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Knox County Republicans to reflect after 2026 election



State Rep. Dave Wright was the first winner announced Tuesday night at the Knox County GOP Election Day watch party at the downtown Crowne Plaza. Although local wins were plenty, the mood at the party was somber as national numbers rolled in. Photo by Ken Lay

By Ken Lay

Although there were many winners present, celebrations were few for the Knox County Republican Party Tuesday night at its watch party at the Crowne Plaza in Downtown Knoxville.

The night, which began as an evening of high hopes for area Republicans, quickly transformed into an occasion for concern and reflection as the numbers rolled in.

"I think this all came down to two factors," said Knox County Republican Party Chairman Martin Daniel. "The electorate is changing in Knox County. We have people coming in from other places.

"And you have some national problems. The war in Iran is causing oil prices to go up, and that makes things more expensive, and people are blaming it on the people in charge."

Most of the incumbents, however, were able to win and serve another term.

The first declared winner was state Representative Dave Wright (District 19). He's grateful and honored to return to Nashville for another term.

"It's an honor to stand in front of you, friends and neighbors," Wright said. "It's an honor to represent Knox County, and I'll keep going back as long as the people will send me."

Richard Briggs won another term in the state Senate (District 7) as he edged Democrat Bryan Langan by earning 52.7% of the vote.

Before Briggs was declared the winner of the close race, he admitted to being a bit apprehensive.

Continue on page 3

$4.3 million for solar at city buildings before council

By Mike Steely
Senior Writer
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The Knoxville City Council may vote Tuesday to spend $4,383,414 to hire Trane U.S. Inc. to install five solar photovoltaic arrays and energy-efficient lighting upgrades at city facilities. The Office of Sustainability is recommending the resolution's adoption "with guaranteed utility savings."

The council may also vote to amend city code to transfer oversight and inspection of vehicles from the police department to the Fleet Services Department, add regulations on low-speed vehicles and update wrecker service commission composition.

An annual premium of $1.1 million may be approved for Stop Loss insurance for the city's self-insured medical and prescription drug plans for city employees.

The council is being asked to increase the number of members on the Board of Zoning Appeals. The Planning Commission voted 13-0 to recommend the increase.

Historic Preservation and Façade Improvement Program funds of $50,000 may be awarded to Kelvin Scott Violins for the restoration of property at 325 East Anderson Avenue.

Several zoning items are on the agenda, including an appeal from R. Bentley Marlow for a variance at 519 Douglas Avenue. Bob and Melynda Whetsel are appealing a Board of Zoning Appeals ruling on a variance for a setback for 1231 Luttrell Street.

Several zoning changes are on the city's consent list, which may pass with one vote. Four properties on Nash Road may

Continue on page 2



PHOTOS BY JAMIE SCHNELL

Emerald Charter Schools President Steve Diggs, philanthropist David Coffey, Emerald Academy Director Carlissa Weeks, Dr. Tanna Nicely and Emerald Academy's 4th grade class celebrate the school's $20,000 award for achieving an exceptional 3rd grade reading assessment score for last year. The students will enjoy a field trip and a picnic this week to celebrate.

Emerald Academy receives award for 3rd grade reading scores

By Jamie Schnell
schnellj@knoxfocus.com

On Monday, November 2, Emerald Academy was awarded $20,000 for its 3rd-grade reading achievement (59.6% ELA proficient).

Dr. Tanna Nicely, Carson-Newman University Director of Leadership and former principal of South Knoxville Elementary, kicked off the event. In the room were the 4th graders who took the reading proficiency test last year, along with their teachers, school staff and various community members.

Nicely told the students, "You have a lot to be proud of today; reading will unlock doors. Excellence is not an accident." She told the students her school had won the same award and presented the $20,000 check alongside Emerald Charter Schools President Steve Diggs, school director Carlissa Weeks and David Coffey, philanthropist, businessman and former Tennessee legislator.

Coffey, a strong advocate for literacy, said he had reviewed the data and the impact this success will have on students in the years to come. Coffey told The Knoxville Focus that he set this award in a trust specifically for this purpose and has awarded it for three years, and next year he "plans to do something bigger." He spoke on how he and his late wife, Patricia, formed this seed of a dream while he was in the legislature over 30 years ago.

Director Weeks explained to the students how they had the highest results on the ELA exams. She also announced that the kids would go on a special field trip next week to a bookstore to pick out any book they wanted and enjoy Chick-fil-A lunches at the park. The students cheered with excitement.

President Diggs told the students, "Congratulations, and I can't wait to see what you accomplish this year as well. This is a great school, with great results. Someone outside this organization recognized your hard work. Mr. Coffey said, 'We see you, and we see what you're doing.'" Diggs thanked Mr. Coffey for the surprise recognition and for his generosity.

The students left the room excited about their new award, hugging and thanking their 2nd and 3rd grade teachers, who had been instrumental in helping them to achieve this success. The genuine joy and pride were evident on the students' faces.

The celebration was more than just a test score or a financial award; it was also a meaningful recognition of the growth, perseverance and teamwork that flourished throughout the school year.



Emerald Academy students were excited to hug and thank teachers Thomas Eubanks and Kristin Tomczak following Monday's assembly. Tomczak teaches 2nd grade and Eubanks taught 3rd grade last year and now serves as the school's Kindergarten - Second Grade Director.

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The Doctor is in

a weekly column by Dr. Jim Ferguson

Exile

Politics is downstream from culture.

Andrew Breitbart

Normally, I start researching the topic for my column on the first of each week and try to complete a rough draft by Tuesday evening because I have to submit my completed essay on Thursday.

However, last Tuesday was anything but normal. The fate of our country hung in the ballot box and writing about anything else was just not possible. I actually considered two titles and two directions for my post-election column since I didn't know the outcome. And I thought it might be days before the final results would be available from blue states. But the wipeout was complete by bedtime Tuesday, and so began America's exile.

In 586 BC, the Babylonian army of King Nebuchadnezzar breached the walls of Jerusalem, destroyed the city and burnt Solomon's Temple. Perhaps a million died of starvation and disease during the prolonged siege and in the final assault. The apostate Jewish leaders maintained until the end that God would not allow the sacred city and the temple to fall. But they were wrong. And those who survived the onslaught were carried off into exile and slavery.

A mere 50 years later, Babylon was conquered by the Persian Empire. And 20 years after that, the Persian King, Cyrus the Great, ended the 70 years of Babylonian captivity by allowing the Hebrews to return to their ancestral homeland and rebuild their broken lives.

It is hard to be creative and write when you are sad, and I am. Looking out on a darkened rainy landscape last Wednesday seemed like a metaphor of my spirit, a harbinger of winter and America's exile.

The horrors of 6th century BC Jerusalem are not mine, but my despair is real. I will be alright. I have lived long and well, and that can never be taken away from me. But I am worried for my children and grandchildren.

I won't attempt to "put lipstick on a pig," but Tennessee held strong to common sense, whereas most of the rest of the nation succumbed to the Sirens' song of Democrat crazies. Nor will I assign blame to a do-nothing Congress, the president or the Democrat Socialists. Rational people recognize propaganda. The political verbiage that we are ruled by a potentate is utter nonsense. We The People choose our leaders. And as Andrew Breitbart implied, our choices of leaders are a reflection of what we've become. That is what is disturbing. The corrupt polis (citizens of the city-state) chose their leaders from a party whose only policy is a perverse hatred of President Trump.

Two millennia ago, the disciples of Jesus watched their leader and dreams die horribly on the cross. Even atheists do not challenge the fact that Jesus existed and was executed. His followers were understandably devastated and confused. Their hope of a messiah to rescue the people from Roman occupation was then buried in a sealed tomb. But then mysteriously, the tomb was found empty and miraculously Jesus appeared to as many as 500 people. And in just a few short years, the news of the obscure rabbi spread across the world. Myths take generations to become impactful. So how can you explain the early adoption of the resurrection reality that changed the world?

The man from Queens who became president is not a Christ figure. Nonetheless, he has become in some sense a "man of sorrows." He dared to challenge the corrupt establishment in 2015, and since then he has been under attack. Attempts to figuratively crucify him with lawfare, impeachments and assassination for opposing the corrupt status quo are obvious to those who have eyes not blinded by hatred, ignorance, and ideology.

And then Trump sacrificed his presidency and his future to prevent the apocalyptic Iranian mullahs from acquiring a nuclear weapon to destroy Israel, threaten the rest of the Middle East, Europe and even the United States with their ballistic missiles. Eight previous presidents did not have the courage to do so.

President Trump made the borders secure, improved the economy, promoted re-industrialization of the homeland, deported illegal aliens, lowered crime and I could go on, but what's the point? The consortium of corrupt media, vacuous Holly-weirds, elitist intelligencia, globalists, socialists, communists, radicals and Islamists proclaimed "the enemy of my enemy is my friend" to destroy President Trump. Damaging our country was acceptable collateral damage.

There comes a time when enough has been said because repeating the truth is useless to Democrats and their allies. Buyers' remorse is inevitable because the Democrats have no constructive policies. They only have hatred for the president.

So it is time for me to step back from the front lines and, like a soldier, leave on sabbatical for needed R&R. It is my plan to take care of personal and family issues and then return the first of next year. But we'll see how things go. Until such time, I'll borrow from Garrison Keillor and a friend to recommend that all of you "Be well, do good work" and "Keep looking up."

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

Forum speakers, board members express concerns over KCS budget shortfall

By Pete Gawda

Sometimes it is not what is on the agenda at public meetings of governing bodies that is the most newsworthy. That was certainly the case when the Knox County Board of Education met on Monday evening, November 2, with a routine, noncontroversial agenda. There was nothing on the agenda about closing or consolidating schools. However, at the conclusion of the meeting, during the public forum, several parents and school officials spoke of their fears of possible school closings and reductions in staff.

On April 28, the board approved a $717 million general purpose budget based on anticipated revenues. Then, on June 15, the Knox County Commission voted to redirect $4 million in property taxes from the school board in order to give a 6% raise to county employees. Another blow came on June 30 when the allocation from the state was approved at a level $3.8 million below the original anticipation. That left the school board scrambling to come up with a balanced budget days before the new school year started.

At their July 9 meeting, it appeared that the board had resolved the problem. At that meeting, it was announced that the reduction in revenues would be offset in part by giving a five-day furlough to district office and administrative staff, reducing the number of contract days for elementary school assistant principals from 221 days to 216 days and reducing teacher staffing and student-teacher ratios. A total of 29 teaching positions were to be eliminated due to lack of funding. Superintendent Jon Rysewyk stated that these reductions were brought about by the lack of funding; they were not something the administration wanted to do. However, it was made clear that teachers affected would not lose their jobs or face a salary reduction. In 12 schools, the affected teachers would fill vacant positions. The remaining 17 teachers would be shifted to other positions within the school district.

The original budget amount was $717,685,000. Because of the loss of anticipated revenues, the board, at its July 9 meeting, approved an updated budget totaling $713,665.000. That lower total was achieved through the reduction of salaries, wages and associated personnel costs brought about by the reduction of teacher positions, furloughs and reduced days for assistant elementary principals.

The much larger attendance than usual at last week's school board meeting indicated that many parents and interested citizens felt that those announced budget decisions would not be enough to make up the shortfall. Several parents who feared that their children's schools would be closed and consolidated with other schools due to budget cuts spoke in defense of those schools. The effects of cutting staffing for special education were discussed by two school system psychologists. The interest of the audience in the effects of the budget shortfall was evidenced by the applause received by each speaker.

At the conclusion of the public forum, several board members expressed appreciation and concern for the budget situation.

"As a parent of a special needs student, I do find it concerning that I am just learning tonight that providers are being cut from our schools," said Lauren Morgan. She said she was eager to see the plan for dealing with the budget reduction and asked for transparency in the process.

"We don't control how much money we receive, but we do control how we budget it," stated Travis Wright. "You got heard tonight."

"I am listening," was the response of Brandy Jenkins. "We do not want to close your schools; that will be the absolute last option."

"I am very concerned about these cuts," said Lee Ann Eaves. "I do not want schools to close."

There was no mention of closing or consolidating schools in that night's agenda; however, board member Breyauna Holloway was interviewed on WVLT 8 NEWS. She said that Gap Creek, Maynard, Corryton and South Knoxville elementary schools were under consideration for closing because their enrollments were under 250. The Focus reached out to Holloway for comment, but received no reply by deadline.

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$4.3 million for solar at city buildings before council

Cont. from page 1

be rezoned from general industrial to single-family residential. Two tracts on Clinch Avenue and one on Laurel Avenue may go from medium-density residential to medium-density residential/office.

Two Moody Avenue properties may switch from RN-1 to RN-3, general residential neighborhood. A Rudy Street lot may go from light industrial to general commercial.

The police department is asking the council to approve an application with the U.S. Department of Justice for $8,000 a year for two years to reimburse purchased bullet-proof vests.

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Publisher's Positions



By Steve Hunley, Publisher
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Congratulations to Marsha Blackburn

Congratulations to Governor-elect Marsha Blackburn on her victory last week, as well as to Senator Bill Hagerty and Congressman Tim Burchett. Blackburn made history yet again; after having been the first woman ever to be elected by Tennesseans to serve in the US Senate, she is now the first woman to be elected as Tennessee's chief executive. Hagerty won his second term as Tennessee's senator. Burchett was first elected in 2018 to succeed long-time Congressman John J. "Jimmy" Duncan, who had served 30 years as the Second District's representative in the US House.

Blackburn is well-positioned to serve as governor, having served as a member of the Tennessee State Senate where she led the fight against a state income tax. Blackburn was elected to Congress and then to the US Senate. Marsha Blackburn also became the first person ever to have been popularly elected to Congress, the US Senate and governor.

There has been some speculation in the news media, both in Tennessee and nationally, whether Governor Bill Lee or incoming governor Blackburn can appoint her successor in the Senate. Some news outlets have suggested there is no precedent, which is not true. In fact, Ray Hill, the resident political historian for The Focus, wrote an entire column on a similar case where both the sitting governor and incoming governor, who was a member of the US Senate, both appointed a successor. The column details the Senate determining which was entitled to hold the seat. You can find that column in The Focus archives online: www.knoxfocus.com/archives/this-weeks-focus/when-the-mountain-state-had-three-senators/

Republican Party Needs Some Serious Reflection On What Went Wrong

There is no avoiding the overwhelming defeat experienced by Republicans across the nation. Congressman Tim Burchett, I think, summarized the problem correctly. Republicans did not focus on the issues that mattered the most to the voters. The end result was a thorough drubbing on the day of the election.

Since it first hit newsstands, The Knoxville Focus has consistently been on the side of working people and families. When former school superintendent Jim McIntyre proposed to outsource the janitors at the Knox County school system, The Focus was the only news outlet in our community to oppose the idea and side with the least of these. It was a shameful idea to try and outsource the least compensated people in the system then, and we are proud to have taken the stand we did. Likewise, Republican would-be candidates ought to learn the obvious lesson of the midterm elections. GOP aspirants should be laser-focused on offering solutions to the real problems faced by working people and families. When wages don't keep up with inflation, it hurts people who work for a living. Republicans in Washington, from the top down, took their eyes off the ball. The message of economic populism does not appeal to the elitists of either party, nor to the Marxists nudging aside reasonable Democrats. Republicans need to stand up and speak out on these issues which we face in our community. Local legislative officials have much more to do than trying to effectuate a national agenda locally; they need to address rising taxes, crumbling infrastructure, and the rapid pace of development that outruns our streets, schools, and neighborhoods. We need Republican officials to point out the lie of the Leftists in their own definition of "affordable" housing. Continuing to subsidize more and more is being paid for by taxpayers, and the City Council continuing to spend more and more money literally raises rents and mortgages for working people. Those increases hurt no group more than working families.

County officials need to give fewer lectures on national issues and fewer Bible lessons and pay more attention to what's affecting Knox County. How can county officials resolve local matters, like our pressing traffic problems while, at the same time, approving zonings and development to further clog the roadways? Compounding the problem is never a remedy, and ignoring it won't make it go away.

The voters of Washington state, which has not elected a Republican governor since 1980, nor a GOP US senator since 1994, passed a referendum banning biological males from participating in girls' sports. The referendum was approved with 56% of the vote in a state that is deep blue.

Reason and logic can appeal to a broad section of voters, and approaching a subject with at least a measure of common sense helps. Approaching party primaries with an eye to destroying one's opponent benefits only the Democrat-Socialists. That is not a theory but an established fact.

Voters will never reward those public officials who hold an office and do not perform the duties of that office, nor should they. We need to reemphasize what we stand for, and at the very root of that we must always be implementing those policies and doing the things that help raise up working people and their families. We need to help young people be able to lead productive lives and have the ability to afford a good home or apartment.

The American Dream should be shared by all of us - the opportunity to get an education, earn a good wage, live in a comfortable home, be happy and live a good life. When that becomes impossible, our country is gone.

Democrats improve numbers in Knox County

By Mike Steely
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Tuesday's general election saw some Democratic gains and close races in Knox County.

Republican Senator Marsha Blackburn will be the next governor of Tennessee after squeezing out about 55,000 more statewide votes than Democrat Jerri Green. But Blackburn lost in Knox County, with Green getting 48.48% of the vote to Blackburn's 42.42%. Across the Volunteer State, Blackburn captured the rural areas, with Green winning in the large cities.

Independent David Hatley received 7.2% of the Knox County vote.

In the U.S. Senate race, Bill Hagerty edged out Marquita Bradshaw in Knox County with 50.24% of the vote. About 3,000 votes separated the two candidates.

Incumbent Congressman Tim Burchett had a very slim victory against Michaela Barnett in Knox County, 49.91% to 49.12%. Barnett took the early vote by about 4,000 votes, but lost in the Tuesday in-person voting. Roughly only 1,500 votes separated the Republican from the Democrat, about the same total the two Independents in the race received.

Democrat David Miller defeated Republican Jimmy Matlock in Knox County in the state Senate District 5 race with 50.60% of the vote. However, Matlock received more than 15K votes than Miller in Anderson and Loudon counties and will replace long-time Republican Randy McNally, who is retiring.

Republican incumbent Richard Briggs defeated Bryan Langan with 52.72% of the vote in state Senate District 7.

Incumbent state Representative Elaine Davis lost her reelection bid in District 18 to Democrat Bryan Goldberg by 2,568 votes. Goldberg also won the early voting total.

Incumbent Republican state Representatives Jason Zachary (District 14), Michele Carringer (District 16), Dave Wright (District 19) and Justin Lafferty (District 89) won their reelections easily, as did Democrat incumbent Reps. Sam McKenzie (District 15) and Gloria Johnson (District 90), who were both unopposed.

The three statewide constitutional amendments passed in Knox County, but the vote to change the rules of elections inside the city was close, with 50.63% voting for the amendment and 49.37% voting against. The victory means that a primary candidate for city council who wins by 50% plus one would be declared the general election victor without facing a second election.

The Knox County Election Commission will meet later this month to certify the results of the general election.

KCSO employees' merit system board, ethics committee reorganize

By Mike Steely
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Willis chosen as merit board chairperson

Lindsay Willis, who has been serving as interim chairperson for the Knox County Sheriff's Office Employees' Merit System Board of Directors, has been chosen to chair the group. Willis was selected by the board at its quarterly meeting last Wednesday.

Dan Johnson was selected as vice-chair during the reorganization. Willis welcomed two new members, James Dee and Don Green, and called on special counsel Oscar Butler to address the brief meeting.

Butler successfully asked the group to approve the hiring of a paralegal to assist his position at the sheriff's office. He replaces three attorneys there whose duties were combined to create the special counsel position. Knox County Deputy Law Director Myers Morton, who advises the merit board, explained the request and the new position. One member suggested that the new paralegal also be required, among other duties, to have a valid driver's license to come and go from the department and for trips to crime or investigation scenes.

Willis then moved the meeting to discuss creating a rules committee that would consult with the law department in updating those regulations.

Ethics Committee elects officers

In a brief meeting Wednesday, the Knox County Ethics Committee elected officers. Interim Chair Michael Bittel hosted the meeting and welcomed

Continue on page 4

Knox County Republicans to reflect after 2026 election

Cont. from page 1

"I won't be completely confident until the last vote is counted," he said.

Minutes later, he won another term. He, however, knew that the party had a rough go at the polls.

"Anytime you win an election, it's an honor," he said. "But we're going to have to get our Republicans out to vote.

"We're not going to give up. Weak people give up, and we're a strong party."

United States Representative Tim Burchett (District 2) defeated Democrat Michaela Barnett, Independent Bruce Fine and Independent Adam Heimerman. He was pleased, but immediately called for reflection.

"I know things look pretty grim tonight, and they are, but this is when real Republicans come together. We have to reflect. We have to look at what we did and what we did wrong.

"I remember one time, I was with my dad and we'd just gotten walloped in an election, and he said that this was still the best country in the world. This is still the best dang country in the world, so let's take it back."

Justin Lafferty also won re-election to the state House (District 89) as he defeated Democrat Randy DeBord.

"It's an honor to continue to serve the people of District 89," he said. "This is a little different for me. I'm used to being up here during high times."

Michele Carringer (District 13) and Jason Zachary (District 14) won re-election to the state House and District 5 Jimmy Matlock was elected to the state Senate.

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Muse Knoxville unveils future museum design, launches $50 million Grow with Me campaign

Muse Knoxville has unveiled renderings of its future home at Chilhowee Park and launched its $50 million Grow with Me capital campaign, marking a major milestone in the museum's plans to expand access to hands-on learning for children and families across East Tennessee.

The project will transform the historic Jacob Building into a 57,000-square-foot destination for science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics (STEAM) learning, replacing the museum's current 10,000-square-foot space with a significantly larger, purpose-built environment for exploration and discovery. The new space will better serve more families, welcome additional school groups, expand educational programming, and provide more children with access to meaningful learning experiences.

Muse Knoxville shared the vision for the expanded museum during a private preview on November 5, inviting community partners and supporters to learn more about the project and the philanthropic investment needed to bring it to life.



Muse Knoxville shared the vision for the expanded museum during a private preview on November 5, inviting community partners and supporters to learn more about the project and the philanthropic investment needed to bring it to life.

"We believe that every child deserves the chance to wonder, explore, create, and discover. This next chapter for Muse Knoxville means more room for big ideas, more opportunities for hands-on learning, and more children who can see themselves as the scientists, artists, engineers, and innovators of tomorrow," said Allison Comer, president and CEO of Muse Knoxville. "We're building a space where curiosity has no limits."

Expanding Access and Opportunity

The expansion responds to growing demand for Muse Knoxville's educational experiences. During fiscal years 2024 through 2026, nearly 3,000 visitors were waitlisted due to capacity limitations, and 10 East Tennessee school districts were turned away during the 2025-2026 school year.

With the expanded facility, Muse Knoxville anticipates welcoming more than 200,000 visitors annually. Increased capacity will create additional opportunities for school field trips, camps, educational programs, and community experiences while advancing the museum's commitment to making STEAM learning accessible to children across the region.

The project will also strengthen Muse Knoxville's ability to connect children with the skills and confidence to ask questions, solve problems, explore new ideas, and imagine future possibilities.

A Community Partnership Building the Future

The Grow with Me campaign builds on a significant public-private partnership between Muse Knoxville, the City of Knoxville, and the Clayton family. The City's commitment through the use of the building and the Clayton Family Foundation's transformational $25 million investment have established a strong foundation for the project.

With a total of $33 million raised and additional support from partners including the Boyd Foundation, Bill and Crissy Haslam Foundation, Clayton, Kevin and Chelly Clayton, the State of Tennessee, Arconic Foundation, UT Battelle - ORNL, Bank of America, TVA, Siddiqi Charitable Foundation, Tennessee State Museum, Knox County Government, The Bruce Family, Delta Dental of TN, BVI, Management Solutions, LLC, and Perk City reflects a broader commitment to expanding educational opportunities for the region's children.

Together, these partners are helping turn a shared vision into reality. With the campaign now underway, Muse Knoxville is inviting individuals, businesses, foundations, and community members to join this effort and help create a lasting resource for future generations.

Looking Ahead

Muse Knoxville's current location will remain open and continue welcoming visitors throughout the expansion process. Design work is anticipated to be completed in 2026, construction is expected to begin in 2027, and the expanded museum is projected to open in 2028.

The Grow with Me campaign represents an investment beyond a building. It is an opportunity to expand access to transformative learning experiences, strengthen connections across the community, and create more opportunities for every child to discover what is possible.

To learn more, visit themuseknoxville.org/museknoxville-capital-campaign/ or contact Katie Mixon at Katie@themuseknoxville.org.

Ferryn and Brinkley Wright can use your help!



Sisters Ferryn and Brinkley Wright, pictured above in their Berean Christian School days, are on this season of "The Voice," a singing competition on NBC. The South Knox natives made it through last week's elimination and have advanced to the Top 13 live rounds which start tonight at 8 p.m. on NBC. Fans can vote via SMS text or TikTok during live shows until five minutes after the final performance of the night.

KCSO employees' merit system board, ethics committee

Cont. from page 3

new and current members.

Bittel turned the meeting over to Marcus Kennedy, representative of the county mayor's office, who then called for nominations for chairman.

Bittel was reelected, and Gary Anders was elected vice chair.

Bittel said there were no complaints to come before the group and noted that complaints against elected officials first go to the law director's office to be examined and then passed to the chairman if found to be of merit.

Voting members of the ethics committee include Bittel, Anders, Marcus Hilliard, Perrin Anderson, Chris D'Angelo, Rusty Goddard, Dana Hofseth, Monica Irvine and Lorri Ryan.

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Heidi Dahl, MD

Specialties:
- Cataract Surgery
- Glaucoma
- Diabetic Retinopathy
- Macular Degeneration
- Comprehensive Ophthalmology

Dr. Dahl earned her Doctor of Medicine degree from ETSU's Quillen College of Medicine in Johnson City. She went on to complete her ophthalmology residency at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota.



Tyler Pace, MD

Specialties:
- Oculoplastic and Reconstructive Surgery
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- Surgical and non-surgical cosmetic procedures

Dr. Pace completed his undergraduate degree from Carson-Newman. Then earned his Doctor of Medicine degree from Wake Forest University. He interned at University of Tennessee Medical Center, Knoxville. Afterwords, he completed his Ophthalmology Residency as chief resident at the University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, TX.

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PHOTO COURTESY OF PAIGE TRAVIS, CITY OF KNOXVILLE.

The Village at Inskip was officially opened recently with Mayor Indya Kincannon and developer John Huber cutting the ribbon. Also present were Councilwomen Debbie Helsley and Karyn Adams, Beth Bacon of Housing and Neighborhood Development, Knox County Commissioner Courtney Durrett and others. Deliberately absent was Councilman Charles Thomas, who objected to the project development.

New apartment complex draws safety concerns

By Mike Steely
Senior Writer
steelym@knoxfocus.com



PHOTO BY MIKE STEELY

A crossing from the Village at Inskip to the Inskip Park and Pool may allow pedestrians to cross the very busy Bruhin Road but, as noted in the photo, the short sidewalk on the east side leads only to the pool.

Located on Bruhin Road across from the Inskip Park and Pool, The Village at Inskip apartment complex was officially opened at the end of October with a ribbon-cutting.

Mayor Kincannon addressed the event, saying, "We're a growing city, and the people who work here need a place to live. So the people who are going to live in The Village of Inskip are serving in our hospitality industry. They're working at our assisted living facilities. They're taking care of us, and they need an affordable place to live."

District 5 Councilman Charles Thomas, who represents the area, did not attend the ribbon-cutting. He was the sole vote against the city's 7-1 approval of the development.

"You effectively lobbied for a zoning change from RN-2 to RN-5 over the neighborhood's objections, and mine, when two previous city councils had, because of safety and infrastructure inadequacies on this site, denied even an RN-2," Thomas wrote in his open reply to the invitation from John Huber, the developer of the 98-unit complex.

"Any ribbon cutting on

Continue on page 2

Farragut Museum presents: Veterans Day History Hour, new temporary exhibit

Veterans Day History Hour is Nov. 11, 2026

History Hour, the speaker series at the Farragut Museum, continues Wednesday, Nov. 11, at 11 a.m. at Farragut Town Hall. In honor of Veterans Day, retired U.S. Navy Adm. Lew Felton will present highlights from his distinguished 35-year Navy career.

"As you know, we love admirals in Farragut, and we're delighted to welcome Admiral Felton as our guest at History Hour. He served many years as a chief engineer and helped design and maintain Navy ships. He joined the Navy at 17, and the Navy later sent him to MIT. He'll discuss his career and is also excited to have a conversation with our guests and answer any questions," said Kristi Vining, Historic Resources Coordinator for the Town of Farragut.

The event is free, and the Farragut Museum is open for tours after the presentation. Light refreshments will be available.

Farragut Museum opens new temporary exhibit, 'Kitchen Classics'

The Farragut Museum has opened its newest temporary exhibit, "Kitchen Classics," featuring a collection of vintage kitchen utensils, household items and cooking tools. The exhibit is on display now through February 2027.

Through a variety of artifacts, visitors can discover how kitchen equipment and food preparation have changed over the years. Many of the items on display were once common in American homes but have been replaced by modern conveniences.

Continue on page 6

John T. O'Connor Center Hosts its Annual Fall Craft Fair Thursday

The John T. O'Connor Senior Center invites the community to kick off the holiday season with the center's Annual Fall Craft Fair, featuring a wonderful selection of handmade crafts, unique gifts, seasonal décor and more.

The craft fair provides an opportunity for shoppers to find one-of-a-kind items while supporting local artisans and crafters. The fair will feature a wide array of beautiful autumnal handmade creations to holiday-inspired treasures; there will be something for everyone.

The craft fair is a wonderful way to bring people together, showcase creativity in the community and provide a fun shopping experience.

The fair will be held Thursday, November 12, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at 611 Winona St, Knoxville, TN. 37917

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New apartment complex draws safety concerns

Cont. from page 1

this project is premature. I would appreciate more of an invitation when those future residents would like to walk in their neighborhood and not have their only choice in the road or ditch."

The Inskip Neighborhood Association also stood unsuccessfully against the development, citing no walkable access to Inskip Elementary, increasing traffic on the already busy street, and the safety of children crossing the street to the park and pool. Some members continue to speak out about what's needed there.

The council approved a grant of $1.44 million from the affordable rental development fund for the project, with the idea of the developer building sidewalks along the busy road. The city has since created a pedestrian crosswalk across Bruhin Road to the park and pool, and a city bus stop is planned there for next year. But there is no school bus service planned.

Knox County School Bus policy dealing with K-5 says, "Students living more than 1 mile from their zoned school are eligible for bus service. Students living within 1.0 mile fall into the Parent Responsibility Zone and receive no bus service." The new apartments are 1.1 miles from Inskip Elementary School.

Lynne Siglin, a former teacher and Inskip resident, told The Focus, "Elementary kids will have to walk in a ditch on Bruhin Road and up to Broadview Drive in order to get to Inskip Elementary from Inskip Village Way apartments if they don't have a car to ride in. There needs to be a sidewalk where the ditch is."

"Even if only one child has to walk in the ditch on busy Bruhin each school day, that is one too many," she said.

Continuing efforts to bring sidewalks to Bruhin Road and other neighborhood streets is one of the main aims of the Inskip Neighborhood Association. The residents have also tried for years to get a sidewalk from Dutch Valley Road up the hill to the pool.

In a meeting with residents at the Inskip Park shelter in 2022, John Huber said the current requirement to develop the apartment complex involves building a sidewalk along the Bruhin Road frontage of the property. Local residents said that the sidewalk needs to be extended to Dutch Valley Road and Broadview Drive. Huber indicated that, if that is required and the city grants a right-of-way, he would consider it.

City replies to Village at Inskip sidewalk questions

Grant Rosenberg, Knoxville's Chief Operations Officer, told The Focus that he agrees sidewalks are needed along Bruhin Road but said the funding is not available.

He sent the following statement.

"The City cannot require a developer to build sidewalks from property line to property line. The resulting development plan provides a connection to Inskip Pool & Park, and as you know the City would like to eventually build sidewalks along Bruhin Rd (this connection project was included in our Sales Tax Referendum), however there isn't any current funding available.

"The initial development concept proposed a sidewalk along the full property frontage. It was determined that a full-frontage sidewalk was unnecessary, disproportionate to the project's scope, and appeared to exceed essential nexus criteria. Instead, the City recommended sidewalk improvements proportional to the development's impact. The sidewalk was set back from the roadway to keep construction costs reasonable and better support Vision Zero objectives. Because the development frontage has substantially more right-of-way than adjacent properties, extending the sidewalk north or south would require significant grading and property acquisition, making the east side of Bruhin Road the more feasible location for a future larger-scale sidewalk project."

What Happens if a Juror Googles the Case?



By Jedidiah McKeehan
jed@attorney-knoxville.com

Almost any question can be answered in seconds with a phone. That creates a serious problem during a jury trial because jurors are supposed to decide the case only from the evidence they hear in the courtroom. So what happens if a juror goes home and Googles the defendant, a witness, or the law?

Judges instruct jurors not to conduct independent research and not to post or communicate about the case on social media. A juror cannot look up a party's criminal history, visit the scene using online maps, search for news stories, or read legal definitions that the judge did not provide.

The reason is fairness. Some evidence is kept away from a jury because it is unreliable, irrelevant, or unfairly prejudicial. Internet searches can put that excluded information directly in a juror's hands, without either side having a chance to challenge it or explain the context.

Tennessee courts take this issue seriously. In State v. Smith, a juror used Facebook to communicate with a witness during a murder trial. The Tennessee Supreme Court held that when a judge receives reliable information about that kind of outside communication, the judge must investigate and make a record of what happened.

A mistrial or new trial is not automatic every time a juror touches a phone. The judge will want to know what the juror saw, whether it related to the case, whether the juror shared it with anyone else, and whether it could have affected the verdict. Depending on the answer, the juror may be removed and replaced with an alternate, the trial may continue, or the entire case may have to be tried again.

If a juror accidentally sees a headline or receives information about the case, the right response is not to investigate further or tell the other jurors. The juror should stop, notify the judge or bailiff, and let the court decide what to do. The same is true if one juror learns that another juror has been researching the case.

Jurors are not being told to turn off their common sense. They are being told to decide one specific case from one specific body of evidence. One careless Google search can expose information the jury was never supposed to see and can undo days, weeks, or even months of work.

Visit attorney-knoxville.com for more information about this legal issue and other legal issues.

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Governor Albert C. Ritchie of Maryland

Pages from the Past



By Ray Hill
rayhill865@gmail.com



INTERNATIONAL NEWSREEL PHOTO FROM THE AUTHOR'S PERSONAL COLLECTION.

Maryland Governor Albert C. Ritchie at the Preakness Races in 1931.

During his time in office, Albert Cabell Ritchie was one of the best-known chief executives in the country. Twice, Ritchie was a candidate for the Democratic nomination for the presidency. To this day, Albert C. Ritchie remains the longest-serving governor in Maryland's history, remaining in the governor's mansion for quite nearly 15 years. His hair was parted in the middle, giving him a somewhat severe look, and he was clean-shaven and possessed a distinguished appearance, which reinforced his image as a statesman as he aged. Oftentimes the governor wore pince-nez glasses perched on the bridge of his nose. While he might have looked like a stately professor, Albert C. Ritchie possessed a keen mind for organization, and he built a formidable political machine that kept him in office and made him the most powerful figure in the Free State for well over a decade. Ritchie was one of those who might well have won the Democratic presidential nomination in 1932 had there been a deadlock or Franklin Roosevelt's candidacy had faltered.

Ritchie looked the part he was elected to and came from a distinguished family. His mother, Elizabeth Cabell, was the granddaughter of William H. Cabell, who served as a governor of Virginia. Ritchie's father, for whom he was named, was at various times a professor of law at the University of Maryland, a justice of the court for Baltimore, the city attorney for Baltimore, president of the Maryland Historical Association and a duly elected member of the Maryland Constitutional Convention of 1867. His parents settled in Baltimore while young Albert was a toddler, and he lived there most of his life and followed in the footsteps of his father, earning a law degree after having been educated in private schools. Ritchie entered private practice but quickly accepted an appointment as an assistant in the office of the solicitor for Baltimore, the city attorney. That evidently gave Ritchie the impetus to form his own law firm, as his post with the City of Baltimore did not take up all of his time. Like his father, Albert C. Ritchie taught law at the University of Maryland's law school and continued in his work for the City of Baltimore and private practice with his own firm.

Oddly, the future governor married Elizabeth Catherine Baker in 1907, but his wife filed for divorce in 1910, citing abandonment by her husband, who had left their home to live with his mother. That same year, Ritchie became the attorney for Maryland's Public Service Commission, which regulated utility companies. Ritchie attracted much favorable attention from local newspapers in his efforts to lower utility costs for consumers. The publicity and his subsequent legal victories over the utility companies for the people helped to propel Ritchie into office as the attorney general for Maryland, which was an elected position. One of the first reforms Ritchie proposed was consolidating the legal services for virtually every department and agency of the state into the offices of the attorney general, which negated the need to hire outside counsel constantly.

Through his service as general counsel to the War Industries Board during the First World War, Ritchie became acquainted with financier Bernard Baruch. The two became friends, and Baruch helped to finance Ritchie's political campaigns. In 1919, Attorney General Albert C. Ritchie became the consensus candidate for the Democratic nomination for governor. Without any opposition inside his own party, Ritchie entered the general election as the clear favorite, as Maryland was a reliably Democratic state. Yet Albert C. Ritchie faced Harry W. Nice, a Republican who had a pleasing personality and a knack for making friends out of both Republicans and Democrats. One of Nice's friends was Frank Kelly, an infamous political boss who wielded enormous influence inside Baltimore, which was a heavily Democratic city and frequently returned the winning majorities for statewide candidates.

The American people had rejected a personal plea by President Woodrow Wilson to return a Democratic majority to Congress. The country was tiring of the aftermath of the World War, wanting to return to "normalcy," as future GOP presidential nominee Warren Harding so aptly put it. The 1919 gubernatorial election in Maryland was a portent of things to come. Frank Kelly put out the word in his organization that he was backing Ritchie rather than his friend Harry W. Nice. That was enough to deliver the election to Albert C. Ritchie by the narrowest of margins, 165 votes out of almost 225,000 ballots cast by Marylanders. The closeness of the 1919 election and the widely suspected voter fraud by Frank Kelly's political machine would come back to haunt Ritchie years later.

As governor, Albert Ritchie embarked on reforming state government and was a nationally recognized figure in his opposition to the prohibition of alcohol. Governor Ritchie streamlined services in state government and his efforts were appreciated by the people of Maryland as he became the first governor to be reelected to a second term since the Civil War. Ritchie won acclaim inside his own party when he was called to Washington by President Warren G. Harding for a conference of governors to urge compliance with the Eighteenth Amendment (prohibition) to the Constitution of the United States. Governor Ritchie, when it came his turn to speak, bluntly informed his listeners that the people of Maryland were against prohibition and the Eighteenth Amendment. Ritchie said Marylanders favored local option, meaning localities decided for themselves. "The Volstead Act changed all this," Ritchie barked. "Our people in the main regard it as an unnecessary and drastic Federal infringement of their state and personal right, foreign to the spirit of the Federal union and resulting in a sectional tyranny that the people of my state will not brook."

Ritchie's remarks quite nearly blew up the White House conference. Not surprisingly, Governor Ritchie was one of the driving forces during the 1932 Democratic National Convention for inserting the plank urging repeal of the Eighteenth Amendment into the party platform. The governor was renominated and reelected in 1923, and once again in 1926, when Maryland changed its elections from the off year. Governor Albert Ritchie was reelected to a fourth consecutive term in 1930.

Ritchie was considered presidential timber by many inside his own political party, and while outdistanced by New York Governor Franklin Roosevelt, the Marylander was a contender until the convention nominated FDR. Although unsuccessful in his quest to win the presidential nomination, the governor was delighted when he was greeted by a gigantic throng of people when he returned from the 1932 convention. Ritchie said it was the happiest moment of his life to be greeted by so many of his fellow Marylanders even in defeat.

The Roosevelt forces at the 1932 Democratic National Convention bargained with the vice-presidential nomination in exchange for support. Some observers believed Ritchie could have had the vice-presidential spot on the ticket had he wanted it. The offer was supposedly made if the governor would lead the Maryland delegation into the Roosevelt campaign and help to bring around several other states which were either supporting favorite sons or undecided. The offer was allegedly declined by Governor Ritchie, who likely believed his own chances for the presidential nomination were as good as anyone else's. The truth of the matter was that Ritchie did not think much of Roosevelt or the New Deal. That was later given as the real reason why Albert Ritchie refused to consider running for the US Senate in 1934. No one doubted the senatorial nomination was Ritchie's, had he shown even the slightest interest in accepting it after 15 years as governor. It was the logical next move for one who wished to remain prominent in Maryland's political life and it would have kept alive his aspirations for higher political office as well. Ritchie was relatively young at the time, 57 years old. Governor Ritchie had questioned the wholesale spending by Roosevelt's New Deal and was highly critical of any effort by the federal government to usurp what he saw as the rights of the states to govern themselves. As a critic of the most popular Democrat in the country, Ritchie upset many inside his own party. While criticizing much of the New Deal, Governor Ritchie angered many recipients of Roosevelt's administration's largesse, which made many former supporters fall out with him.

Albert Ritchie refused to even consider running for the United States Senate in 1934. The governor did not wish to play a supporting role and have to pass on another's political program in the Senate. By continuing to hold the governor's office, Ritchie would continue to be the most politically powerful individual, at least in Maryland.

As a result, Governor Albert C. Ritchie, despite unrest and opposition, which had been building for some time in the last part of his administration, insisted upon being renominated to run again in 1934. Senator Millard Tydings had been backing George L. Radcliffe for the gubernatorial nomination; Mayor Howard Jackson of Baltimore had been ardently pursuing the Democratic nomination for governor himself. With Ritchie's insistence upon running yet again, Tydings withdrew the candidacy of George Radcliffe, who became the Democratic nominee for the United States Senate; Jackson also withdrew as a candidate, allowing Ritchie to be nominated without any real opposition.

Ritchie confidently expected to defeat Harry W. Nice, who had beaten US Senator Phillips Lee Goldsborough to win the opportunity to face the governor once again. Ritchie was profoundly surprised when he was upset in the general election. Harry W. Nice had vindicated the loss of 1919. Whether it was covering his disappointment at the only defeat dealt him during his political career, or if it was a philosophical moment, Ritchie said his loss "probably was a blessing in disguise." The governor had been "seriously ill," according to press reports, before leaving for his first vacation since being chief executive of Maryland. Ritchie left for a European trip in the hopes of regaining his health for the general election.

Out of the governor's mansion in 1935, Ritchie resumed the practice of law and adamantly clung tenaciously to his standing as a former governor and a leader of Maryland's Democratic Party. There were many Democrats who fully expected Ritchie to compete once again in 1938 to win the fifth term he had failed to achieve in 1934. Once again, Albert Ritchie left for Europe, enjoying a vacation of several weeks in London.

Whatever his political intentions, fate has a way of overturning even the most carefully laid plans and prospects. On February 23, 1936, Albert Ritchie had addressed a club meeting at the Mount Vernon Episcopal Church, which was across the street from his Washington Apartment House home. The former governor lambasted the centralization of government for more than an hour. There had been no sign that Ritchie was ill as he had spoken over national radio on the previous Saturday evening and attended a banquet for the Johns Hopkins University Alumni Association.

Staff at the apartment house later related the former governor had been in good spirits and seemingly good health when he returned about 9:30 p.m. and entered the elevator to return to his rooms.

In the early morning hours of February 24, 1936, Albert Ritchie was stricken in his Baltimore apartment when he called his personal secretary, Mrs. Elizabeth Smith, to say that he was feeling quite ill. The former governor asked Mrs. Smith to come to his apartment as quickly as she could manage. Mrs. Smith found Ritchie unable to move and semi-conscious while sitting in a chair when she arrived at his apartment. Mrs. Smith telephoned, desperately trying to locate a nearby physician. When doctors Cecil Bagley and Richard Coblentz arrived at the former governor's apartment, Ritchie had apparently fallen out of his chair and was lying upon the floor of his study. The doctors sought oxygen tanks while one administered artificial respiration to Ritchie, who was unconscious. Firemen brought the requested oxygen tanks, and they tried eight times to resuscitate the former governor unsuccessfully. Ritchie was pronounced dead at 1:45 a.m.

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Legacy Parks announces two new mural installations along the Sokno Rail Trail & Art Walk

The SoKno Rail Trail & Art Walk continues to transform into an outdoor art destination in South Knoxville, with Legacy Parks Foundation announcing the installation of two more large-scale murals along the upcoming trail.

The newest murals, created by Tennessee based artist, Whitney Herrington and New York City based artist Key Detail, are currently being installed at Landing Health and the Trimble building, bringing vibrant color, creativity and storytelling to the growing collection of art.

At Landing Health, Whitney Herrington's mural, Second Nature, brings together elements of nature, movement and familiar East Tennessee imagery. The composition will feature a solitary female figure, two herons and oversized dogwood blooms, creating a scene that feels both familiar and dreamlike. Flowing water and a heron taking flight introduce movement, while the woman and a second heron offer a quieter, more grounded presence. The dogwood blooms and leaves pay tribute to Knoxville's iconic springtime landscape.

Herrington is a Tennessee-based muralist and founder of Old Soul Mural Co., who has transformed walls and spaces across multiple states, including schools, restaurants, healthcare facilities and commercial properties. Drawing inspiration from vintage graphics, music, nature and the character of a place, her work is designed to capture attention and create memorable experiences.

At William S Trimble Co., Key Detail's mural celebrates the cultural and historical character of East Tennessee through a composition rich with symbolism. At the center, a woman plays the mountain dulcimer, a traditional Appalachian folk instrument closely associated with Tennessee's mountain music and old ballads. Her music tells a story of love, inspired by the region's musical heritage and scenic beauty.

Based in New York City, Key Detail is a contemporary muralist, street artist and illustrator whose work combines architectural precision, surrealism and imaginative storytelling. Originally from Minsk, Belarus, Kravtsov holds a degree in architecture and has created more than 50 large-scale outdoor murals across the United States, Europe and Asia. His work includes installations at New York City's Hudson Yards and Cross County Center in Yonkers.

The two new installations add to a growing collection that includes Shiny Objects by Florida artist Naomi Haverland, installed on the vertical tower at Kern's Bakery, and a botanical-inspired mural by Knoxville artist Anna Charney.

"It's exciting to see the Art Walk continue to come to life through this growing collection of artwork," said Carol Evans, Executive Director of Legacy Parks Foundation. "Each mural brings a different perspective and tells a different story, celebrating the creativity, character and history of our community. Together, these installations are transforming the trail into a place where people can discover something new every time they visit."

Once complete, the 1.5-mile Art Walk will feature six large-scale murals, along with sculptures, rail-inspired elements, landscape architecture and youth-created artwork. Two sculptures, Anywhere by Nathan Pierce of Cape Girardeau, Missouri, and Semaphore by Brian Ferriby of Cedar, Michigan, are already installed along the trail.

A $1 million gift from the Lawson Family Foundation is funding the initial installations along the Art Walk. The collection will feature unique, diverse and engaging works by local, regional and nationally renowned artists, creating an outdoor gallery that makes extraordinary art accessible to everyone.

"Murals turn everyday walls into shared storytelling spaces," said Sherry Jenkins, Executive Director of Dogwood Arts. "The SoKno Rail Trail and Art Walk is not just beautifying the area, we're sparking pride, inviting conversations, and making art a part of daily life for everyone who passes through." Dogwood Arts is managing artist selection, coordination, and art installations of much of the art along the corridor.

The SoKno Rail Trail & Art Walk is a 3.8-mile rail-to-trail project connecting Chapman Highway to Ijams Nature Center. The Art Walk will be a vibrant 1.5-mile segment of the trail, from Chapman Highway to Island Home, integrating art, nature and recreation into an accessible experience for all. Specially commissioned art pieces will showcase works by local, regional and nationally renowned artists.

The SoKno Rail Trail and Art Walk is a project by Legacy Parks Foundation in collaboration with Gulf and Ohio Railway, City of Knoxville and Dogwood Arts.

The SoKno Rail Trail & Art Walk is scheduled to open in late Fall 2026. Additional artwork and project updates will be announced as installation continues.

For more information about the SoKno Rail Trail & Art Walk, visit LegacyParks.org.

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

FORECLOSURE NOTICES

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on Wednesday, December 2, 2026, 10:00 a.m., at the front entrance of the Knoxville City County Building located at 400 West Main Street in Knoxville, Tennessee 37902, Cherokee at Westcliff Homeowners Association (the "Association") will sell to the highest and best bidder, on a credit of six (6) months, in bar of any right of redemption, the following described property, which is located in Knoxville, Tennessee, to wit:

Situated in District Five (5) of Knox County, Tennessee, and within the 49th Ward of the City of Knoxville, Tennessee, being known and designated as all of Unit 6305, Cherokee Condominium at Westcliff, as shown on the Master Deed of Record in Deed Book 1845, Page 831 and Amended in Deed Book 2161, Page 373, both in the Register's Office for Knox County, Tennessee, together with the undivided percentage interest in the common elements appurtenant to said units, as set forth in Exhibit A-1 of said Master Deed. Reference is hereby made to plat of Cherokee Condominiums at Westcliff as set forth in Exhibit A-2 of said Master Deed for a more complete identification and description of said units.

Being the same property conveyed to **Barbara W. Ross and David R. Norwood** by Warranty Deed dated October 25, 2017, as Instrument Number 201711010027492 in the Register's Office for Knox County, Tennessee.

The street address of the above-described property is: **5709 Lyons View Pike, #6305, Knoxville, TN 37919.**

This sale is being conducted pursuant to the provisions of Tennessee Code Annotated, 35-5-101, et seq., and as directed by the Default Judgment and Order of Sale entered against Defendant, Barbara W. Ross (the "Defendant") in the following case before the Chancery Court for Knox County, Tennessee, to wit: Cherokee at Westcliff Homeowners Association v. Barbara W. Ross et al., Docket No. C-25-236025. Said Default Judgment and Order of Sale was duly recorded as Instrument No. 202608280014352 with the Knox County, Tennessee Register of Deeds.

The sale of the described tract of property will be conducted subject to any unpaid real property taxes and to any other rights, restrictions, reservations, conditions, charges, easements, liens, and encumbrances of whatsoever nature having statutory or lien priority with respect to the claims of the Association. All proceeds of each said sale shall be applied as directed by the Default Judgment and Order of Sale identified above.

The undersigned is aware of no lien claims of the State of Tennessee relating to the described tract of property required to be identified by T.C.A. § 35-5-104. The undersigned is aware of no lien claims of the United States relating to the described tract of property required to be identified by T.C.A. § 35-5-104. The Association and the above-named Defendant have an interest in the described property. Other **interested parties:** Rocket Mortgage, LLC.

Except as otherwise provided in the identified Default Judgment and Order of Sale, the sale will be made to the highest and best bidder in bar of any right of redemption in favor of the Defendant or the Defendant's creditors, pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. §§ 21-1-803 and 66-8-101, for a ten percent (10%) down payment at the close of bidding, and the balance evidenced by a Promissory Note of the purchaser, due and payable six (6) months after the confirmation of said sale, bearing interest at the legal rate from the confirmation date until paid in full. The form of the Promissory Note may be inspected on the date of the sale immediately prior to the sale. The Association may submit a credit bid for the property being sold as set forth in the Order of Sale.

The title to be conveyed at such sale shall be only such title which the Association may convey pursuant to the terms of the identified Default Judgment and Order of Sale or at law or in equity, with no further representations or warranties of any nature whatsoever. The right is reserved to adjourn the day of sale to another day certain without further publication and in accordance with applicable law upon announcement of such adjournment on the day and at the time and place set forth above. In the event the high bidder at any sale shall fail to comply with the submitted bid, the Association shall have the option of accepting the next highest bid in which the bidder is able to comply or re-advertising and selling the property at a second sale.

CHEROKEE AT WESTCLIFF HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION
By: /s/ Kevin C. Stevens
Kevin C. Stevens
P.O. Box 442
Knoxville, Tennessee 37901
(865) 546-7311

This notice will run for two (2) weeks in The Knoxville Focus newspaper, run dates November 9 and November 16, 2026 and will be posted online at www.knoxfocus.com, www.tnpublicnotice.com and www.foreclosurestn.com for a minimum 20 continuous days beginning November 9, 2026.

COURT NOTICES

NON-RESIDENT NOTICE

TO: JAMES THOMAS GREEN, III

IN RE: MINOR CHILD, C.G., DOB 09/07/2022

BY: MADISON DUNN, Petitioner
vs.
JAMES THOMAS GREEN, III, Respondent

NO. CE-33643

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR BLOUNT COUNTY, TENNESSEE

In this cause, it appearing from the Petition which is sworn to, that the Respondent JAMES THOMAS GREEN, III, 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 JAMES THOMAS GREEN, III. It is therefore ORDERED that said defendant, JAMES THOMAS GREEN, III, file an Answer in the Circuit Court for Blount County, at Maryville, Tennessee, and with Plaintiff's Attorney, William Gribble, whose address is 550 E. Broadway Avenue, Maryville, TN 37804, within thirty (30) days of the last date of publication, or a Judgment by Default may be entered and the cause set for hearing Ex-Parte as to Respondent.

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

This 4 day of September, 2026.

Stephen S. Ogle
Clerk and Master

Cherie Branagin
Deputy Clerk

NON-RESIDENT NOTICE

TO: DERRICK ORLANDO CUNNINGHAM

IN RE: VERNELL MICHELLE GILBERT, Plaintiff
v.
DERRICK ORLANDO CUNNINGHAM, Defendant

DOCKET NO. 212925-2

IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE

In this Cause, it appearing from the Complaint filed that the defendant, DERRICK ORLANDO CUNNINGHAM, 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 DERRICK ORLANDO CUNNINGHAM, defendant, it is ordered that said defendant, DERRICK ORLANDO CUNNINGHAM, file an answer in your defense to the Complaint with the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court in Knoxville, Tennessee, and with John D. Haines, Velo Legal Group, an Attorney whose address is 109 S. Northshore Dr., Suite 401, Knoxville, Tennessee 37919, within thirty (30) days of the last date of publication of this Notice, or a judgement of default will be taken against you and the cause will be set for hearing Ex-Parte before Chancellor Richard B. Armstrong, Jr., in 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 22nd day of OCTOBER, 2026.

Honorable Richard B. Armstrong, Jr.
Chancellor

Houston S. Havasy
Clerk and Master

NON-RESIDENT NOTICE

TO: CAYLA HAHN

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF CAROLYN FAYE HAHN
DOCKET NO. 92294-1

BY: SAMANTHA D. HICKLE, Petitioner
v.
CAYLA HAHN, Respondent

IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE, PROBATE DIVISION

In this Cause, it appearing from the Petition to Sell Real Estate filed, which is sworn to, that the Respondent, CAYLA HAHN, 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 CAYLA HAHN it is ordered that said Respondent, CAYLA HAHN, file an

answer with the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court at Knoxville, Tennessee and with MELISSA WORTLEY LAWING, an Attorney whose address is 3715 Powers Street Knoxville, TN 37917, within thirty (30) days of the last date of publication or a judgment by default will be taken against you and the cause will be set for hearing Ex-Parte as to you before Chancellor John F. Weaver at the Knox County Chancery Court, Division I, 400 Main Street, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902.

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

This the 21st day of OCTOBER, 2026.

Honorable John F. Weaver
Chancellor

Houston S. Havasy
Clerk and Master

NON-RESIDENT NOTICE

TO: THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES, AND ASSIGNS OF LULA H. CALHOUN, DECEASED

IN RE: IRA RICHARD GLADSON, JASON HAMMOND, ANDREW HAMMOND, and SEAN ROTH, Plaintiffs
v.
THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES, AND ASSIGNS OF LULA H. CALHOUN, DECEASED, Defendants

DOCKET NO. 213562-3

IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE

In this Cause, it appearing from the Complaint file, which is sworn to, that the defendant(s), THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES, AND ASSIGNS OF LULA H. CALHOUN, 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 THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES, AND ASSIGNS OF LULA H. CALHOUN, DECEASED, described in the complaint, it is ordered that said defendant(s), THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES, AND ASSIGNS OF LULA H. CALHOUN, DECEASED, if living, and if deceased, her unknowns heirs, and THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES, AND ASSIGNS OF LULA H. CALHOUN, DECEASED, file an answer with the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court at Knoxville, Tennessee, and with Sarah R. Johnson, Esq., an Attorney whose address is 11907 Kingston Pike, Suite 201, Knoxville, Tennessee 37934, within thirty (30) days of the last date of publication of this Notice, or a Judgment by Default 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 4th day of NOVEMBER, 2026.

Honorable Christopher D. Heagerty
Chancellor

Houston S. Havasy
Clerk and Master

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE
ORDER FOR CHANGE OF NAME OF ADULT
DOCKET # 212951-2
KAFELE A FOSTER, Petitioner

This cause came before Chancellor Richard B. Armstrong, Jr., of the Knox County Chancery Court upon the Petition to Change Name of Adult, filed by KAFELE A FOSTER. Petitioner has shown by clear and convincing evidence recited in the Petition to Change Name of Adult that Petitioner is otherwise eligible for a name change.

Accordingly, it is hereby ORDERED, ADJUDGED and DECREED by the court that the name KAFELE A FOSTER shall be changed to kafele a foster el and hereafter KAFELE A FOSTER shall be known and designated, able to sue and be sued, and use such name, kafele a foster el, for all lawful purposes.

Entered this the 27th day of APRIL, 2026.

J. Scott Griswold
Clerk and Master

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF DAVID CRAIG ALLEMAN
DOCKET NUMBER 93198-3

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

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

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

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

This the 27th day of OCTOBER, 2026.

ESTATE OF DAVID CRAIG ALLEMAN

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
TANYA DEE COKER
7819 CHILLINGSWORTH LANE
KNOXVILLE, TN 37938

ANDREW J. CRAWFORD, ATTORNEY
5344 NORTH BROADWAY
KNOXVILLE, TN 37918

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF REBECCA C. ANDERSON
DOCKET NUMBER 93150-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 26 day of October, 2026, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of REBECCA C. ANDERSON, 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 the estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

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

This the 26 day of OCTOBER, 2026.

ESTATE OF REBECCA C. ANDERSON

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
DANIEL GEORGE ANDERSON, JR., EXECUTOR
5105 SALEM CHURCH ROAD
KNOXVILLE, TN 37938

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF TED MICHAEL BOLENBAUGH
DOCKET NUMBER 93264-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 22nd day of October, 2026, letters of administration in respect of the Estate of TED MICHAEL BOLENBAUGH, who died April 21, 2026, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court for Knox County, Tennessee Probate Division. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

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

This the 22nd day of OCTOBER, 2026.

ESTATE OF TED MICHAEL BOLENBAUGH

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
TANYA SUE USKURS
4139 S. BRADCLIFF AVE.
MERIDIAN, ID 83642

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

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF LYNN MARIE LAROCK BROUSSARD
DOCKET NUMBER 93271-3

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

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

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

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

This the 27th day of OCTOBER, 2026.

ESTATE OF LYNN MARIE LAROCK BROUSSARD

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
ANGELIQUE NICOLE FALLER
2126 CHAS WAY BLVD.
MARYVILLE, TN 37803

ELIZABETH MAXEY LONG, ATTORNEY
232 GILL STREET
ALCOA, TN 37701

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF KELLEY WARREN BURGIN
DOCKET NUMBER 93258-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 22nd day of October, 2026, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of KELLEY WARREN BURGIN, who died August 15, 2026, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

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

This the 22nd day of OCTOBER, 2026.

ESTATE OF KELLEY WARREN BURGIN

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
JOHANNA D. JUSTUS
1659 WOLVERINE LANE
KNOXVILLE, TN 37931

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

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF CAROL ANN DOUCETTE
DOCKET NUMBER 93255-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 23 day of October, 2026, Letters of Testamentary in respect of the Estate of CAROL ANN DOUCETTE, who died August 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 23 day of OCTOBER, 2026.

ESTATE OF CAROL ANN DOUCETTE

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
MECHELLE YVONNE DOUCETTE
6201 LILYWOOD DRIVE
KNOXVILLE, TN 37921

S. DAVID LIPSEY, ATTORNEY
1430 ISLAND HOME AVENUE
KNOXVILLE, TN 37920

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF CATHERINE J. ELLIS
DOCKET NUMBER 93104-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 28th day of October, 2026, letters administration in respect of the Estate of CATHERINE J. ELLIS, who died August 14, 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 28th day of OCTOBER, 2026.

ESTATE OF CATHERINE J. ELLIS

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
WILLIAM PAUL JOHNSON
60 HARLEQUIN CV
SUMTER, SC 29150

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF MIKI E. GOLDEN, SR.
DOCKET NUMBER 93102-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 22nd day of October, 2026, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of MIKI E. GOLDEN, SR., who died August 25, 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 22nd day of OCTOBER, 2026.

ESTATE OF MIKI E. GOLDEN, SR.

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
BARBARA MICHELE DIGREGORIO
104 COLONY RD.
TAYLORS, SC 29687

RAMEEN NASROLLAHI, ATTORNEY
920 VOLUNTEER LANDING, STE. 200
KNOXVILLE, TN 37915

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF DARRELL THOMAS JOHNSON
DOCKET NUMBER 93237-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 22 day of October, 2026, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of DARRELL THOMAS JOHNSON, who died September 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 22 day of OCTOBER, 2026.

ESTATE OF DARRELL THOMAS JOHNSON

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
DIANNA L. JOHNSON
305 MAPLE LOOP ROAD
KNOXVILLE, TN 37920

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

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF DONNA STEELE KECK
DOCKET NUMBER 93273-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 26th day of October, 2026, letters administration (or letters of testamentary as the case may be) in respect of the Estate of DONNA STEELE KECK, who died May 7, 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 26th day of OCTOBER, 2026.

ESTATE OF DONNA STEELE KECK

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
ANNE DOCKINS
JAKE CONDRY
CHONDA CONDRY
RICHARD KECK

AMY K. BOSS, ATTORNEY
P. O. BOX 6197
OAK RIDGE, TN 37831

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF GAYE MARIE MATHIS
DOCKET NUMBER 93087-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 23 day of October, 2026, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of GAYE MARIE MATHIS, who died March 30, 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 23 day of OCTOBER, 2026.

ESTATE OF GAYE MARIE MATHIS

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
ANGELA WINN BOLES, EXECUTOR
6016 WHISPER RIDGE LN.
CORRYTON, TN 37721

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF VERDA C. MCFARLAND
DOCKET NUMBER 93244-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 27th day of October, 2026, Letters of Administration with Will Annexed (C.T.A.) in respect of the Estate of VERDA C. MCFARLAND, who died October 6, 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 27th day of OCTOBER, 2026.

ESTATE OF VERDA C. MCFARLAND

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
STUART I. CASSELL, ADMINISTRATOR C.T.A.
707 MARKET STREET, SUITE 1
KNOXVILLE, TN 37902

STUART I. CASSELL, ATTORNEY
707 MARKET STREET, SUITE 1
KNOXVILLE, TN 37902

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF GLENN LEE MITCHELL, SR.
DOCKET NUMBER 93021-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 26 day of October, 2026, letters administration in respect of the Estate of GLEN LEE MITCHELL, SR., who died August 1, 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 26 day of OCTOBER, 2026.

ESTATE OF GLENN LEE MITCHELL, SR.

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
GLENN L. MITCHELL, JR., ADMINISTRATOR
7600 TEMPLE ACRES DRIVE
KNOXVILLE, TN 37938

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF EVA JO OGLE
DOCKET NUMBER 93230-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 22nd day of October, 2026, Letters Testamentary in respect of the Estate of EVA JO OGLE, who died on September 12, 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 22nd day of OCTOBER, 2026.

ESTATE OF EVA JO OGLE

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
LISA GRACE WHITESTONE
9905 CARRINGTON DR.
KNOXVILLE, TN 37934

REBECCA D. ABBOTT, ATTORNEY
118 HUXLEY RD., SUITE 7
KNOXVILLE, TN 37922

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF CHRISTINE JANET OGLE
DOCKET NUMBER 93256-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 26 day of October, 2026, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of CHRISTINE JANET OGLE, who died August 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 26 day of OCTOBER, 2026.

ESTATE OF CHRISTINE JANET OGLE

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
KATHERINE OGLE HOPPENRATH
1029 HAYSLOPE DRIVE
KNOXVILLE, TN 37919

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

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF JOEL L. PRINCE
DOCKET NUMBER 93280-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 3rd day of November, 2026, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of JOEL L. PRINCE, who died September 13, 2026, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

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

This the 3rd day of NOVEMBER, 2026.

ESTATE OF JOEL L. PRINCE

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
JAMES HOPKINS
1540 MOUNTAIN HILL LANE
KNOXVILLE, TN 37931

LEE A. POPKIN, ATTORNEY
1111 N. NORTHSHORE DR., STE. S-700
KNOXVILLE, TN 37919

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF HULDAH SUE ROMINES-WATKINS
DOCKET NUMBER 92811-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 22nd day of October, 2026, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of HULDAH SUE ROMINES-WATKINS, who died on June 17, 2026, were issued to the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

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

This the 22nd day of OCTOBER, 2026.

ESTATE OF HULDAH SUE ROMINES-WATKINS

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
HOME FEDERAL BANK OF TENNESSEE
ATTN: LEIGHANNE COVINGTON,
VICE PRESIDENT
515 MARKET ST., SUITE 500
KNOXVILLE, TN 37902

GLEN A. KYLE, ATTORNEY
4931 HOMBERG DRIVE
KNOXVILLE, TN 37919

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF JERRY CLARENCE SCHEAN
DOCKET NUMBER 93214-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 3rd day of November, 2026, letters administration (or letters of testamentary as the case may be) in respect of the Estate of JERRY CLARENCE SCHEAN, who died August 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 3rd day of NOVEMBER, 2026.

ESTATE OF JERRY CLARENCE SCHEAN

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
VICKI MCREYNOLDS
JOHNNY LEE NIPPER

W. MICHAEL BAISLEY
1111 N. NORTHSHORE DR., STE. S-700
KNOXVILLE, TN 37919

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF WILLIAM DAVID SCHMIDT
DOCKET NUMBER 93261-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 26 day of October, 2026, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of WILLIAM DAVID SCHMIDT, who died August 30, 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 26 day of OCTOBER, 2026.

ESTATE OF WILLIAM DAVID SCHMIDT

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
ROBERT F. SCHMIDT
2445 OLDE BRIDGE LANE
LEXINGTON, KY 40513

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

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF SANDRA JENNICE SHAVER
DOCKET NUMBER 93185-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 22nd day of October, 2026, letters of testamentary in respect of the Estate of SANDRA JENNICE SHAVER, who died July 12, 2026, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, 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 22nd day of OCTOBER, 2026.

ESTATE OF SANDRA JENNICE SHAVER

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
KIMBERLI D. BAILEY
9425 JIM LOY DR.
STRAWBERRY PLAINS, TN 37871

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

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF ANNE WATSON SMITH
DOCKET NUMBER 93132-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 26 day of October, 2026, letters administration in respect of the Estate of ANNE WATSON SMITH, who died August 21, 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 26 day of OCTOBER, 2026.

ESTATE OF ANNE WATSON SMITH

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
JOSHUA MICHAEL SMITH, ADMINISTRATOR
217 HARBOR RIDGE
CANTON, GA 30114

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF MARY NELLE THOMAS
DOCKET NUMBER 93007-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 23rd day of October, 2026, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of MARY NELLE THOMAS, who died July 6, 2026, were issued to the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

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

This the 23rd day of OCTOBER, 2026.

ESTATE OF MARY NELLE THOMAS

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
ROBERT W. THOMAS
6815 STONE MILL DRIVE
KNOXVILLE, TN 37919

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF PATRICIA L. WALDEN
DOCKET NUMBER 93270-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 28th day of October, 2026, Letters Testamentary in respect of the Estate of PATRICIA L. WALDEN, who died April 29, 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 28th day of OCTOBER, 2026.

ESTATE OF PATRICIA L. WALDEN

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
BRIAN W. SHUBERT
7204 AUTUMN CROSSING WAY
BRENTWOOD, TN 37027

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

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF JOHN MICHAEL WISE
DOCKET NUMBER 93000-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 3rd day of November, 2026, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of JOHN MICHAEL WISE, who died August 10, 2026, were issued to the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

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

This the 3rd day of NOVEMBER, 2026.

ESTATE OF JOHN MICHAEL WISE

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
FRED LEE BALL
10341 RED WATER LANE
KNOXVILLE, TN 37932

MISC. NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Review and Comment Period for Air Quality Conformity Determination on Amendments to the Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization's Mobility Plan 2050 and FY 2026 – 2029 Transportation Improvement Program.

The Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) announces a 30-day public review and comment period (November 9, 2026 through December 8, 2026) for amendments to the **Mobility Plan 2050 and FY2026 – 2029 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).**

The TPO is soliciting public comments on the **Air Quality Conformity Determination** made for this amendment package.

You are invited to comment by phone, email or in-person at 400 Main Street, Suite 403, Knoxville, TN. Additionally, public comments may be made at the TPO Technical Committee meetings on either Tuesday, November 10, 2026 or Tuesday, December 8, 2026 held at 9 a.m. in the Small Assembly Room of the City-County Building, 400 Main Street, Knoxville, TN. Comments can be made to Mike Conger at 865-215-3813 or at Mike.Conger@knoxtpo.org.\

A summary of the specific project amendments can be found in **Chapter 2 of the Air Quality Conformity Determination Report** which is available online at: http://www.knoxtpo.org/projects/public-comment-period.

If you would like a printed copy or need assistance or accommodation for a disability, please contact the TPO at 865-215-3810 or dallas.dearmond@knoxplanning.org.

LEGAL SECTION 94

Knox County will receive bids for the following items and services:

BID 3773, AMBIENT AIR MONITORING SHELTER, Due 12/09/26

BID 3774, FOOD AND CATERING PROVIDERS, Due 12/08/26

BID 3781, MACK DIESEL DIAGNOSTICS AND ENGINE REPAIR SERVICES, Due 12/10/26

For additional information call 865-215-5777, stop by the Procurement Division, 1000 North Central St., Suite 100, Knoxville, TN 37917, or visit our website: www.knoxcounty.org/procurement. To bid on Knox County surplus items, go to www.govdeals.com .

PUBLIC NOTICE

THE KNOX COUNTY BEER BOARD SHALL MEET IN REGULAR SESSION ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2026, AT 4:00 P.M. IN THE MAIN ASSEMBLY ROOM OF THE CITY-COUNTY BUILDING, MAIN AVENUE.

1. **ROLL CALL:**
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG:**
3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**
4. **PUBLIC FORUM: (AGENDA ITEMS ONLY)**

NOTE: Those wishing to speak regarding any Beer Board agenda item can sign up via the Commission website at commission.knoxcounty.org, by emailing Kathy.dailey@knoxcounty.org or calling the Clerk's Office at 865-215-3441. The deadline to sign up to speak is Sunday, November 25, 2026, at 4:00 p.m.

5. **SWEARING IN OF INDIVIDUALS WHO PLAN TO TESTIFY:**
6. **APPLICATIONS:**

6a. **PAD Restaurant Holdings, LLC**.....
Point B
1020 Ebenezer Rd.
Knoxville, TN 37923
On Premises
(District 4)

6b. **Kanha Retail LLC**.....Quick Stop
8756 Asheville Hwy.
Knoxville, TN 37924
Off Premises
(District 8)

6c. **CHAPMAN 441 INC**.....The Store 7
8119 Chapman Hwy.
Knoxville, TN 37920
Off Premises
(District 9)

7. **ADJOURNMENT:**

NOTICE OF LIEN SALE

The owners and/or lienholders of the following vehicles are hereby notified of their rights to pay all charges and reclaim said vehicles being held at the storage lot of Chestnut Street Transport & Recovery. Failure to reclaim these vehicles will be deemed a waiver of all rights and titles along with consent to dispose of said vehicles at a public auction held on November 30, 2026, at 2430 Thorngrove Pike Knoxville, TN. Vehicles will be sold "AS IS" and make no warranty as to condition or title.

1999 Ford Taurus 1FAFP53U6XA274315 (Lucas Shipley)

2006 Dodge Ram 1500 1D7HA18226S643142 (Maria Pineda)

2005 Ford F-150 1FTPX12545NB80862 (Shawn Stuart)

2005 Ford Explorer 1FMZU73K05ZA12343 (Alex Sweat)

1998 Dodge Dakota 1B7FL26X2WS730698 (Jeremy Paul)

2008 Ford Taurus X 1FMDK05W68GA17005 (Robert W. Koscinski / Robert W. Koscinski)

2006 Dodge Grand Caravan 2D4GP44L36R680838 (Dunia Ramos)

2014 Jeep Compass 1C4NJCBA9ED602311 (Carmax Auto Superstores Inc)

2008 Buick Enclave 5GAEV23728J276909 (Stacy Detweiler Vaughn)

NOTICE OF LIEN SALE

The owners and/or lienholders of the following vehicles are hereby notified of their rights to pay all charges and reclaim said vehicles being held at the storage lot of Cedar Bluff Towing. Failure to reclaim these vehicles will be deemed a waiver of all rights and titles along with consent to dispose of said vehicles at a public auction held on November 30, 2026, at 623 Simmons Rd., Knoxville, TN. Vehicles will be sold "AS IS" and make no warranty as to condition or title.

2006 Volvo XC90 YV4CZ852461296295 (Russ Powers)

2004 Lincoln LS 1LNHM86S04Y605248 (Aaron Black)

1994 Ford E-350 1FBHE31H8RHA61254 (Maricarmen Hernandez)

2005 Honda Civic 2HGES16525H616604 (Christopher L. Smith / Mountain Acceptance Inc)

2009 Honda Odyssey 5FNRL38799B032722 (John Cappiello / Advance Cash)

2012 Kia Sportage KNDPB3A27C7349727 (Brooke Jones)

1998 Acura 3.0 CL 19UYA225XWL007437 (David A. Ferguson / Cash Title Loans)

2004 Ford F-150 1FTPW14584KC87901 (Jeremy Hatcher)

2003 Toyota Corolla JTDBR32E432014811 (Morgan Foust)

2012 Hyundai Veloster KMHTC6AD9CU053085 (Dixi Hopson / Michael Melton)

2011 Nissan Rogue JN8AS5MV9BW254795 (John Correia Bravo)

2016 Chevrolet Malibu 1G11B5SA5GU116811 (Catherine Palmer)

2012 Chevrolet Impala 2G1WF5E30C1192546 (Kelly A. Samchisen / Wallace Auto Sales)

2011 Kia Sorento 5XYKT4A17BG076259 (Leslie Richardson or Timothy Braden / Stat Financial)

2008 Chevrolet Uplander 1GNDU23W88D178686 (James H. Luketich)

1997 Toyota Corolla 2T1BB02E7VC203492 (Marlon Deleon or Sarah Garland)

2021 Toyota Corolla 5YFEPMAE8MP179600 (Mary or Wayne Curfman)

2010 Ford Escape 1FMCU9EG4AKA68945 (State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company)

2012 Ford Focus 1FAHP3E2XCL435496 (Michelle K. Massey)

2010 Hyundai Sonata 5NPET4AC8AH645108 (Katria Mcmurray / Wallace Auto Sales)

2007 Cadillac STS 1G6DW677470127319 (Lisa Allyn Redfern / State Farm Mutual Automobile I)

2019 Volkswagen Jetta 3VWCB7BU5KM276168 (Samuel Alden Carpenter / Global Lending Services LLC)

2014 Chevrolet Equinox 2GNFLGEK6E6222195 (Tiffany D. Hamlin)

2011 Acura RL JH4KB2F61BC000020 (Robert M. Savage)

2010 Nissan Titan 1N6AA0EC8AN317255 (Bryan E. Zumstein)

2005 Ford Five Hundred 1FAFP26195G173621 (Lynsey Provorse-omans)

2026 Dodge Ram Cargo 3C6MRVHG9TE205955 (Avis Budget Car Rental LLC / The Bank Of New York Mellon Trust Company Na)

2019 Mercedes-Benz Metris WD4PG2EE9K3540481 (Meadows Homes INC)

2013 Chevrolet Impala 2G1WG5E30D1207223 (Teresa Sumlin / TMX Finance Of Tennessee, INC D/B/A Titlemax)

2005 Honda Civic 2HGES26725H542656 (Lismer Recinos Martinez)

2007 Hyundai Sonata 5NPEU46F77H216115 (Kitane D. Elder)

2018 Toyota C-HR NMTKHMBX7JR032766 (James F. Dubose)

2006 Nissan Pathfinder 5N1AR18UX6C655616 (Jacqueline Elizabeth Lawler / Florida Auto Exchange Co Inc)

2003 Toyota Avalon 4T1BF28B83U280106 (Torrence Elegante)

2000 Volkswagen New Beetle 3VWCD21C7YM428983 (Isaiah Thomas)

2002 Chevrolet Tracker 2CNBJ734426953359 (Jackson Martin / TMX Finance Of Tennessee INC D/B/A Titlemax)

Answer the call



By Joe Rector
joerector@comcast.net

My brother Jim is a good man. He teases with folks, and sometimes he almost sounds hateful when he talks, just like our daddy did. Underneath that facade is a kind, loving and giving person. He had this experience recently, and I thought nothing I could say would be as equal to what Jim is saying in this piece. I'm proud of him for being able to open up and share this epiphany. I'll catch up next week. -Joe

Hello Reader,

I have a story to tell, and my wonderful brother is allowing me to use his column to share it with you. So, here we go!

I've been mowing the greens at a local golf course for many years. I begin each day well before dawn, and I find that it is time for thinking and reflecting on life. One particular morning, things started out as usual but were immediately transformed into something quite disturbing. I suddenly heard what sounded like the cries of a baby, but the sound of this crying did not match any I had ever heard before. The sound of this crying was filled with pain and despair, with nothing to console the child. I looked around to search for the direction of the child. Then, I suddenly realized that my mind was the home of this sound.

Almost immediately, I envisioned the child being held by its mother. The child's eyes were filled with tears, and its body trembled. Its stomach was distended, and there was little flesh around its exposed limbs. As I watched and listened, the poor child's crying slowly turned into a whimper as its eyes closed. However, this child was not asleep. Mercifully, the baby died.

I say mercifully because the child's life had been one of constant hunger. No amount of crying would provide food. Day after day, this sweet baby faced misery and starvation. Each night, the child cried itself to sleep, only to face another day of want and need. Only hopelessness and despair were assured. In God' care, this child would finally be nourished and restored.

The sudden awareness of that had crushed me. I sat on my mower in the darkness before dawn and cried for quite some time. I could not shake the thoughts and visions that my mind had produced. Knowing that there was no escape for this child and that each day was a day of suffering haunted me. Then, out of the blue, came the words, "DO SOMETHING!" I tried to ignore the words, but they kept echoing in my head. I have a theory on where these all came from, but I'll keep that to myself.

I finally made an attempt to address those words. I had been saving money to buy a new set of golf clubs. I decided that donating the money would appease the voice in my head. Wrong! "DO MORE" was the next message that came to me. I weighed various grand schemes to raise money for starving children everywhere, but none seemed to be within my power. Then, I thought of Joe's column and things clicked. It is the perfect forum to share my story.

Now I've completed my story. After you read this, I want you to do one thing, please. Find a quiet place and sit down. Stay very still and listen for the cries of that starving child. Try to imagine the suffering that this small child is enduring. Then, ask yourself if there is anything you can do to improve the situation. What you decide is between you and your conscience. No one will sit in judgement on your decision. Just listen ... and follow your heart. Thank you for reading my story.

Farragut Museum presents: Veterans Day History Hour, new temporary exhibit

Cont. from page 1

"For a special Farragut twist, there are also several handwritten recipes on display from Farragut cooks. We all know how these recipes become family heirlooms and are passed down from generation to generation," said Kristi Vining, Historic Resources Coordinator for the Town of Farragut.

A featured portion of the exhibit, "A Taste of Tennessee," highlights national food products and businesses with roots in Tennessee, including Little Debbie, MoonPie, Bush's Beans, Mountain Dew, Mayfield Dairy and JFG.

The Farragut Museum is located inside Farragut Town Hall at 11408 Municipal Center Drive and is open Tuesday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Admission to the museum is free.

Ad space donated by The Knoxville Focus.

Young-Williams Animal Center



HENRY HOOVER – 3 years old, 44 lbs.
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TSSAA STATE CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS

Two Knox County teams bring home gold

KIL girls champ collapses in race

By Steve Williams

The news for Knoxville's cross country teams last week brought tears of joy and sadness.

Competing for state titles in Memphis ended with three local teams bringing home two state championships and a state runner-up, but KIL champion Allie Vesser collapsed and lost consciousness midway through her race Thursday at the Shelby Farms course.

"She had something to go wrong and wasn't getting a lot of oxygen and passed out at the halfway mark," said Hardin Valley Coach John Witsell back in Knoxville Friday. "What she told me Saturday morning was she's not feeling good but she's okay."

Witsell added Allie was just over the halfway mark on the 5K course when she lost consciousness.

"I didn't see it, but one of the other coaches was right there and saw it," said Witsell. "The Farragut coaches called me and let me know that it had happened. I started running that way, but when I got there they already had her in a cart and were taking her to the ambulance."

Coach Witsell said he had talked to her Saturday in Knoxville since it happened.

"Again, typical of her, her spirits are good," said Witsell, "but she's extremely disappointed because that was her best opportunity to win a state championship."

On a good note, Witsell said sophomore Anna Burkheimer, who had been injured most of the season, is injury-free now and placed fifth for an All-State position with a time of 18:51.5.

The Hardin Valley team placed fourth in Division I Class AAA.

Maryville sophomore Hadleih Mitchey won the individual title with a time of 17:58.6.

In other girls' action Thursday, Coach Gina Rouse's CAK team dominated Division II Class A with a score of 23 points. The Lady Warriors were led by individual champion Sophie Lee, a sophomore who was timed in 18:40.1, followed by runner-up Emery Adams, who is also a sophomore, and

Continue on page 3



Lookout opponents!

CAK's girls cross country state championship team is just starting. Its five top runners this season included an eighth grader, a freshman and three 'old' sophomores!

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL PLAYOFFS

Seymour falls to Anderson County 35-3

By Mark Nagi

It had been 11 years since the Seymour Eagles hosted a playoff game, a drought that ended last Friday night. But they'll have to wait at least a year for their first home playoff game win since 2002 as Seymour fell to Anderson County 35-3 in the first round of the Class 4A playoffs.

"Definitely credit to Anderson County and their program," said Seymour head coach Caleb Olive. "Our kids kept fighting to the end. I just thanked those seniors for what they gave to this program. It's an awesome story for them to, as freshmen, go 0-10 and get to their senior year and be 9-2. They've got nothing to be ashamed of. They fought with everything they had and laid their bodies on the line. I told them that this will be a group that's remembered for a long time here."

The game started with teams exchanging punts, but then the Eagles' defense produced a big play. On fourth and short at the Seymour 32, Mavs RB Cayson Kuriger was stuffed at the line of scrimmage, forcing a turnover on downs.

On their first play of their next drive, Seymour sophomore QB Levi Carlson went deep to receiver Mason Brown, and the result was a 50-yard gain, down to the AC 20-yard line. The Eagles would advance to the 8-yard line but could get no further. They settled for a 24-yard FG from Jackson Kendall, and it was 3-0, Seymour.

The Eagles defense produced another potentially

Continue on page 2

MIDDLE SCHOOL BASKETBALL

Defense provides spark for the Lady Bruins in season opener against Sacred Heart

By Ken Lay

Bearden Middle School's girls basketball team got a little defensive in its 2026-27 season opener late last week.

But relying on a tenacious defense is nothing new for the Lady Bruins.

"Last year, we had to rely on our defense, and it looks like we're going to do that again this year," Bearden coach Eric Gray said after watching his team notch a 37-16 victory over Sacred Heart Thursday at Bearden Middle School.

The Lady Bruins forced the Lady Eagles into multiple turnovers. While Bearden would convert those Sacred Heart miscues into enough transition baskets to propel itself into the win column, it had its share of offensive difficulties.

"We're having trouble making shots," Gray said.

But Bearden kept the Lady Eagles at bay most of the night as it held a slim 4-2 advantage at the end of the first quarter.

The Lady Bruins (1-0) extended their edge to 8-2 before Sacred Heart pulled to within 8-6 early in the second frame before Bearden closed the stanza on a 7-0 run to open a 15-6 by halftime.

In the third quarter, the Lady Bruins' defense got even stingier as Bearden surrendered just one point over that 6-minute stretch as the Lady Eagles scored frame on a free throw by Cora Ligon.

Bearden all but put the game out of reach as it forced more Sacred Heart turnovers on its way to scoring 13 points and extending its advantage to 28-7.

Lady Bruin Blaice Davidson led all scorers with 14 points. She helped her team seize the upper hand over the first 12 minutes of the contest as she scored seven points and followed that effort with seven more points after the break.

Aaliyah Robinson also posted double figures in the scoring column as she finished the contest with 10 points.

Bearden may have had its offensive struggles against the Lady Eagles, but Gray lauded his squad for a solid effort to open the new season.

"Our kids, they always play hard, and they always give good effort," he said. "We always preach effort.

Allie Rhea Williams scored nine points to lead the Lady Eagles.



HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL PLAYOFFS

Gibbs withstands Cyclones' charge

By Steve Williams



PHOTO BY JJ SPEARS

Gibbs senior Reid Daniel goes up for a clutch catch on the first play of the fourth quarter Friday night in Corryton. It gave the Eagles some breathing room in their 49-33 win over Elizabethton in the first round of the TSSAA Class 4A playoffs.

Reid Daniel apparently wasn't ready for his high school football career to end Friday night at Ernest Whited Stadium in Corryton.

Gibbs' senior wide receiver and defensive back made two big plays in the fourth quarter that kept the Eagles' season alive in a 49-33 win over Elizabethton in the first round of the TSSAA Class 4A playoffs.

"Reid made just a heck of a play," said Gibbs Coach Brad Turner, recalling Daniel's 72-yard touchdown catch from Keith Jones Jr. on the first play of the fourth quarter that gave the Eagles a 35-24 lead.

Daniel's 30-yard TD interception return in the game's final minute slammed the door on the Cyclones.

The victory gave Gibbs a 10-1 record, but the Eagles must now face an undefeated White County (11-0) team at Sparta this coming Friday night.

"We're ready to go," said Turner. "We'll go out there and see what we can do."

The win over Elizabethton (6-5) wasn't just a one-man show for Gibbs.

Senior running back Tucker Ownby was named the Offensive Player of the game. He carried the ball 22 times for 149 yards and three touchdowns. The Defensive Player of the game was junior linebacker Memphis Wilson, who made 14 tackles and two TFLs for -2 yards.

The Eagles were at their best in the first and fourth quarters, scoring 42 of their 49 points during those 24 minutes. Many of their touchdown runs were up the middle.

Ownby scored on a 5-yard run, and placekicker Sawyer Henderson added the first of his seven PATs in the battle. Trevor Nicely romped 58 yards up the middle, and Ownby added a 3-yard run for a 21-0 lead.

Elizabethton won the second quarter, cutting Gibbs' lead to 21-14 at halftime and had the momentum in the second half.

Despite two touchdown passes from Jones to Dallas Holt giving the Eagles a 35-24 lead, the Cyclones had gotten as close as four points (28-24) in the third quarter and even closer in the final quarter (35-33) with 5:28 on the clock.

But the Eagles flew away as Ownby scored on another 5-yard run up the middle with 1:09 to go, and Daniel added his pick-six with 50.6 seconds left.

"We battled back, but that's what playoff football is about," said Elizabethton Head Coach Shawn Witten. "We gave ourselves a chance tonight. We didn't make it any easier on ourselves. But we had our opportunities to get back and win. For that to be a first-round playoff game, that's pretty tough."



PHOTO BY LANDON HUNLEY.

CAK running back Isaac Kannah eludes Pope John Paul II defenders Stone Trainer (20) and Ethan Raspberry (0) in the Warriors' 37-7 victory over the Knights. Kannah ran for two touchdowns and threw for another in the first round of the playoffs.

CAK routs Pope John Paul II to cruise into second round of playoffs

By Ken Lay

> ***"I don't care what the scoreboard says. We play to a standard. The championship isn't the goal. It never is. We want to be the best team we can be."***
>
> **CAK Coach Chad Speck**

Christian Academy of Knoxville football coach Chad Speck might have seen his team earn a lopsided postseason victory in the opening round of the TSSAA Division II-AA playoffs.

But he was far from satisfied.

"I don't care what the scoreboard says. We play to a standard," Speck said after the Warriors cruised past Pope John Paul II, 37-7, on a chilly Friday night at Warrior Stadium. "The championship isn't the goal.

"It never is. We want to be the best team we can be."

CAK (10-1) was certainly efficient against the Knights (2-9) to open the postseason.

The Warriors scored touchdowns on five of their first possessions on their way to punching their ticket to the second round. The Division II-AA East Region Champions will host Evangelical Christian School (8-3) in the second round Friday night at Warrior Stadium.

Kickoff is slated for 7 p.m., and Speck is anticipating hosting the Eagles.

"Since we moved into Division II, we'd only won two playoff games

Continue on page 4

Seymour falls to Anderson County 35-3

Cont. from page 1

momentum-changing play when senior Noah Bohanan picked off Anderson County QB J.D. Gillum, giving Seymour (9-2) possession at their own 35-yard line. But they couldn't take advantage, punting the football without picking up a first down.

The game changed only a few plays later when Gillum, fighting a leg issue that forced him to miss the previous two games, was forced to leave the game due to injury.

Into the game came Brayden Sharpe. The Mavs wide receiver got a lot of snaps recently, starting the two games with Gillum on the sidelines. Sharpe immediately made an impact with a 33-yard TD pass to Lane Larue, making it 7-3 Anderson County with 5:33 left in the second quarter.

From there, Seymour caught the turnover bug, and the rest of the second quarter was a span Eagles fans would like to forget. A fumble by Grayson Davis led to a Sharpe TD pass on third-and-goal to Jaxon Price, and it was 14-3 AC.

Two plays after a fumble by Carlson, Sharpe and Larue hooked up for a 22-yard TD, and after an Adam Burdick fumble, Sharpe found Elijah Johnson wide open in the end zone for a 23-yard score in the last moments of the half.

Those three turnovers led to 28 Mavs points, and Seymour dug themselves a significant hole.

"The momentum train rolled by us quickly," said Olive. "And for a minute, I didn't think we were ever going to get to halftime... just an unfortunate part of football. We just kept shooting ourselves in the foot and you can't make those kinds of mistakes in the playoffs versus a really good football team. That's the difference in the game right there."

In the second half, the Anderson County (7-4) defense continued its strong play, keeping Seymour off the scoreboard. Early in the fourth quarter, Larue ran it in from two yards out. It was his third TD of the game, and that made it 35-3 Mavericks. That prompted the running clock, and the game ended with that same score.

"I challenged them at halftime to go play for pride and leave everything out there and regret nothing when we're done here, and they did that," said Olive.

For Seymour, a terrific season ended sooner than they wanted, but the future certainly looks bright for this program. "Now the challenge falls to the younger guys to uphold that standard, and we'll go back to work on Monday," said Olive. "We've got to figure out some pieces, and that's what we did this last offseason. How do we get the best eleven on the field, on both sides of the ball? We'll bring back some experience, but there's going to be some other guys that we feel really good about, but they don't have a ton of experience on Friday nights other than special teams. So, they've got to step up, and that's what it's going to be all offseason, and it starts in the weight room."

'If you're not the lead dog, the view never changes'



By Tom Mattingly

"Just Keep Jumping" is a testimony to the enduring spirit of a true trailblazer. If there ever were a man born to leadership, it was Douglas Adair Dickey.

As I perused Dickey's book, I found that the seeds of personal and professional success were sown in abundance over the course of his life. Looking at his history, all signs pointed to a career filled with great accomplishments.

His book, published by The University of Tennessee Press, copyright 2026, is slated to hit bookstores in the middle of this month. He collaborated with his son, Don, and Edgar Thompson of the Orlando Sentinel in preparing the manuscript, one that is eminently readable and moves seamlessly from each stop to the next.

"This man is one-of-a-kind, who had a rich and singular story worth telling, a remarkable memory for detail, and had maintained relationships that would make this project possible," said Thompson.

"I appreciate the relationship we have established and appreciate Coach Dickey involving me in a project so important to him."

"He was encouraged by his family to write the book, so he just started writing," said Don.

"Probably two years ago, we met with Katie Hannah at U. T. Press and showed her an early version of the book."

That process led to an epiphany about his dad.

"What really moved me is how much he meant to so many people. I appreciate that more and more. The reverence and respect I have for him never goes away."

Throughout the book, there is an overriding theme, one that has been a consistent belief Dickey has held over his 94-plus years.

"Luck is when preparation meets opportunity," wrote Dickey. "My youth and early adult life prepared me for the opportunities that came my way.

"A favorite story of mine, which I told all my teams, is about a young man who goes to see an older, wiser man and says, 'Old man, what is your secret to success?'

"The wise old man says, 'Just jump at every opportunity that comes along.'

"The young man then says, 'How do I know when an opportunity comes along?'

"The old man replied, 'JUST KEEP JUMPING!'

"I am proud that so many of my former players, staff, and family have taken that wise old man's advice. I am fortunate to have lived a full life with some good luck and quite a bit of jumping!"

The most illustrative passages from his Tennessee career came as Dickey discussed his time as head coach, from the time he first met with Tennessee Trustee Col. Tom Elam in either Memphis or Union City (depending on whose account you believe, Dickey's or Elam's) about the Tennessee job in late November 1963.

Another such moment was the December 1963 trip he and Jim McDonald, his predecessor at Tennessee, made to Cleveland and Pikeville, where Dickey signed Bob Johnson and John Boynton, each of whom became three-year starters at center and offensive tackle.

Vignettes with many of his former players from those years highlight the narrative. They add perspective to the question Marvin West asked when he found out Dickey was Bob Woodruff's choice as head coach: "Who or what is a Doug Dickey?"

There were two defining moments when the Vol program was shaken to its foundations. Three assistant coaches were killed in a car-train wreck in West Knoxville in October 1965, and in March 1966, three players died in an automobile accident in Benton, Tenn.

During that time, Dickey more than lived up to his nickname, the "Tall Man," leading the program through the Valley of the Shadow in both instances. His leadership and influence on those occasions helped define his Tennessee coaching tenure.

As Vol head coach from 1964-69, Dickey had to compete against such coaching greats as former Vol Bobby Dodd (2-1) at Georgia Tech, Paul (Bear) Bryant at Alabama (3-2-1), Shug Jordan (3-2-1) at Auburn, Paul Dietzel at Army and South Carolina (2-0-0, 3-0-0), Tommy Prothro at UCLA (1-1), Vince Dooley at Georgia (1-0-1), Johnny Vaught (2-4-0) at Ole Miss, and Ben Schwartzwalder (1-0) at Syracuse.

"Many of the people he coached against have had stadiums named after them. That's pretty remarkable," said Don. Many have also won national championships.

"Of all of Dickey's players, Johnson, Tennessee's All-American center, stood out and gave the most complete picture of the man," said Thompson.

"Johnson was skeptical of Dickey's hiring, given that he was in his early 30s and without head coaching experience, but he soon took to his hard-nosed coaching style, understated approach, and wisdom."

When Dickey returned to Knoxville in 1985, there were more significant moments. The program was entering into another sustained period of success. There were SEC titles in 1985, 1989, 1990, 1997, and 1998. A consensus national championship came home in 1998. The Vol athletic program was again reaching for the stars.

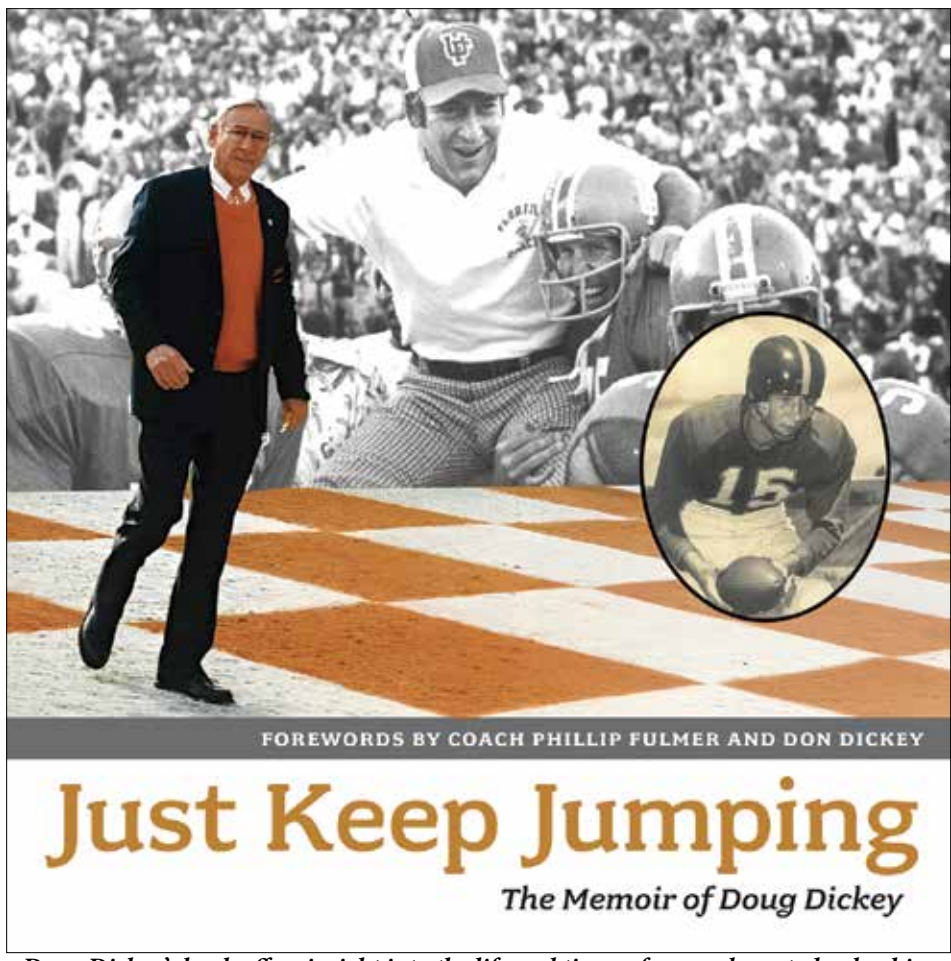
Tennessee teams did nothing but win during Dickey's tenure.

There were also moments of controversy, the transition from head coach John Majors to Phillip Fulmer in 1992 being a prime example.

When they read the book carefully, Vol fans will remember a man with broad shoulders, a man you always wanted on your side when the going got tough.

Dickey's book offers a journey through the significant moments of a man's life, particularly through his experience with the University of Tennessee.

It also offers Vol fans a closer look at Dickey's perspective on two memorable eras in Vol football that are part of a great and still-evolving tradition that has enriched all of our lives.



Doug Dickey's book offers insight into the life and times of a man born to leadership.

Two Knox County teams bring home gold

Cont. from page 1

third-place finisher Haylee Gasparic, a freshman. Eighth grader Lydia Rouse was fifth, and senior Ella Cox came in 14th. GCA's Anna-Marie Porter placed fourth between the Green and Gold.

CAK senior Ayden Burke placed sixth for the third-place Warriors.

Also on Thursday, Coach Sean O'Neil's Knoxville Catholic boys team won the Division II Class AA championship by nipping Baylor 56 to 58. The Irish was led by senior KIL champion Cade Duncanson, who was clocked

in 15:42.9. The team also included Evan Van De Griff, Reid Bannister, Nathan Jurbergs and Riley Horton.

Knoxville Catholic's girls were state runners-up and led by junior Caitlin Daniels, who finished 12th.

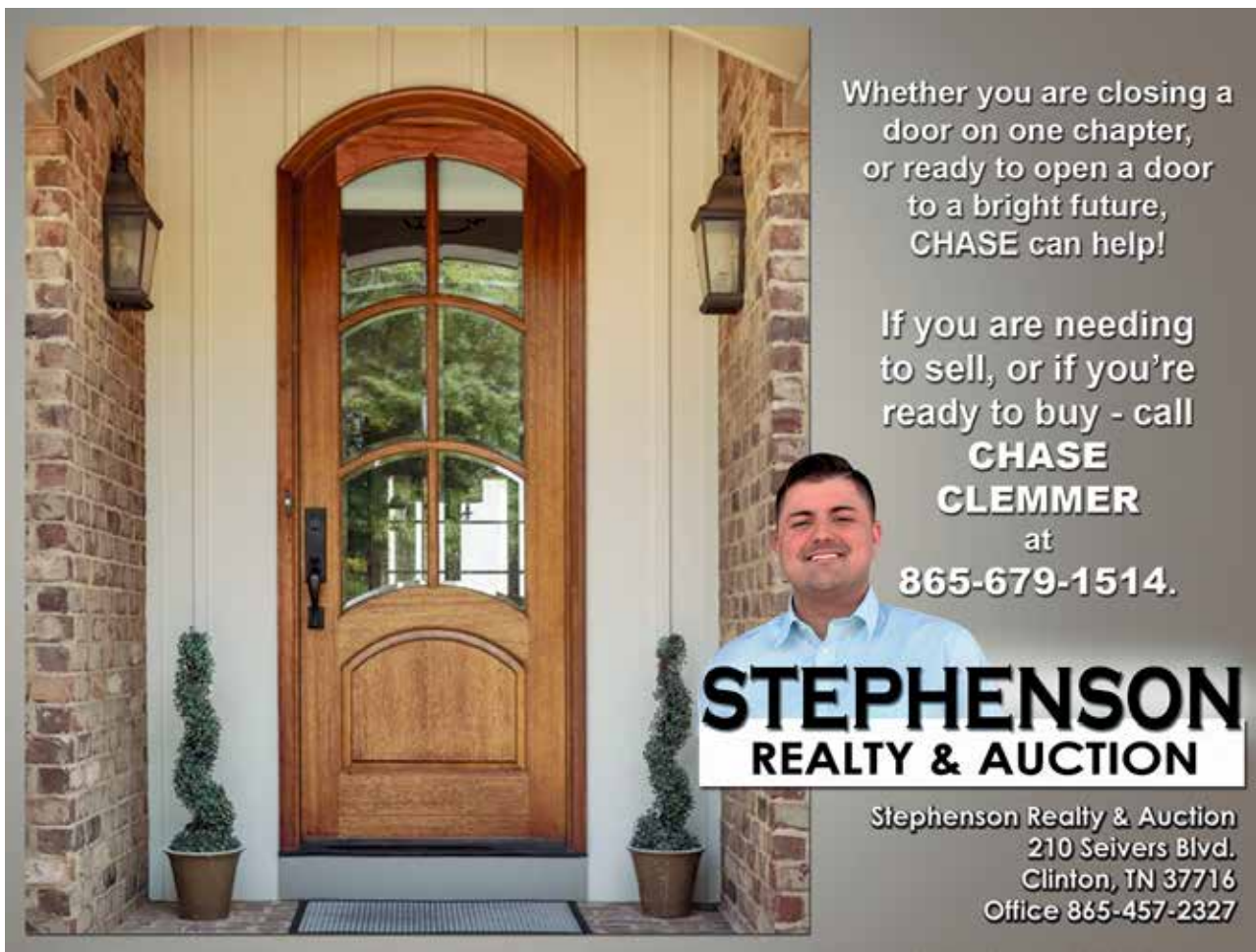
In the Division I Class AAA boys' individual competition, Maryville senior Tommy Babbitt placed first with a time of 15:14.4. Hardin Valley was sixth among the teams.

The King's Academy's Duncan Tarayia, junior, was runner-up in Division II Class A with a time of 15:36. As a team, TKA came in eighth.

On Friday, Anderson County freshman Ella Tyler was the Division I Class AA state runner-up individual with a time of 18:52. Cameron Hardy placed third for the Mavericks with a time of 15:43.9.

Gatlinburg-Pittman's boys won a state title Friday in Division I Class A.

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MIDDLE SCHOOL BASKETBALL

Bruins open season with victory over Sacred Heart

By Ken Lay



PHOTO BY MARIAH CLAY.

Bearden Middle School's Damond Burch (3) dribbles the ball into the frontcourt in the Bruins' 53-34 victory over Sacred Heart Thursday. Burch, a returning player, scored 10 points against the Eagles.

Bearden Middle School boys basketball coach Ben Zorio, the dean of Knox County Middle School Basketball Conference, led his Bruins into a season opener for the 21st time.

And he had to like what he saw as Bearden tipped off the 2026-27 campaign with a 53-34 victory over Sacred Heart before a spirited crowd at BMS.

"This was a good first game for us, but we've still got a lot of work to do," Zorio said. "I thought we really got off to a good start, and I thought Jack Chesney really helped us get off to the fast start with his work on the defensive end."

Chesney hit 11 of his 13 points over the first six minutes of the contest to help the Bruins (1-0) open a 21-8 lead by the end of the opening quarter.

Bearden played solid defense and controlled the rebounding battle throughout the night; many of the rebounds came on the offensive end, creating second-chance scoring opportunities.

But the Bruins didn't convert many of their second chances.

"We definitely didn't finish inside as well as we would have liked," Zorio said. "But I'm proud of the guys for the way they played and the effort they gave.

"We have two returning varsity players, Ollie Ison and Damond Burch, who will really help us."

Ison led Bearden with 18 points, and Burch finished with 10 for the Bruins, who led 29-17 at halftime before putting things out of reach with a 19-7 run in the third quarter.

Bearden dominated the offensive boards thanks to the rebounding effort of a pair of varsity newcomers, Charles Sones and Thompson Ward. TJ Bryant-Rogers, another big man, also made some key contributions on the offensive glass.

"This year, we do have some size," Zorio said.

James White led the Eagles with 14 points.

Next up for the Bruins: Bearden will open league play today (Nov. 9) when it hosts West Valley. Tipoff between the Wolves and the Bruins is slated for approximately 5:45 p.m.

CAK routs Pope John Paul II to cruise into second round of playoffs

Cont. from page 2

on this field," he said. "It's great to win our third one here and have the opportunity to host a (second-round) game.

"I'm proud of these guys, but we have to keep getting better."

The Warriors wasted little time getting on the scoreboard. After receiving the opening kickoff, they engineered a short drive that was capped with a touchdown on a trick play as quarterback Seaton Moffett tossed the ball to running back Isaac Kannah, who lofted a 29-yard touchdown pass to Baker Sterchi to give CAK a 6-0 lead.

Bennett Jelks added the extra point to make the score 7-0 with 10 minutes, 49 seconds remaining in the first quarter.

The Warriors made a fourth-down stop on Pope John Paul II's first possession and, after taking over, extended their advantage to 14-0 when Moffett connected with Masyn Apalategui on a scoring strike with 4:45 remaining in the opening frame.

The second stanza was packed with more offensive fireworks for the Warriors as Kannah had a pair of touchdown runs, covering 9 and 5 yards respectively.

Moffett also had a touchdown pass to Sawyer Anderson to make the score 35-0 by halftime and invoke the TSSAA mercy rule.

Moffett's second-quarter scoring strike was set up when he connected with Sterchi on a long pass on fourth-and-8.

The clock ran for the entirety of the second half, but CAK's defense joined in the scoring parade when the Warriors tallied a safety with 7:52 remaining in the third quarter, making the score 37-0.

Pope John Paul scored a late touchdown against CAK's reserves, spoiling the shutout.

"They still had their starters in," Speck said. "And I had my whole JV (team) in.

"I have to give my young guys a chance to play. You can't control their substitutions. You can only control what you do."

Kannah had another big night for the Warriors as he amassed 168 total yards. He had 105 rushing yards and two TDs on 15 carries. He also threw the game's first touchdown pass and compiled 24 yards in kick returns.

2026 Prep Football

Playoffs ROUND TWO

Games kick off at 7 p.m. Friday, November 13

Division I Class 4A

Gibbs (10-1) at White County (11-0)

Division I Class 5A

Lincoln County (9-1) at Powell (10-1)

Halls (6-5) at Rhea County (9-2)

Central (10-1) at Columbia (10-1)

Division II Class A

Friendship Christian (9-2) at CCS (8-3)

Game at Farragut High

Division II Class AA

ECS (8-3) at CAK (10-1)

Grace (10-1) at FRA (8-3)

Round One scores

Greeneville 56, Fulton 28

Anderson Co. 35, Seymour 3

Gibbs 49, Elizabethton 33

Sevier Co. 35, West 15

Powell 42, Morristown West 21

Halls 35, David Crockett 32

Central 50, Tennessee 22

Science Hill 27, Hardin Valley 24

Concord Christian 49, Fayette Academy 21

CAK 37, JPII 7

BGA 49, Webb 14

Grace 56, Northpoint Christian 14

Edward Jones Financial Advisor Bill Lenczynski partners with Toys for Tots, U.S. Marine Corps to Support Local Children This Holiday Season

Edward Jones Financial Advisor Bill Lenczynski is proud to announce a partnership with Toys for Tots, the nationally recognized toy collection and distribution program managed by the United States Marine Corps Reserve, to help bring holiday joy to children and families throughout East Tennessee.

As an official Toys for Tots collection site, Lenczynski's office invites community members to donate new, unwrapped toys that will be distributed to local children in need during the holiday season.

This campaign runs through December 6, 2026. Toy donations may be dropped off Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. from now through Dec. 6. Lenczynski's office is located at 402 S. Northshore Drive, Knoxville, TN 37919.

"One of the greatest strengths of our community is its willingness to help others," Lenczynski said. "We are honored to partner with The Marines and Toys for Tots to help make the holidays brighter for children throughout East Tennessee. Our office is proud to serve as a collection site in the heart of Bearden, and we encourage our neighbors, clients, and local businesses to join us in making a meaningful difference for families in our community. Every toy donated is a reminder that even a small act of generosity can have a lasting impact on a child and their family."

For decades, Toys for Tots has delivered hope and holiday cheer to millions of children through the dedication of Marine volunteers and the generosity of local communities. This year's campaign continues that tradition by providing gifts to children who might otherwise go without during the holiday season.

Contributing to a cause and participating in or volunteering for a charity or charitable event is a personal decision and completely voluntary. Edward Jones and its associates cannot accept monetary donations, including gift cards.

