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City hosts community meeting on proposed EYF purchase

East Knoxville residents protest the proposed sale of land to the Emerald Youth Foundation at a community meeting last week. Photo by Ken Lay.



By Ken Lay

In what was promoted as a community meeting, the City of Knoxville hosted an event for residents to voice concerns over the proposed purchase of a portion of Chilhowee Park by the Emerald Youth Foundation.

But it wasn't what it was supposed to be. Knoxville City Mayor Indya Kincannon opened the meeting with a few remarks and then it became a free-for-all on Monday, Sept. 15, at the E.V. Davidson Center gymnasium in East Knoxville.

She said she would consider changes to the plan but didn't offer any specifics about the changes. The sale is scheduled to be up for vote at the city council meeting on

Tuesday, Sept. 30, after being tabled twice.

"I'm not here to make speeches. I'm here to talk with you," Kincannon said.

There were a few who had questions for the mayor, Emerald Youth Foundation officials and City of Knoxville Parks and Recreation employees.

But the meeting was upstaged by protestors who took issue with the way that the city has handled the proposed purchase, which involves the sale of public land to a private entity. The protestors showered the gymnasium with chants of "Not for sale," as a few of the attendees walked the gym to learn about the Emerald Youth Foundation proposed new facility similar to the

Continue on page 3

Subcommittee tasked with reviewing county ethics rules

By Mike Steely
Senior Writer
steelym@knoxfocus.com

Responding to a directive from the Knox County Commission and At-large Commissioner Kim Frazier's recent resolution, the Knox County Ethics Committee met in special session on Wednesday to begin an 18-month effort to review and possibly update the Code of Ethics for all county employees.

Chairwoman Debbie Stafford opened the group's meeting in the Small Assembly Room of the City-County Building and called the assignment "uncharted territory." She said the task should go to a subcommittee charged with reviewing the county's ethics code.

The task, to review current ethics rules, should be done in public open meetings, according to Deputy Law Director David Sanders. He discouraged moving subcommittee meetings around the county because of legal and logistical problems.

Michael Bittel was chosen as subcommittee chairman, and the other members are Krystal Gibson, Byron Wood, Steven Goodpaster and Carletta Rando-Smelcer. Non-voting members are Marcus Kennedy and Greg Stinnett.

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September 19 designated National POW/MIA Recognition Day



Two veterans comfort one another following the Missing Man Table ceremony at Friday's POW/MIA Recognition Day in World's Fair Park. Photo by Jamie Schnell.

By Jamie Schnell
schnellj@knoxfocus.com

On September 19, AARP of Tennessee sponsored the National POW and MIA Recognition Day at the East Tennessee Veterans Memorial in World's Fair Park in Knoxville. It began with an invocation delivered by John Justice, which set a reflective tone for the gathering.

Dr. Pat Polis served as the Master of Ceremonies, leading the audience through a program filled with reverence and honor. He recognized those designated as POWs (Prisoners of War) and MIAs (Missing in Action), as well as those who could not be present. He emphasized, "We are here today to remind Knoxville and the world that they are not forgotten," concluding the prayer with a military "Hooah!"

The West High School Navy JROTC proudly presented and later retired the Colors, a moment that filled the air with a sense of patriotism. The national anthem was beautifully sung by Jason Hard, the talented director and CEO of the Knoxville Opera.

Knox County Mayor Glenn Jacobs placed a wreath at the Vietnam Veterans Monument to honor those who served. He also officially proclaimed September 19th as POW/MIA Recognition Day in Knox County, acknowledging the sacrifices made by countless service members. This proclamation particularly honors Captain Bill Robinson, who was the longest-held POW, spending 2,703 days as a prisoner during the Vietnam War.

Keynote speakers Brigadier General James Mungenast, USAF, and Dr. Joanne Devlin, PhD, associate

director of the Forensic Anthropology Center at the University of Tennessee, discussed the significant work involved in identifying POW and MIA service members through archaeological efforts. Dr. Devlin emphasized the importance of never stopping the search and ensuring that no one is left behind.

The ceremony continued with the Missing Man Table Ceremony, a poignant representation and reminder of the sacrifices made by missing or imprisoned servicemen and women, followed by the solemn sounds of a rifle volley and Taps performed by the dedicated Volunteer State Honor Guard. As the gathering concluded, Reverend Polis and his heartfelt closing remarks echoed, reminding us that as of September 1, 2025, there are 71,854 Americans unaccounted for.

Juvenile center needs funding and staff

By Mike Steely
Senior Writer
steelym@knoxfocus.com

With the Knox County Sheriff's Office scheduled to take over the juvenile detention center in January, Interim Director Brian Bivens wants to get additional funding to hire more staff. He spoke during a meeting of the Juvenile Service Center Board last Tuesday.

The board of directors, made up of commissioners appointed by the Knox County Commission and one by Juvenile Court Judge Timothy Irwin, heard Bivens say 30 juveniles are being held, 13 of whom are being held for the Tennessee Department of Children's Services. Bivens said there needs to be two officers for every nine kids and one female officer on duty at all times. He noted that a nurse is at the center from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

He added that the facility is down 11 officers, but the current budget prohibits adding to the staff. He noted that many of those who have left or are leaving are using their vacation pay and emptying any available funds for hiring anyone. Irwin commented that there is "no cap" on vacation pay for employees who are leaving.

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Many appointments on today's commission agenda

By Mike Steely
Senior Writer
steelym@knoxfocus.com

The Knox County Commission will place several citizens on the Library Board, Merit Board, Audit Committee and the Board of Zoning Appeals in this afternoon's meeting. Commissioners heard from several applicants at last week's agenda review meeting.

The sole applicant for the vacant Library Advisory Board seat is Julie Thompson, a retired teacher with 30 years of experience and the mother of District 8 Commissioner Adam Thompson.

The commissioner said he asked the law department if that might create a conflict and was told it would not because the commission has no authority over the Library Board.

District 9 Commissioner Andy Fox asked Mrs. Thompson if sexually explicit books should be available to minors, and she responded that it was the responsibility of parents to monitor. He then asked if the local government should have a policy to set community standards. She replied that such a policy would not be appropriate. She added that children should not have access to

sexually explicit material.

Several citizens applied for the two positions open on the Knox County Sheriff's Office Employees' Merit System Board and the four open positions on the Board of Zoning Appeals. One commissioner will be appointed to the Audit Committee to replace Commissioner Angela Russell on that body.

Much of the discussion at the agenda review meeting last week centered on utility poles and establishing a comprehensive utility permitting process under the Unified Development Ordinance. Commissioner Courtney

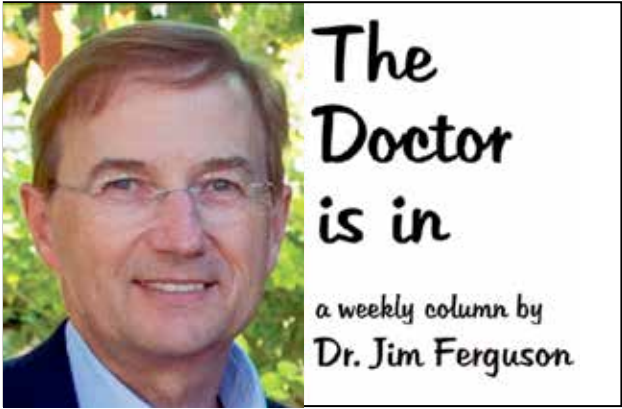
Durrett, a Comcast employee, stated that she would recuse herself from voting on the issue and requested that the vote be postponed for 30 days. Engineering Director Jim Snowden said the postponement would give his department time to review the resolution as presented by Commissioner Larsen Jay.

Deputy Law Director Mike Moyers said the commission's powers to fine or withhold permits for utility poles may be questionable based on prior agreements with the various companies that own the poles. Commissioner Rhonda Lee spoke of a

street construction project being held up in her district because of a utility pole owned by the Frontier Company.

Also during the agenda review, an agreement with Robert G. Campbell & Associates L.P. for \$132,200 for engineering services at the Driver Training and Certification Facility on Foote Mineral Road was postponed until October.

Homebuilders Association of Greater Knoxville and Orion Company are slated to give presentations to the commission tonight.



Martyrdom

“You have no idea what you have unleashed.”

(Erika Kirk after her husband’s murder)

It is a challenge for a weekly column to be contemporaneous with current events. However, it is probably best that my immediate reaction to the monster who murdered Charlie Kirk was not publicly shared. I remain saddened, disgusted and angry, but logic and resolve have replaced emotion and vindictiveness.

I heard Charlie Kirk speak some years ago, but I didn’t follow his radio program, podcasts or his YouTube posts for TPUSA (Turning Point United States America). But my 13- and 21-year-old grandsons were big fans of Charlie, who was described by those who knew him as a devout Christian, a devoted family man with two young children and

a genuinely good person.

He was also an important conservative voice who loved our country. Charlie calmly expressed his convictions in debates with progressive Democrats, socialists and radical leftists; and they killed him for having opinions contrary to their leftist vitriol. He was the one person who would listen to their rants and calmly profess his own opinions.

Charlie’s murder was horrific, but utterly appalling were the celebrations of his execution by teachers, ministers, airline pilots, doctors, lawyers, nurses, first responders, college deans, government employees, soldiers, media, Democrat leaders and the garden variety of depraved nut-jobs who cheered after Charlie’s neck exploded from a high-powered hunting rifle bullet ending his life at 31, making his wife a widow and

his children fatherless.

It is not a free speech issue when you applaud the murder of a human being because you disagree with their opinions. These dark and twisted souls have failed the basic standards of humanity. I do not want them teaching my grandchildren, piloting an airline or providing medical care. They are being exposed and fired, as Democrats wail about the so-called cancel culture. Actually, the response of the sane represents a “consequences culture.” These miscreants must be identified, shunned and become pariahs in our society.

Our rights are handed down to us from God, not from the government. This is the fundamental principle of American and Western civilization. Atheist Bill Mahr argues that morality stems from the Enlightenment, but Enlightenment thought would not have been possible without two millennia of Judeo-Christian ethos. Therefore, secular humanism’s removal of God invites immorality.

It is my hope and prayer that God can use this tragedy to bring about good because Charlie’s murder has demonstrated that we are in a battle between good and evil.

Martyrs have the effect of galvanizing people to wise up and rise up against tyranny and injustice. Charlie Kirk has become not only a martyr in America but worldwide. His political assassination demonstrated the ideological battle we are fighting and, make no mistake, it is also spiritual warfare.

I didn’t know Charlie Kirk, but I suspect he would be surprised that his martyrdom caused me to think of Christ’s murder and resurrection, which changed the world. Historian Will Durant wrote that “Christ conquered Caesar” when Emperor Constantine converted to Christianity and made it Rome’s state religion in the 4th century AD.

Four hundred years before Christ, Socrates was condemned to death for corrupting Athens’ youth and not honoring the state’s gods. Plato wrote of Socrates’ trial in the “Apology,” where Socrates predicted he would become a martyr. And Bill and Ted, in their “Excellent Adventure,” learned about and lauded Socrates, the ancient Greek philosopher.

And modeled on Socrates’ defense, Obi-Wan Kenobi in “Star Wars” told Darth Vader, “If you strike me down, I shall become

more powerful than you can possibly imagine.” And Charlie Kirk is becoming so. Some now compare Charlie Kirk to William Wallace of “Braveheart” fame, another martyr.

Wicked is not a word I often use, but it seems appropriate for Charlie’s murder and the vile response of perverse leftists. You can’t reach across the aisle to evil. You can’t rationally discuss issues with a lunatic or a psychopath. These people are in thrall to evil and are lost. If you doubt me, a recent poll revealed that 24% of self-described liberals felt that violence to achieve a political goal is justifiable.

My hope and prayer are that Charlie’s movement, Turning Point, has now been reached in America. Hatred is the modus operandi of Evil, and we’ve been too tolerant of too many warped and loathsome philosophies for too long.

We are battling evil and its minions. I pity the confused minds of the radicalized trans movement, which have been labeled as “transtifa” (trans-antifa). We have been coerced to be tolerant, which has led to acceptance and corruption and will end in collapse if we don’t have the courage of our convictions to say, “NO!”

to this scourge.

Charlie’s wife, Erika Kirk, said, “Charlie died wearing the glorious crown of a martyr. The cries of this widow will echo around the world like a battle cry.” Those thunderous echoes are already reverberating across America and the world.

Some years ago, I learned about the dynamics of movements, leadership and the importance of what is called “the first follower.” There is a YouTube TED talk about the phenomenon of the second person who joins a movement and another fascinating three-minute video demonstrating the “First Follower: Leadership lessons from Dancing Guy.”

I am proud to proclaim that I have become one of Charlie’s Angels. Obviously, I’m not early to his movement, but now I’m all in. And it’s up to all of us to stand up bravely and carry Charlie’s banner of God, family, country, free speech and liberty.

Make the death of Charlie Kirk the revelation of the “Enemy Among Us” (last week’s essay) and the last nail in the coffin of what the Democrat Party has become.

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

Pre-K, after-school care on commission agenda

By Mike Steely
Senior Writer
steelym@knoxfocus.com

The Knox County Commission meets in regular session today, and several interesting items are on the school board part of the agenda. While all education agenda items must be approved per court order, any commissioner may call up an item for discussion.

Among the Knox County Schools’ requests is approving more than \$2.1 million from the state’s Voluntary Pre-K Grant with a required local match of \$1.5 million.

The agenda also includes approving contracts for after-school care with the Boys and Girls Clubs, Kids Place, KidTime, SHADES of Development, and the YMCA. The agreement would begin in January

and extend through June 30, 2027, and may be extended for four additional years.

Other school items on the agenda include a license agreement with Knoxville EXPO Center for use of the facility for the 2026 Nutrition Food Show at a cost of about \$8,094, hiring Pugh & Company for a review of Internal School Funds for up to \$25,000, and approving \$1.3 million for the Central Cafeteria Fund Balance.

KCS may be authorized to accept \$899,072 in Special Education Preschool Grant funding from the state for the 2026 fiscal year, and the Boys and Girls Club will use its \$106,317 Community Learning Center Grant funds to extend learning programs at Dogwood, Norwood and South Knox elementary schools.

Kickin’ It for the Kids

Recognizing a genuine need for quality faith-based daycare for babies and preschool children in the community, Union Baptist Church, located on Washington Pike in the Ritta Community, decided to build a facility that would meet that need. In 2018, the Child Enrichment Center opened.

From day one, the CEC operated at full capacity, and there is still a waiting list. Union Baptist Church is undertaking a two-year campaign to raise funds for the expansion of its weekly child care program.

Pastor Craig Cummings said, “Here at Union, we are serious about teaching and training boys and girls to excel educationally, but our priority is to spiritually get them on the right path.” This two-year campaign is known as “Kickin’ It for the Kids.” There will be activities planned throughout the next two years to help UBC reach its goal.

The campaign begins

with a kick-off banquet on Saturday, October 4, in the church commons. It will start at 6:00 p.m., with doors opening at 5:30 p.m. Tickets are \$30 per person and must be purchased in advance. They can be ordered on the Union website at www.discoverunion.org or by calling the church at (865)687-4500. All are invited to attend.

Supporting the endeavor are many local community leaders and government officials who will be in attendance, including state Representative Dave Wright, Knox County Commissioners Richie Beeler, Adam Thompson, Larsen Jay and Kim Frazier, and school board member Travis Wright.

In addition to the banquet, there will be a silent auction where one may bid on everything from a weekend in Gatlinburg to a jar of home-canned blackberry jam. The bidding for the auction items will begin at 5:30 prior to the dinner.

After the banquet, a concert of Christian music will be held in the church sanctuary. Doors will open at 6:45 for the concert, which will begin at 7:15. Tickets for the concert are \$30 per person and may be ordered in advance by contacting the church or they may be purchased at the door. The concert headliner is contemporary artist Natalie Layne from the Nashville area, and Brett Durfee, worship leader at Powell Baptist Church, will open for her. UBC expects this to be a wonderful opportunity to worship together as we are led by these two outstanding musicians. More about this concert will be added later.

Also, in conjunction with the “Kickin’ It for the Kids” campaign, there will be a Fun Day Carnival at the church. Mark your calendars for Saturday, October 25, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. That day promises to be fun for kids and adults alike.

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Subcommittee tasked with reviewing county ethics rules

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Bittel told the meeting he will be relying on the law department for guidance. He asked the members to read up on the current code of ethics, “red line them,” and be prepared for discussions. The next meeting of the subcommittee is

apparently Thursday, October 16, at the City-County Building. Knoxville Community Media is being asked to cover the meetings.

Bittel reminded the members that they have no authority to make changes in the Code of Ethics, only to recommend needed

revisions.

Following the review and recommendations, a report will be made to the full ethics committee for consideration, and a final report will be sent to the Knox County Commission.



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Publisher Steve Hunley
Editor, Art Director Marianne Dedmon
editor@knoxfocus.com, design@knoxfocus.com

Mike Steely, Senior Writersteelym@knoxfocus.com
Jamie Schnellschnellj@knoxfocus.com
Salessales@knoxfocus.com
Pam Poephpoe2000@yahoo.com
Ruthie AkersRuthie@knoxfocus.com
Legal, Public Notice adslegals@knoxfocus.com

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Publisher's Position Pure Evil



**By Steve Hunley,
Publisher**
publisher@knoxfocus.com

The cold-blooded, premeditated and deliberate murder of Charlie Kirk is as horrific as it was heinous. The assassination of Kirk, a political activist, should send a chill down the spine of every American who believes in freedom of speech, democracy and freedom. The killing of Charlie Kirk was an assault on the very foundations of our liberty and right to think for ourselves and speak our opinions. Most Americans cannot conceive that there would be an end to our way of life, of the almost unlimited freedoms we enjoy as a people, but lest we forget, ours is the exception to the rule. Russia was dominated for

600 years by a monarch who exercised autocratic and life-and-death powers over his people. Many of the governments in Europe and Asia were ruled by kings and emperors, who, if not absolute, wielded immense authority prior to the First World War. Russia was ruled for the better part of a century after toppling its emperor by heartless and merciless Communist dictators. Josef Stalin killed millions of his own people in the name of ideology. So, too, did the Chinese Communist kill millions of their own people, all in the name of their political beliefs. In Hitler's Germany and Mussolini's Italy, where there really was fascism, there was no acceptable dissent. For those people in this country who are either liars, morons or suffering from a terminal case of Trump Derangement Syndrome, if our present government were truly fascist, no dissent would be allowed. Comparing Donald Trump to Hitler is absurd to anyone who is literate or knows anything at all about world history. Criticism of Hitler was punishable by death, and

anyone who displeased him had a bad end. No criticism of Hitler was allowed on the airwaves or barely even in whispers. People in this country are obviously allowed to say what they think, no matter how false, how foolish or radical. It is the right of free speech. Not everybody here in this country likes the idea of free speech, which was one of the most fundamental cornerstones in Charlie Kirk's bedrock beliefs about the greatness of America.

The idea of occupying a "safe space" where our ears do not have to hear anything we dislike is relatively new, and polls show that one in three young people today believe it is just fine to use violence to shut down those who disagree with them. That coincides with every dictatorship and autocracy that has ever held sway on the face of God's earth throughout the millennia. It is the very antithesis of America and the premise of our nation.

Senator Bernie Sanders has said that the murder of Charlie Kirk was due to political cowardice, and that is certainly true. As

Sanders said, candidates and political parties should be able to debate their own viewpoints openly, and the people decide which they choose in free elections. Stifling, cutting off, or strangling the voices of those who don't share our own views is an admission that one's argument is weak or can't stand scrutiny. Charlie Kirk knew and celebrated the fact that America was built on ideas.

The radicalization and indoctrination of our students on college campuses had its effect and it is a terrible one. There is good reason to believe the young man who is believed to have murdered Charlie Kirk is a radical leftist. Kirk's battleground was the college campus where he willing debated those who had a very different political viewpoint from his own. University and college campuses have become the Xanadu of far-left ideology in the United States. No other single individual had more to do with the shift in the thinking of young people than did Charlie Kirk. Nobody could likely have been more surprised and horrified that young

people were really listening to Kirk than the elitists who populate the offices and corridors of college and university campuses. Those same campuses have long ceased to be places of ideas and innovation, having been replaced by the rigid ideology of gender, race, and antisemitism. Theirs has become the citadel of open borders, race, gender, and sexual identity politics, while conservatives want our country to be gathered around faith, family and the American flag.

Kirk's murder follows two attempts on the life of President Trump. Political violence is rising in this country, and the overheated rhetoric is in part responsible. That and the fact that we have left violent demonstrations, the burning of public, private and government property, all in the name of protest. Nobody, no individual or organization, has the right to destroy anything that doesn't belong to them in the name of protest, period. When something is described by the mainstream media as "most peaceful protests," we know it's not.

The inhumanity of Charlie Kirk's murder is a terrible stain that can never be washed clean. Kirk was a husband and the father of two small children, and he was ripped out of their lives in the worst way possible. It is both ironic and tragic that Charlie Kirk was murdered while literally using his First Amendment right to free speech. Kirk was a champion of free speech.

It is certainly true that Charlie Kirk pursued the upending of the status quo, but then so, too, did Dr. Martin Luther King. James Earl Ray murdered Martin Luther King because he hated King's beliefs and what he stood for. Charlie Kirk was murdered for the very same reason. There were disgusting and soulless people who celebrated the murder of Dr. King then, and there are disgusting and soulless people who are celebrating the murder of Charlie Kirk as well. The spilling of innocent blood can easily become a catalyst for change. God grant that we can change the hatred in this country.

Juvenile center needs funding and staff

Cont. from page 1
At-large Commissioner Larsen Jay said maybe that policy could be changed to require vacation pay to be taken every two years. He also said he is looking at staff hours and schedules and is establishing partnerships with agencies such as the McNabb Center and the Knox County Health Department.
The committee heard a presentation from the health department, which is now supplying treatment, supplies, equipment, medications and diets. Nighttime coverage is also being discussed.
The McNabb Center representatives also spoke to the board and said center employees are at the juvenile facility every day for about 50 hours each week. About 22 children have been

seen over the previous two weeks. Parental consent is sought before any services are provided to the child.
Judge Irwin said that most juveniles are housed there for only one or two days, but some, charged with serious offenses, stay longer.
"This is not a placement facility," Irwin said. He noted a change in attitude among those juveniles being detained since the former director resigned and some of the staff left.
"I'm pleased with the effort; we are making steps and getting there. We really need to hire staff," he said.
Jay noted the board has only three more monthly meetings and hopes to make recommendations before the sheriff takes over operation of the facility.

Agricultural land changing in county

By Mike Steely
Senior Writer
steelym@knoxfocus.com

All five zoning change applications before the Knox County Commission's zoning session last week involved changing agricultural-zoned properties to residential or commercial sites.
A request for a change to the property at 205 North Wooddale Road to planned residential (PR) for up to 7 units per acre was postponed until October. The planning commission recommended only 4.5 units

for the property.
The five changes from agricultural (A) to residential began with a request from Basecamp Rentals Inc. and CCG Auto LLC for a planned residential development of up to 4 units per acre on 1.5 acres at 2107 Tipton Road. When asked if the units would be "tiny homes for renters," the petitioners replied, "No."
The request was approved, provided the access is a "turnaround" and the rezoning will be low-density residential (RA), rather than the requested

PR designation.
Three Tazewell Pike lots, Zero, 7740 and 7744, were approved for a change from A to RA in a request from Noah Robbins. The approval added that the properties be served by one driveway.
Zero Asheville Highway was granted a change from A to PC, planned commercial, for the use of its 5.13 acres. Some topographic issues were noted, but Commissioner Adam Thompson said he felt comfortable with the request.
Damon and Dagan

Greene were granted a change from A to PR for up to five dwelling units on 6.65 acres on East Emory Road, with natural buffers on the east and west sides recommended by the planners.
George W. Hicks' request to change 6447 Rutledge Pike from A to general business was approved. He told the meeting that the property is surrounded by commercially-zoned property, and he wanted the zoning change so he could sell the site.

City hosts community meeting

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one located on Texas Avenue in the Lonsdale Community.
"Tonight was a total waste of time," said state Representative Sam McKenzie. "These people wanted to be heard."
Denzel Grant, who is seeking the District 6 seat on City Council, said he was opposed to the sale of the land to Emerald Youth.
"I've been in opposition to this," Grant said. "The city is just trying to

push this through."
Some opponents to the plan cite the city's lack of transparency and others oppose the sale of public land to an openly religious organization and others want Chilhowee Park preserved as a historical landmark.
But one graduate from Emerald Youth Academy, the foundation's charter school, said a facility on the east side of town would be a positive.
"I was a graduate of the first class at the academy," said Justice Hayes,

who went on to graduate from Central High School. "A lot of people don't know this, but my mom passed away when I was in elementary school, and I have a family."
"I wouldn't be the person that I am if it wasn't for Emerald Youth. I wouldn't change anything. They set people up for success. My cousins all went through Emerald Academy. One is in the military and one is living in Arizona now."

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Inskip Community Parade & Block Party Set for Saturday

On Saturday, September 27, the Inskip neighborhood will come alive with color, music and community spirit as Cattywampus Puppet Council and State-wide Organizing for Community eMpowerment (SOCM) team up with Inskip Elementary for We Are Inskip: Hear Us Roar! The celebration will begin at 11 a.m. with neighbors gathering

at the school for a parade line-up, followed by a lively New Orleans-style walking parade at noon.

Families, students and community members are invited to join the procession, which will showcase student-created art, giant puppets, flags and other larger-than-life creations. Participants can pick up art pieces to carry, or even

create their own before the parade sets off around the perimeter of the school. The parade route will end on the back lawn, where the festivities will continue with a free community block party.

From noon to 3 p.m., the block party will feature live performances from Candelita, bringing salsa, cumbia, bachata and merengue to

the stage, along with hip-hop artists from the Good Guy Collective and the high-energy beats of DJ Drewskii. Food trucks will line the lawn, while families explore a community resource fair, enjoy interactive art and play activities, and take in aerial circus performances. Guests are encouraged to bring lawn chairs or blankets to relax and enjoy the

afternoon.

Parking will be available at Inskip Elementary and throughout the neighborhood, though attendees should plan to arrive before noon when roads will briefly close for the parade.

Cattywampus Puppet Council, known for its giant puppet parades and community art projects, and SOCM, a grassroots

organization dedicated to justice and equity across Tennessee, are proud to partner with Inskip Elementary to highlight the creativity, diversity and resilience of the Inskip neighborhood. This day of art, music and community connection promises to be a joyful celebration of what makes Inskip roar.

Council Rules of Procedure passes conflicted first reading

By Mike Steely
Senior Writer
steelym@knoxfocus.com

“The committee has been disrespected,” said Councilwoman Lynne Fugate on Tuesday after several council members questioned and criticized some of the changes that the Rules of Procedure and Charter Review Task Force recommended for the Knoxville City Code.

Fugate chairs the task force that has been working for months on updating the rules the council operates under. The task force, made up of current council members Tommy Smith, Debbie Helsey and Amelia Parker, two former vice-mayors and Bill Lyons, proposed three resolutions Tuesday; one contained eight changes, including limiting public speakers to three minutes and a 30-minute time limit on any topic during public forum.

Several citizens spoke against the changes, saying they would limit public input.

Fugate said the rules of procedure for council meetings have not been changed for years. She said that 30 minutes would permit 10 citizens to speak, and the rule could be suspended with a council vote to permit other speakers.

Councilwoman Lauren Rider came to Fugate’s defense, confirming that any

member could have attended and made suggestions during the task force meetings.

Parker moved to consider each of the eight charter amendments individually, but her move failed due to a lack of a second.

Council members Andrew Roberto and Seema Singh suggested delaying a first vote for four weeks, but the motion failed in a 3-3-1 vote. The idea of holding off on any changes until the five new council members are seated following the November election was tossed around.

“It feels a little insulting,” Fugate told her fellow council members after several objections to rule changes were discussed. She said the comments were the “first the people on the committee have heard.”

A motion to delay a vote for two weeks was pulled back when Rider reminded the council that a second vote on the issue will be held during the upcoming council meeting next Tuesday, when the two absent members will be present. The council voted to approve the first reading, with Roberto and Parker voting “No.”

The council did approve the two other task force resolutions: permitting electronic participation by members for medical or family reasons and establishing a standing rules committee.

Grant sought by city for Gay Street Bridge replacement study

By Mike Steely
Senior Writer
steelym@knoxfocus.com

The Knoxville City Council voted to apply for \$1 million from the Federal Highway Administration’s Bridge Investment Program, with a \$200,000 city local match, for a Gay Street Bridge replacement. Mayor Indya Kincannon told the council Tuesday that the funding, if approved, is to “find out the cost” of a new bridge.

The historic Gay Street span across the Tennessee River was found to be structurally unsound last summer, and repairs are expected to be completed by the end of the year, when pedestrians and bicycles will be permitted to cross.

The mayor shared that a former Knoxville Police Department property, transferred to the Clayton family for a possible museum project, has been “deeded back” to the city. Plans for the proposed project languished and were abandoned.

Kincannon also announced the completion of 161 affordable homes

at the First Creek at Austin project that will eventually have 440 new residential units.

City council approved a boost in funding for the East Knoxville Greenway Project, bringing the total cost to \$5,277,770, and the contract with Barge Design Solutions Inc. was upped to \$827,770 for that greenway project.

The Western Heights housing project was allocated \$4.2 million for infrastructure improvements in an agreement with Knoxville’s Community Development Corporation.

Clean Earth Environmental Solutions was hired to dispose of hazardous household waste and Wilson Food Service LLC

was contracted to operate and manage the “Holiday on Ice” at Market Square during the holiday season for \$115,000 for this season in a five-year agreement.

The council also approved an agreement with Knoxville & Holston Railroad Inc. for the creation of the SoKno Greenway and ArtWalk.

Several rezoning requests were consolidated and approved in one vote, as there was no public opposition to the planning commission’s recommendations. Properties involved included 4913 Rowan Road, Zero Inskip Road, Zero North Gallaher View Road, and 2814 Dresser Road.

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Karns High School plans fundraisers to support junior Hayden Jennings

Hayden Jennings, a current junior and member of the Karns High School baseball team, was diagnosed with Ewing Sarcoma, a type of bone cancer, during his sophomore year. Just a few weeks ago, he rang the bell after completing treatment.

To celebrate his strength, his classmates are working with Dream Connections to raise \$6,000 so Hayden can take a dream trip to Hawaii.

The student council is planning the following events to raise funds for Hayden's trip.

- September 26: Pajama Day at Karns Elementary and Karns Middle School; students pay \$1 to wear PJs.
- T-shirt and bracelet sales at the Karns High School store and online at the Karns Event Planning page.
- Karns High School-wide Rock, Paper, Scissors Challenge, where students compete for bead necklaces, with opportunities to purchase more beads to keep playing and work toward a final winner.
- Coin Buckets Challenge during Homecoming Week (September 29 – October 3), where each grade level at Karns High competes to raise the most.

A flier details one of the planned fundraisers for Karns junior Hayden Jennings. Submitted by Hetvi Patel.

#HOPEFORHAYDEN

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T-Shirts: \$5 Each
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SHOP NOW IN THE SCHOOL STORE.

All donations will go towards helping achieve Hayden's dream to go to Hawaii.



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<https://www.givebacks.com/causes/karnhs/campaigns/goinggold25>

GOAL \$6000





Knoxville SOUP announces project pitches

Knoxville SOUP is excited to announce the community projects selected to present at the upcoming SOUP dinner on Tuesday, September 23 at Kerbel Temple in South Knoxville. Guests will enjoy a simple meal, listen to presentations from local

Continued on page 2

Holston Hills Community Club hosts annual Mums, Mimosas and More Sale

Holston Hills Community Club will host their annual Mums, Mimosas and More Sale on Sunday, September 28, from 2-4 p.m. in the Holston Hills Community Park at the corner of Chilhowee Dr. and Holston Hills Rd.

This year's sale will feature mums and pansies in five colors bronze (orange), white, red, purple and yellow. Each mum is a 9-inch pot with 16-inch crown at full bloom. The pansies are sold in flats of 18 plants in the same colors as the mums or in a mixed flat. There is also a selection of small trees. Funds raised will go to the Historic Holston Hills Community Club Park.

In addition to the plants for sale, there will be a Pumpkin Patch and a children's art project. Participants will receive a free pumpkin and have an opportunity to make a simple, fall bird feeder.

Swing by the park to buy some plants, and bring your children to enjoy the Pumpkin Patch. Plants may be purchased by cash, check or Venmo.

Smart Yards and Friends Festival set for September 27

How smart is your yard? If you are interested in upgrading your yard or property to a smart yard by using native plants, responsible and efficient rain drainage and other sustainable landscaping practices, then come to the third annual Smart Yards and Friends Festival.

The event is Saturday, September 27, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the University of Tennessee Gardens, Knoxville, 2518 Jacob Drive on the UTIA campus. It's hosted by Knox County Master Gardeners. UT Extension and Tennessee State University Cooperative Extension with support from the Tennessee Valley Authority.

At the festival, visitors can explore the Gardens, talk with and ask questions of Master Gardeners, swap yard chemicals for native seeds and learn about water management,



Learn about sustainable landscaping practices for your lawn at the Smart Yards and Friends Festival on September 27 at the UT Gardens, Knoxville. Photo courtesy UTIA.

composting, native plants, turning your lawn into a meadow, soil conservation and gardening for wildlife.

The event is free, but pre-register for extra raffle ticket giveaways such as a rain barrel, worm bin, native plants, wildflower seeds and a bat box. There will be a food vendor on site and a selfie

booth. You must be present to win. Pre-register online at tiny.utk.edu/smartyardsfestival.

Tennessee Smart Yards is an Extension-led program that guides Tennesseans on practices to create healthier and more ecologically-sound landscapes and communities. Residents incorporate

nine foundational principles to have a certified Tennessee Smart Yard. The principles include planting the right plant in the right place, managing soils and mulch, practicing sustainability, watering efficiently, fertilizing appropriately, managing yard pests, reducing stormwater and pollutants,

providing for wildlife and protecting the water's edge.

Last year, more than 200 people attended the second Smart Yards and Friends Festival.

For more information about Tennessee Smart Yards, visit tnyards.utk.edu.

- Smart Yards Schedule
- 9 a.m. – Doors open
 - 9:30 a.m. – Worm compost bin demonstration
 - 10 a.m. – "Conservation, But Make It Pretty – Native Plants for the Flower Garden" presentation
 - 10:30 a.m. – Building a bat house demonstration
 - 11 a.m. – "Things You Always Wanted to Know About Bats" presentation
 - 11:30 a.m. – Water efficiently demonstration
 - Noon – "Living at the Edge: Smart Planting for Healthy Waterways" presentation
 - 1 p.m. – Festival ends

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I've given up watching the news. I've given up reading the daily paper. Some might say I'm choosing to become an uninformed, ignorant person. I don't think so. I've just heard too much negative stuff that's going on, and I need a break from the perpetual bad news. This past week, a couple of things occurred that helped to change my attitude.

The first changing event was a gathering of several old men. For a while, classmates from Ball Camp



By Joe Rector
joerector@comcast.net

Elementary have met for a meal and fellowship. Only a few of us are around, so this past month, some men who went to Karns Elementary were invited. We all graduated in 1970, and yes, that means we're OLD. New attendees included Quill Higdon, Mike Hill and Wayne Norman. This last man drove from Gallatin to meet with us. Some of the regular guys weren't able to meet, and they missed a good time. For a couple of hours, everyone

participated in telling old stories, many of which were surprising and funny. Sam Marcum was in town from Utah, and this is his second meeting.

Nearly every one of us has dealt with some kind of hardship, but for that short time that we met, those things were forgotten and replaced with smiles and laughter. In fact, life returned to our eyes as we listened to the old war stories and floated back to the years in high school. When we rose to leave, all stood a little straighter and walked a bit lighter. Spending time with friends from 50-plus years ago is good for the

body and the soul.

The second thing that adjusted the way I've been feeling was a televised concert from the Vatican. Pope Leo thought that a celebration might be something all of us could use. Called "Grace for the World Concert," the program was an evening filled with entertainers and speakers who all assured the 300,000 live audience and those watching television that we are all under the watchful eyes of a God who loves us and will take care of us.

Sometimes, we, who believe that God is, need a reminder. We worry and fret and withdraw. That is

not what the plan is for us. Instead, we are to go into the world and serve others. A reminder that a powerful, loving creator is ever-present gives us renewed strength. When we recall that our jobs are to drive the buses and to follow the route that the Divine has given, our fears and worries end.

Right now, our country is in turmoil. Party fights party, groups argues with groups, and individuals choose their ideas of right over what is common sense and the laws of the land. If we choose to make things better, it will take all parties working together for

what is best for all people. Doing so might require all of us to give up our ill feelings and prejudices. That's tough work.

Yes, I still worry about the future of our country. I want the USA to remain the bright light in the darkness. I want us to remain the "gold standard" for a country and government. I no longer plan to fret and withdraw from the world. Instead, I think I'll take my part in trying to make the world a better place for everyone. That's what America has always done.

Cont. from page 1

changemakers, and then cast their votes to decide which project will receive the evening's micro-grant.

SOUP is a grassroots event that brings people together to support creative ideas that make Knoxville stronger.

Each presenter will share their project in just a few minutes — no slides, no jargon — and the audience decides which proposal should receive funding raised through the dinner.

The projects chosen for the September 23 event are:

1. 9th Annual Cattywampus Parade & Block Party (Cattywampus Puppet Council): A free
2. "Urban Outposts" Series (Inside of Knoxville): "Urban Outposts" is a new Inside of Knoxville series spotlighting small businesses and neighborhood gems beyond downtown that give each community its character.
3. Bashun's Bridge (Knox County Red Book of Resources): to break the stigma surrounding
4. After-School Healthy Cooking Program (Little Chefs, Big Change): Our after-school cooking classes will help South Knox kids build confidence in the kitchen while discovering that cooking healthy food can be fun and delicious.

Everyone is invited to attend, enjoy good food and conversation, and take part in helping one of these ideas become a reality.

Visit knoxvillesoup.org for information on volunteering at SOUP.

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The Gentleman From Colorado

Edward T. Taylor

Pages from the Past



By Ray Hill
rayhill865@gmail.com

Edward Thomas Taylor served 32 years in the U.S. House of Representatives for Colorado. Taylor didn't get to Congress until he was 50 years old and stayed there until his death at age 83. By the time Congressman Ed Taylor died, he was one of the leading figures in the House, serving as chairman of the House Appropriations Committee. That post was, in Taylor's opinion, "the second hardest job in Congress." "Speaker of the House is first," Taylor told a reporter. "I believe the grind hastened the deaths of the six men who were chairmen immediately before me."

Twenty-two times Edward T. Taylor ran for public office in general elections and never once was defeated. Tall, wiry and balding as he aged, Taylor favored gold-rimmed glasses and wore a moustache. Taylor had been a cowboy in Kansas and attended law school at the University of Michigan. He claimed, not without reason, in his biography in the "Congressional Directory," that he had written "more state laws and constitutional amendments and federal laws combined than anyone else." Taylor was called the "Father of Reclamation" by many for his conservation efforts. Friendly, kind and unfailingly courteous, it was said that Ed Taylor served in the House of Representatives for more than 30 years without making a single enemy. For the first six years of his congressional career, Edward T. Taylor was elected at-large by all the people of Colorado.

Perhaps the most famous piece of legislation authored by Congressman Edward T. Taylor was the Taylor Grazing Act of 1934. Taylor proposed that grazing be allowed on 80 million acres of land owned by the United States government. The land would be subdivided into grazing districts, which would be administered by the Department of the Interior. Today, there are at least 162 million acres with grazing allotments. The Taylor Grazing Act provided for landowners surrounding the federal lands to be able to request and receive permits to grant passage across lands and grazing privileges, and to build fences and other necessary improvements. The legislation also outlined the exceptions, which included Alaska (a territory when the bill was first passed), national forests and national monuments. Ranchers paid fees for the use of the lands, which went to pay for conservation and improvement projects, as well as turning over some of the revenue to the various state governments. There was terrific opposition to the Taylor Grazing

Act, and opponents called for the individual states to use and dispose of the range as they wished.

Taylor never hesitated to use his growing influence on behalf of Colorado and the West and was an integral factor in twice saving the Boulder Dam from congressional defeat. The Colorado congressman was one of the major factors in the success of the Colorado River Compact. That helped in making the Boulder Dam possible, and Taylor supported the development of Muscle Shoals, a matter of considerable interest to the people of Tennessee and their congressional delegation. Congressman Taylor was a strong advocate of hydroelectric power. Taylor also fervently believed in the multiple use of land. The Colorado congressman sponsored the Taylor-Mondell Act with Frank Mondell of Wyoming. That particular bill opened federal coal lands for settlement while simultaneously protecting the fuel reserves.

Colorado's Fourth Congressional District during Taylor's service in the decade of the 1930s was imposing. Taylor's home was in Garfield County, which was 75 miles wide and 120 miles long. It took a train ten hours to cross Colorado's vast Fourth District. One reporter noted Colorado's Fourth District included "some of the most celebrated gold towns of the mining era," as well as "immense forest reservations; the fountain-heads of eight large rivers, and 40 mountain peaks each of which is more than 14,000 feet in height." Ed Taylor was praised by many journalists who believed no man had done more "to preserve the natural resources of" his district and the West.

Ed Taylor was evidently unassailable inside his district and especially inside the Democratic Party, as he never had an opponent for the nomination of his political party. Taylor liked to say he quite nearly settled upon being a teacher rather than a legislator.

"I got off a Kansas cow pony and went to Leavenworth, Kansas high school and then got a job teaching at Leadville, Colorado," Taylor remembered. "I was paid \$137.50 a month and saved \$100. At the end of eight months, they wanted me to be school superintendent." Taylor turned down the offer, using his \$800 in savings to finance his law school education.

At the age of 26, law degree in hand, Edward T. Taylor returned to Leadville, where he began his public service career. Upon his return, Taylor recalled folks had not forgotten him and had "the county



NEA PHOTO FROM THE AUTHOR'S PERSONAL COLLECTION.

Senator Alva Adams (left) and Congressman Edward T. Taylor admire a portrait of Taylor, which was a gift of the farmers of Colorado, 1939.

superintendency of schools virtually thrust upon me." After being elected district attorney, Taylor decided, "Leadville's two-mile-high altitude was too much for me." Taylor moved to Glenwood Springs, where he lived for the rest of his long life.

It was in Glenwood Springs that Taylor built a home in 1904, which still stands there today. The exterior was painted white, and the Colonial Revival front porch was supported by thick columns that gave the home a vaguely Southern appearance. The Taylor House was built in the Foursquare style of the day. Originally, Taylor had budgeted \$8,000 (which had the buying power of more than \$277,000 today) for the construction of the house. Eventually, Taylor spent more than twice that building the house. The Taylor House had more than 7,000 square feet with three full floors and a basement. There were some lavish touches, like the entrance hall being paneled in Philippine mahogany.

Western senators and congressmen were expected to advocate for a number of things peculiar to their region of the country, not the least of which was water rights. Cattle, sheep, sugar beets, silver and other interests occupied much of the time of those who wished to remain in Congress while serving a western state. Taylor served in the Colorado State Senate for two terms before winning election to Congress in 1908 from the Centennial State's Fourth Congressional District.

It was Congressman Ed Taylor who authored the legislation that changed the name of the Grand River to the Colorado River. Taylor was well-positioned to serve the interests of Colorado with his committee assignments in the House, serving on and chairing the Interior and Insular Affairs Committee and the powerful Appropriations Committee. With the election of Franklin Roosevelt in 1932, Taylor used his perch on the Appropriations Committee to lavish projects and federal dollars upon the Fourth District and Colorado at a time

when jobs and money were scarce. Taylor secured appropriations over \$10 million annually for reservoirs, CCC camps, roads, and a host of New Deal alphabet agencies in his home state.

In 1935, only two men were left serving in the House of Representatives who had arrived in 1909: Taylor and Joseph W. Byrns of Tennessee, who represented the "Hermitage District" of Nashville. Byrns had just become the Speaker of the House while Taylor was the Acting Majority Leader in the absence of Alabama's William Bankhead, who was quite ill. Only Adolph Sabath of Illinois had served longer and he by just two years. Ordinarily, Taylor was the ranking member of the House Appropriations Committee and presided over the Democratic Caucus of the House. Taylor's chairmanship of the House Appropriations Committee's subcommittee on the Interior Department gave him enormous influence on matters of importance to Colorado and the western United States.

James "Buck" Buchanan of Texas died on February 22, 1937. The death of Congressman Buchanan elevated Edward T. Taylor to the chairmanship of the House Appropriations Committee. Buchanan's death also began the elective political career of a young congressional aide named Lyndon Johnson.

Taylor collected gavels, and his more than 50 gavels weighed more than 200 pounds. The congressman was the recipient of a specially-made gavel sent to him by Secretary of the Interior Harold Ickes.

As Taylor assumed the chairmanship of the House Appropriations Committee, President Roosevelt was once again talking about balancing the budget. The Colorado congressman remained skeptical. Taylor celebrated his 79th birthday shortly after assuming his post as chair of the Appropriations Committee. "We'll have a birthday dinner together," Mrs. Taylor told a newsman, "but there won't be any guests nor even callers." The aging congressman had only recently recovered

from a month-long bronchial illness.

Edward T. Taylor had been in Washington a very long time and as he got older and his health more fragile, his visits back home became less frequent. Reelected easily in 1940, the congressman wanted to come back to Colorado with Mrs. Taylor for a vacation.

Friends had worried about the elderly congressman coming home for a visit. Walter Walker, publisher of a daily newspaper and a former U.S. senator, had written the congressman, begging him not to come home due to Colorado's high altitude. Other friends tried to get the congressman to change his mind, but Taylor insisted he was coming home after having been absent from the state for the last three years. Mrs. Taylor, the same age as her husband, had been ill for some time, and the congressman thought she was much better and would enjoy the trip to Colorado. Both Congressman and Mrs. Taylor were excited about their homecoming and were in excellent spirits. Worried, Congressman Lawrence Lewis, who represented Denver in the House of Representatives and lived in the same Washington, D.C. hotel as the Taylors, made arrangements to travel on the same train back home. Lewis saw the Taylors off to their hotel in Denver, and the couple remained cheerful while the congressmen greeted a number of old friends. Friends were finally able to convince Congressman Taylor to reduce some of his schedule, which they feared was too strenuous for him. The following morning, a Tuesday, Congressman Edward T. Taylor suffered a severe heart attack in his hotel suite. While waiting for a physician, Taylor's "recovery" was considered "remarkable" by some of those present. The doctor wisely insisted that Taylor be taken to a hospital immediately, which brought a protest from the congressman. Taylor eventually gave in, but also insisted upon dressing himself for the trip and getting to the car. The lawmaker was accompanied by Mrs.

Taylor, Congressman Lewis and former Governor Teller Ammons.

Ed Taylor was quickly placed under an oxygen tent, a standard practice of the time. The next day, a Tuesday, Taylor seemed to be improving, but he suffered another, slight heart attack that evening. On Wednesday, Congressman Edward T. Taylor was active, seeing friends and visitors, and making plans for his visit. Mrs. Taylor and a nurse were sitting with him when the congressman died suddenly at 8:05 p.m. At the time of his death, Edward T. Taylor was the oldest man serving in the House of Representatives.

Taylor had never shown the slightest inclination to retire; quite the contrary, the congressman had stated several times he wished to die while "still in harness." Granted that wish, Congressman Edward T. Taylor authored more than 100 federal laws for the people of Colorado and the United States.

The funeral of Congressman Ed Taylor was held at the American Legion Hall, and the floral tributes squeezed those attending the services. Flowers came from the White House and President Roosevelt and First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt, as well as from modest homes of those who appreciated the congressman's service. The Roosevelts had sent dark red roses with a sprig of wheat. Tributes from the House, the U.S. Senate, and the various departments, agencies and armed services were everywhere.

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**TO: MICHAEL S. WASHAM, RESPONDENT
IN RE: THE ADOPTION OF A FEMALE
CHILD, K.E.H., D.O.B. 01/19/2016**

**BY: SONJA LYNN RITTER AND LARRY
RITTER, Original Petitioners,
and JACKIE DENNIS HOWARD,
Intervening Petitioner**

vs.

**WHITNEY HOWARD AND MICHAEL
S. WASHAM, Respondents**

**IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR
KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE
AT KNOXVILLE
DOCKET NO. 198908-1**

In this cause, it appearing from the Order of Publication, that the residence of MICHAEL S. WASHAM, the biological father of K.E.H., D.O.B.: 01/19/2016, is unknown and cannot be ascertained upon diligent inquiry, it was ordered that publication be made for four successive weeks, in The Knoxville Focus, to notify MICHAEL S. WASHAM, to file an answer with this court and send a copy to Petitioners' attorney, Shipley & Swain, PLLC, whose address is 800 S. Gay Street, Ste. 700, Knoxville, TN 37929, within 30 days from the last date of publication, exclusive of the last date of publication, or a judgment by default may be entered against MICHAEL S. WASHAM. Failure to appear may result in a default judgment against MICHAEL S. WASHAM.

This 3rd day of SEPTEMBER, 2025.

John F. Weaver
Chancellor

J. Scott Griswold
Clerk and Master

NON-RESIDENT NOTICE

**TO: UNKNOWN HEIRS OF PAULA PK
BOOKER, and U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL
ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL
CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS OWNER
TRUSTEE FOR RCF 2 ACQUISITION TRUST**

**IN RE: ATLEE FIELDS HOMEOWNERS
ASSOCIATION, INC., Plaintiff**

v.

**UNKNOWN HEIRS OF THE ESTATE OF
PAULA PK BOOKER, and U.S. BANK
TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT
IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT
SOLELY AS OWNER TRUSTEE FOR RCF 2
ACQUISITION TRUST, Defendants
NO. 211056-2**

**IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR KNOX
COUNTY, TENNESSEE**

In this Cause, it appearing from the Complaint filed, which is sworn to, that the defendant UNKNOWN HEIRS OF PAULA PK BOOKER, U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS OWNER TRUSTEE FOR RCF 2 ACQUISITION TRUST 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 UNKNOWN HEIRS OF PAULA PK BOOKER, U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS OWNER TRUSTEE FOR RCF 2 ACQUISITION TRUST described in the complaint, it is ordered that said defendant, UNKNOWN HEIRS OF PAULA PK BOOKER, U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS OWNER TRUSTEE FOR RCF 2 ACQUISITION TRUST file an answer with the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court at Knoxville, Tennessee and with Kevin C. Stevens, an Attorney whose address is 550 W. Main St., Ste. 400, Bank of America Building within thirty (30) days of the last date of publication or a judgment by default will be taken against you and the cause will be set for hearing Ex-Parte as to you before Chancellor Richard Armstrong Jr., at the Knox County Chancery Court, Division II, 400 Main Street, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902. This notice will be published in a The Knoxville Focus Newspaper for four (4) consecutive weeks.

This 9th day of September, 2025.

J. Scott Griswold
Clerk and Master

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF BOYD LEE ADKINS
DOCKET NUMBER 91353-2**

Notice is hereby given that on the 10th day of SEPTEMBER, 2025, letters administration (or letters of testamentary as the case may be) in respect of the Estate of BOYD LEE ADKINS, who died 7/22/25, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above-named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

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

This the 10th day of SEPTEMBER, 2025.

ESTATE OF BOYD LEE ADKINS

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
KIMBERLY A. PRUITT
8609 BELLEADONNA DRIVE
COLLEGE GROVE, TN 37046

TERRILL L. ADKINS
1004 HAMILTON RIDGE LANE
KNOXVILLE, TN 37922

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF VICKIE YARBROUGH BLAIR
DOCKET NUMBER 91439-1**

Notice is hereby given that on the 8th day of SEPTEMBER, 2025, letters of testamentary in respect of the Estate of VICKIE YARBROUGH BLAIR, who died on the 26th 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 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 8th day of SEPTEMBER, 2025.

ESTATE OF VICKIE YARBROUGH BLAIR

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
HEATHER BOLES
7745 ASHLEY ROAD
POWELL, TN 37849

NEVA M. FOUST, ATTORNEY
4641 CHAMBLISS AVENUE
KNOXVILLE, TN 37919

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF CLARA GAIL BROWN
DOCKET NUMBER 91429-3**

Notice is hereby given that on the 10th day of SEPTEMBER, 2025, Letters Testamentary in respect to the Estate of CLARA GAIL BROWN, who died on July 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 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 10th day of SEPTEMBER, 2025.

ESTATE OF CLARA GAIL BROWN

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
BRADLEY MARVIN BROWN
6105 RIVERS RUN DRIVE
KNOXVILLE, TN 37914

H. NICOLE HUMAN, ATTORNEY
308 COGILL ROAD
KNOXVILLE, TN 37922

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF ALBERT MONDO DANIELS
DOCKET NUMBER 91372-3**

Notice is hereby given that on the 27 day of AUGUST, 2025, letters administration in respect of the Estate of ALBERT MONDO DANIELS, who died June 15, 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 27 day of AUGUST, 2025.

ESTATE OF ALBERT MONDO DANIELS

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
LINDA DANIELS TRUITT, ADMINISTRATRIX
8724 OLDE COLONY TRAIL
KNOXVILLE, TN 37923

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF BETTY LEA DAVIS
DOCKET NUMBER 91378-3**

Notice is hereby given that on the 27 day of AUGUST, 2025, letters administration in respect of the Estate of BETTY LEA DAVIS, who died July 6, 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 27 day of AUGUST, 2025.

ESTATE OF BETTY LEA DAVIS

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
SHANNON D. CROSS, CO-ADMINISTRATOR
4160 DEER CREEK DRIVE
KNOXVILLE, TN 37912

ARNOLD JAY DAVIS, III,
CO-ADMINISTRATOR
2711 COPELAND STREET
KNOXVILLE, TN 37917

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF GALE RICHARD ENGELKE
DOCKET NUMBER 91386-2**

Notice is hereby given that on the 3 day of SEPTEMBER, 2025, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of GALE RICHARD ENGELKE, who died July 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 3 day of SEPTEMBER, 2025.

ESTATE OF GALE RICHARD ENGELKE

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
RHONDA HARBIN, EXECUTRIX
7401 HARVEST CREEK LANE
POWELL, TN 37849

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF GORDON COLLYER GALE
DOCKET NUMBER 91238-1**

Notice is hereby given that on the 29 day of AUGUST, 2025, letters administration in respect of the Estate of GORDON COLLYER GALE, who died Dec. 18, 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 29 day of AUGUST, 2025.

ESTATE OF GORDON COLLYER GALE

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
ARIEL GALE, ADMINISTRATRIX
2426 SUMMERLAND DRIVE
DECATUR, GA 30032

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF DAVID EUGENE GALLOP
DOCKET NUMBER 91366-3**

Notice is hereby given that on the 27 day of AUGUST, 2025, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of DAVID EUGENE GALLOP, who died March 19, 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 27 day of AUGUST, 2025.

ESTATE OF DAVID EUGENE GALLOP

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
CHRIS DAVID GALLOP, EXECUTOR
2630 HOPE CREEK ROAD
LENOIR CITY, TN 37771

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF ERNEST E. HENDRIX, JR.
DOCKET NUMBER 91375-3**

Notice is hereby given that on the 3 day of SEPTEMBER, 2025, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of ERNEST E. HENDRIX, JR., who died June 2, 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 3 day of SEPTEMBER, 2025.

ESTATE OF ERNEST E. HENDRIX, JR.

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
JAMES S. HENDRIX, CO-EXECUTOR
3790 BUTLER SPRINGS DRIVE
LOGANVILLE, GA 30052

MELANIE D. BARNES, CO-EXECUTOR
505 WATER OAK DRIVE
SEYMOUR, TN 37865

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF BILLY E. HOPKINS
DOCKET NUMBER 91400-1**

Notice is hereby given that on the 29 day of AUGUST, 2025, letters testamentary in respect

of the Estate of BILLY E. HOPKINS, who died July 23, 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 29 day of AUGUST, 2025.

ESTATE OF BILLY E. HOPKINS

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
KIMBERLY H. GHEEN, EXECUTRIX
4316 GUINN ROAD
KNOXVILLE, TN 37931

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF ROBERT HOUSTON HOVIS, III
DOCKET NUMBER 91327-3**

Notice is hereby given that on the 5th day of SEPTEMBER, 2025, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of ROBERT HOUSTON HOVIS, III, who died May 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 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 5th day of SEPTEMBER, 2025.

ESTATE OF ROBERT HOUSTON HOVIS, III

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
CHARLES R. CLOHAN
2703 GREEN HOLLY SPRINGS COURT
OAKTON, VA 22124

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

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF TROY DWAYNE JOHNSON, SR.
DOCKET NUMBER 91242-2**

Notice is hereby given that on the 3 day of SEPTEMBER, 2025, letters administration in respect of the Estate of TROY DWAYNE JOHNSON, SR., who died June 19, 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 3 day of SEPTEMBER, 2025.

ESTATE OF TROY DWAYNE JOHNSON, SR.

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
MAURICE A. JOHNSON, SR.,
CO-ADMINISTRATOR
3905 SKYLINE DRIVE
KNOXVILLE, TN 37914

JAMES C. JOHNSON, CO-ADMINISTRATOR
3934 SELMA AVENUE
KNOXVILLE, TN 37914

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF DOUGLAS RAY LOOCK
DOCKET NUMBER 91438-3**

Notice is hereby given that on the 5th day of SEPTEMBER, 2025, letters of testamentary in respect of the Estate of DOUGLAS RAY LOOCK, who died on the 16th day of June 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 5th day of SEPTEMBER, 2025.

ESTATE OF DOUGLAS RAY LOOCK

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
SHERRI L. TAFOYA
8911 EAGLE VIEW WAY
LINCOLN, NE 68520

NEVA M. FOUST, ATTORNEY
4641 CHAMBLISS AVENUE
KNOXVILLE, TN 37919

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF CHESTER A. MILAM
DOCKET NUMBER 91413-2**

Notice is hereby given that on the 5th day of SEPTEMBER, 2025, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of CHESTER A. MILAM, 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 5th day of SEPTEMBER, 2025.

ESTATE OF CHESTER A. MILAM

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
NICOLE JEAN ALLEY

DANIEL F. WILKINS, ATTORNEY
7632 GLEASON DRIVE
KNOXVILLE, TN 37919

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**ESTATE OF HELEN OLIVER
DOCKET NUMBER 91367-1**

Notice is hereby given that on the 29 day of AUGUST, 2025, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of HELEN OLIVER, who died March 10, 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.

Viewing nature from your car window

We are so blessed to have many examples of nature in our region, from river and valley views to mountain ridges and overlooks. But not everyone likes or is able to hike along our many trails or visit those beautiful places.

There are many wonderful places you can view from your car, and taking a day's trip can bring back memories or instill new pictures in your mind. Here are just a few of those "easy to view" places you may or may not know about.

Clinch Mountain Overlook

There's a breathtaking overlook of the Tennessee Valley from the top of Clinch Mountain, where you can see the Smoky Mountains across the valley. The Veteran's Overlook has a parking area from where you can see the region from your car or step out a few feet and get the total experience.

The overlook is located on US-25E just up the mountain from Bean Station, one of the earliest settlements in the state, and south of Tazewell. For years, there was a caged bear there, and the Clinch Mountain Overlook

A Day Away



By Mike Steely

Restaurant featured "Vinegar Pie" as a menu item.

Bald River Falls

Located south of Tellico Plains just off Highway 68 and along the Cherohala Parkway, the newly reopened bridge at

Bald River Falls offers visitors the opportunity to view the beautiful cascades. The new bridge also features a viewing platform facing the rushing waters, expanded parking, and a park just beyond the falls with expanded facilities.

Baby Falls is located a quarter mile further up the road, and you can park and watch daring kayakers pause and then plunge into the pool below.

Ozone Falls

While you can't see this high waterfall from your car, just a few steps outside can give you a great look at the falls. The Ozone Falls Natural Area is located just off I-40 near Crab Orchard, atop Cumberland Mountain and along Highway 70. There's a small parking area just feet from the overlook of the 110-foot waterfall.

The "ozone" name comes from

Continue on page 6

Live a Life. Leave a Legacy.

I, like many others, have been profoundly affected and deeply shaken by the tragic loss of Charlie Kirk. He was a man who used his platform to express his beliefs and his unwavering passion, leaving a significant mark on the world. Now that he is gone, it is clear that

he indeed made an impact. One of the recurring thoughts in the past few weeks has been that death is not just the end of a life, but also a moment to reveal a legacy. Many people around the world are taking this time to reflect and ask themselves: What will we be remembered for when our time comes?

The difficult truth is that none of us can choose when our last day will come, but each of us can decide what we do with today. In the midst of grief and loss, we are reminded that what truly matters is not just how long we live, but how deeply, faithfully and purposefully we live our lives. Legacies aren't defined by the eulogies spoken at our funerals; they are built day by day through the choices we make, the values we uphold, and the impact we have on others.

Our legacy is the story we leave behind when our voices grow silent and our footprints fade into the distance. While our accomplishments, accolades,

possessions, and positions may eventually diminish, the way we live, what we stand for, and who we influence along the way become the lasting echoes of our lives, reaching far beyond our years.

This sentiment resonates with the message of the Hebrew writer who spoke of Abel, the first man whose life was taken, stating, "he being dead yet speaketh." This powerful line captures the essence of legacy: even after death, a committed life lived faithfully to God continues to have an impact. Our lives ultimately convey a message that outlives us, whether through a whisper or a shout, to future generations.

The death of anyone who carried a message should motivate those of us who remain. From the prophets and apostles of the scriptures to figures like Martin Luther King, Abraham Lincoln, Polycarp, Jim Elliot, and most recently, Charlie Kirk, we are reminded that their lives served as torches, and we must not let the flame be extinguished. Their deaths urge us not only to remember them in memory but also to take action. They inspire us to embrace the truth and continue their mission with compassion, conviction and courage. Recently, Charlie Kirk's life and legacy encourage

us to do two things: advance the principles he stood for and adopt the approach he lived by.

By promoting the principles of faith, family and freedom, we uphold core values. Faith is both our helm and anchor, providing direction and stability during life's storms. Family nurtures love, shapes character and establishes values. Freedom is a gift to protect and a responsibility to uphold. These principles are not just ideals but convictions to live by, as exemplified by Charlie Kirk.

Secondly, we should embrace his approach. Charlie Kirk exemplified the ability to speak truth with conviction and compassion, engaging in difficult conversations with civility and respect. Even his critics had a place at the table. We must recognize that boldness and love can coexist in a culture often marked by outrage and violence. Grace and courage can walk together, and may this be the guiding principle for people of faith.

Recent events across our nation have prompted me to reflect on how I want to be remembered. When my life comes to an end and my voice is silent, I hope to be remembered as a man who stood for unwavering truth while loving every person God placed in my path. To stand for something eternal and to love in a way that reflects Christ--this is the legacy I wish to leave behind.



By Justin Pratt, Clear Springs Baptist Church Senior Pastor

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF MOZELL CATLETT
DOCKET NUMBER 91445-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 11th day of SEPTEMBER, 2025, Letters of Administration in respect of the Estate of MOZELL CATLETT, who died July 30, 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 and unmatured against the estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

This the 11th day of SEPTEMBER, 2025.

ESTATE OF MOZELL CATLETT

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
DEBBIE K. EVERETT
4512 VENTURA DRIVE
KNOXVILLE, TN 37938

MELISSA WORTLEY LAWING, ATTORNEY
3715 POWERS STREET
KNOXVILLE, TN 37917

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF EARL LEE DILL
DOCKET NUMBER 91442-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 11th day of SEPTEMBER, 2025, Letters Testamentary in respect to the Estate of EARL LEE DILL, who died on May 3, 2025, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above-named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

This the 11th day of SEPTEMBER, 2025.

ESTATE OF EARL LEE DILL

LESLIE ALLEN DILL, EXECUTOR
7513 YOUNT ROAD
KNOXVILLE, TN 37931

SHANNON M. HOLLAND, ATTORNEY
308 COGDILL ROAD
KNOXVILLE, TN 37922

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF DOROTHY E. FOX
DOCKET NUMBER 91528-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 11th day of SEPTEMBER, 2025, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of DOROTHY E. FOX, who died Aug. 28, 2025, were issued to the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the

- (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 11th day of SEPTEMBER, 2025.

ESTATE OF CALEB MICHAEL HEATH

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
KIMBERLY BROWN
5812 WHISPER WOOD ROAD
KNOXVILLE, TN 37918

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

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF TYRONE D. JORDAN
DOCKET NUMBER 91339-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 15th day of SEPTEMBER 15, 2025, Letters Testamentary in respect of the Estate of TYRONE D. JORDAN, who died on the 28th day of June, 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 claim will be forever barred:

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

This the 15th day of SEPTEMBER, 2025.

ESTATE OF TYRONE D. JORDAN

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
JOANN WEINER
909 UTAH DRIVE
TOMS RIVER, NJ 08753

ERIN T. SANGSTER, ATTORNEY
294 B VILLAGE SQUARE DRIVE
LOUDON, TN 37774

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF KAREN A. MOGUS
DOCKET NUMBER 91433-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 5 day of SEPTEMBER, 2025, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of KAREN A. MOGUS, who died June 6, 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 5 day of SEPTEMBER, 2025.

ESTATE OF KAREN A. MOGUS

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
ROBERT RITCHEY, EXECUTOR
219 SEQUOYAH DRIVE
MADISONVILLE, TN 37354

C. DAN SCOTT, ATTORNEY
P. O. BOX 547
SEYMOUR, TN 37865

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF JOHN L. PERRY
DOCKET NUMBER 91363-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 8 day of SEPTEMBER 15, 2025, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of JOHN L. PERRY, who died Feb. 27, 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 SEPTEMBER, 2025.

ESTATE OF JOHN L. PERRY

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
KATHERINE M. FORTANBARY, EXECUTRIX
15030 FREEMANVILLE ROAD
MILTON, GA 30004

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF CHRISTIAN TURMAN
DOCKET NUMBER 91075-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 15th day of SEPTEMBER 15, 2025, letters of administration in respect of the Estate of CHRISTIAN TURMAN, who died May 19, 2025, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and nonresident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same 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 15th day of SEPTEMBER, 2025.

ESTATE OF CHRISTIAN TURMAN

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
DEONNA EVANS
3424 SOUTH HAVEN RD.
KNOXVILLE, TN 37920

REECE BRASSIER, ATTORNEY
ADAM B. MCDONALD, ATTORNEY
4th FLOOR, BANK OF AMERICA BLDG.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Knox County Commission and the Knox County Mayor shall receive resumes from candidates seeking an appointment to three (3) upcoming vacancies on the Knox County Ethics Committee.

Two (2) seats will be appointed by Knox County Commission, and one (1) seat will be appointed by Knox County Mayor Glenn Jacobs. All terms are four (4) years, beginning November 1, 2025 and ending October 31, 2029. Resumes should be submitted by mail, fax, e-mail or hand delivered no later than Friday, October 10, 2025 at 4:00 p.m. to:

Office of the Knox County Commission
Suite 603, City County Building
400 Main Street
Knoxville, TN 37902
Phone: 865-215-2534
FAX: 865-215-2038
E-mail: commission@knoxcounty.org

Office of Knox County Mayor
Suite 615, City County Building
400 Main Street
Knoxville, TN 37902
Phone: 865-215-2005
FAX: 865-215-2002
E-mail: county.mayor@knoxcounty.org

The Knox County Commission shall interview candidates on **Monday, October 20, 2025 at 3:00 p.m. during the Optional Agenda Review Meeting in the Main Assembly Room of the City-County Building, 400 West Main Street.**

The Commission's two (2) appointments shall be considered during the regularly scheduled meeting of the Knox County Commission on **Monday, October 27, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. in the Main Assembly Room of the City-County Building, 400 West Main Street.**

P. O. BOX 442
KNOXVILLE, TN 37901-0442

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF JOHN ROY WADDELL
DOCKET NUMBER 91432-3

Notice is hereby given, as required by T.C.A. § 30-2-306, that on SEPTEMBER 15, 2025, Letters Testamentary, in respect to the Estate of JOHN ROY WADDELL, deceased, who died on June 27, 2025, were issued to the undersigned by the Probate Clerk of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against said 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 (or posting as the case may be) of this Notice of 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 the first publication (or posting) as described in (1)(A); or
- (2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death.

This the 11th day of August, 2025.

ESTATE OF JOHN ROY WADDELL

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
ROBIN A. WILKER
5446 CREEKHEAD COVE LANE
KNOXVILLE, TN 37909

DAMON WOOTEN, ATTORNEY
609 SMITHVIEW DR.
MARYVILLE, TN 37803

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF LINDA M. WALL
DOCKET NUMBER 91357-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 5th day of SEPTEMBER, 2025, letters testamentary (or letters of administration as the case may be) in respect of the Estate of LINDA M. WALL, who died July 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 5th day of SEPTEMBER, 2025.

ESTATE OF LINDA M. WALL

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
TRACEY JOYNER
7414 BELL CASTLE CT.
KNOXVILLE, TN 37938

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

MISC. NOTICES

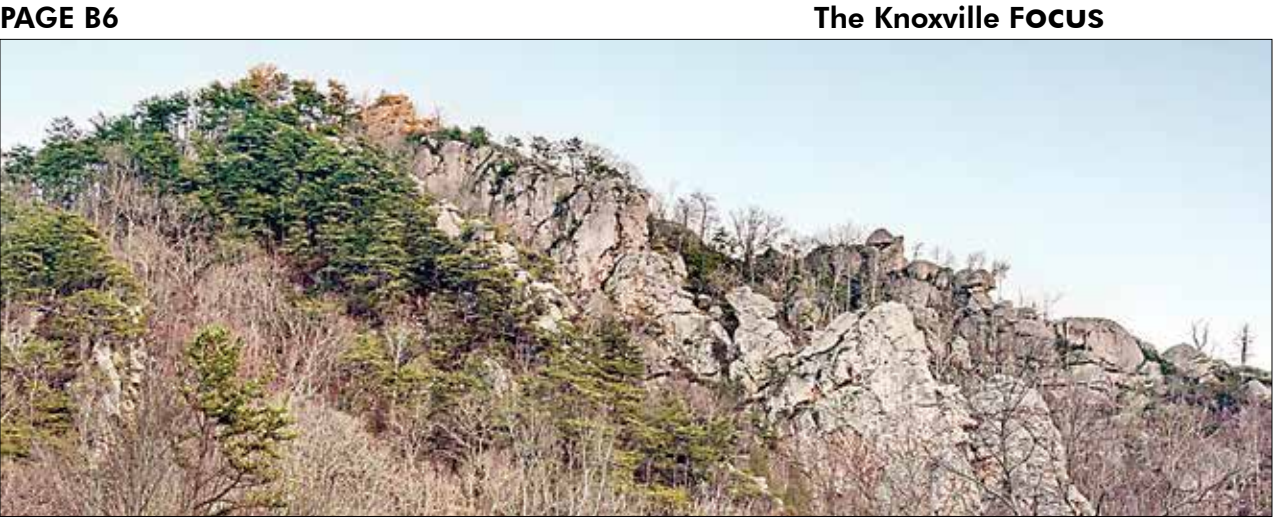
PUBLIC NOTICE

Knoxville-Knox County Continuum of Care Board inaugural meeting
When: September 29, 2025 from 11:00 am to 12:30 pm
Where: Bearden Banquet Hall at 5806 Kingston Pike
Details: Meeting is open to the public, lunch will be provided for Board members

NOTICE OF LIEN SALE

The following described vehicle(s) impounded/ repaired/towed will be sold at public and/or private auction on October 4, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. in compliance with the Tennessee Public Acts 1967, Chapter 240, House Bill 379. The sale will be held at Sutherland American Wrecker Service, Inc. vehicle impoundment lot located at 2607 Sutherland Ave., Knoxville, Tennessee 37919. These vehicles have been checked through the files of the Commissioner of Revenue, Title Section, Division of Motor Vehicles Department, Department of Revenue, State of Tennessee. In appropriate cases, the vehicles have been checked in other states and the owners and/or lienholders have been notified by certified mail. In those instances where no vehicle identification/ serial number or license number was available, this Public Notice in the newspaper will comply with the law. The failure of the owner/lienholder to exercise their rights to reclaim any vehicle listed below not bearing a VIN/serial number shall be deemed a waiver of all rights and title and authorization to sell said vehicle.

201818 GMC Pick-Up
VIN 3GTU2NEC0JG450806



The Devil's Racetrack, just north of Caryville along I-75, surprises travelers along the busy interstate. It's near Cove Lake State Park but visible on the right side of a car headed up Cumberland Mountain.

Viewing nature from your car window

Cont. from page 5
the fresh air generated by the swiftly falling waters.

The Devil's Racetrack

Located next to Cove Lake State Park just beyond the Caryville exit, the Devil's Racetrack, also called "The Devil's Backbone," is a sizeable rock wall visible to the right of northbound I-75 traffic. The landmark was created by an ancient tectonic plate collision and is said to be the most prominent geological feature between the Great Lakes and Southern Florida.

You could visit and climb the odd outcrop via the park if you're able, but viewing the surprising rock wall while traveling up Cumberland Mountain in your car, especially in winter when it's the most visible, is educational and puzzling. Sometimes you may see an American flag flying from the top of the natural rock feature, placed there by someone who dared to climb up there.

The Clear Fork Narrows

Located just south of Jellico along Highway 25-W is a gorge locally known as "The Narrows." It's where the Clear Fork River cuts through Pine Mountain, leaving behind a series of high bluffs, narrow valleys and some very prominent rock formations.

All of the unusual formations can be seen from a car window or by pulling off when there's a parking area and taking in the view. One of the most noted formations, locally known as "Raven Rock" or "Indian Face Rock," is just across the river above the railroad track atop Primroy Hollow. Along the natural monument is a high opening called the "Honey Hole."

Sharp's Ridge

You don't have to drive far to get a great view of Knoxville and the Smoky Mountains beyond the city. Sharp's Ridge Veterans Memorial Park towers over the city and gives a great view from its scenic overlook platform. Getting to the park might seem confusing, but you can drive up or down Broadway to Ludlow Avenue and follow the mountain up to the park.

Ludlow Avenue is located off Broadway just south of I-640 and a Dollar General Store.

Sharp's Ridge, for those who are able, has miles of hiking and biking trails, a playground and a picnic area.

Other roadside outings

There are many other places in our area you can visit and view from your car window that might be of interest including a drive by the Dayton courthouse, downtown Oliver Springs, downtown Limestone east of Greeneville with its row of empty buildings, and our own historic Concord, Powell or Norris communities.

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Activities start at 10:00 a.m. with brunch, a short devotion, wonderful fellowship and a visit to the Closet where you will find clothes for all ages & sizes – dress and casual, plus purses, shoes and other things you may need. Ladies who would like a Saturday morning for themselves we'd love to share the morning with you.

Join us on the last Saturday of each month at 10:00 a.m.

Christus Victor Lutheran Church
4110 Central Ave. Pk.

Should you need further information, call the church office at 865-687-6622 Monday - Friday from 8 a.m. until noon. *Hope to see you soon.*

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Knox County Retired Teachers to meet Thursday

The Knox County Retired Teachers Association's annual Legislative Luncheon will be held Thursday, September 25, 2025 at Rothchild, 8807 Kingston Pike, at 11:15 a.m. Please RSVP to huntsingerd@bellsouth.net today, September 22.

classifieds

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HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

Powell’s offense explodes in the first half for big win

By David Klein

In the first half Friday night at Karns, the Powell Panthers used a lightning air raid offense and three turnovers to jump out to a 42-3 halftime lead over the Karns Beavers on their way to a 49-3 victory. Wide receiver DeZion Jackson had three receiving touchdowns, and quarterback Deuce Rodgers passed for two touchdowns and ran for one.

It was a contrast of styles as the Beavers looked to milk the clock and keep it away from the Panthers’ high-flying offense, but the plan did not succeed. Powell got the scoring going early as Rodgers lofted a 54-yard bomb to Jackson just 45 seconds into the game. The score put the Panthers up 7-0.

“Zy, he’s been a baller as long as I’ve been alive, dude,” Rodgers said. “He made an impact. He slowly worked his way up. He’s a dog. He’s one of the most underrated receivers we have in Knox County, if not

Tennessee.”

Karns’ best offensive possession of the first half came on its first possession. An 11-play, 6:42 drive balanced between running and passing resulted in a Luis Figueroa Lopez 24-yard field goal to cut Powell’s lead to 7-3.

Karns’ momentum was short-lived as Powell would add to its lead on a Johonauan Moore 8-yard touchdown run to take a 14-3 lead with 11 minutes left in the second quarter.

Reeling, Karns’ turnover miscues started. Powell recovered a fumble in Beaver territory. Two plays later, Jackson exploded for another touchdown on a 55-yard pass from backup quarterback Brodie Hollowell, who had come in for Rodgers for a series. The touchdown made it 21-3 Powell with 10:01 left in the second quarter.

Karns tried to answer, but quarterback Austin Slover threw an interception to Kingston Knight. Powell

Continue on page 2



PHOTO BY JJ SPEARS

South-Doyle quarterback Benson Brang gets excellent protection from Terry Mills (75) and Trashawn Berry (57) as he runs through an opening in the Cherokees’ 27-24 overtime win at Gibbs Friday night. Brang threw three touchdown passes and a 2-point conversion pass in the game.

South-Doyle stuns Gibbs 27-24 in OT

By Steve Williams

Quarterback Benson Brang and his receiving corps took South-Doyle to another overtime game Friday night and this time running back Mill Crenshaw finished the deal.

After Gibbs had to settle for a field goal in the OT period, the quick and tough Crenshaw needed only two carries to cover the 10 yards and give the Cherokees a 27-24 victory

in Region 2-4A.

Mill picked up three yards on a cross-buck play to the left on first down and then bolted straight ahead and through the Gibbs defense for the final seven yards.

He was asked what his first thoughts were when he scored.

“First, I have to give it to God,” said Crenshaw, who rushed for 80 yards on 16 attempts. “It doesn’t just take

one man to win a football game. It takes the whole team. You can’t just come out here and think you’re going to beat somebody by yourself. We made mistakes and we fixed them. That’s why we won tonight.”

South-Doyle lost to Carter 37-30 in OT last week.

Coach Larry Headrick’s Cherokees are now 1-2 in region play and 3-2

Continue on page 2

HIGH SCHOOL VOLLEYBALL

Lady Bobcats sweep Gibbs to remain atop district standings

By Ken Lay

It has truly been one of the best seasons for Central High School’s volleyball team. And as the 2025 campaign enters its home stretch, the Lady Bobcats are perched alone atop the District 3-3A standings.

Central (19-4 overall, 10-0 in the district) dispatched Gibbs in three sets Thursday night, notching a 25-10, 25-18, 25-11 victory in Fountain City.

The Lady Bobcats handled the match against the Lady Eagles with relative ease except for a slow start in the second set when the young Gibbs team darted out to a 5-0 lead thanks to a four-point service run by Macy Ramsey after the Lady Eagles tallied the first set on a side-out.

Gibbs, which recently defeated Halls, is in a rebuilding mode this season after making a trip to the Class 2A State Tournament

in Murfreesboro last year. The Lady Eagles lost eight players off the squad that reached the grand stage at the Midstate in 2024, and then were moved up in classification.

“We’re young and we lost eight seniors off that team that made it to state last year,” Gibbs coach Holly Walker said. “We got a big win against Halls, and we really needed that one.”

“That proved that we can play with anybody, and all of our district matches have been competitive. It’s not like anything has been a blowout.”

Central is the lone team remaining with an unblemished league record. Those wins, however, haven’t always come easily as the district is quickly becoming ultra-competitive.

The Lady Bobcats have a pair of five-set wins against two-time defending district champion Clinton. It also took Central

five sets to put away Powell and Anderson County. The Lady Bobcats also defeated Gibbs (in the first meeting between the two teams), Oak Ridge and the Lady Devils, their Black Oak Ridge rivals.

But Central coach Susan Davidson was pleased with her team’s effort last week as they swept Campbell County for a second time this year and made short work of Gibbs.

“We had some fun tonight and I’m just really proud of them,” Davidson said. “Gibbs is a good team.”

“They’re just young.”

In Thursday night’s victory, the Lady Bobcats had strong performances all over the floor, including strong service games from Ally Bryant, Pyper Clevenger, Maddie Hinton, Kaylin Wiley and Jolie Sheddan.



Central High volleyball player Ally Bryant goes up for the spike in the Lady Bobcats’ three-set sweep of Gibbs Thursday night in Fountain City. With the win, Central remains in first place in the District 3-3A standings. Photo by John Valentine.

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HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL



PHOTO BY MARIAH CLAY.

Grace's Jace Ballard had a big Thursday night with 21 rushes for 201 yards, five rushing TDs, four receptions for 94 yards and one receiving TD.

Grace outscores Webb, 70-40

By Mark Nagi

Going into the Webb/Grace Christian game, the conventional wisdom was that the contest would be a shoot-out. The game didn't disappoint.

On Thursday, September 18, the GCA Rams scored early and often, beating their Division II-AA rivals 70-40.

"It was a great atmosphere here, obviously a big rivalry game with Webb," said Grace Christian head coach Justin Price. "Lotta points scored, so I guess it was a fun game to watch if you like offense."

The game started in perfect fashion for the Rams, as running back JV Stinson took the first snap of the game and raced 60 yards to the Webb 1-yard line. Stinson scored on the very next play, giving Grace a 7-0 lead.

The host team tried to catch Webb napping with an inside kick, but the Spartans recovered at their own 47-yard line. QB Gage Porter went deep on the first play from scrimmage, looking for Greg Tate III. Tate made the catch off a

tipped pass and jogged into the end zone for a 53-yard score, tying the game at 7.

Only 38 seconds into the game, each team had a touchdown tally.

It looked as if Grace was about to score again, but Clemson commit Shavar Young stripped Kaden Webber of the football near the goal line. Webb recovered in the end zone for a touchback.

After forcing a punt, Grace used the big play to their advantage again. A swing pass to Jace Ballard resulted in a 55-yard touchdown, his 10th score of the year. Grace led 14-7.

A squib kick led to another short field for Webb, and when Porter whipped a 17-yard laser to Javon Dirl, the game was knotted at 14, and there was still 1:45 left in the first quarter.

Early in the second quarter, Stinson broke multiple tackles on his way to a 40-yard TD run, and Grace was leading again, 21-14. Another long run, this time 57 yards to the Webb 7-yard line, led to a 7-yard TD run by Webber. Midway through the second

quarter, it was 28-14.

Stinson ran for 392 yards against Webb School. Yes, 392 yards.

"JV (Stinson) isn't the biggest kid, but he is a powerful runner," said Price. "He has top-end speed, and he has improved so much on his vision and understanding blocks. He runs so motivated."

"He has the speed and the power, and he is so hard to bring down."

Late in the first half, Ballard ran the option himself, faking the handoff to Stinson, and easing his way into the end zone from 8 yards away.

Grace Christian (4-0, 3-0 in Division II-AA East) led 35-20 at intermission, following a combined 680 yards of offense in the first half.

To start the third quarter, Webb (0-5, 0-3 in Division II-AA East) capped off a 68-yard drive with a 2-yard TD run by Young, making it 35-27. But a spectacular 25-yard sprint by Ballard on 4th and 1 gave Grace a 42-27 lead.

But Webb wouldn't quit. A 24-yard toss from Porter

to Young turned this into a 42-34 game late in the third quarter.

In the fourth, Ballard scored again, this time on a 23-yard run, making it 49-34.

"He's so versatile in his skill set, and he is an experienced football player," Price said of Ballard. "He has elite speed and the ability to out-run everybody."

This game saw very little defense, but when Grace safety Evan Pritchard picked off Porter, the Rams got some breathing room. Ballard broke multiple tackles and spun into the end zone for his fifth TD of the night, this time a whirling 33-yard run.

He'd score a sixth TD later, and the game ended with Grace winning 70-40.

"Our offensive line, the way they controlled the game ... all five of those guys are returning from last season," said Price. "We've leaned on them."

On Friday, Grace will host Ambassador Christian School while Webb hosts Dutchtown Road rival CAK.

South-Doyle stuns Gibbs 27-24 in OT

Cont. from page 1

overall. Gibbs dropped to 1-2 and 3-2.

Brang, a junior, had a great game throwing the football. Two of his TD passes were on the money and the other was a 49-yarder to Rondell North when he got past the defender and hauled it in.

Overall, Brang completed 11 of 14 passes for 173 yards. His third touchdown pass came on the first play of the fourth quarter – a 15-yarder to Reed Reynolds – that pulled the Cherokees within two points of Gibbs. Brang also hit Reynolds with the 2-point conversion that tied the score 21-all.

Brang's first TD pass was a 22-yarder to Kamariyon Rice that gave S-D a 6-0 lead in the first quarter. The two-point pass failed when the snap was dropped.

Gibbs got going with its offensive tempo on its first possession but it stalled out late in the opening period.

Workhorse Tucker Owenby, who rushed for 183 yards on 33 carries, scored on a 7-yard run and Mikel Van Pelt's extra point kick put the Eagles ahead 7-6 midway through the second quarter.

South-Doyle got the lead back (13-7) on North's big catch.

But Gibbs moved back ahead 14-13 when Camden Beeler was determined to get in the end zone on a 34-yard run and Van Pelt added the PAT late in the first half.

Midway into the third quarter, the Eagles increased their advantage to 21-13 on a 10-yard score by DaJuan Harris. Van Pelt added the PAT.

Van Pelt also had another touchback kickoff that forced the Cherokees to start from their 20. Two plays later, Waylon Spierdowis picked off Brang and Gibbs had the ball at midfield. The Eagles could only advance the ball four yards and faced

a fourth-and-six at the S-D 45.

Gibbs took a timeout and faked the punt, but Van Pelt was stopped for no gain.

South-Doyle couldn't advance the ball either as Seith Seiber had back-to-back big stops. The Cherokees chose to punt and Mitchell backed them up at the 14.

A horse collar penalty on Gibbs on South-Doyle's punt return put the ball at the Gibbs' 11 and led to Brang's third TD pass and the Cherokees' tying the score.

Gibbs still got in field goal range. Van Pelt kicked a 42-yarder, but it was nullified by a false start. His 47-yard attempt fell short.

South-Doyle drove from its 20 to the Gibbs' 12 to get in field goal range. The Cherokees let the clock run down to 0:01 and then called timeout. Mitchell was set to try a 29-yard field goal, but Gibbs called a timeout before the ball was snapped to ice the kicker and it worked. When the final play of regulation resumed, the snap was high and the kick was blocked.

Gibbs got the ball first in the overtime. The Eagles only gained four yards in the first three downs, leaving them with a fourth-and-six situation. Van Pelt easily kicked the 23-yard FG to give the Eagles a 24-21 lead, but that wasn't enough.

After the game, Gibbs captain Chase Norman felt his team underestimated South-Doyle. "They were way better than we thought they were going to be and we came out lazy," he said. "We got to do better on that. We got to prepare better at practice. We can't be having lazy practices. We just got to pick it up and bounce back next week."

Gibbs entertains Lenoir City (1-4), a Region 3-5A team, Thursday, while South-Doyle will host Union County (0-3, 1-4) Friday in Region 2-4A play.

Powell's offense explodes in the first half for big win

Cont. from page 1

converted the turnover into a touchdown as Rodgers ran for a 9-yard touchdown to put the Panthers up 28-3 with 3:24 left in the first half.

Two minutes and 20 seconds later, the Panthers added to the lead on

Rodgers' 38-yard touchdown pass to Jackson, his third receiving touchdown of the game. The score put Powell up 35-3 with 1:04 left in the half.

Karns was going from bad to worse. The Beavers' Chris Boyce fumbled the ensuing

kickoff, and Powell recovered the football. Jackson got into the passing attack as he threw a 20-yard touchdown pass on a trick play to La'Miere Porter. The touchdown put the Panthers up 42-3 with 42 seconds left in the first half.

In the second half, the Mercy Rule was in effect as a running clock kept the time moving. Ory Vananda-Walker ran for a 17-yard touchdown for the game's final score and a 49-3 Powell victory.

"We feel like we could get

some things done offensively," Powell head coach Matt Lowe said. "We felt like defensively we knew we had to stop that running game. He (Cameron George) was certainly somebody we had circled. We were doing everything we could to slow him down. Offensively, we felt like we had to get the ball out on the perimeter."

Friday, Central (4-1) plays

at Powell (4-0) for the lead in Region 2-5A. "I think it's a great matchup for both teams," Lowe said. "I think it's going to be a lot of fun. It's what high school football is supposed to be. Two really good football teams that are going to play each other, and somebody's going to come out of it tied or in first place in the region."



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A collision heard across the Gator Bowl

Whether they were alive in December 1966 and/or maybe attended the game, they instinctively know about the Gator Bowl that season from videotape, newspaper reports, and word of mouth in discussions that take place wherever Vol fans gather.

This year's season-opening game against Syracuse had to have brought back significant memories for many Tennessee fans.

The 1966 Gator Bowl, No. 22 in the bowl's history, was such an affair. It was Tennessee versus Syracuse in Jacksonville, on Dec. 31, 1966, on ABC television, with Chris Schenkel, Bud Wilkinson, and Bill Flemming on the broadcast. A crowd of 60,312 gathered for the New Year's Eve afternoon extravaganza. The videotape is not quite up to today's standards, but it gives an idea about the ambience of the game.

It's safe to say that bowl games are fickle creatures, almost two games in one. One team might dominate for a half, and after intermission, the other team comes back and makes a game out of it.

As the teams squared off, the Vols appeared to be overmatched, with Syracuse having future pro running backs Floyd Little and Larry Csonka ready to tote the football.

Syracuse was on an 8-game winning streak, winning their final games after two losses to start the season. The Orangemen were bigger than the Vols (most teams were in those days), and the fear was they would literally mash the Vols into submission running the ball relentlessly.

Coming off an 8-1-2 season



The coin toss of the 1966 Gator Bowl, with Tennessee captains Paul Naumoff (50) and Austin Denney (84). Syracuse running back Floyd Little is No. 44. Tennessee Sports Information.

in 1965, the Vols were 7-3, with losses to Georgia Tech (6-3), Alabama (11-10), and Mississippi (14-7).

Quarterback Dewey Warren threw the ball all over the field that season, attempting 229 passes, completing 136 for 1,716 yards. He was a team leader, always talking about "hummin' that tater."

Johnny Mills, the wideout from Elizabethton, introduced pre-game by Flemming as being from "Elizabeth-town, Tennessee," had set a single game receiving mark with 225 yards against Kentucky, a record that lasted until the 2001 LSU game.

Gary Wright kicked field goals of 36 and 38 yards to give the Vols the early lead.

Warren hit tight end Austin Denney off a fake field goal

attempt to stretch the lead to 12-0. Richmond Flowers caught a second Warren TD pass, and the Vols led 18-0. All appeared well.

Syracuse came roaring back in the second half. Csonka, who rushed 18 times for 114 yards on the day, scored on an 8-yard run in the third period. Little, who carried the pigskin 29 times for 216 yards, added another from 3 yards out with 46 seconds left.

Overall, Syracuse racked up 348 yards rushing on 57 carries, yet the Vols came up with enough big plays here and there to take an improbable triumph, 18-12.

For the day, Warren completed 17 of 29 passes, with one interception, for 244 yards. Mills caught eight for 86 yards, with a touchdown grab called back. Flowers caught five for 80, and Denney four for 78.

The game is best remembered, however, for the Vols making two significant defensive plays.

Syracuse had it fourth-and-2 at the Vol 4 in the fourth period. With a backfield that had Csonka and Little ready to make the tough yardage, what play do you call?

Nick Showalter, sophomore defensive end from Kingsport, said he knew what was coming, thanks to intense preparation from linebackers coach Vince Gibson. He got around Little, then fought off Csonka to make the play.

"He told us 100 times that when Little lined up as a tight wingback, they were going to run the toss sweep."

The ball went to a lesser-known Syracuse player named Oley Allen, and Nick made the play.

Later in the period, one of the most memorable tackles in Tennessee football history came when Naumoff met Csonka head-on in a collision heard across the Gator Bowl and living rooms nationwide.

"Paul stood him up, and spit and sweat came up like a water balloon," said Showalter. "You could hear every pad and every part of a Riddell helmet crunch."

After spending 1964 as a receiver, Paul played defensive end in 1965. He was thought to be an All-American candidate at that position coming into 1966, but moved to linebacker after Tom Fisher died in a March traffic accident near Benton, Tenn. Paul, now deceased, ended up with a long career (1967-78) with the Detroit Lions.

A FINAL THOUGHT OR TWO: Thanks to some outstanding performances on the field and some yeoman-like work by the Sports Information Office, the Vols had four first team All-American selections, most since 1939. Naumoff joined Denney, punter Ron Widby, and center Bob Johnson in earning All-American honors, with Johnson adding Academic All-American honors to his resume.

Widby was the NCAA punting leader with a 43.8-yard average and the SEC player of the year in hoops, leading the Vols to the SEC title. All this was part of a distinguished career for Haywood Harris, long-time Sports Information Director.

"I looked at my job as an opportunity to help people enjoy the Vol experience as much as I did," said Harris. "That was the joy of the job as far as I was concerned."

Through the years, he accomplished that quite well.

Thank you, Haywood Harris, for your contributions to the history of Tennessee football.

Welcomed Surprises! Bassett and others give their teams 'a much-needed boost'

By Steve Williams

With high school football nearing the midway point of the regular season, head coaches were asked last week if they had players on offense, defense or special teams who had become welcomed surprises to their team this year. Nine coaches felt they did and pointed them out.

FARRAGUT: "Bryson Bassett (6-0, 255-pound RT/RG) has been a much-needed boost to our offensive line this season," said Coach Geoff Courtney. "He was injured for much of 2024 and played sparingly throughout. He has worked extremely hard and has started every game at guard or tackle. He is currently playing right tackle and grading out 80 to 87 percent every game and has five pancake blocks already this season."

WEST: "Ryheem Lee is a sophomore running back that has worked really hard this off season and developed into a leader on and off the field," said Coach Barron Chandler. "In three games against some really good competition, he has 52 carries for 259 yards and one touchdown. I expect him to continue to get better and have an even greater impact on our season going forward."

KARNS: Sophomore running back Cameron George already has 853 all-purpose yards and five touchdowns, reported Coach Lee

Warren, and was recently named the 5Star Preps Player of the Week for his Week 4 performance in a 24-21 win at Clinton. In that game, George carried the ball 32 times for 236 yards and scored the winning TD on a 5-yard run in the fourth quarter.

GRACE CHRISTIAN: Coach Justin Price commended the play of Braden Walker, Cooper Brayman and Campbell Johnson.

"Walker kicked the game winning field goal against Carter and has put many kickoffs in the end zone. Brayman came in at quarterback after the starter was injured and has managed the position well so far. Johnson is starting safety for the first time and has done well getting lined up and improving through the season."

"These are (welcomed) surprises for us," added Price.

CAK: Isaac Kannah plays on offense, defense and special teams. "Isaac is a freshman and has had to step into a starting job as an outside linebacker," said Coach Chad Speck. "He also gets carries as a backup running back and for the past two weeks he has earned our Special Teams' Player of the Week Award."

Speck added that Conrad Carlton is a freshman currently starting on our offensive line and "has done a great job."

Rio Curry is a freshman



PHOTO BY BEN GING

West's head coach expects sophomore Ryheem Lee to continue to get better and have an even greater impact on the Rebels' season going forward.

on defense who has had to step into a starting role as a cornerback.

"All three of these players were not projected starters entering the season and have been asked to step in to fill holes created by injury. They are all three doing a fantastic job," said Coach Speck.

GIBBS: "Camden Beeler is a senior cornerback for us," said Coach Brad Turner. "He worked really

hard in the offseason to get faster and stronger. He comes to practice every day with a great attitude and work ethic. I'm very proud of him and his commitment to the Gibbs football program."

Jayce Morris is a sophomore OL/DL for the Eagles. "Jayce has also worked really hard to get his body ready to play varsity football," said Turner. "He

Cont. on page 4

A GLANCE BACK AND A LOOK AHEAD

Red Devils, Rebels and Roadrunners say it was sweet

By Steve Williams

Three local high school football teams – Halls, West and Austin-East – tasted their first wins of the season last week.

Still winless include Farragut, Fulton, Webb and Bearden, but something has to give there as the Admirals and Bulldogs will play each other this week.

GCA and Webb combined for 110 points in their game last Thursday. Grace scored 70 of them.

Down the road in Roane County last Friday, Rockwood beat Harriman 49-12 in the state's oldest prep football rivalry. It's 107 years old. The second oldest is reportedly the rivalry between the Baylor Red Raiders and the McCallie Blue Tornado in Chattanooga.

TSD defeated Minnesota State Academy of the Deaf 53-18 on Sept. 13. It was the first time the two schools have played each other.

Joe Gibbs, the former Washington Redskins coach in the NFL, is reportedly funding Ambassador Christian, NC, who plays at

HIGH SCHOOL SCORES AND SCHEDULE Week 5 Results

Grace 70, Webb 40
Austin-East 21, Brainerd 0
HVA 21, Bearden 7
Silverdale 48, CAK 21
Anderson Co. 58, Carter 28
MBA 13, Catholic 10
Central 51, Clinton 21
MTCS 42, Concord 35
Maryville 42, Farragut 17
Heritage 30, Fulton 12
South-Doyle 27, Gibbs 24
Halls 38, William Blount 24
Powell 49, Karns 3
Volunteer 41, Seymour 31
West 48, Campbell Co. 7

Week 6 Games (Kickoff at 7 local time)

Thursday
TSD at Ala. School for the Deaf
Lenoir City at Gibbs

Friday
Kingston at Austin-East
Farragut at Bearden
Seymour at Cherokee
Maryville at Hardin Valley
Carter at Heritage
Silverdale at Catholic
Alcoa at Fulton
Ambassador, NC at Grace
West at Halls
CAK at Webb
Central at Powell
Union Co. at South-Doyle
Karns at William Blount

Grace Christian Academy Friday night.

HIGH SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY

Burke takes second and LEE third in Oak Ridge meet

By Steve Williams

The Knoxville harriers didn't bring home any gold but made a good showing in The Mounds #1 Cross Country Meet at Oak Ridge on Saturday, September 13.

West senior Nicholas Burke took the silver and Grace Christian Academy freshman Sophie LEE took the bronze in the Metro Knoxville event.

Burke covered the 5,000 meters in a time of 16:14.87, while LEE was clocked at 19:28.97.

The individual boys' winner was Oak Ridge senior Mason Greenhalgh (15:51.87), while Heritage senior Avery Jo Thomas (18:55.40) took top honors among the girls.

Oak Ridge swept the team titles.

The host Wildcats' Rhett Hovater placed third in 16:26.96. Central junior Parson Campen and Gatlinburg-Pittman sophomore Bradyn Lewis rounded out the Top 5 with times of 16:35.87 and 16:52.61, respectively.

After William Blount's Luke McCall came in sixth and Halls' Zachary Jenkins seventh, Knoxville runners dominated the 10th through 16th positions with Casper Pleasant of South-Doyle, Caleb Roach of GCA, Chase Salas of the Knoxville Ambassadors, and four Hardin Valley harriers – Ignalio Almonte, Nathan Weiss, Wyatt Socha and Cody Colomac.

In the girls' race, Heritage freshman Hadleigh Mitchey took runner-up honors in 18:56.56. The Ambassadors' Tallulah Worley placed fourth in 19:42.79 and Oak Ridge's Dylan Job fifth in 19:49.01. West's Macie Gaines was sixth in 20:42.07.

Also finishing in the Top 15 (in order) were Natalie Adams of Oak Ridge, Sawyer Wood of Heritage, Kenda Hurt of Oak Ridge, Amajiah Bishop of Oak Ridge, Brielle Pickett of Bearden, Caylee Murrell of Northview Academy, Elly Hartman of Oak Ridge, Campbell Asti of West and the Ambassadors' Azelynn Wilson.

The Top 5 in the boys' team scoring were Oak Ridge (43), Hardin Valley (72), the Knoxville Ambassadors (115), William Blount (121) and West (144).

Oak Ridge's girls led the way with 38 points, followed by Heritage (61), West (70), the Lady Ambassadors (80) and Bearden (127).

There were 127 runners and 12 teams in the girls' race, while 184 runners and 19 teams competed in the boys' event.

UP NEXT: The Cove Lake Invitational at Caryville on Oct. 2.



PHOTOS BY LUTHER SIMMONS

Left: West High's Nicholas Burke takes second place in a field of 184 runners in The Mounds #2 Cross Country Meet in Oak Ridge on Sept. 13. Right: Freshman Sophie LEE of Grace Christian Academy came in third place over the 5,000-meter course at The Mounds in Oak Ridge on Sept. 13.

HIGH SCHOOL SOCCER

Notes from the Scorecard:

Bearden, Farragut and West bounce back on the pitch

By Ken Lay

The 2025 high school girls soccer season is kicking into high gear as many teams are in the midst of their respective district schedules.

Bearden High School, which remains one of the area's top teams, entered the week suffering through a bit of a slump (by its lofty standards).

But the Lady Bulldogs cured what ailed them Tuesday night as they shut out Hardin Valley, 2-0, on the road.

Madi Bowlin and Lauren Downey were able to crack the Lady Hawks' defense and find the back of the Lady Hawks' net for the Lady Bulldogs, who had endured their share of offensive struggles of late.

Bearden and West High, its District 4-3A and geographical rival, played to a 0-0 draw at Bill Wilson Field on Friday, Sept. 12. That tie came on the heels of a 6-1 victory over Chattanooga Christian School.

In that match, Bearden took out its frustration on the Lady Chargers after losing at home to Oak Ridge, 3-2, on Sept. 4.

The Lady Hawks (9-2-1 overall, 2-1 in the district) followed the Bearden loss with a 0-0 draw against Oak Ridge Thursday night at home.

HVA goalkeeper Lauren Lambert recorded six saves against the Lady Wildcats.

Farragut posts a pair of shutouts: The Lady Admirals were also in the midst of a skid when they took the pitch for a pair of matches last week.

Farragut (5-4-1 overall, 1-2 in District 4-3A) notched its first league win Tuesday night as it shut out Maryville, 4-0.

Four Lady Admirals scored in the match against the Lady Rebels as Kennedy Dade, Leana Maier, Meghan Shimeall and Ava Upshaw all tallied for Farragut. Goalkeeper Emery Wylie posted a clean sheet for the Lady Admirals.

On Thursday, Farragut blanked Catholic, 2-0 at Farragut Soccer Stadium as Rowan Unger scored twice against the Lady Irish.

Catholic also dropped a 2-0 decision to Chattanooga Girls Preparatory School on Tuesday.

West High bounces back from first loss of the season: The Lady Rebels made the trip to Chattanooga to take on the Baylor School Tuesday night and came up on the short end of a 5-0 decision against the Lady Raiders.

It was their first loss of the season.

West, however, bounced back to notch a 1-0 victory over Powell on the road.

Welcomed Surprises!

Cont. from page 3

brings a lot of energy to our team and loves to have a good time. He has a bright future and is already a really good football player."

SEYMOUR: Josh Gilbert is a senior RB who has 45 carries for 349 yards and three touchdowns and is averaging 116 yards per game. "Josh has stepped up for us and made some big time plays," said Coach Caleb Olive.

Defensively, Duke Delozier, junior LB, has 28 tackles, two TFL and one sack. "Duke has been a solid piece for our defense," said Olive. "He always competes at the highest level no matter what. He gives his all for Seymour."

Junior kicker Jackson Kendall has made three field goals, including a 43-yarder against Greeneville. "He also has done a great job adjusting his kickoffs to the multiple landing spots we need him to hit," said Coach Olive.

WEBB: Cullen Heck, sophomore WR/DB, has eight receptions for 94 yards and a TD and 27 tackles on defense. "He continues to improve each week," said Coach Don Mahoney.

Jackson Walters, a sophomore TE/DE, "is being used for blocking on offense and getting better each week," noted Mahoney, and freshman OL/DL Gabriel Gonzalez is "getting better each week and providing more snaps on the offensive side of the ball."

CONCORD CHRISTIAN: Reece Franklin, a junior, has 30 tackles and three sacks this season "and has shown great improvement from last year," said Coach Steve Matthews.

Sophomore Lyric Jackson has 20 tackles and three sacks. "He plays with tremendous effort and has only played football for three years, but has a bright future," added Matthews.

Freshman Dasani Moulden has 500 all-purpose yards and two interceptions. Eli Wolfe is a starting offensive lineman as an eighth grader and improving drastically, said Matthews.

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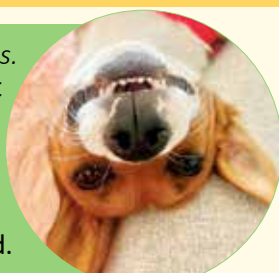


CRYBABY – 6 months old, 32 lbs.

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GAGE – 1 year old, 24 lbs.

Meet Gage. He is the biggest cuddle bug and doesn't know what personal space is. He loves to sunbathe and take naps. He also loves his bones to chew on. Although he can be nervous with new people, when he comes out of his shell the zoomies will never end! He is potty and crate trained.



Young-Williams Animal Center
3201 Division Street, Knoxville, TN 37919
www.young-williams.org

865.433.9922
10 a.m. - 6 p.m. daily
Closed 1-2 p.m. for animal quiet time