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County hosts ribbon-cutting ceremony for dog park in Halls

By Ken Lay

Knox County celebrated the opening of a dog park at Clayton Park with a ribbon-cutting ceremony Thursday morning.

The park is located in the Halls Crossroads community on Norris Freeway,

The grand opening culminates a project that the county began in 2020 and the dog park is the fifth and final park to open.

It's a natural facility, meaning that the county left the trees and fallen logs in place.

Knox County Parks and Recreation Senior Director Joe Mack

emceed the brief ceremony but one person who played a vital role in the project, Mayor Glenn Jacobs, was absent due to a prior commitment.

"Glenn Jacobs won't be able to join us today and I'm sorry that he's not here," Mack said. "He played a big part in this and we're lucky to have a mayor that understands the value of recreation."

"We learned from COVID how important parks are and the role they play in the community. It was one of the only places people could go. And we've seen that continue to grow since 2020."

Randy Boyd of the Boyd Foundation was also present in North Knox County. The foundation formed a partnership with the county and the City of Knoxville. It donated \$500,000 and the goal was to make Knoxville and Knox County No. 1 per capita in dog parks.

The county took surveys to determine where the public wanted the dog parks.

"This shows just what can happen when we as the county communicate with the people," Mack said. "In order for us to

Continue on page 3



PHOTO BY KEN LAY

Knox County officials joined Randy Boyd in cutting the ribbon to officially open a new dog park at Clayton Park in the Halls community.

Football fun!



CAK coach Chad Speck (left) and Concord Christian School coach Steve Matthews set up an arm wrestling showdown at this year's KFOA Media Day. It could boil over into a struggle on the field when the Warriors and Lions clash Saturday at CCS in Week 1 of the 2026 high school football season. Please see other prep football stories and pictures in Sports and Recreation, Section C

Will the TN Valley Fair move to Rutledge Pike?

By Mike Steely

Senior Writer
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The Tennessee Valley Fair's time at Knoxville's Chilhowee Park will end in a few years. The grounds there are proposed to become a true city park, and the Jacob Building will be taken over by Muse Knoxville for its own use.

Talks have been underway by the county and others to find another place to hold the popular annual event.

The Knox County Commission's August agenda has a resolution to approve a Real Estate

Letter of Intent Ground Lease with Strong Stock Farm, LLC for 120 acres at 8217 Rutledge Pike. Within that agreement is the possible use of the unimproved property for an agricultural center and possibly "county fairs."

Knox County Mayor Glenn Jacobs and the Finance Department are proposing to lease 120 of the 167.12 acres there. The tentative agreement is for a yearly rent of \$150,000. The issue was postponed by the commission during their June and

Continue on page 2

Knox County pauses UDO work to allow incoming administration time to review

Knox County is pausing work on the proposed Unified Development Ordinance to allow Mayor-Elect Betsy Henderson and incoming County Commissioners time to become fully familiar with the process and potential outcomes before moving forward.

The second draft of the proposed zoning map has generated significant interest and feedback from residents and property owners throughout Knox County. The administration's goal throughout the process has been to protect property rights while elevating development standards across the county.

Because the project will extend beyond the current administration's term, the county believes a transition period will provide the incoming administration and new County Commissioners with the time necessary to review the work completed to date and

determine the appropriate next steps.

"From the beginning, we have said we want to get this right, and we are going to follow through with that, even if it takes more time," said Knox County Mayor Glenn Jacobs. "Since we will not be able to complete this work before the end of my term, I am entrusting Mayor-Elect Betsy Henderson and the incoming County Commission to carry this work forward. Pausing the work now will give the next administration the opportunity to fully understand the proposal, gather more community feedback, and make informed decisions about how to proceed."

Residents may continue to submit comments and concerns regarding the proposed zoning map and Unified Development Ordinance at AdvanceKnox.org/UDO or by contacting the project team at contact@advanceknox.org.

Proposed Chilhowee Park changes draw questions

By Mike Steely

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The third monthly meeting of the Chilhowee Park Advisory Group drew some questions and some disappointments last week in the Jacob Building. The 81-acre property, with its features and buildings, will be transitioning into a Knoxville City Park over the next few years.

The city has already pledged \$10 million in changes, beginning with \$2 million this year. Parks and Recreation will operate the park, opening the gates for public use. Muse Knoxville is to begin renovations at the Jacob Building after the Tennessee Valley Fair uses it in September. The fair's agreement to use Chilhowee Park runs through 2029.

Citizens had comments about possible plans to enlarge the lake there along with their fears of flooding. Some were upset that the proposal for housing and a hotel there



PHOTO BY MIKE STEELY

The future of the amphitheater in Chilhowee Park and several other buildings is in question as the city moves to hold public meetings for the advisory board and the public. The Tennessee Valley Fair has a few more years there before the historic park becomes a city park.

were neglected in the plans. The use of buildings that are historic or cultural was questioned. The future of the amphitheater there was also questioned concerning how much of it would be preserved.

The future of the "tunnel" below

Magnolia Avenue, separating the former midway from the main park, was also discussed.

The Chilhowee Park Advisory Group will hold another public meeting September 22 in the Jacob Building.

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The Doctor is in

a weekly column by
Dr. Jim Ferguson

Lies

If socialists understood economics, they wouldn't be socialists.

Friedrich Hayek

I have never been one to avoid a topic, but human sexuality - specifically gender identification - has become a taboo subject if you disagree with liberal/progressives, Democrats or DSA types (Democratic Socialists of America). And in this war of ideology and words, my focus is to expose lies.

I believe there are girly men and butchy gals. People are born differently, and that's OK. We can't be the same, nor should we be. However, with rare exceptions, people are born with XX (female) or XY (male) chromosomes. We are told to "follow the science," and I do, unless it has been perverted by activism and politics. We've seen what happens when ideology, money, power or even religion corrupts science, genetics and reality. Pumping someone full of

estrogen or testosterone will not change a human's DNA. Nor will removing healthy organs. And these so-called treatments are especially problematic for children before adulthood.

The latest brouhaha of human sexuality is in the WNBA (Women's National Basketball Association). Frankly, I don't care what this sports league decides about competition because I have never watched a WNBA game. I do watch the Lady Vols basketball team and believe that Title 9 is designed to protect women athletes, allowing them to compete against other women. But here's the problem with the WNBA: the name and the bylaws say it is a league for women to play basketball. But what if you can't define a woman? SCOTUS Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson couldn't define a woman. Now, several former male NBA (National Basketball Association) players are identifying as women and want to play in the WNBA.

Do you see what happens when you diverge from reality?

Women's sports and transgenderism are not the only fault lines for reality. The Democrat governor of Massachusetts just signed a bill making her state the latest to authorize abortion up until the moment of birth. Perhaps extenuating circumstances such as a mother's life or a genetic or organ defect of the infant might be theoretical or rare considerations. But the clapping women standing around the governor as she signs and arguably legalizes infanticide was disturbing for me.

Quickening is when the pregnant mother feels her baby move. Science and modern ultrasound reveal the attributes of a pre-born infant which were not demonstrable in times past. Our words and definitions are inherently arbitrary, especially when defining life. But surely a moving, sensing infant is as much a human just before birth as afterwards. Until ethicists, scientists and theologians define when human life begins, I will have to err on the side that a fertilized egg has a full complement of DNA to form a human being.

At this writing, the feckless Senate has gone on summer recess without passing the SAVE Act. It's hard to get Americans to agree on most things,

but 71% support requiring proof of citizenship for registering to vote and presenting a photo ID when you vote. Sixty-nine percent of independents and 50% of Democrats think this is rational. However, Senate Democrats oppose these voting integrity provisions, as do most Congressional Democrats. One could conclude this irrationality is actually rational for Democrats because they need illegal voting. No wonder Marsha Blackburn wants to leave the Senate and come home to Tennessee, where common sense Americans live.

These days we hear a lot about affordability. Recently, a college student achieved some notoriety when he complained about a \$20 burrito. I have been blessed, and I can afford a \$20 burrito, but I wouldn't. I'd advise the young man to go to the store and buy ingredients for a fraction of the restaurant price and make his own burrito. I can afford to buy a \$6 Starbucks latte, but I won't.

In 1944, the Austrian economist Friedrich Hayek wrote his classic "The Road to Serfdom." If the young collegiate ran across Hayek's book, I hope he understands that a "serf" is an agricultural laborer bound to the land in servitude," and not a Smurf. However, too many never learned or irrationally reject the basic economic

principles outlined in Hayek's book.

Since my mission is to expose the lies of the left, including those of socialism, I'll take a moment for a brief overview of capitalism and why socialism has always been a failure. The Founders understood that individuals who are free to work for themselves rather than some collective are more prosperous, innovative and fiscally responsible. Economist Adam Smith in his "The Wealth of Nations" wrote, "It is not from the benevolence of the butcher, the brewer, or the baker that we expect our dinner, but from their regard to their own interest..."

The role of limited government under the rule of law is to protect citizens. Then, millions using their talents and responding to opportunities and market prices produce a better system than bureaucratic central planning.

Hayek thought there should be "reasonable social support programs," but we have seen terrible abuses in Minnesota, California and elsewhere. When the government begins favoring industries (example wind/solar) or businesses (electric cars) or price controls (rent), "incentives become distorted." The book "Toxic Charity" demonstrated how the disadvantaged can be actually harmed by

well-intentioned giving. A hand-out is very different from a hand-up. Where the incentive to keep the fruits of your labors is removed, stagnation and shortages are inevitable, making citizens serfs of Big Brother.

History teaches the failures of central planning in Russia, North Korea, Cuba and China before the latter modified the strict Marxism of Mao along capitalist lines. "Systems that ignore incentives stagnate and collapse" (Les Rubin).

I'll close with one last observation and warning. Would you trust a liar? I'm not talking about a so-called white lie a man might tell his wife when asked if her dress is too tight. I'm talking about Nancy Pelosi stating she never saw Biden impaired. Or Harry Reid saying Mitt Romney didn't pay his taxes and then justifying himself with, "We won." What about the media liars who then write books about their lies (Jake Tapper)?

Yes, I know it's tough to find the truth. But if something is too good to be true, it probably isn't. Socialism is contrary to common sense and has never worked. And the DSA types are not only liars but crazy.

Will you trade your freedom for the serfdom and slavery of Big Brother? I hope we don't.

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

Will the TN Valley Fair move to Rutledge Pike?

Cont. from page 1

July meetings.

"Since the proposed agricultural center and property are Knox County's project, Knox County would be the best contact for questions,"

Abby Villas, marketing manager for the Tennessee Valley Fair, responded.

"The Tennessee Valley Fair isn't a party to the proposed lease agreement," she added.

Terms come to close for some ethics members

By Mike Steely
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The brief Wednesday morning meeting of the Knox County Ethics Committee saw no ethics complaints, as usual, and did a bit of adjusting officer roles to fill in until the September reorganization.

Chairwoman Deborah Stafford announced the meeting was her last and

spoke of how major changes recommended by the ethics committee's subcommittee were forwarded to the Knox County Commission and adopted. She credited the members and subcommittee chair Michael Bittel.

"It was a lot of work and lots of changes," Stafford told the full committee members.

Stafford then called

on the ethics group to choose a temporary chair to serve until September's reorganization and Bittel was nominated by Krystal Gibson, who is also leaving the group because her husband has been elected Knox County Sheriff. Bittel was elected interim chair and called for the selection of a temporary vice-chair. Marcus Hilliard was nominated and chosen.

Stafford also noted that not only she and Gibson are leaving but that Steven Goodpaster and Carletta Rando-Smelcer are term-limited. That leaves four seats vacant until the new Knox County Commission names four new members.

Other members of the ethics committee are Perrin Anderson, Rusty Goddard and Gary Anders.

Fire and Rescue Committee welcomes new EMS member

By Mike Steely
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On Wednesday, the Knox County Fire and Technical Rescue Committee lamented the members who will be leaving the group. Several members, including At-large Commissioner Kim Frazier and Knox County Chief Operating Officer Dwight Van de Vate, are leaving as the county administration changes.

Van de Vate was credited with the creation of the group.

Knox 911 Director Brad Anders chaired the meeting and noted that all the memorandums of understanding with the various fire and rescue organizations have

been approved. He also said that the new policy dealing with non-emergency 911 calls is working. Callers with non-critical situations are now being referred to other rides to get to medical treatment. He said some of the public has yet to adjust to the new policy.

The new Emergency Medical Services member on the committee is April Caywood, an American Medical Response operations manager and responder. Anders introduced her to the group and she spoke briefly. It was noted that AMR's service "under the bridge" in Knoxville to the homeless community is making a difference.



April Caywood became the new EMS member of the Fire and Technical Rescue Committee on Wednesday, joining the Knox County body made up of Knox 911, fire department, rescue squad and local government representatives. Photo by Mike Steely.

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Publisher's Position UDO Postponed

Current Agricultural Zoning Safe For Now



By Steve Hunley,
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It seems everywhere I go, I hear complaints from Knox Countians about traffic congestion. It is a legitimate complaint, as over time, it is increasingly apparent we have more folks driving on more roads. According to statistics, the City of Knoxville had 185,121 people in 2016; Knox County had a population of 456,410 in 2016. Today, the best estimates are that there are 203,991 residents in the City of Knoxville and 515,309 people living inside Knox County. Those are likely conservative estimates. Another frequent complaint, both from city and county residents, is the skyrocketing cost of housing. The root cause of that has to do with supply and demand. People are

moving here in a constant stream and paying more for houses, which, naturally, drives up the cost for everyone. The demand for housing increases and rents escalate. Another reason for housing costs to rise is that tax hikes - like raising the property tax - also raise mortgages and rents for EVERYONE. The City of Knoxville has raised the property tax just about every two or three years under Madeline Rogero and Indya Kincannon. The City has a spending problem, and while they increase their spending every year, somehow they deliver fewer and fewer services.

Knox County, which runs the school system and provides the bulk of services for its citizens, has not raised property taxes in 30 years. No realistic person believes that will last forever. And for those people who yammer about "fully funding the schools," ask them just what that figure is, exactly. My guess is those people can't give you an accurate figure and quite likely don't even know what we are spending on our schools presently. When factoring in federal, state and local funds (and we are all federal, state and local

taxpayers), we are spending over \$713 million on our school system. The entire budget for Knox County (including for schools) is roughly \$1.1 billion, so we are spending an incredible amount of our entire budget on our school system, leaving the balance to cover everything else.

Knox County will be considering a very important matter soon that will almost certainly dramatically affect not only our existing infrastructure but also increase our already terrible traffic congestion. The most important change in the Unified Development Ordinance (UDO), which will be considered by the Knox County Commission is the fact that the most recent draft removes the "Agricultural/Residential" designation entirely. It ceases to exist under the current draft. Instead, everything presently zoned "agricultural" is designated as "rural residential" under the current draft. It sounds much the same, but it most certainly is NOT. Under the current agricultural zone, a one-acre minimum lot size applies for dwellings. The proposed "rural residential" zone would maintain a one-acre minimum in most

cases, but under specific circumstances — including access to sewer and adequate roadways on properties of five acres or more — developers could build up to two dwelling units per acre with a minimum lot size of 5,000 square feet. If the new "rural residential" designated area has access to sewer and a legitimate "classified" road, then there would be no hearings before Knoxville-Knox County Planning or the county commission. There would be no need for a zoning hearing. It would be a done deal. At best, there might be a "traffic study" or a "concept plan" requested, but it's largely all over but the shouting. A neighbor having five acres could sell it to have a subdivision without hardly any effort.

The gift to developers is that, if approved, it will instantly have the effect of rezoning 170,000 acres inside Knox County. It will also give vested rights to developers to build subdivisions. The changes are VERY important to the future of our community and will only cause more urban sprawl, increase traffic congestion, and, like the city, reduce our green areas to the occasional lot of scrub

grass on a lot populated by asphalt and concrete. There are already areas in our county that are being reduced day-by-day from a designed scenic highway to something far different. Drive down John Sevier Highway sometime if you don't believe it.

Inside the city, they are constantly building huge apartment towers with the residents pouring out onto main thoroughfares without the least bit of planning or consideration addressing traffic congestion. We've mentioned this in editorials before; the best current example is the city trying to cite more apartment complexes while pouring out traffic along Chapman Highway with one bridge closed because it supposedly cannot handle the weight of cars and trucks, the James White Parkway is being closed sporadically for inspection, and the people of South Knoxville left with the Henley Street Bridge as their only option. The city has traffic pouring into both sides of Chapman Highway right at the precise point where the bridge exists. If there has been any consideration for existing residents, it is a closely guarded secret. We can all

look forward to situations like this if we do not pay close attention to what our government officials are discussing and voting on.

My experience has been that when our officials are rushing something through, more than likely, the people will pay the price - one way or the other.

To his credit, Mayor Glenn Jacobs pulled the plug on the rush to have the UDO plan approved before the new mayor and commission take office on September 1.

"From the beginning, we have said we want to get this right, and we are going to follow through with that, even if it takes more time," Mayor Jacobs announced.

Jacobs said it will be up to Mayor-elect Betsy Henderson and the incoming Knox County Commission to "fully understand the proposal, gather more community feedback, and make informed decisions about how to proceed."

Informed citizens can help direct public policy; an ill-informed or complacent public allows the politicians and special interests to do as they please. The choice is up to you.

Inskip residents concerned about Bruhin Road development

By Mike Steely
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The Inskip neighborhood is mostly residential and, like the rest of Knoxville, is growing. Residents have been watching that growth with many questions and some apprehension. A large new development of apartments is preparing to open on Bruhin Road just north of I-640 and Dutch Valley Road.

The Village at Inskip is a large, three-building complex with 98 rental apartments with 2, 3 and 4 bedrooms. Rents will range from \$1,310 to \$2,050 per month and housing vouchers will be accepted. It's advertised as "Luxury and Affordable."

In 2024, the city gave a \$1.44 million break to developer John Huber to help develop 44 units of the affordable units.

The Inskip Community Association and other residents have opposed the development of multi-family housing on the site and, even after a meeting with Huber at Inskip Park, continued to oppose the development. The park is located



PHOTO BY MIKE STEELY

Sidewalks are apparently in at The Village at Inskip on Bruhin Road and the city will be checking on compliance and planning on curb cuts, a crosswalk and a flashing light by the end of September. The additional work is to help the new residents, especially children, cross safely to reach the Inskip Park and pool.

across Bruhin Road from the new apartment complex. The location has now raised questions about how anyone, especially children, will get to the pool inside Inskip Park from the complex across the busy connector road. With a split planning commission vote, the city council approved the development in a 6-3 vote.

During the July city council meeting, resident Caleb Adkins spoke and raised questions about sidewalks along the road in front of

the complex, the "blind" entrances there and he called for speed bumps, a crosswalk and a caution light.

Inskip residents Ralph and Lynne Siglin contacted the city, council members, the developer and community members last month.

"Before residents start moving in, there needs to be sidewalks installed for a safe infrastructure. Currently it is not safe. Adults and children will be crossing from one side of Bruhin to the other in order to get

to the playground equipment and pool," they said.

The Focus asked Knoxville Mayor Indya Kincannon about the complex and she replied, "This sidewalk was a high priority for the Neighbors for Knoxville proposal, but that plan, which would have been funded by the half cent sales tax increase, was rejected by the voters. So there's no money to implement the projects it contains, including much needed sidewalks. We will still build sidewalks

Continue on page 4

City elections may change with two ballot questions

By Mike Steely
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The Knoxville City Council's Tuesday meeting will see two different initiatives that, if passed, will ask city residents to pick one or both measures on the November 3rd ballot.

The first resolution mandates that all council members be elected when the mayor race is on the ballot. The second would permit the candidate with 50 percent plus one in the primary to be the new or re-elected councilmember. Only voters in the districts would choose their council member.

In other business, the council may award a \$2.8 million contract for the Magnolia Avenue Streetscape Project Phase 3 to Adams Contracting LLC and hire Gresham Smith to provide engineering inspection services for that project for \$338,800.

Mayor Indya Kincannon may appoint and reappoint members of the Mayor's Maker Council.

A quitclaim deed may

be approved for East Tennessee Housing Development Corporation for 210 South Elmwood Street for \$7,000 under the Home-makers Program. The Volunteer Ministry Center may get \$54,500 for case management services for Minvilla Manor and social services at its resource center and Bush Family Refuge.

Appalachian Mountain Bike Club may be approved to maintain natural surface trails for \$200,000. Southern Housing Foundation II Inc. may get \$75,000 for case management and property management at Flenniken Landing.

The council is being asked to approve an agreement between the city, Knox County and the Knoxville-Knox County Sport Authority to let the authority explore partnerships to modernize the Knoxville Municipal Golf Course site.

A Patton Street and Georgia Street project by

Continue on page 4

County hosts ribbon-cutting ceremony for dog park in Halls

Cont. from page 1
provide the services the community wants, we have to get their input."

Boyd said that dog parks can bring people together.

"The dog parks are great for dogs," Boyd said. "But they're about more than just dogs," he said. "So many things can divide us right now, but dog parks

bring us together. They always have benches where people can watch their dogs play.

"That's where friendships are made. They have benches where you can see rich and poor, or sometimes you can see a Democrat and a Republican sitting together."



Randy Boyd discusses the importance of dog parks in the Knoxville area. Boyd's foundation made a significant contribution to the dog parks project, which was culminated Thursday morning in Halls. Photo by Ken Lay.

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New forensic center's name dedicated to Dr. Mileusnic

State and local leaders Tuesday morning hosted a building dedication to name the county's new Knox County Regional Forensic Center after its long-time chief medical examiner, Dr. Darinka Mileusnic.

The new facility was a goal Mayor Glenn Jacobs and RFC leaders have pushed for years. It will almost double the office and laboratory size of the current one at 2761 Sullins St. That operation was funded under the state and then Knox County Mayor and now U.S. House Rep. Tim Burchett in 2014 when it needed to move from the University of Tennessee Medical Center.

The new name was kept under wraps and a surprise for Dr. Mileusnic, who studied medicine in Croatia and Chicago and is internationally recognized among her peers.

An emotional Dr. Mileusnic was set to speak before officials unveiled the new sign at the front of the building. Afterward, she talked about the operation and what it means to the community.

"We are constantly reminded and we will never forget that behind every heartbreaking story, there is a family that deserves answers, requires our help, and may need guidance how to navigate the most difficult times of their lives," she said. "This facility is dedicated to those families, our citizens, and all our partners who never wavered in their support on



State Senator Richard Briggs and Rep. Dave Wright applaud as Dr. Darinka Mileusnic gasps in surprise to see her name on the sign in front of the new Knox County Regional Forensic Center.

this long journey."

Construction crews are wrapping up work on the new 33,000-square-foot facility, located in the Karns Valley Business Park off Oak Ridge Highway in the Northwest, and the largest of its kind in the state. It should be complete by early September, and the staff is expected to move in October.

Several years ago, Mayor Glenn Jacobs, Thomas and Dr. Mileusnic met with Gov. Bill Lee to talk about funding a new site. Later, the state approved \$20 million from the American Rescue Plan Act, a federal economic stimulus plan, to help pay for the \$30 million facility. The county covered the remaining \$10 million.

"The center was needed as caseloads continue to grow and the region

needed room to cover the demands of both today and tomorrow," said interim Commissioner of the Tennessee Department of Health John Dunn. "This gives the professionals the infrastructure they need to meet the very high standards they perform."

The expansion comes as the workload has increased in recent years and as a 30-member staff grew from overseeing 1,900 cases in 2018 when Jacobs took office to 43 team members managing as many as 3,000 cases annually in the years that followed.

The growth is driven by a number of reasons, including an increase in population and the center's expanding role throughout the state's eastern region. Mayor Jacobs called Dr.

Mileusnic "a leader across the nation" and noted that the center has played a large role helping to identify cold case victims and implement a program that honors unclaimed veterans.

The Knox County RFC, which operates 24/7, 365 days each year, performs autopsies for 23 counties and serves as the official medical examiner for Knox, Anderson and Blount counties.

In addition to size, the new facility also will bring major upgrades in technology. Plans include the addition of a CT scanner and twice as many autopsy stations, a larger lobby, an outdoor area for staff to decompress, and more space and workstations so team members can handle cases more efficiently.

City elections

Cont. from page 3

WP South Acquisitions, LLC, may get a tax break on a request from the Industrial Development Board. The council may also consider changing the city code to limit the number of monkeys permitted per household without a kennel permit.

Consent items that may be passed together with one vote include a final plan for 406 Willow

Avenue's Jonathan's Grille; an application for \$4.5 million grant request for emission assistance; \$200,000 for recruitment and retention of police employees; zoning changes for 1325 Frances Road from agricultural to RN-1 residential, 1900 Hoitt Avenue from RN-2 residential to industrial mixed-use; and 425 North Cedar Bluff from agricultural to general commercial.

Inskip residents

Cont. from page 3

when we have the funds to do so, but progress will be much slower. Sidewalks are very expensive."

Grant Rosenberg, Knoxville Chief Operating Officer, said, "The developer has built the sidewalk connection. Our team is verifying the work has been completed and is in compliance with code."

"The City will be constructing curb cuts, a striped crosswalk, pedestrian actuated flashing lights and a crosswalk to the Inskip Pool driveway. This work will begin in the near future and should be complete by mid-September. The KAT bus stop will be constructed by a separate contract funded by KAT, and will be installed in early 2027," Rosenberg said. The sidewalk that was built obviously only serves future residents there. Rosenberg told City Councilman Charles Thomas that the "law has changed" and the

street-side sidewalk is no longer required. The interior sidewalk has one extension on the upper level to Bruhin Road.

"We need housing of course, but I've always thought it was irresponsible to authorize this type of development on this particular site because of lack of infrastructure and very real safety issues. At least two different rezoning applications of even lower density had been rejected during previous administrations. Now the developer here is shifting the responsibility for needed infrastructure to city engineering, and the cost of it to city taxpayers," said Thomas.

Knox County Schools told The Focus that a bus stop pick-up there for elementary schools will not be required because the development is so close to Inskip Elementary. In the future, with a demand or request, middle and high school students may see a bus stop there for them.

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The Civil War in East Tennessee

By Pete Gawda

On Thursday evening, August 6, historian Josh Anderson gave a talk on East Tennessee in the Civil War at the Lenoir Museum at Norris Dam State Park. The talk was part of a series of talks celebrating the 250th birthday of our country and was illustrated with slides and artifacts.

Anderson noted that East Tennessee was not too keen on secession from the Union. On Feb 9, 1861, Tennessee voted against secession. Soon after that, groups from other Southern states visited Tennessee to persuade the state to secede. Finally, on June 8, 1861, Tennessee became the last state to secede. However, in East Tennessee the vote was 2 to 1 against secession. In Anderson County, only 7 out of a total of 98 votes cast were for secession. The division of loyalty was evident in the number of troops from Tennessee serving on each side. While 120,000 Tennessee troops fought for the Confederacy, 31,000 Tennessee men enlisted in the Union Army. Even though every Confederate state had some men join the Union Army, Tennessee's total was the highest.



Historian Josh Anderson holds a Civil War Union artillery officer's sword found in the area of World's Fair Park in Knoxville. The sword was one of the Civil War artifacts Anderson displayed during his talk on East Tennessee in the Civil War given Thursday, August 6 at Lenoir Museum at Norris Dam State Park.

Anderson told the story of Julia Marcum of Scott County. Her father, Hiram Marcum, was loyal to the Union and was harassed for that stand. On September 7, 1861, while her father was hiding in the woods, a group of Confederate soldiers raided the house

looking for him. They attacked the women of the household trying to learn his whereabouts. Julia fought off their attack, hitting one soldier with an ax. However, she lost an eye from a bayonet and a finger from a gunshot. Her father burst in in time to save his

family. Julia's wounds were treated by a Confederate Army doctor. As a result of these activities, Julia was the only woman to receive a pension for combat in the Civil War.

Anderson also told the story of William Blount Carter, an abolitionist and

Presbyterian minister who planned a guerrilla raid in November 1861 to destroy nine bridges on the East Tennessee and Virginia Railroad to disrupt communications and supply lines and to hinder the transport of troops. This action was supposed to be done

in connection with a raid conducted by Union forces in the area. However, that raid was called off, and only five bridges were damaged or destroyed. The bridges were quickly rebuilt, having little military impact. However, as a result of the bridge attacks, the Confederate government declared martial law in East Tennessee and about 150 Union sympathizers were arrested. Several suspected bridge burners were tried and hanged.

There was also a skirmish at Wallace's Crossroads, now known as Andersonville. On July 15, 1862, four companies of Confederate cavalry stationed at Andersonville were surprised by two regiments of Union infantry. The Confederates were put to flight, and the Union forces withdrew. Anderson displayed several cannonballs found in the area and showed a slide of a receipt from the store at Wallace's Crossroad where Confederate soldiers bought hay, bacon and corn. He also had a photograph of J.K.P. Wallace of Andersonville who provided an eyewitness account of the skirmish.

Continue on page 2

Postal cancels and promotions

I hope you took time to reflect on and celebrate the 250th anniversary of our Declaration of Independence. This July 4th was a time of serious and deep reflection concerning our freedoms on my part.

The cancel on a stamp has a primary purpose to avoid reuse of the same stamp. Years ago, some folks would erase or remove the cancellation mark for the express purpose of trying to reuse the stamp, which was illegal. At some point, several local postmasters began using



the postal cancellation for promotional purposes in addition to avoiding reuse of the stamp.

Promotional cancellations included postal services' self-promotion, anniversary promotions, non-profit promotions, and celebratory events. The postal service used a cancel to

promote Express Mail, Special Delivery, Use ZIP Code, AirMail Services, and just bragging about a local post office. One of the most unusual of these self-promotional cancels included a picture of an airplane in support

of airmail services. The Mr. ZIP logo helped remind all of us to use ZIP codes. Back in the day, many customers would send a letter from a particular post office just to brag about where they live, such as Bronx, Central Avenue, Fifth Avenue, etc. The postal service would also use special cancels as relates to first day covers, the Centennial celebration, stamp expositions, and many other special events. It was and is free advertising.

The postal service used cancels to promote non-profits, especially when the non-profit is in the midst of a fundraising campaign. A few non-profits that were promoted with special cancellations include: United Way, March of Dimes, Muscular Dystrophy, Savings Bonds, Better Business Bureau,

Prevent Infantile Paralysis, Red Cross, Blood Drives, Hire the Handicapped, Support TB Association, etc. Many other non-profits were also included in special cancellations.

Many other organizations and special causes included cancellations such as: Visit the USA, Pray for Peace, Cancer Research, Goodwill Industries, Columbia University, Century of Progress Exposition, Flag Day, Golden Gate Expo, Mail Early, American Heart Association, various state Bicentennial events, and Support Good Mental Health. I have no idea as to how many such special cancels exist.

In addition to simply collecting these cancels for yourself, there are several ways to display special cancels. For

instance, the framing of several United Way cancellations would make a nice gift to a person who works for United Way. This concept can be used with many other organizations as well.

Remember our Knoxville Philatelic Society meets the first Tuesday of each month at the Unitarian Church on Kingston Pike at 6:00 p.m. Information about KPS can be obtained from KnoxStamps.com.

If I can assist you with your collection or if you have special needs or questions, please call me at (865)604-0164 or email me at hrbrooks68@gmail.com. This is Harry Brooks, Old Man Stamp Store, wishing you happy collecting.



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A Little Help

I swore that Saturday morning would be the time I slept in and took the entire day easy. I hate it when I lie to myself like that.

Amy had signed up to help our church, Beaver Ridge United Methodist, the church at the red light in Karns, distribute bags at the middle school. What we all forget is that many children return to school with a sense of doom. The same old clothes and shoes are available; the year will begin with those young ones having to ask for a sheet of paper or pencil or box of crayons. Many won't even have a backpack to carry their textbooks, homework, and other necessities from class to class.

Several members of our church decided again this year that for some students, that wasn't going to happen. Working with the middle school, folks identified children who needed a boost. That was all that needed to be said to the congregation. For each child, an entire 30-gallon garbage bag was filled with school supplies, clothing, and hygiene products.

In another room, females were given the chance to choose undergarments that actually fit and made them feel better. A large paper bag was given to each child; that bag had a variety of healthy and tasty snacks. In the hallway, a young stylist stood ready to cut the hair of children and adults.

In one corner of the school library, members of Ball Camp Baptist Church set up tables and piled them high with pizzas. Children and adults could grab plates and stack them high with slices of delicious food.

The entire event was low-key. Most of the church people from both congregations were "old geezers" who'd been through parenting with their children and grandchildren. Something happens when old and young meet. We oldsters try to be entertaining and interested. We speak a bit softer and listen much more carefully. The younger ones are quieter as well, and they remained respectful to us senior citizens.

I watched one tiny girl. She was going into the second grade but looked much younger. As she eyed the bounty of her big black bag, she exclaimed, "I got a new pair of shoes!"

This old man teared up at the sound of those words. She also looked in amazement as several new clothing outfits were pulled from the bag. A new backpack, water bottle, and lunchbox were inside as well.

The little girl's sister opened her bag. She might have been entering sixth grade. The first thing she pulled out was a pink backpack. A smile crossed her lips, and she marveled that personal items for a girl her age were also inside. Items were chosen specifically for the recipients, and Christmas came on August 8 for them.

The stylist cut hair for any child who wanted a trim or full cut. In fact, she worked on a woman who had not had a hair appointment in years. Carefully, the young girl worked to untangle knots and shape hair to give a brighter look to every face. The woman who'd gone so long without a day at a salon looked at herself at the end and exclaimed, "I'm pretty!"

In the end, no one left unhappy or empty-handed. Ball Camp Baptist sent families home with pizza for supper. They cleaned up the area and left it in tip-top shape. The members made families comfortable and made sure they left full and satisfied.

On August 8, BRUMC and BCBC spent maybe three or four hours making the lives of community members better. Those who planned the event and bought the items and separated them out into proper bags must have been exhausted. We who carried bags in and greeted folks were far from tired. Our lives had been blessed with the chance to do something for those who needed a little help.

Get this! For this project, Methodists and Baptists worked together. I didn't notice a hint of difference in the appearance of the two groups. I did, however, see the love that people had for those who needed a hand. Most would classify these two churches as small, but the work they did was enormous. It's never the size of a dog but the size of the fight in the dog. Two small churches reached out to answer the prayers and needs of people in their community. They took to heart the meaning of Christ's words:

"Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."

Imagine the great accomplishments that could come if Democrats and Republicans heeded these words.

The Oldest Lie in the Book

Typically, when I write these articles, I try not to make them feel overly theological. I want them to be practical, relatable and applicable to everyday life. But this one may hit a little differently. Recently, I was restudying the opening chapters of Genesis, and something jumped off the page that I had never really considered before. Most people are familiar with the story. God placed Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden and gave them tremendous freedom. They could enjoy everything He had created with one prohibition: they were not to eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

Then the serpent entered the story. Satan began doing what he has been doing ever since: questioning God's Word, distorting God's intentions, and denying God's goodness.

The serpent told Eve that God knew that if she ate the forbidden fruit, her eyes would be opened and she would be god-like. Genesis 1:26, however, records that God had already said that he would make humanity in His image, or like Him. Satan was tempting Eve to rebel against God to obtain something God had already given her through relationship with Him.

That may be one of the devil's oldest strategies. The enemy is incredibly good at offering us, through rebellion, what God has already provided through relationship.

Think about how often sin still works this way. Adultery whispers that God's design for sexuality, intimacy, and marriage is insufficient; that fulfillment must be found outside the boundaries God established. Murder and vengeance whisper that God's justice cannot be trusted, so we must take judgment into our own hands. Theft whispers that God's way of honest labor and faithful provision isn't enough, so dishonest gain becomes justified in our minds. The circumstances and details change, but the deception remains remarkably similar: God is withholding something from you. His way isn't enough. You need to reach outside His boundaries to get what you deserve. That was the lie in Eden, and it is still the lie today.

Satan wants us to believe obedience to our Creator is keeping us from something good, when often obedience is the very boundary God has established to protect the good He has already given us. There is a principle here that I believe is worth remembering: What God wants us to have, we never need to compromise to get. If obtaining something requires you to abandon biblical conviction, violate your conscience, compromise your integrity, or damage your relationship with God, you should seriously question whether that "something" is worth having at all. Be careful about sacrificing what God has already given you while chasing what the enemy has convinced you that you need. A relationship, a position, a promotion, pleasure, acceptance, or success. None of those things are worth exchanging intimacy with God for.

The tragedy of Genesis 3 wasn't simply that Adam and Eve ate a piece of forbidden fruit. It was that they distrusted the God who had already given them everything they needed. They reached through rebellion for what they believed God was withholding, only to discover that sin never delivers what it promises. Thousands of years later, the enemy's strategy hasn't changed much, and neither has the answer. We, as created beings, are to trust our Creator. Our dependence and reliance should be on God: to believe His Word, depend on His boundaries, and be confident in His timing. Each of us does well to remember that what God wants us to have, we will never need to compromise our relationship with Him to get.

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The Civil War in East Tennessee

Cont. from page 1

Anderson detailed the November 29, 1863 Battle of Fort Sanders, displaying a slide of the earthwork defenses and a drawing of the battle showing telegraph wires strung low to the ground between tree stumps. This foreshadowed the barbed wire strung between the trenches in World War II. Anderson also noted that this was one of the most lopsided battles of the war with 800 Confederate casualties and few Union casualties and resulted in a Union victory.

Anderson related the story of E. C. Camp, a Northerner who came to Knoxville as a Union soldier and remained after the war to become U.S. Attorney for Eastern Tennessee and found the Coal Creek Coal Company. He built the large stone house on Broadway which now houses the offices and studios of WATE television.

There is an interesting reminder of the Civil War in downtown Clinton; about a block apart are two Methodist Churches. Members of St. Mark's were Southern sympathizers while members of Memorial were loyal to the Union.

During the course of the Civil War, Greenville changed hands between the Union and the Confederates about 50 times.

Anderson stated that Tennessee was second only to Virginia in the number Civil War battles fought in the state.

At the conclusion of the Civil War, Tennessee was the first state to be readmitted to the Union.

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The Reece Committee III

Pages from the Past



By Ray Hill
rayhill865@gmail.com

The final report of the Reece Committee, which had been charged by the U.S. House of Representatives with the task of investigating the ties between tax-exempt foundations and the American education establishment, set off a firestorm. The disdain for the committee and its hearings from much of the press was immense. Some accused Reece and his staff of incompetence while Wayne Hays, one of the leading opponents of reauthorizing the committee, and the Eisenhower White House, on behalf of the foundations, made things difficult for everyone. Clearly, Reece and the committee staff had to overcome a hostile news media, the White House and the determined opposition of many Democrats.

At the time, the Republicans held the majority in both the House and Senate and a GOP incumbent occupied the White House in the person of Dwight D. Eisenhower. The chairman of the Select Committee to Investigate Tax-Exempt Foundations and Comparable Organizations was Carroll Reece, long-time congressman from Tennessee's First Congressional District. The committee was in its second incarnation and had first been known as the "Cox Committee" after its first chair, E. E. "Gene" Cox of Georgia, who had been a Democrat. Cox had died on December 24, 1952, of a heart attack and in 1953, Reece, who had been unhappy with the report of the Cox Committee, sought to renew the special select committee, which the GOP majority approved.

Known as B. Carroll Reece in the rest of the country for his first name of "Brazilla," a Biblical name, the Tennessean had been the Republican National Committeeman from 1939, a post he continued to hold until his death in 1961. Reece had been elected as chairman of the Republican National Committee in 1946 and did not seek reelection to Congress that year. Reece experienced tremendous success utilizing the slogan "Had Enough?" which expressed the growing frustration of American consumers following the Second World War. Reece presided over the biggest political comeback made by the Republican Party since 1928 as the GOP won control of both the Senate and the House in 1946. Reece thought he saw an opportunity to win statewide office in 1948 with the Democratic Party being seriously split both nationally and in the Volunteer State. Carroll Reece became the first serious GOP candidate for the United States Senate since 1916, running on a ticket with country music legend Roy Acuff as the Republican gubernatorial candidate.

Reece was a nationally known and respected figure and the most prominent Republican in the South, which was then almost completely dominated by Democrats. A genuine hero from his service in the First World War and decorated for his bravery by both the American and French governments, Carroll Reece was no golden-throated orator. One friend and supporter once laughed while saying Reece's speechmaking was comparable to that of a fourth-grade elementary school student. Reece's enormous personal popularity inside Tennessee's First Congressional District was rooted in his constituent service, which was impeccable. Reece had followed the example set by Senator Kenneth McKellar and provided prompt and courteous service to every constituent who called upon him for assistance.

Liberals suggested Carroll Reece was an "Old Guard" Republican and he was very conservative, having opposed most of Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal and Harry Truman's Fair Deal. Those on the left wing of the political spectrum dismissed Reece as an "isolationist," but it was more accurate to observe that like many of those who had actually fought in a bloody war, he was more of a "noninterventionist." Certainly, Reece was not averse to fighting and, in one notable scuffle, the congressman had once quite nearly bitten the ear off an officer who tried to prevent him from reboarding a ship to meet his wife and daughter. One scholar writing about the Reece Committee years later described Carroll Reece as "the prototype of the liberals' idea of an 'anti-Communist crusader' is supposed to be."

The left-leaning press of the country set about to demolish the final report of the Reece Committee, and the crescendo came at a January 26, 1955, meeting of the National Press Club in Washington, D.C., when Robert Hutchins, then president of the Fund for the Republic, blasted Carroll Reece. The Tennessee congressman was present when Hutchins let loose. One can easily gather Hutchins' own opinion of himself by considering he had taken himself quite seriously as a candidate for the 1940 Democratic nomination for vice-president to run with Franklin Roosevelt, a suggestion made by Secretary of the Interior Harold Ickes, while he was still president of the University of Chicago. It was an absurd notion likely made to promote Ickes' own vice-presidential aspirations or divert FDR's attention away from his rival, Secretary of Agriculture Henry A. Wallace. Hutchins was one of the jewels in the crown of the higher



UNITED PRESS TELEPHOTO FROM THE AUTHOR'S PERSONAL COLLECTION.

Congressman Carroll Reece and Robert Hutchins shake hands in 1955.

educational establishment and foundations in the country. Robert Hutchins was the kind of pillar in the educational and foundation community to serve as the spokesman for both.

Congressman Reece was sitting at the head table when Robert Hutchins got up to speak. Hutchins charged that "the Reece investigation in its inception and execution was a fraud." Hutchins decried the "wild and squalid" assault upon the foundations. "Nobody in his right mind could suppose that the great accumulations of wealth left by our richest men were being intentionally used by their trustees to overthrow the institutions of this country," Hutchins declared.

Hutchins swatted away Reece's observation that many of the trustees of the foundation were busy with their own affairs and lives that they left the oversight to "officers who were quite often disreputable." Hutchins lobbed his own charge, saying the parade of witnesses before the Reece Committee were "of dubious standing" and asserted "the foundations were elaborately attacked by the staff."

Robert Hutchins scoffed at "one of the more absurd charges of the Reece Committee that the foundations were an intellectual cartel." "The Reece Committee forced them to huddle together in self-defense," Hutchins explained. "One more investigation and they might become a cartel."

Hutchins accused Reece and Congressman Jesse L. Wolcott of having come "bustling out in second-hand suits of anti-empiricism, supplied them by the sages of staff. . ." Hutchins lamented that the Reece Committee investigation had frightened foundations away from funding research in those fields that might be either unpopular or controversial.

"Though this relieved the men of wealth and standing of the charge of being knaves," Hutchins sniffed, "it did so only at the expense of charging them with being fools. Only fools could be so careless as to allow enormous sums entrusted to them for charitable purposes to be stolen away and lavished on the subversion of their country."

Robert Hutchins insisted the Reece Committee's final report was nothing more

than an effort to exploit "public concern about Communism and subversion to further political ambition and to work off political grudges."

"Congressman Reece was scoffed at," Hutchins smirked. "It was agreed that his investigation was a farce."

"I think he had good reason to be satisfied with himself. I think he won," Hutchins added.

"Without firing a single serious shot, without saying a single intelligent word, he accomplished his purpose, which was to harass the foundations and to subdue such stirrings of courage, or even imagination, as could be found in them," Hutchins thundered.

Clothed in a cloud of smug self-righteousness, Robert Hutchins piously exclaimed the foundation he headed made do with a \$50 million (almost \$600 million today) grant from the Ford Foundation, but noted the Fund for the Republic was independent of its funding source. Hutchins' speech contained more than its share of both arrogance and disdain and rang clearly with the tones of an ill-disguised elitist.

Throughout Hutchins' speech, Carroll Reece sat composed and politely applauded when the former university president finished. Reece even agreed to pose for a picture with Hutchins, and it was the Tennessean who looked amiable and cordial while Hutchins had a look of condemnation on his face.

Reece did turn to someone and say, "He's pretty hard." Lucian Warren, president of the Press Club, stated Reece would be welcome as a speaker if he wished to reply. "Later I will take advantage of some forum to make a reply," Reece promised.

Congressman Carroll Reece did indeed make a reply to Dr. Robert Hutchins the following month in a speech to the National Press Club. Reece dismissed Hutchins, who he said had once been hailed as a "boy wonder," pointing out the foundation head was no longer either "a boy or a wonder." The congressman assailed Hutchins and other "top social science planners" for having used "a Communistic tactic" in denouncing the House investigation of foundations. The congressman said Hutchins was a prime

example of social planners. Reece said the language used by Hutchins in speaking before the National Press Club was "typical of the vituperation which has been poured on us by the professional operators of foundations."

Reece told the gathered newsmen the committee investigators had gathered evidence which indicated "that the major foundations, by subsidizing collectivistic-minded educators, had financed a socialist trend in American government."

"Realizing the impossibility of controverting the massive evidence which we produced, they have resorted to smear and slander," Reece said.

Congressman Carroll Reece defended the work of the committee as having been completely "competent," as well as "historic."

"These planners accuse the committee on foundations of wishing to suppress freedom of thought," Reece told his listeners. "The fact is that the intellectual cartel which they created itself suppresses freedom of thought by expending millions of foundation money under their control to determine opinion, academic and public, in the leftist directions they favor."

Doubtless to the horror of the super wealthy and foundation members, Congressman Reece pointed out the fact that average Americans enjoyed a heavier tax burden as the rich avoided paying taxes by funneling their money into tax-exempt foundations.

"The rest of the people must pay heavier taxes, for example, because the Ford family was relieved of estate taxes upon the creation of the Ford Foundation, and because the foundation itself pays no income tax on 90% of the profits of the Ford Motor Co. it receives in dividends.

"Citizens with their own money may promote any cause, good or bad, not forbidden by law, but tax-exempt funds should not be used to propagandize for the theories of either Karl Marx or Mark Hanna." Mark Hanna had been a powerful Republican United States senator from Ohio who had done more than any other living soul to place William McKinley in the White House. Hanna was an enormously wealthy businessman who promoted the business interests

of the country.

Reece noted the personal attacks made on his character by Wayne Hays and said he could have compared military records, but acknowledged it was a childish impulse which he immediately dismissed from his mind. Wayne Hays sat in his seat, his scalp turning crimson beneath his thinning hair.

Congressman Reece pointed out the foundations exercised enormous power over educators through financial subsidies and grants, which enabled them to have a powerful say in what direction education in the country would go. Reece noted, "This power to impose brainwashing at the key points is against everything America stands for."

John O'Donnell in the New York Daily News chorled that Reece had taken the "hide off of the onetime boy president of Chicago University and let fly at House colleague Hays sitting three chairs away." O'Donnell caustically noted when Hays had accused Reece of being a coward and liar "all to the tittering applause of the pinkos and the New Deal one-worlders of press, radio and lecture platforms."

Irrespective of whatever Robert Hutchins said or thought, the people of Tennessee's First Congressional District cared not at all. Carroll Reece proved to be unbeatable at the ballot box in upper East Tennessee. Reece was reelected yet again in 1960 and sometime later began feeling poorly. Initially, family and friends thought the congressman was suffering from the long-term effects of having been gassed during World War I. Doctors at Bethesda Naval Hospital discovered Reece was suffering from lung cancer.

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PREVIEW STORIES FOR 2026 HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

Concord Christian opening season by hosting Rivalry Saturday

By Mark Nagi

Building a high school football program brings with it many challenges. For the Concord Christian Lions and head coach Steve Matthews, it is a work in progress. But things are going well so far. “I don’t know what the expectations were, but we won two Region games and finished 6-5,” said Matthews. “Really, all our games were down to the fourth quarter. We were

close. And now we have over 50 players. I think if you look at the big picture, you have got to be really, really excited about where we are. We all have expectations, and those expectations get raised, and we’re all competitors. I’m not real patient. We’re trying to win and win big and try to get there as soon as we possibly can.” One positive for the Lions is continuity. While there are some

newcomers on the roster, they bring back 20 starters from last year’s team. “It’s definitely made it easier,” said Matthews. “Knowing how we do things, knowing how we like to practice. We have brought in several that are still kind of learning, but it’s been much easier this year, a lot fewer hiccups, just kind of learning the basics.” The process of adding to the roster is a **Continue on page 3**

LIONS 2026				
Sat	Aug. 22	11:00 AM	CAK	<i>Rivalry Saturday</i>
Fri	Aug. 28	7:00 p.m.	at Mt. Juliet Christian	
Fri	Sep. 4	7:00 p.m.	at TKA (R)	
Fri	Sep. 11	7:00 p.m.	at Knoxville Halls	
Fri	Sep. 18	7:00 p.m.	MidTenn Xtian(R)	
Fri	Sep. 25	7:00 p.m.	Grace Christian <i>at Carson-Newman</i>	
Fri	Oct. 2	7:00 p.m.	at Providence (R)	
Fri	Oct. 16	7:00 p.m.	at South Greene	
Fri	Oct. 23	7:00 p.m.	at Providence (R)	
Fri	Oct. 30	2:30 p.m.	Grace Baptist (R) <i>Senior Night</i>	
(R)=Region game				

Karns fielding young team this season

By David Klein

Though the Karns Beavers are a young football team this year, Karns head coach Lee Warren said he is excited about the upcoming Beavers’ football season. Warren said there are four returning offensive starters and four defensive starters. “We graduated a big senior class, played a lot of sophomores last year,” Warren said. “Obviously we’re younger but we’re excited about the talent we have, the juniors and sophomore classes, they’re gonna have to be able to play like seniors this year for us to be successful. We’re excited about that.” One of the returning seniors, Jonas Zimmerman, is listed as athlete and plays linebacker and safety on defense and outside receiver, slot receiver and tight end on offense. He also plays some at special teams. “Really just anything they ask me to play, they usually see me as their guy to do that,” Zimmerman said. Offensively, the Beavers will try to run the ball more this season, according to Warren. “We’re going to be more of a downhill run team than years past,” Warren stressed. “A lot more tight end sets for us. We’re going to try to be adaptable and versatile. We’re not gonna be a traditional, 10-personnel spread-you-out offense.” Senior Ben Styles has been named starting quarterback. “He’s a veteran; he’s been our backup the last couple of years,” Warren said. “He’s also been starting at receiver and safety so he’s a good athlete. So, he brings that to the table, being a veteran and also having the athletic ability.” **Continue on page 4**



PHOTO BY STEVE WILLIAMS

Barron Chandler at practice last week at West High School. He's now in his second season as the Rebels' head coach.

New offensive coordinator should give Rebels a boost

By Steve Williams

One of the most significant additions to West High School’s football team this coming season is a new offensive coordinator. Chris Thacker was the OC at Kingsport Dobyns-Bennett until rejoining West head coach Barron Chandler’s staff. “Chris was at West when I first got there in 2017,” said Chandler.

“We went to school together, grew up together and played high school football together at Morristown West. It’s somebody I’m really comfortable with and really excited with what he’s bringing to the table.” Chandler’s first season as head coach at West was kind of an up-and-down year for the Rebels. “Yes, the first game got cancelled because of lightning, then

that put us going to Maryville for our first actual game,” said Barron. “We kind of felt like we had some tough spots early on. We were just making some mistakes. We were in some one-score games and couldn’t quite pull it off and then we felt like we hit our stride a little bit in the middle of the year.” West ended up making the playoffs but ran into a tough and talented Sevier County team that

eliminated the Rebels (4-6) in the first round. “We felt like we made some good progress through the year and hope to carry that momentum into this season,” said Chandler. “We’ve had a really good off-season; a good June, and got started off with a good week in July.” Now it’s August and the season opener is Friday. **Continue on page 5**

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Congratulations to the champs

The Knoxville Journal salutes Austin-East and Halls for their championship seasons



When a city has championship teams, it deserves championship coverage. Day in and day out, Steve Williams and The Knoxville Journal give their readers East Tennessee's finest prep coverage. Williams, a 14-year veteran on the prep beat, was named Prep Sportswriter of the Year in Tennessee this year. So, if you take your prep coverage seriously, Steve Williams and The Knoxville Journal should be on your team.



Steve Williams

Forty years ago, the Halls Red Devils (Class AAA) and the Austin-East Roadrunners (Class AA) won TSSAA state football championships and were spotlighted in The Knoxville Journal. Larry Kerr (center) was the Halls head coach and Sam Anderson (left) was the A-E head coach. Focus sports reporter Steve Williams (right) was The Journal's prep editor at that time. Halls is recognizing its 1986 team this Friday prior to its season opener against Oak Ridge. Austin-East Athletic Director Heather Blakemore announced last week that A-E would recognize its 1986 team in October when the Roadrunners host Carter.

Red Devils rallied late in first round to stay alive

By Steve Williams

There may be some things that escape his mind, but Head Coach Larry Kerr hasn't forgotten Halls High's state football championship in 1986.

He's already celebrated with 60 or so former Red Devils, who gathered together a few weeks ago to talk about football throughout the years.

This Friday some 30 players and four coaches plus families and others with connections to the 1986 HHS team will reunite to celebrate the school's first state title.

According to his wife Janie, Kerr, 76, has early dementia. But he was sharp as a tack last week when he recalled Halls' first-round win in the Class AAA playoffs that season.

"I remember it was a special season, but the thing I remember more than anything is the team chemistry," said Larry. "The team was locked in together. They worked all summer, all winter. That team probably included the best

weight-lifting group I ever had.

"I had good assistant coaches. I knew we were going to be good. I didn't know that we were going to win the state championship, but I knew that this probably would be one of the best teams Halls had ever had. And they played hard. They worked hard and played hard."

The Red Devils got a first-round scare

Halls had to come from behind against an upset-minded Heritage team in the first round playoff game. The Mountaineers were ahead 7-6 and driving for more before Halls rallied late to win 9-7.

"We could have very easily lost that first game," said Coach Kerr. "We were lucky to win the game."

Heritage had the ball on Halls' 6-yard line with two minutes left and the Red Devils stopped the Mountaineers' march on a fourth-and-one

quarterback sneak.

Two passes to Billy Marsh and a scramble by quarterback Chip Ward plus a penalty for a late hit set up Jason Julian's winning 29-yard field goal with 18 seconds remaining.

"We had probably the best kicker in the state in Julian," said Kerr. "Not only that, he could run, play defensive back and punt. It's like one sports reporter said, "You should let him drive the bus.

"The season could have been over. But I believe after that, there was a wake-up call. And from then on, we were a different football team on both sides of the ball. I think the kids grew up and they started believing.

"We were lucky to get out of there ... Heritage came and played our butt off and we were lucky to win."

Weight-lifting a key to Halls' success

Coach Kerr always believed weight-lifting led

to having strong football teams.

"No doubt about it," said Larry. "We talk about the Randy Halls, the Kevin Catletts. All in all, that weightroom I think got the kids their closeness and their discipline. I don't know if we would have won a lot of games if we had to line up and run 40-yard dashes ... But I think that weight-lifting builds unity.

"You gotta sell it. I used to tell the kids, if you give me a month and you don't see any improvement you don't have to come back. I think the secret is to let them see - arms getting bigger, chest is getting bigger,

they're getting stronger on the bench. And if you get that going, it carries over on the football field. No doubt about it."

Kerr didn't just tell them about weight-lifting; he showed it to them through his own body.

"When I came out of high school, I was about 155 to 160 pounds. When I was at Lees-McRae College and came back to Carson-Newman, I lived in the weight room.

"They used to kid me about being in the weight room, but it made me and it gives you confidence.

"These big schools today that are doing good, they've

got a good weight program growing."

HALLS will recognize players and coaches on the 1986 team Friday, starting at 5:30 in the cafeteria. The team will be introduced on the field at 6:45.

The Red Devils will play Oak Ridge in Week 1 at 7 p.m. By the way, the 1986 Halls team, which was 15-0, defeated Oak Ridge 7-6 for the first time that season.

Coach Kerr, who will be in attendance, led the Red Devils to a 17-15 win over Germantown in the 1986 Class AAA state finals.

"I knew we were going to be good. I didn't know that we were going to win the state championship, but I knew that this probably would be one of the best teams Halls had ever had. And they played hard. They worked hard and played hard."
- Coach Larry Kerr

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A very special November day at Notre Dame in 1991

One of the greatest comebacks in college football history earned Tennessee a victory at Notre Dame Stadium in South Bend, Ind., on Nov. 2, 1991, 35 years ago. The players from that game are now in their mid-to-late 50s. The passage of time can't dim the memories engendered that afternoon.



By Tom Mattingly

Here's how the Vols lined up. On offense, it was Mark Adams at tight end, Bernard Dafney, Tom Myslinski, John Fisher, Mike Stowell, and Patrick Lenoir up front. Carl Pickens and Craig Faulkner were the wide-outs. Mario Brunson was the fullback, James (Little Man) Stewart the running back, and Andy Kelly under center.

Defensively, it was Chris Mims and Chuck Smith at the ends, Shazzon Bradley and J. J. Surlas at the tackles, Darryl Hardy, Shon Walker, and Earnest Fields at linebacker, and Jeremy Lincoln, Floyd Miley, David Bennett, and Dale Carter in the secondary. John Becksvoort was the place-kicker, and Tom Hutton the punter.

The triumph seemed inconceivable late in the first half with the Fighting Irish leading 31-7 and poised to add to the margin with a chip shot field goal attempt. The Irish had kicked the Vols all over the field in the first 30 minutes, and prospects for the second half didn't



Jeremy Lincoln blocked a last-second Notre Dame field goal attempt to give the Vols a come-from-behind 35-34 win in the 1991 game.

look very good at all. At this point, Gen. Neyland's Maxim No. 6 came into play: "Press the kicking game. Here is where the breaks are made." Historically, the Vols have made a living off dominating the kicking game on both sides of the ball. That would prove to be the case on this day. Hardy blocked the kick. Miley emerged from the pile and found his way down the field, 85 yards for a touchdown with 14 seconds left in the half. That cut the margin to 31-14 and gave the Vols hope that the second half might be better. Things did get better for the Vols. Tight end Von Reeves caught a TD pass from Kelly. Hayden scored on a short run. Carter had

an interception, giving the Vols the ball at the Irish 45. The clock showed 5:09 left. From the Irish 26, Kelly's screen pass to Hayden covered the requisite distance ("the perfect call," said John Ward) and resulted in another Vol touchdown late in the fourth quarter. To nearly everybody's surprise, the Vols had taken the lead, but had to fight off a furious Notre Dame rally to secure the victory. As the clock wound down, Notre Dame moved smartly down the field. Tennessee was in desperate need of a big play. Notre Dame ended up needing a field goal from 26 yards to pull out the triumph they had let slip away earlier. The stage was set for

rookie placekicker Rob Leonard, a sophomore who had never even attempted a field goal in college, to etch his name into Irish immortality. Regular place-kicker Craig Hentrich had been injured earlier in the contest. Regardless, this was the type of game Notre Dame always seemed to win, especially in South Bend. Jeremy Lincoln blocked the kick, coming from the left side of the Irish offense. The kick hit Lincoln's backside and skittered wide right. Joy reigned supreme for Vol fans across the historic stadium, those watching on NBC television, or within the sound of Ward's voice on the Vol Network. Ward took note of Vol fans celebrating at the

legendary venue. His concluding remarks likely caught the attention of those fans who might have left at halftime and were listening to the game on some Mutual Network station as they motored down I-65 toward Louisville. They might have been bickering about whose idea it was to leave early, but were still happy with the final score. "Tennessee beats Notre Dame 35-34," said Ward. "The Volunteers go home victorious. Notre Dame goes with the sophomore replacement kicker. It is no good, off to the right. The coaching staff to our left is jubilant, as are Tennessee fans. You could not write this script." That comment came moments after Ward had declared the kick good

and sent shock waves all across Big Orange Country. He recovered quickly, and his post-game remarks were vintage. Head coach John Majors was asked later if this were the biggest win in Tennessee football history. "I certainly wouldn't disagree with that assessment," said Majors. "There's never been a bigger one in my opinion. The Sugar Bowl win over Miami was awfully big, but for the time and place, there's never been a bigger one than the one at South Bend. There was great exposure and media coverage. I understand that 20 million people in Europe saw it." Carter and Pickens were All-American selections. Hayden and fellow freshman running back Stewart gave promise of big things to come in their Vol careers. Nine Vols were named All-SEC, Mark Adams, Carter, Fields, Hardy, Lincoln, Mims, Myslinski, Pickens, and Smith. Stewart, Hayden, and Becksvoort were named to the SEC All-Freshman squad. The 1991 final record was 9-3, 5-2 in the SEC. The Vols won at Louisville (28-11), against UCLA (30-16), defeated Auburn (30-27), lost at Florida (35-18) and at Alabama (24-19), defeated Memphis State on Homecoming (52-24), and won their final three games, against Ole Miss (36-24), at Kentucky (16-7), and Vanderbilt (45-0). The season concluded with a 42-17 loss to Penn State in the Fiesta Bowl.

PREVIEW STORIES FOR 2026 HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

Central won't 'sneak up on anybody' in 2026

By Ken Lay

As Kevin Lane prepares for his fourth season as Central High School's head football coach, he knows one thing is certain. "We're not going to sneak up on anybody this year," Lane said. "Last year I think we surprised a few people. But this year, we're not going to sneak up on anybody." The Bobcats went 10-3 last season and made it to the TSSAA Class 5A quarterfinals and notched a pair of regular-season victories, snapping losing streaks against rivals Halls and West. "We beat West for the first time in four years, and we beat Halls, and we have the Battle of Black Oak Ridge Trophy." The Bobcats may have won the Region 2-5A regular-season contest against the Red Devils, but Halls got revenge by eliminating Central from postseason contention. Region 2-5A is an eight-team league, meaning that four teams will be playing in November and the other four will head home after the regular season.

The region was expanded after Oak Ridge moved up to Class 6A and Heritage was reclassified to Class 4A. The league has been dominant in recent years, beginning when the Bobcats won it all in the 2018-19 season. Powell claimed the state title in 2021 after Summit won in 2020. The Rebels won in 2022-23. Sevier County (Region 1-5A) went 15-0 in 2024 before losing the championship game to Page last year. "This is a tough league, and you don't have any margin for error," Lane said. "Since 2018, our league has won five state championships. And Sevier County won in 2024, so you have six champions from East Tennessee since 2018." Central opens the new season on Friday with a tough road game in Kingsport against Class 6A heavyweight Dobyys-Bennett. "My expectation is to win our first game at Dobyys-Bennett, and we want the region championship, and we want to win the state championship," Lane said.

BOBCATS 2026				
Fri	Aug. 21	7:00 p.m.	at Dobyys-Bennett	
Fri	Aug. 28	7:00 p.m.	Fulton	
Thu	Sep. 3	7:00 p.m.	at West (R) <i>Rivalry Thursday</i>	
Fri	Sep. 11	7:00 p.m.	Campbell County (R)	
Fri	Sep. 18	7:00 p.m.	at Clinton (R)	
Thu	Sep. 24	7:00 p.m.	Powell (R) <i>Rivalry Thursday</i>	
Fri	Oct. 2	7:00 p.m.	McMinn County	
Fri	Oct. 16	7:00 p.m.	Knoxville Halls (R)	
Fri	Oct. 23	7:00 p.m.	at William Blount (R)	
Thu	Oct. 29	7:00 p.m.	at Karns (R)	
(R)=Region game				

"We want to keep giving our kids the opportunity to get a free (college) education through football." Team strengths for Central are experience at the skill positions and on both the offensive and defensive lines. "We have good skill players all the time," Lane said. "But this year, we have strength on the offensive and defensive line." Central has experience, but the Bobcats are young. "Our biggest area of concern is our overall youth. We have a really young football team" Top returners include: Kaden Long (senior, quarterback); Tnaj Taylor (senior, wide receiver/ defensive

back/linebacker); JJ Sackie (senior, wide receiver/ defensive back); Dontay Kibaiyu (senior/defensive lineman); Britton Schrader (junior, offensive lineman); Jasstin Chandler (senior, linebacker); Jer'Brion Harris (senior, offensive lineman); Gecari Cox (senior, defensive lineman); Lanier Badgett (senior, running back/defensive back) and Owen McGaha (junior, kicker). Key newcomers are: Rondell North (junior, wide receiver/defensive back); Damaine Pettiford (junior, tight end/linebacker); Jermon Bishop (senior, tight end/defensive lineman and Brayden Starnes (senior, wide receiver/linebacker).

Concord Christian opening season hosting Rivalry Saturday

Cont. from page 1

get better, but those are two veterans for us that have played football at our level and at Concord," said Matthews. "We're excited about them. But, at the same time, we lost two seniors from last year's squad on the offensive line and are trying to find their replacements." At quarterback, it looks like two players are battling for the starting job. Sophomore Kohbe Ward, an all-state player a year ago, and freshman Dylan Brown, who transferred from Mater Dei HS in California. Ward completed 108 of his 180 pass attempts in 2025, with 19 TDs and 4 INTs. He also rushed 86 times for 553 yards and 5 scores. Ward could also play some at wide receiver. Concord Christian opens the 2026 season on Saturday, August 22, at home against CAK.

PREVIEW STORIES FOR 2026 HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

Meske says Quarles ‘a great fit’ for Webb

By Steve Williams

There’s nothing for certain, but former longtime Webb football coach Dave Meske couldn’t be more pleased to see George Quarles as the Spartans’ new head coach.

“He’s a great fit for Webb School,” said Meske last week. “First of all, he’s one of the most successful high school football coaches in the country. He also does things right. He’s got a lot of integrity, and again he’s a great fit for Webb School. He’s a class act guy.”

Quarles’ won-loss record at Maryville High was unbelievable, as his teams posted a 250-16 record from 1999 to 2016, including 11 state championships.

“At one point in time, for maybe a day or so, Maryville High School had the longest winning streak in football in the country,” pointed out Meske.

Meske’s Spartans went up against the Red Rebels two times in his 38-year career at Webb and lost both times, but playing them made his teams better, he said.

“I couldn’t be more excited than to have Coach Quarles as the head football coach at Webb School,” Meske said.

After last season’s surprising 1-9 finish, Quarles’ arrival as the Spartans’ new head coach was a pleasant surprise. Don Mahoney stepped down after three seasons at Webb, but stayed to be the offensive line coach, a position he has coached on the college level, including the University of Tennessee. After being at Maryville High, Quarles coached on the college level – first as an assistant at Furman, then as the head coach



PHOTO BY STEVE WILLIAMS

New Webb School Head Coach George Quarles claps his approval during a warm-up session before the Spartans scrimmaged Concord Christian School August 10.

at ETSU and lastly as an assistant at Austin Peay.

At this year’s KFOA Media Day, Webb seniors Will Overton and Brailen Robinson expressed their thoughts about what happened last season.

“That season is not what we wanted, not at all,” said Overton, a 6-2, 220-pound OL/DL. Instead, he wants to see the team “build a great relationship and go out there and really put in our all, because for us it’s our last year.”

Robinson, a 5-11, 190-pound senior RB/DB,

added: “I think our biggest thing last year was we couldn’t stay healthy ... Injuries really plagued us early on.”

Other players who are expected to be leaders this year for the Spartans are Tommy Moore (freshman RB/LB), Grelyn Gordon (sophomore RB/LB), Jake Rogers (6-3, 310-pound junior OL/DL), Matthew Rogers (5-10, 190-pound junior RB/DB), Amar’e Cruse (6-2, 260-pound senior OL/DL), Gibby Tomberlin (sophomore RB/WR/DB), Ty Tomberlin

(senior RB/LB) and Garrett King (6-2, 200-pound junior QB).

Prior to a scrimmage against Concord Christian School last week, Coach Quarles said: “We’re still like we thought, really thin. Depth is going to be an issue. I like the guys that we have. They are working extremely hard. You worry about what’s going to happen when injuries happen, so that’s my concern. But other than that, I’m pretty pleased where we are. I’m excited to be here.”

SPARTANS 2026			
Fri	Aug. 21	7:00 p.m.	at Upperman
Fri	Aug. 28	7:00 p.m.	at Asheville School, NC
Fri	Sep. 4	7:00 p.m.	Silverdale Acad (R)
Fri	Sep. 11	7:00 p.m.	Lakeway Christian (R)
Fri	Sep. 18	7:00 p.m.	Grace Christian (R) Rivalry Friday
Fri	Sep. 25	7:00 p.m.	at CAK (R)
Fri	Oct. 2	7:00 p.m.	Notre Dame (R)
Fri	Oct. 16	7:00 p.m.	Stewarts Creek
Fri	Oct. 23	7:00 p.m.	at Chatt Christian (R)
Fri	Oct. 30	7:00 p.m.	at Boyd Buchanan (R)
(R)=Region game			

Webb will play its first two games on the road, including a tough opener against Upperman, followed by a

game at Asheville School (NC). The Spartans’ home opener will be against Silverdale Academy.

Karns fielding young team this season

Cont. from page 1

Defensively, the Beavers do not try to do anything fancy. “We’re pretty basic, 3-4, Cover 2, Cover 3, Cover 4,” Warren said. “We’re going to rush four or five a lot. We’re going to just be really sound in what we do.”

Regarding the schedule, Warren pointed to some of the challenges. “We’re in a really tough region,” he said. “An 8-team region with a lot of good football teams. Our region is us, Powell, West, Halls, William Blount, Clinton, Campbell County. We’re in a really tough region but it’s fun that we go out and be able to compete with some other Knox County teams. Knox County, you got 13 high schools right on top of each other so you gotta go be competitive for the

teams in your county to have long-term success,” Warren said.

Warren is emphasizing growth to his team in pre-season camp and team mindset. He likes the challenge. “I’m really excited about the group of competitors we have,” Warren said. “The number one thing I wanted to change was the history of Karns football. There’s a lot of complacency with that of people don’t expect you to go win 7, 8 football games or make playoff runs. We have now been able to change that mindset of our kids to not be o.k. with being mediocre and to not be afraid of anybody and I think that’s a really big step for us to go out and be competitive.” Karns opens the season at home Friday against Hardin Valley at 7 p.m.

BEAVERS 2026			
Fri	Aug. 21	7:00 p.m.	Hardin Valley
Fri	Aug. 28	7:00 p.m.	at South Doyle
Fri	Sep. 4	7:00 p.m.	at Campbell Co. (R)
Thu	Sep. 10	7:00 p.m.	Clinton (R) Rivalry Thursday
Fri	Sep. 18	7:00 p.m.	at Powell (R)
Fri	Sep. 25	7:00 p.m.	William Blount (R)
Fri	Oct. 2	7:00 p.m.	at Halls (R)
Thu	Oct. 8	7:00 p.m.	at Morristown E.
Fri	Oct. 23	7:00 p.m.	West (R)
Thu	Oct. 29	7:00 p.m.	Knox Central (R)
(R)=Region game			

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF SUE MORTON DOCKET NUMBER 92734-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 22 day of July, 2026, letters administration in respect of the Estate of SUE MORTON, who died on June 6, 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 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 22 day of JULY, 2026.

ESTATE OF SUE MORTON

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
JENNIFER KAY ORLANDI
612 ATLANTIC AVE.
KNOXVILLE, TN 37917

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF DOROTHY EVELYN O'TOOLE DOCKET NUMBER 92789-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 31 day of July, 2026, Letters Testamentary in respect of the Estate of DOROTHY EVELYN O'TOOLE, who died June 13, 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 31 day of JULY, 2026.

ESTATE OF DOROTHY EVELYN O'TOOLE

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
KIMBERLY EVELYN REASONER
11526 KITTREDGE STREET
COMMERCE CITY, CO 80022

MARK E. TILLERY, ATTORNEY
P. O. BOX 12257
KNOXVILLE, TN 37912

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF ELIZABETH TERRY SMITH DOCKET NUMBER 92775-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 22 day of July, 2026, letters administration in respect of the Estate of ELIZABETH TERRY SMITH, who died May 27, 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 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 22 day of July, 2026.

ESTATE OF ELIZABETH TERRY SMITH

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
JORDAN P. SMITH, ADMINISTRATOR
123 AZALEA CIRCLE
HARRIMAN, TN 37748

MELINDA BUCK BROWN, ATTORNEY
162 TALMEADA ROAD
OAK RIDGE, TN 37830

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF REBECCA FOX STOOTTS DOCKET NUMBER 92837-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 22 day of July, 2026, Letters Testamentary in respect to the Estate of REBECCA FOX STOOTTS, who died May 17, 2026, 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 22 day of JULY, 2026.

ESTATE OF REBECCA FOX STOOTTS

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
SUZANNA F. VICARS

900 S. GAY ST., STE. 2400
KNOXVILLE, TN 37902

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

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF CLAY EDWARD STREVEL DOCKET NUMBER 92774-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 31 day of July, 2026, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of CLAY EDWARD STREVEL, who died June 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 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 31 day of JULY, 2026.

ESTATE OF CLAY EDWARD STREVEL

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
JOHN PORTER STREVEL, EXECUTOR
2305 HIGHLAND DRIVE
KNOXVILLE, TN 37918

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF GEORGIA ANN VALENTINE DOCKET NUMBER 92832-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 22 day of July, 2026, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of GEORGIA ANN VALENTINE, who died on June 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 22 day of JULY, 2026.

ESTATE OF GEORGIA ANN VALENTINE

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
GARY LYNN VALENTINE
1730 HALEY GLENN LANE
KNOXVILLE, TN 37920

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

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF ELVA LOUISE [HAGA] VAUGHAN DOCKET NUMBER 92847-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 3 day of August, 2026, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of ELVA LOUISE [HAGA] VAUGHAN, who died July 2, 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 first publication; or
(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death.
This the 3 day of AUGUST, 2026.

ESTATE OF ELVA LOUISE [HAGA] VAUGHAN

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
MARK SHAWN VAUGHAN, EXECUTOR
11707 JEFFREY LANE
KNOXVILLE, TN 37934

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF MARK E. ANDERSON DOCKET NUMBER 92877-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 7th day of August, 2026, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of MARK E. ANDERSON, who died June 27, 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 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.

date of death.
This the 7th day of AUGUST, 2026.

ESTATE OF MARK E. ANDERSON

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

JOEL D. ROETTGER, ATTORNEY
P. O. BOX 1990
KNOXVILLE, TN 37901

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF CYNTHIA LOU BARBOUR DOCKET NUMBER 92909-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 6th day of August, 2026, letters of testamentary in respect of the Estate of CYNTHIA LOU BARBOUR, who died July 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 AUGUST, 2026.

ESTATE OF CYNTHIA LOU BARBOUR

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
MARTHA BARBOUR COX
200 WINGED FOOT POINT
KNOXVILLE, TN 37934

J. WHITSON SMITH, ATTORNEY
10805 KINGSTON PIKE, SUITE 200
KNOXVILLE, TN 37934

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF CHARLES DALPHINE BOYD DOCKET NUMBER 92513-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 10th day of August, 2026, letters of administration in respect of the Estate of CHARLES DALPHINE BOYD, who died on December 30, 2025, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court for 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 of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication; or
(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death.
This the 10th day of AUGUST, 2026.

ESTATE OF CHARLES DALPHINE BOYD

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
CATHERINE JEANNINE BOYD
7016 HARRELL ROAD
KNOXVILLE, TN 37931

L. ERIC EBBERT, ATTORNEY
BRENT BAXLEY, ATTORNEY
9145 CROSS PARK DRIVE, STE. 103
KNOXVILLE, TN 37923

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF ROBERT J. DAVERMAN DOCKET NUMBER 92824-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 10 day of August, 2026, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of ROBERT J. DAVERMAN, who died February 9, 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 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 10 day of AUGUST, 2026.

ESTATE OF ROBERT J. DAVERMAN

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
KURT R DAVERMAN, EXECUTOR
1521 CASTILLEJA AVENUE
PALO ALTO, CA 94306

BAILY SCHIERMEYER, ATTORNEY
P. O. BOX 3804
KNOXVILLE, TN 37927

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF SARAH J. EDWARDS DOCKET NUMBER 92609-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 11th day of August, 2026, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of SARAH J. EDWARDS, who died October 15, 2025, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court for 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 of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to

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

(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death.
This the 11th day of AUGUST, 2026.

ESTATE OF SARAH J. EDWARDS

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
TONI EDWARDS
465 W. BLOUNT AVE., APT. 2522
KNOXVILLE, TN 37920

L. ERIC EBBERT, ATTORNEY
BRENT BAXLEY, ATTORNEY
9145 CROSS PARK DRIVE, STE. 103
KNOXVILLE, TN 37923

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF KATHY DAMEWOOD GRAHAM DOCKET NUMBER 92865-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 3rd day of August, 2026, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of KATHY DAMEWOOD GRAHAM, who died July 9, 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 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 AUGUST, 2026.

ESTATE OF KATHY DAMEWOOD GRAHAM

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
STEPHANIE SUSANNE THOMAS
3161 CHAMPIONS TRAIL LANE
KNOXVILLE, TN 37931

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF JEFRI WEIR HILLON DOCKET NUMBER 92892-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 10 day of August, 2026, Letters of Administration in respect of the Estate of JEFRI WEIR HILLON, who died May 23, 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 10 day of AUGUST, 2026.

ESTATE OF JEFRI WEIR HILLON

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
JAMIE D. PETERSEN, ADMINISTRATRIX
1900 DEERFIELD AVENUE
SURFSIDE BEACH, SC 29575

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

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF DOYLE O. HOLBERT DOCKET NUMBER 92878-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 3rd day of August, 2026, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of DOYLE O. HOLBERT, who died on July 7, 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 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 AUGUST, 2026.

ESTATE OF DOYLE O. HOLBERT

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
KEVIN CARTER HOLBERT
379 STRADER RD.
POWELL, TN 37849

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF CHARLES WESLEY HUMPHREY DOCKET NUMBER 92894-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 6th day of August, 2026, letters of testamentary (or letters of administration as the case may be) in respect of the Estate of CHARLES WESLEY HUMPHREY, who died June 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.
This the 6th day of AUGUST, 2026.

ESTATE OF CHARLES WESLEY HUMPHREY

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
JAMES HUMPHREY
624 CEDAR LANE, APT. 9
KNOXVILLE, TN 37912

T. SCOTT JONES, ATTORNEY
CHRIS W. BEAVERS, ATTORNEY
KIMBERLY A. TROTTER, ATTORNEY
2125 MIDDLEBROOK PIKE
KNOXVILLE, TN 37921

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF NANNE JOHNSON-MORGAN DOCKET NUMBER 92693-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 10th day of August, 2026, letters testamentary (or letters of administration as the case may be) in respect of the Estate of NANNE JOHNSON-MORGAN, who died October 16, 2025, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication; or
(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death.
This the 10th day of AUGUST, 2026.

ESTATE OF NANNE JOHNSON-MORGAN

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
TAMELA KATHRYN WELLS
104 KEASLER ROAD
ASHEVILLE, NC 28805

WILLIAM MORGAN, JR.
5009 PITTMAN CENTER ROAD
SEVIERVILLE, TN 37876

M. SAMANTHA PARRIS, ATTORNEY
2908 TAZEWELL PIKE, SUITE G
KNOXVILLE, TN 37918

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF WALTER ANTHONY KOBUS DOCKET NUMBER 92665-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 28th day of July, 2026, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of WALTER ANTHONY KOBUS, who died September 9, 2025, were issued to the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication; or
(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death.
This the 28th day of JULY, 2026.

ESTATE OF WALTER ANTHONY KOBUS

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
THOMAS MICHAEL HOWARD
1027 SHADOW BROOK DRIVE
KNOXVILLE, TN 37922

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF ANNA R. LANGFORD DOCKET NUMBER 92875-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 3rd day of August, 2026, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of ANNA R. LANGFORD, who died on June 2, 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

Blount Partnership, Muse Knoxville collaborate to introduce young students to aviation careers

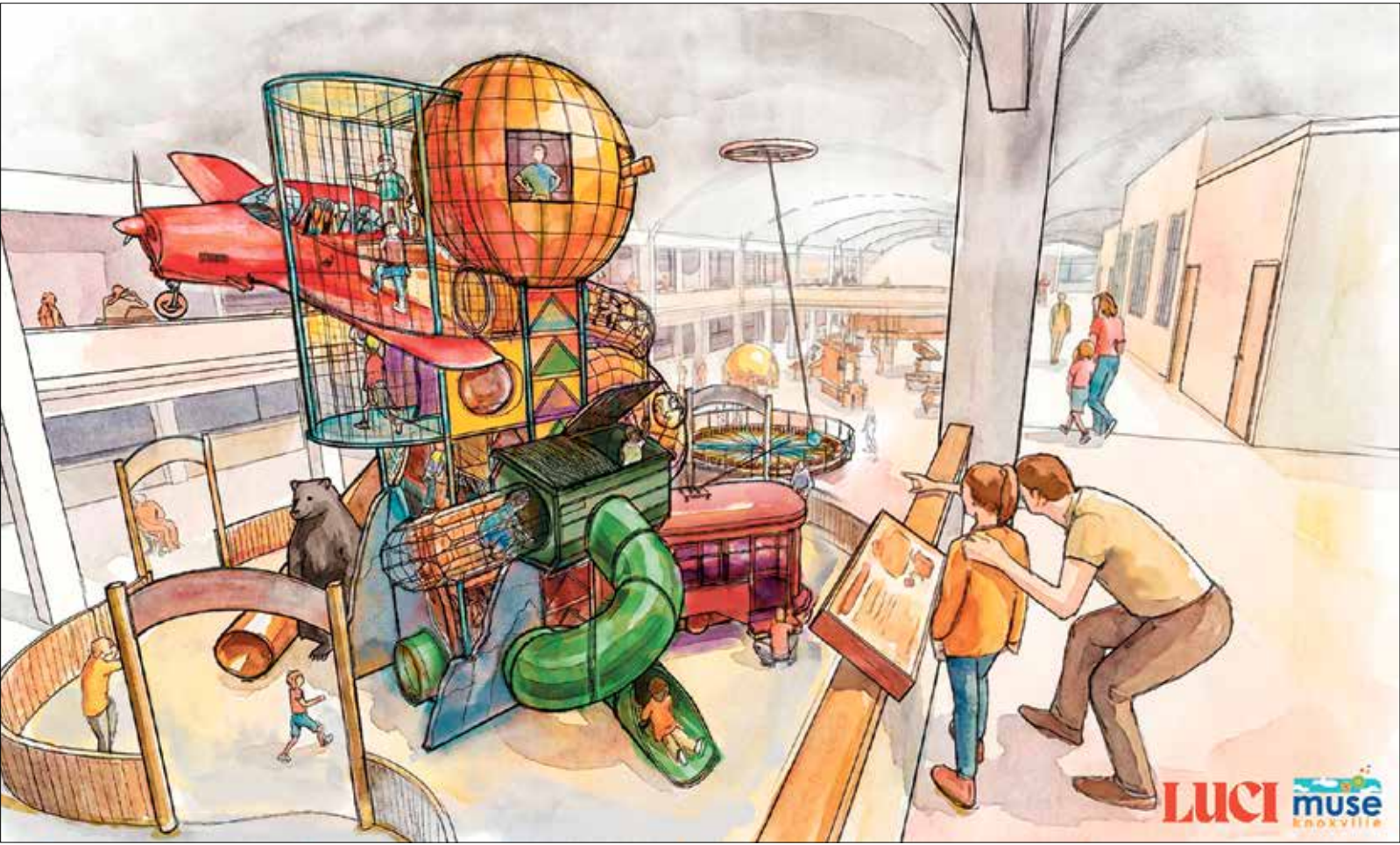
New Sky & Beyond experience will connect hands-on STEAM learning with growing aviation opportunities in East Tennessee

A new interactive aviation experience planned for Muse Knoxville's expanded science and discovery center will introduce children and youth to the science of flight and the growing career opportunities available in East Tennessee's aviation industry, building on regional workforce development efforts led by the Blount Partnership.

The aviation experience will be part of Muse Knoxville's planned Sky & Beyond exhibit zone at its future home in the Jacob Building in East Knoxville. The larger expansion will transform the building into

a multigenerational science center with expanded opportunities for hands-on science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics (STEAM) learning.

As Muse develops the new science center, the organization has engaged students, educators and industry partners to help shape its exhibits and programming. That process has included participation in the Blount Partnership's Aviation Workforce Committee, where Muse has heard directly from employers and educators about the skills, technology



Muse Knoxville is developing an aviation-focused experience as part of its planned Sky & Beyond exhibit at the Jacob Building in East Knoxville. The goal is to let children explore the science of flight while introducing them to the aviation careers available right here in our region.

and career pathways shaping the industry. That input is helping inform the aviation component of the Sky & Beyond experience.

“Workforce development starts long before someone applies for their first job,” said Jessica Belitz, director of workforce development for the Blount Partnership. “It starts when a child has an experience that sparks curiosity or helps them imagine a future they had never considered. Our collaboration with Muse gives us an opportunity to build that awareness early and

connect it to real career pathways in our region.”

The collaboration is part of a broader effort to introduce Blount County students to aviation careers. In 2025, Pellissippi State Community College launched its FAA-certified Aviation Technology program at its Blount County campus in collaboration with the Blount Partnership and regional aviation partners. The program prepares Airframe and Powerplant maintenance technicians, with its first class graduating this year.

The Partnership is also using a TVA Workforce Invest grant to purchase two We Build It Better programs, which expose area middle school students to industry tools, technology and technical skills through hands-on STEAM and aviation-related activities.

“Children learn best when they can see, touch and explore the world around them, and aviation gives us an incredible way to bring so many STEAM concepts to life,” said Katie Mixon, Muse Vice President of Advancement. “Working

with the Blount Partnership and its Aviation Workforce Committee has allowed us to learn directly from people working in and preparing students for this industry. We want children to leave Muse excited about how flight works and beginning to imagine where that curiosity could take them.”

“We want young people growing up in our community to know these opportunities exist,” Belitz said. “A student might first become interested in aviation through a Muse experience, explore those skills

further in middle school and eventually discover there is a training program available right here in Blount County.”

Muse Knoxville's expansion will transform the city-owned Jacob Building in East Knoxville into a multigenerational science center. More than \$28 million has been committed to the project, including a \$25 million investment from the Clayton Family Foundation. The expansion, which includes the conceptual Sky & Beyond exhibit zone, is expected to be completed in September 2028.

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF CAROL EVELYN OGLE DOCKET NUMBER 92717-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 3rd day of August, 2026, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of CAROL EVELYN OGLE, who died June 12, 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 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 AUGUST, 2026.

ESTATE OF CAROL EVELYN OGLE

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
MIRANDA BETH BARNARD
8019 GATE STONE LN.
POWELL, TN 37849

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF DEBORAH LYNN PAINTER DOCKET NUMBER 92718-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 3rd day of August, 2026, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of DEBORAH LYNN PAINTER, who died May 9, 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 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 AUGUST, 2026.

ESTATE OF DEBORAH LYNN PAINTER

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
DIANE PAINTER COREY
7914 GLEASON DRIVE, # 1032
KNOXVILLE, TN 37919

MARY ANN CHAFIN
1397 LAKESIDE DRIVE
LENOIR CITY, TN 37772

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF ALLA KATHLEEN RASSEGA DOCKET NUMBER 92912-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 10 day of August, 2026, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of ALLA KATHLEEN RASSEGA, who died March 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 his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

ESTATE OF ALLA KATHLEEN RASSEGA

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
BRADLEY EMERSON RASSEGA, EXECUTOR
169 BRIARWOOD TER.
PHOENIX, AZ 85045

JULIE D. EISENHOWER, ATTORNEY
217 S. PETERS ROAD
KNOXVILLE, TN 37923

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF KATHERINE AUXIER RAZOR DOCKET NUMBER 92849-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 29th day of July, 2026, letters of administration in respect of the Estate of KATHERINE AUXIER RAZOR, who died October 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 29th day of JULY, 2026.

ESTATE OF KATHERINE AUXIER RAZOR

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
JOHN EDWARD RAZOR
12720 PROVIDENCE GLEN LANE
KNOXVILLE, TN 37934

COURTNEY D. SCOLLARD, ATTORNEY
10004 MEADOW VISTA CIRCLE
KNOXVILLE, TN 37922

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF MARY LOUISE RICHARDS DOCKET NUMBER 92903-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 10 day of August, 2026, Letters of Administration in respect of the Estate of MARY LOUISE RICHARDS, who died June 11, 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 10 day of AUGUST, 2026.

ESTATE OF MARY LOUISE RICHARDS

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
KIM RICHARDS PENNISI
12521 PONY EXPRESS DRIVE
KNOXVILLE, TN 37934

MARK E. TILLERY, ATTORNEY
P. O. BOX 12257
KNOXVILLE, TN 37912

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF HAROLD B. TEIGE DOCKET NUMBER 92910-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 10 day of

August, 2026, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of HAROLD B. TEIGE, who died July 2, 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 10 day of AUGUST, 2026.

ESTATE OF HAROLD B. TEIGE

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
ROBERT RYAN
10779 E. RISING SUN DRIVE
SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85262

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

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF RONALD ALLEN WHITING, SR. DOCKET NUMBER 92856-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 11th day of August, 2026, letters of administration in respect of the Estate of RONALD ALLEN WHITING, SR., who died on November 14, 2025, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

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

This the 11th day of AUGUST, 2026.

ESTATE OF RONALD ALLEN WHITING, SR.

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
RONALD ALLEN WHITING, JR.

11120 SW 13th STREET
PEMBROKE PINES, FL 33025

CARIN C. BRIO, ATTORNEY
3217 GARDEN DRIVE, SUITE 1
KNOXVILLE, TN 37918

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF LYNDA DORENE WRIGHT DOCKET NUMBER 92840-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 31 day of July, 2026, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of LYNDA DORENE WRIGHT, who died April 18, 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 31 day of JULY, 2026.

ESTATE OF LYNDA DORENE WRIGHT

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
DANA LYN WHITE
8316 THOMPSON SCHOOL ROAD
Corryton, TN 37721

ALLEN W. BLEVINS, ATTORNEY
1536 WINDWARD POINTE
LENOIR CITY, TN 37772

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF CONNIE ANN WYNN DOCKET NUMBER 92708-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 4th day of August, 2026, Letters of Administration in respect of the Estate of CONNIE ANN WYNN, who died on January 5, 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 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 AUGUST, 2026.

ESTATE OF CONNIE ANN WYNN

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
JOYCE SHERLIN, ADMINISTRATOR
2908 ALICE BELL ROAD
KNOXVILLE, TN 37917

DARRICK L. EDMONDSON, ATTORNEY
P. O. BOX 789
MAYNARDVILLE, TN 37807

MISC. NOTICES

NOTICE OF LIEN SALE

The owners and/or lien holders of the following vehicles are hereby notified of their rights to pay all charges and reclaim said vehicles being held at the storage lot of A1 Express Tires & Wrecker Service. Failure to reclaim these vehicles will be deemed a waiver of all rights and titles along with consent to dispose of said vehicles at public auction held on SEPTEMBER 7, 2026 at 10:00 AM at 11941 Chapman Hwy., Seymour, TN 37865.

2020 DODGE DURANGO
VIN # 1C4SDJCT6L2C040829

NOTICE OF LIEN SALE

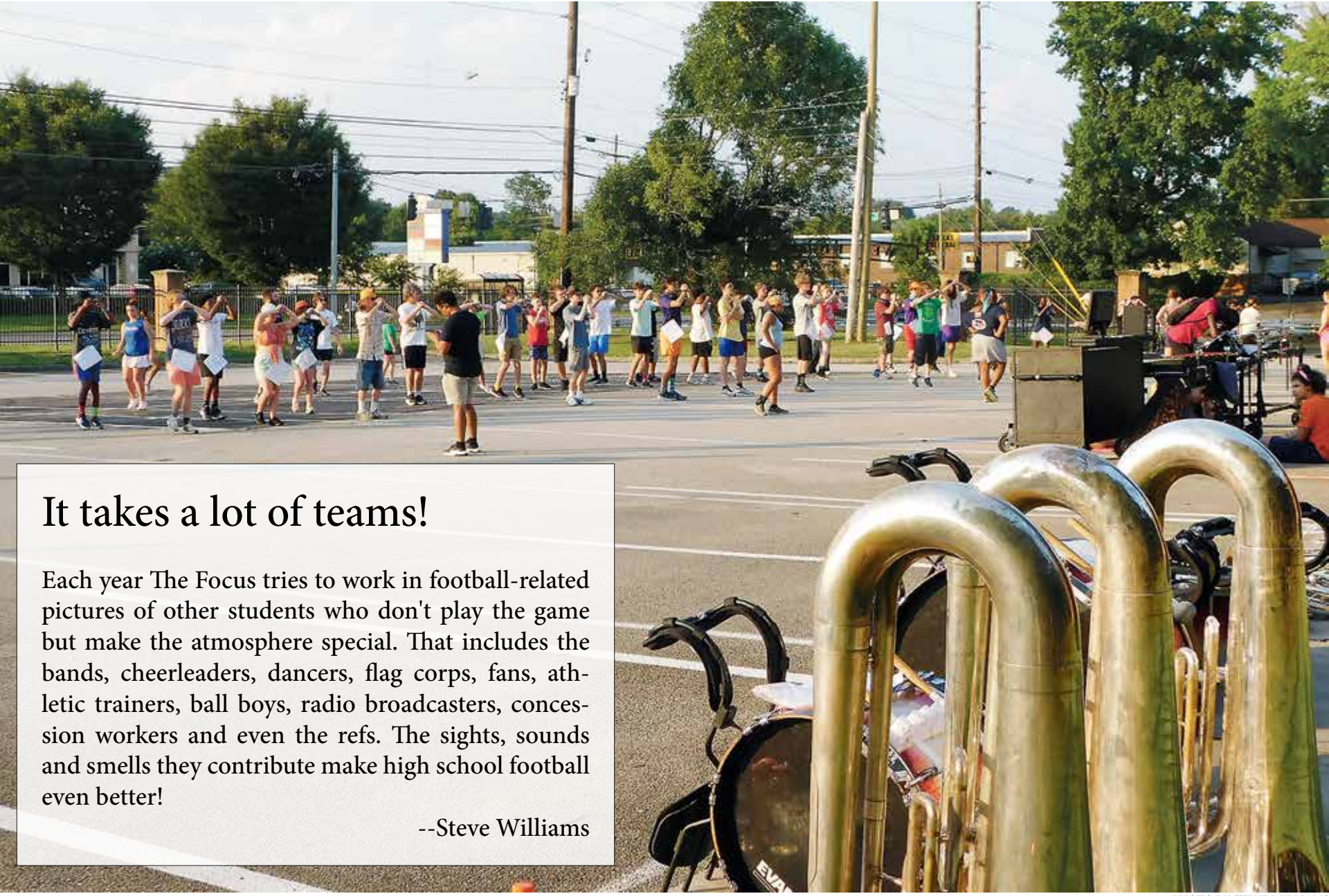
The owner(s) and/or lien holder(s) of the following vehicle(s) is hereby notified of their rights to pay all charges and reclaim said vehicles being held at KNOX AUTO REPAIR, 820 LOVELL RD., KNOXVILLE, TN 37912. Failure to reclaim these vehicle(s) will be deemed a waiver of all rights, title and consent to dispose of said vehicle at Public Auction after SEPTEMBER 1, 2026.

VEHICLE(S): 2017 Nissan Rogue
VIN # JN8AT2M7HW400789

NOTICE OF LIEN SALE

The owner(s) and/or lien holder(s) of the following vehicle(s) is hereby notified of their rights to pay all charges and reclaim said vehicles being held at RM Motor Werks, 6227 Enterprise Dr., Knoxville, TN 37909, 865-247-4068, sales@rmknox.com. Failure to reclaim the vehicle(s) will be deemed a waiver of all rights, title and consent to dispose of said vehicle at Public Auction 15 days after publication date.

VEHICLE(S): 1966 Chevrolet Nova SS 2
VIN # 66-11837N0R92569
This notice published in The Knoxville Focus
August 17, 2026.



It takes a lot of teams!

Each year The Focus tries to work in football-related pictures of other students who don't play the game but make the atmosphere special. That includes the bands, cheerleaders, dancers, flag corps, fans, athletic trainers, ball boys, radio broadcasters, concession workers and even the refs. The sights, sounds and smells they contribute make high school football even better!

--Steve Williams

PHOTO BY STEVE WILLIAMS

With instruments on the sideline, the West band works on its steps in late July.



PHOTO BY RUSSELL MAYES

Fulton student broadcasters Trace McCulley (left) and Jack McCulley (right) announce the KOC football jamboree Friday at Bearden High. The two junior twins are in the AV Production class at FHS. Their broadcast covered all four games and could be heard on WKCS-FM 91.1.



BY STEVE WILLIAMS

TSSAA officials out of the KFOA wait to referee a scrimmage August 10.

2026 Prep Football WEEK ONE

Games kick off at 7 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

Thursday, August 20
Powell at Anderson Co.

Friday, August 21
South-Doyle at Austin-East
West at Bearden
Central at Dobyns Bennett
Hardin Valley at Karns
Northview at Carter
Oak Ridge at Halls
Gatlinburg-Pitt at Seymour
Webb at Upperman High
TKA at Zion Christian
Union Co. at Gibbs (7:30 p.m.)

Saturday, August 22
CAK at Concord (11 a.m.)
Sevier Co. vs. Farragut
Riverdale at Catholic
Macon Co. at Fulton

KOC Jamboree Scores

Thursday
Austin-East 24, Karns 0
Central 7, Gibbs 0
Halls 21, Carter 0

Friday
Hardin Valley 7, Fulton 6
West 7, Farragut 0
Powell 7, Bearden 0
South-Doyle 7, Bearden 0



PHOTO BY STEVE WILLIAMS

Central cheerleaders had to come inside last week to practice due to lightning in the area.

"People often see the cheerleaders on Friday nights and game days, but what they don't always see is the year-round commitment behind those performances. Our cheerleaders begin preparing in April and spend the entire summer learning material and building their skills before cheering through football and basketball seasons," shared head coaches Kara Cardwell and Kira Lawson. "We are extremely proud of the effort these young women invest in our program and thankful for the enthusiasm, spirit, and leadership they bring to our school and community."