' accomplishments and applauding each one!

Webb's Pompey and Langham strike gold

By Steve Williams

Webb senior point guard Jaylen Pompey didn't make the Tennessee Sports Writers Association's All-State basketball team this season. But he is the reason the Spartans came home with the gold trophy. Two sentences point that out in a comment by Head Coach Ricky Norris honoring Pompey's selection as Webb's male Student-Athlete of the Year for 2024-25. "Jaylen was a four-year varsity player and has been our starting point guard since his sophomore year," said Norris. "He is one of those players whose impact on winning goes well beyond a stat sheet. Jaylen has a unique ability to make others around him better, because he consistently holds himself to such a high standard. The ultimate competitor



Congratulations to Jaylen Pompey, Webb Knoxville's male Student-Athlete for 2025.

on both ends of the floor, Jaylen garners the ultimate respect from both his teammates and

coaches." Pompey was the key player in guiding Webb to the Division II-AA

**"He is one of those players whose impact on winning goes well beyond a stat sheet. Jaylen has a unique ability to make others around him better, because he consistently holds himself to such a high standard."**

- Webb Coach Ricky Norris.

state championship and a 34-2 record. The team captain averaged 10 points and four assists per game. His production on the court wasn't overwhelming, but his presence on the floor was effective and made up for it. The Maryville College commit made the All-Tournament team at

the state this year and earned All-State honors his junior season. Jaylen is a four-time recipient of the Webb Upper School William R. Webb III Citizenship Award, which is presented to students who have enriched the school community through their exceptional commitment to excellence, loyalty, spirit, leadership, participation in school life, and service. He also was named Webb's male Character Athlete of the Year for 2024-25. Lennox Langham is Webb School's female Student-Athlete of the Year and a two-sport standout in volleyball and track & field. The senior was an outside hitter in traditional volleyball, but has committed to play beach volleyball at Florida State University. Beginning with her eighth grade year, Lennox became a

Continue on page 2

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HIGH SCHOOL LEADERS IN 2024-25



Lucas Mayes and Sifa Morgan are recognized for their talents in baseball and soccer (respectively) by being named Student-Athletes of the Year for Powell.

Mayes and Morgan are Powell honorees

By Steve Williams

Powell High first baseman Lucas Mayes and soccer / track standout Sifa Morgan are the senior male and female Student-Athletes of the Year at Powell for 2024-25.

Mayes will continue his baseball career at Cleveland State Community College.

Morgan will play soccer at Carson-Newman University.

Powell recognized two student-athletes (female and male) for each class this year, according to Athletic Director Adam Seymore.

The other honorees:

Freshman Female: Hannah Hayes (Basketball and Tennis) and Freshman Male: Braylon Hansen (Basketball).

Sophomore Female: Daisy Gentry (Basketball)

and Sophomore Male: Brodie Hollowell (Football and Baseball).

Junior Female: Anna White (Basketball) and Junior Male: Deuce Rodgers (Football).

CAK recognizes Warrior Award winners

The Christian Academy of Knoxville's annual Warrior Award goes to one male and one female senior athlete who best represents the athletics standard, said Athletic Director Chad Speck.

Ward Sterchi (Football and Lacrosse) also won the Principal's Award. Larkin Bristow (Volleyball and Tennis) is the female honoree.



Larkin Bristow (left) and Ward Sterchi are the Student-Athletes of the Year for Christian Academy of Knoxville.

Malyiah impressive in three sports at Gibbs

Eagles' Turner sets three records

By Steve Williams

Malyiah Smith played three sports for Gibbs High in 2024-25, and she did well in all three.

The All-State shortstop and leadoff batter helped the Lady Eagles win the school's 12th state softball championship and her second at the Spring Fling in Murfreesboro.

Smith also played quarterback in the emerging sport of Girls Flag Football and placed 11th in the TSSAA girls' state bowling tournament at Smyrna.

Gibbs Athletic Director Dustin Mynatt announced Smith as the school's female Student-Athlete of the Year and Zack Turner as its male honoree.

Zack, who made the trip with other fellow students to support the Lady Eagles at the state tourney, excelled in basketball and has signed with Milligan University in Elizabethton.

Smith was a team leader for Gibbs in six categories during the season. That included a .590 batting average, 78 runs, 85 hits, 43 stolen bases and defensively 68 assists and 10



PHOTO BY JJ SPEARS.

Malyiah Smith (above) and Zack Turner (right) are Gibbs High's Student-Athletes of the Year.

double plays.

Malyiah's 78 runs ranked sixth in the nation and No. 1 in the state.

On the bowling lanes, Smith was selected the Girls Bowler of the Year for TSSAA Region 1 and District 2. It also was her second time to qualify for the state.

In academics, Malyiah was recognized as a NFCA All-America Scholar-Athlete.

Smith will continue her education and softball career at Carson-Newman University.

Turner's basketball

season started on fire as he set a single game scoring record with 48 points. The 5-10 shooting guard's game averages for the year included 24.1 points, 5.0 rebounds, 4.4 assists and 3.0 steals.

Zack was a TSSAA Mr. Basketball nominee and twice a District 4-3A Player of the Year. He also was a two-time Knoxville Focus / Coaches' All-Knox County honoree.

Turner ended his prep career at Gibbs with a single season scoring record of 770 points and



a career total of 2,219 points.

Off the court, Turner had a 3.82 GPA and was a Special Olympics volunteer all four years at GHS.

Webb's Pompey and Langham strike gold

Cont. from page 1

five-year starter for the Lady Spartans' varsity volleyball team and team captain her senior season. She closed out her final campaign with 411 kills, 287 digs, 83 service points, 37 blocks, 32 assists, and 32 aces.

Through her high school career, Langham received multiple All-PrepXtra and All-5Star Preps honors plus made the TSWA All-State team.

She also was the Division II-AA East Region Player of the Year as a senior while leading her team to a 17-5 record and a berth in the state quarterfinals.

In 2024, Lennox



"The future is bright" for Lennox Langham, Webb's female Student-Athlete of the Year.

received All-American Honorable Mention by the AVCA (American Volleyball Coaches Association).

Her highlights in track

& field include powering Webb to back-to-back Division II-AA state team titles in 2024 and 2025.

Individually, Langham was a state champion five times in the triple jump and holds the school record in that event. She won three times in the state long jump before placing second as a senior. She also ran a leg on Webb's state runner-up 4x200 team this year.

Lennox set KIL meet records in the long jump and triple jump this season and helped lead the Lady Spartans to their second KIL track & field title – their first since 2008. She also won the triple jump and long jump at this year's

Volunteer Track Classic.

"Lennox is one of the most versatile and talented athletes I've had the privilege to work with," said Webb Coach Jerome Romain. "She has truly made her mark on the sport of track & field – both in East Tennessee and across the state.

"Winning a state championship is no easy feat, yet Lennox has done it eight times in five years. She is a remarkable talent, and I sincerely hope she continues with track & field at Florida State as she also pursues her beach volleyball career. The future is bright for her."

Farragut grad represents Team USA Gymnastics in London

By Steve Williams

Farragut High School graduate Ty Roderiques was in London, England the week of June 9, representing Team USA Gymnastics at the London Open Invitational.

Ty had a first place finish in the All-Around competition and took home Gold on the Vault event and Silver on the Parallel Bars and Rings events.

Roderiques has been a Team USA Gymnastics member for over a year and will continue his education and gymnastics career this fall at the University of Nebraska.

KFOA's "Doc" Battle celebrates 90th birthday

Sixteen retirees from the Knoxville Football Officials Association came to congratulate "Doc" Battle on his 90th birthday in May.



Battle was a longtime official and supervisor in the KFOA.

Also at the gathering, Terry Brown announced that the upcoming season would be his 20th and final year as an official in the NFL.

And Glenn Walker was introduced as the new supervisor for the TSSAA.

The annual KFOA Media Day and Scholarship Golf Tournament at Three Ridges Golf Course is less than a month away. Circle Friday, July 11 on your calendar.

Buckner commits to Coastal Carolina

Lukas Buckner, 2024

Farragut High baseball alum, has committed to Coastal Carolina University.

Buckner played his freshman season at Mississippi State, hitting .289 and playing error-free baseball at both shortstop and second base.

Coastal Carolina was one of eight teams to qualify for the College World Series in Omaha this season and rode a 23-game win streak into the final round against LSU.

At Farragut, Buckner was part of three state championship teams and is the Admirals' career leader in hits.

Simpson misses cut in US Open

Another Farragut High alum was in the national sports news last week as UT golfer Lance Simpson played in the US Open at Cont. on page 4



Farragut High alumnus Ty Roderiques represented Team USA in London this month.



Here's the question for today. What former Vol quarterback played linebacker in a 1963 freshman game at Kentucky (the Vol rookies

lost 70-0), redshirted a year later, and then became a Vol quarterback known all across Big Orange Country as the "Swamp Rat"?

Here's a hint. He was excitement personified under center, giving the Vol offense a new dimension. He wore No. 16 as a Vol signal-caller long before Peyton Manning ever burst onto the scene in 1994. In fact, Peyton's dad, Archie Manning, was still in high school in Drew, Miss., and did not arrive in Oxford, Miss., until 1967.

I remember going to Chattanooga to speak and to meet the posters on one of the "chat boards" so prevalent on the Internet. It was a chance to see the faces behind the names of those wonderful guys who freely proffer their opinions on any number of subjects, mostly the ebbs and flows of Tennessee football.

When I arrived, there was someone there I didn't expect, but one I was always glad to see. He had already commandeered the podium and showed no signs of letting go.

I had been "upstaged" by the inimitable Dewey Warren, Vol quarterback



Walter Chadwick (20) scores in the 1967 Tulane game as Dewey Warren (16) watches from a safe distance.

from 1965-67, who always talked about "humming that tater" and making things happen on the field. He hailed from Savannah, Ga., and was given that nickname by his high school coach Lamar Leachman, a former Vol himself (1952-53).

As most people know, Dewey was the kind of guy people instinctively followed, regardless of the destination. As the saying goes, he was "often in error, but never in doubt." An hour or so with Dewey was a roller-coaster ride through mid-1960s Vol history. You just asked a question, settled in, and enjoyed the ride.

The "experts" of his day wondered whether he could play.

"I really didn't look like a quarterback," Dewey told West. "I couldn't do a lot of the stuff quarterbacks are supposed to do. But I knew my limitations. I knew what to do to help us win."

Somebody asked if he really scored the winning touchdown in the 1965 UCLA game, that memorable contest in Memphis. I had expressed some modest doubts in print, having recently looked at the film. Dewey answered quickly: "The official raised his hands over his head, didn't he?"

Dewey told of having two pulled groin muscles and ace receiver Johnny Mills being out of the game. When he found no receivers open, he beat a not-so-hasty path

to the northwest corner of Memphis Memorial Stadium, the new stadium in the Bluff City at that time. It took him forever to get there, but he eventually did – barely, and the history books record that Tennessee won, 37-34.

"The play opened up like the Red Sea," former Vol center Bob Johnson told Marvin West in "Legends of the Tennessee Vols," one of the truly good books on Vol football, "but I thought Dewey would never get there."

Dewey told of calling plays that weren't in the playbook and having to explain to head coach Douglas Adair Dickey why he did so. He was more eloquent when the plays worked than when they

didn't. Dickey's exact response is unknown, but all of us have our opinions about what it was.

"Dewey was a T-formation quarterback nobody else wanted," Dickey observed. "I don't think anybody ever expected him to play."

Dewey was adamant in insisting that two of the most historic missed field goals actually found their way over the uprights. One came in 1966 against Alabama and the other on Jan. 1, 1968, in the Orange Bowl against Oklahoma.

"We had driven all the way down the field against Alabama and were on the 4-yard line," he recalled, speaking as the quarterback on the drive and as the holder on Gary Wright's fateful kick.

"I was going to run the ball to the middle of the field and call timeout, so we could have a straight-on kick, but someone called timeout. We should never have been in that position. It was a tough angle. A lot of people thought the kick was good. I thought it was good."

The passage of time hasn't softened Dewey's opinions. He's sticking adamantly to his view of history.

He recalled forgetting his helmet in his first chance against Ole Miss in November 1965, after Charley Fulton had been injured. There he was, standing sans helmet in the huddle, with teammates snickering and blue-shirted Rebels ready to get after him. That miscue cost the Vols a timeout.

Dewey Warren is not far removed from the signal-caller who led the Vols to glory in his playing days. He still has the swagger.

He was one of 26 legends whose careers West chronicled in his book. Dewey was No. 20 on the list, listed on the printed page between Bowden Wyatt and Frank Emanuel, each an All-American selection.

Whoever told Dewey, "If you stay, you'll play," likely George Cafego, knew what he was talking about. Dewey stayed... and played. He's the stuff of which legends are made.

# Q&A with Marc Raimondi

## Author of 'Say Hello to the Bad Guys' talks to The Focus

By Mark Nagi

If you are a professional wrestling fan, or even if you aren't, you've probably heard of the New World Order. Better known as the nWo, that faction changed not only the scope of sports entertainment but American culture as well. Recently, I had the opportunity to speak with Marc Raimondi, the author of "Say Hello to the Bad Guys," which is available for purchase anywhere you buy books on June 24th.

And yes, there are Tennessee ties...

**Knoxville Focus:** Kevin Nash was a huge part of the nWo. But before becoming a professional wrestler, he was a member of the University of Tennessee's men's basketball team (1977-1980). How did that experience help him in the next chapter of his life?

**Marc Raimondi:** If you become a pro wrestler... it really is very collaborative and it's very much a team. And you could maybe, you almost make the assertion that he was still playing on a team. In the WWF (World Wrestling Federation), he started his own kind of team, "The CLIQ." That friend group with him is Scott Hall, Shawn Michaels, Sean Waltman, and Triple H. So that's almost an extension to me of his playing career, where

he was used to having this group of guys around him that all kept each other up. They weren't the most popular guys in these locker rooms. So really, it did kind of fit this whole nWo thing for them because it's like, look, it's already us against the world. Let's just go fully with that.

**KF:** Who would you say deserves the most credit for the success of the nWo? Obviously, Hall and Nash were the guys up front. Then Hulk Hogan gave it serious heat, and Eric Bischoff was the guy behind the scenes, and then in front of the camera as well...

**MR:** They were asking themselves that back in the late 1990s. There was a lot of ego stuff happening for who was taking credit for the nWo. I think that you can't have the success the nWo had without all those elements together.

You needed Hulk Hogan because if he wasn't who he was in the 1980s, then that 1996 heel turn does not have the same effect,

right? You must have that decade of establishing him as the baby face, the number one guy in all of wrestling, and now he's bad.

Hall and Nash were "The Outsiders" and they brought with them this kind of street cred, this cool factor. They were more contemporary and more into what was going on in pop culture and popular music. Kurt Cobain, Marilyn Manson and these counterculture type of guys.

I sat down with Eric (Bischoff), and he was extremely accommodating to me when I visited him at his home in Cody, Wyoming. I think that the biggest thing that he did was figuring out a way to keep it together for as long as he did.

**KF:** I always kind of look at the nWo, like their peak wasn't really that long.

**MR:** Wrestling is so unlike anything else, and it is hard to continue to have people buy into what you want to do, especially when they were the biggest stars of the time. There were so many what-ifs in 1998 and 1999. You never got the real Hogan v. Nash match. You never got the Hogan v. Bret Hart match. These were all money matchups

they wanted to do, but for whatever reason, Bischoff was not able to do.

**KF:** Could the nWo have worked without Hogan's heel turn?

**MR:** It would not have, because Hulk Hogan's turning heel was like a seminal moment in our lives as kids. I think, like a lot of people, there's a few things in the course of history that you remember where you were when you found out the news. I was at summer camp. And that's what everyone was talking about. It was a big deal. It was a world event. It was important because of who he was. He was the biggest name in the history of professional wrestling at that time, right? He was a

household name, period. Everyone knew him as the good guy. And when he turned heel... if not for that, who knows what the nWo storyline would have become? These guys all kind of read the tea leaves before anybody else did. Because that really was the start of the whole rooting for bad guys thing. It's not all good versus evil. There's no blueprint for that. There's no formula to generate that.

**KF:** You have talked about wearing nWo stuff and people noticing it 25 years later. Why has this whole nWo thing had such staying power? It's a completely different world from the late 1990s, early 2000s...

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# Christenberry Falcons put in summer work on the diamond, in the cage

By Ken Lay

School may be out for the summer but that doesn't mean that high school athletes and coaches aren't hard at work.

Players will be off for the next two weeks during the annual TSSAA-mandated dead period but players were anything but idle last week. Some local high school baseball players even came in early to get some extra work in the batting cage on Thursday morning at Larry Cox Field.

Members of the Christenberry Falcons, a summer team comprised of players from Fulton High School, started arriving nine hours before Knoxville hosted a double header against a team from Maryville and Heritage High School.

"I've been here since 9 o'clock this morning and we've had guys in and out of here all day long," Falcons coach Buzz McNish said. "They've come in and worked. They've been in the cage and worked on some other stuff."

The Falcons play in a summer league that includes a team from Corryton (the Graveston Freebirds) two from Maryville and one from Anderson County. Teams play five-inning double headers during the week. They also play other teams on the weekends.

The league is run by McNish, Fulton's baseball



PHOTO BY KEN LAY.

**Christenberry Falcons pitcher Jett Byrge delivers a pitch in a summer league game Wednesday at Larry Cox Field. The Falcons were swept by Heritage in a double header.**

coach.

"It gives our guys (a chance) to come in and get reps and get better," said McNish, who previously coached at West High and Lenoir City. "When I got here and started the league, our guys really needed this because they were so far behind everybody else."

"They were so far behind because they didn't really do anything during the off-season. This league gives

us the chance to move some people around and see what we've got."

When McNish left Marble City for North Knoxville, he had to undertake a monumental task of establishing a winning culture in an all but dormant program. The Falcons finally reaped the benefits of summer work in 2025.

Fulton won 22 games this past season and opened the 2025 spring campaign with 15 consecutive wins.

"I think we started 15-0, or something like that and the success that we had in the spring is a direct result of what we did over the summer," McNish said. "We play two double headers during the week and that gives our young guys the chance to see live pitching in the summer and learn what it's like in June."

Many area baseball players spend the summer playing travel baseball across the country. For some players, however, expense eliminates that option.

"Travel ball is expensive and a lot of guys can't afford that or afford to do other things," McNish said. "This gives guys a chance to come in and get some extra work. And it's all free. It doesn't cost a thing."

"And some guys stay here, even if they (have other options) because they want to play with the players that they play high school ball with."

Knoxville has gone 12-9 this summer but was swept by Heritage in a double header late last week.

The Falcons will be off for two weeks but will return to the diamond during the second week of July and play in the summer league's postseason tournament.

"We'll go at least a week, maybe two, after the dead period and we'll have our postseason tournament," McNish said.

## Farragut grad represents Team USA Gymnastics in London

**Cont. from page 2**

Oakmont Country Club in Pennsylvania.

Simpson was among 15 amateur players in the field and missed the cut after shooting 12-over-par in the first two rounds.

Only one amateur made the cut.

Simpson placed eighth among the 15 amateurs.

### Meet TSSAA's newest Assistant Executive Director

Here's a little bit about E.J. Wood, the TSSAA's new assistant executive director.

Wood began a three-year stint as Athletic Director and Head Baseball Coach at Watertown Elementary School in 2007 before becoming the Head Baseball Coach at Watertown High, a position he held for eight years. From there, he became the first Athletic Director at the Green Hill High School in Lebanon which opened in 2020.

Now, Wood is taking on a new endeavor: he's TSSAA's newest assistant executive director, stepping into the vacancy following the retirement of esteemed TSSAA veteran administrator Gene Menees. He will begin his new role with the athletic association on July 7.

"EJ is most often described by his peers as a servant leader," stated Mark Reeves, Executive Director of TSSAA. "There is no greater attribute one could possess to be successful in the role he now assumes. Our ability to lead is directly proportional to our ability to build relationships with the stakeholders we serve. EJ has the qualities necessary to build strong relationships with coaches, administrators, and officials -- connections that are essential to making a lasting impact on this organization. We are excited to have him on board!"

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**Young-Williams Animal Center**

Ad space donated by The Knoxville Focus.

**HYMN** — Female, 5 years old, 70 lbs.  
 Meet Hymn! Would you like to hear the song of her people? Hymn is a silly, goofy girl once you get to know her. She likes rolling around, wiggling, and getting back scratches. Treats are appreciated, but she is particular about what she likes. She does go to moderate playgroups with other dogs where she is social, sweet, and very tolerant. She has also been doing well with her house training. Ask to meet Hymn--I mean her--today!

**BART** — Male, 7.5 years old, 70 lbs.  
 Bart is a chunk of love. Short, stout, and ready to let it all out -- he's always down for snuggles and lovings. He is obsessed with squeaker toys and wants to play tug of war with you so you can make them squeak for him. He's also a total ladies man with other dogs-- he always goes to doggy playgroups with girls only since boys just harsh his vibes. You need this big boi in your life so come adopt him today!

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

# LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

## COURT NOTICES

### NON-RESIDENT NOTICE

TO: ESTATE OF OSCAR M. COWARD, UNKNOWN HEIRS OF ESTATE OF OSCAR M. COWARD, AND MORTGAGE INVESTOR'S GROUP IN RE: AVERY WOODS HOMEOWNER'S ASSOCIATION INC. VS.

ESTATE OF OSCAR M. COWARD, UNKNOWN HEIRS OF ESTATE OF OSCAR M. COWARD, AND MORTGAGE INVESTOR'S GROUP

NO. 209736-2  
 IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE  
 In this Cause, it appearing from the Complaint filed, which is sworn to, that the defendant ESTATE OF OSCAR M. COWARD, UNKNOWN HEIRS OF ESTATE OF OSCAR M. COWARD, AND MORTGAGE INVESTOR'S GROUP, a non-resident of the State of Tennessee, or whose whereabouts cannot be ascertained upon diligent search and inquiry, so that the ordinary process of law cannot be served upon ESTATE OF OSCAR M. COWARD, UNKNOWN HEIRS OF ESTATE OF OSCAR M. COWARD, AND MORTGAGE INVESTOR'S GROUP described in the complaint, it is ordered that said defendant, ESTATE OF OSCAR M. COWARD, UNKNOWN HEIRS OF ESTATE OF OSCAR M. COWARD, AND MORTGAGE INVESTOR'S GROUP

file an answer with the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court at Knoxville, Tennessee and with Kevin C. Stevens, an Attorney whose address is 550 Main St., Knoxville, TN 37902 within thirty (30) days of the last date of publication or a judgment by default will be taken against you and the cause will be set for hearing Ex-Parte as to you before Chancellor Richard B. Armstrong, Jr., at the Knox County Chancery Court, Division II, 400 Main Street, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902.

This notice will be published in a The Knoxville Focus Newspaper for four (4) consecutive weeks.

This 20th day of May, 2025.

J. Scott Griswold  
 Clerk and Master

### NON-RESIDENT NOTICE

TO: TRACY K. ALLEN and CHRISTIE W. KIRKLEN

IN RE: DANIEL CROWE V.

TRACY K. ALLEN and CHRISTIE W. KIRKLEN

NO. 210811-3

IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE

In this Cause, it appearing from the Complaint filed, which is sworn to, that the defendants TRACY K. ALLEN and CHRISTIE W. KIRKLEN, non-resident(s) of the State of Tennessee, or whose whereabouts cannot be ascertained upon diligent search and inquiry, so that the ordinary process

of law cannot be served upon TRACY K. ALLEN and CHRISTIE W. KIRKLEN, it is ordered that said defendants, TRACY K. ALLEN and CHRISTIE W. KIRKLEN, file an answer with the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court at Knoxville, Tennessee and with Daniel Crowe, whose address is 1556 Tsuga Drive, Alcoa, TN 37701 within thirty (30) days of the last date of publication or a judgment by default will be taken against you and the cause will be set for hearing Ex-Parte as to you before Chancellor Christopher D. Heagerty at the Knox County Chancery Court, Division III, 400 Main Street, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902.

This notice will be published in a The Knoxville Focus Newspaper for four (4) consecutive weeks.

This 12th day of June, 2025.

J. Scott Griswold  
 Clerk and Master

### SERVICE BY PUBLICATION

TO: JAMES PRYOR, JR., Respondents IN RE: ESTATE OF JACQUELINE PRYOR, Deceased

STATE OF TENNESSEE, DIVISION OF TENNCARE, Petitioner V. MARY PRYOR, JAMES PRYOR, JR. Respondents

IN THE PROBATE COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE NO. 88388-1

TO: James Pryor, Jr.  
 IT IS ORDERED that said Respondent, James Pryor, Jr., file an answer with the Clerk of the Probate Court at Knox County, Tennessee and with Matt Jarboe, an Attorney whose address is 310 Great Circle Road, Nashville, Tennessee 37243, within thirty (30) days of the last date of publication. Failure to do so may result in the case proceeding without you and an Order may be entered against you without further notice.  
 ORDER ENTERED March 12, 2025, by John F. Weaver, Chancellor  
 Published in The Knoxville Focus for four consecutive weeks - 6/23, 6/30, 7/7, and 7/14/2025.

### NOTICE OF SERVICE BY PUBLICATION

TO: JAMAL LASEAN JOHNSON, Respondent / Biological Father

IN RE: THE ADOPTION OF A MALE CHILD, L.T.J. (DOB: 01/03/2011)

JUANITA FAYE JOHNSON, Petitioner / Mother, and CHRISTOPHER JAMAR JOHNSON, Petitioner / Stepfather V. JAMAL LASEAN JOHNSON, Respondent / Biological Father

filed, which is sworn to, that the defendant, JAMAL LASEAN JOHNSON, a non-resident of the State of Tennessee, or whose current whereabouts cannot be ascertained upon diligent search and inquiry, so that the ordinary process of law cannot be served upon JAMAL LASEAN JOHNSON, it is ordered that said defendant, JAMAL LASEAN JOHNSON, file an answer with the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Sevier County, Tennessee and with Petitioners' Counsel, Brennan P. Lenihan, an Attorney whose address is 200 Prosperity Drive, Suite 216, Knoxville, TN 37923, within thirty (30) days of the last date of publication of this notice or a hearing will be set for this cause before the Honorable Chancellor Jim Ripley at the Sevier County Chancery Court, located at 125 Court Avenue, Sevierville, Tennessee 37862, and action shall be taken by this Honorable Court to default the Respondent, and enter Judgment in favor of the Petitioners, and that Judgment in favor of the Petitioners will result in the termination of the Respondent's parental rights and the adoption of the minor-child, L.T.J. in accordance with a separately filed Petition to Terminate Parental Rights for the Adoption.  
 This notice will be published in The Knoxville Focus Newspaper for four (4) consecutive weeks: 6/23, 6/30, 7/7, & 7/14/2025.  
 This 5th day of June, 2025.

DOCKET NO. 24-9-187  
 IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR SEVIER COUNTY, TENNESSEE  
 In this Cause, it appearing from the Complaint

received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or  
 (2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death.  
 This the 10th day of JUNE, 2025.

ESTATE OF JAMES THOMAS ADAMS  
 PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S) DEBORAH WILLIAMS 2815 NEWBURG ROAD LOUISVILLE, KY 40205  
 STACIE D. MILLER, ATTORNEY P. O. BOX 300 KNOXVILLE, TN 37901

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
 ESTATE OF JAMES THOMAS ADAMS DOCKET NUMBER 90962-1

Rylee G. Munson  
 Clerk and Master  
 Sevier County, TN







NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF BRENDA L. SAMS  
DOCKET NUMBER 91003-3**

Notice is hereby given that on the 28 day of MAY, 2025, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of BRENDA L. SAMS, who died Aug. 19, 2024, were issued to the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

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

This the 28 day of MAY, 2025.

ESTATE OF BRENDA L. SAMS

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
BOBBY GENE SAMS, JR., EXECUTOR  
2106 SUNNY LANE  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37912

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF MARY SEAY  
DOCKET NUMBER 91027-3**

Notice is hereby given that on the 28 day of MAY, 2025, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of MARY SEAY, who died April 30, 2025, were issued to the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

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

This the 28 day of MAY, 2025.

ESTATE OF MARY SEAY

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
RALPH L. SCHWARZKOPF, EXECUTOR  
7943 EMBER CREST TRAIL  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37938

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF HELEN M. SHACKELFORD  
DOCKET NUMBER 91010-1**

Notice is hereby given that on the 30 day of MAY, 2025, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of HELEN M. SHACKELFORD, who died April 18, 2025, were issued to the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

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

This the 30 day of MAY, 2025.

ESTATE OF HELEN M. SHACKELFORD

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
CAROL S. CRUZE, CO-EXECUTOR  
303 CARDINAL STREET  
MARYVILLE, TN 37803

STEPHEN A. SHACKELFORD, CO-EXECUTOR  
3507 HARBOR VIEW WAY  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37920

STUART I. CASSELL, ATTORNEY  
707 MARKET STREET  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37902

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF GEORGE ELLIS SHACKLETT  
DOCKET NUMBER 90969-2**

Notice is hereby given that on the 9th day of JUNE, 2025, letters of administration in respect of the Estate of GEORGE ELLIS SHACKLETT, who died on January 21, 2025, were issued to the undersigned by Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above-named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

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

This the 9th day of JUNE, 2025.

ESTATE OF GEORGE ELLIS SHACKLETT

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
MARY SHACKLETT SUWINSKI  
4369 OAKS SHADOW DRIVE  
NEW ALBANY, OH 43054

L. ERIC EBBERT, ATTORNEY  
PAUL F. HANNAN, ATTORNEY  
9145 CROSS PARK DRIVE, STE. 103  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37923

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF KENT DAVID SHAFFERMAN  
DOCKET NUMBER 91005-2**

Notice is hereby given that on the 10th day of JUNE, 2025, letters of Administration in respect to the Estate of KENT DAVID SHAFFERMAN, who died on January 22, 2025, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above-named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

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

This the 10th day of JUNE, 2025.

ESTATE OF KENT DAVID SHAFFERMAN

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
HUNTER ALAN SHAFFERMAN,  
ADMINISTRATOR  
7700 GLEASON DRIVE, 41A  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37919

SHANNON M. HOLLAND, ATTORNEY  
38 CAGGILL ROAD  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37922

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF DORIS LEE WARWICK  
DOCKET NUMBER 91036-3**

Notice is hereby given that on the 28 day of MAY, 2025, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of DORIS LEE WARWICK, who died March 7, 2025, were issued to the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

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

This the 28 day of MAY, 2025.

ESTATE OF DORIS LEE WARWICK

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
KATHERINE MICHELLE  
HOWARD, EXECUTRIX  
440 TAMMY DRIVE, APT. 1  
POWELL, TN 37849

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF KELLY JAY YOUNT  
DOCKET NUMBER 90998-1**

Notice is hereby given that on the 30 day of MAY, 2025, letters administration in respect of the Estate of KELLY JAY YOUNT, who died March 5, 2025, were issued to the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

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

This the 30 day of MAY, 2025.

ESTATE OF KELLY JAY YOUNT

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
LEIGH YOUNT, ADMINISTRATRIX  
209 E. MOUNTAIN VIEW ROAD  
CORRYTON, TN 37721

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF JO ANN ARMSTRONG  
DOCKET NUMBER 90681-2**

Notice is hereby given that on the 17th day of JUNE, 2025, letters testamentary (or letters of administration as the case may be) in respect of the Estate of JO ANN ARMSTRONG, who died February 2, 2025, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above-named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

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

This the 17th day of JUNE, 2025.

ESTATE OF JO ANN ARMSTRONG

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
JAMIE L. CLARK  
8311 MCCUBBINS LANE  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37924

BEN T. NORRIS, ATTORNEY  
P. O. BOX 397  
STRAWBERRY PLAINS, TN 37871

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF PHYLLIS NORMAN BRANDON  
DOCKET NUMBER 90812-1**

Notice is hereby given that on the 6 day of JUNE, 2025, letters administration in respect of the Estate of PHYLLIS NORMAN BRANDON, who died Jan. 20, 2025, were issued to the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

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

This the 6 day of JUNE, 2025.

ESTATE OF PHYLLIS NORMAN BRANDON

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
CAROL ELIZABETH BARRETT,  
ADMINISTRATRIX  
943 ELSBORN RIDGE ROAD  
MARYVILLE, TN 37801

ANNE WEIER, ATTORNEY  
212 CATES STREET  
MARYVILLE, TN 37801

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF ROBERT BREUER  
DOCKET NUMBER 91001-1**

Notice is hereby given that on the 6 day of JUNE, 2025, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of ROBERT BREUER, who died April 9, 2025, were issued to the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

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

This the 6 day of JUNE, 2025.

ESTATE OF ROBERT BREUER

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
MATTHEW SCOTT BREUER, EXECUTOR  
203 DOGWOOD LANE  
JACKSBORO, TN 37757

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF TONY WAYNE BROYLES, JR.  
DOCKET NUMBER 90841-3**

Notice is hereby given that on the 20 day of MAY, 2025, letters administration in respect of the Estate of TONY WAYNE BROYLES, JR., who died Dec. 31, 2024, were issued to the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

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

This the 20 day of MAY, 2025.

ESTATE OF TONY WAYNE BROYLES, JR.

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
DALE CLIFTON, ADMINISTRATOR  
9401 SARASOTA DRIVE  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37923

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF DAVID WAYNE DOUGLAS  
DOCKET NUMBER 90926-1**

Notice is hereby given that on the 13th day of JUNE, 2025, Letters Testamentary in respect of the Estate of DAVID WAYNE DOUGLAS, who died January 6, 2025, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the Estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above-named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

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

This the 13th day of JUNE, 2025.

ESTATE OF DAVID WAYNE DOUGLAS

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
BEVERLY E. DOUGLAS, ADMINISTRATOR  
511 WINDSOR SPRINGS LANE  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37914

JAMES T. NORMAND, ATTORNEY  
P. O. BOX 6197  
OAK RIDGE, TN 37831

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF JOHN LELAND DUGGER  
DOCKET NUMBER 91016-1**

Notice is hereby given that on the 13th day of JUNE, 2025, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of JOHN LELAND DUGGER, who died February 20, 2025, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above-named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

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

This the 13th day of JUNE, 2025.

ESTATE OF JOHN LELAND DUGGER

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
MARK DUGGER  
1502 NORTH CAMPBELL STATION RD.  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37932

EDDY R. SMITH, ATTORNEY  
ADAM B. McDONALD, ATTORNEY  
4TH FLOOR, BANK OF AMERICA BLDG.  
P. O. BOX 442  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37901-0442

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF WANDA GAIL GREEN,  
a/k/a WANDA GAIL GREENE  
DOCKET NUMBER 90812-1**

Notice is hereby given that on the 13th day of JUNE, 2025, letters testamentary (or letters of administration) in respect of the Estate of WANDA GAIL GREEN, a/k/a WANDA GAIL GREENE, who died on March 11, 2025, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above-named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

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

This the 13th day of JUNE, 2025.

ESTATE OF WANDA GAIL GREEN  
a/k/a WANDA GAIL GREENE

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
WANESHA GREENE  
1031 DUNHILL WAY, APT. 605  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37919

RODNEY GREENE  
5109 DEWINE CIRCLE  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37921

KENNETH W. HOLBERT, ATTORNEY  
402 CLYDE STREET  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37921

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF CLYDE RAYMOND HOLMES  
DOCKET NUMBER 90447-2**

Notice is hereby given that on the 17 day of JUNE, 2025, letters testamentary (or letters of administration as the case may be) in respect of the Estate of CLYDE RAYMOND HOLMES, who died on December 14, 2024 were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above-named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

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

This the 17 day of JUNE, 2025.

ESTATE OF CLYDE RAYMOND HOLMES

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
JAMES MICHAEL HOLMES  
PATRICK EDWARD HOLMES

CHARLES H. CHILD, ATTORNEY  
116 AGNES ROAD  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37919

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF AMELIA D. KEASLING  
DOCKET NUMBER 90826-3**

Notice is hereby given that on the 13th day of JUNE, 2025, letters testamentary in respect of the estate of AMELIA D. KEASLING, who died on February 11, 2025, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above-named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

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

This the 13th day of JUNE, 2025.

ESTATE OF AMELIA D. KEASLING

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES  
LANCE K. ADKINS  
15 MARKET ST.  
EDGEWOOD, NM 87015

ALAN D. ADKINS  
6869 BRIDGEWATER DR.  
NASHVILLE, TN 37221

TAYLOR A. WILLIAMS, ATTORNEY  
MATTHEW P. HUBBS, ATTORNEY  
900 SOUTH GAY STREET, SUITE 2200  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37902

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF JEFFREY RALPH MEREDITH  
DOCKET NUMBER 90952-3**

Notice is hereby given that on the 16th day of JUNE, 2025, letters testamentary (or letters of administration as the case may be) in respect of the Estate of JEFFREY RALPH MEREDITH, who died on the 11th day of March, 2025, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above-named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

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

This the 16th day of JUNE, 2025.

ESTATE OF JEFFREY RALPH MEREDITH

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
CASEY J. MEREDITH  
12305 BUTTERNUT CIRCLE  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37934

BRYCE M. HARDIN, ATTORNEY  
10413 KINGSTON PIKE, SUITE 201  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37922

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF PATRICIA ANN MORRIS  
DOCKET NUMBER 91014-2**

Notice is hereby given that on the 17th day of JUNE, 2025, Letters Testamentary in respect of the Estate of PATRICIA ANN MORRIS, who died March 31, 2025, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee Probate Division. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the Clerk of the abovenamed court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

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

This the 17th day of JUNE, 2025.

ESTATE OF PATRICIA ANN MORRIS

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
JOHN K. MORRIS, EXECUTOR  
12731 MELTON LAKE WAY  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37932

PATRICK R. MCKENRICK, ATTORNEY  
1019 ORCHID DRIVE  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37912

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF RITA ANN PATTERSON  
DOCKET NUMBER 90857-1**

Notice is hereby given that on the 13th day of JUNE, 2025, letters testamentary (or letters of administration as the case may be) in respect of the Estate of RITA ANN PATTERSON, who died February 24, 2025, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above-named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

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

This the 13th day of JUNE, 2025.

ESTATE OF RITA ANN PATTERSON

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
MICHAEL JOSEPH PATTERSON

STUART I. CASSELL, ATTORNEY  
707 MARKET STREET, SUITE 1  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37902

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF STACEY DAWN SIEVERS  
DOCKET NUMBER 91012-3**

Notice is hereby given that on the 13th day of JUNE, 2025, letters testamentary (or letters of administration as the case may be) in respect of the Estate OF STACEY DAWN SIEVERS, deceased, who died March 31, 2025, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and nonresident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same in triplicate with the clerk of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in paragraphs (1) or (2) below, otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors.

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

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

This the 13th day of JUNE, 2025.

ESTATE OF STACEY DAWN SIEVERS

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
ELLIOTT TAYLOR SIEVERS  
6920 GREENBROOK DRIVE  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37931

PHILIP R. CRYE, JR., ATTORNEY  
125 N. MAIN STREET  
CLINTON, TN 37716

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF CHARLES E. STEPHENS  
DOCKET NUMBER 91017-2**

Notice is hereby given that on the 13th day of JUNE, 2025, Letters Testamentary (or letters of administration as the case may be) in respect of the Estate of CHARLES E. STEPHENS, who died on October 18, 2024, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above-named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors