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Old Cedar Bluff health office sold

By Mike Steely
Senior Writer
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Among the numerous items on the upcoming Knox County Commission agenda is a request from the procurement department for approval of the sale of the former health department building at 1028 Old Cedar Bluff Road.

The commission is being asked to approve the resolution in a contract to Rakesh Battineni for \$2.1 million, the winning auction bid amount, plus \$63,000 to Powell Auction and Realty. Sale proceeds will go towards renovations of the new West Satellite office for the clerk, health department and trustee.

Final approval of the transaction may come in the commission's regular session on August 25.

In other high-dollar action, the commission will approve the school board's resolution for renovations and additions to Halls Middle School. The \$13.1 million contract is with Jenkins & Stiles LLC.

The commission also has several county improvements on the agenda, including \$1.6 million for resurfacing Hill Road, with 98% of that provided by the state. The state will also pick up most of the costs of the \$862,111 paving contract for Ball

Road, \$1.7 million resurfacing for Yarnell Road and \$691,977 for resurfacing Campbell Station Road.

The installation of a pump station for Bluegrass Lake may see the name of a contractor and a cost amount in a resolution from Knox County Engineering and Public Works.

In other action, the commission may approve a contract with Liquidity Services Operation LLC for the online auction of surplus property.

Several commissioners have put forward agenda items this month, including At-large Commissioner Larsen Jay's proposals for new policies for utility poles. Commissioner Kim Frazier wants a review and revision of the Knox County Code of Ethics, and Andy Fox wants a review of applications for federal and state assistance. Fox also wants to honor the Knox County Sheriff's Office and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

Frazier also has a resolution, on first reading, dealing with the operation of the KCSO employees' merit system.

The Rules Committee has several proposals dealing with the rules regarding electronic participation by commissioners, voting on matters that include family members, and filling vacancies on committees.



PHOTO BY KEN LAY.

Knox County Mayoral candidate Larsen Jay with Tennessee Speaker of the House Cameron Sexton at a meet-and-greet Thursday night in West Knoxville. Sexton endorsed Jay for Knox County Mayor.

Larsen Jay hosts West Knoxville meet-and-greet

By Ken Lay

Vintage cars lined a section of the parking lot while the sounds of Shed House Trio, a local bluegrass band, could be heard and the smells of barbecue pierced the air late Thursday afternoon.

Supporters were beginning to arrive about the same time as a pop-up shower. The rain came but that didn't do anything to dampen the spirits as

Larsen Jay helped a few children into a vintage pickup truck emblazoned with campaign signs.

"This is what it's all about," said Jay, a Republican candidate for Knox County Mayor who was hosting a meet-and-greet at Marble Hall at Lakeshore Park in West Knoxville. "This a chance to come out and be with the people and hear what they have to say, have a little barbecue and

listen to a little music."

Jay worked the room tirelessly as he shook hands with supporters, greeted their kids and even took time to pet a dog.

For him, this wasn't a night to speak to the crowd about politics, although he addressed issues as he spoke to supporters individually and in small groups.

Jay addressed the crowd, which included Knox County Sheriff Tom Spangler and

other county leaders. But in his brief remarks, Jay was there simply to express his gratitude to campaign workers and other supporters.

"I appreciate all of you for being here and I want to thank all of you for your support," Jay said. "Our campaign is off to a fast start and we're working hard and we're going to continue working hard from now until Election Day."

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Patio beer sales, improvement projects, zonings before city council

By Mike Steely
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Aside from the administration's resolution for a multi-year lease with Muse Knoxville for use of the Jacob Building as a community and regional science museum, there are dozens of other items on the city council's Tuesday agenda.

The council may debate the sale of property between Magnolia Avenue and Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue to the Emerald Youth Foundation.

The council will be asked, on first reading, to allow beer permit holders to apply to the city for "Patio Use Agreements." Also on the initial reading list is a resolution to amend the code to remove the requirement

for a blasting permit in the city because the state has sole jurisdiction.

The council may approve changes to the city code to permit "Cottage Courts" in the city, permitting smaller houses with a common courtyard.

A zoning change, from RN-5 residential to industrial mixed-use, is before the council for property at 118 Twentieth Street in a request from Heyoh Architecture following a 12-3 Planning vote.

Mohamed Ragab is appealing to decrease the minimum interior side setback for 6109 Creekhead Drive. The property at Zero Pipkin Lane may go from agricultural (AG) to RN-1 single-family residential.

In another proposed amendment to the city

code, "nonconforming lots of record" may be permitted development when in alignment with neighborhoods.

Zero Keck Road may go from AG to RN-1, Zero Bernhurst may be approved to go from RN-1 to RN-2, and lots at 308, 314 and Zero West Inskip Drive may switch from RN-2 to RN-1. 1108 Beaumont Avenue is on the agenda to switch from RN-2 to neighborhood commercial.

The property at 5552 Washington Pike could be changed from industrial mixed-use and general industrial to general commercial and RN-1, and 3950 Linden Avenue could change from general commercial to RN-4

Cont. on page 2

By Mike Steely
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The Muse Children's Science Museum and the city may have an agreement for the children's facility to take over the Jacob Building in two years, with a generous donation of \$25 million from the Clayton Family. There's only one catch.

The agreement, which would move the Tennessee Valley Fair out of the historic building, must be approved by the Knoxville City Council. The announcement last week apparently caught the fair officials by surprise; they claim the organization has an agreement to continue there through 2029.

The Muse has outgrown its facility, just across the lake from the Jacob Building

at Chilhowee Park, and is excited about the opportunity to expand its size and services. The fair administration is hurt and offended by the possibility of leaving the historic building, which serves as an exhibition hall during the annual September event.

But having the fair in the building for only a few days each year is one aspect versus having a permanent resident. The 105th Tennessee Valley Fair will kick off September 5 with an opening ceremony and continue through the 14th this year. The future of the Jacob Building might be a hot topic when the Knoxville City Council meets this Tuesday at 6 p.m. in the City-Council Building.

Councilwoman Amelia

Parker responded to the announcement.

"The administration has refused to have a public conversation regarding the intended use of the Jacob Building or the land at Chilhowee Park even though they do not have the authority to move forward without city council's approval," she posted on her Facebook page.

She said the item will be on the agenda on Tuesday and may have supporters rally against the proposal.

"The mayor does not have the power to give away/sell off/lease away the city's historic buildings and properties without approval from city council. The residents of Knoxville should have a say in how our parks are managed," Parker posted.

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My Golf Game Is Unbelievable (Part Two)

From a distance



By John J. Duncan Jr.
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Anyone who has ever played golf at Holston Hills Country Club will be amazed, or at least get a kick out of this: I once hit a 16 on the eighth hole – the shortest, easiest hole on the course.

I was nine years old and was playing golf for the very first time. Paul Owen, the Holston Hills golf pro, had told me that whether you play nine holes or 18 holes, play every hole and count every stroke, and don't give up or be a quitter.

On hole 8 that day, I hit a drive into a sand trap, took 13 shots to get out of the sand, and then two-putted for a 16. I guess it is a wonder that I didn't give up on golf for good that day.

I ended that day with a score of 119 on nine holes, but a week or two later, I improved to 100. I can't tell you my score on even the most recent days, but I have never forgotten those first two.

I remember the 100 score for a funny reason. That day, my Dad was meeting on the patio of the club with Harry Dalton, the farm director of the Baltimore Orioles. They reached an agreement for the Knoxville Smokies to become a minor league affiliate of the Orioles.

When I came in from my golf game, Mr. Dalton asked me what my score was. When I told him 100, he said, "My, that is a good

score for a boy like you." I told my Dad later, "I bet he thought I played 18 holes."

I guess I played more golf with the late Bill Vaughan than anyone else. He used to tell people, "Duncan hits the ball a mile, but there is no zip code on it."

I did hit the longest drive in two different tournaments, but one was in 1995 and the other was in 2002. I don't hit the ball quite as far now.

My friend and former City Councilman Joe Bailey used to be able to hit the ball a long way. I would jokingly say, "The day I can't outdrive Joe Bailey is the day I give up this game." But he always hit from tees placed much further back than me, and I doubt I ever really outdrove him.

Probably the best day I ever had at Holston was in a tournament in honor of Joe's father, Ed Bailey. That day, I hit eight pars

and two birdies and came in second behind a former major league baseball player named Tim Foli.

Foli was a scratch golfer, which means he was great, and I came in second only because my handicap was 18, which means I got to take 18 strokes off my score, terms golfers will understand.

Another frequent playing partner was my long-time friend Larry Cox. One day, just the two of us were playing the 16th hole at Holston, which is an uphill par 4. Larry hit a short drive into a sand trap, his second shot was barely out of the trap, and then he hit his third shot about 125 yards into the hole.

I hit a decent drive, which stopped about three or four yards into the left rough, and hit my second shot straight and high, but about ten yards off to the left of the green. I then

took a 7-iron and punched my ball into the hole. Both of us had birdied the hole, and neither of us had putted.

I have always said if I ever write a book on golf, the first sentence will be, "The problem with golf is the next shot always counts." I have messed up many beautiful drives with bad second shots. In fact, I think I have a better chance to par a hole if I have a bad tee shot.

I had the opportunity to play Augusta National two days in a row thanks to my friend John Corcoran, who grew up in Knoxville, and I birdied the seventh hole. I played there again a few years later, and I missed a four-foot birdie putt on 15 and the par putt coming back.

During my first year in Congress, a Knoxville lawyer wanted to play on the famous Burning Tree

golf course just outside of Washington, D.C. John Corcoran was a member there, too, and he got us on the course.

It was a cold October day, and the only other people we saw on the course were former Speaker of the House Tip O'Neill and Fred Rooney, a former Democratic congressman from Pennsylvania.

When Fred Rooney found out who I was, he said, "Your Dad was the only man I ever knew who never had an enemy in this town (meaning Washington)." That was one of the nicest of the many, many compliments I heard about my father over the years.

Finally, I refuse to call sand traps "bunkers." Before golf went high class, everyone called them sand traps, and for me, they are and always will be traps.

Juvenile Center Board meets Tuesday

By Mike Steely
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The Juvenile Service Center Board of Directors meets Tuesday in Judge Tim Irwin's courtroom to hear various reports, including an update from the Tennessee Department of Children Services.

The state agency has the ultimate power over

the juvenile detention center, and Mark Anderson, DCS director of licensing, is scheduled to speak.

The meeting will also hear a review of the facilities from Chairman Larsen Jay, an update from Brian Bivens, the interim chief administrator, and updates from mental health and educational

programming service representatives Dr. Marie Bly and Heather Willis, respectively.

The public is invited to the 2 p.m. board meeting, and there is a public forum session noted on the agenda. Those wishing to speak on any juvenile detention center agenda item can sign up via the commission website at commission.knox-countytn.gov, by emailing commission@knoxcounty.org or calling the office at (865)215-2534. The deadline for signing up to speak is Tuesday, August 19, at 4:00 p.m.

Members of the board include At-large Commissioner Jay and Commissioners Damon Rawls, Terry Hill, Shane Jackson and Rhonda Lee.

New business may be discussed, and the next meeting is set for Tuesday, September 20.

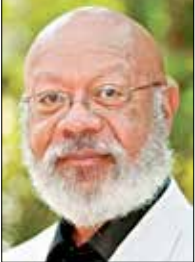
What job growth? What inflation?

Far be it for me to say "I told you so," but I told you so. I wrote that the monthly jobs report is usually a fabrication. The results come from surveys and are always revised downward when the real numbers come in.

On July 7, I said in my blog that the jobs report was a lesson in how to lie with statistics, with employment figures revised downward by 55,000 jobs on average.

When the numbers were announced for May and June and the administration was doing high fives, I asked what would be the revisions? Turns out it was a whopping 258,000 lower, making a three-month growth in jobs of only 35,000. Most of the job growth was in state and local government jobs.

The jobs figure for July was a paltry 73,000. Now, if that is the estimate, then what will be the revision? Well, Trump did not like the 73,000 number and fired the commissioner of the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Mind you, Trump fired the commissioner, Dr. Erika McEntarfer, and accused her of being a Biden appointee who was manipulating the numbers. Strange, but didn't Trump like the numbers she manipulated (estimated) the previous month? The commissioner should have been fired long ago for not dealing with the poor estimates from the job surveys. As a good friend pointed out, her firing smacks of Bolshevism, with the disgraced commissioner sent to the



By Dr. Harold A. Black
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gulag. Would that be Alligator Alcatraz?

Now, Trump's policies wouldn't have anything to do with the poor job numbers, would they? I can just hear the chorus now howling for the Fed to cut the target Fed funds rate. Indeed, Wall Street traders just increased the odds of a rate cut from 38% to 70%. But wait a minute. The inflation numbers have just come in as well. The Bureau of Economic Analysis reports that in June, the Personal Consumption Expenditures index (used by the Fed) went up at a 3.4% annual rate. Now, when it was 2.0% in May and Trump and the MAGA-verse were beating their chests and shouting to all the doubters (like me), "Where's the inflation?" Well, here it is. Trump won't like these numbers either. The Bureau of Economic Analysis is within the Department of Commerce. Watch out! The director is Vipin Arora. Look for Trump to fire him, too.

Analysts say that June inflation is due to the first signs of price increases due to the tariffs. Just remember that importers and companies are bearing most of the initial increase in cost and only passing a small portion on to consumers. Imagine what the inflation figures will be once the full impact of the tariffs is passed on to the consumers. Domestic producers are starting to charge higher prices for their products as the foreign competitors' goods are priced

even higher. Goods prices went up 4.8% in June compared to 0.9% in May. Durable goods prices went up a whopping 5.7% compared to 0.3% in the previous month. In contrast, prices on services went up only 2.8% compared to 2.5% in May. Again, the tariffs are on goods and not services.

These numbers are bad enough, but are they understated, too? Probably. The Bureau of Labor Statistics has reported that it is missing 15% of the data it normally collects on prices due to staffing shortfalls caused by Trump's firings. This hasn't gone unnoticed, as Democrat senators have questioned the accuracy of the data, implying that the missing data must be due to the Trump administration trying to hide the magnitude of the change in inflation. They wouldn't do that. Would they?

What is the Fed to do? The abysmal jobs numbers say cut, cut, cut! But the inflation numbers say to raise the rate. If the Fed were reluctant to cut before, when it was adopting a wait-and-see approach to whether the tariffs were going to cause inflation, isn't the wait over? What is going to be the Fed's main objective: job growth or inflation control? If the Fed starts a policy of easy money in hopes of stimulating employment – one of Trump's many demands – then what of inflation? Regardless of what action is taken by the Fed, they will be the scapegoat. I bet Jay Powell is thinking that May 2026 won't come fast enough.

City council

Cont. from page 1

residential.

Zero Landview Drive, now RN-1, may be approved for RN-2 single-family residential.

The council is also being asked to recognize the 50th anniversary of the Beck Cultural Exchange Center and approve a Magnolia Avenue purchase for development.

City improvement projects on the agenda include the 2025 Sidewalk

Replacement, traffic management system, Seventeenth Street Bridge repairs, Rock City Park streambank stabilization, Vestal Park streambank work, and Baum Drive stormwater improvements.

The city may also be approved for the issuance of water and electric system bonds.

A \$78,850 contract with PyroShows Inc. is on the agenda for fireworks for three city events.



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Publisher's Position

Leftists Have No Desire To Punish Crime Or Criminals



By Steve Hunley,
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The hand-wringing about the horrific crimes in our nation's capital needs and deserves attention from its local leaders. Instead, it got a group of woke morons who are doing their best to run it into the ground. Spattered with graffiti, riddled with crime, a once beautiful city is slowly becoming a squalid rat's nest of crime and filth. President Trump is exactly right to do something when local leadership has failed on an epic scale. Carjacking has become common, and many of the crimes in Washington, D.C., are committed by teenagers; some 12, 13 and 15 years old. They aren't prosecuted by the district attorney of Washington, D.C., based on the seriousness of their crimes. It is unacceptable. And making a city much safer can be done. Rudy Giuliani did it in New York in the 1990s when New York City had become a dung heap of violence and crime.

Democrats in Washington never talk about the crime, just like none of

them could bring themselves to ever utter Laken Riley's name because she had been murdered by an illegal alien. Instead, they attacked Donald Trump. Why is there no crossing of the aisle and joining hands in a common cause in this country to protect our own citizens? Here is one of the primary reasons: the Democrats and Leftists have no desire to punish crime or criminals. They support and promote policies for illegal aliens instead of their own fellow countrymen. They talk about cooked statistics instead of victims. The only victims they recognize are the perpetrators of crime who receive whatever understanding and compassion they have. And we've seen they have no compassion at all for the families of victims like Laken Riley.

My son had the experience of working as an intern on Capitol Hill for our then-congressman, Jimmy Duncan. I can only imagine the pain and suffering of the parents of the young intern shot and killed in Washington, D.C. Two employees of the Israeli embassy in Washington were gunned down, an event that was cheered by many antisemites here and elsewhere. There was an aide to a member of Congress who was killed in a drive-by shooting.

You get what you vote for, and many big cities are being run by socialists like Brandon Johnson of Chicago. Two candidates who are more likely Communists

than socialists appear to be on the verge of winning the mayor's seat in New York City and Minneapolis. And one government-owned grocery store just had to close recently because of crime. It could no longer afford to operate because of shoplifting and theft.

One of the most destructive policies that the Left not only embraces but actively pursues is deconstructing legitimate law enforcement and promoting protections for criminals through their stupid policies. High crime and defunding the police go hand in hand. Defunding and dismantling law enforcement agencies help and embolden criminals. It makes people less safe on the streets, in the workplace and inside their own homes. And the very same people who promote and perpetuate those policies that cause crime to rise are the very same people who think self-defense is a crime.

The people who suffer the most are frequently the poor and people of color. The white elitists often sit behind the gates of their gated communities as police patrol their neighborhoods. They pretend everything is just hunky dory.

Virtually every Leftist and Democrat yammering about "democracy" has little or no use for it in practicality. Public safety is a right and entitlement if there ever was one. The welfare and safety of the taxpayers is the primary responsibility of the

American government on every level, federal, state and local. As Cicero once stated, "The safety of the people should be the supreme law," and so it should.

Whenever Leftists start to squall about "our democracy is under threat" or "under attack," you can be sure they are trying to pull a fast one, and they couldn't tell the truth if their lives depended on it. It's very much like a serial rapist claiming he is, at heart, a feminist. It is insulting and repugnant. They have no interest in democracy, fairness or even following the law themselves. Allowing our country's Southern border to remain open for three and a half years was a deliberate refusal to follow the laws passed by Congress and lying about it the entire time. And those who perpetuated that lie knew they were lying to you.

Gavin Newsom is squawling about our democracy. Yes, the same Gavin Newsom who dined at the expensive, elite French Laundry restaurant while calling out the National Guard to deal with protesters who objected to his closure of churches during COVID. Newsom was dining out with people during COVID, and he did nothing to deter people from getting together to protest, unless, of course, they happened to be Christians. Clearly, Gavin Newsom has the same idea of "democracy" as did Lenin.

J. B. Pritzker is railing and roiling about "democracy"

in Illinois, which is one of the most gerrymandered states in the country, and he participated in that gerrymandering.

Just like the mayors of our country's big cities, their policies endanger hard-working families and citizens. They cater to illegal aliens and criminals and continue to lie. The number of lies these people have told to our faces is astounding, along with their compatriots in the corporate media.

The district attorney in Washington, D.C., refuses to prosecute teenage criminals for any crime as an adult, no matter how heinous. It becomes a revolving door, putting the criminals back out on the streets with the knowledge that nothing will happen to them, no matter what they do. They are left to prey upon the helpless law-abiding public who go to work every day, pay their taxes and are held in contempt by Leftist elitists.

The crime rate in Washington, D.C., is a testament to the fact that "restorative practices" is a complete failure as public policy. When those elected to prosecute criminals become social workers instead, it makes YOU and your family targets for those same criminals. Criminals who never have to face any accountability or have any reason to fear law enforcement become increasingly violent. It's happening in cities all across the country. When you hear city officials talk about "restorative

practices," defunding police and hiring social workers or violence interrupters, they are putting you and your family in danger and at risk. The members of the District of Columbia City Council have passed policies that make these young criminals almost untouchable. If arrested, the DA doesn't prosecute them, and they are released back out into neighborhoods once again. Rehabilitation is well and good, but it should never be used instead of punishment for a crime, especially a violent one. Wringing our hands about WHY criminals commit crimes and letting them go focuses entirely on the wrong VICTIM. The woman or girl raped is the victim, not the perpetrator. The person beaten to a pulp is the victim, not the perpetrator. The person quite nearly killed, or God forbid, killed is the victim, not the perpetrator. And the families and loved ones of those who have been victimized are also victims, not the perpetrator.

When cities and the neighborhoods inside those cities become unsafe for decent people, the public officials running the city have not only failed, but they have also violated the trust of the people who elected them. It is a dismal failure that puts the lives of people at risk.

A liberal is a conservative who hasn't been mugged yet.

Proposed merit board membership amendment before commission

By Mike Steely
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Kim Frazier, an at-large commissioner who also serves as vice chair of the Knox County Commission, is suggesting some changes to who may serve on the Knox County Sheriff's Office Employees' Merit System Board. Her proposal is on the commission's August 25 agenda for the first of two readings.

The merit board's rules were updated a few years ago to specify who may serve and what the members can and cannot do while serving in order to keep the board "an apolitical civil service system for KCSO employees." The reforms were suggested by At-large Commissioner Larsen Jay, and the current commission chair, Gina Oster, who was then the chair of the merit board.

The reformed regulations detail the qualifications for merit board members.

Frazier takes issue with the qualification denying eligibility to applicants associated with the KCSO. The full qualification reads: "No person shall be eligible to serve as a member on the Merit System Board of Directors if they have previously been employed by the Knox County Sheriff's Office department within the ten (10) calendar years preceding his/her appointment by the Commission, or if any member of such person's immediate family is or becomes employed by the Knox County Sheriff's Office or the Knoxville Police Department at any time during such person's term of service as a member of the board council. For purposes of this section, 'immediate family' shall include spouse, parent, grandparent, siblings, in-laws, or children."

"When ordinances and resolutions are implemented and we have had to sometimes see the actions in practice, we find that they may need to be reassessed, amended or sometimes even eliminated depending upon a variety of reasons," Frazier told The Focus.

"Having now been through several merit board appointments, I have found that this is one of those ordinances that I feel warrants reconsideration.

"Since the implementation of this ordinance, prior to my time of service, I have monitored how these requirements impacted both the number and caliber of candidates applying to serve on Merit. Each time that there has been an opening, I have heard from former KCSO officers and individuals with ties to KPD who are qualified and interested in serving, but are unable due to the eligibility requirements. I simply want to minimize barriers and encourage opportunities for qualified Knox County citizens to serve on county boards and committees. Any time that we can support citizen engagement in county work, I think that we should. I feel that my proposed amendment is a reasonable consideration that maintains the spirit of the original ordinance while providing opportunity for more experienced citizens to serve," Frazier stated.

The Focus reached out to Oster and Jay for their comments on the proposal and Jay replied:

"The special-called reform committee and county commission worked tirelessly to reform the Merit Board in an effort to make it honest, transparent, and free from political influence. The purpose of this unique governmental entity is to serve the officers of Knox County Sheriff's Office, and that should remain its sole function," Jay said.

"Officers should take stock in the protections the merit board and system that affords them oversight without worry of political influence or board members who interpret those rules with a potential political bias.

"The purpose of installing a 10-year window of time where someone who was a previous KCSO employee cannot join

Continue on page 4

Tennessee Attorney General launches Operation Robocall Roundup to crack down on illegal robocalls

NASHVILLE, TN—On Thursday, Attorney General Jonathan Skrmetti launched Operation Robocall Roundup, a bipartisan, multistate effort by the Anti-Robocall Litigation Task Force to crack down on robocalls across the country. Attorney General Skrmetti and 50 attorneys general are sending warning letters to 37 telecommunications companies demanding that they stop routing illegal robocalls through their networks.

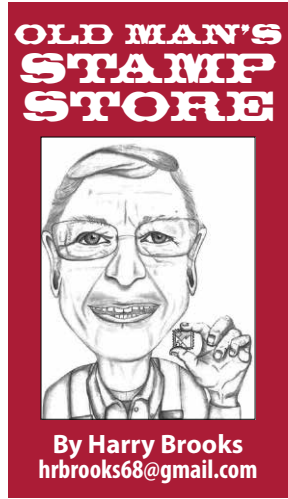
"Tennesseans should be able to answer their phones without being harassed or targeted by scammers," said Attorney General Jonathan Skrmetti. "These companies failed to meet the most basic requirements to prevent illegal robocalls, essentially rolling out the red carpet for bad actors. Our bipartisan coalition is demanding that they clean up their networks and stop facilitating these scams."

The 37 companies have failed to comply with one or more federal anti-robocall requirements, such as responding to government requests to trace illegal calls, registering with required federal databases, or filing mandatory plans outlining how they will reduce illegal robocalls on their network. By disregarding these simple rules, these companies are opening the door for scammers to use their networks to route robocalls to

"Tennesseans should be able to answer their phones without being harassed or targeted by scammers."
- AG Jonathan Skrmetti.

- Tennessee consumers.
- The task force is also notifying 99 other telecommunications companies that accept call traffic from the 37 non-compliant companies, alerting them that they are doing business with bad actors that are not willing to follow federal anti-robocall rules.
- The FCC announced that it will be removing seven of the 37 non-compliant companies from the Robocall Mitigation Database, meaning other telecom companies will no longer be allowed to accept and route any calls from the networks receiving letters.
- In 2022, 51 attorneys general joined forces to create the Anti-Robocall Litigation Task Force. The Task Force investigates and takes legal action against companies responsible for significant volumes of illegal and fraudulent robocall traffic routed into and across the United States.
- The 37 providers receiving warning letters are:
1. Advantage Investors LLC
 2. Alpha Stream
 3. Ananya Traders LLC
 4. Ariyan Khan
 5. BBT Voice Private Limited
 6. Belthrough
 7. BPO VoIP
 8. Collection 3 LLC
 9. Communications and Telephone Systems Co.
 10. Dial Vista Corp.
 11. DigitalOcean, LLC
 12. Dtel Network LLC
 13. End Zone Financial Services
 14. EON Telecom Inc.
 15. Family Communication Inc.
 16. Fiber Flux VOIP
 17. First Tele Communications Inc.
 18. Flow VOIP LLC
 19. Globe Tech Solutions
 20. Higher Response Marketing, Inc.
 21. HK KwaiFong Group Limited
 22. Infinity SIP LLC
 23. Lexico Telecom LTD / Lextel LTD
 24. Mexico IP Phones LLC
 25. Nexusphere VOIP LLC
 26. Pleedex LLC
 27. Quantum Link VOIP LLC
 28. Ringnition
 29. SK Teleco LLC
 30. SkyPulse VOIP
 31. Stacy Newsome LNCC LLC
 32. Telnextrix LLC
 33. Terra Voip
 34. TheVisionConnect
 35. Tiera Enterprises LLC
 36. Voip Torque
 37. Whisl Telecom, LLC / Telconus / Telcon US / Telcon Voice

A New Day Stamp Dealer



I spent a lot of time with my grandparents in Sevier County as a child and teenager. At an early age, I was

introduced to a converted bus called the “rolling store.” The rolling store sales method has disappeared. Most purchases today are made at brick-and-mortar stores or online. A physical stamp store is very rare. Online purchases of stamps do not allow product inspection. On too many occasions, a stamp collector will purchase an item online, but will not receive the exact item pictured. Our largest online stamp store is eBay. Many collectors and dealers use this website to expand their inventory and

collection. A stamp show is another method of purchase and is the most preferred by collectors when obtaining a moderate or high-priced stamp. For a lot of collectors, the stamp show is the opportunity to find the missing items in their collection. I am planning a “rolling stamp store.” I am in the process of equipping my van with the necessary stamp inventory and products for sale. Such activity may require a travel/delivery fee or a minimum purchase requirement. This will set into motion a sales

opportunity of the concept “you all come on down.” This could also entail a visit to my home, where a collector can have a one-on-one purchasing and discovery opportunity. As a dealer, my objective is to sell the stamps in my inventory. I foresee even greater opportunities within the interactions with collectors and the continued learning with other collectors. Another goal in the plans is to develop increased interest and growth in the stamp-collecting community. As it was in my past, so it will be in others’ present

and future growth of stamp collecting and activities. While the market is down, now is the time to grow or begin a collection. A most intriguing activity would be to develop a family stamp collection. The family collection could be concerning a topic, a country or a region. With this family collection concept, the family can spend time together while learning new information about history, geography and postal information. As time passes, the family collection can be passed on to the next generation, and on and on to later generations

to come. The collectors will grow in knowledge, and the collection will grow in size. Whether you are a collector or have an interest in beginning collecting, check out the Knoxville Philatelic Society’s website at www.knoxstamps.com. Come join us at our scheduled meeting on 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 hrbrooks68@gmail.com.

Schaad Road commercial zoning appeal draws controversy

By Mike Steely
Senior Writer
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An appeal to change the zoning on a 1.25-acre property along Schaad Road from agricultural to neighborhood commercial is before the Knox County Commission’s zoning meeting today. Property owner Justin Ford is making the appeal and is represented by Benjamin Mullins. The requested change is drawing several protests and was denied by Knoxville-Knox County Planning in an 11-4 vote. The site, at 5240 Schaad Road, is west of Amherst Elementary School and is surrounded by residentially-zoned homes. The request is to provide limited retail and service uses that would be convenient

to the residential neighborhood with access from Schaad Road. Public comments made on the proposal include the project would damage the neighborhood, hurt property values, increase traffic, create an eyesore, and create disruptions with noise and light pollution. The zoning session will also consider requests to change Zero Ball Road from agricultural to planned residential with up to three dwelling units per acre; change three lots on Hill Road and properties at 6933 Beeler Road, 4925 East Emory Road and 323 Brakebill Road from agricultural to low-density residential; and rezone Zero Asheville Highway from agricultural to planned commercial.

Larsen Jay hosts West Knoxville meet-and-greet

Continued from page 1
Jay is seeking to replace Glenn Jacobs, who is term-limited and the at-large Knox County Commissioner will run against Knox County Board of Education Chair Betsy Henderson in the primary on May 5, 2026. “We have a long road ahead,” Jay said. Tennessee House of Representatives Speaker Cameron Sexton made an appearance to show his support for Jay, who currently

occupies Seat 10 on the Knox County Commission. “To me, it’s an honor to serve you. I never thought I would serve and I never thought that I would have the opportunity to serve as the speaker of the General Assembly,” Sexton said. “I’m the speaker of the House in Tennessee, but I’m not the speaker in my house. I have a wife and kids. “But I know talent when I see it and the talent (Jay) is standing right there. A lot of people

think they can make the tough decisions, and when they get there, they can’t. But Larsen will make the tough decisions and do what’s best for the people of Knox County.” Jay said he was pleased to have Sexton on hand. “It’s great to have the speaker of the House here and his approach, his common sense conservatism,” Jay said.

Proposed merit board amendment

Continued from page 3
the board is meant to ensure there can be no overlap with any elected sheriff (who is term-limited after eight years). Having this extended timeframe to move from a KCSO employee to a potential

merit board member helps guarantee that a sitting member of the board isn’t so entrenched to one sheriff’s administration that they can’t administer judgment in a fair and impartial manner to any officer. Jay said that strong candidates

have continued to apply to open merit board positions following the reforms and that he will oppose cutting the 10-year timeframe. Chairwoman Gina Oster did not respond to The Focus request for comment.

“I get to be her daughter again —not just her caregiver.



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Consequential

I was 12 years old when I first visited Washington, D.C. I was a sixth grader then and part of my elementary school's safety patrol trip. I remember little of that experience except climbing the 897 steps of the Washington Monument. To encourage his somewhat chubby son to exercise, my Dad promised me a dollar bill for every ascent of the national obelisk. I managed it once.

Since then, I've visited our nation's capital many times to enjoy the museums and the historic, beautiful architecture. And once I played in a junior ice hockey tournament in the neighboring Fairfax, Virginia. But I wouldn't go near Washington now because of the crime. However, after listening to President Trump's Liberation Day for D.C. news conference last week, I might reconsider.

Dana Perino is a panel member on the FOX Network show "The Five."

Perino recently stated that she welcomed her move to New York City to escape the crime and danger of Washington, D.C. More dramatically, a young member of the DOGE team (aka Big Balls) was severely beaten while protecting his girlfriend in an attempted carjacking in Washington by a group of juveniles. Apparently, kids are used by gangs because if caught, they won't be held accountable. As a result, juvenile carjacking is rampant, and even armed robbery or shooting someone is referred to Family Court.

Some years ago, an Afghan refugee, who had worked with Americans in Afghanistan, escaped the Taliban and was working for Lyft in D.C. when he was murdered by a 14-year-old. The murderer was given a 3-year sentence in the juvenile system because the judge thought the 1.5-year sentence was too little. Perhaps the Lyft driver would have been safer in

Afghanistan.

Of course, these are sensationalized reports, but an ABC news anchor, Kyra Phillips, announced on air that she had been accosted and described "Washington is scary as Hell."

It's hard to know what is factual because crime statistics are politicized and allegedly manipulated. Most recently, the District of Columbia police union stated that the Metropolitan Police Department has falsified crime statistics to report lower crime rates. I don't know the truth, but in surveying the liberal media, it appears that Democrats have found another "20% issue" to support, whereas 80% of Americans are in favor of anti-crime measures.

Washington, D.C., is a federal city, but, since Congress's 1973 District of Columbia Home Rule Act, it has been run by local politicians and shares the ills of many big cities, especially the ones run by liberal Democrats. President Trump announced Liberation Day for Washington, D.C., last week, vowing to address his campaign promise to fix the crime situation in the Capitol. Congress gave presidents the power to do this on a short-term basis, but if the necessity continues, relevant Congressional Committees

must be notified and the need explained before granting the president more time to control crime.

In the press conference, the president was asked if other crime-ridden big cities might also be subject to federal intervention. Washington, D.C., is different because it is a federal city. However, the implication is that other crime-ridden cities "should learn" from the example of Washington.

Democrats whined that comprehensive immigration reform was necessary to fix the broken border. Trump proved that all America needed was a president to enforce the law. And in short order, Trump stopped the illegal invasion and is now arresting criminal aliens and deporting them. (Another issue that 80% of Americans support and Democrats oppose.)

One might ask why Democrats oppose such logical and common-sense policies. The answer is that the Democrats need voters to maintain power. Remember, the 2020 census counted illegals along with citizens, and population determines Congressional representation.

Furthermore, Democrats oppose voter ID, which largely curtails illegal voting. (Another 20% Democrat policy.) It's all about power. Beto

O'Rourke, the cicada-like Democrat who periodically surfaces to make noise, recently said "Who cares about the [effing] rules right now?"

(Sidebar for men: Have you ever been in conversation with a group of women and all of a sudden, they transition to another subject without a bridging segue and never missing a beat, while the guys are shaking their heads and lost in transition? I believe men are more linear in thought.)

As an example of the absence of a segue in this essay, my wife, Becky, avers that I'm easy on clothes and possessions. She may be right because I went to the eye doctor last week and needed a new prescription lens which is expensive. However, the frames that I've been using since 2013 were still in good shape, so I won't have to double the cost with new frames. And I won't have to change my picture at the top of this column!

Additionally, I'm not hip and don't possess any fashionable T-shirts. And the ones I have seem to hang around for a long time. Last week, I was rummaging through a drawer for a night shirt and found T-shirts from mission trips to Guatemala and ski trips in Colorado from the 80s and 90s. I even found a T-shirt emblazoned with the Trump-Pence logo.

If you take care of what you have, it may last long enough for Mike Pence to admit that he was wrong about President Trump.

Alert: a segue is in operation!

I'm glad that Mike Pence is man enough to admit his mistake regarding the most consequential president since Reagan, FDR and perhaps Lincoln and Washington. I know liberal heads are exploding right now, but if you don't have TDS, you can't deny that President Trump fixed the border crisis almost overnight. And he's dealing with criminal aliens, continuing historic tax cuts, curbing the regulatory state, promoting energy production, rebalancing international trade and securing peace deals all over the world with his "commercial diplomacy." Trump's policies are refurbishing America's industrial base and he is resetting America's geopolitical stance in the world. He's even affecting culture through the Kennedy Center.

Perhaps we are leaving Biden's dark age and entering President Trump's golden age. His common-sense America First agenda is good for us and the world. I believe President Trump's successes have made his presidency one of the most consequential. You decide.

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

Knox Heritage names historic Fragile and Fading sites

By Mike Steely
Senior Writer
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Standing in the median strip of Middlebrook Pike is the 1845 Knott-York House. Before its sale in March of this year, it remained under the same family ownership for 180 years. The two-story home was constructed of locally-sourced brick and shows the resilience and character of early Knox County.

Knox Heritage released its annual Fragile & Fading List of historic sites last week and noted that the construction of a convenience store is proposed near the historic house. The old vacant home is listed as "Fading Fast," although it does have a historic zoning

overlay and is protected from demolition.

Also designated as "Fading Fast" are the iconic JFG neon signs at West Jackson Avenue and formerly at the Gay Street Bridge. The company, noted for its coffee, is owned by Reily Foods, which is working with Knox Heritage, Allen Sign Company, and the city to restore the West Jackson sign and find a new location for the one in storage.

Located at 2921 North Broadway, the Paul Howard House was the home of two city council members, a city manager and a Knox County Trustee. Built in 1910, it was designed by architect Charles Hayes

Continue on page 2



Leaders with Knox Heritage and the Knoxville Botanical Garden and Arboretum gather at the Howell House on the grounds of the garden after unveiling the 2025 Fragile & Fading list Aug. 12. Pictured from left, front row, Nissa Dahlin-Brown, Knoxville Botanical Garden board; Christine Cloninger, executive director of Knox Heritage; and Whitney Manahan, board president for Knox Heritage. Pictured from left, back row: Jennifer Montgomery, Jimmy Ryan and Bridget Mounger, Knox Heritage board; and Sharon Moore, executive director of Knoxville Botanical Garden and Arboretum. The annual Fragile & Fading List identifies and prioritizes local properties, landmarks and neighborhoods in need of preservation strategies to create awareness and strengthen community support to save these historic places from being lost forever. Photo courtesy of Knox Heritage.

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Wisdom from a Wounded Tongue

“Once you burn your tongue on hot miso soup, you blow even on the cold sushi.” These words are from Hiroo Onoda, Japan’s most famous World War II holdout. These words are more than a colorful proverb. They capture a truth we all know but don’t always practice: past pain should lead to present wisdom. Onoda learned to be cautious from experience, and that caution led him to fight a one-man war for three decades. Living off the land and evading capture, this Japanese Imperial Army intelligence officer spent 29 years fighting a war that was long over. In the 1980s, he established the Onoda Nature School to teach children about the values of life. He had a knack for the ordinary and could turn everyday objects into life lessons. Whether we’re talking about hot soup or costly mistakes, the lesson is the same: if we don’t let the past teach us, we’re doomed to relive it.

History is indeed a patient teacher, and the lessons we can learn from it echo through time if we are willing to listen. Every day, people choose to ignore the lessons, and the result is that many repeat the same mistakes that brought so much pain and ruin. One of my favorite methods of reading and studying the Bible is to step into the lives of its people and walk with them through their choices, struggles, actions and triumphs. I want to examine their victories and learn how to cultivate humility. Watch their failures and rebellions and take note of what I should avoid. Look to their obedience so that I can discover how to follow. David’s courage inspires me, but his moral failures warn me. Peter was bold, and those moments give me great motivation, but his denial of Christ sobers me to guard my own heart. Even the nameless and faceless characters of the Bible who slide through in obscurity have so much that we can learn from them, positively and negatively. These stories are not preserved for history alone, but as mirrors and maps of what we should and shouldn’t do and where we should and shouldn’t go.

Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 10:11 about Israel’s wilderness failures, “Now all these things happened unto them for examples: and they are written for our admonition.” The stories of the Bible serve to counsel us and caution us. Their disobedience, complaining and compromise were like burns on the tongue of a nation, but too often, they walked right back into the fire. God calls us to something better: to humbly remember, to repent and to walk in wisdom so we don’t repeat the same errors. And when we ignore the lessons, we openly invite the same consequences.

Whether it’s personal mistakes, family patterns or even cultural sins that have been repeated through history, the call is the same: Learn. Repent. Change. Learning means that we take the first step and face the truth of what happened. We will never grow if we refuse to look back with an honest heart. Repenting is when we truly exercise heart change. It’s agreeing with God, humbling ourselves to admit that we made a mistake and sinned, and then choosing to walk in obedience. The action of repentance is called change. It’s adjusting decisions, habits and direction so that we don’t ‘burn our tongue again.’

Onoda offered the world a simple parable that contains a powerful truth. Learn, get better and don’t make the same mistakes. We can’t erase the past, but we can redeem the present by walking in God’s truth. If we humble ourselves enough to remember where we’ve been, we can live in such a way that we can drastically minimize the consequences of our decisions the hard way in the future.



By Justin Pratt,
Clear Springs Baptist
Church Senior Pastor



The JFG sign on 200 W. Jackson Ave. is on the Fading Fast list. Photo courtesy of Knox Heritage.

Knox Heritage

Cont. from page 1

on what was then known as Dixie Highway. Knox Heritage seeks to preserve the Fading Fast property.

The Lord Lindsey at 615 West Hill Avenue was built in 1901 by businessman and civic leader A. Percy Lockett. The home was purchased by the First Church of Christ, Scientist, in 1926 and renovated for their church services. It later became a restaurant and is now abandoned. Knox Heritage is promoting it for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places.

Properties on the “Still Fragile” list include the West View Cemetery District on Keith Avenue, Knoxville College at 901 Knoxville College Drive, and Standard Knitting

Mill at 1400 Washington Avenue.

Sites designated as “Moving Forward” are the Howell House at Knoxville Botanical Gardens and the Giffin School at 1834 Beech Street.

Maplehurst Park at 814 West Hill Avenue and the Alfred Buffat House/The Maples at 1717 Love Creek Road are on the “Ones to Watch” list.

Knox Heritage was formed in 1974 when the Bijou Theatre was at risk of becoming a parking lot. Anyone can contribute to the Vintage Properties Fund to help restore important blighted properties. More information on the organization’s preservation efforts is available at knoxheritage.org.



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New School Year Excitement

Life settled back to a normal state this past week. Children returned to school, some excited for a new adventure and some dreading the demands of classes. Either way, thirteen



By Joe Rector
joerector@comcast.net

years of schooling are inevitable for most young people. We older humans only had twelve years since kindergarten was something only rich folks provided for their children. I’m no longer associated as a student or teacher with school, but I remember how excited I always was for the beginning of a new school year.

Daddy would drive the family to West Haven, where mother and we three boys hopped on a bus. We’d ride to downtown Knoxville to shop for school clothes. During that time, no malls were around. The major department stores were located on Gay Street. At some point, Miller’s bought a storefront on Henley Street, so we could shop from both of the company’s buildings.

Jim and I always got a couple of pairs of jeans. Our eating habits dictated that we wear “husky” jeans, a kinder way of saying fat-boy jeans. Mother would buy us a shirt or two, and that was it. She was a phenomenal seamstress and made us shirts for school.

The only other thing we received in the way of

clothing was a new pair of orthopedic shoes. They looked like Frankenstein clodhoppers, and classmates rarely missed chances to make fun of our ugly footwear.

More excitement than new clothes were the school supplies that we bought. I never had a Trapper Keeper, the notebook that was cool. Instead, we got the Blue Horse notebook and a pack of paper. If we were lucky, Mother would splurge and buy us dividers that we could use for different classes.

The official start to the school year always fell on the day after Labor Day. We woke up early to put on new clothes and shoes. Then we made sure all of our new supplies were neatly stacked together. For the first few years, our Aunt Nellie drove Mother, a new teacher, and us to school, along with our cousins. She had no positive feelings for Mother, and some mornings included a tense ride to Ball Camp Elementary.

That same excitement for the first day of school was colored by fear when freshman year arrived. We, in the eighth grade, had heard the horror stories of the initiation tactics used by seniors. None of us wanted to push a penny with our noses down the front hall or be sent looking for a sky hook. Most feared of all was a gang of senior

boys taking a freshman to Beaver Creek, which ran behind the school, and tossing the poor soul into the water.

Still, we managed to keep a low profile for the first few days and avoid as much contact as possible with any upperclassmen. Our small groups traveled campus together. Classes were completely different since we had to find classrooms and arrive on time for each session. The mothering ended with the beginning of high school.

Clothing choices had changed for secondary school. Jeans weren’t as popular. Boys wore slacks and collared shirts. Girls constantly searched for that little loop of cloth on the back of those shirts and snipped them for collection, much like Native Americans supposedly collected scalps years ago. No one wore tennis shoes to school. Loafers or stylish shoes were the fad, except for some of us who still wore clodhoppers. Socks were required, and any boy who chose not to wear them faced being sent home for the day.

Girls had ridiculous clothing, although boys loved the choices. Females weren’t allowed to wear pants at school. So, they put on pantyhose and then slipped into miniskirts that barely covered the backsides. For young males, it was a feast for the eyes.

Hair styles changed too. Longer locks were a must for boys, and girls also

grew hair out so they could then straighten the stuff with an iron and an ironing board. Sideburns were frowned upon, so every boy who could grew them just to test the patience of the administration.

The new school year was always a big hit for us back then. We would see once again friends who’d been absent in our lives for the summer. Diving into a new subject and textbook was also done with the determination to do better than the year before.

The truth is that within a couple of weeks, we were over the newness of school. Too many of us fell into bored states and looked for other things to occupy our time. Classes were excruciatingly dull or difficult, and the reading material was unbearable. Textbooks stayed in lockers for the remainder of the year. Few notes were taken. The results from such negligence were bad grades that led to groundings. It was at those times that we once again prayed for summer break and freedom from what had just so recently been something about which to be excited.

It’s coming before too long, parents, so be prepared for the change in attitudes, especially in your teenagers. I’m sure glad those school days are over for me.

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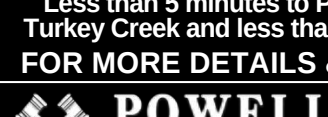


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Our Congressman Richard W. Austin

Pages from the Past



By Ray Hill
rayhill865@gmail.com

For a decade, the congressman from Tennessee's Second Congressional District was Richard W. Austin. Lean of frame, clean-shaven with piercing eyes and a bald pate, R. W. Austin counted his friends by the thousands. Indeed, when the former congressman died, the Knoxville Sentinel opined, "Dick Austin never deserted a friend, nor neglected an opportunity to help the deserving. He was gentle and kind."

Born on August 26, 1857, in Decatur, Alabama, Richard W. Austin was sent by his parents to school in Loudon County, Tennessee. Austin went on to attend the University of Tennessee. Austin quickly became interested in politics and became a clerk at the post office through Congressman Leonidas C. Houk. Austin was a loyal supporter of the congressman, and his clerkship had been a reward for his faithful support. Eventually, fellow Republicans gathered together and put Dick Austin in charge of the Knoxville Chronicle, which was Knoxville's Republican newspaper. Serving as an editor and the business manager of the news daily, Austin was called away by Congressman Houk, who asked him to work as his private secretary. That position would be more akin today to that of chief of staff. Houk appointed Austin as an assistant doorkeeper for the House Chamber. Everywhere he went, Dick Austin made new friends. Affable, courteous and thoughtful, Austin always made a good impression upon those whom he met.

When Congressman Leonidas Houk died suddenly after mistakenly drinking poison, Austin was one of the first to suggest that the congressional vacancy be filled by Houk's son, John. John Houk was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1892. When the congressman sought a second term in 1894, he called on

Richard Austin to serve as his campaign manager once again. That year, John Houk encountered stiff opposition from Henry Gibson, who was a judge of the Knox County Chancery Court. The Houk faction was astonished when John lost the GOP nomination for Congress to Judge Gibson. The defeat was so shattering, it sent Richard Austin back to Alabama, where he practiced law in the city of his birth, Decatur. Austin's interest in politics and government never abated, and he became the Republican nominee against Congressman Joseph Wheeler. "Fighting Joe" Wheeler was no mere congressman, having been

a Confederate cavalry general during the Civil War and was very popular with his constituency. Dick Austin ran a game campaign but lost the election.

One wonders if Dick Austin decided to leave Alabama once again after realizing there was scant possibility of any kind of political future in the Yellowhammer State. By 1896, Austin had returned to Knoxville to work with Charles J. Allison on the presidential campaign of William McKinley, the GOP nominee. Allison was a cousin of the Ohio governor. Apparently, Austin's hard work and political astuteness did not escape the attention of McKinley's meticulous national campaign manager, Mark Hanna, nor that of the candidate himself. Once William McKinley defeated William Jennings Bryan, Richard W. Austin was designated to serve as U.S. Marshal for the Eastern District of Tennessee. When Dick Austin returned home to Knoxville with his commission as marshal in hand, he "was given an ovation and demonstration the like of which no other political appointee has received." Awaiting him at the Southern Railway station were a delegation of Knoxville's leading businessmen, a large delegation of Republicans and not a few Democrats, and a brass band. Seated in the lead automobile, Richard W. Austin was paraded up Gay Street.

Dick Austin continued to serve as U.S. Marshal until 1906, when President Theodore Roosevelt offered Austin the post as the U.S. Consul at Glasgow, Scotland. Austin accepted the offer with alacrity and set sail for Scotland. Although he enjoyed and was grateful for his post, Dick Austin disliked being away from the United States and still yearned for the opportunity to serve in Congress. Austin resigned as consul in 1907 and came back home to Knoxville.

Richard W. Austin promptly announced his candidacy for the U.S. House of Representatives in 1908. The incumbent was Nathan W. Hale. Austin ran a very aggressive campaign in an age before electronic and social media. Austin relied upon personal contact and coverage of the campaign by local newspapers. Austin upset Hale inside the Republican primary to become the GOP nominee. At least one Knoxville newspaper thought Austin's primary victory was less a rejection of Hale than a personal recognition by the people of Tennessee's Second Congressional District of Dick Austin.

Almost immediately,



PHOTO COURTESY THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS.

Congressman Richard W. Austin in Washington, D.C., circa 1911.

Dick Austin demonstrated his independence from the Republican leadership in the House, being the only GOP congressman to vote against the Payne Tariff Bill in 1909. When asked for an explanation of his vote, Austin replied, "My people sent me to Congress to conserve their interests, and I told them I would do my best. I could not, therefore, conscientiously vote to reduce the protection they now have on coal and iron and lumber. I am a Republican, and expect to remain one, but I've understood that protection was a cardinal doctrine of the party. This being true, I could not see my way clear to support a bill that is injurious to leading interests of the South, and of my own state in particular."

When Austin sought reelection in 1910, he faced his predecessor once again inside the Republican primary. Nathan Hale sought to vindicate his previous loss and return to the House. Dick Austin carried every county in the Second Congressional District except for Jefferson, where Nathan Hale prevailed. When the election returns indicated Austin would beat former Congressman Hale, the incumbent readily acknowledged that while the primary campaign had been relatively short, it had also been "a very hard and strenuous one."

Dick Austin had seemed to have entrenched himself as congressman from Tennessee's Second District. Austin swept aside a challenge in the GOP primary by John Jennings, who was later elected to Congress in 1939. Austin had no primary opponents in the 1914 and 1916 elections.

In 1918, Austin faced the most formidable opponent in the Republican primary since he beat Congressman Nathan Hale a decade earlier. James Willis Taylor had been born in Union County and made his home in Campbell County, where he lived in LaFollette, where he had served as both postmaster and mayor. In 1913, Governor

Ben W. Hooper appointed Taylor to serve as the Tennessee Commissioner of Insurance, a post he held until 1915. J. Will Taylor then became the chairman of Tennessee's State Republican Executive Committee until 1918. Taylor was an expert gladhander, had a large acquaintanceship throughout the Second District, and was an able speaker. "Hillbilly Bill" Taylor set up his Knoxville headquarters in the Empire Building downtown.

Congressman Richard W. Austin was ailing, as he suffered from serious gallbladder trouble, yet was determined to keep his seat in the House. Austin made a formal announcement of his candidacy on June 15, 1918. With the United States engaged in the bloody First World War, Austin decided to remain at his own post of duty in Washington, D.C. Issuing a statement taking issue with Taylor's criticism of his having been born in Alabama, Austin scoffed at "Hillbilly Bill's" notion that he should be nominated as he was a native of Tennessee. "I was a resident and voter in the Second District before Mr. Taylor saw the light of day, and married in Tennessee the year after his birth," Austin sniffed.

As to J. Will Taylor's accusation that Austin had no home in the district, the congressman replied that he paid real estate taxes in Knoxville and had purchased four homes in Knox County. Austin said his family lived with him in Washington while Congress was in session, but that he and his family returned to Knoxville when the House was not in session. J. Will Taylor had

also urged "rotation" in office, a notion he abandoned after being elected to Congress himself. As did every incumbent, Richard Austin pointed to his experience in office and seniority. Austin denounced Taylor as a "chronic office seeker."

As would frequently be the case during his twenty years in Congress, Taylor's honesty was challenged by his opponent. Congressman Austin noted that while Taylor had been postmaster of the LaFollette post office, it had been investigated "more times than any office in the state, on account of negligence, mistakes, shortage, irregularities ... " and the like.

Congressman Austin also pounded home J. Will Taylor's declaration he had no bank account. While that was not uncommon in 1918, it would have been quite unusual for a person of Taylor's stature to have no bank account of any kind. Austin charged that Taylor had told a post office inspector a decade earlier he "was worth \$10,000" and "recently boasted that he had \$10,000 in a LaFollette bank and \$15,000 in a Knoxville bank." That would be more than \$750,000 today.

Tennessee at the time was a solidly Democratic state outside of the First and Second Congressional districts; with statewide office closed to Republican candidates, reaching Congress was about the highest aspiration for any Tennessee Republican, and the competition for the two congressional seats was frequently fierce. So, too, was the infighting for the lesser offices to be distributed when the Republicans occupied the White House and doled out the federal

patronage. Dick Austin had never failed to take a side and had a bitter rivalry with his fellow congressman from Tennessee's First District, Sam Sells. Congressman Sells did all he could to smooth the path for J. Will Taylor to remove Dick Austin from the House. Austin and Taylor met in at least two joint debates where new accusations were made, denied and hot words were flung at one another. Taylor charged Austin with being a disturbing influence inside Tennessee's Republican Party. Evidently, a number of Republicans agreed with "Hillbilly Bill," and Austin lost every county in the Second District except for Hamblen, which Austin won by 37 votes.

With defeat, Dick Austin looked to the future. Austin planned to practice law, forming a partnership with former Congressman William E. Humphrey of Washington State. The two attracted enough interest in their venture to estimate they would make more than twice what they had earned as congressmen. Austin eagerly anticipated beginning the new venture and returning to Knoxville, where he planned to open a local office. Austin's plans were derailed by peritonitis, and although doctors were summoned, there was little they could do for the former congressman.

A parade of official Washington trooped to the congressman's home to give their well-wishes for his speedy recovery. Among the callers was Senator John Shafroth of Colorado, who had engaged in a lively political tug-of-war over the question of independence for the Philippines. The two disagreed completely, but their disagreement did not affect their friendship. In fact, Senator Shafroth profoundly admired Dick Austin and, when told of the congressman's death, his big frame shook with the sobs of his sorrow.

Even government clerks took a moment to call the Austin home to inquire about the congressman. Austin had once been a clerk himself and had always been known for his thoughtfulness and kindness to those working around him.

On a beautiful Easter morning in April 1919, Austin was surrounded by his family, his wife, son and daughter. Someone made mention of a topic in which the former congressman had an interest, and Austin smiled, closed his eyes and died.

Austin's body was sent back to Knoxville from Washington, D.C., where he sleeps today.

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The Knoxville Vet Center is proud to announce its 2nd Annual Veteran Resource Fair, taking place on Wednesday, August 20, 2025, from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the Knoxville Vet Center, 1645 Downtown West Blvd #28,

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This free event will bring together over 25 local and regional organizations dedicated to serving veterans, service members, and their families. Attendees will have the opportunity to connect with resources

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It's high school football time again!

By Steve Williams

High schools need their sports and for many years football seems to be king in the Knoxville area and surrounding counties. Maybe it's the buzz of the fans and the sound of the bands and cheerleaders as you near the stadium that make it special. Mother Nature gets involved too – from the hot summer days to the colorful autumn leaves followed by the cold nights in November. In addition to the marching bands, with their drum major, majorettes and flag girls, there are dance teams and the flag corps that presents Old Glory and many more that are part of the prep football scene.



Austin-East's band practices on July 23. Football's first day to practice was July 28. One of the favorite songs the Austin-East band plays is 'I'm So Glad I Go to A-E.' Although the Roadrunners' band doesn't have a large number of members, they are very energetic and fun to watch.

Hydration is so important in summer football practices. One of the things Samantha Borchmann does is keep the water flowing and the jugs filled. Samantha is a UT student and wants to be an Athletic Trainer.

Karns' cheerleaders try to get their fans and the Beavers cranked up for the start of the 12-minute quarter against Fulton in the KOC High School Kick-Off Classic Thursday at Central. Photos by Steve Williams.



KOC KICK-OFF CLASSIC 2025 Halls, Fulton and Central prevail on opening night

By Steve Williams

A message came in from Tracy Miller-Davis of the Knox County Schools' athletics office last Wednesday night that the KOC High School Kick-Off Classic had to be moved from Halls to Central for Thursday night's games. Miller-Davis wasn't sure what had caused the change. She only knew a lot of people had to be contacted in a short period of time. It all worked out. There were not too many people that didn't get the message. The three 12-minute quarters of action were played at Dan Y. Boring Stadium and Joel Helton Field. On the way out, Marion Quinn of the KCS Athletics Department said there was

a "maintenance problem in the field" at Halls. There was nothing wrong with Halls' football team Thursday night as Coach Brent Hughes' big and talented Red Devils crushed Carter 21-0 in their quarter of play. It was a good tune-up for this Thursday's season opening match-up with Oak Ridge at Blankenship Field. Early in the contest, Halls' Travis Brasfield blew up the Carter quarterback, forcing a fumble at the Hornets' 18-yard line that led to the Red Devils' first touchdown. Carter moved (punted) the ball on its next possession and Halls got it back at midfield. Talented wide receiver Brody Rogers snagged a long pass for a first down at the Hornets'

24. Ezra Hastings punched it in from the 4 and Parker Crittenden kicked his second PAT to boost the lead to 14-0 midway into the quarter. With reserves in the game, Halls tacked on its third TD with 58 seconds left. The first quarter matched Fulton and Karns. The Falcons dominated the time of possession as the Beavers lost a fumble on their first possession. Mason Lawrence recovered the ball at the Karns 41. Fulton quarterback Rejuan Womble had runs of 19 and 7 yards to get his team into scoring range. John Whittington plowed over from the 2 with 2:11 on the clock to put the Continue on page 4



PHOTO BY JOHN VALENTINE

Central tight end Brayden Starnes (85) and wide receiver JJ Smith (2) celebrate Starnes' 18-yard touchdown catch that gave the Bobcats a 7-0 lead over Gibbs in the KOC Kick-Off Classic Thursday night.

| |
|--|
| HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL WEEK 1 SCHEDULE (Kickoffs at 7 unless noted) |
| Thursday Halls at Oak Ridge |
| Friday Concord Christian at CAK Seymour at G-P Karns at Hardin Valley Dobyns-Bennett at Central Upperman at Webb Anderson Co. at Powell A-E at South-Doyle Gibbs at Union County Catholic at Riverdale |
| Saturday Bearden at West Carter at Northview Fulton at Macon Co. Sevier Co. vs. Farragut at Carson-Newman |

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When Tennessee was building a new press box in 1962, Gen. Bob Neyland laid down a challenge to media covering the Vols. “We’re

going to build the best press box in the country,” he said. “We hope it will improve the writing that’s done there.”

That was just one of a number of famous quotations that have helped define the history of Tennessee athletics, particularly in the football program.

In November 1963, in the midst of the Vol search for a head football coach, Tennessee trustee and athletics board member Tom Elam asked coaching candidate Doug Dickey how to change from the single-wing to the “T” formation. Dickey had a quick and to-the-point three-word answer: “Get a quarterback.”

After the 1956 Tennessee-Georgia Tech game, writers asked Vol head coach Bowden Wyatt why Tech head coach Bobby Dodd punted on

fourth-and-4 at the Vol 29 instead of going for it. Wyatt, like Dodd, a star player under Gen. Neyland, said: “Because he wouldn’t have made it.”

After meeting and eventually signing offensive linemen Bob Johnson and John Boynton, offensive linemen in the 6-3, 240-pound range, in late 1963 or early 1964, Dickey was more than pleasantly surprised: “This has to be the greatest job in the world if the first two guys I see look like that.” Both became three-year starters.

When Bob Woodruff and UCLA athletics director J. D. Morgan were discussing the site of the 1965 game, Woodruff suggested playing at the new stadium in Memphis, terming it a “neutral site.” Morgan was obviously not dazzled, saying, “Playing Tennessee in Memphis is like playing Notre Dame in Rome.” Woodruff always smiled heartily when recounting this story. The game did end up being played in the Bluff City.

Lester McClain had a clear-cut thought process about being the first African-American football player at Tennessee: “There was a time you

question whether you want to pack your bags and go home. I would be lying if I said I never considered that. But I just couldn’t. I knew the next day the headlines would read, ‘Lester McClain, first black athlete, quits U. T.’”

Condredge Holloway knew whereof he spoke when he became the first African-American quarterback at Tennessee and in the SEC. “I never went out thinking I was Martin Luther King or anything like that. I went out to do my job and play football. That was as much self-survival as anything.”

Here’s what Vol cornerback Conrad Graham said in 1972 after a 14-0 win at Georgia. “I don’t know how well we played, but when the game was over, the other side didn’t have any.”

Talk about hyperbole. When U.T. Chancellor Jack Reese introduced John Majors on Dec. 3, 1976, as Tennessee’s new head coach, Jack’s opening remarks began, “After an extensive nationwide search ...” That was all he needed to say. Majors, on his way to a national championship at Pittsburgh, was the “people’s choice,” much the way Wyatt had

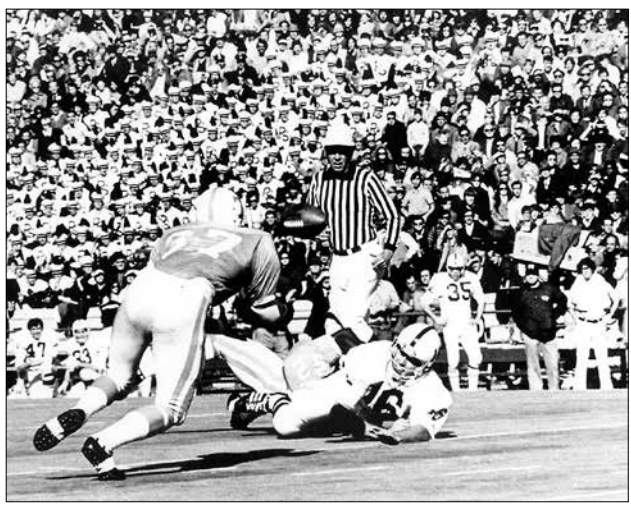
been in 1955 before John’s junior season at Tennessee.

“It is enough for longtime residents of this community to say he was a Majors.” That’s what Haywood Harris wrote about the death of John’s brother, Bill Majors, in October 1965. That sentiment could equally have applied to any member of the Majors family.

When Neyland moved Gus Manning from Sports Information Director to Business Manager in 1960, he told Gus to do a “nationwide search” for his replacement. Gus had a ready and convenient answer. “I’ll go downstairs and see if Haywood is still in my office,” he said.

There was another media conference on March 5, 1997, when nearly everybody expected Peyton Manning to announce he was going pro. This time, the conventional wisdom was wrong.

“I made up my mind, and I don’t ever expect to look back,” said Peyton. “I’m going to stay at the University of Tennessee.” That brought a torrent of applause from the normally subdued Tennessee media conference attendees.



Conrad Graham (37) had a key fumble recovery and touchdown run in the 1971 Penn State game.

When John Ward announced in June 1998 that he was retiring from the Vol Network, he was succinct as always. “I have a prepared statement, and I’m going to read it. Verbatim.” There was a brief silence to let the words sink in.

“It’s time.” “They need to give it to Henry,” Ward said on the Vol Network after the Vols, trailing 24-22 late in the 1998 Arkansas game, recovered a fumble on the Arkansas 43. Travis Henry carried the ball five times for the requisite 43 yards and the winning score, and the Vols won on their way to the BCS national championship.

When Bill Battle was asked about “class” after his final win at Tennessee, a 13-10 triumph over

Vanderbilt in November 1976, his response was classic: “Class is when they run you out of town and make you look like you’re leading the parade.”

Finally, there’s nothing like a little self-promotion, a definite sense of self-confidence and self-worth.

Former offensive guard Don Denbo (1968-70) was watching practice one day when someone asked how many of his 1966-67 recruiting class colleagues could have played as freshmen. After a significant pause, Don came up with a right-to-the-point answer. “Other than me?”

These questions and the resulting answers have been passed down through the years and have become an integral part of Tennessee football legend.

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL PREVIEW

Fulton running back Jamil Smith tries to break away from Karns linebacker Eli Haugstad in the Falcons’ 6-0 win over the Beavers in the KOC Kick-Off Classic Thursday night. Photo by John Valentine.



Fulton turns to young talent

By David Klein

Fulton High School graduated 20 players last year and will have a lot of new faces this year. The Falcons return three offensive starters and four defensive starters. Second-year Head Coach Justin Long said he was excited about the new season.

One of the returning offensive starters, Rejuan Womble, played some wildcat quarterback last season but will be the full-time quarterback this season. Womble was Fulton’s second leading rusher last season.

“He’s got some leadership qualities I like,” Long said. “We’re going to try to feature him and let him be like a point guard and go make plays for us,” Long added.

Womble said, “Last year I played backup quarterback. My main focus has been on my accuracy, my head and mechanics,” he added, about how he has worked in the offseason to improve.

Offensively, the Falcons like to run a spread formation. Long said, “We are trying to give opposing teams multiple looks, get

| FALCONS 2025 | | | |
|-----------------|---------|-----------|-----------------------|
| Sat | Aug. 23 | 7:00 p.m. | at Macon County |
| Fri | Aug. 29 | 7:00 p.m. | Knox Central |
| Fri | Sep. 5 | 7:00 p.m. | at Anderson Co. (R) |
| Fri | Sep. 12 | 7:00 p.m. | at Gatlinburg-Pittman |
| Fri | Sep. 19 | 7:00 p.m. | Heritage (R) |
| Fri | Sep. 26 | 7:00 p.m. | Alcoa (R) |
| Fri | Oct. 3 | 7:00 p.m. | at Carter (R) |
| Fri | Oct. 17 | 7:00 p.m. | Gibbs (R) |
| Fri | Oct. 24 | 7:00 p.m. | at Union County (R) |
| Thu | Oct. 30 | 7:00 p.m. | South-Doyle (R) |
| (R)=Region game | | | |

our athletes in space and try to make plays.”

Defensive leaders this season will be Noah Lyons, Cayden Turner, and Dereon Bonner, according to Long. Fulton runs a 3-4 defense.

Alcoa joins Region 2-4A this year and the division will go from five teams to eight teams. Alcoa has won the last 10 straight titles in 3A. “I’m excited,” Long said. “It makes everybody better. It forces everybody to get better. Competition, we embrace it. Let’s go out and get to work.”

Besides Alcoa, Anderson County is another top-notch team. “Just a quality program,” Long said. “They’ve got quality players and coaches. “I think our guys like competition. Our guys look forward to the challenge. It’s what high

school football is all about.”

Long is also excited for the kicking game this season. “Our kicker will be back this year,” Long said. “He’s super talented. I think we can get him going this year.”

Fulton doesn’t have a theme just yet for the season, per se, but the Falcons do emphasize core values. “We have core values, gratitude, unity, toughness and sacrifice,” Long said.

Talking about the struggles to hold people’s attention in the age of streaming, Long said, “We would really appreciate it if you come out and buy a ticket and come on in and support the Falcons.”

Fulton opens the season Friday on the road against Macon County, Georgia.

Gibbs breaks in a new quarterback, younger players

By David Klein

The Gibbs Eagles return about half of their players on each side of the ball this year, head coach Brad Turner said, and will again utilize many two-way players. Turner is going into his eighth year as head coach.

“We feel like at our skill positions, we’ve probably got more depth than we’ve had,” Turner said. “Up front, always a grind. We’re gonna have to ask a lot of our guys to play both ways, and that’s tough in this region. We’ll try to manage that, keep them healthy and strong and all those things. Get out and play the game. At the end of the night, you’re playing on Friday night.”

Turner said Gibbs will be breaking in a new quarterback this season, sophomore Keith Jones Jr. “He’s a big kid,” Turner said. “He don’t look like he’s a sophomore. He’s 5’11”, 185 pounds, and has a size 15 shoe, so he’s getting ready to grow some more. Left-handed quarterback, can spin it, strong arm, smart kid, knows the offense, and he’s got good legs. That’s the thing about our quarterbacks. They’re going to have to run the football, and he does a good job of that.”

Senior tight end/linebacker Chase Norman is the leader in the locker room, according to Turner. Norman also talked about quarterback Jones Jr. “He’s been working hard every day, going hard in practice, not leaving anything in the tank,” Norman said. “I feel like all of us hanging out with him outside of school has really helped build team chemistry. If you can hang with people outside of school, it makes it so much easier at football, so I feel that’s a big part of just getting him up to speed and making sure he’s ready, which he

| EAGLES 2025 | | | |
|-----------------|---------|-----------|---------------------|
| Fri | Aug. 22 | 7:00 p.m. | at Union County (R) |
| Fri | Aug. 29 | 7:00 p.m. | at Knoxville Halls |
| Fri | Sep. 5 | 7:00 p.m. | Alcoa (R) |
| Fri | Sep. 12 | 7:00 p.m. | at Morristown East |
| Fri | Sep. 19 | 7:00 p.m. | South Doyle (R) |
| Thu | Sep. 25 | 7:00 p.m. | Lenoir City |
| Thu | Oct. 2 | 7:00 p.m. | at Anderson Co. (R) |
| Fri | Oct. 17 | 7:00 p.m. | at Fulton (R) |
| Fri | Oct. 24 | 7:00 p.m. | Heritage (R) |
| Thu | Oct. 30 | 7:00 p.m. | Carter (R) |
| (R)=Region game | | | |

will be.”

Norman has had nine Division 1 scholarship offers, according to Turner, with offers from West Point, Austin Peay University and several offers from Ivy League schools. Norman talked about his role in playing tight end on the offense. “As a tight end, you have to be able to do everything,” he said. “You have to be one of the smartest players because you have to know all of the pass protections and all of the routes. The coaches do a great job of balancing that out where I get a good amount of passes and a good amount of blocking, which I like to do both.”

Gibbs plays a triple-based offense (triple option), according to Turner. “We look at it, whatever we got to do to win. We got to run the football. If we can run the football to win. And then obviously, being able to throw off that. We’re not going to be 5-wide, sling it around a lot all the time. We’re going to try to run the ball,” Turner emphasized.

Defensively, the Eagles will play multiple formations. “Again, it’s one of those where we’re asking guys to play both sides of the ball,” Turner said. “We may be in a 4-2-5 this week, a 3-4 next week. To our kids, it’s the same. We may line up a little different based on what each team (opponent) does.

Whatever we got to do.”

Turner talked about the changes in Region 2-4A going from five teams to eight teams. Perennial 3A state champions, the Alcoa Tornadoes, move up into 4A, and Heritage is another newcomer. “Heritage, we think, is the sleeper of the whole thing,” Turner said. “They’re going to be good; they’re aggressive. It sort of reminds us of who we are. We pride ourselves on being tough guys, white collar, playing tough nose football, and I think that’s what they bring. You can’t play the helmet; you play the helmet, you’re probably going to lose. We just got to play Gibbs football, and it is what it is at the end of the day.”

Despite losing some experienced players, Norman sees a lot of potential in the younger players for this season. “I feel like we lost a lot of people last year who had a lot of playing time,” Norman said. “But I think having younger guys who’ve been watching that and seeing our program develop over the years. Having the culture of winning, I think really motivates those younger guys who didn’t get to play last year. It will be big for them, so they know what they have to do so we can keep building and build up our program,” Norman stressed.

Gibbs opens the season Friday at Region 2-4A district opponent Union County at 7 p.m.

Karns brings back several starters

Cont. from page 2

of the Beavers' biggest rivals and will be the opener for Karns on August 22 for the fourth year in a row. "There's bad blood between us and it's a good atmosphere to be a part of it and it's good for both communities," Warren said.

Warren is touting the underdog status of his team going into the

season. "We're trying to embrace the underdog mentality. We know we don't have a great history of making deep playoff runs and everything. We know that a lot of times people are going to be down on us. We're trying to have a chip on our shoulder and embrace that underdog mentality."

Halls, Fulton and Central prevail on opening night

Cont. from page 1

Falcons ahead 6-0 as the PAT kick failed.

Finally getting the ball again, Karns made a last-gasp charge. Hudson Bridges completed two passes, including a 15-yarder that put the ball on the Fulton 38 with 36 seconds left. The Beavers moved the ball to the 25 and called a timeout with seven seconds on the clock. Bridges overthrew Brody Jones on the game's final play.

Coach Justin Long said the win meant a lot. "I think our guys were excited to be here and I think it meant a lot to them to get out here in front of a big crowd and get a lot of reps. I'm just happy they enjoyed themselves."

Central made a good showing in its 14-0 victory over Gibbs. The Bobcats stopped the Eagles' first possession and then quarterback Kaden Long went to work, running the ball and throwing passes to

JJ Sackie and an 18-yard touchdown pass to Brayden Starnes.

Gibbs struck back, but freshman Braxton Swift's 59-yard touchdown stroll down the sideline was called back for a holding penalty five yards passed the line of scrimmage.

Central's Lincoln Elmore, a senior QB, tacked on a 4-yard TD run and kicker Owen McGaha split the uprights with 11 seconds to go.

JAMBOREE SCORES THURSDAY

At Carson-Newman Catholic 21, Clinton 14
CAK 14, Campbell Co. 0

FRIDAY

At Farragut High
Bearden 7, South-Doyle 0
GCA 7, Austin-East 0
Farragut 7, West 7
Powell 14, Hardin Valley 7

Keys to success for West are OLBs and tight ends

Continued from page 2

least experienced. Abel Ancelet is a senior safety that has played there and junior Ethan Fortner got a lot of work there last year."

Senior Oliver Schimmel is returning on the offensive line along with seniors Nick Ernst and Ethan Lopez.

"A newcomer, junior Ama're Cruse, has worked a little bit on both sides of the ball," said

Chandler. "He moved in from Oklahoma. He's a really good-looking kid; big and strong. He's just trying to figure out what he's doing."

There's been good competition for the quarterback position between junior Jack Harrison and senior Cannon Dowd. Last week, Harrison looked like he would be the first to take the reins.

West has three good tailbacks,

including senior Messiah Wrenn, a returning starter, and Ryheem Lee, a talented sophomore who has worked hard in the weight room.

The receiving corps includes senior Zarrion Youmas, junior Silas Monroe, and Ancelet. Monroe also is a cornerback.

Tight end play has a lot to do with the Rebels' offense. Those guys are seniors Morgan Ferrell

and Cawood Rose. Peace will also see action there. "Offensively, we are about as good as those guys are," said Chandler.

West's special team guys are led by punter Colston Colquitt, the son of Dustin Colquitt, former NFL punter. Addison Cline is a highly-rated place-kicker and Gus Gladden is a versatile long snapper.

At a players' retreat, the Rebels

set a goal to win region and state championships this year, and they said they wanted to do that "day by day and week by week."

West will play rival Bearden in its home opener Saturday.

NEW ADDITIONS: A new weight room is in the works at West, and a new film room (160 seats) will be usable before the season starts.

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

FORECLOSURE NOTICES

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

WHEREAS, default has occurred in the performance of the covenants, terms, and conditions of a Deed of Trust Note dated 11/08/2022, and the Deed of Trust of even date securing the same, recorded 12/02/2022, in Instrument No. 202212020032637, in Office of the Register of Deeds for Knox County, Tennessee, executed by Michael Fleming, conveying certain property therein described to Joseph B. Pitt, Jr. as Trustee for Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing, as nominee for MEB Loan Trust VIII, its successors and assigns; and the undersigned, The Sayer Law Group, P.C., having been appointed Successor Trustee to Joseph B. Pitt, Jr., as trustee for MEB Loan Trust VIII.

NOW, THEREFORE, notice is hereby given that the entire indebtedness has been declared due and payable; and that an agent of The Sayer Law Group, P.C., as Successor Trustee, by virtue of the power, duty, and authority vested in and imposed upon said Successor Trustee to Joseph B. Pitt, Jr., as trustee for MEB Loan Trust VIII, will, on **09/17/2025 at or about 12:00 PM, at the North side of the City County Building, Knoxville, TN**, offer for sale certain property hereinafter described to the highest bidder **FOR CERTIFIED FUNDS** paid to the conclusion of the sale, or credit bid from a bank or other lending entity pre-approved by the successor trustee. The sale is free from all exemptions, which are expressly waived in the Deed of Trust, said property being real estate situated in Knox County, Tennessee, and being more particularly described as follows:

A CERTAIN TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND IN KNOX COUNTY, STATE OF TENNESSEE, DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS, TO-WIT:

SITUATED in District Number Two (2) of Knox County, Tennessee, and within the 15th Ward of the corporate limits of the city of Knoxville, Tennessee, and being known and designated as all of Lot Number 304, Block 12, **HAZEN'S ADDITION**, as shown by map of Bame of record in Map Cabinet A, slide 165-A, in the Register's Office for Knox County, Tennessee, and according to survey of Bruce McClellan, R.L.S., dated September 28, 1996, and bearing drawing number 33750, to which map and survey specific reference is hereby made for a more particular description.

ALSO KNOWN AS: 2012 Washington Ave., Knoxville, TN 37917

Parcel ID: 082JX004

This sale is subject to all matters shown on any applicable recorded plat; any unpaid taxes; any restrictive covenants, easements, or setback lines that may be applicable; any statutory rights of redemption of any governmental agency, state or federal; any prior liens or encumbrances as well as any priority created by a fixture filing; and to any matter that an accurate survey of the premises might disclose. In addition, the following parties may claim an interest in the above-referenced property:

MICHAEL FLEMING
2012 WASHINGTON AVE.,
KNOXVILLE, TN 37917

REPUBLIC FINANCE, LLC
REPUBLIC FINANCE CORPORATE HQ,
7031 COMMERCE CIRCLE STE 110,
BATON ROUGE, LA 70809

CURRENT OCCUPANTS
2012 WASHINGTON AVE.,
KNOXVILLE, TN 37917

The sale held pursuant to this Notice may be rescinded at the Successor Trustee's option at any time. The right is reserved to adjourn the day of the sale to another day, time, and place certain without further publication, upon announcement at the time and place for the sale set forth above. TRUSTEE IS SELLING THE PROPERTY AS IS. BUYER BEWARE. TRUSTEE MAKES NO REPRESENTATIONS AS TO THE CONDITION OF THE PROPERTY, THE STATUS OF TITLE, OR ANY LIENS OR ENCUMBRANCES ON THE PROPERTY.

DATED July 31, 2025.

THE SAYER LAW GROUP, P.C.,
AS SUCCESSOR TRUSTEE

This notice will run for two (2) weeks in The Knoxville Focus Newspaper, run dates 8/18/25 and 8/25/25, and will be posted online at www.knoxfocus.com, www.trnpubnotice.com and www foreclosure.com for a minimum 20 continuous days beginning 8/18/25.

COURT NOTICES

NOTICE OF SERVICE BY PUBLICATION

TO: SEKHAR S. GUDALA, Defendant
IN RE: DURGA M. BEZAWADA, Plaintiff
vs.
SEKHAR S. GUDALA, Defendant
IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE
DOCKET NO. 208318-3

Defendant, Sekhar S. Gudala (hereinafter "Defendant"), is required to answer and make defense to the Complaint for Divorce, Temporary Parenting Plan and the Show Cause Order filed with the Court on February 23, 2024 in the office of the Chancery Court - Division III for Knox County, Tennessee within thirty (30) days after the fourth weekly publication of this order and that, upon his failure to do so, a default judgment may be taken against the Defendant for the relief demanded in the Complaint for Divorce, Temporary Parenting Plan and the Show Cause Order filed in said action..

This the 25th day of July, 2025.

Christopher D. Heagerty, Chancellor
J. Scott Griswold, Clerk and Master

Published in The Knoxville Focus for four consecutive weeks: August 4 - August 25, 2025.

NON-RESIDENT NOTICE

TO: VALENTINA RAMIRES HERNANDEZ
IN RE: LUIS PADILLA VARGAS, Plaintiff
-vs-
VALENTINA RAMIRES HERNANDEZ, Defendant
Docket # 162105

IN THE FOURTH CIRCUIT COURT OF KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE

In this cause, it appearing from the Complaint filed, which is sworn to, that the defendant VALENTINA RAMIREZ HERNANDEZ is a non-resident of the State of Tennessee, or whose whereabouts cannot be ascertained upon diligent search and inquiry, so that the ordinary process of law cannot be served upon VALENTINA RAMIRES HERNANDEZ

IT IS ORDERED that said defendant file an answer to an action of COMPLAINT FOR DIVORCE filed by LUIS PADILLA VARGAS, Plaintiff herein, with the Fourth Circuit Court in Knoxville, Tennessee, and with DAVID L. KING, Plaintiff's Attorney whose address is 1300 DIVISION ST., STE 102, NASHVILLE, TN 37203, within thirty (30) days of the last date of publication, and if you do not answer or otherwise respond, a Default Judgment may be entered against you on the thirtieth (30th) day after the fourth (4th) publication..

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

This the 5TH day of AUGUST, 2025.

Mike Hammond
Clerk

Michelle Henry
Deputy Clerk

NON-RESIDENT NOTICE

TO: VAN ALEXANDER MCKNIGHT
IN RE: BRENDA JOYCE MCKNIGHT, Plaintiff
vs.
VAN ALEXANDER MCKNIGHT, Defendant
NO. 211217-1
IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE

In this Cause, it appearing from the Complaint filed, which is sworn to, that the defendant VAN ALEXANDER MCKNIGHT, 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 VAN ALEXANDER MCKNIGHT described in the complaint, it is ordered that said defendant, VAN ALEXANDER MCKNIGHT file an answer with the Clerk and Master of the Chancery

Court at Knoxville, Tennessee, and with Barbara W. Clark, an Attorney whose address is 2415 E. Magnolia Ave., Knoxville, TN 37917, within thirty (30) days of the last date of publication or a judgment by default will be taken against you and the cause will be set for hearing Ex-Parte as to you before Chancellor John F. Weaver, at the Knox County Chancery Court, Division I, 400 Main Street, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902.

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

This 5th day of August, 2025.

J. Scott Griswold
Clerk and Master

NON-RESIDENT NOTICE

TO: ORALIA DE JESUS PINZON RODRIGUEZ
IN RE: JERONIMO DE JESUS GARCIA SANTOS, Plaintiff
vs.
ORALIA DE JESUS PINZON RODRIGUEZ, Defendant
NO. 209957-1
IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE

In this Cause, it appearing from the Complaint filed, which is sworn to, that the defendant ORALIA DE JESUS PINZON RODRIGUEZ, 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 ORALIA DE JESUS PINZON RODRIGUEZ described in the complaint, it is ordered that said defendant, ORALIA DE JESUS PINZON RODRIGUEZ file an answer with the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court at Knoxville, Tennessee, and with Paisley P. Anderson, an Attorney whose address is 7220 Wellington Dr., Knoxville, TN 37919, within thirty (30) days of the last date of publication or a judgment by default will be taken against you and the cause will be set for hearing Ex-Parte as to you before Chancellor John F. Weaver, at the Knox County Chancery Court, Division I, 400 Main Street, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902.

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

This 5th day of August, 2025.

J. Scott Griswold
Clerk and Master

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF CHOICE ANN CHANDLER BURKHART
DOCKET NUMBER 91266-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 1st day of AUGUST, 2025, Letters Testamentary in respect of the Estate of CHOICE ANN CHANDLER BURKHART, who died June 27, 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 1st day of AUGUST, 2025.

J. Scott Griswold
Clerk and Master

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF CHOICE ANN CHANDLER BURKHART
DOCKET NUMBER 91266-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 25 day of JULY, 2025, letters administration in respect of the Estate of THOMAS DAVID COX, who died Jan. 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 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 1st day of AUGUST, 2025.

J. Scott Griswold
Clerk and Master

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF DOROTHY FRANCIS (BROOKS) CUNNINGHAM
DOCKET NUMBER 91262-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 6th day of AUGUST, 2025, Letters of Administration in respect to the Estate of DOROTHY FRANCIS (BROOKS) CUNNINGHAM, who died June 13, 2025, were issued to the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above-named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

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

This the 25 day of JULY, 2025.

J. Scott Griswold
Clerk and Master

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF LARRY CRABTREE
DOCKET NUMBER 91264-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 30th day of JULY, 2025, letters testamentary (or letters of administration as the case may be) in respect of the Estate of LARRY CRABTREE, who died June 21, 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 6th day of AUGUST, 2025.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF ROGER STUART COLLINS
DOCKET NUMBER 91290-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 6th day of AUGUST, 2025, Letters of Administration in respect to the Estate of ROGER STUART COLLINS, who died on June 13, 2025, were issued to the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the above captioned Estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above-named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in paragraphs numbered one (1) or two (2) below; otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

This the 6th day of AUGUST, 2025.

J. Scott Griswold
Clerk and Master

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF CYNTHIA M. COMER
DOCKET NUMBER 91283-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 1st day of AUGUST, 2025, letters of testamentary in respect of the Estate of CYNTHIA M. COMER, who died June 20, 2025, were issued to the undersigned by the Knox Chancery Court, 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 above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

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

This the 1st day of AUGUST, 2025.

J. Scott Griswold
Clerk and Master

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF LARRY CRABTREE
DOCKET NUMBER 91264-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 30th day of JULY, 2025, letters testamentary (or letters of administration as the case may be) in respect of the Estate of LARRY CRABTREE, who died June 21, 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 30th day of JULY, 2025.

J. Scott Griswold
Clerk and Master

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF LARRY CRABTREE
DOCKET NUMBER 91264-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 30th day of JULY, 2025, letters testamentary (or letters of administration as the case may be) in respect of the Estate of LARRY CRABTREE, who died June 21, 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 30th day of JULY, 2025.

J. Scott Griswold
Clerk and Master

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF LARRY CRABTREE
DOCKET NUMBER 91264-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 30th day of JULY, 2025, letters testamentary (or letters of administration as the case may be) in respect of the Estate of LARRY CRABTREE, who died June 21, 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 30th day of JULY, 2025.

J. Scott Griswold
Clerk and Master

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF LARRY CRABTREE
DOCKET NUMBER 91264-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 30th day of JULY, 2025, letters testamentary (or letters of administration as the case may be) in respect of the Estate of LARRY CRABTREE, who died June 21, 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 30th day of JULY, 2025.

J. Scott Griswold
Clerk and Master

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 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 25 day of JULY, 2025.

J. Scott Griswold
Clerk and Master

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF THOMAS DAVID COX
DOCKET NUMBER 91290-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 6th day of AUGUST, 2025, Letters of Administration in respect to the Estate of THOMAS DAVID COX, who died Jan. 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 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 1st day of AUGUST, 2025.

J. Scott Griswold
Clerk and Master

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF LARRY CRABTREE
DOCKET NUMBER 91264-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 30th day of JULY, 2025, letters testamentary (or letters of administration as the case may be) in respect of the Estate of LARRY CRABTREE, who died June 21, 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 30th day of JULY, 2025.

J. Scott Griswold
Clerk and Master

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF LARRY CRABTREE
DOCKET NUMBER 91264-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 30th day of JULY, 2025, letters testamentary (or letters of administration as the case may be) in respect of the Estate of LARRY CRABTREE, who died June 21, 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 30th day of JULY, 2025.

J. Scott Griswold
Clerk and Master

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF LARRY CRABTREE
DOCKET NUMBER 91264-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 30th day of JULY, 2025, letters testamentary (or letters of administration as the case may be) in respect of the Estate of LARRY CRABTREE, who died June 21, 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 30th day of JULY, 2025.

J. Scott Griswold
Clerk and Master

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF LARRY CRABTREE
DOCKET NUMBER 91264-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 30th day of JULY, 20

Slay will be featured speaker at Knox Hall of Fame event

By Steve Williams

Ron Slay was known for wearing a white sweatband on his head when he played basketball at Tennessee.

Fans of his will be tickled if he puts one on again sometime Thursday night at the Greater Knoxville Sports Hall of Fame.

Slay won't be one of the inductees, but he will be the featured speaker. He'll surely have some tales to tell and have the audience laughing.

The former pro was known for his versatility and scoring ability and not being afraid to mix it up. During his career at UT (1999-2003), he was named the SEC Player of the Year in 2003 after averaging 21 points and 8 rebounds per game in his senior season.

After a successful international career, Ron transitioned into sports media and broadcasting, frequently providing basketball analysis and commentary for Tennessee games.

Boys & Girls Clubs of the Tennessee Valley will



Ron Slay will be the featured speaker at this week's 44th annual Greater Knoxville Sports Hall of Fame ceremony.

continue its tradition of honoring the area's finest athletes at this year's 44th Induction Ceremony & Reception presented by First Horizon at the Knoxville Convention Center.

Limited seating is available and tickets are \$200 each. All proceeds benefit over 7,500 youth and teens at 24 Club locations in Knox, Blount, Loudon,

Anderson, and Claiborne Counties.

Hospitality starts at 5, dinner at 6 and the Induction Ceremony at 7 in the KCC Ballroom.

Bob Kesling will be the Master of Ceremonies.

The Class of 2025 includes Nicky Anosike (Basketball), Adam Brock (Tennis), Bryan Brown (Coaching), Charles Fondren (Track & Field), Ken Johnson (Football), Conchita Owenby (Athletic Director), Dr. Jerry Punch (Media), Frankie Randall (Boxing) and Gary Toulson (Golf).

Special Awards will go to Debby Jennings (Pat Summitt Ignite Greatness Award), Dick Williams (Special Recognition), Lane Thomas (Chad Pennington Pro Athlete of the Year), Tim Irwin (Buck Vaughn Legacy Award), Karina Bystry (Will McKamey Spirit Award).

High School Athletes of the Year also will be recognized: Lillie Murphy, Knoxville Catholic, tennis; Elsa Morrison, Farragut, softball; Eli Graf, Alcoa,

football, basketball, baseball; Keegan Smith, Knoxville Catholic, distance runner.

First TSSAA Board meeting of 2025-26

The TSSAA Board of Control is meeting in Hermitage today. The Board will tackle several significant business items including establishing classifications and official fees for girls' flag football, reviewing championship site selections, and considering format changes for wrestling postseason and volleyball state tournaments.

Vikings could get to play on turf field this year

According to Tennessee School for the Deaf Athletic Director Eddie King, it's possible the Vikings' football team could get to play on a new turf field this season.

Chambers Field could be ready by Oct. 2 for its

first game with turf against South Carolina. TSD grads may also have a homecoming game against Louisiana on Oct. 25.

Proud of their soccer

FC Alliance Knoxville promotes its program to be East Tennessee's oldest, most successful and largest soccer club.

Since its beginning in 2008, FC Alliance has worked to provide excellence in soccer for all levels. It is excited for the future as it continues to grow and develop over 2,000 players annually in East Tennessee.

TSSAA Coaches of the Year

Jerome Romain (Webb girls' track and field), Rick Howard (Heritage girls basketball), Carol Mitchell (Gibbs softball) and Tristen Waite (Hardin Valley unified flag football) were among TSSAA's Coaches of the Year in 2024-25.



Jordan Nwogu was the Knoxville Smokies' CAREacter Star Athlete for the month of July.

Knoxville Smokies on X announced: "Last week, we teamed up with Care 365 to present this month's Smokies CAREacter Star Award! This player is chosen based on the 5 points of our star: Character, Attitude, Resilience, Performance and Community Service. We were proud to present this award to Smokies outfielder Jordan Nwogu for the month of July!"

A one-minute video of Nwogu also was presented on Twitter. Check it out!

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF JEAN HURLEY FRILEY DOCKET NUMBER 91275-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 1st day of AUGUST, 2025, Letters Testamentary in respect to the Estate of JEAN HURLEY FRILEY, who died on May 08, 2025, were issued to the undersigned by the Probate Court for Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the Estate are required to file the same with the Clerk of the above-named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) below, otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

ESTATE OF JEAN HURLEY FRILEY

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
CHRISTY FRILEY PARROTT
302 GLENSTONE COURT
KNOXVILLE, TN 37934

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

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF STEVEN THOMAS HACKWORTH, a.k.a. STEVE HACKWORTH DOCKET NUMBER 91305-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 7th day of AUGUST, 2025, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of STEVEN THOMAS HACKWORTH, a.k.a. STEVE HACKWORTH, who died July 10, 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.

ESTATE OF STEVEN THOMAS HACKWORTH, a.k.a. STEVE HACKWORTH

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
STEVEN JOSEPH THOMAS HACKWORTH
1525 SNYDER SCHOOL RD.
KNOXVILLE, TN 37932

REBECCA BELL JENKINS, ATTORNEY
9724 KINGSTON PIKE, SUITE 202
KNOXVILLE, TN 37922

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF MARY THERESE HALFPENNY DOCKET NUMBER 91269-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 1st day of AUGUST, 2025, Letters of Administration in respect to the Estate of MARY THERESE HALFPENNY, who died on March 21, 2025, were issued to the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the above captioned Estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the

above-named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in paragraphs numbered one (1) or two (2) below; otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

This the 1st day of AUGUST, 2025.

ESTATE OF MARY THERESE HALFPENNY

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
MEGAN L. BRYANT
8727 WIMBLEDON DRIVE
KNOXVILLE, TN 37923

STEPHEN K. GARRETT, ATTORNEY
7838 BARKER ROAD
CORYTON, TN 37721

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF LILLIAN R. HUGHES DOCKET NUMBER 91272-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 1st day of AUGUST, 2025, Letters Testamentary in respect of the Estate of LILLIAN R. HUGHES, who died on June 7, 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 1st day of AUGUST, 2025.

ESTATE OF LILLIAN R. HUGHES

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
LISA A. STINSON
10834 DUNDEE ROAD
KNOXVILLE, TN 37934

JAMES H. HUGHES
505 DEERFIELD CIRCLE
MARYVILLE, TN 37804

JOHN EDWIN BAUGH, ATTORNEY
4617 CHAMBLISS AVENUE
KNOXVILLE, TN 37919

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF NED E. JONES, JR. DOCKET NUMBER 91233-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 17 day of JULY, 2025, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of NED E. JONES, JR., who died March 28, 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.

(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 JULY, 2025.

ESTATE OF NED E. JONES, JR.

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
ASHLEY SMITH, EXECUTRIX
2750 OCEAN SHORE BLVD., #45
ORMOND BEACH, FL 32176

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF ROBERT C. KURTZ, SR. DOCKET NUMBER 91303-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 6th day of AUGUST, 2025, Letters of Testamentary/ Administration in respect to the Estate of ROBERT C. KURTZ, SR., deceased, who died on June 26, 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 his/her Estate are required to file the same in triplicate with the Clerk and Master of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their 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 the first publication as described in (1)(A); or
- (2) Twelve (12) months from the Decedent's date of death.

This the 6th day of AUGUST, 2025.

ESTATE OF ROBERT C. KURTZ, SR.

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
CRAIG JAMES CHETTA, EXECUTOR
54 KATIE DRIVE
RONKS, PA 17572

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

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF KATHY D. LATIMER DOCKET NUMBER 91284-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 1st day of AUGUST, 2025, letters testamentary (or letters of administration as the case may be) in respect of the Estate of KATHY D. LATIMER, who died on May 18, 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 1st day of AUGUST, 2025.

ESTATE OF KATHY D. LATIMER

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
DEBORAH WRIGHT
1310 MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. BLVD.
GREENCOVE SPRINGS, FL 32043

BAILEY SCHIERMEYER, ATTORNEY
PATRICIA E. CROTWELL, ATTORNEY
P. O. BOX 3804
KNOXVILLE, TN 37927-3804

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF ALICE R. LOY DOCKET NUMBER 91291-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 6th day of AUGUST, 2025, letters testamentary (or letters of administration as the case may be) in respect of the Estate of ALICE R. LOY, who died June 1, 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 6th day of AUGUST, 2025.

ESTATE OF ALICE R. LOY

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
SUSAN L. TARVER
7736 PELLEAUX ROAD
KNOXVILLE, TN 37938

ANDREW J. LOY
7710 PELLEAUX ROAD
KNOXVILLE, TN 37938

BRADLEY H. HODGE, ATTORNEY
900 SOUTH GAY STREET, SUITE 2100
KNOXVILLE, TN 37902

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF JOHN RHOADS LUKINGBEAL DOCKET NUMBER 91279-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 30th day of JULY, 2025, letters testamentary (or letters of administration as the case may be) in respect of the Estate of JOHN RHOADS LUKINGBEAL, who died May 27, 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 30th day of JULY, 2025.

ESTATE OF JOHN RHOADS LUKINGBEAL

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
HOME FEDERAL BANK OF
TENNESSEE, EXECUTOR
500 MARKET STREET, SUITE 500
KNOXVILLE, TN 37902

P. NEWMAN BANKSTON, ATTORNEY
900 S. GAY STREET, 14th FLOOR
P. O. BOX 2047
KNOXVILLE, TN 37901

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF LLEW ELLEN LUTTRELL DOCKET NUMBER 91263-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 7th day of AUGUST, 2025, letters of administration as the case may be in respect of the Estate of LLEW ELLEN LUTTRELL, who died intestate on June 17, 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 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 7th day of AUGUST, 2025.

ESTATE OF LLEW ELLEN LUTTRELL

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
ELMORE MYRICK GODFREY, IV
265 SAM NELSON RD.
CANTON, GA 30114

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

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF DONALD CHARLES MEYERHOFER DOCKET NUMBER 91223-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 25 day of JULY, 2025, letters administration in respect of the Estate of DONALD CHARLES MEYERHOFER, who died June 4, 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 25 day of JULY, 2025.

ESTATE OF DONALD CHARLES MEYERHOFER

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
KIMBERLY SAUTER, ADMINISTRATRIX
83 SUGAR LOAF MOUNTAIN ROAD
RIDGEFIELD, CT 06877

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF DOUGLAS JAMES MONROE, JR. DOCKET NUMBER 91268-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 1st day of AUGUST, 2025, letters of administration in respect of the Estate of DOUGLAS JAMES MONROE, JR., who died May 16, 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 1st day of AUGUST, 2025.

ESTATE OF BETTY J. OGDEN

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
LADONNA J. OGDEN
4012 COLE BLVD. S.E.
WASHINGTON, DC 20032

STACIE D. MILLER, ATTORNEY
P. O. BOX 300
KNOXVILLE, TN 37903

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF PATRICIA ANN OTTO
DOCKET NUMBER 91281-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 1st day of AUGUST, 2025, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of PATRICIA ANN OTTO, who died June 14, 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 months from the decedent's date of death.

This the 1st day of AUGUST, 2025.

ESTATE OF PATRICIA ANN OTTO

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
KRISTA SUZANNE RANKIN
1575 RIVER PATH
MORRISTOWN, TN 37813

M. CATHERINE WARMBROD, ATTORNEY
10805 KINGSTON PIKE, SUITE 200
KNOXVILLE, TN 37934

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF TIMOTHY PAUL RUSSELL
DOCKET NUMBER 90864-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 7th day of AUGUST, 2025, Letters of Administration in respect of the Estate of TIMOTHY PAUL RUSSELL, who died January 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 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 7th day of AUGUST, 2025.

ESTATE OF TIMOTHY PAUL RUSSELL

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
DOROTHY DYKES VEST
3216 RIVERSIDE DRIVE
KNOXVILLE, TN 37914

GEORGE R. RARRANTS, ATTORNEY
P. O. BOX 629
KNOXVILLE, TN 37901-0629

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF ALBERT E. SHIPLEY
DOCKET NUMBER 91282-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 1st day of AUGUST, 2025, Letters Testamentary in respect of the Estate of ALBERT E. SHIPLEY, who died May 27, 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 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 1st day of AUGUST, 2025.

ESTATE OF ALBERT E. SHIPLEY

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
STEPHEN EUGENE SHIPLEY, EXECUTOR
424 COUNTRY RUN CIRCLE
POWELL, TN 37949

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

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF EMMA LEE SMITH
DOCKET NUMBER 91099-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 31st day of JULY, 2025, letters of administration in respect of the Estate of EMMA LEE SMITH, who died March 14, 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 before 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 31st day of JULY, 2025.

ESTATE OF EMMA LEE SMITH

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
SANDRA KAY SELLERS

MARTHA SUE SELLERS LYNCH
4301 ELISTOWN ROAD
KNOXVILLE, TN 37924

EVAN M. NEWMAN, ATTORNEY
P. O. BOX 6
RUTLEDGE, TN 37861

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF MARJORIE ANNE
POLIVKA STROM
DOCKET NUMBER 90415-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 25 day of JULY, 2025, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of MARJORIE ANNE POLIVKA STROM, who died Sept. 5, 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 25 day of JULY, 2025.

ESTATE OF MARJORIE
ANNE POLIVKA STROM

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
MARY HOLLEY, EXECUTRIX
134 BARNES LANE
STRAWBERRY PLAINS, TN 37871

MICHAEL H. MEARES, ATTORNEY
307 COLLEGE STREET
MARYVILLE, TN 37804

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF CHARLES P. TOMBRAS, JR.
DOCKET NUMBER 91280-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 6th day of AUGUST, 2025, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of CHARLES P. TOMBRAS, JR., who died July 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) month 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 6th day of AUGUST, 2025.

ESTATE OF CHARLES P. TOMBRAS, JR.

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
DOOLEY RICHARD TOMBRAS, EXECUTOR
620 S. GAY STREET
KNOXVILLE, TN 37902

WILLIAM D. EDWARDS, ATTORNEY
1111 N. NORTHSORE DRIVE, SUITE S-700
KNOXVILLE, TN 37919

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF FRED CECIL WINKLE, JR.
DOCKET NUMBER 91222-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 24 day of JULY, 2025, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of FRED CECIL WINKLE, JR., who died March 22, 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 24 day of JULY, 2025.

ESTATE OF FRED CECIL WINKLE, JR.

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
TERRI CALDWELL, EXECUTRIX
1123 CATLETT ROAD
KNOXVILLE, TN 37932

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF ROBERT JAMES WOOD
DOCKET NUMBER 91260-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 1st day of AUGUST, 2025, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of ROBERT JAMES WOOD, who died June 26th, 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 1st day of AUGUST, 2025.

ESTATE OF ROBERT JAMES WOOD

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
JOHN BLOMENBERG
141 ST. ANDREWS DRIVE
FARRAGUT, TN 37934

ROBERT W. WILKINSON, ATTORNEY
CHRISTY WHITE, ATTORNEY
P. O. BOX 4415
OAK RIDGE, TN 37831-4415

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF JOSEPH ALAN ACREE
DOCKET NUMBER 91294-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 20 day of JULY, 2025, letters administration in respect of the Estate of JOSEPH ALAN ACREE, who died July 12, 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 20 day of JULY, 2025.

ESTATE OF JOSEPH ALAN ACREE

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
WILLIAM (BILL) L. ACREE, ADMINISTRATOR
3221 MYERS STREET
PIGEON FORGE, TN 37863

D. ALAN EVERETT, ATTORNEY
1347 ESTATES DRIVE
SEYMOUR, TN 37865

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF CHRISTINE MARIE ADAMS
DOCKET NUMBER 91304-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 8 day of AUGUST, 2025, letters administration in respect of the Estate of CHRISTINE MARIE ADAMS, who died June 21, 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 first publication; or

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

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

This the 8 day of AUGUST, 2025.

ESTATE OF CHRISTINE MARIE ADAMS

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
HANNAH BLYTHE BOWER,
ADMINISTRATRIX
3343 MEMORIAL BOULEVARD, APT. A214
MURFREESBORO, TN 37129

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF ROBERT LEE CROUCH, III
DOCKET NUMBER 91319-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 14th day of AUGUST, 2025, Letters of Administration in respect of the Estate of ROBERT LEE CROUCH, III, who died on June 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 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 pf 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 14th day of AUGUST, 2025.

ESTATE OF ROBERT LEE CROUCH, III

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
ALBERT GARY CROUCH
127 PEPPERTREE CROSSING AVE.
BRUNSWICK, GA 31525

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

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF JAMES GARNETT FLEENOR
DOCKET NUMBER 91320-2

Notice is hereby given that on AUGUST 14, 2025, Letters Testamentary in respect of the Estate of JAMES GARNETT FLEENOR, who died June 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 paragraph (1)(A); or

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

This the 14th day of AUGUST, 2025.

ESTATE OF JAMES GARNETT FLEENOR

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
GARY L. FLEENOR

W. ALLEN MCDONALD, ATTORNEY
249 N. PETERS ROAD, SUITE 101
KNOXVILLE, TN 37923

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF TERENCE LEE HUNTER
DOCKET NUMBER 91295-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 14th day of AUGUST, 2025, letters testamentary (or letters of administration as the case may be) in respect of the Estate of TERENCE LEE HUNTER, who died on the 4th day of July, 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 14th day of AUGUST, 2025.

ESTATE OF TERENCE LEE HUNTER

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
TODD HUNTER

R. SETH OAKES, ATTORNEY
10413 KINGSTON PIKE, SUITE 201
KNOXVILLE, TN 37922

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF STEPHEN LORENZO KIRK, JR.
DOCKET NUMBER 91277-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 8 day of AUGUST, 2025, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of STEPHEN LORENZO KIRK, JR., who died June 29, 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 8 day of AUGUST, 2025.

ESTATE OF STEPHEN LORENZO KIRK, JR.

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
GERRY KIRK, EXECUTRIX
7734 WESTLAND DRIVE
KNOXVILLE, TN 37919

WILLIAM BREWER, II, ATTORNEY
707 MARKET STREET, SUITE 1
KNOXVILLE, TN 37902

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF PAMELA S. MILLER
DOCKET NUMBER 91096-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 14th day of AUGUST, 2025, letters administration (or letters of testamentary as the case may be) in respect of the Estate of PAMELA S. MILLER, who died March 4, 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 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 14th day of AUGUST, 2025.

ESTATE OF PAMELA S. MILLER

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
MICHAEL J. LAZZARO
1225 COLLINS RD.
NEW TAZEWELL, TN 37825

CURTIS ISABELL, ATTORNEY
251 SHORT ST.
CLINTON, TN 37716

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF NANCY ELLEN NATIONS
DOCKET NUMBER 91311-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 14th day of AUGUST, 2025, letters of administration in respect of the Estate of NANCY ELLEN NATIONS, who died on May 28, 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 14th day of AUGUST, 2025.

ESTATE OF NANCY ELLEN NATIONS

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
PAUL BRADLEY NATIONS
11317 SHELDON CHASE LANE
KNOXVILLE, TN 37932

DALLIS H. HOWARD, ATTORNEY
4820 OLD KINGSTON PIKE
KNOXVILLE, TN 37919

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF BRONSON DEE PENNINGTON
DOCKET NUMBER 91056-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 11th day of AUGUST, 2025, Letters Testamentary in respect of the Estate of BRONSON DEE PENNINGTON, who died on the 2nd day of April, 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 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 11th day of AUGUST, 2025.