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Irvey's Ice Cream to celebrate grand opening in Fountain City



Irvey's Ice Cream is holding a grand opening for its Fountain City location at 3000 Tazewell Pike this weekend - perfect for Fall Break!

By Ken Lay

Irvey's Ice Cream is coming to North Knoxville.

The shop, located in Fountain City at 3000 Tazewell Pike, will have a three-day grand opening this weekend and will take place Oct. 9-11.

It will be a second location for Irvey's, which also has a spot at Kerns Food Hall in South Knoxville. The business also operates three food trucks and an ice cream van.

Irvey's owner Trent Sanders is looking forward to opening a location in Fountain City.

"Fountain City has been a destination since The Creamery burned down," Sanders said. "We're going to be in a great corridor with Louis' and Sweet P's and Pratt's."

Sanders has been active in the community for some time.

"We were at the Fountain

City Christmas Parade, and that was a lot of fun," he said. "And we've done things with Fellowship North and Shannondale Elementary School."

The grand opening celebration begins Friday with a bubble day. Later, the bubbles will give way to yard games such as corn hole.

"On Friday, we're going to enjoy some ice cream and blow some bubbles. It will be fun for the whole family," Sanders said. "Then, we'll have some lawn games for the adults."

The bubble day begins at 3 p.m. The lawn games will get underway at 6 p.m.

"People will need to bring their own lawn chairs and we'll have plenty of wet wipes," he said.

On Saturday, Oct. 10, the activities will include chalk art, and on Sunday, patrons will be treated to music, and there will be either balloon

Continued on page 4

Early voting starts next Wednesday



PHOTO BY JOHN MARSHALL

Former Knox County Mayor Glenn Jacobs (left) and Congressman Tim Burchett flank Senator Marsha Blackburn on the red carpet at Friday's Inaugural Red Elephant Gala hosted by the Knoxville Federated Republican Women at the Broadway Event Center. Blackburn was the guest of honor and is running for governor.

By Mike Steely
Senior Writer
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Knox County voters can begin casting ballots on Wednesday, October 14, for state and federal candidates. Early voting ends on October 29, and Election Day is Tuesday, November 3.

There are 15 candidates on the ballot for governor, starting with Republican Marsha Blackburn and Democrat Jerri Green.

State Constitutional Questions

There are three "yes" or "no" questions on the ballot dealing with proposed amendments to the Tennessee Constitution. The first item is a question about amending the state constitution to permit authorities to deny bail to a defendant accused of crimes including capital murder, acts of terrorism, murder, aggravated rape of a child, aggravated

rape, torture and any other offense for which "a defendant, if convicted, could not be released prior to the expiration of at least eighty-five percent of the entire sentence imposed."

The next question prohibits the legislature from imposing a state tax on real, personal or mixed property.

The third state amendment creates new constitutional rights for victims of crimes, including requirements for the victim to be given fair treatment, informed about participation in parole hearings, protected from harassment, and notified of offender's release, transfer or escape. It also calls for "full and timely restitution from the offender."

Federal Races

The third page of the three-page ballot lists the 10 candidates for the U.S. Senate, with incumbent Bill Hagerty, Republican, facing

Democrat Marquita Bradshaw and eight Independents.

Republican Rep. Tim Burchett is facing challengers Michaela Barnett, Democrat, and two Independent candidates.

Tennessee State Races

Nine state House and Senate races are on the ballot.

For state Senate seats, District 5 voters will choose between Republican Jimmy Matlock and Democrat David Miller, while District 7 voters will vote for either incumbent Republican Richard Briggs or Democrat Bryan Langan.

In Tennessee House District 14, incumbent Republican Jason Zachary faces Democrat Lindsay Young Honaker. In District 15, Democrat Sam McKenzie is the only candidate. Incumbent Democrat Gloria Johnson is also unopposed in District 90.

In District 16, incumbent Republican Michele Carringer is opposed by Democrat Eliza Boles. In District 18, incumbent Republican Elaine Davis is facing Democrat Bryan Goldberg. District 19 has incumbent Republican Dave Wright opposed by Democrat Jenny Fowler, and District 89's incumbent Republican Justin Lafferty faces Democrat Randy DeBord.

Knoxville Charter question

The final item on the ballot is a City of Knoxville referendum. City of Knoxville voters are being asked to amend its charter to provide that the candidate for city council who receives a majority in the primary is declared the winner without facing a runoff election. Not explained is the full definition of "majority," meaning 50 percent plus one vote.

Knox County kicks off Domestic Violence Awareness Month

By Ken Lay

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month, and Knoxville and Knox County kicked the month off a day early, on Sept. 30, at the Randall E. Nichols Family Justice Center.

The city and county hosted a press conference a day early for a purpose.

"October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month, and we're here a day early, and that has a significance," said Knox County Criminal Court Clerk Mike Hammond. "We're doing this on Sept. 30 because we've served more than 30,000 people."

"We're kicking this off today, and we'll have more events in the coming weeks."

The Randall E. Nichols Family Justice Center has served 30,000 people since it opened in 2006 to help victims of domestic violence.

"We wanted to raise awareness to let people know that this building is here and it's available," Hammond said.

Outside the auditorium where last week's press conference was held, a memorial shoe display remembered victims who lost their lives to domestic violence from 2020-25.

"We have a shoe display out front which showed that 30 people have been killed by domestic violence from 2020-25," Hammond said.

Knox County Mayor Betsy Henderson issued a proclamation declaring October Domestic Violence Awareness Month, and District Attorney General Charme Allen also addressed the issue.

"Domestic violence is about power and control, and that's it," she said.

"You have crime committed on people by people that they don't know. But domestic violence is

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PHOTO BY KEN LAY

Knox County District Attorney General Charme Allen addresses attendees at the Randall E. Nichols Family Justice Center's Domestic Violence Awareness Month Kickoff on Wednesday.



The Doctor is in

a weekly column by
Dr. Jim Ferguson

Dichotomy

If common sense shows up and votes in November, America wins. If they don't, the crazies win and the deranged Democrat devolution of America resumes. JVF

"It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness..."

I have previously used this opening from Charles Dickens' famous novel "A Tale of Two Cities," but it seems to fit the current American zeitgeist (mood). Many have written about the divisions (dichotomies) in our country, notably Glenn Reynolds in a New York Post (9-28-26) regarding media reporting about the economy.

The question repeatedly arises, "Who do you believe?" Last week, Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent said that the US economy is in an "acceleration phase." He presented the facts of America's manufacturing boom, rising workforce participation,

low jobless claims and low inflation. Others have documented that the average American family's income has substantially increased during the Trump presidency and trillions of dollars of investment have returned to America.

"On the Other Hand," as Randy Travis sang, Hakeem Jeffries (Democrat House Minority Leader) said President Trump has delivered a "Rotten Age" economy, but presented political talking points rather than facts.

Yes, energy is more expensive because President Trump is trying to keep Iran from acquiring an apocalyptic nuclear weapon. And since the world runs on diesel, prices have temporarily gone up due to supply chain interruptions. Furthermore, California Governor Gavin Newsom reduced refinery capacity, hurting us all and giving California the highest gas prices in the country.

Higher beef prices have a different cause. Biden and his handlers worked to reduce cattle herds

because they whined, "Cows produce climate-change methane gas." It takes time to rebuild cattle herds just as it took time to reduce egg prices after millions of chickens were killed for fear of "bird flu."

Trump's policies of "lighter regulation," stopping illegal immigration, the war on drugs and crime, as well as tariffs, have produced jobs, expanded business and made the homeland safer (except in sanctuary cities). And again, Trump was right, proving the doom and gloom "establishment economists" wrong. But to the rescue of Democrats, their MSM (Main Stream Media) mouthpieces continue to spin gloom and doom scenarios. One has to search the alternative media to find other perspectives. Even the Fox News marketing phrase of "fair and balanced" has become conjectural.

Dichotomy is especially apparent with the AI controversy, which I wrote about in last week's column. In another recent New York Post column, Rikki Schlott reported on a debate between two AI researchers. One was considered an "AI optimist" and the other an "AI doomer." Neither trusted China or believed the Tech industry could regulate itself. The companies are already saying they are going to build super-intelligence (see last week's definition) with "recursive self-improvement." Some are

even crowing, "It (super AI) might be a new species."

Interestingly, the optimist now sees the rapid advances in AI as needing more control, and the pessimist has become more optimistic now that everyone is concerned and President Trump is taking steps to oversee, if not regulate, the industry.

Last week, the Tech companies and Trump signed the White House Accord on Superintelligence. I'm optimistic that the Accord, the AI Force and AI czar, along with the laws on the books, will allow AI development within a margin of safety. What concerns me and the tech bros more is that China is forging ahead with Super AI development without such restraints and oversight.

I distrust polls about candidates, which are often wrong and, like media reports, are biased and largely designed to be manipulative rather than factual. However, a poll of 683 Democrat voters conducted between September 3-10 by the Center for Strategic Politics suggested a disturbing reality and revealed the dichotomy of modern American politics. "Respondents were asked how they would feel if they woke up to specific news headlines describing Trump leaving office early." Thirty-two percent felt positive if the president was assassinated. Fifty-five percent felt positive if Trump died in his

sleep. Eighty-seven percent reacted positively to a Trump impeachment, which certainly will happen, paralyzing the country, if Democrats retake Congress in the midterm elections.

The enmity of some Democrats for President Trump is stunning. Despite what CNN and Robert De Niro types say, Trump is not Hitler or a fascist, which I doubt they could even define. I did not care for the policies of Obama and certainly disliked the destructive policies of Biden and Democrats. But wishing anyone dead or assassinated is sick.

Tragically, I have had friends end our relationship over my support for President Trump, whom they hate. So the enmity for Trump trickles down and now permeates everything. Furthermore, political ideology and party identification have trickled down to the local level. A deranged hatred has led to this dichotomy.

It now seems that every election causes this hatred to again rise like a festering abscess. But perhaps there is hope. I am not a surgeon, but I have considerable experience treating infected wounds. Superficial treatment never works. Some may find my analogy disgusting, but the remedy for an abscess is opening the wound down to the base to allow the infection to drain out. America will not begin to heal until

festering hatred is exposed for the evil that it is. Changing presidents or congressmen or blaming someone else for your perceived misfortunes will not change reality. The problem is not external. It is the corruption of your soul.

This doctor's advice is to look in the mirror and deal with the irrational hatred in your heart before it destroys you. And then consider how voting for any candidate whose party spews antisemitism, anti-Americanism and hatred for anyone is rational.

Here are a few more Trump accomplishments which you can share with those who have lost their way and oppose all Republican policies, even blocking insider trading legislation and another to ensure that households and small businesses are protected from AI data centers electricity costs.

1. Fraud investigations are ongoing, uncovering \$245 billion since January 2025.
2. Deporting illegal aliens, especially criminals who have broken our laws.
3. Reduced crime to historic levels.

For 250 years, patriots have worked to defend freedom. I never served in the military, so now is my tour of duty to speak out, vote and help Make America Great Again. Join me!

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

Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Continued from page 1

committed on and by people that know each other and are supposed to love each other. There's no reason for this, and it has to stop."

Knox County Sheriff Brent Gibson and Knoxville Police Chief Paul Noel both said that domestic violence calls are the most dangerous calls that officers face.

"You just never know what's going to happen when you have a domestic violence call," Gibson said. "It's a call where you have to break up families, and you're there to do what, in reality, no one wants to do."

Noel agreed.

"When you get there, you have to determine who is the primary aggressor," he said. "It's one of the most challenging calls we face, and it can really be dangerous for our officers."

The Helen Ross McNabb Center, which also provides services for victims, is partnering with local and state law enforcement throughout October as it has provided car magnets to the Knox County Sheriff's Office, the Knoxville Police Department, the Tennessee Highway Patrol and the University of Tennessee Police Department.



(Background left to right:) Members of the Tennessee House legislature, Rep. Dave Wright, Speaker Cameron Sexton and Rep. Elaine Davis, and Knoxville School Board member Katherine Bike visited South-Doyle High School last week to tour the school's robotics program.

Brief session for BOE

By Pete Gawda

The Thursday, October 1 meeting of the Knox County Board of Education could have been one of the shortest ones on record. All agenda items were unanimously approved with no discussion; there were no speakers in the public forum; and the meeting adjourned after about 10 minutes.

The agenda items were all of a routine, non-controversial nature, including awarding contracts for school building improvements. The board approved a \$7,409,000 contract with Henley Roofing Company for roof replacements at Farragut Intermediate School and Farragut Middle School and a \$96,750 contract with

The Lewis Architects, Inc. for design services for a partial roof replacement at South-Doyle High School and a full roof replacement at Ridgedale School.

The board also approved a fiscal year 2026 year-end budget adjustment in the amount of \$8,022,677 and line-item transfers for the 2027 fiscal year budget in the amount of \$331,393.



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The Knoxville Focus
Serving Knox and Surrounding Counties.
Proudly independently owned and operated.

Published by Fountain Printing and Publishing, Inc.
Deadline for ad design is Monday at 5 p.m.
Deadline for Classified ads is Thursday at noon.
Deadline for submissions is Thursday by noon.
Articles, announcements, photo attachments and cutlines may be submitted by e-mail to staff@knoxfocus.com.
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Publisher's Positions

Vote YES On State And City Amendments



By Steve Hunley,
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Voters will have an opportunity to vote on three proposed amendments to the Tennessee Constitution on the upcoming ballot. Voters inside the City of Knoxville will also have the opportunity to vote on an amendment to the city's charter.

Constitutional Amendment #1:

This amendment to our state's constitution will allow courts to hold certain defendants without bail pending a trial. That will only occur when the defendant is charged with a crime that can be punished with the death penalty or such crimes that involve acts of terrorism, second-degree murder, aggravated

rape of a child, aggravated rape, grave torture, or any crime for which a convicted person would be required to serve 85% of the sentence given them. The proposed amendment requires that any court must state on the record the reasons for having reached a decision whether to grant bail or deny bail in such cases.

It is certainly true that some crimes are so terrible that a person charged with a particularly heinous act is not released back into society while a trial is pending. Certainly, someone charged with a crime is entitled to a speedy trial, but we all know oftentimes attorneys keep kicking the case down the road for weeks, months and sometimes years. That places people in all walks of life at risk from a possible predator or worse. Someone charged with a crime can receive a speedy trial if his/her attorney doesn't employ delaying tactics to keep him/her out of a courtroom. The best assurance of someone receiving a speedy trial is to make sure they are no threat to society and give them some incentive to have their day in court.

Constitutional Amendment #2:

This amendment is quite clear in its intent and meaning. It prohibits the legislature from imposing a state property tax on real, personal or mixed property. In other words, it keeps the state legislature from trying to increase your property taxes on your home or property so they have more to spend. Keep in mind, renters pay property taxes, too, as landlords almost always pass along any tax hike to their tenants. What the free spenders won't tell you is that increasing the property taxes increases mortgages and rents.

Constitutional Amendment #3:

This proposed amendment is the lengthiest on the ballot. In short, it proposes to clarify the existing rights of victims of crime, as well as add new rights. Amendment #3 proposes to place into our state constitution the rights of victims of crime to ensure they have the right to be informed and participate in the parole process of the criminal, the person who victimized and harmed

them. It also protects victims of crime from being harassed, intimidated and abused. It requires victims to be notified of the minimum sentence to be served by the criminal, as well as the scheduled release date. It requires that the victim, the victim's family and the public's safety be taken into account before the convicted criminal can be released.

This amendment is vital to anyone who believes that the victims of crimes should have rights and be protected from further injury and harm.

City of Knoxville Charter Amendment:

Currently, elections in the City of Knoxville require a subsequent run-off even if a candidate receives a majority of the vote in the first election. This amendment to the city charter simplifies the process, as any candidate receiving a majority of the vote in the primary is declared the victor. The entire purpose of a runoff election is for a candidate to acquire a majority of those voting. It makes little sense to have the same election over

again when a candidate has already won a majority.

Trump Took Over A Mess, Is Making Great Progress In Fixing It

It sure is interesting to see how some folks are complaining about the economy, as they seem to have forgotten what it was like under Biden, with ever-escalating inflation on food-stuffs, gas even more at the pump than it is now when a threat to America did not have a nuclear bomb, and 20 or 25 million illegal aliens were pouring into our country without being vetted. The mainstream media, along with the Biden administration, tried to gaslight the public by insisting, until Biden tried to run again, that the border was secure, inflation wasn't rampant, and old Joe was mentally at the top of his game. The propagandists in the corporate media fed Americans a steady diet of lies and misinformation while trying to destroy anyone who dared to challenge the narrative. That went down the toilet when Joe Biden showed up for the debate, which caused

Jake Tapper to say he was fooled just like everybody else. Tapper, like 95% of his colleagues, had been caught in one of the biggest lies and conspiracies in modern American history.

Let's just make this very simple as you contemplate who to vote for in the coming midterms. The Democrats and socialists want to increase your taxes; they want more of your money to spend. The spending spree of the Biden years caused the 21% inflation in the first place. They don't want to hold criminals accountable for their actions, want to eliminate borders, and let minor children have life-altering surgery that cannot be reversed because a guidance counselor says so. They talk about affordability, but they milk the middle class for more and more money. They denounce billionaires on one hand while taking their cash from billionaires like George Soros with the other. Don't ever forget, you get what you vote for.

A Life of Service: Remembering Sheriff Tom Spangler

By Kimberly Glenn
Former campaign manager,
communications director &
spokesperson for Sheriff Tom Spangler

"Airman. Officer. Chief Deputy. Interim Sheriff. Fisherman. Sheriff. Spanky. Husband. Dad. Paw Paw. Friend."

There are people who hold public office, and then there are people who spend their lives in public service.

Tom Spangler was the latter. To the public, he was Sheriff Tom Spangler. To those of us who worked for him, he was Sheriff. But to so many who knew and loved him through the years, he was affectionately known as "Spanky."

I had the privilege of knowing Tom in a way few people did. I began as his campaign manager when he decided to pursue the dream he had carried for much of his life: becoming Sheriff of Knox County. When the people of Knox County entrusted him with that office, my role changed. I became his Communications Director and spokesperson.

But somewhere along the way, he became much more than a candidate I helped elect or a Sheriff I worked for.

He became my friend. Tom's life of service began long before the citizens of Knox County ever placed the word "Sheriff" before his name.

A graduate of Carter High School, Tom followed in his father's footsteps and enlisted in the United States Air Force. After serving his country, he returned home to East Tennessee and, in 1980, began his career with the Knox County Sheriff's Office as a corrections officer.

He didn't begin at the top. He worked his way there.

Over the years, Tom served throughout the Sheriff's Office, learning law enforcement from the ground up. He worked corrections, patrol and narcotics, became a leader and administrator, helped establish the agency's Regional Training Academy and Aviation Unit, became both a fixed-wing and helicopter pilot, and graduated from the FBI National Academy.

Eventually, he became Chief Deputy, serving under two former Knox County sheriffs.

That always said something important about Tom.



The late Sheriff Tom Spangler and Kimberly Glenn.

Administrations changed. Sheriffs changed. Politics changed. But Tom's commitment to law enforcement, the people who wore the badge and the citizens they served remained constant.

In 2007, during one of the most turbulent periods in Knox County government, the day that became known throughout our community as "Black Wednesday". Tom was called upon to serve as interim Sheriff.

When Knox County needed stability, he answered the call.

That was Spanky.

After retiring from the Knox County Sheriff's Office in 2009, Tom finally gave himself permission to chase another passion.

Fishing.

And anyone who knew Spanky knew he didn't do much halfway.

For approximately a year, he pursued professional fishing, trading the responsibilities of law enforcement for a boat and fishing tournaments. I think there was something fitting about Tom giving himself that time. He had spent decades serving everyone else, and for a little while, he got to do something simply because he loved it.

But law enforcement had a way of calling him home.

His longtime friend, Blount

County Sheriff James Lee Berong, asked Tom to bring his decades of knowledge and experience to the Blount County Sheriff's Office. Tom returned to the profession he loved, serving in leadership over training and helping prepare another generation of law enforcement officers.

Then came one final calling. Home.

Knox County.

That is where my journey with him began.

I started as Tom Spangler's campaign manager. Campaigns have a way of showing you who someone really is. Long days, late nights, criticism, pressure and exhaustion eventually strip away the polished version of anyone.

What I saw in Tom was remarkably consistent.

He loved law enforcement. He loved the men and women who did the job. And he loved Knox County.

In 2018, the voters gave him the opportunity he had dreamed about for years when they elected him Sheriff. Four years later, they entrusted him with that office again.

For eight years, I had a front-row seat.

I saw the Sheriff everyone else saw at press conferences,

ceremonies and public events.

But I also saw Tom.

I saw the late-night phone calls. I watched him carry the weight of decisions that affected more than a thousand employees and their families. I saw how deeply he hurt when one of his people hurt. I saw him wrestle with decisions that most people would never know he had to make.

And I saw the man who went home at the end of those days to the people who mattered most.

His wife, Linda, was at the center of that family. As the years brought changes and challenges, Tom became deeply committed to caring for her and making sure she was surrounded by love, familiarity and family. It was a responsibility he carried quietly and faithfully, without seeking recognition.

For a man who spent a lifetime caring for a community, some of his most meaningful acts of service happened away from public view: simply being a devoted husband to Linda.

Then there were his girls.

Tom was incredibly proud of his two daughters, Mellony and Mallory. You didn't have to spend much time around him before one of their names came up. There was a different kind of pride in his voice when he talked about his daughters.

And then there were his grandchildren.

They brought out another side of Spanky entirely.

Sheriff was an important title. Chief Deputy was an important title. United States Air Force veteran was a title he carried with tremendous pride.

But husband, Dad and Paw Paw were different.

Those belonged to his heart.

I also had the privilege, and sometimes the heartbreak of watching Tom face some of the most difficult years of his life while continuing to serve as Sheriff.

I watched him fight cancer with the same determination with which he approached everything else.

I saw days when he was hurting. Days when treatments and illness

had taken nearly everything out of him. And then I watched him straighten himself up, put a smile on his face and walk into the next meeting because someone was waiting for their Sheriff.

Most people never saw that part.

I did.

There were late-night conversations that I will carry with me for the rest of my life. There were moments of worry, laughter, frustration and sometimes just silence. Behind the public figure was a very human man carrying enormous responsibilities while dealing with things in his own life that would have caused many people to simply stop.

Tom kept showing up.

That was who he was.

Tom believed deeply in doing the right thing. It wasn't a slogan created for a campaign. It was the standard by which he tried to live and lead.

He wasn't perfect, and I don't think he would want anyone pretending he was. He could be stubborn. Those of us who loved him knew that well. We could disagree, sometimes strongly, and then pick up the phone the next day and keep going.

I always knew how much he cared.

When I think about his life now, I realize no single title could ever capture it.

Airman. Officer. Chief Deputy. Interim Sheriff. Fisherman. Sheriff. Spanky. Husband. Dad. Paw Paw. Friend.

Each one tells a piece of his story.

A young man from Carter served his country in the United States Air Force. He came home and started as a corrections officer at the Knox County Sheriff's Office. He worked his way through the ranks and became Chief Deputy. When Knox County needed him during a difficult chapter, he served as interim Sheriff.

He retired and chased a dream of professional fishing.

When his longtime friend asked him to return to law enforcement

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By Mike Steely
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Just north of Lakeshore Park is a neighborhood, called by some a “jewel in the community,” that was recognized in a recent Knoxville City Council meeting. The city is asking Knoxville-Knox County Planning to do a study on the unique area for a potential conservation or historic overlay designation.

The planners are requested to look at the history of the historic homes and families living in the area bounded by Echo Drive, Grandview Drive, Lyons View Pike, Oak Grove Lane, Agnes Road and several related parcels. The neighborhood borders Bearden.

Elizabeth Fowler Baines said that Lyons View Village has existed for more than 100 years as a small Black community. She urged the council to “preserve what



The Mount Pleasant Baptist Church, founded in 1874, has served African-American families since 1872, and many of the founding members are buried there. The Lyons View community will be the subject of a planning commission study toward obtaining a possible history and/or conservation overlay.

we have” and mentioned Lyons View Village, Lyons View School and the Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church there, founded in 1872.

“We were the servers,” she said of the residents there who worked for Knoxville families. She said that an ex-slave, Bill Langley, purchased all the property. She said the Kleins and Fowler families were the “servants of the

community.”

Melaka Adaro, a New York resident but native of Lyons View, said people need to know more about the unique community. She said her family has a history there going back 150 years, and the Crump family is buried in the church cemetery. Sgt. Grundy Crump, a Union Army veteran, was a brick mason who, with his sons, helped build Eastern State Mental Hospital, now Lakeshore Park.

“We are strong, vibrant and alive,” she said and asked for passage of the resolution in honor of the 70 families who live there.

Steve Davis, chairman of the Lyons View Community Club, said the people in the community are strong and proud.

District 2 Councilman Nathan Honeycutt represents the area and sponsored the resolution. He said he has learned

incredible things about that community and said the effort to recognize and preserve it is a “very important conservation.”

At-large Councilwoman Amelia Parker, who grew up in South Knoxville, was not aware of the strong Black Lyons View community. She noted that Alisa Brown shared the history with her and spoke about the beginnings of the effort and how such designation might affect the community.

District 5 Councilman Charles Thomas said the Lyons View neighborhood discussions have been “going on for quite some time” and praised the material given to the council prior to the meeting.

At-large Councilwoman Lynne Fugate said the designation of a historic and preservation district is “an important tool and option we have” and reminded other neighborhoods to

look at requesting a similar status.

“I appreciate all the neighbors coming out to speak,” said District 1 Councilwoman Karyn Adams, adding that she reviewed the packet of information. “I really value the experience I’m going to have in this process.”

“I’ve got family over there; I just wanted to say ‘Hi’ to my family,” said District 6’s Denzel Grant. “I look forward to supporting this going forward.”

Mayor Indya Kincannon said she first learned about the neighborhood when she was on the school board and noted that older Black residents there went to a segregated school and “that recent history is something to remember.” She said the history is a “testimony to your resilience.” The mayor thanked Honeycutt for bringing the item to the council meeting.

Irvey’s Ice Cream to celebrate grand opening in Fountain City

Cont. from page 1

animals or face painting for children.

Those who attend the grand opening festivities will be eligible to win Irvey’s Ice Cream or merchandise.

“If they go to Google and leave a review on Google and show it to us, they’ll have the chance to win a \$500 gift card or Irvey’s merchandise,” Sanders said. “We’ll do the drawing

on Monday, following the grand opening.”

Irvey’s will offer one-gallon and two-and-a-half-gallon tubs of ice cream, as well as gluten-free and waffle cones, waffle bowls, one-gallon tubs and T-shirts. The shop will also offer a birthday package.

“We’ll have a birthday party in a bag,” Sanders said. “It will also have toppings, and it’s going to be

a reasonable price per person.”

Irvey’s will also have wholesale prices for restaurants.

The grand opening menu will feature 18 classic flavors, 10 dairy-free scoops and four limited scoops, including a pickle-flavored ice cream. Irvey’s will also offer ice cream flights (four scoops), share-a-bowls (10 scoops), shakes and floats.

A Life of Service: Remembering Sheriff Tom Spangler

Cont. from page 3

and help train the next generation, he answered that call too.

And eventually, he came home to Knox County and fulfilled the dream he had carried for so many years.

He became Sheriff.

But perhaps the greatest measure of Tom Spangler’s life isn’t found in any résumé, election result, badge or title.

It is found in the people he left behind.

In Linda.

In Mellony and Mallory.

In his grandchildren.

In the law enforcement officers he trained and mentored.

In the men and women who served under him.

In the community that trusted him twice to be its Sheriff.

And in those of us fortunate enough to simply call him our friend.

I began this journey as Tom Spangler’s campaign

manager.

I became his Communications Director and spokesperson.

Those are titles I will always be proud to have held.

But when I think about Spanky now, the title that means the most to me is much simpler.

I got to be his friend.

Rest easy, Sheriff.

And those of us who loved you will make sure your story is never forgotten.

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Tennessee Theatre Celebrates Mighty Musical Monday



Free monthly concerts have welcomed generations of Knoxville audiences to experience live music, local artists and the Mighty Wurlitzer since 2001.

For a quarter of a century, the Tennessee Theatre has opened its doors on the first Monday of the month and invited the community to experience live music for free.

The Theatre will celebrate the 25th anniversary of Mighty Musical Monday on Monday, October 5, at noon, with a special Wurlitzer-only performance featuring House Organist Freddie Brabson and Associate House Organist Matthew Fisher.

Since its beginning in 2001, Mighty Musical Monday has grown from a modest organ concert into a beloved Knoxville tradition, regularly welcoming hundreds of guests each month. The series embodies the Tennessee Theatre's role as a cultural cornerstone for the community: a place where people can experience

the arts regardless of whether they have purchased a ticket to a show.

"For the Tennessee Theatre, the lasting importance of Mighty Musical Monday is not simply the number of performances or the history of the organ. It is the invitation," said Tennessee Theatre Executive Director Becky Hancock.

"Guests can walk through the Theatre's doors, bring their lunch, find a seat and experience live music in one of Knoxville's most historic spaces without purchasing a ticket. Local artists have the opportunity to perform on the historic stage, while audiences of all ages can experience the Mighty Wurlitzer and discover new performers from their own community. For 25 years, Mighty Musical Monday has embodied our mission of being a cultural cornerstone for

25th Anniversary Mighty Musical Monday
Monday, October 5, 2026 | Noon
Tennessee Theatre
604 S. Gay Street, Knoxville
Free and open to the public

all, and we're proud to continue that tradition."

The story of Mighty Musical Monday begins with the Tennessee Theatre's most famous instrument.

The Theatre's original Mighty Wurlitzer was installed when the building opened in 1928. Built by the Rudolph Wurlitzer Company in North Tonawanda, New York, the 3/17 theatre pipe organ was designed specifically for the theatre and remains one of the few theatre organs still installed in its original location.

Continue on page 2

Letter to the Editor

WELCOME TO FOUNTAIN CITY SIGN

After many hours of hard work, Fountain City Town Hall, Inc. (FCTH) is pleased to present to the Fountain City community a long-awaited WELCOME SIGN!!! This will be sited on the corner of Greenway and Broadway. A special thanks goes out to Markus Chady our very own Fountain City architect that volunteered his time for this project.

We have completed all City of Knoxville and Tennessee Department of Transportation documentation of requirements for street signage. These required documents will first be approved by the City of Knoxville then on to the second approval from TDOT. The final approval will circle back to our city council.

FCTH is not a 501c3 entity, so Legacy Parks Foundation has agreed to be our fiduciary and serve as our 501c3 sponsor. This results in FCTH being able to raise tax-deductible money to pay for the sign. If you would like to donate money to this project, please make a check payable to Legacy Parks Foundation and mail it to 900 Landing Lane, Knoxville, TN 37915. Please be sure to write



Fountain City on the memorial line so that your donations are routed for the sign. And we're delighted to report that any excess monies not needed to pay for the sign will go toward the upgrade and renovation of Fountain City Park as well as other community events.

Grant Rosenberg, Chief Operating Officer for the City of Knoxville, stated, "This sign has been a long time coming to Fountain City and we want to support this project."

FCTH will keep our community apprised of all updates for this project.

FCTH's only income is generated by an annual membership fee of \$20.00 and the sale of our T-shirts and hoodies. Your donation for the welcome sign is greatly welcomed and appreciated.

Sincerely,

Joyce Lee
Chairperson,
Fountain City Town Hall, Inc.

Neighbors agree to road closure compromise

By Mike Steely
Senior Writer
steelym@knoxfocus.com

Imagine the hardship of a family who loses two houses and property to eminent domain for the Tennessee Department of Transportation to widen a road. Such a family wanted to close the dead-end road leading to their remaining home to regain some of their property and rebuild one of the houses they lost. Now imagine being a neighbor to that family, living downhill, and concerned about

fire protection for the wooded hillside between the properties.

That's what Larry and Emily Gray at 4602 Wye Way Road off Alcoa Highway in south Knox County, and their downhill neighbor, the Witzel family, have faced.

Jacene Witzel spoke at the Knox County Commission meeting last Monday and said there's a 40-foot grade hill between the Gray property and her father's house. She said there were four options for closing the road, and

Rural Metro must be able to fight a fire in the woods between the two properties. The Grays wanted an option that would close the entire lane leading up the hill to their house.

District 9 Commissioner Andy Fox represents the area and facilitated the discussion, asking the Gray family if closing 113 feet of the road, which would allow fire truck access, would be acceptable. He said the change would link the Gray property on both sides of the road and still allow enough length for a

fire truck.

The Grays agreed and said the compromised solution might allow enough room to rebuild one of the family houses they lost due to the widening of Alcoa Highway. Fox amended his motion to reflect the agreement.

The amended agreement passed 6-5 with "No" votes from Commissioners Damon Rawls, Courtney Durrett, Brandon Huckaby, Shane Jackson and Adam Thompson.

Legacy Luncheon celebrates successes among 1,000 supporters

Advancements for conservation and park projects were announced to a sold-out crowd of more than 1,000 guests at Legacy Parks Foundation's annual Legacy Luncheon for the Parks, held September 25.

Furthering Legacy Parks' efforts to expand recreational opportunities and preserve land for future generations, Carol Evans, Executive Director of Legacy Parks Foundation,

announced two significant land donations that will become new Knox County parks. Both properties were donated by private individuals that want to leave a lasting legacy by transforming their land into shared community spaces.

"These are the kinds of projects that remind us what can happen when people are willing to

Continue on page 4

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Tennessee Theatre celebrates Mighty Musical Monday

Cont. from page 1

Originally intended to accompany silent movies, the Wurlitzer remained popular as pre-screening entertainment for generations of Tennessee Theatre moviegoers.

In October 2000, the organ was carefully dismantled and shipped to Reno, Nevada, where master theatre organ rebuilder Ken Crome and his team restored the instrument piece by piece. Following the reinstallation in late September 2001, technicians encouraged the Theatre to play the instrument often. Founding Theatre board member Bill Snyder (1931-2025), who served as volunteer house organist from 1979 through 2018, took that advice to heart and envisioned a free monthly concert that would keep the Mighty Wurlitzer playing while inviting the community to experience the Tennessee Theatre at no cost. The first "First Monday" organ concert took place on December 3, 2001.

The series was later renamed the James A. Dick Mighty Musical Monday in honor of James A. Dick, whose efforts helped save the Tennessee Theatre from demolition in 1981.

What began with organ music and commentary from the bench soon expanded to include local guest artists, giving performers an opportunity to share the Tennessee Theatre stage while introducing audiences to an ever-changing lineup of music. Over the years, Mighty Musical Monday has featured middle and high school choirs, jazz ensembles, vocalists across genres, classical musicians, a Klezmer band, a champion whistler, and even a belly dance troupe.

After 25 years, that

invitation remains unchanged: Mighty Musical Monday is free and open to all.

Continuing the Tradition of Free Music

The Tennessee Theatre is expanding its commitment to free live music with the launch of the Cameo Sessions, a new monthly concert series beginning in October as part of First Fridays in Knoxville.

Cameo Sessions will take place on the first Friday of each month in the Cameo at the Tennessee Theatre's 612 Building. The after-hours series will offer audiences another opportunity to experience live music in a more intimate setting, with each concert remaining free and open to the public.

While Mighty Musical Monday brings the community together around the historic Mighty Wurlitzer at the Theatre, Cameo Sessions will create a new space for artists and audiences to connect after hours. Together, the two series reflect the Tennessee Theatre's continued commitment to making the arts a part of everyday life in Knoxville.

25th Anniversary Mighty Musical Monday

The 25th anniversary celebration will feature a special Wurlitzer-only performance by Freddie Brabson and Matthew Fisher. Special edition 25th anniversary merchandise, designed by Knoxville artist Paris Woodhull, will also be available for purchase.

The Tennessee Theatre invites the Knoxville community to bring a lunch, bring a friend and celebrate 25 years of a tradition that has kept the Mighty Wurlitzer playing and the Theatre's doors open to all.

My new favorite season

Summer has always been my favorite season of the year. It has signaled the end of another school year, the beginning of vacations, and plenty of visits to pools or the rivers in the Smoky Mountains. I've welcomed the hot weather because I could work in it all day long.

Something in my programming has changed. The hot weather chased me inside this summer. I couldn't spend much time in it without my skin feeling as if it were being baked. I've never minded sweating, but this year, I couldn't be outside for long before my clothes were soaked.

As a result, my favorite season has now become fall. It holds all the things that I like. Plenty of days are still warm enough to take a dip in the pool. The days are still long enough to begin and complete a project. I'm still working at the golf course



By Joe Rector
joerector@comcast.net

and mowing tee boxes. Hopping on a mower at 5:30 a.m. is still a pleasant experience. I see the sunrise and enjoy the cool mornings. A bonus is discovering deer on the fairway and taking time to watch them munch on some grass. Wild turkeys come from the hills around the course in the early morning hours to strut around and find a bit of food. Both the deer and turkeys are mesmerizing, and I feel as if I'm intruding on something special.

Fall is special for sports. The three biggies, football, baseball and basketball, are all holding games, so no fan suffers without them. Tailgating on Saturdays is a big enough event that folks don't necessarily need tickets to attend games. With a little ingenuity, they can hook up a television and stream the contest while sitting in the comfort of a tent or

motorhome.

Many people are excited that the season brings back pumpkin. The majority of them go a bit "nuts" over the fact that they can get pumpkin spice lattes. The rest of us are pleased that pumpkin bread, muffins, cookies and pies are back.

Our diets change in the fall. The cooler temperatures make us crave chili and tamales. Soups are centerpieces of meals for weekday suppers. Even casseroles are welcomed on the table for a meal. There's something appealing about hot food when temperatures cool.

Maybe the main reason fall has become my favorite season is due to the new toy I recently bought. For years, I've fought leaves in the fall. My work was never completed until January. Even then, oak leaves still fell, but I just turned a blind eye to them and decided to deal with them in spring.

Now, I have a Cyclone leaf collector. This monster of a tool is pulled

behind my mower, and it can hold up to 200 gallons of mulched leaves. This means the chore that has taken me hours each week can be completed in an afternoon. I assembled this lifesaver and took time to make sure every nut was tightened and each piece fit correctly. Thus far, I've used the collector once, and I was amazed at how quickly this once-laborious job was completed. Sure, I still blow leaves from around trees and out of flower beds, but those tasks still make a job I hated most easy to complete.

Yep, fall has become my favorite season. I finish up tasks that require my attention much quicker and have more time to sit around a fire pit or on the screened porch watching television. I've slowed down and find walking to be more than a bit painful. So, I'm glad to have a new toy. I'm also thankful for being able to adjust my life to better enjoy my time.

Happy fall!

Faith Beyond the Fear

Fear can be an icy grip that often paralyzes people. We've all seen or known someone who missed an incredible opportunity because they froze in fear. For example, a student who studied hard might know the answers but never advance because of apprehension. Similarly, a man might miss out on a promotion at work because his fear of failure prevents him from applying. Fear doesn't just whisper worst-case scenarios; it shouts about possibilities, robbing us of what could have been.

This is the story of Israel as God brought them to the edge of the Promised Land, a place that was rightfully theirs. God had promised it to the Old Testament pilgrims who had endured bondage for over four centuries. Now, in the Book of Numbers, they had the chance to claim everything God had promised their forefathers. With the wilderness dust still clinging to their sandals, they gazed ahead at the hills

and valleys of a land flowing with milk and honey. The air was thick with anticipation, and each family wondered what lay ahead.

One by one, a leader from each tribe was chosen to become the eyes of the nation. They would venture into the land to scout it out and report back. Twelve men turned and began their ascent up the ridge, their silhouettes fading as they disappeared into the unknown. The future of a nation ventured into this uncharted territory, some filled with great faith while others held seeds of doubt.

They ultimately returned with a divided report. A minority of two concluded that it was an incredible land, promised by God, and that it should be taken. In contrast, the majority of ten acknowledged the same qualities as Joshua and Caleb, but instead of embracing God's promise, they focused on the giants. This moment represented a clash between faith and fear, forcing those who heard the report to make a

choice: faith or fear? Their inability to trust God produced a fear that not only cost them an opportunity but also affected an entire generation.

Fear can be likened to a small trickle of doubt that seeps into the mind, gradually carving a channel through which all our thoughts flow. Over time, a series of minor fears can accumulate, ultimately leaving us feeling paralyzed and unable to function. Fear is a reality that believers often face, and there are moments when fear and faith come into conflict, with one ultimately prevailing. It's essential to recognize that, just as the children of Israel did, allowing fear to paralyze our faith leads us to forfeit our peace.

I personally struggle with feelings of fear and anxiety. I work diligently every day to overcome these fears to ensure that I don't miss the personal Promised Land that God has for me. One way I combat the enemy of fear is by confronting it honestly. I acknowledge my fears and recognize that they are struggles I need to master.

Additionally, I often

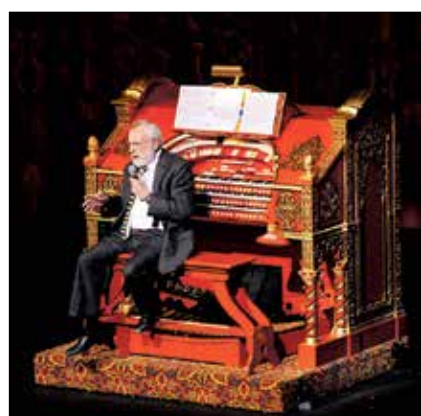
confess my fears as sins. The issue isn't experiencing fear—it's a natural human emotion—but allowing it to control us instead of trusting God. The Bible's repeated message of "fear not" is not a condemnation of the emotion but an invitation to trust in God's presence and power.

I like to think of it this way: feeling fear is normal and human. However, when fear leads to doubt and disobedience toward God, it becomes sinful. We must acknowledge our sinfulness and seek God's help to overcome our fears.

Lastly, I take necessary steps to cultivate a closer relationship with God. Simple spiritual practices, such as reading the Bible, praying, and maintaining relationships with fellow believers, have proven to be beneficial during times of fear. True safety is not found in the absence of trouble but in the presence of God.

In my experience, the level of fear we feel often reflects the closeness of our relationship with God. Fear must yield to faith because faith places its trust in a God who never fails.

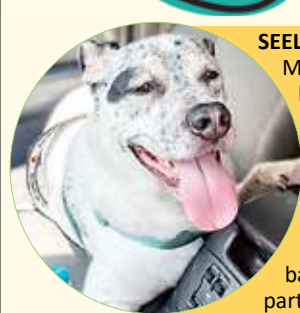
The late Bill Snyder (1931-2025) played the Mighty Wurlitzer organ from 1979 through 2018 at the Tennessee Theatre.



Ad space donated by The Knoxville Focus.

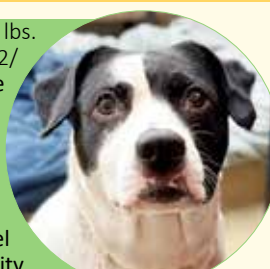


Young-Williams Animal Center



SEELEY - 3 years old, 61 lbs. www.young-williams.org/animal/seeley/
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3201 Division Street, Knoxville, TN 37919 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. daily
www.young-williams.org Closed 1-2 p.m. for animal quiet time



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The Gentleman From Maryland

Herbert R. O'Connor

Pages from the Past



By Ray Hill
rayhill865@gmail.com

Throughout his life, Herbert Romulus O'Connor earned a reputation as a man of industry, capability and capacity. O'Connor also possessed an impeccable sense of timing, which, in politics, is a gift from God. As with catching the trapeze bar, timing is everything in politics. That timing likely explains why Herbert R. O'Connor never lost an election. O'Connor set out to be a lawyer and was recognized at Loyola College as a gifted orator, an excellent baseball player and a good scholar. While attending the University of Maryland School of Law, O'Connor worked as a reporter for the Baltimore Evening Sun, covering the police beat. Musing upon his time as a cub reporter, his editors later remembered Herbert O'Connor as "reliable, energetic and imaginative." If this beat was slow, O'Connor was prone to pull out his law books and study.

Herbert R. O'Connor was a man of principle, neither smoking nor drinking but an avowed opponent of prohibition. O'Connor preferred celebrating his repeated victories at the polls with a double chocolate malted rather than an alcoholic beverage. The fourth of four sons, Herbert R. O'Connor and his wife were the parents of four sons and one daughter. O'Connor was a man of faith and a devout Catholic.

O'Connor never regretted leaving behind his time as a newspaper reporter, preferring the law and politics. Herbert O'Connor was one of those rare people who seemed to succeed at everything he did; he was admitted to the bar even before he graduated from law school. Almost immediately after passing the bar, O'Connor accepted an appointment as an assistant to the state's attorney. At a time well before the advent of television, O'Connor found his name plastered across the pages of the newspapers during several high-profile and lurid murder cases in Baltimore. O'Connor won more headlines when he was sent to New York to

retrieve Walter Socolow, a 19-year-old involved in the killing of William B. Norris, a local businessman. Socolow's attorneys were appearing in a New York courtroom seeking an order of habeas corpus when O'Connor ordered the Baltimore detectives accompanying him, "Take him, boys!" Walter Socolow gave no resistance, and five hours later, O'Connor and his prisoner were back in Baltimore. When Herbert R. O'Connor died, one reporter recalled that the opinions written by the young attorney at the time he served as a deputy in the state's attorney's office were "cited as among the clearest

expositions of points of Maryland law available." O'Connor prosecuted several other murder cases which captured the attention of Baltimore residents, won the young prosecutor praise from Maryland's Supreme Court, and rolled up a majority of some 100,000 votes in being elected state's attorney in his own right. O'Connor's courtroom exploits won him not only headlines but also devoted support from his fellow residents inside Baltimore and Baltimore County. Throughout his career, O'Connor could count on solid support from his hometown folks.

Demonstrating his sense of political timing, Herbert O'Connor declared his candidacy for attorney general of Maryland, winning both the Democratic nomination and the general election. O'Connor thrashed his GOP opponent, winning better than 60% of the vote in a state that was largely Democratic. In 1938, O'Connor marched toward the governor's mansion in a crowded field of contenders, including Howard Jackson, the popular and powerful mayor of Baltimore. Yet again, O'Connor proved his personal popularity, winning more than 50% of the vote against three serious opponents for the Democratic nomination. O'Connor even carried both the City of Baltimore and Baltimore County, beating Howard Jackson on his home ground. In the general election, Herbert R. O'Connor faced that rarest of creatures: a Republican governor. Since 1777, Maryland has only had ten governors who were Republicans. Harry W. Nice had upset incumbent Democrat Albert Ritchie, who many had thought to be governor-for-life, in the 1934 election. By 1938, Nice had disillusioned many inside his own party, and O'Connor beat Governor Nice and five minor candidates with 54% of the ballots cast. Herbert O'Connor was the first member of his Catholic faith to be elected as governor of Maryland.

As governor, Herbert R. O'Connor's actions were marked by both "caution and circumspection," according to one reporter who covered him during the eight years he served as Maryland's chief executive.

Governor O'Connor served as the Free State's chief executive officer as the country was emerging from the end of the Great Depression and through the Second World War. When he entered the governor's office, O'Connor discovered to his dismay that the state's debt was \$48 million, a hefty sum for the time. By the time he left office in 1947, O'Connor departed, leaving a surplus



AP WIRE PHOTO FROM THE AUTHOR'S PERSONAL COLLECTION.

(Left to right) Senator Herbert R. O'Connor of Maryland wearing a coonskin cap and receiving a live raccoon from Tennessee's Senator Estes Kefauver, who lost a bet on the Sugar Bowl with the Marylander in 1952.

of \$8 million. With America engaged in winning the bloodiest war in the history of mankind, Governor O'Connor was able to cut taxes, as there was no way states could extend road construction with men and resources all devoted to the war effort. Cutting taxes and still enjoying a surplus in the treasury made Herbert R. O'Connor a great many friends in Maryland.

Governor O'Connor ran for a second term in 1942 and crushed three challengers inside the Democratic primary. The general election proved to be a surprise to Democrats in general and Herbert R. O'Connor in particular. O'Connor faced Theodore McKeldin, perhaps the most popular Republican ever to arise in the Free State's history. O'Connor saw his usual vast majorities inside the City of Baltimore whittled down to 3,800 votes. On the strength of that performance, Theodore McKeldin was elected mayor of Baltimore.

For quite some time, O'Connor had been eyeing a seat in the United States Senate. One was occupied by the venerable Millard Tydings, who had easily survived an assault from the most popular Democrat in the country, Franklin D. Roosevelt. Tydings had been reelected in 1944 and Maryland's other Senate seat just happened to come up for election at the same time O'Connor would be leaving the governor's chair, in 1946. The incumbent was a Democrat, George L. Radcliffe, an attorney and country squire who had been elected in 1934, near the peak of FDR's popularity. Senator Radcliffe was an amiable sort, but all things considered was something of a colorless politician who had not managed to entrench himself after 12 years in office.

Governor O'Connor made his candidacy for the U.S. Senate official on Wednesday, January 9, 1946, pointing to his

record as Maryland's chief executive for the past eight years. Noting he had eliminated the state's debt and provided a surplus, the governor said now he felt his work was done in Annapolis and he could look forward to a broader field of service. O'Connor swatted away the notion that his challenging an incumbent Democrat for the nomination was an "unfortunate" thing. "On the contrary, it will prove healthy, I believe, to have an open primary so that the rank and file of our party may determine who shall be their candidate," O'Connor said in his declaration of candidacy statement.

Senator Radcliffe fought as hard as he could, but Governor O'Connor emerged as the victor of the Democratic primary, beating the incumbent by more than 22,000 votes and winning quite nearly 53% of the ballots cast. Once again, the general election proved to be the big surprise. 1946 was the best year Republicans had enjoyed since the banner year of 1928. Millions of Americans were weary from the war and the deprivations it had wrought. Americans were tired of the rationing of goods, shortages and many other things. Carroll Reece, the Tennessean running the Republican campaign as chairman of the Republican National Committee, pounced upon the slogan, "Had Enough?" They had, and they voted Republican. Even as a Democratic state, Maryland saw Democrats lose seats in Congress, and Governor Herbert R. O'Connor quite nearly lost to General David John Markey; the difference was O'Connor's majority of almost 12,000 votes inside the City of Baltimore. O'Connor beat Markey by exactly 2,232 votes out of almost 500,000 cast.

Senator Herbert O'Connor became one of the better-known members of the Senate rather quickly, almost unheard of

for a freshman legislator, through the relatively new medium of television. O'Connor was a member of the "Kefauver Committee," which was a special committee charged with investigating organized crime and corruption named for its chair, Senator Estes Kefauver of Tennessee. The subject matter and the committee's deliberations caught the imagination of the public, who avidly watched the daily hearings for weeks on end, listening to the senators and especially the testimony of witnesses, such as Dan Gilbert, who was quickly labeled by the news media as "The World's Richest Cop" due to his surprising, not to mention highly questionable, net worth. Gilbert, who was the Democratic nominee for sheriff of Cook County (Chicago) in Illinois, passed it off as having won far more than he ever lost in gambling.

In 1952, Senator O'Connor announced he would not seek a second term in the US Senate. His nose seemed infallible where politics was concerned. O'Connor whiffed an aroma of an approaching Republican victory. Millard Tydings had been upset two years earlier by Republican John Marshall Butler. GOP Congressman J. Glenn Beall (pronounced "Bell") was already running hard for the Senate. There was also growing discontent inside his own party.

Having experienced very close calls during his last two elections, Herbert R. O'Connor announced his retirement. The senator said he also wanted to be able to openly voice his dissent and disagreement on some of the policies of the Truman administration.

A former elected attorney general, governor, and United States senator, Herbert R. O'Connor reestablished himself in the practice of law once again in Baltimore. The former senator was conspicuous in his regular attendance at his church and was an avid

participant in the lay activities of his religion. Just a few months before his death, Herbert R. O'Connor was seen marching in procession for the dedication of the new Cathedral of Mary Our Queen Church, the insignia of a Papal knight on his lapel.

Out of office, O'Connor accepted clients and was a consultant on labor issues to the City of Baltimore. Another client was the American Merchant Marine Institute, where O'Connor served as general counsel, which gave him reason to visit Washington, D.C.

The former governor's last trip to Maryland's state capitol of Annapolis had been a proud moment. O'Connor watched as his son and namesake, Herbert Jr., filed his papers to run for the Democratic nomination for the US House of Representatives. O'Connor counted his friends in the thousands, but was a man who had no true close friends; Herbert O'Connor spent virtually all his free time in the company of his family.

To the very end of his life, even as his health became questionable, Herbert R. O'Connor continued to make public appearances and play his part in the activities of his community. The former senator attended a banquet held for alumni of Loyola College and the next day went to church to receive the traditional Ash Wednesday blessing. Later that same night, Herbert O'Connor suffered a cerebral hemorrhage. Two days later, Herbert R. O'Connor was dead. Only 63 years old, O'Connor's death came as a distinct shock to the people of Maryland and many of those in public life. Perhaps most shocked of all was O'Connor's wife, who suffered what appeared to be a heart attack after her husband died at Mercy Hospital. Mrs. O'Connor was moved to a room to receive care.

The Salisbury Times noted the passing of one of Maryland's great men, who had held office without ever having been a politician. The Times stated in an editorial lauding the late former governor that Herbert O'Connor had developed a huge personal following because of his own innate personal kindness and raw ability, having achieved remarkable success in all he undertook throughout his lifetime. "Mr. O'Connor was a man of action, capable of making his own decisions and giving out his own answers," the editorial noted. The Salisbury Times lamented the loss of "its best known and most capable elder statesman."

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Exploring the Cumberland Gap pilot tunnel

A Day Away



By Mike Steely

As the Cumberland Gap Tunnel celebrates its 30th anniversary, I'm reminded of a personal story behind the project.

Before Cumberland Gap's four-lane traffic tunnel was built, the work had began to drill a core hole and then a 4,100-foot pilot tunnel that was 10-feet wide and 10-feet high and stretched from the Kentucky side into Tennessee, beneath the three-state marker where the two states meet Virginia.

The pilot tunnel was to expose the rock and earth beneath the historic gap and the hole found clay, limestone and an underground lake and streams.

A huge amount of running and standing water was found and plans were made to divert, remove and use it.

The National Park Service had asked the East Tennessee Grotto caving organization to explore the pilot tunnel and the adjoining cave. My fellow members and I met up with Roy Price, who had walked the tunnel with a ranger before. Price and I had many adventures finding and exploring caverns in Pine and Cumberland mountains. We sometimes scared our wives when we didn't return from outings by a time we had planned.

For this expedition, we were tasked with finding any living cave creatures, especially bats, that could be damaged by the planned construction. No evidence of living bats or other creatures were found in the cavern.

We hiked up to the mouth of the new tunnel and entered one by one, moving to about halfway

where you could see small patches of light faintly illuminating either side of the tunnel.

We found a cave opening on the left, or east, side of the passage and most of the crew suited up and entered the natural walls of the cavern. I waited in the passage as they explored the new-found cave. They were gone for some time and I decided to walk to the other side of the mountain through the tunnel and watched as the small hole of light increased with each step.

Reaching the south side end of the tunnel was exciting and wonderful, standing in the light and looking off over the hillsides and trees into the Volunteer State. Years later, on October 18, 1996, the highway tunnel would open and the historic gap passage restored to its traditional trail.

I returned north in the passage to the cave entrance and the Grotto members exited, reporting they found no live cave

creatures. We left for our homes knowing that we were some of the first people to explore the passage. The only other tunnel through the mountain there is the railroad tunnel linking the town of Cumberland Gap with Middlesboro, Ky. It was built in the 1880s and repaired after a collapse in the 1890s.

I joined the Grotto group on other cave trips and even an exploration of Cudjo Caverns at Cumberland Gap in a venture to connect that old commercial cave with other caves, such as Skylight Cave, in the mountain.

There's some speculation that the tunnel we entered became one of the split traffic tunnels. Cumberland Gap National State Park offers many amenities including a ranger-guided tour of Gap Cave May through August. For a variety of things to do at the national park, visit www.nps.gov/cuga/planyourvisit/things2do.htm



Recognize anyone? Pictured are some of the East Tennessee Grotto cave exploration crew that ventured into the Cumberland Gap pilot tunnel in the mid 80s to check on life in a cave found while drilling from one side of the mountain to the other. Many of the same crew explored beyond Cudjo Cave in the gap to link it to other caves in the historic gap area.

Cumberland Gap Announces Rare Tour for 30th Anniversary of Cumberland Gap Tunnel



CUMBERLAND GAP TUNNEL AUTHORITY.

Cumberland Gap Tunnel.

From October 16 to 18, Cumberland Gap National Historical Park will celebrate the 30-year anniversary of the Cumberland Gap Tunnel by offering visitors a rare, behind-the-scenes experience.

Visitors will have the opportunity to see inside the tunnel, discover how the historic Gap route transformed from trail to highway to tunnel and learn how the twin bore tunnel was constructed.

"The Cumberland Gap Tunnel was considered a marvel of engineering when it opened on October 18, 1996," said Superintendent Lisa Baldwin. "We are proud to partner with the Cumberland Gap Tunnel Authority to recognize the anniversary of this important park feature and history."

Event programs will include guided tours of the Cumberland Gap Tunnel, guided walks to the historic Cumberland Gap

and an evening program at the Wilderness Road Campground. All programs are free. For more information on the programs, visit www.nps.gov/cuga/planyourvisit/cumberland-gap-tunnel-anniversary.

Space is limited for Tunnel Tours, and reservations are required. Call the park visitor center at 606-248-2817 for more information or to reserve your spot.

Legacy Luncheon celebrates successes among 1,000 supporters

Cont. from page 1

invest in the future of our community," Evans said. "From preserving land to creating new places to play, we're grateful for the individuals, families and partners who continue to make these opportunities possible."

Other Legacy Parks project highlights included:

- Completion of the Sue Clancy Greenway – a missing trail connection pursued for more than 40 years.
- Expansion of Seven Islands State Birding Park, with work underway to connect the park on both sides of the river, making the state park now easily accessible from our entire county. Legacy Parks acquired two islands last year, expanding the park by 90 acres, and secured a \$7.4 million grant to connect the islands to the park with a new pedestrian bridge.
- A new \$14 million, privately funded playground is coming to Steele Creek Park in Bristol, TN, creating an exceptional destination for families and children.

Construction on Catie's Playground is set to begin spring 2027.

Evans also announced significant advancements along the SoKno Rail Trail & Art Walk – the 3-mile rail trail from Chapman



In celebration of Legacy Parks' work, keynote speaker, Conor Knighton, shared stories from his adventures visiting all of America's national parks in one year. Knighton offered the audience lesser-known stories from the parks' history, along with thoughtful reflections on their future and the importance of preserving these special places for generations to come.

Highway to Ijams Nature Center and featuring a 1.5-mile art walk. Art installations are being added rapidly over the next few weeks, bringing vibrant colors and creativity to the corridor. The first larger-than-life mural was completed at Kern's Food Hall earlier this month, with another starting in just a few days.

To date, Legacy Parks has:

Created 19 new parks added over 800 acres of parkland across

Knox County, expanding access to green space and recreation for neighborhoods throughout the community.

- Raised \$32 million for parks, trails and access by leveraging private donations, grants, and partnerships to make projects possible.
- Added eight adaptive docks on our waterways, creating new opportunities for people with disabilities to enjoy water-based recreation.
- Created the first

adaptive trails in region with more opportunities coming soon through an established adaptive wheelchair lending program being established at Ijams Nature Center.

Preserved two islands and over 1,000 acres in Knox County, protecting forests, farmland, ridges, and riverfronts for generations to come.

Added over 65 miles of trails throughout Knox County, expanding opportunities to explore and enjoy the outdoors.

Religious exemption denied for Wallace Street house

By Mike Steely
Senior Writer
steelym@knoxfocus.com

The Knoxville City Council voted Tuesday to deny a request for use of a house under a religious exemption clause.

R. Bentley Marlow approached the council to appeal a Board of Zoning Appeals ruling involving future use of a two-story single-family house at 406 Wallace Street. Marlow was requesting a home conversion based on religious use and appealing the owner-occupied provisions in a single-family residential zone. He based the appeal on the use of "Marlow Charities Inc.," and said he wanted to house additional disabled persons on the second floor, noting that two residents currently inhabit the dwelling.

He cited the approval of a CareCuts property rezoning as similar to his request. Parker Bartholomew, a realtor and chairman of Anglic Ministries, supported the appeal, saying the house should be exempt from fire codes and the "owner-occupied" requirements.

Peter Ahrens, director of Knoxville's Plans Review & Inspections, described the appeal as a legal issue. City of Knoxville Deputy Law Director Christine Magrams-Tillery said the request for religious exemption must be based on religious activity there, a sincere belief held and consistently used, and substantial hardship. She

said it also includes fire safety at a dwelling.

Councilman Denzel Grant said the law must be consistent.

Councilman Doug Lloyd asked about needs for fire safety and was told a fire separation wall between floors would be required. Bartholomew said, "Yes, we can do that," but said the home already qualified because it has interlinked smoke and carbon monoxide detectors on both floors.

Councilman Nathan Honeycutt questioned the religious exemption and moved to deny the appeal. Councilman Matthew DeBardelaben said the request was different than the ruling on the CareCuts location, and Councilwoman Karyn Adams agreed.

At-large Councilwoman Amelia Parker said fire safety is as important to renters as it is to resident homeowners.

Marlow told the council that if he built a firewall, he'd have to kick out the two residents, remove the dry-wall and electrical outlets, and basically destroy a finished house.

Vice Mayor Lynne Fugate said there are other ways for the house to meet approval. Magrams-Tillery agreed other options for Marlow are available, noted the fire safety issue and said the request for exemptions is "self-imposed."

Grant called for a vote, and the denial vote was unanimous.

HIGH SCHOOL GOLF

Newman overcomes tough road to state

By Steve Williams

Two-time state runner-up Addisyn Newman shot a higher score than normal in the Region 2-4A girls' individual tournament last week at the Island Point Golf Club near Kodak. The Hardin Valley Academy junior, however, still managed to win with a four-over-par 76.

"I would say patience was key," said Newman, "just one shot at a time, just not focus on the last shot that was bad, just focus on the upcoming one."

"I believe last year I shot 2-under (in the region at Beaver Brook). The conditions at the course (this year) were very nice with really fast greens, so putt-putts weren't dropping. But we came back."

Apparently the Island Point course, which borders the French Broad River – one of the oldest rivers in the world – was a tough course to get low scores on for both the girls and boys.

Only one player, HVA junior Arjun Patel, shot below par with his two-under 70, which gave him the boys' individual region crown.

Now Newman and Patel are looking ahead again to play on the state tournament courses in Sevierville.

Patel said he did pretty good at state last year. "I shot even and then 4-over the second day and



PHOTO BY STEVE WILLIAMS

In the Island Pointe Golf Club's pro shop, Hardin Valley Academy's Addisyn Newman and Arjun Patel stand in front of where the final scorecard numbers are posted. Newman and Patel were the Region 2-4A individual medalists and will be competing for TSSAA state honors at the Sevierville Golf Club this coming Thursday and Friday. For more golf coverage, please see C4.

we won as a team. I think I've got a big job to do, so hopefully I can go over there and perform to the

best of my ability."

As for Newman, who finished one stroke behind the state

champion last season, she said "this year I'm looking for the win ... that's the plan."

HIGH SCHOOL VOLLEYBALL

Clevinger, Lady Bobcats looking to make deep postseason run

By Ken Lay

A magical regular season came to an end last week for the Central High School volleyball team.

The Lady Bobcats were victorious in three matches last week and won two District 3-3A matches against Powell and Halls.

Central (29-4 overall, 13-1 in the district) also won the league's regular-season title for a second consecutive year.

On Tuesday night, the Lady Bobcats honored junior setter Pyper Clevinger, who reached a career milestone by racking up her 1,000th career assist during the campaign.

Then, the Lady Bobcats swept Powell, 25-16, 26-24, 25-18, to clinch the championship. The win came after Central defeated Carter in four sets on Monday, Sept. 28, in

Continue on page 3

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL WEEK 7

Halls dominates in region win over Karns

By David Klein

In a homecoming matchup at Halls between Region 2-5A teams the Halls Red Devils and the Karns Beavers, the Red Devils rode their defense and efficient offense to a 49-14 win over the Beavers. Wide receiver/defensive back Eddy Soto scored two touchdowns in the win.

"I'm just glad to be able to use my teammates," Soto said. "I'm just happy for them. They always block for me; they're always there for me, and I can't do nothing without them, especially God too."

Halls struck first on quarterback Lincoln Wilson's 33-yard

touchdown pass to Soto with 6:45 left in the first quarter to give the Red Devils a 7-0 lead. Two minutes and thirty-five seconds later, Soto ran for a 1-yard touchdown with 4:10 left in the first quarter to make it 14-0 Halls.

To start the second quarter, the Red Devils took advantage of good field position and drove quickly into Karns' territory.

Running back Maverick Sharp scored on a 1-yard touchdown run with 10:08 left in the second quarter to put the Red Devils up 21-0.

Karns would get the ball back, but could not move the ball and was forced into a punt.

On the punt, the Red Devils burst through the line to block the punt. Halls converted the blocked punt into a touchdown on an 11-yard touchdown run by Knox Burton for a 28-0 Halls lead with 2:57 left in the first half.

Coming up big again in the second half on special teams, the Red Devils' Carson Pearce recovered a Beavers' fumbled punt snap in the end zone for a touchdown and a 35-0 lead to get the mercy clock running.

Halls head coach Brent Hughes praised his special teams' performance on the night. "They don't really have a true punter," Hughes said. "So,

we kinda put pressure on them and made them play perfect," he added.

Karns momentarily ended the mercy clock on a Ben Styles' 62-yard touchdown pass to Tyson Ritter to get on the scoreboard with 10:24 left in the fourth quarter. Following a second touchdown run by the Red Devils' Burton, the Beavers got a second touchdown on Styles' 72-yard bomb to wide receiver Jason Bourne with 5:53 left in the fourth quarter.

Halls would get the final margin back up to 35 on Ca'Mauri Mays' 13-yard touchdown run with 32 seconds left to make the final score 49-14.

"I'm really proud of our effort, really proud of our football team," Hughes said. "It's another region win. Now we got to take the next step and keep going."

Halls improved to 3-4 overall, 3-1 in Region 2-5A and, following Fall Break this week, plays at regional foe Knoxville Central Friday, October 16. Halls and Central are currently tied for second place in Region 2-5A. Karns fell to 2-5 overall, 2-3 in Region 2-5A, and plays a non-region game at Morristown-Hamblen East Thursday night.

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HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL WEEK 7

Hardin Valley shuts out Farragut

By Mark Nagi

The Hardin Valley Hawks sure do enjoy playing on Thursday nights. They followed up a 48-7 win over Bearden on September 17 with a 35-0 victory over Farragut on October 1.

"I was just really proud of our kids," said Hardin Valley head coach Tyler Wynn. "Our defense did a tremendous job of shutting them down. I think that we treated (Thursday) the same way we would if it was a Friday, and we kind of keep our schedule the same. We don't really do anything different. But we have had good showings on Thursdays."

Hardin Valley (5-2, 2-2 in Region 2-6A) started the game red hot, with a 7-play, 65-yard drive with each of those plays on the ground. Cruise Furman finished things off with a 26-yard

run for a score, and it was 7-0 Hawks.

Later in the first quarter, Hardin Valley went to the air. Backed up at their own 7-yard line, QB Riley Matz had all sorts of time to throw and launched a pass down the middle of the field to receiver Jeremiah Brown. He caught the pass in stride and outraced the Admirals' defenders for a 93-yard TD. With 2:03 left in the first quarter, it was 14-0 Hardin Valley.

"We had seen some things in film," said Wynn. "We thought it was a really good time to take a shot, and we were able to execute."

HVA's big play offense was at it again on their net possession when Nicolas Rivers took the handoff, broke through the line, found the sideline, and raced 63 yards for another

Hawks TD. Early in the second quarter, it was a 21-0 game.

On the Hawks' next possession, they swapped the one-play TD drives for an 8-play, 69-yard drive; all but one play was a run. Matz called his own number, ran it in from 5 yards out, and it was 28-0 at the half.

At the start of the second half, the HVA defense forced an Ads three-and-out. On their third play of the ensuing drive, a sideline screen pass from Matz to Nicolas Rivers resulted in a 51-yard score, making it 35-0. That brought out the running clock, which quickened the remaining 21 minutes and 17 seconds.

Having a senior QB in Matz and a senior-laden offensive line makes things flow better for Wynn and the Hawks.

"Experience helps, and

we've got a lot of experience on the offensive side," said Wynn. "Having that experience really helps you make in-game adjustments and do these things on the fly."

Farragut (1-6, 1-3 in Region 2-6A) only drove into HVA territory twice on the night. The second time was late in the game when they traveled inside the Hawks' 5-yard line. But two poor snaps cost them an opportunity to avoid the shutout.

Up next for Hardin Valley is a huge Region game on October 16 when they host Oak Ridge.

"We've got to treat every game from this point forward like it's a playoff game," said Wynn.

Farragut will also have a bye week and then host Cookeville on October 16.



PHOTO BY MARIAH CLAY

Hardin Valley quarterback Riley Matz ran in a touchdown to close the first half in Thursday's game against Farragut.

A GLANCE BACK
AND A LOOK AHEADEagles soar past
AC without a
pep talk

By Steve Williams

Gibbs High Coach Brad Turner said no pep talk was needed before his Eagles played Anderson County last Thursday night.

And he was right. Gibbs ran off and left the Mavericks with a 41-29 loss and a long ride home.

"There wasn't much of a pep talk from me," said Turner. "Our guys, man, they had a good week of practice and they got ready. You don't have to give a big pep talk on a game like this. They showed up ready to play and were focused and ready to go. So I just told them I'm looking forward to watching them play and go out and have fun."

Gibbs handed AC its first Region 2-4A loss. The Mavs are now 3-1 and 4-3 overall.

The victory vaulted Gibbs into second place in the region at 3-1 and 6-1 overall.

The Eagles' Reid Daniel, a junior WR/LB, had a 68-yard TD catch and a 47-yard interception return early in the game. Quarterback Keith Jones

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2026 Prep
Football
WEEK
EIGHT

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

Thursday, October 8
Sevier Co. at Grace
Karns at Morristown East

Friday, October 9
A-E at Gatlinburg-Pittman
N. Collegiate Prep at TKA
Seymour at Northview

Week Seven
Scores

Gibbs 41, Anderson Co. 29
Hardin Valley 35, Farragut 0
Oak Ridge 48, Bearden 10
Powell 62, Campbell Co. 19
CAK 27, Chatt Christian 10
West 41, Clinton 3
Catholic 20, Ensworth 14
Central 42, McMinn Co. 20
Fulton 55, Carter 26
Grace 57, Boyd Buchanan 20
Webb 34, Notre Dame 14
Halls 49, Karns 14
CCS 38, Providence 14
Seymour 49, Sullivan East 7
Alcoa 42, South-Doyle 7
Sweetwater 49, A-E 20



PHOTO BY JJ SPEARS

Gibbs senior Tucker Ownby works for tough yardage in a 41-29 victory over Anderson County in Corryton Thursday night. The Eagles moved up to second place in Region 2-4A.

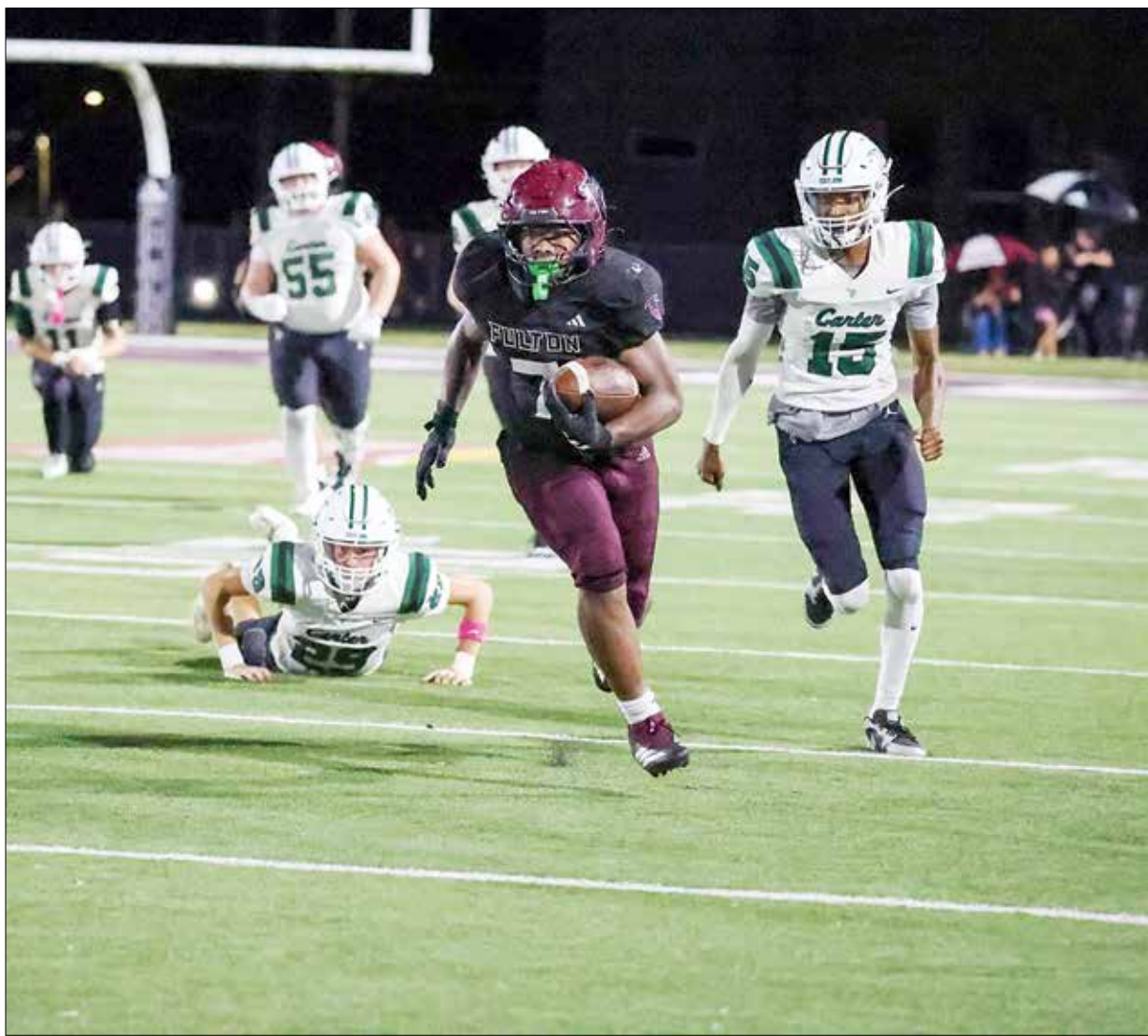


PHOTO BY MARIAH CLAY

Fulton's Waco Upshaw runs for the end zone as Carter Hornets give chase in Friday night's Region 2-4A football game. Upshaw scored two touchdowns and rushed for over 150 yards in the Falcons' 55-26 win.

Fulton's winning
surge continues

By Steve Williams

It was the middle quarters that got Carter Friday night.

The visiting Green Hornets were swatted 36-7 in those 24 minutes of playing time.

For Fulton, the Falcons didn't really care when they scored. They just wanted to keep winning and they did with their 55-26 victory at Bob Black Field.

Fulton Head Coach Justin Long saw his team win for the third time in four weeks.

"We just wanted to execute consistently tonight on both sides, including special teams," said Long. "We wanted to come out and try to give our guys a game plan that we can execute. I felt like they did that tonight."

The Falcons are now 2-2 in a tough Region 2-4A and 3-4 overall. Carter drops to 1-4 and 1-6 in the standings.

Hornets Coach Todd

Helton and his team just wanted to get out of the rainy weather and back to Strawberry Plains.

Carter also wanted no more of Fulton running back Waco Upshaw, a strong 5-10, 194-pound senior who is hard to bring down. In addition to his touchdown runs of 8 and 21 yards, he also powered his way for gains of 55, 25, 19, 17 and six yards.

"Waco has gotten better as the year has gone on," said Coach Long. "He's really taken on that role of being a guy that keeps the sticks moving and falls forward, so I'm really proud of his game tonight. He got us going, him and the offensive line. I really credit the offensive line for getting him going tonight. They did a great job opening up holes."

The Falcons' Jamil Smith also was a big contributor in the game with two touchdown runs of 92 and 53 yards plus two TD passes

of 45 and 2 yards. He also had a pair of 2-point passes.

Smith, a senior, began the season as a wide receiver and running back on the offensive side of the ball, but he had to fill the QB position when his brother Jayshawn Smith (a 6-2, 193-pound sophomore) broke his wrist in the Week 2 Central game. Jamil has been playing quarterback ever since.

Other Fulton point-getters in the game included Keirus Cox's 45-yard touchdown catch and touchdown grabs by Will Dixon and Kymani Lawrence, plus the last TD catch in the game by Armani Bond. DaRan Taylor had a 2-point catch and a 2-point pass, and Ajontus Owens had a 2-point catch. Ever Gomez contributed four PAT kicks to the Falcons' winning total.

For Carter, sophomore quarterback Braeson Gourley threw touchdown

passes to Ethan White and Elias Sherwood and ran for one TD. The Hornets also got a 32-yard TD run from Drew King and two PATs from Griffin Watson.

Taylor made the Falcons' biggest defensive play of the game with a minus-12 TFL late in the first half with Fulton ahead 21-6.

Cooper Collins made a big tackle for Carter in the first quarter, and teammate Jordan Moore made a saving tackle early in the third quarter. Jamear Fishback made an 11-yard TFL for the Hornets late in the third quarter.

Next on the schedule for Fulton will be an away game at Gibbs. Carter would like to end its four-game losing streak at Austin-East. Both teams have an open date before playing again on Oct. 16.

‘Champions Corner’ celebrates history of Vol football

The University of Tennessee unveiled statues, known now as “historical monuments,” of national championship coaches Doug Dickey (1967) and Phillip Fulmer (1998) Sept. 25 outside Neyland Stadium at “Champions Corner.”

The ceremony was a special moment as numerous members of the two teams and Vol fans from across the years were present to honor the two Tennessee coaching legends. The two statues joined Gen. Robert R. Neyland’s as part of an impressive tribute to Vol football.

Dickey, now 94 and looking forward to the arrival of his memoirs in book stores everywhere, shared thoughts on his 1967 Vols winning the SEC title and defeating the 4 major SEC opponents on the schedule. That brought back memories of one of the seminal seasons in Tennessee football history. Dickey restored the “swagger” associated with Vol football. Without a doubt, the 1967 Vols were Dickey’s best team, as well as his favorite.

The 1967 Vols are one of the school’s finest teams, compiling a 9-1 regular season record, 9-2 overall,

winning the SEC title, and finishing No. 2 in the nation. It was the school’s first league crown since 1956 and would be followed by another in 1969.

Looking back at the way the season progressed, Tennessee fans knew more about their team in the evening of Sept. 30 than they did earlier that day. The Vols lost their season opener against UCLA 20-16 two weeks earlier, so many fans didn’t know what the good guys had in store for them for the rest of the season.

With a bye week following the UCLA contest, the intervening two weeks saw demanding workouts to correct inadequacies exposed against the Bruins.

The demands placed on the players showed up in the contest against Auburn. Tennessee played better on both sides of the ball, taking a 27-13 victory over the Tigers. Auburn made but one first down rushing.

A few weeks later, here came the key game of the season. Dewey Warren and Charlie Fulton had been injured, and Dickey turned the Vol offense over to Bubba Wyche, a junior who had played sparingly to that point. He had played some the week before against Georgia Tech, but this was Alabama . . . at Legion Field

. . . against Bear Bryant.

Wyche led the way behind one of the best offensive lines in Vol history—Bob Johnson at center, Joe Graham and Charlie Rosenfelder at guard, and Elliott Gammage and John Boynton at the tackles.

Talk about pressure. Tennessee was ranked No. 7 and Alabama No. 6. It was the renewal of a classic football series that meant a great deal to fans on both sides.

That day, Vol defensive back Albert Dorsey celebrated his 22nd birthday by intercepting three Ken Stabler passes in the fourth quarter, the final one for a score and the eventual 11-point margin. It was the Vols’ first win over Alabama since 1960.

When one player was injured, another stepped to the front. The Vols played three quarterbacks — Warren, Fulton, and Wyche, and didn’t miss a beat.

Linebackers Steve Kiner and Jack Reynolds, both sophomores, led the Vol defenders. It was a special time.

Sophomore safety Mike Jones made the cover of Sports Illustrated, fighting Alabama’s Dennis Homan for the football. In a future publication, SI would credit defensive back Jimmy Weatherford for making the play, but Vol teammates, when interviewed,



Doug Dickey is shown in this mid-1960s photograph when he led the Vols back to national prominence.

definitely said it was Mike.

The 1967 sophomore class didn’t have a nickname like “The Flaming Sophomores of 1928,” but they played really well in key positions. They included Jones, tight end Ken DeLong, defensive back Jimmy Thomas, Kiner, Reynolds, punter Herman Weaver, defensive end Vic Dingus, defensive tackles Frank Yanossy and Steve Carroll, and wide receiver Garry Kreis.

It was a T-E-A-M, when all the myriad pieces came

together in exactly the right fashion.

After the game, someone called the News-Sentinel sports desk and asked if Dickey would be “flying home on the team plane” or “walking up the river” to Knoxville. Such was the rising spirit the Vols were instilling in their fans all across Big Orange Country. By all accounts, the Vols were back on the winning track. Right where they belonged.

The Vols defeated LSU 17-14 the next week,

narrowly avoiding an ambush by a team that ended up in the Sugar Bowl and rolled through the rest of the schedule. They broke an 8-year losing streak with a 20-7 triumph over Ole Miss in Memphis. The Vols played Oklahoma in the Orange Bowl, losing 26-24.

Dickey put the year into perspective noting that, “When you beat Auburn, Alabama, LSU, and Ole Miss in the same year, you’ve done pretty well.”

Writing in the Oct. 30, 1967, issue of Sports Illustrated, John Underwood defined the moment: “Doug Dickey did not allow himself the luxury of going particularly nuts after his finest victory, one that established his team as the South’s best. He is now among the cool and collected big-time winners, and he reacted like any man would who has just beaten Bear Bryant. He was humble, but he smiled a lot.”

For Dickey and a host of Vol fans, the 1967 football season was something special. The Vols put the season-opening loss to UCLA far back in the rearview mirror and provided special memories for Vol players, coaches, and fans that would last forever.

“Champions Corner” exists to commemorate moments like these.



Central High School honored junior setter Pyper Clevinger last week. Clevinger dished out her 1,000th career assist earlier this season. Pictured with Clevinger are head coach Susan Davidson and assistant coaches Maddie Trent and Matthew Robbins. Photo Submitted.

Clevinger, Lady Bobcats looking to make deep postseason run

Cont. from page 1

Strawberry Plains. The Lady Bobcats closed out regular-season play on Thursday with a district sweep of Halls.

Clevinger may have been honored Tuesday night, but she wasn’t about to take all the credit.

“I couldn’t have done this without my teammates,” she said. “It’s definitely special, but I couldn’t have done any of it without my teammates.”

With the regular season now in the rearview mirror and a second consecutive regular-season title in hand, the Lady Bobcats will now look to win the District 3-3A Tournament, a feat that eluded them in 2025.

Central was eliminated from postseason play in the district semifinals by No. 5 seed and eventual tournament champion Anderson County. Central failed to qualify for the Region 2-3A Tournament, and that didn’t sit well with Clevinger.

“It sucks when you lose early,” she said. “But you just have to come back and go to work.”

“We came back in, and we went to work, and we want to get to the region, and we want to win the district.”

The Lady Bobcats have one of their most talented rosters in program history. Senior Ally Bryant recorded her 1,000th career kill earlier this season, and many of those kills were set up by

Clevinger.

“Pyper has a connection with Ally,” Central coach Susan Davidson said. “Pyper is a team leader, and she’s our setter.”

“A setter is like a quarterback or a point guard, and she’s our quarterback, and she’s our leader. She’s an amazing player, and our coaching staff considers it a blessing to coach her.”

Davidson also commended Clevinger for her work ethic.

“It’s important for a setter to have a rhythm and sometimes, we don’t give her the best passes,” Davidson said. “Pyper puts in the work, and she’s always working on her timing.”

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HIGH SCHOOL GOLF

Bearden boys and HVA girls win Region 2-4A titles

By Steve Williams

William Ibbotson posted a par 72 to lead Bearden to the TSSAA state tourney this week with a team score of 304. Coach Billie Davis' foursome also included freshman John Chapman (76), junior Dane Helzer (77) and senior Tripp Spreng (79).

Coach Davis felt his team's consistency at the Island Pointe course was the key to qualifying for the state berth.

"How top to bottom we're so strong," said Davis. "And then second, they're a family. They love each other. They're out here

supporting each other."

At the beginning of the season, the Bulldogs were like a "roller coaster" going up and down, added Davis. "We weren't expecting to do as good as we did."

Hardin Valley, under new coach Greg Boling, and Maryville tied for second place with 309 points, but the Red Rebels earned the runner-up award by defeating the Hawks in a playoff.

Other team totals saw Halls (328) finish fourth, followed by Central (330) and Powell (334).

In addition to the region champions, the top three ranked individual players

also advanced. Those three were HVA medalist Arjun Patel (70), and Maryville's Will Huddleston and Raymond ReBell, who each shot 73.

In the girls' team standings, Hardin Valley led the way with 167 points as Addisyn Newman tallied 76 and Rylee Taylor 91. Farragut (174) finished second and Oak Ridge (214) third.

In addition, the top three individuals who were not on the region championship team also advanced to the state tourney. Those three are West's Reese McMahan (77), William Blount's Bella Jones (82) and Farragut's Sophie Williams (87) via a playoff win over Farragut's Harper Holmes (87).

FORE! This year's State Golf Championships will be held at the Sevierville Golf Club. The Division I and Division II Class A championships will be held today and Tuesday. The Division I and Division II Class AA Championships will be held on Thursday and Friday.



PHOTO BY STEVE WILLIAMS

With the French Broad River in the background on a beautiful late September day, Powell High senior Daisy Gentry putts her pink golf ball in the Region 2-4A tournament.



PHOTO BY STEVE WILLIAMS

Hardin Valley senior Sam Stiles takes a swing on Hole No. 8 in the Region 2-4A tournament at the Island Point golf course near Kodak Monday, Sept. 28.

Eagles soar past AC without a pep talk

Continued from page 2

Jr. scored near the end of the first half to give Gibbs a 27-10 lead. He also completed 10 of 14 passes for 152 yards.

Senior RB Tucker Ownby carried the ball 23 times for 120 yards and two TDs, increasing the lead to 34-10. Sophomore slotback Braxton Swift scored on a 51-yard reverse to make it 41-16 late in the third quarter.

Gibbs' defense played well up front throughout the game. Senior OL/DL Seth Seiber recovered a second fumble early in the second half.

Anderson County sophomore quarterback JD Gillum left the game in the first half with an injury.

What do prep coaches do during fall break?

Thirteen or more local high school football coaches will be off during the Fall Break.

Do they continue: A - Practicing, B - Vacationing, or C - a little of both?

We asked and heard back from seven.

Four said "a little of both." Three said they would be "vacationing." None said they would be "practicing" as usual.

Here are their comments:

Todd Helton, Carter: "I gave the kids the week off."

Chad Speck, CAK: "We will practice Mon-Wed."

Brad Taylor, Bearden: "A little both. Kinsey and I are going to spend a couple of days in Townsend at the beginning of the week. Then we will practice at the end of the week on Thursday and Friday mornings."

Zack Gibson, South-Doyle: "Vacationing. I will be enjoying the break with my family and spending time traveling around East Tennessee."

Tyler Wynn, Hardin Valley: "Our guys will be off until Thursday. I'll be spending a few days relaxing and prepping for our return from Fall Break."

George Quarles, Webb: "A little of both."

Matt Lowe, Powell: "B - Vacationing."

Brad Turner, Gibbs: "Vacationing in Sarasota, Fla."

Preps of the Past

Oct. 4, 1991

Seymour's Brian Donaldson recovered a Goodpasture fumble in the second overtime. Mark Mobley then nailed the game-winning 21-yard field goal in the Eagles' 13-10 win that upped Coach Gary Householder's

season record to 4-1.

Coach Bill Wilson's West Rebels rebounded from their first loss of the season to down South-Doyle 17-7. S-D's James Parker actually gave the Cherokees the early lead, but West's Rondrow Peebles ran 40 yards for a touchdown and quarterback Lennon Glover's 10-yard TD pass to Xavier Smith capped the victory. Sam Dobbins led the Rebs' defense with 18 tackles and a fumble recovery.

Headliners for Week 8

Sevier County at GCA
Austin-East at G-P
Seymour at Northview

Sonny Moore's Computer Ratings

(Top 10 local teams through September 28 games)

1-GCA 130.55
2-CAK 121.21
3-HVA 120.36
4-Powell 120.18
5-Central 119.85
6-Catholic 116.88
7-Halls 113.58
8-Gibbs 110.80
9-Seymour 104.13
10-Farragut 97.12

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HIGH SCHOOL SOCCER

Central shuts out Oak Ridge to close out district play, earn first-round tournament bye

By Ken Lay

The Central High School girls soccer team picked up a big victory to close out the District 3-3A portion of its schedule Thursday night.

The Lady Bobcats, facing an all-state goalkeeper, buried two goals in the back of the net on their way to a 2-0 victory over Oak Ridge at Dan Y. Boring Stadium.

And Central wasn't facing your average netminder as it solved a two-time all-state standout in the Lady Wildcats' Marleigh Frazier, who has recorded six shut-outs this season.

Lady Bobcats' senior Teighley Fowler tallied the first marker against the Lady Wildcats as she scored on a header in the 23rd minute.

"I hit the ball off my nose," Fowler said.

As it turned out, that goal would be enough as Central goalkeeper Amidie Quintanar, another senior, kept the Oak Ridge attack at bay on this night.

The win represented the second clean sheet of the week for the Lady Bobcats, who blanked Campbell County, 10-0 Tuesday night



PHOTO BY KEN LAY.

The Central High School girls soccer team meets after its win over Oak Ridge on Thursday at Dan Y. Boring Stadium. The win earned the Lady Bobcats the No. 2 seed in next week's district tournament.

as Fowler scored four goals and dished out an assist against the Lady Cougars.

This season, Central has wins against Oak Ridge, Hardin Valley Academy, Grace Christian Academy, Science Hill and Alcoa.

The Lady Wildcats (9-4-1 overall, 4-1 in the district) have also played Maryville to a 0-0 draw. They also dropped a 2-1 decision to defending Class AAA state champion Bearden.

This is Central's most successful season since 2023, which was the last

time they defeated Oak Ridge.

"This was a big win for us," Fowler said. "This is the first time we've beaten Oak Ridge since my freshman year.

"I think we're playing better together and we're not selfish and I think our (offseason) conditioning made a big difference. We did a lot of lifting."

In Thursday's match against the Lady Wildcats (5-7-4, 2-2-1), Central sophomore Wakely Woods extended her side's

advantage to 2-0 with a goal in the 46th minute.

The Lady Wildcats have one regular-season match remaining. They'll travel to Sevier County Thursday night to take on the Bearettes. Kickoff is slated for 7 p.m.

But the quest for a District 3-3A Championship is only beginning for the Lady Bobcats.

After a first-round bye in the district tournament, Central will likely host Oak Ridge on Tuesday, Oct. 13, in a semifinal match. The winner of that game will move on to the district championship match and the Region 2-3A Tournament.

"We'll see them here in the district tournament here a week from Tuesday," Central coach Hannah Harosky said. "This was a

big district win for us."

Harosky said that the Lady Bobcats' successful journey began in the summer when they decided that they wanted a district title.

"These girls work hard," she said. "They decided that they wanted to win it all this year.

"They worked hard in conditioning. They practice hard, and we watch film."

In District 4-3A: Bearden won the regular-season district title with a 4-0 win over Maryville Thursday night.

The Lady Bulldogs, however, came up on the short end of a 2-1 decision against West High on Tuesday.

The Lady Rebels clinched the No. 2 seed with 2-1 win over Hardin Valley Academy at home.

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Is Your Grandmother Watching Over You from Heaven?

By Ken Swiger, Pastor

October 2026

Do the scriptures indicate that your saintly old grandmother is passing time watching over your life? Or is she maybe simply singing Hallelujah and Holy, Holy, Holy in heaven? Are our dead loved ones aware of their living loved ones they left behind? Many Christians are surprised to learn what the scriptures teach. But don't just believe me, I encourage you to look these verses up in the pages of your own Bible.

Psalm 115:17 (NKJV)

¹⁷ The dead do not praise the LORD, Nor any who go down into silence.

Ecclesiastes 9:5-6 (NKJV)

⁵ For the living know that they will die; But the dead know nothing, And they have no more reward, For the memory of them is forgotten. ⁶ Also their love, their hatred, and their envy have now perished; Nevermore will they have a share In anything done under the sun.

Ecclesiastes 3:19-21 (NKJV)

¹⁹ For what happens to the sons of men also happens to animals; one thing befalls them: as one dies, so dies the other. Surely, they all have one breath; man has no advantage over animals, for all is vanity. ²⁰ All go to one place: all are from the dust, and all return to dust. ²¹ Who knows the spirit of the sons of men, which goes upward, and the spirit of the animal, which goes down to the earth?

Here the scripture alludes to a spirit in man that goes “upward” at death. But notice that it does not say that the spirit of a “good” or “righteous” man’s spirit goes upward and that the spirit of an evil sinner goes downward.

The New Testament teaches that even King David, “a man after God’s own heart” (Acts 13:22), and a man that the Bible clearly teaches will be in the thousand-year-long Kingdom of God on this earth, is not currently living an “afterlife” in heaven.

Acts 2:29-35 (NKJV)

²⁹ “Men and brethren, let me speak freely to you of the patriarch David, that he is both dead and buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. ³⁰ Therefore, being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that of the fruit of his body, according to the flesh, He would raise up the Christ to sit on his throne, ³¹ he, foreseeing this, spoke concerning the resurrection of the Christ, that His soul was not left in Hades, nor did His flesh see corruption. ³² This Jesus God has raised up, of which we are all witnesses. ³³ Therefore being exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He poured out this which you now see and hear. ³⁴ For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he says himself: ‘The LORD said to my Lord, “Sit at My right hand, ³⁵ Till I make Your enemies Your footstool.”’

Simply put, DEATH means the cessation of life. Throughout the scriptures death is compared with SLEEP. Death is a state in which we will be totally unaware of the passage of time or events taking place on this earth. The Bible clearly states that dead people are NOT watching over the living. In fact, it states that they are totally oblivious and unaware of themselves or anything else. Their spirits have returned to the God who imparted the life to begin with. The Bible teaches that our human body returns to its’ constituent elements, but the life force, the thing that separates us from the animal kingdom, the spirit returns to God. Read it for yourself.

But take heart dear friend, death is NOT the end. Join us next time for a study of the resurrection - **“When Dust Shall Sing”.**



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NOTICE OF SERVICE BY PUBLICATION

TO: DALTON SCOTT THOMAS

IN RE: ALEXANDREA GRACE THOMAS, Plaintiff
- Vs -
DALTON SCOTT THOMAS, Defendant

Docket # 165326
IN THE FOURTH CIRCUIT COURT OF KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE

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

IT IS ORDERED that said defendant file an answer to an action of COMPLAINT FOR DIVORCE filed by ALEXANDREA GRACE THOMAS, Plaintiff herein, with the Fourth Circuit Court in Knoxville, Tennessee, and with MATTHEW J. LAMBERTH, Plaintiff's Attorney whose address is 6705 ALBUNDA DRIVE, KNOXVILLE, TN 37919, within thirty (30) days of the last date of publication, and if you do not answer or otherwise respond, a Default Judgment may be entered against you on the thirtieth (30th) day after the fourth (4th) publication.

This notice will be published in The Knoxville Focus for four (4) consecutive weeks.
This the 9th day of SEPTEMBER, 2026.

Mike Hammond
Clerk

Robert A. Clark
Deputy Clerk

NON-RESIDENT NOTICE

TO: JHD INVESTMENTS, LLC
IN RE: KINGSTON PLACE ASSOCIATION, INC., Plaintiff
v.
JHD INVESTMENTS, LLC, Defendant
DOCKET NO. 211985-1

IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE

In this Cause, it appearing from the Complaint filed, which is sworn to, that the defendant, JHD INVESTMENTS, LLC, as to its Registered Agent or Current Address for its Principal Office or Other Location, a non-resident of the State of Tennessee, or whose whereabouts cannot be ascertained upon diligent search and inquiry, so that the ordinary process of law cannot be served upon JHD INVESTMENTS, LLC, it is ordered that said defendant, JHD INVESTMENTS, LLC, file an answer with the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court in Knoxville, Tennessee, and with Kevin C. Stevens, an Attorney whose address is Fourth Floor, Bank of America Center, 550 Main Street, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902, within thirty (30) days of the last date of publication or a judgement by default will be taken against you and the cause will be set for hearing Ex-Parte as to you before Chancellor John F. Weaver at the Knox County Chancery Court, Division I, 400 Main Street, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902.

This notice will be published in The Knoxville Focus for four (4) consecutive weeks.
This the 15th day of SEPTEMBER, 2026.

Honorable John F. Weaver
Chancellor

NON-RESIDENT NOTICE

TO: WILLIAM J. LAMERE and VICKIE L. LAMERE

IN RE: SPRADLIN PLACE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC., Plaintiff
v.
WILLIAM J. LAMERE and VICKIE L. LAMERE, Defendant(s)

DOCKET NO. 206769-2

IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE

In this Cause, it appearing from the Affidavit filed, which is sworn to, that the defendant(s), WILLIAM J. LAMERE and VICKIE L. LAMERE, a non-resident of the State of Tennessee, or whose whereabouts cannot be ascertained upon diligent search and inquiry, so that the ordinary process of law cannot be served upon WILLIAM J. LAMERE and VICKIE L. LAMERE, it is ordered that said defendant(s), WILLIAM J. LAMERE and VICKIE L. LAMERE, file an answer with the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court at Knoxville, Tennessee, on or before thirty (30) days of the last date of publication or a Judgement by Default will be taken against you and the cause will be set for hearing Ex-Parte as to you before Chancellor Richard B. Armstrong, Jr. at the Knox County Chancery Court, Division II, 400 Main Street, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902.

This notice will be published in The Knoxville Focus for four (4) consecutive weeks.
This the 11th day of SEPTEMBER, 2026.

Houston S. Havasy
Clerk and Master

Amanda Smith
Deputy Clerk

NOTICE OF SERVICE BY PUBLICATION

TO: ALLEN E. MCFALLS
IN RE: PLANET HOME LENDING, LLC, Plaintiff
v.
ALLEN E. MCFALLS, SANDRA G. MADGETT AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, Defendants
DOCKET NO. 212413-3

IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE

In this cause, it appearing from the Complaint filed, which is sworn to, that the defendant ALLEN E. MCFALLS, a non-resident of the State of Tennessee, or whose whereabouts cannot be ascertained upon diligent search and inquiry, so that the ordinary process of law cannot be served upon ALLEN E. MCFALLS described in the complaint, it is ORDERED that said defendant, ALLEN E. MCFALLS, file an answer to an action of COMPLAINT FOR FORECLOSURE filed by PLANET HOME LENDING, LLC, Plaintiff herein, with the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court at Knoxville, Tennessee, and with Zachary B. Johnson, Plaintiff's Attorney whose address is 5100 Poplar Avenue, Suite 2208, Memphis, TN 38137, within thirty (30) days of the last date of publication or a judgement by default will be taken against you and the cause will be set for hearing Ex-Parte as to you before Chancellor John F. Weaver at the Knox County Chancery Court, Division I, 400 Main Street, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902.

last date of publication, or a Judgment by Default will be taken against you and the cause will be set for hearing Ex-Parte as to you before Chancellor Christopher D. Heagerty, at the Knox County Chancery Court, Division III, 400 Main Street, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902.

This notice will be published in The Knoxville Focus for four (4) consecutive weeks.
This 11th day of September, 2026.

Honorable Christopher D. Heagerty
Chancellor

NON-RESIDENT NOTICE

TO: THE UNKNOWN HEIRS OF TRAVIS Q. SOLOMON AND O DURMAST DRIVE, KNOXVILLE, TN 37914

IN RE: PARAGON DEVELOPMENT, L.P., PLAINTIFF
v.
THE UNKNOWN HEIRS OF TRAVIS Q. SOLOMON AND O DURMAST DRIVE, KNOXVILLE, TN 37914, DEFENDANTS

Docket No.: 213876-2

IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE

In this Cause, it appearing from the Complaint filed, which is sworn to, that the defendants, The Unknown Heirs of Travis Q. Solomon and O Durmast Drive, Knoxville, TN 37914, non-residents of the State of Tennessee, or whose whereabouts cannot be ascertained upon diligent search and inquiry, so that the ordinary process of law cannot be served upon The Unknown Heirs of Travis Q. Solomon and O Durmast Drive, Knoxville, TN 37914, it is hereby ordered that the defendants, The Unknown Heirs of Travis Q. Solomon and O Durmast Drive, Knoxville, TN 37914, file an answer with the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court at Knoxville, Tennessee and with Luke D. Durham, Plaintiff's attorney, whose address is 265 Brookview Centre Way, Suite 604, Knoxville, Tennessee 37919, within thirty (30) days of the last date of publication or a judgment by default will be taken against you and the cause will be set for hearing Ex-Parte as to you before Chancellor Richard B. Armstrong in the Knox County Chancery Court, Division II, at 400 W. Main Street, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902.

This notice will be published in The Knoxville Focus newspaper for four (4) consecutive weeks.
This 17th day of September, 2026.

Houston S. Havasy
Clerk and Master

NON-RESIDENT NOTICE

TO: UNKNOWN SURVIVING SPOUSE OF JOHN H. McELROY

IN RE: HOMESTEAD LAND HOLDINGG, LLC, Plaintiff
v.
WILLIAM JOHN McELROY; JAMES LEE McELROY; JANE ANN McELROY; the UNKNOWN SURVIVING SPOUSE OF JOHN H. McELROY, if living, and if deceased, her UNKNOWN HEIRS; the UNKNOWN HEIRS OF JOHN H. McELROY, deceased; and O GRANVILLE CONNER ROAD, POWELL, TENNESSEE 37849 (Parcel ID 056-103), Defendants.
Docket No.: 213805-3

IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE

In this Cause, it appearing from the Complaint filed, which is sworn to, that the defendant, Unknown Surviving Spouse of John H. McElroy, if living, and if deceased, her unknown heirs, and the Unknown Heirs of John H. McElroy, deceased, a non-resident of the State of Tennessee, or whose whereabouts cannot be ascertained upon diligent search and inquiry, so that the ordinary process of law cannot be served upon Unknown Surviving Spouse of John H. McElroy described in the complaint, it is ordered that said defendant, Unknown Surviving Spouse of John H. McElroy, if living, and if deceased, her unknown heirs, and the Unknown Heirs of John H. McElroy, deceased, file an answer with the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court at Knoxville, Tennessee and with R. Seth Oakes, an Attorney whose address is 10413 Kingston Pike, Suite 201, Knoxville, Tennessee 37922 within thirty (30) days of the last date of publication or a Judgment by Default will be taken against you and the cause will be set for hearing Ex-Parte as to you before Chancellor Christopher D. Heagerty, at the Knox County Chancery Court, Division III, 400 Main Street, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902.

This notice will be published in The Knoxville Focus newspaper for four (4) consecutive weeks.
This 21st day of September, 2026.

Houston S. Havasy
Clerk and Master
Tiffany Rutherford
Deputy Clerk and Master

NON-RESIDENT NOTICE

TO: JULIA SHEA SIMS
IN RE: LOVEWELL PROPERTIES, LLC, Plaintiff
v.
JULIA SHEA SIMS, Defendant
DOCKET NO. 213046-1

IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE

In this Cause, it appearing from the Complaint filed with Knox County Chancery Court, Case No. 213046-1, that the defendant, JULIA SHEA SIMS, a non-resident of the State of Tennessee, or whose whereabouts cannot be ascertained upon diligent search and inquiry, so that the ordinary process of law cannot be served upon JULIA SHEA SIMS, it is ordered that said defendant, JULIA SHEA SIMS, file an answer with the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court at Knoxville, Tennessee, and with Christopher Beverly, an Attorney whose address is 49 Music Sq., Suite 500, Nashville, Tennessee 37203, within thirty (30) days of the last date of publication of this Notice, or a judgement by default will be taken against you and the cause will be set for hearing Ex-Parte before Chancellor John F. Weaver at the Knox County Chancery Court, Division I, 400 Main Street, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902.

This notice will be published in The Knoxville Focus for four (4) consecutive weeks.
This the 18th day of SEPTEMBER, 2026.

Honorable John F. Weaver
Chancellor

Houston S. Havasy
Clerk and Master

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF CAROL A. ANDERSON
DOCKET NUMBER 93130-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 21st day of September, 2026, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of CAROL A. ANDERSON, who died

April 22, 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 21st day of SEPTEMBER, 2026.

ESTATE OF CAROL A. ANDERSON

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
ROBERT ANDERSON
4007 CAROUSEL DRIVE
NORTHBROOK, IL 60062

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

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF JESSICA MARIE ALLEN COOPER
DOCKET NUMBER 92914-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 14th day of September, 2026, letters administration in respect of the Estate of JESSICA MARIE ALLEN COOPER, who died August 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 14th day of SEPTEMBER, 2026.

ESTATE OF JESSICA MARIE ALLEN COOPER

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
COURTENAY MONIQUE KING
7940 POPLAR GROVE LN.
POWELL, TN 37849

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF LOUISE DIFELICE
DOCKET NUMBER 93051-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 16th day of September, 2026, Letters of Testamentary/

Administration in respect to the Estate LOUISE DIFELICE, deceased, who died on July 1, 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 his/her Estate are required to file the same in triplicate with the Clerk of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

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

This the 16th day of SEPTEMBER, 2026.

ESTATE OF LOUISE DIFELICE

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
ANTHONY LORENZO DIFELICE
1120 EDBURY DRIVE
KNOXVILLE, TN 37922

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

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF THOMAS M. DISSE, JR.
DOCKET NUMBER 93071-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 18 day of September, 2026, letters testamentary (or letters of administration as the case may be) in respect of the Estate of THOMAS M. DISSE, JR., 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 18 day of SEPTEMBER, 2026.

ESTATE OF THOMAS M. DISSE, JR.

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
HEATHER A. DISSE
312 CLOVER FORK DRIVE
KNOXVILLE, TN 37934

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

