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## Deputy Matt Kirchner awarded Medal of Valor

Knox County Sheriff Tom Spangler has awarded Deputy Matt Kirchner the 2025 Deputy of the Year and the Medal of Valor for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in the line of duty while serving as a patrolman with the Knox County Sheriff's Office on June 21, 2025.

According to a statement released by KCSO last week, Deputy Kirchner, along with Deputies Dalton

Swanger and Taylor Gendreau, was responding to a report of possible shots fired in a residential area near Stanley Road and Boulder Point Lane. After making contact with an irrational subject in a tree line behind a residence, the situation quickly escalated into a highly volatile and dangerous encounter as the suspect started throwing large rocks at the deputies.

Despite being struck in the arm by one of the rocks, Kirchner continued to confront the suspect without hesitation. During the ensuing chaos, Swanger was critically injured when a rock struck him in the head. Demonstrating extraordinary courage and composure, Kirchner acted immediately, coordinating with Gendreau and swiftly dragging Swanger approximately 20 yards to safety.

Refusing to retreat, Kirchner reengaged the ongoing threat and pushed back into the tree line to regain visual contact with the suspect. With exceptional tactical awareness and clear communication, honed through twenty-five years of dedicated service, he provided precise direction to responding officers on scene. His decisive line-level leadership and steadfast resolve were

instrumental in apprehending the suspect and ensuring the safety of fellow deputies and the surrounding community.

Through his extraordinary actions, superb courage, and loyal devotion to duty, Deputy Matthew Kirchner reflected great credit upon himself and the Knox County Sheriff's Office while upholding the highest traditions of the law enforcement profession.



Deputy Matt Kirchner

## Group created to determine future of Chilhowee Park

By Mike Steely Senior Writer steelym@knoxfocus.com

Knoxville's historic Chilhowee Park has been a center of controversy for the last few years. The Jacob Building will eventually become the home of The Muse. The adjoining midway property across

the street was rejected as a property for Emerald Youth Foundation, and the future of the Tennessee Valley Fair is uncertain.

To consider the future of the historic park, Knoxville Mayor Indya Kincannon, in partnership with District 6 Councilman Denzel

**Continue on page 4**

## Pugh and Co. could serve another year as county external auditor

By Mike Steely Senior Writer steelym@knoxfocus.com

The Knox County Audit Committee met recently and recommended that Pugh and Company be contracted for another year to serve as Knox County's outside auditor. The company has served as the external auditor for several years, and the new contract, on the agenda for the Knox County Commission's March meeting, will be for \$380,500.

The commission's agenda review meeting is at 3 p.m. today, and the

main meeting is at 5 p.m. next Monday.

The March agenda may include a variety of resolutions, including hiring Robotic Line Marking Solutions for county sports fields, installing French drains at the Gibbs Ruritan Park's batting cages, honoring the Central High School girls basketball team for winning the district championship, and honoring Sterling "Sterl the Pearl" Henton for his leadership and Volunteer spirit.

**Continue on page 3**



Founder Eddie Mannis is pictured with three of the 4,700 veterans who HonorAir Knoxville flew to Washington, D.C., to see the memorials built in their honor. April 8 will be the final flight of the organization after almost 20 years of escorting military veterans to visit our nation's capital.

## HonorAir Knoxville ending mission after almost 20 years

By Mike Steely Senior Writer steelym@knoxfocus.com

HonorAir Knoxville will be receiving gratitude and appreciation for its many years of service to area veterans with a special resolution during Tuesday's Knoxville City Council meeting. The resolution is sponsored

by council members Nathan Honeycutt, Matthew DeBardelaben, Karyn Adams, Debbie Helsley and Vice Mayor Lynne Fugate.

Back in 2007, HonorAir Knoxville began taking veterans to visit the many military sites in Washington, D.C., at no cost to the men and women who served our nation. The

nonprofit, all-volunteer organization is flying its final mission on April 8.

Initially, HonorAir served World War II veterans and later did the same for Korean War and Vietnam War veterans, trying to reach as many veterans in our region as possible. Over the years, there have been 38 flights

**Continue on page 3**

## LWVKKC hosting candidate forums

To better prepare voters for the primary election on May 5, the League of Women Voters of Knoxville and Knox County is hosting candidate events in March and April. These forums and meet and greets provide opportunities for voters to hear directly from the candidates before casting their votes.

The following events are scheduled, and all candidates have been invited to participate.

- Tuesday, March 17, 6-7:30 p.m. Knox County Finance Offices Candidate Meet and Greet at Fountain City Presbyterian Church, 500 Hotel Road, Knoxville, Tennessee, 37918

- Thursday, March 19, 6-7:30 p.m., Knox County Board of Education Candidate Meet and Greet at Fulton High School Cafeteria, 2509 North Broadway, Knoxville, Tennessee, 37917

- Tuesday, March 31, 6-7:30

p.m., Knox County Mayoral Candidate Forum at Public Works Service Center, 3131 Morris Avenue, Knoxville, Tennessee 37909

- Tuesday, April 14 6-7:30 p.m., Knox County Sheriff and Judicial Candidate Meet and Greet at Fountain City Presbyterian Church, 500 Hotel Road, Knoxville, Tennessee, 37918

The following organizations are partnering with LWVKKC to

provide these forums for the public: National Coalition of 100 Black Women - Greater Knoxville Chapter, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Knox County Education Association, Knox NAACP, Tennessee Campus Democracy Network, Knoxville Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, and the American Muslim Advisory Council.

Early voting begins Wednesday, April 15, and ends Thursday,

April 30. Election day is Tuesday, May 5. Voters may visit VOTE411.org to find additional information about the candidates. All candidates have received the questionnaires twice, and LWVKKC sincerely appreciates those candidates who have responded. All candidates are urged to complete these questionnaires to inform voters of their perspectives on current issues.

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

## A Time Such as This

We didn't start the fire...  
Billy Joel

If you ever doubted the existence of Trump Derangement Syndrome (TDS), Democrat strategist James Carville's unhinged, expletive-filled rant last week proves that TDS exists. In fact, Carville maintains he has the psychopathological malady that made him look like Mattel's action character Skeletor. People like Carville and Rosie O'Donnell have been visually transformed by the hate-filled sickness. It's scary.

Aside from the Iran war, concerns have also been raised by recent intelligence intercepts that "sleeper cells" may have been activated in the US by Iran. According to Grok, over 1500 Iranian nationals were apprehended at the border during the Biden presidency and 729 to as many as 1272 of those 1500 were released

into the US. It is unknown to what extent any of these foreign nationals were vetted.

Additionally, last week's terrorist attack in NYC by two radicalized teenagers from Pennsylvania underscores the concerns of Americans. It is clear that we have disturbed US citizens, criminals and fraudsters, but any terrorist attack by illegals is on Biden and the Democrats' open border policy. We voted for a controlled border, and President Trump delivered. And we voted for the deportation of aliens whose first act was to break our laws and are here illegally.

You may not have caught it, but one of the terrorist teenagers made the sign of ISIS as he was taken into custody and insultingly called you a Kafir. This is a derogatory Muslim term for a pagan, an infidel or a non-believer. But even if you are Muslim, you can be

labeled a Takfiri, a Muslim of a different sect who is considered an apostate and can therefore be killed by other Muslims.

Tamerlane, also known as Timur the Terrible, was a ruthless 14th-century Turco-Mongol conqueror who once besieged Baghdad. He was asked why he was killing fellow Muslims. He proclaimed them to be bad Muslims. Baghdad subsequently fell, and archaeologists have found mounds of 100,000 skulls.

In the 1980s, Iran and Iraq fought a protracted war. More than 1 million were killed over border issues and because Iraqis are Sunni, whereas the Iranians are of the Shia sect. The two branches of Islam have been feuding with each other since 632 AD over the succession of Islamic leadership after Muhammad's death.

For 47 years, Iran has been at war with us, chanting "Death to America." If you include the 1983 Beirut barracks attack, the 1984 Beirut US Embassy annex bombing, the 1996 Khobar Towers bombing in Saudi Arabia, our soldiers killed by militias, proxies and IEDs during the Iraq war, Grok totals 868 American deaths, not to mention the thousands of soldiers maimed by the Mullahs. Therefore, I have

little pity for Iranians.

Eight presidents have dealt with the Iranian terrorist regime and repeatedly proclaimed that Iran cannot have a nuclear weapon. The Mullahs have been negotiated with, sanctioned and bribed with pallets of cash to no avail. Only President Trump had the courage to do something about it. We bombed their uranium enrichment sites, but they continued their nuclear weapon program and ballistic missile systems to deliver death to Israel, if not the US. When negotiations again failed, with the Iranians bragging about having enough uranium to enrich sufficiently for 11 nuclear bombs, Trump said enough.

Retired four-star General Jack Keene has frequently been on TV lately explaining the Iran war and why Trump is doing the right thing. The former Chief of Staff of the Army said of Iran, "They lie, lie, lie and cheat, cheat, cheat."

Trump said they should have "made a deal." And as President Andy Jackson once proclaimed, "A man with courage makes a majority."

Americans have finally realized we are at war with Iran, whether Congress declares it or not. In addition to killing our soldiers and agents for nearly 50 years, we have learned

that Iran has repeatedly plotted to kill Trump. An Iranian agent was recently convicted of attempting to kill the president, so don't cry to me that Khamenei was blown up along with a bunch of his fanatics.

Last week, Greg Gutfeld nailed it for me. He said Trump is "normal," and since Democrats oppose anything Trumpian, they are not. Democrats have no common sense. They are anti-American and even cheer for Iran with our troops on the battlefield because, like Carville, they hate Trump more than they love our country.

We can't allow Democrats to regain power. Therefore, the SAVE Act must be passed immediately by the Senate. It has already passed the House. The bill stipulates that only United States citizens can vote and that voter ID is required. This is simple common sense and supported by a huge majority of Americans, yet Democrat leadership opposes the legislation. I recently saw a meme that read, "If Congress can't pass a bill that 80% of We The People support, they no longer represent We The People."

The book of Esther is the only book in the Bible that does not explicitly mention God. Nonetheless, the concepts of providence, involvement and

guidance are portrayed. The story takes place in ancient Persia (current-day Iran) during the reign of King Xerxes. Jewish exiles were under threat of death by the king's minister. When Queen Vashti disappointed Xerxes, the Jewish Esther was chosen to be the next queen. Esther is encouraged to courageously petition the king to save her people. The famous verse 4:14 reads, "And who knows but that you have come to your royal position for such a time as this?"

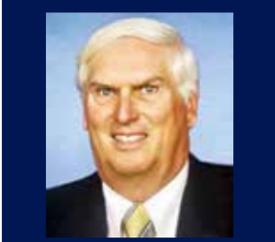
After the attempted assassination of President Trump in Butler, Pennsylvania, the notion of providence has been on the mind of many, including the president. Rising with bloodied ear and neck, Trump defiantly shook his fist and said we must, "Fight, fight, fight!" And since Butler, the president has also spoken of his changed perspective, his faith and the hand of providence.

There is a long-standing debate among historians about whether an individual makes history or whether history brings about a leader. Perhaps it is a bit of both, but I see Trump as the president "for a time such as this."

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

# Trump Supporters On Both Sides Of Iran War

From a distance



By John J. Duncan Jr.

Reagan Carney, a really fine young man with whom we go to church, told me Sunday before last that the UT Young Republicans had a board on which members could express their opinions about the war in Iran.

The board had only one question: Is the Iran War putting America First? At that point, 10 had signed under the yes; 70 had signed under the no.

This confirmed a story that ABC News ran on March 7, quoting Jack Posobiec of Turning Point USA and the conservative publication, Human Events.

Posobiec said: "For the younger end of the spectrum inside MAGA, foreign intervention is just off the radar ... They see it as prioritizing foreign interests ..."

He said MAGA is split by age, with more support for the Iran war among older conservatives.

The ABC story led this way: "President Donald Trump's decision to carry out strikes on Iran has further exposed a fracture among some of the president's fiercest supporters inside MAGA world - one that many supporters say will only widen with every week the conflict continues."

Another young conservative leader, Curt Mills, executive director of the American Conservative Magazine, said, "It all depends on how long the war goes. I think you are going to see this start eating into Trump's approval rating."

As I said in my column

last week, I don't believe this president will make the same mistake the second George Bush made in allowing his neocon advisors to continue the war in Iraq long after Bush celebrated in front of a "Mission Accomplished" banner.

William F. Buckley Jr., the conservative icon, first supported the war in Iraq. Two years later, he said there was "nothing conservative about it" and that "a point is reached when tenacity conveys not steadfastness of purpose but misapplication of pride."

The last thing Trump's strongest supporters want is for the U.S. to be in another endless war, and they especially don't want to see American boots on the ground in Iran.

The president said in the middle of last week that Iran's Navy and Air Force had both been wiped out and that every target worth hitting had already

been hit. He said Iran had clearly lost this war.

Since Iran's total military budget was only a little over one percent of ours, they were never any real threat to us anyway. Assuming the president is correct in saying Iran has already been defeated, he needs to now concentrate on the economy and especially on the price of oil. No one knows for sure what is going to happen, but several national newscasts have said oil could go as high as \$200 a barrel.

If this war is allowed to drag into the fall season and gas prices go to \$5.00 a gallon or even higher, Republicans will suffer big losses in the November elections.

Joe Rogan, who has by far the most popular national podcast with millions of listeners and who really helped Trump in 2024, said on his show on March 10 that going to war in Iran was "insane" and that Trump's

strongest supporters "feel betrayed."

Other national conservative leaders who opposed the war in Iran included Tucker Carlson, Megan Kelly, Steve Bannon, Tom Woods and Dave Smith, all of whom were strong supporters of Trump for re-election. David Stockman, President Reagan's budget director, called the attack on Iran "unprovoked and senseless."

I believe President Trump's instincts are to oppose war, as he did in regard to Iraq. He was pressured into taking action in Iran by several of his wealthiest billionaire contributors, the colossal media empire of Rupert Murdoch, and, of course, Sen. Lindsay "bomb everybody" Graham.

Most people know that I was one of Trump's earliest endorsers. I was a Trump delegate to the national convention, I voted for him all three times, and I have supported him through my speeches, this column and other writings. I am certain that even his own children don't like some of the things he has said or done. But on the really big things, he has been a great president.

I grew up in a very patriotic family. My Dad and my Uncle Joe - my two

greatest mentors - both served in World War II. I served for over 10 years in active Army Reserve or National Guard units and did three stints of Mobilization Designee duty for the seven years after that. I spoke about 2,000 times to school groups, almost always in part of my talk telling the kids how lucky we are to be Americans.

I certainly qualify as one of Trump's "fiercest supporters" described near the top of this column. I love this country and am very grateful for our freedom. One of those freedoms gives us the right to occasionally disagree with our government without being considered unpatriotic. There are good people on both sides on the war in Iran.

Finally, Jonathan Cook, who wrote about the "cheerleading" for a war against Iran a month before it started, said this: "Corporate media doesn't represent humanity's interests. It promotes the interests of billionaires and their hangers-on, who make huge profits from a war machine in constant need of excuses to kill." Threats are often exaggerated so that key people can get more money and power.

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# Publisher's Positions



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

## C'mon U.S. Senate, Pass The SAVE Act

Why is there any controversy at all about having a photo ID to vote? Democrat-Socialist Mayor Zohran Mamdani required them to hire people by the City of New York to shovel snow. 50% of Democrats favor photo ID for voting; 91% of Republicans and 69% of Independents. So, what's the problem? It's the usual suspects: the Democrat-Socialists in Congress and the mainstream corporate media who are the myna birds of the Left in this country.

The Left is opposed to photo IDs for voting because they want non-citizens to vote. The talk about

disenfranchising people is just a lie. For those of us who can remember past yesterday, we remember all the same kinds of arguments being used when the state of Georgia was tightening its own election laws. Major corporations, spooked by the DEI movement, threatened to leave Georgia or refuse to do business in the Peach State. Opponents squalled that it would disenfranchise voters. The laws were passed, and voter participation increased. The Left lies pretty much about everything. They invented election denial and tried to pretend Donald Trump was the first person in the history of the country to believe he lost a dishonest election. Stacy Abrams spent four years denying she lost. The Georgia gubernatorial election went to Brian Kemp, who beat her even worse four years later. The Left conveniently forgets the Mistress of Election Denial, Hillary Clinton, who birthed the lie of Russian interference, which led to the election of Donald Trump. It's fair to say the Left constantly does what it accuses Republicans of doing. They are bold as

brass about their hypocrisy, and their allies in the corporate media lie along with them and can't seem to understand why Americans refuse to believe them any longer. 148 Democrat-Socialists in the US House of Representatives voted against a bill to prohibit non-citizens from voting in American elections. It is as simple as that.

The idea that married women would have difficulty voting is pure, unadulterated hogwash served up by the same people who told us the world was ending from climate change. Any married woman who is registered to vote now would not even be affected by the SAVE Act. Hundreds of thousands of women change their maiden names annually when they get married; they change their names on credit cards, bank accounts, drivers' licenses, and a myriad of other things. To hear the Democrat-Socialists and their media shills, you'd think it was the end of the world to change their voting registration after they had already changed their photo ID.

Just what reason is there to be against requiring

a photo ID to vote? We require them for a host of things, including buying beer in the grocery store. It is a bogus argument from the same people who brought you open borders, rampant fraud in their massive welfare programs, such as that in Minnesota, and the sky-high inflation they denied for years. They lied about the open borders, told us there was no crisis at our southern border; they lied about inflation, said it was transitory. Gas prices were twice what they are now, even with the war in Iran. In California, the once-Golden State, which has been run into the ground by geniuses like Gavin Newsom, the average price of gas is heading toward \$7 per gallon. Democrat-Socialists would have us believe it's because of the war in Iran; nope. It's because the Democrat-Socialists have imposed the highest taxes in the country on gas for their environmental panaceas. Yep, the same people who didn't have enough water to put out the fires in Los Angeles are environmental wizards, or so they would have us believe.

James Talarico, who

is embraced by the Left because of his Christianity, which is heavily dosed with far-left views, was telling folks our southern border was like a front porch, and it should function like a big welcome mat. But good heavens no! We couldn't possibly require photo IDs for voting in elections. Good ol' Jim Talarico has also said, "God is nonbinary." Why do Democrat-Socialists believe ICE should be abolished? Why do they want open borders? Why do they wish to extend welfare programs to non-citizens? And, if we are going to give them health-care and welfare, why not let them vote? Any rational person can see where they are headed. Talarico is just Mamdani with a little hot sauce, and it's made in New York City.

## Corporate Media Is Disgusting

Speaking of lying, some Democrat-Socialists and their followers in the corporate media have been doing their best to paw the kitty litter over the two Muslim terrorists in New York City. The two domestic terrorists threw live

bombs, which, thankfully, didn't detonate, although that was their hope. Ironically, the two Muslim terrorists were part of a group of counter protesters calling themselves some silly tripe like "Stop the Nazis," which must have confused a lot of people, as they very likely had the same regard for Jews as the members of the Third Reich. Nobody on the Left wants to own up to any kind of villainy when the perpetrator isn't white. Lord have mercy if the murderer, rapist, or attacker was a minority, or even worse, a member of the trans community. If you ever want to see the corporate media tiptoe around or simply ignore the story, look up some of the crimes committed by illegal aliens or others. No wonder they prefer equity to equality.

Why is it exactly that the Democrat-Socialists can't even bring themselves to speak the names of victims like Laken Riley? Where is the compassion they claim to be eaten up with? Where is the love they proclaim for their neighbors? Unfortunately, that too is a lie.

## Pugh and Co.

*Continued from page 1*

The March agenda currently has 36 items, some of which may be discussed in the agenda review meeting, including interviews with applicants for the opening on the Knox County Sheriff's Office Employees' Merit System Board to replace Daniel Herrera, who resigned from the seat.

The Retirement Board is asking to drop the 90-day waiting period for disability benefits and provide for payment of all accrued leave upon approval of disability benefits.

At-Large Commissioner Larsen Jay and Knox County Mayor Glenn Jacobs are asking the commission to approve, on the first of two readings, repealing the wheel tax on vehicle registration.

The Juvenile Service Center Board of Directors seeks to turn the facility over to the juvenile judge, who would appoint an advisory board.

Appointments and reappointments include Mark Dixon to the Knox Chapman Utility District Board and Cameron Bolin and Matthew Anderson to the Historic Zoning Commission.

# HonorAir Knoxville ending mission

*Continued from page 1*

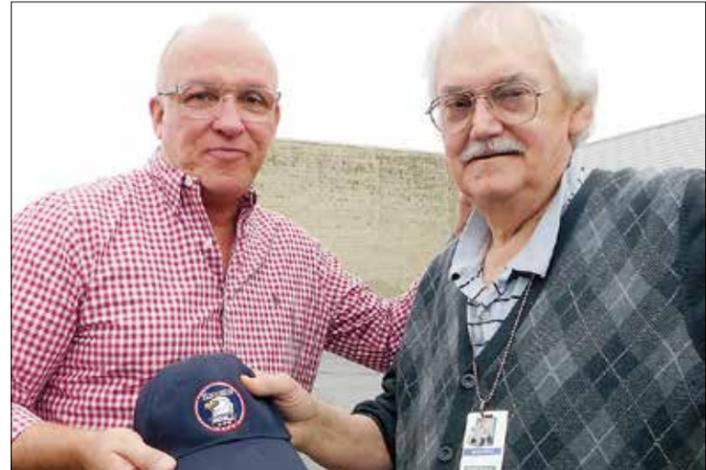
and hopefully will always be a powerful reminder that we must never forget those who served."

A final event is being planned by HonorAir, as well as a project to preserve the stories of veterans who took the flight and the story of the much-praised organization. HonorAir recently lost a driving force behind the group, the late Charles Harr. Mannis called the late leader a "most remarkable and accomplished individual."

"This final flight is especially meaningful as we remember our dear friend and longtime team leader, Charlie Harr," Mannis said. "Charlie represented the very best of HonorAir Knoxville—he was the embodiment of selfless service, quiet leadership, and a deep love for our veterans. I often referred to Charlie as the Gentle Giant whose life reflected courage, humility and devotion to others. His leadership on our team helped guide our missions with steadiness, with a deep love and respect for the veterans we serve. His legacy will always be part of this mission."

"HonorAir Knoxville's mission may end on April 8, but our gratitude to our Veterans will never end."

and hopefully will always be a powerful reminder that we must never forget those who served."



**HonorAir founder Eddie Mannis is pictured presenting Focus reporter and Coast Guard veteran Mike Steely with an HonorAir hat. Steely joined an HonorAir flight to Washington, D.C., as a veteran and news reporter, on one of the many flights the organization provided for veterans. The city council is recognizing Mannis and the group when it meets Tuesday.**

*I was very grateful to participate in an HonorAir flight several years ago. As I had been stationed in D.C. for two years, I was already familiar with the sights there, but the Changing of the Guard at Arlington Cemetery touched me, as did the reactions of the other veterans on that trip.*

*I recall Charles Susano Jr. visiting the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in his wheelchair, and I was fortunate to find the name of one of my high school friends who perished in Vietnam on that wall.*

*I recall the letters from children that were passed out on the flight back to Knoxville and how each veteran welcomed and treasured those handwritten notes.*

*The comradeship felt among the veterans during and after the memorable trip was created and fostered by Mannis. I am honored to have been invited.*

- Mike Steely

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# Some county races will be decided in the primary

By Mike Steely  
Senior Writer  
steelym@knoxfocus.com

There are 17 races for Knox County offices on the May 5th ballot and a total of 53 people seeking those positions. Due to a lack of opposition, several of those offices will be decided by primary voters. The deadline to withdraw has passed, so the current list of candidates stands. Four Republican candidates

seek the office of sheriff. Without a Democratic or Independent challenger, whoever wins the primary will be the next sheriff. Those candidates include men with a history in law enforcement: David Amburn, Mike Davis, Brent Gibson and former Sheriff Jimmy "JJ" Jones.

Republicans Mike Hammond will be the new criminal court clerk, and Charlie Susano will be re-elected circuit, civil sessions

and juvenile court clerk. Neither have Republican challengers nor opposition candidates. The same goes for Republican Emily Abbott, who is unopposed in running for a criminal court judge seat.

Incumbent county clerk Sherry Witt will become the new register of deeds.

Four candidates, all Republican, are vying for the clerk's position and include former Commissioner Richard Beeler, John J.

Duncan, Rodney Lane and John R. Whitehead, the former property assessor. The primary election winner will become the new clerk.

Early primary voting begins April 15. Races that will go on to the Knox County August general election, as they have opposition candidates, include mayor, trustee, commission seats in Districts 3 and 7 and at-large seats 10 and 11, and school board members for Districts 1, 4, 6, 7 and 9.

Whoever wins the Republican primary for Knox County General Sessions Judge Division IV goes on to face Democrat Ben H. Houston II. Those Republican candidates include Andrea Kline, appointed to the interim position following the retirement of Judge Andrew Jackson, and current county commissioner Rhonda Lee.

# Youth and social service programs could get city funds

By Mike Steely  
Senior Writer  
steelym@knoxfocus.com

Several non-profit groups are on the Knoxville City Council agenda Tuesday to receive funding from the Office of Community Safety and Empowerment.

Thirteen groups may receive \$213,499 in Opportunity Youth Program Grants to support programming for youth and young adults.

Mayor Indya Kincannon may be approved to sign an agreement with C.O.N.N.E.C.T Ministries for individual case management, wraparound social services and emergency relocation for high-risk people involved in community-based violence. The agreement is for \$186,100.

She may also get approval for a similar agreement with Helen Ross McNabb Center to provide group and individual therapy for those involved in violence and enrolled in its outreach and life coaching. The agreement is for \$121,000.

In other action, the council will consider a \$158,596 agreement with Alta Planning + Design Inc. for consultation services for the

2026 Vision Zero Action Plan. Cannon & Cannon LLC may be approved for design services for the Tazewell Pike-Beverly Road Intersection for \$153,240. The city's Parks and Recreation Master Plan, prepared by Perez Planning + Design, may be approved.

Fort Dickerson Gateway Park may be approved for the placement of a cannon and monument, and KMF III Services LLC may get a \$72,550 agreement to maintain seven scattered landscapes inside the city.

Carmichaels Lawn Care LLC may be hired to maintain the grounds of the Odd Fellows Cemetery and Potter's Field.

## More housing on City Council Agenda

Finding an available piece of land for housing in Knoxville is becoming more and more difficult, but several sites are on the city council consent agenda Tuesday with requests for rezoning to residential status.

Heyoh Architecture is requesting a rezoning for property at 2802 North Broadway from

general commercial and office to RN-6, multi-family neighborhood. The .68-acre tract is located between Broadway and Bill Williams Drive, just south of the Burger King restaurant.

Another vacant lot, at 3010 Greenway Drive, may change from RN-1 (single-family residential) to RN-3 (general residential) if Andrew Davis's request for rezoning is approved. The change could mean more houses on the street side lot.

Taylor D. Forrester is asking that a Washington Pike property be rezoned from office to neighborhood commercial.

The use of property at 5200 Clinton Highway in the Norwood area for a homeless social service center was approved by the Knoxville-Knox County Planning, but is before the city council on an appeal from several groups, including the Norwood Homeowners Group. They are asking the planning decision of granting a special use application to Care-Cuts at the former bank building to be overturned. The building is located in a Highway Commercial District.

# Group created to determine future of Chilhowee Park

**Continued from page 1** Business and Professional Association member Grant, is asking a diverse group of leaders to look at possible futures for the East Knoxville Park. The advisory group will meet at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 24, in the Jacob Building to begin a public discussion.

Kincannon said the park "for the first time in decades will be managed as a park, rather than primarily as an event venue." She renewed her pledge to allocate \$10 million over five years for park improvements.

Seventeen stakeholders are being invited to serve on the advisory group and may follow the model established by the South Waterfront Advisory Group in creating the master plan there.

Mayor Kincannon invited these stakeholders to serve on the Chilhowee Park Advisory Group:

- Obayana Ajanaku, Executive Director, Drums Up Guns Down and drum instructor, Austin-East High and Vine Middle Schools
- Tylan Baker, Austin-East alumni, University of Tennessee student
- Brian Brooks, graphic designer, East Knoxville

Business and Professional Association member

- Tammi Campbell, Knox County Schools

- Shaniya Cherry, Austin-East alumni, UT student, Youth Poet Laureate

- Allison Comer, CEO, Muse Knoxville

- Cynthia Finch, President, New Direction Health Care Solutions, Burlington Business Association

- Keith Foster, developer, Abundant Capital

- Adam Fritts, Community Schools Director, United Way of Greater Knoxville

- Sherene Jacobs, owner, Perk City

- Tracy Miller-Davis - Golden Gloves

- Albert Nelson - Community Action Committee, Lions Club

- Sabrina Robinson - former Director, Walter P. Taylor Boys & Girls Club

- Bill Street - CEO, Zoo Knoxville

- Derek Tate - community volunteer

- Clarence Vaughn - Executive Board member, Tennessee Valley Fair

- Keira Wyatt - Executive Director, CONNECT Ministries



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## Volunteers needed for Ijams River Rescue March 21

Volunteer and make your community a cleaner, healthier place to live, work, and play during the 37th annual Ijams River Rescue on Saturday, March 21, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. In case of bad weather, the event will move to Sat., March 28. Ijams Nature Center's annual cleanup event brings together hundreds of individuals, families, Scout troops, businesses, and church groups to remove tons of trash and tires from sites along the Tennessee River, creeks, and streams.

"Ijams' goal is to fill about 500 volunteer slots at 36 sites in Knox, Anderson, and Blount counties," Volunteer Manager Brandy Cox said. "If you're looking for a fun way to get outdoors and make a positive difference in your community,

grab some friends and join us!"

Last year's 518 volunteers removed an estimated 17.2 tons of trash, 100 tires, large household appliances, and car parts from 34 sites along area waterways.

Potential volunteers can learn more and sign up for a cleanup site at [ijams.org/ijams-river-rescue](http://ijams.org/ijams-river-rescue). Slots fill on a first-come, first-served basis, and typically book quickly. The deadline to register is March 15, or until all slots have been filled.

Site captains will be stationed at each site. Bags, gloves, and other supplies will be provided.

Volunteers will receive a free t-shirt featuring a frog that is passionate about clean water. It was designed by Stephen Lyn Bales.

## Knox County 'Camporee' at Melton Hill Park

Knox County Mayor Glenn Jacobs and Knox County Parks & Recreation are hosting the fourth annual weekend-long immersive camping experience in April at Melton Hill Park (3230 Williams Bend Road).

The camping event, which takes place from 4 p.m. April 24 to 11 a.m. April 26 will feature interactive nature programming for both kids and adults, a sunset movie, local band campfire jam session, water sport rentals, and some of the most beautiful views in the area.

The event - nicknamed "camporee" - has designated sites for families accommodating up to six people and group sites accommodating up to twelve. Only those registered will be allowed to camp, and registration is now open. (Folks can click

here to reserve a spot.)

"Our Parks & Recreation Department continues to highlight the best our community has to offer," said Knox County Mayor Glenn Jacobs.

Added Parks & Recreation Senior Director Joe Mack: "These events are about togetherness and having fun."

The county will send campsite reservations, which include access to a community firepit, and a list of weekend activities the week prior to the event. Pets are welcome but must be on leash and under control at all times. For the safety of your pet and park wildlife, pets may not be left unattended. Alcohol is not permitted.

An onsite bathhouse offers showers and restroom facilities, but it is important to note that camp sites will not include electric or water hook-up.



PHOTO COURTESY OF PAIGE TRAVIS, CITY OF KNOXVILLE

Sylvia McLaurin was surprised to receive the Diana Conn "Good Neighbor of the Year" award at the 2026 Neighborhood Awards Dinner. Mayor Indya Kincannon presented the plaque along with Rita McKinnon of Mechanicsville and Janice Tocher of South Knoxville. Finalists nominated for the award included Geoffrey Cavalier of Maplehurst Park, Gail Frank of Northwest Hills, Lindsey Lee of Edgewood Park, Nicholas Poker of Parkridge, Janice Tocher of South Knoxville and Sally Wilcox of North Hills Garden Club.

## Sylvia McLaurin named Good Neighbor of the Year

East Knoxville neighbor Sylvia McLaurin received the Diana Conn Good Neighbor of the Year Award at the 2026 Neighborhood Awards Dinner, held Thursday, March 5, at The Brookside in Happy Holler. The fourth annual event, planned and produced by the City's Office of Neighborhood Empowerment, recognizes the activities of individuals and organized neighborhood groups that contribute to a healthy, active, safe and beautiful city.

Mayor Indya Kincannon presented the awards and thanked all nominees for their contributions. After accepting the night's big award, McLaurin expressed her appreciation for everyone in the room, indicating our collective role in creating and sustaining community. She received a standing ovation.

In McLaurin's nomination, neighbor Krista Rines wrote: "Her projects consistently require significant time, physical labor and the thoughtful gathering of resources, yet she approaches every effort simply because she wants to make her neighborhood a better place for everyone. Because of her, East Knoxville is not only cleaner and more beautiful, but also more connected, more compassionate and

more engaged."

The selection committee, comprising members of the Neighborhood Advisory Council, chose McLaurin for her diligent and selfless actions to improve life in East Knoxville for all.

A member of the Town Hall East Board of Directors, McLaurin planned the Holston Hills Cleanup during which volunteers, supported by Keep Knoxville Beautiful, collected 18 bags of trash. She has drawn on her 25 years as a Master Gardener and her doctorate in Landscape Architecture to revamp neighborhood pollinator gardens, lead significant tree plantings, and redesign teacher breakrooms at nearby schools.

All finalists received proclamations honoring their contributions of time, energy and personal expense to making their neighborhoods safer, cleaner and more beautiful places to live. Those finalists are:

- Geoffrey Cavalier, Maplehurst Park
- Gail Frank, Northwest Hills
- Lindsey Lee, Edgewood Park
- Rita McKinnon, Mechanicsville
- Nicholas Poker, Parkridge
- Janice Tocher, South Knoxville
- Sally Wilcox, North Hills Garden Club

All nominees demonstrated qualities exemplified by the late Diana Conn, for whom the award was named and given posthumously. Members of her Old Sevier Community described Conn as a generous, caring and devoted neighbor.

Additional individuals and groups received recognition:

- Knoxville Police Department Officer Travis Schuler received the Carol Scott Officer of the Year Award, with Officers John Williams and Myriah Hamilton recognized as finalists.
- Healthy Knoxville awards went to the Westwood Homeowners Association, Timbercrest Neighborhood Association, Edgewood Park Neighborhood Association and West Hills Community Association.
- Timbercrest, Edgewood Park, West Hills, Fountain City Town Hall and Mechanicsville Community Association received Neighborhood Achievement Awards.

Learn more about the Office of Neighborhood Empowerment and its many programs and resources at <http://KnoxvilleTN.gov/Neighborhoods>.

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# US Postal Service Beginnings

**OLD MAN'S  
STAMP  
STORE**



By Harry Brooks  
hrbrooks68@gmail.com

The early days of postal services had a variety of delivery methods as well as postal fees. Sometimes, mail was hand-carried by a person traveling to the desired destination. On other occasions, mail was a planned route by a postal

employee or contract service. On March 3, 1845, Congress passed legislation providing for mail delivery at a five-cent or ten-cent rate, depending on distance. Mail traveling less than 300 miles cost five cents, whereas mail traveling further cost ten cents. Newspapers, pamphlets and magazines started at two cents per item.

At the outset, the service had some difficulties and hiccups. For example:

1) What happens if a mail piece needed more postage? Many times, the recipient would need to pay more to obtain the mailed item. Thus, a postage due system was established. A postage due stamp or fee was in effect until the 1980s.

2) What happened if the addressee had moved? The postal service, on some occasions, would add an increased postage fee for the second leg of the delivery trip.

3) What happened if the mailed envelope contained two sheets of paper rather than one per letter? This generally would create a doubling of the price of the mailed item. For instance, the five-cent rate would become ten, and the ten would become twenty.

Prior to 1845, local postmasters used unique methods of cancel systems in individual post offices. Some postmasters used a hand stamp that would print the words five-cents or ten-cents on the envelope

rather than placing a postage stamp. All these early postmaster provisionals are highly collectible and, if authentic, very valuable. Values can range from \$400 to hundreds of thousands of dollars. While I have seen a number of provisionals, I have never owned one.

The Special Delivery Service began in October 1885. In the first few months, this service was only available in post offices located in cities with a population of four thousand or more. There were fewer than 600 post offices. Another legislative action was required to expand the service to all post offices. This expanded service began in August, 1886. This Special Delivery Service

seemed to work well, with delivery occurring in just a few days.

Air mail service officially began in 1918. Prior to then, a number of unofficial, or what some called semi-official, flights occurred. Early in the air mail service, postage rates varied. Officially, in December of 1918, a six-cent price per mailed item or letter was established. Early air mail delivery was, on many occasions, an adventure. The flight route, the schedule, the weather, and airport issues resulted in an ultimate delivery, but sometimes late.

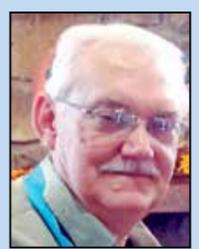
At various times through the years, the postal service issued other stamps and provided different services for a variety of reasons.

Such services and stamps included postal saving stamps, postcards, postal envelopes, postal currency, postal mailing wrappers, certified mail, first day of issue stamps, airmail wrappers, and others. All these items have become collectibles.

If you want to talk to me about stamps, I can be contacted at (865)604-0164 or hrbrooks68@gmail.com This is the Old Man Stamp Store. You are invited to attend the Knoxville Philatelic Society meeting each month on the first Tuesday at 6:00 p.m. at the Unitarian Church on Kingston Pike. Happy collecting!

## Sharing some childhood tales

### More Than A Day Away



By Mike Steely

Until I was six years old, my mother, sister, brother and I lived with my grandmother in her small country house up a country dirt road near other family members. My grandmother was a small woman with strong control of our family.

Often there were us kids, neighbor kids and cousins, sitting together on the front porch, looking out at the road and the meadow below, and telling stories.

My family were talkers, we all loved to share stories, whether true or not. Often, the stories were a combination of both. Whatever made the stories better was used to dress up the tale.

My cousin, Gail, was one of the best tale tellers and once, with the kids and adults sitting on the porch, stepped out onto the front yard and started this whimsical story that included a ghost horse. She backed down toward the road, looked up and down, and

then shouted that the ghost horse was coming.

Immediately, a loose horse came galloping down the road at full speed, past Gail, and on down toward town. We were shocked, scared and delighted with the climax of her tale.

There were many other storytellers in my family, and possibly that's why I ended up as a writer and reporter.

My grandmother was stern and expected good behavior. Once she scolded me and then showed me a big butcher knife, turned it on its side to flatten the blade, and threatened to whip me with it if I didn't straighten up. The threat was very effective.

I remember when Uncle Ed was just back from the Army and partied often on the weekends. We often found him asleep in the smaller back room, where he slept sometimes until afternoon. Ed had an old Ford, and several of us kids were taking a ride with him one evening to town and back. When we neared Grandma's house, he told us a story about a dead baby that had been found near there once.

As we passed a small ditch bank hole, a small cloud of mist floated up in front of the car and stayed there. Ed swore it was the ghost of the baby and sped well up the hollow before the little cloud flew away. I

remember not sleeping well that night.

Saturdays were special days when the family got together. My mom and aunt were off from their sewing factory jobs on weekends, and the women would cook all day in preparation for Sundays, when no cooking was permitted because it was God's Day of Rest.

I remember being told not to touch the coal cook stove, but I didn't listen, and to this day, I have a scar on my left arm from that encounter.

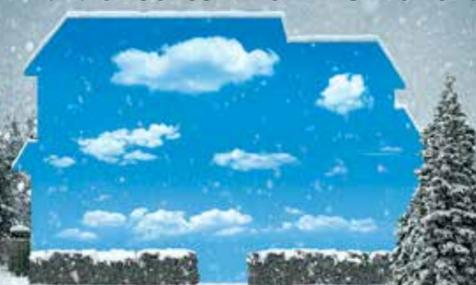
Saturdays were also kid bath days. A large wash tub was filled with hot water, and we'd line up in the kitchen where we, one by one, took a bath or were

bathed, head to foot. After that, we were not permitted to go back outside to play in the dirt wall near the lane that led up to the smokehouse.

Growing up in the country, poverty is eased when the family stays together and shares food, clothing, bedding and, most importantly, stories. When my wife and I moved back to that small town, I often met with my grandmother to hear family history and tall tales.

So, today, please forgive me if I start a family or personal tale. As I said, I'm from a family of talkers. Thank goodness I can still remember some of those wonderful stories.

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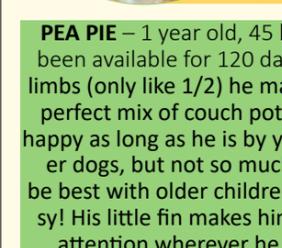
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# The Boss of Philadelphia

## William S. Vare of Pennsylvania

### Pages from the Past



By Ray Hill  
rayhill865@gmail.com

William S. Vare was a very rare species, a Republican big-city political boss. Vare rose to the heights of politics in Pennsylvania and occupied a seat in the U.S. House of Representatives for 14 years. The GOP machine in Philadelphia was notorious in the national media of the time for the “voting of tombstones, alley cats, children and dead men ...”

Boies Penrose, who knew more than most about bossism, referred to Vare as the “ashcart statesman,” due to the latter having once hauled away ashes and garbage. Penrose found Vare to be an irritant in his own rule of Pennsylvania in general and Philadelphia in particular. William Vare was remembered by the Philadelphia Inquirer as “the master mind and the commander-in-chief” of the city’s political organization. Short, stocky and aggressive, William S. Vare was one of those men whose presence could never be ignored.

Vare was elected to the United States Senate in 1926, largely based upon his control of Philadelphia, but questions of corruption and voter fraud caused him to be rejected by the Senate membership, who are the sole arbiters of who has the right to sit amongst that body. That defeat broke William S. Vare, and his health began to seriously decline.

In many respects, the rise of William Scott Vare to the highest councils of American government was the embodiment of an American success story. Vare had been born to a farm family that raised crops and pigs. All three of the Vare sons engaged in the same profession, contracting, and all three were quite involved in politics. Along with older brothers George and Edwin, William Vare became highly successful and prosperous. The brothers remained close throughout their lives. One newspaper recalled that George was considered the politician of the family, while Edwin was the businessman and William the candidate for public office.

The Vare brothers found politics the conduit to expand their contracting business and enjoyed many lucrative contracts from the local government. Their revenue from the city of Philadelphia between 1909 and 1912 was the equivalent of more than \$225 million today. At the same time, William S. Vare began climbing the political ladder, getting himself elected to the city council and then recorder of deeds. Vare lost a campaign for the GOP nomination for mayor of Philadelphia in 1911. In 1912, Vare rebounded by winning election to the U.S. House of Representatives.

As a congressman, Vare was surprisingly progressive and took firm stands against child labor while supporting a federal income tax. Congressman Vare also supported unions being able to collectively bargain. The congressman was also an enthusiastic supporter of giving women the right to vote. The death of Senator Boies Penrose left Vare as the undisputed boss of Philadelphia.

One reason for William Vare’s hold upon the working class of Philadelphia was his personal generosity. Most certainly a millionaire, Vare was very generous in helping charities and personally assisted needy families and the poor, which made him very popular with his people. Vare kept a large home in Philadelphia, along with homes in Atlantic City, New Jersey and St. Lucie, Florida.

Vare could have remained in the House of Representatives for the rest of his life had he wished, but the boss was not content to serve in the lower chamber. Vare ached in his bones to be elected to the United States Senate. Congressman Vare became a candidate for the Republican nomination for the Senate in 1926.

Vare competed against two respectable and popular figures inside the GOP primary when he decided he would go to the U.S. Senate. Vare faced incumbent George Wharton Pepper, a highly esteemed patrician attorney who taught law and had been the president of the Pennsylvania Bar Association. Governor Gifford Pinchot, a determined foe of those who would end prohibition and a progressive supporter of the late Theodore Roosevelt, had also entered the Republican primary for the Senate. It was a hard-fought and bitter contest, and Vare’s massive spending necessitated that both Senator Pepper and Governor Pinchot spend more than usual.

It became readily apparent following his victory in the general election that William S. Vare would encounter opposition to his being seated as a member of the United States Senate. As he prepared to take the oath of office, his daughter, Beatrice, sat in the gallery “dressed to the nines,” but also quite nervous. There were other women of prominent Washington families sitting in the gallery, including Alice Roosevelt Longworth, who icily ignored the existence of poor Beatrice Vare, as did the wife of Senator Hiram Johnson. So, too, did the gentlemen of the United States Senate ignore the presence of her father, who remained “flushed” and “strained.”

Vare was one of two



P&A PHOTO FROM THE AUTHOR'S PERSONAL COLLECTION.

Congressman William S. Vare of Philadelphia in 1926.

senators-elect who had spent vastly and obviously far more than was permitted under the law. It was also true that most candidates elected to the U.S. Senate at the time routinely spent more than the \$10,000 specified under the law, but did so in legal ways, such as having their political party and an array of various committees pay for campaign costs and expenses. Frank L. Smith of Illinois and William S. Vare of Pennsylvania were a great embarrassment to many Republicans because of the circumstances of their election. Both Smith and Vare answered if their primary campaigns were questionable, they had won the general elections and had been sent to the Senate by the majority of the people of their respective states. Indeed, a subsequent investigation indicated Vare and his combine had been outspent by Senator Pepper and his ticket, who may have spent as much as \$2 million, while Governor Pinchot spent \$135,000. Of course, these are hardly impressive sums today when hundreds of millions of dollars are spent in senatorial races.

There was an investigation of the primary campaigns headed by the shrewd and acidulous Senator James A. Reed of Missouri, which left few stones unturned. William Wilson, who had served in the cabinet of President Woodrow Wilson, had been the Democratic nominee for the Senate against Vare and he filed a contest to Vare’s election. Wilson had been in the lead until reaching the Philadelphia city limits. Usually, certifying the winner of an election is a routine procedure and is signed by the governor and the secretary of state. Governor Pinchot refused to certify Vare’s election. Instead, the governor issued

a “certificate of doubt” to the president of the Senate that stated that, from what could be gathered from the face of the election returns, William S. Vare “appears” to have been elected. The dubious certification was accompanied by a letter from Governor Pinchot insisting that there had been widespread fraud and restated his belief that a recount would reveal a different result. Once Gifford Pinchot was out of office, the newly elected governor, John Fisher, issued a new certificate of election to Vare.

William E. Borah, the “Lion of Idaho,” a progressive Republican and a constitutional lawyer, roared indeed that the Senate had the right to determine its own membership. Borah insisted the Senate had the right to oust both Smith and Vare, which he “likened to the right of self-preservation.”

When Vare presented himself for the taking of the oath of office, he was told to stand aside. For the next two years, the Senate conducted an investigation, and the stress took its toll on Vare. The ousting of William S. Vare from the Senate was delayed by the Pennsylvanian suffering a paralytic stroke in the summer of 1928. When first stricken, Vare’s doctors held little hope for his recovery. Eventually, Vare was able to speak and walk again, although he was seriously disabled. Vare’s doctor insisted his condition was precarious and could not properly defend himself in the Senate. Vare went to Florida to recuperate.

Vare embarrassed his intra-party rival, Andrew Mellon, the Pittsburgh financial titan who had served as Secretary of the Treasury during the administrations of Presidents Warren Harding and Calvin Coolidge, at the 1928 GOP

national convention. Mellon was the chairman of the Pennsylvania delegation to the convention, but it was Vare who made a pronouncement for Herbert Hoover, which caused the stampede of delegates to Hoover’s banner.

Sometime later, William S. Vare spoke on the floor of the Senate to defend himself against the charges of election fraud and illegal spending. Vare insisted he had never stolen an election. “How unfair and unjust my accusers have been in attempting to twist mere clerical irregularities and technicalities into acts of political fraud and conspiracy!” Vare cried.

Two years after he should have been sworn in, William Vare entered the Senate Chamber, one arm linked with that of his personal physician and his other clutching a cane. With some effort, the man TIME magazine gleefully referred to as “the Senator-suspect” rather than “senator-elect,” eased himself into a seat on the first row on the Senate floor. The issue of whether or not the Senate would allow him to be seated amongst its membership was decided within fifteen minutes.

The chamber was solemn and silent as the vote was taken. Vare was rejected by a vote of 58-22 as senators had determined he had spent \$785,000 (almost \$14 million today) to win the Republican nomination in 1926. Thomas Schall, a senator from Minnesota who was blind, “groped his way to” Vare and “embraced him consolingly.”

To those who supported the senatorial claims of William S. Vare, the Philadelphia boss was a victim. Others held to the view that the Senate had refused to allow a corrupt political boss to sit in their midst.

Rising with difficulty, with

a grimace that was a mockery of a grin, William S. Vare limped off the Senate floor and out of the chamber. Vare went home to Philadelphia, where he remained crippled by his stroke and largely semi-retired.

Perhaps Vare’s last real show of power was in 1930, when he opposed Gifford Pinchot’s attempt to return to the governor’s mansion. Vare supported Pinchot’s opponent inside the Republican primary and when the former governor won, the boss bolted the GOP. Vare announced his support for Democrat John Hemphill and took Philadelphia with him. Hemphill carried Philadelphia with a huge majority of 230,000 votes, which made the general election much closer than it would have been otherwise.

Intraparty bickering helped to bring about the demise of what had once been a mighty political organization. Democrats won offices in 1933 that had once been considered the vested right of GOP candidates due to infighting amongst Vare and his opponents.

The last political honor to come to William S. Vare was his election as Pennsylvania’s Republican National Committeeman in 1933 following the death of financier Jay Cooke. In truth, Vare was too ill to travel, and he never attended a meeting of the Republican National Committee, sending his proxy with his son-in-law. At the same time, the boss was losing his grip on control of the city organization in Philadelphia. A coalition of ambitious men replaced Vare in controlling the Philadelphia organization.

The machine was already wobbling, showing signs of wear and tear, and Vare was really too sick to do much during the 1928 presidential campaign. So, too, was the boss’s grip on his voters beginning to weaken. Five Vare wards in Philadelphia went for Democratic candidate Al Smith, and Vare’s sister-in-law lost her seat in the state Senate that had once belonged to her husband. Eventually, Vare, incapacitated by his stroke, lost control of the political organization that had once produced such large majorities that it could determine the outcome of statewide elections following a revolt of insurgents who saw their opportunity and took it. It would not be long before the entire Republican organization in the city followed its deposed leader.

Increasingly infirm, the 66-year-old political boss journeyed to his summer home in New Jersey but found the temperatures there equally uncomfortable and sticky. Vare was restless during the excessive heat and suffered a heart attack on August 7, 1934, and died.

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# LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

## COURT NOTICES

### NOTICE OF SERVICE BY PUBLICATION

TO: CHRIS DOTY and NETTIE DOTY

IN RE: FARM AT WILLOW CREEK HOMEOWNER'S ASSOCIATION, INC., Plaintiff

VS.

CHRIS DOTY and NETTIE DOTY, Defendant(s)

NO. 212209-3

IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE

In this Cause, it appearing from the Complaint filed, which is sworn to, that the defendant(s), CHRIS DOTY and NETTIE DOTY, 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 CHRIS DOTY and NETTIE DOTY, KNOXVILLE, TN 37921, it is ordered that said defendant(s), CHRIS DOTY and NETTIE DOTY, file an answer with the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court at Knoxville, Tennessee and with Melanie E. Davis, an Attorney whose address is 217 E. Broadway Avenue, Maryville, TN 37804, on or before thirty (30) days of the last date of publication or a Judgement by Default will be taken against you and the cause will be set for hearing Ex-Parte as to you before Chancellor Christopher D. Heagerty at the Knox County Chancery Court, Division III, 400 Main Street, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902.

This notice will be published in The Knoxville Focus newspaper for four (4) consecutive weeks. This 30th day of JANUARY, 2026.

Christopher D. Heagerty  
Chancellor

J. Scott Griswold  
Clerk and Master

### ORDER OF SERVICE BY PUBLICATION

TO: JINNEYFER DELGADO

IN RE: KATHLEEN MOROCCO, Plaintiff

VS.

JINNEYFER DELGADO, Defendant

DOCKET NO. 212139-2

IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE

In this cause, it appearing from the Motion for Service of Publication and the affidavit of the process server that your whereabouts are unknown to Plaintiff so that ordinary process of law cannot be served, you, JINNEYFER DELGADO, Defendant, are hereby notified that you are required to file with the Chancery Court of Knox County at Knoxville, Tennessee, your defense or Answer to the Complaint filed against you in said cause. A notice shall be published for four consecutive weeks in the Knoxville Focus in Knoxville, TN. Within 30 days of the fourth publication, a true copy of your defense or Answer to the Complaint filed against you, JINNEYFER DELGADO, Defendant, must be filed in this matter and served on Jedidiah C. McKeenan, of McKeenan Law Group, LLC, whose address is 676705 Albunda Drive, Knoxville, Tennessee 37919.

In case of your failure to do so, judgment by default may be rendered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

This the 11th day of February, 2026.

Richard "Bud" Armstrong, Jr.  
Chancellor

### ORDER OF SERVICE BY PUBLICATION

TO: DARRELL MOORE, JR.

IN RE: CSILLA MOORE, Plaintiff

VS.

DARRELL MOORE, JR., Defendant  
IN THE GENERAL SESSION COURT FOR ROANE COUNTY, TENNESSEE AT KINGSTON  
CAUSE NO: 25-CV-1555

In this Cause, being a Complaint for Divorce, it appearing from the Complaint filed, which is sworn to, that the defendant, DARRELL MOORE, JR., 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 DARRELL MOORE, JR., it is ordered that said defendant, DARRELL MOORE, JR., file an answer with the General Sessions Court of Roane County, Tennessee at 200 E. Race Street, Suite 16, Kingston, Tennessee 37763, and with Rochelle Oldfield, Esq., and Jason Beddingfield, Esq., Attorneys whose address is 10263 Kingston Pike, Knoxville, TN 37922, on or before thirty (30) days of the last date of publication of this Notice or a judgement by default may be taken against you and the cause will be set for hearing Ex-Parte as to you before a Judge at the Roane County General Sessions Court on the 28th day of April, 2026 at 1:00 p.m.

This notice will be published in The Knoxville Focus newspaper in Knox County, Tennessee for four (4) consecutive weeks, as required by law. This 27th day of February, 2026.

Ann Goldston,  
Roane County Circuit Court Clerk  
Veronica Schaar,  
Deputy Clerk

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF TOMMY J. BETHEL  
DOCKET NUMBER 91773-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 14th day of JANUARY, 2026, Letters Testamentary (or Administration as the case may be) in respect of the Estate of TOMMY J. BETHEL, who died on October 9, 2025, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee, Probate Division. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the 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 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 posting) as described in (1)(A); or

(2) Twelve (12) months from the date of the first publication (or posting) as described in (1)(A); or

(B) Sixty (60) days from the date of 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 14th day of JANUARY, 2026.

ESTATE OF TOMMY J. BETHEL

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
MISTY E. BROWN  
TROY C. PRICE

LEIGH COWDEN, ATTORNEY  
9111 CROSS PARK DR, E135  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37923

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF JOYCE UNDERWOOD BROWN  
DOCKET NUMBER 78173-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 24th day of FEBRUARY, 2026, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of JOYCE UNDERWOOD BROWN, who died Dec. 7, 2025, were issued to the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

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

This the 24th day of February, 2026.

ESTATE OF JOYCE UNDERWOOD BROWN

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
THOMAS LEE BROWN  
403 SUNNY SPRINGS AVENUE  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37922

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF JOHN CROCKETT  
DOCKET NUMBER 92078-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 27 day of FEBRUARY, 2026, letters of administration as the case may be in respect of the Estate of JOHN CROCKETT, who died December 10, 2025, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above-named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

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

This the 27th day of FEBRUARY, 2026.

ESTATE OF JOHN CROCKETT

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
JACQUELINE DOTSON  
334 MEADOWLAKE CIRCLE  
SEYMOUR, TN 37865

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

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF JEFFREY LYNN DAY  
DOCKET NUMBER 77683-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 24 day of FEBRUARY, 2026, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of JEFFREY LYNN DAY, who died August 30, 2025, were issued to the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above-named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

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

This the 24 day of FEBRUARY, 2026.

ESTATE OF JEFFREY LYNN DAY

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
TERESA KLENK  
265 BROOKVIEW CENTRE WAY, SUITE 604  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37919

SHARON LEE, ATTORNEY  
265 BROOKVIEW CENTRE WAY, SUITE 604  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37919

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF GLORIA A. DITMORE  
DOCKET NUMBER 77873-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 20 day of FEBRUARY, 2026, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of GLORIA A. DITMORE, who died October 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 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 (or posting) as described in (1)(A); or

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

This the 20 day of FEBRUARY, 2026.

ESTATE OF GLORIA A. DITMORE

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
WANDA LUTTRELL  
118 NARRAGANSETTE AVENUE  
CHATTANOOGA, TN 37415

JASON C. ROSE, ATTORNEY  
611 SMITHVIEW DRIVE  
MARYVILLE, TN 37804

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF MORTON HERBERT DOPPELT  
DOCKET NUMBER 78152-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 20 day of FEBRUARY, 2026, Letters Testamentary in respect of the Estate of MORTON HERBERT DOPPELT, who died December 26, 2025, were issued to the undersigned by the Probate Court for Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the Clerk of the above-named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), 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 20 day of FEBRUARY, 2026.

ESTATE OF MORTON HERBERT DOPPELT

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
MATTHEW BRENT DOPPELT  
1933 DOGWOOD LANE  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37919

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

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF GAYE M. EVANS  
DOCKET NUMBER 78208-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 27 day of FEBRUARY, 2026, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of GAYE M. EVANS, who died December 19, 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) and (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication 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.

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

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

This the 27 day of FEBRUARY, 2026.

ESTATE OF GAYE M. EVANS

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
JACQUELINE O. KITTRELL, ATTORNEY  
6420 STRAWBERRY PLAINS PIKE  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37914

HAL E. WATTS, ATTORNEY  
P. O. BOX 85  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37901

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF EDWARD CAMERON  
FAIRCLOTH, II  
DOCKET NUMBER 78191-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 4th day of MARCH, 2026, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of EDWARD CAMERON FAIRCLOTH, II, who died on January 24, 2026, 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 4th day of MARCH, 2026.

ESTATE OF EDWARD CAMERON FAIRCLOTH, II

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
CAROL C. FAIRCLOTH  
8408 CHIPSHOT LANE  
KNOXVILLE TN 37923

LEE A. POPKIN, ATTORNEY  
1111 N. NORTHSHORE DRIVE, SUITE S-700  
KNOXVILLE TN 37919

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF HAROLD EDWARD FOX  
DOCKET NUMBER 92028-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 19th day of FEBRUARY, 2026, letters testamentary (or letters of administration as the case may be) in respect of the Estate of HAROLD EDWARD FOX, who died September 21, 2025, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above-named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication; or

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

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

This the 19th day of FEBRUARY, 2026.

ESTATE OF HAROLD EDWARD FOX

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
LARRY K. FOX  
7219 ANMONS LANE  
POWELL, TN 37849

BRADLEY S. LEWIS, ATTORNEY  
10413 KINGSTON PIKE, SUITE 200  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37922

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF VINCENT JAMES FUGIASCO  
DOCKET NUMBER 78145-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 25th day of FEBRUARY, 2026, letters of testamentary in respect of the Estate of VINCENT JAMES FUGIASCO, who died on December 25, 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 25th day of FEBRUARY, 2026.

ESTATE OF VINCENT JAMES FUGIASCO

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
LISA M. AGOURAM  
501 PARK AVENUE  
JUNCTION CITY, WI 54449

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

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF FLOYD P. GOODSON  
DOCKET NUMBER 78157-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 25th day of FEBRUARY, 2026, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of FLOYD P. GOODSON, who died January 1, 2026, 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 25th day of FEBRUARY, 2026.

ESTATE OF FLOYD P. GOODSON

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
THE TRUST COMPANY OF TENNESSEE  
4823 OLD KINGSTON PIKE, STE. 100  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37919

MICHAEL R. CROWDER, ATTORNEY  
550 W. MAIN STREET, FOURTH FLOOR  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37902

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF CARRIE L. HODGES  
DOCKET NUMBER 78190-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 27th day of FEBRUARY, 2026, Letters of Administration CTA in respect of the Estate of CARRIE L. HODGES, who died October 7, 2025, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above-named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

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

This the 27th day of February, 2026.

ESTATE OF CARRIE L. HODGES

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
TINA M. HODGES, ADMINISTRATRIX CTA  
8400 OLDE COLONY TRAIL, #74  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37923

BRADLEY C. SAGRAVES, ATTORNEY  
M. ALAN MOORE, JR., ATTORNEY  
TENNESSEE TAX LAW, PLLC  
2095 LAKESIDE CENTRE WAY, SUITE 131  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37922

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF WILLIAM GRANT HOWARD, SR.  
DOCKET NUMBER 78184-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 4th day of MARCH, 2026, letters testamentary (or letters of administration as the case may be) in respect of the Estate of WILLIAM GRANT HOWARD, SR., who died September 21, 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



# LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

### ESTATE OF GARY WAYNE FOUST DOCKET NUMBER 92105-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 3rd day of MARCH, 2026, letters administration in respect of the Estate of GARY WAYNE FOUST, who died Dec. 3, 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 3rd day of March , 2026.

### ESTATE OF GARY WAYNE FOUST

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
JESSICA RIMMER  
2103 KARNSWOOD DRIVE  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37918

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

### ESTATE OF BILLIE RUTH GRAVES DOCKET NUMBER 91585-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 9th day of MARCH, 2026, Letters Testamentary in respect of the Estate of BILLIE RUTH GRAVES, who died June 22, 2025, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above-named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

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

This the 9th day of MARCH, 2026.

### ESTATE OF BILLIE RUTH GRAVES

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
HAROLD WILSON  
418 MATTHEWS MILL ROAD  
TELFORD, TN 37690

KENNETH CLARK HOOD, ATTORNEY  
100 SOUTH MAIN STREET  
GREENEVILLE, TN 37743

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

### ESTATE OF CAROLE R. GUTHRIE DOCKET NUMBER 92191-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 6th day of MARCH, 2026, letters testamentary (or letters of administration as the case may be) in respect of the Estate of CAROLE R. GUTHRIE, who died January 20, 2026, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above-named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

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

This the 6th day of MARCH, 2026.

### ESTATE OF CAROLE R. GUTHRIE

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
JERRY D. GUTHRIE, JR.  
1155 PALMINA COVE  
CORDOVA, TN 38018

BRADLEY S. LEWIS, ATTORNEY  
10413 KINGSTON PIKE, SUITE 200  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37922

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

### ESTATE OF VERNIE JANE HUEY DOCKET NUMBER 92210-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 6th day of MARCH, 2026, Letters Testamentary in respect of the Estate of VERNIE JANE HUEY, who died on February 1, 2026, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above-named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

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

This the 6th day of MARCH, 2026.

### ESTATE OF VERNIE JANE HUEY

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
NANCY JANE CARDWELL  
104 WEST MARINE ROAD  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37920

M. SUE WHITE, ATTORNEY  
216 PHOENIX COURT, SUITE D  
SEYMOUR, TN 37865

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

### ESTATE OF NANCY ELAINE G. KING DOCKET NUMBER 92202-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 6th day of MARCH, 2026, letters testamentary (or letters of administration as the case may be) in respect of the Estate of NANCY ELAINE G. KING, who died on October 21, 2025, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above-named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

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

This the 6th day of MARCH, 2026.

### ESTATE OF NANCY ELAINE G. KING

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
JOHN K. KING

ELLE SHIPLEY, ATTORNEY  
900 S. GAY STREET, SUITE 300  
P. O. BOX 2425  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37901-2425

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

### ESTATE OF NICHOLAS A. LIAKONIS DOCKET NUMBER 92223-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 6th day of MARCH, 2026, letters of testamentary in respect of the Estate of NICHOLAS A. LIAKONIS, who died February 4, 2026 were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above-named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

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

This the 6th day of MARCH, 2026.

### ESTATE OF NICHOLAS A. LIAKONIS

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
FRANKIE NIXON, CO-EXECUTOR  
72 BLUE JAY LANE  
BLUFFVIEW, SC 29909

ANTHONY G. LIAKONIS, CO-EXECUTOR  
9211 RIDGES MEADOWS LANE  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37931

EDWARD A. COX, JR., ATTORNEY  
1111 N. NORTSHORE DRIVE, SUITE N-290  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37919

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

### ESTATE OF MICHAEL K. LITTLEJOHN DOCKET NUMBER 92150-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 27th day of FEBRUARY, 2026, letters of administration in respect of the Estate of MICHAEL K. LITTLEJOHN, who died on December 15, 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 27th day of MARCH, 2026.

### ESTATE OF MICHAEL K. LITTLEJOHN

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
MICHAEL KARL LITTLEJOHN, II  
1107 EVELYN MAE WAY  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37923

EDWARD A. COX, JR., ATTORNEY  
1111 N. NORTSHORE DRIVE, SUITE N-290  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37919

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

### ESTATE OF ROSINA A. LUCHOWSKI, aka ROSINA ANNE LUCHOWSKI DOCKET NUMBER 92208-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 6th day of MARCH, 2026, letters testamentary (or letters of administration as the case may be) in respect of the Estate of ROSINA A. LUCHOWSKI, aka ROSINA ANNE LUCHOWSKI, who died on December 7, 2025, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above-named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

This the 6th day of MARCH, 2026.

ESTATE OF ROSINA A. LUCHOWSKI,  
aka ROSINA ANNE LUCHOWSKI

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
EDWARD RUSSO, ADMINISTRATOR  
KIMBERLY NELSON, ADMINISTRATOR  
7640 FITCH ROAD  
OLMSTED TOWNSHIP, OH 41138

AMANDA M. BUSBY, ATTORNEY  
116 AGNES ROAD  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37919

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

### ESTATE OF BERNIE H. LYON DOCKET NUMBER 92133-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 6th day of MARCH, 2026, letters testamentary (or letters of administration as the case may be) in respect of the Estate of BERNIE H. LYON, who died December 22, 2025, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above-named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

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

This the 6th day of MARCH, 2026.

### ESTATE OF BERNIE H. LYON

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
TAYLOR B. LYON

ELLE SHIPLEY, ATTORNEY  
900 S. GAY STREET, SUITE 300  
P. O. BOX 2425  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37901-2425

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

### ESTATE OF TONY A. MAPLES DOCKET NUMBER 92211-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 6th day of MARCH, 2026, Letters Testamentary in respect of the Estate of TONY A. MAPLES, who died January 25, 2026, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the Estate are required to file the same with the Clerk of the above-named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

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

This the 6th day of MARCH, 2026.

### ESTATE OF TONY A. MAPLES

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
JAMES MOORE, EXECUTOR  
1401 MADISON OAKS ROAD  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37924

SHANNON COLEMAN EGLE, ATTORNEY  
P. O. BOX 629  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37901-0629

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

### ESTATE OF RICHARD ALLEN MAY DOCKET NUMBER 92263-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 10 day of MARCH, 2026, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of RICHARD ALLEN MAY, who died Feb. 18, 2026, were issued to the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1) A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the 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 10 day of MARCH, 2026.

### ESTATE OF RICHARD ALLEN MAY

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
SARAH CLARK MAY  
2538 MAPLE BRANCH LANE  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37912

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

### ESTATE OF TRISTAN JAMES MURRAY DOCKET NUMBER 92213-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 6th day of MARCH, 2026, letters of administration in respect of the Estate of TRISTAN JAMES MURRAY, who died December 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 6th day of MARCH, 2026.

### ESTATE OF TRISTAN JAMES MURRAY

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
STEPHEN R. MURRAY, CO-  
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE  
KELLEY D. MURRAY, CO-  
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE  
12354 CONNER SPRINGS LANE  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37932

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

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

### ESTATE OF CODY THOMAS MUTH DOCKET NUMBER 92087-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 6th day of MARCH, 2026, letters of administration (or letters of administration as the case may be) in respect of the Estate of CODY THOMAS MUTH, who died December 6, 2025 were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above-named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

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

This the 6th day of MARCH, 2026.

### ESTATE OF CODY THOMAS MUTH

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
ALYSSA INCH  
1630 CANAL ROAD EXT.  
MANCHESTER, PA 17345

FELICIA F. COALSON, ATTORNEY  
900 S. GAY ST. SUITE 800  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37902

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

### ESTATE OF MITZIE J. PERRY DOCKET NUMBER 92182-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 6th day of MARCH, 2026, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of MITZIE J. PERRY, who died June 9, 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 6th day of MARCH, 2026.

### ESTATE OF MITZIE J. PERRY

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
JAMES ERNEST PERRY, JR.  
270 BYRD FARM LANE  
KODAK, TN 37764

MICHAEL TROTTER, ATTORNEY  
1148 WAGNER DRIVE, STE. 201  
SEVIERVILLE, TN 37862

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

### ESTATE OF ELIZABETH RUTH PIERCE DOCKET NUMBER 92180-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 3rd day of MARCH, 2026, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of ELIZABETH RUTH PIERCE, who died Jan. 30, 2026, were issued to the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

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

This the 3rd day of March, 2026

### ESTATE OF ELIZABETH RUTH PIERCE

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)  
TAYLOR MICHAEL ROYALTY  
3104 ORLANDO STREET  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37917

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

### ESTATE OF JULIANNE SCHOOLCRAFT DOCKET NUMBER 78248-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 6th day of MARCH, 2026, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of JULIANNE SCHOOLCRAFT, who died on February 9, 2026, 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.</

TSSAA GIRLS BASKETBALL STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

# Bearden's fourth quarter rally stopped short, 77-73



## HIGH SCHOOL SOCCER State's top teams to tangle at Bearden Invitational

By Ken Lay

The 2026 boys high school soccer season will kick into high gear this week as some of the top teams in the Knoxville Area will clash with some of the Volunteer State's top sides at the annual Bearden Invitational.

Tournament action begins Thursday with a pair of matches as West High will play Chattanooga McCallie and Webb School of Knoxville will collide with Heritage. The Mountaineers are coached by former Central head coach Chris Quinn, who rebuilt the Bobcats' program before departing for Blount County following the 2025 season.

The three-day event concludes Sunday as **Continue on page 3**

By Steve Williams

Bearden certainly didn't quit Thursday at MTSU's Murphy Center.

The Lady Bulldogs came from 13 points down in the fourth quarter to evening the score at 68-all on a 3-pointer by Natalya Hodge with 1:23 remaining.

But Bartlett won the next minute with a 5-point surge and held on for a 77-73 win.

The depth perception when shooting free throws at Murphy Center is much different from a high school gym and may have contributed to Bearden's foul shots (only 12 of 27 were good).

Hodge, a Miss Basketball finalist and a Missouri signee, even shot below 50 percent at the free throw line (6 of 14). The rest of the team also was below 50 percent (6 of 13).

Bartlett didn't shoot as many free throws but

made 13 of 15.

"Unfortunately, a couple of stats stick out - 12 of 27 from the free throw line and giving up 77 points," said Bearden Coach Justin Underwood.

"Both of these stats make it really hard to win. That being said, our kids showed unbelievable heart fighting back and never gave up."

After the score was tied late in the contest, Bartlett's Anniya Bailey answered with a leaning shot that gave the Lady Panthers a 70-68 lead with 1:06 on the clock.

Following a timeout, Bartlett stole the ball from Hodge and sophomore Mary Lemarbre fouled Amare Boothe, who converted two free throws to give her team a four-point lead.

Hodge fired short on a 3-point shot and missed **Continue on page 4**



PHOTO BY LUTHER SIMMONS

Bearden's Natalya Hodge is surrounded by Bartlett's Lady Panthers as she aims at the basket in the TSSAA Class 4A quarterfinal game Thursday at MTSU. Bartlett held on for a 77-73 victory.

HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL SPRING BREAK

# Bobcats win three of four games and enjoy the weather, too!

By Steve Williams

Central High's baseball team had a successful and enjoyable time in the PCB ProspectU Spring Break Tournament in Panama City Beach, FL last week March 9-12.

It was the third straight year Head Coach Brandon Roberts' Bobcats have made the trip to the Sunshine state.

Central defeated Cottdonale 6-3 in Game 1, lost to Niceville 3-2 in Game 2, walloped Mosely 13-5 in Game 3 and blanked Lighthouse Christian 9-0 in Game 4.

Overall, the Bobcats' offensive leader on the trip was Austin Duncan. The

junior catcher / outfielder reached base 12 out of 16 at-bats with five hits, six walks and a HBP.

Senior outfielder Drew Shaver had four hits and four RBIs, including two doubles.

Nick Riordan, a senior INF/OF/RHP, had five hits and six RBIs, including three doubles and a triple.

The "Pitching Standouts" included a staff that struck out 30 batters and allowed only six earned runs in the four games.

Andrew Bivens went five innings with seven strikeouts. Waylon Perry hurled four innings and gave up only one hit and struck

**Continue on page 2**



Central High School's baseball team on the beach in Panama City last week. The Bobcats went 3-1 on their Spring Break.

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## HIGH SCHOOL BOYS BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT TIME

# Falcons going to state this year with more confidence

By Steve Williams

Fulton went one and out last year at the TSSAA state basketball tournament.

"Everyone has had that bad taste in their mouth," said junior standout Nick Steen after the Falcons made their ninth straight appearance in a Sectional with a 66-52 win over Greeneville last week at the Jody Wright Arena.

"I feel like our team has really grown," continued Steen. "We weren't really that strong last year and we had a lot of freshmen."

When asked how the team has improved, Steen said: "Just playing hard. I feel like we didn't have that last year. I feel like we have a lot of dogs this year."

"Last season we didn't know what we were going with, but this year we know. We're going down there with more confidence."

Steen, a Mr. Basketball nominee, poured in a game-high 30 points in the Sectional.

The Falcons took off with a 10-0 lead. Steen, a 6-3 wing, scored the first four points and muscular 6-2 sophomore Jymari Martin quickly added four more. Then 6-4 senior forward Joe Hairston slammed in a dunk that set off a roar in the crowd. The Greene Devils had to call a timeout. The game really was never in doubt after that explosion.

Steen felt the key to the win was just the Falcons "controlling the game and playing with a good hard defense. We got a good start with that 10-0 (score). I feel like we didn't let up."

"They went on a little run in the third quarter, but I think we did a really good job of stopping it, and going on with one of our own. I think we closed the



PHOTO BY STEVE WILLIAMS

*Fulton's Jody Wright coaches intensely from the sideline as the Falcons lead in the Class 3A Sectional game against Greeneville on March 9. The Falcons won 66-52 and will advance to the TSSAA state tournament Wednesday in Murfreesboro.*

game out and controlled it throughout."

Greeneville guard Braylen Kidwell hit a 3-point shot from the right corner at the end of the first quarter to pull his team within six (16-10).

The Greene Devils got another trey from guard Taren Claridy to close the gap to six again with around three minutes left in the first half. After that, however, Fulton outscored Greeneville 12-5 to take a 34-21 advantage into the dressing room.

The Falcons also led by 13 (50-37) after three stops and were never seriously threatened the rest of the way.

"Martin was on the team last year, but he was just one of the freshmen with inexperience," said Steen. "He's really grown throughout the season."

"Both of our bigs - Jymari and Joe - really come out and give us exactly what we need. It's

just whoever has the hot hand that night. They both play equally well. Jymari brings a lot of energy. He's big, physical and athletic. He really helps us with the boards and second-chance points. He's been a real big help to the team."

Martin finished with 13 points. Justin Burris and Hairston each added six points.

Greeneville (9-23) had a balanced attack, getting 13 points from freshman guard Zy Neal, 11 from Claridy, 10 from Kidwell and nine from Parker Quillen, who had all 3s.

"I think the biggest thing (was when) we started the season, we just did not have any clue of how hard you had to play," said Fulton Coach Jody Wright. "We took plays off. We didn't compete. It was frustrating from a coaching standpoint because we were coaching effort, effort, effort."

"In late December and

especially January, I think we learned how to compete. When you do that, everything else becomes easier."

"So I'm proud of our guys because when you start a season, you're asking them to buy into a process that they don't really understand."

Greeneville Head Coach Brad Woolsey said Fulton's pressure defense "bothered us early. We got in about a 10 to 12-point hole that we just didn't get out of the whole game."

"Of course Steen was just a man tonight. I think he missed two shots all night. He was just really physical and he was really a difference maker."

Woolsey also said his team lost four players this season.

"These guys fought unbelievably all year. We started off 0-13, but just kept fighting and you couldn't be more proud of a group of kids."

of their defense for some easy ones. That's kind of how that game unfolded."

Parrott didn't expect to play Maryville in the Sectional round. The Red Rebels have been a tough District 4-4A foe through the years, but were placed in District 2-4A this year.

Maryville, the District 2-4A regular season champion with a 29-4 record, lost to Sevier County 68-59 in their district tournament finals which placed them against Bearden in the Sectional round.

Parrott went to the state tournament the first time when he coached at Cherokee High School in 2012. His last year at Cherokee was 2015.

Parrott's first year at Bearden was 2016 and he guided the Bulldogs to the Final Four of the state tourney in 2018. The following year (2019) he led Bearden to the state championship. In 2022, Parrott brought the silver ball back from Murfreesboro.

This is his 10th year at Bearden High and will be his seventh season coaching in the state tournament.

get to the lead pack. And then when they did try, we just exposed the back side

Restaurant).

"This trip is not only great for the quality of baseball that we get to play, but more importantly the amount of time we get to spend together and the bonds that our players get to form over the week," said Coach Roberts.

The weather also was nice. "Beautiful! Sunny and 75 daily!" added Roberts.



*It's not often you see a basketball team with five senior starters, but that's what Farragut High has this year. And there's something else special about this team too, as it is the first group of Admirals that will play in the TSSAA state tournament since 1983. Left to Right: Britton Lewis, Aidan Foshie, Daniel Lanning, Reid Vining, Parker Lane.*

## A special team for a special season

**Farragut knocks off Sevier County 57-50 in Sectional round**

By Steve Williams

It's a thrill when any high school basketball team qualifies to play in a state tournament, but to go after a program hasn't been there in 43 years is mighty special.

That's the ticket the Farragut Admirals are going to have punched this week in Murfreesboro.

Farragut, the Region 2-4A runner-up, became a surprise Sectional winner last week (March 9) when the Admirals upset the Region 1-4A champion Sevier County Smoky Bears 57-50 at Sevierville.

When asked what was the key to the win, Coach JP Burris said: "Honestly, I think it was just our seniors and their buy-in. We have five seniors that we start and that we play. And they knew how big of a game that it was going to be. They knew how big the moment would be. And I thought they did what they've done all year and kind of weathered the storm and did a great job following the game plan that we had and got it done down the stretch."

Britton Lewis led the seniors with 15 points, followed by Reid Vining (12), Parker Lane (12), Aidan Foshie (11) and Daniel Lanning (3). Juniors Matthew Dickens and Connor Everly chipped in two points each.

The Admirals had a fast start and led 21-8 after the first quarter. The Smoky Bears, however, roared back in the second and third quarters and trailed by only one point (37-36).

"In a critical portion of

the game in the second half they took a one-point lead, but we came down and scored the next possession and then we never lost the lead again," recalled Burris. "It was a two-possession game there right til the end. We got one or two stops, knocked down a couple of free throws and finished it at the line."

Farragut will play Walker Valley in the Class 4A quarterfinal round of the state tournament at Middle Tennessee State University's Murphy Center Thursday at 11 a.m. (CDT).

It was 1983 when the Admirals last played at the state under the late Head Coach Lynn Sexton.

"I never got to meet him as his health was declining," said Burris. "But that's all I ever heard - just unbelievable good things about him."

Coach Burris said getting to the state "is a culmination of a lot of hard work that this group has put in the last six months. They made that a goal six months ago that they wanted to go to the state tournament and they wanted to do it together."

"There are a lot of teams out there that will say they're a family, but when times get rough they don't necessarily act like a family. This group in particular has just fully embodied being a family. They truly embrace one another. They love one another. They celebrate each other's successes. It's by far the most selfless team I've ever been a part of and it's just really cool that this group that has embodied that whole mindset of 'Hey we're a family' has now got to reap the reward of getting to go to the state tournament together."

## Bobcats win three of four games and enjoy the weather, too!

**Cont. from page 1**

out three. Lincoln Elmore pitched three innings, allowed one hit and struck out two.

Additional activities on the trip included practicing at Gulf Coast State College, morning workouts on the beach, Top Golf Team building, and multiple team meals together (especially at Diego's Mexican

## Bearden tops Maryville 53-50 in 'nightmare' Sectional

By Steve Williams

Bearden Coach Jeremy Parrott said the Bulldogs' TSSAA Class 4A Sectional game against Maryville was a 'nightmare' last week.

"We were up two at half-time," recalled Parrott. "Up five after three. Stretched it to 10 early in the fourth."

But it ended up being close as Bearden turned back the Red Rebels 53-50.

Bearden was ahead 13-11 after the first quarter.

"Our best player early in the game was Carson Asbaty (who scored 15 points.) He hit some big shots early that got the lead."

"In the second half, it shifted over to Brendan Murphy. Twelve of his 16 points were in the second half. It was a back and forth game with us holding a two to three possession lead."

Justin Nordin scored 12 points. Theo Mills chipped in five, Sean Capshaw three and Jack Ferraris two.

"We built the lead midway through the second

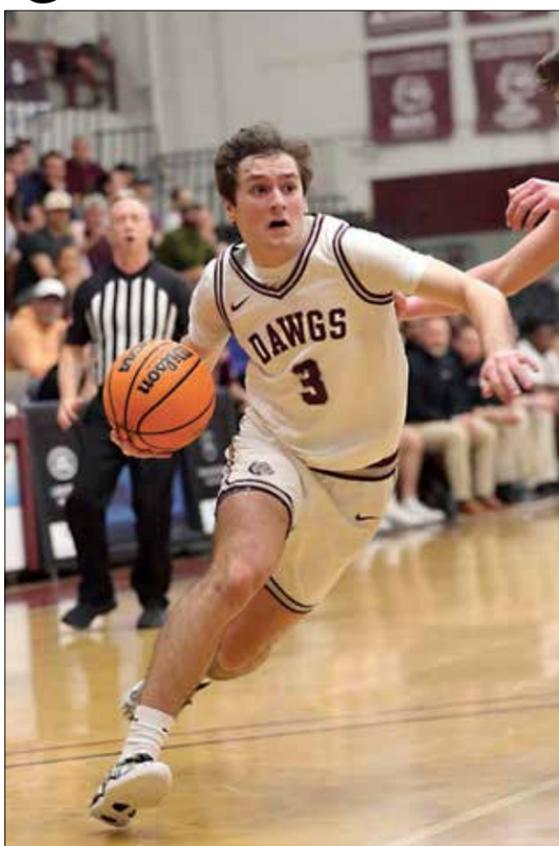


PHOTO BY LUTHER SIMMONS

*Bearden senior guard Carson Asbaty drives by a Maryville defender in a Sectional game on March 9 at the Dawg House. Bearden earned a berth in the TSSAA state tournament at Murfreesboro and will play Beech in the quarterfinals Thursday at 2:15.*

half," said Coach Parrott. "They really couldn't do much to speed us up to

get to the lead pack. And then when they did try, we just exposed the back side

# Tennessee Football: Color it Wonderful

“Tennessee Football... from corner to corner” was published in the season of 1966. Head coach Doug Dickey and captains Austin Denney and Paul Naumoff adorned the magazine’s cover. The cover raised the possibility of a trip to Miami during bowl season. “Orange as in Orange Bowl?” The editors turned out to be off by a year.

The trip to Miami came in the SEC title season of 1967 (Alabama, Georgia Tech, and Ole Miss got in the way in 1966), but the events of the 1966 campaign were no less exciting. That’s the way it is in Big Orange Country when the Vols take the field.

There was a special “ambience” story on p. 3 discussing how Vol football takes over the expanse of Big Orange Country and literally won’t let go. It’s been nearly 60 years now since the magazine hit mailboxes across the state, attesting to the power of young men wearing orange and white who have won over the Tennessee fan base.

No one knows exactly who wrote the story below, but its message is an eloquent one:

Football in Tennessee, from the preps to the powerhouses, is something



Neyland Stadium was full to the brim as the Vols celebrated Homecoming 1966 in mid-November against Ole Miss.

magical and marvelous, which binds 50 individuals into one airtight team, turns next-door neighbors into rivals, and provides fuel for barbershops from August until January.

In Tennessee, the game is great and still growing. This annual publication is a salute to all who put on hard hats and shoulder pads, to all who do sit ups and run laps until they are green at the gills, to all who make this game of rock ‘n frolic from Mountain City to Ducktown, from Union City to Jellico to Church Hill and in points between.

And Southeastern Sports Publications tips its hat in

tiny tribute to those who teach the game... to those who build better young men every afternoon as they construct the quarterback option, create rotation in the secondary, and teach old-fashioned fundamentals of how to dish it out and take it when it comes back.

Football becomes a lesson in life when, through sheer grit, dogged determination, and cool courage, sure defeat is turned into victory.

Starting with the will to win, football teaches so much. Take, for example, a game-winning run of 60 yards. The halfback cuts inside the end, shifts

speeds, angles across the grain, and finds an alley along the sidelines. He’s home free for a rousing run, a back-slapping whoopee of a touchdown.

Everybody saw it, and even the losers admit Henry Halfback is some football player. Monday afternoon when the coach reviews the movie, he sees Freddy Fullback react to the floating end and chase him out of the path even though he was supposed to hook him inside so Henry can make his cut. And this same fullback, tired but still pushing, lands the last block along the sideline to open the gate.

Here is another

character-building lesson. Give Henry all the credit, but Freddy Fullback and slow George Guard did a dandy job behind the scenes. Fans may not believe it, but football players will tell you a touchdown is a team play unless somebody on defense makes a critical mistake.

It teaches again and again that your side doesn’t land all the licks. It teaches the principle value received for value given... that the thrill of winning the big one is a reward for being ready.

So, football teaches togetherness. Maybe it sounds corny, but it is really a game where every shoulder is put to the wheel or

the wheel doesn’t roll. Football teaches again and again that nice guys don’t always finish last.. Think about all-Americans you have heard about. How many were bums?

Football goals have been the same since the beginning... beat somebody if you can, win games, go undefeated. Hot spots like Kingsport Dobyns-Bennett, Chattanooga Central, Oak Ridge, and Memphis Catholic have been big winners for years.

It was Plato who said, “Of all animals, the boy is the most unmanageable.” Football helps some.

Across the state, coaches like Chattanooga Howard’s Chubby James, L.P. Beene at South Pittsburg, and John Hoover at Haywood County have won perhaps 100 more than they’ve lost. The Red Etters, Jack Armstrongs, Burleigh Davies, Bill Brimms, Ollie Keller, and M.C. Groseclose are famous. Johnny-come-latelys Jim Satterfield at Hartsville, Leroy Hollis at Glenciff, and Carey Henley at Kirkman are kicking up a fuss.

And at different levels, but going in the same direction, have been men like Gen. R.R. Neyland and Dan McGugin who gave their lives to the game.

In case there are doubters, we think it’s all worthwhile.

## HIGH SCHOOL SOCCER

# Top teams and players to watch on the pitch in 2026

By Ken Lay

Spring is around the corner and the 2026 boys high school soccer season has begun.

But the new campaign will kick into high gear once local student-athletes return from Spring Break this week.

The season, which officially began during the first week of March, is certain to pack plenty of excitement as Hardin Valley Academy (Class 3A) and Grace Christian Academy (Division II-A), will look to defend their 2025 State Championships.

Bearden (which lost to the Hawks at Spring Fling in the Class 3A quarterfinals), South-Doyle (which reached the Class 2A state championship match last season after winning a state title in 2024) and Fulton each made it to Murfreesboro. The Falcons made their first-ever state tournament appearance last season. They won in the quarterfinals against Crockett County before losing to the Cherokees in the semifinals.

The Bulldogs are looking for a bit of redemption after their state quarterfinal loss to their District 4-3A rivals and were unable to successfully defend their 2024 state title.

“I think losing the state quarterfinals to Hardin Valley last year left a bad taste in our mouths,” Bearden coach Ryan Radcliffe said. “We’re coming in with a chip on

our shoulder.”

Bearden may be looking to reclaim its spot at the top, but Radcliffe knows that his side won’t have an easy ride this season.

“I think soccer in Knoxville is going to be really good this year,” he said. “I was just talking to (Farragut coach) Bradley (Culbreth) about it, and I told him that you could lose 2-0 or 3-0 to a team and then turn around and beat them 2-0 or 3-0 a few days later.”

The Bulldogs have won two of their first three games this season, earning victories against Cookeville and Station Camp before losing to Chattanooga Baylor on Saturday, March 7.

Bearden has several key players back from its 2024 squad, as forward Aidan Ainsworth returns after scoring 14 goals and recording nine assists last season. Midfielder Ahmed Dkhiri also scored 14 goals for Bearden last season. Ethan Yeow is looking to be one of the team’s top defenders after he contributed at different spots on the pitch in 2025. Goalkeeper Eli Keener will start in the net after serving as a backup last season.

HVA, meanwhile, is 0-1-1 this season with a loss to Grace Christian and a 1-1 draw against Rockvale.

The Hawks are looking to repeat but coach Ray Dover knows a second state title is going to be a difficult task.

“We’re going to play the best teams,” Dover said. “Our district is always tough, but it’s going to be even tougher this year because West is going to be dangerous and Farragut and Maryville will be back to where they normally are.”

Players to watch for the Hawks include Dane Hammer (a senior midfielder who was an all-state selection after scoring 10 goals and 14 assists); forward Ali Tarchane (who scored 14 goals and dished out six assists); Asher Stimson (a defender who was the state tournament MVP after scoring two goals in the title game) and goalkeeper Harrison Odell.

Farragut is off to a 2-0 start as goalkeeper Matthew Burney has recorded two shutouts with clean sheets against Oak Ridge and Catholic.

Culbreth is looking for big things from his side this season.

“Hardin Valley and Bearden already have a seat at the table. I don’t. But I will this year,” Admirals’ coach Bradley Culbreth said. “And I told our kids a year ago, that this year we could (make a deep run) and next year, we should.”

Now, 2026 is here and Culbreth says that his team should be a factor in the race for a district title.

“I think our program is in a good place,” he said. “We definitely have something to prove this year.”

will be a team to watch in District 3 as forwards Austin Brown and Kevin Pendergrass return, along with midfielder Emilio Guevara, defender Aiden Slover and goalkeeper Parker Crittenden.

**In District 4-3A:** Coach Nick Kim has many players back from last season as the Rebels look to compete in Tennessee’s most competitive league. Gavin Jones is back at forward and Oliver Bankston returns to anchor the midfield.

**In Class 2A:** South-Doyle will look to make a third consecutive trip to Spring Fling as defender Finn Strausfogel, midfielder Roger Oseguera Cruz and Cameron Harp return for the senior season.

Fulton made its first-ever appearance at the state tournament last season and the Falcons will look to compete this season but they lost to South-Doyle, 7-2, in their season opener.

**In Division II-AA:** Catholic will have to replace several starters, while Webb looks to make a return to past glory on the pitch after two tough seasons.

Grace Christian won the Division II-A State Championship, but the Rams must replace several key players who helped them win it all.

2026 Bearden Invitational		
Thursday, March 19	Location	Time
McCallie v West	Grass	6:30 p.m.
Webb v Heritage	Turf	6:30 p.m.
<b>Friday, March 20</b>		
Gallatin v Webb	Grass	4:30 p.m.
West v Central	Turf	4:30 p.m.
Farragut v Cleveland	Grass	6:30 p.m.
Maryville v McCallie	Turf	6:30 p.m.
Bearden v H'ville	Grass	8:30 p.m.
HVA v Catholic	Turf	8:30 p.m.
<b>Saturday, March 21</b>		
Central v Farragut	Turf	10:30 a.m.
H'ville v HVA	Turf	12:30 p.m.
West v Gallatin	Grass	12:30 p.m.
HVA JV v Catholic JV	Turf	2:30 p.m.
Heritage v Eagleton	Grass	2:30 p.m.
Bearden JV v C'land JV	Turf	4:30 p.m.
Catholic v Maryville	Grass	4:30 p.m.
Bearden v Cleveland	Grass	6:30 p.m.
<b>Sunday, March 22</b>		
Catholic JV v M'ville JV	Turf	9:00 a.m.
Eagleton v Catholic	Turf	10:30 a.m.
Central v Maryville	Turf	12:30 p.m.
Bearden JC v HVA JV	Turf	2:30 p.m.

\*Teams listed first will be the home team and wear dark jerseys\*

## State’s top teams to tangle at Bearden Invitational

**Cont. from page 1** matches will be contested at Turner-Allender Field and Bill Young Field on the Bearden High campus. Joining the host Bulldogs in the tournament field are West, Heritage, McCallie, the Spartans, Hendersonville, Hardin Valley Academy (the defending Class 3A State Champion),

Knoxville Catholic, Farragut, Gallatin, Central, Eagleton College and Career Academy, Maryville and Cleveland. In addition to those varsity squads, Bearden, Hardin Valley, Maryville, Cleveland and Catholic will each have their junior varsity teams competing in matches slated for Saturday.

# Bearden's fourth quarter rally stopped short, 77-73

**Cont. from page 1**  
two free throws when Bearden got the ball back with 32 seconds to go. Bailey converted one of two foul shots to give Bartlett a five-point lead (73-68), but Lemarbre answered with a 3-point basket to pull Bearden within two (73-71) with 19 seconds remaining. Bartlett called a timeout at 16.7. The Lady Bulldogs fouled quickly and Taylor Miller sank two free throws to give Bartlett a four-point lead (75-71) with 0:15 on the clock. Hodge made two of three foul shots to shave Bartlett's lead to 75-73 with eight seconds left. Hodge quickly fouled Boothe, who made both of her clutch free throws to give Bartlett a four-point

margin (77-73). Hodge missed a 3-point-er right before the buzzer ended the game. The teams were tied with 14 points after the first period. Bartlett led 34-28 at halftime and 56-43 after three stops. Boothe led Bartlett with 23 points and nine rebounds in only 17 minutes of action. Faye Williams contributed 18 points and seven boards and Bailey had 11 points and four assists. Hodge finished with 31 points and four steals in 32 minutes, but also had six turnovers. Lemarbre totaled 15 points, including three 3-pointers in her 20 minutes. Emma Rainey chipped in 11 points, five rebounds and six assists. Theola Mills had eight points and nine rebounds.

Bearden finished its season with a 32-4 record. Bartlett (28-10) moved on to Friday's semifinals. "This team had a fantastic season finishing 32-4 overall," said Coach Underwood. "They won their 12th consecutive regular season District championship, their seventh consecutive District Tournament

championship, and were Region Champions for the first time in three years. This was the fifth State Tournament in the last six years. "We are so proud of all they accomplished! We will miss our seniors so much! Natalya, Emma, Theola and Katie led us well and are going to do great things in life!!!"

**"This team had a fantastic season finishing 32-4 overall. They won their 12th consecutive regular season District championship, their seventh consecutive District Tournament championship, and were Region Champions for the first time in three years. This was the fifth State Tournament in the last six years. We are so proud of all they accomplished! We will miss our seniors so much! Natalya, Emma, Theola and Katie led us well and are going to do great things in life!!!"** - Coach Justin Underwood

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