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THE JOHNSON CITY NEWS & NEIGHBOR

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Mysterious headstone sees the light of day

BY DAVE ONGIE, NEWS EDITOR

When you get into the business of buying and renovating homes, you're likely to come across your fair share of odd items. But an item Eric Ward stumbled upon recently in the basement of a home he purchased in South Johnson City was beyond remarkable.

Ward was going through the basement of a home he purchased when he found a large slab of white marble, which stood about four feet tall. On the face of the monument, he was barely able to make out some faded lettering: "Christian Daniels, 10th Ohio Battery."

Ward took the monument to the home of his friend Rick Lewis,

who offered to store it while they tried to figure out exactly what it was and who it might belong to. Subsequent research turned up some answers, but also raised questions about how the headstone ended up in a basement in South Johnson City.

As it turned out, Christian Daniels was a Union soldier during the Civil War, and his unit – the 10th Ohio Battery – was stationed near Mountain City. The light artillery unit didn't lose a single soldier in combat, but 18 members of the unit died of disease, including Daniels.

Daniels' fate was not uncommon among men who served during the Civil War. Approximately two-thirds of the 620,000 military deaths recorded during the Civil War

were from diseases like measles, typhoid fever and pneumonia.

Daniels was buried in a cemetery near a town called Smith's Mill following his death on April 8, 1865. According to records, an unknown individual placed an order on Nov. 29, 1879, for a headstone to be placed on Daniels' grave. By that point, the town of Smith's Mill had been renamed to Butler in honor of Roderick R. Butler of Johnson County, a commander in the Union Army who went on to serve in the state legislature.

Lewis assumes that Daniels' headstone remained undisturbed in that quiet little country cemetery through the end of World War II until construction on

the Watauga Dam was completed in 1948. At that time, the entire town of Butler, with a population of around 600 people, was relocated to higher ground as the town and surrounding area was slowly submerged under what is now Watauga Lake.

SEE HEADSTONE, 4



A closer look at the faded lettering on the headstone.



Rick Lewis with the headstone Eric Ward found while cleaning out a house in South Johnson City. PHOTO BY JEFF DERBY



County approves inter-local deal, City Commission up next

BY DAVE ONGIE, NEWS EDITOR

On Aug. 24, the Washington County Commission voted 8-5-1 in favor of an inter-local agreement with Johnson City designed to fund school capital projects in the city.

The vote marked the end of nearly six months of uncertainty for the agreement, which began when the proposed deal was sent back to the county on March 12 by the Johnson City Commission for some minor changes to language in the document. The county's vote also sets the stage for an important decision for the Johnson City Commissioners, who are expected to vote on the agreement in the near future.

The agreement – which was crafted largely through the partnership of Washington County Mayor Joe Grandy and Pete Peterson, the City Manager of Johnson City – requires the county to pay Johnson City \$12.5 million over the next 25 years. This payment is in lieu of the estimated \$30 million the city would have been entitled to according to state law had Washington County chosen to fund a new Jonesborough K-8 school through traditional methods instead of bringing in the Town of Jonesborough as a third-party borrower to finance the project.

Last Wednesday, Grandy said he was pleased with the passage of the agreement by Washington County Commissioners, which came after more than a year of work. Taking a holistic view of public education in Washington County, he said the construction of a



Washington County Commissioners recently approved an inter-local agreement crafted through a partnership between County Mayor Joe Grandy (left) and Pete Peterson (right), City Manager of Johnson City. The agreement is designed to provide the city with funding for school-related capital projects. PHOTOS BY DAVE ONGIE



new K-8 school in Jonesborough and the expansion of elementary schools in Johnson City made possible through funding outlined in the agreement constitutes a "win-win."

"The school system in Washington County and Johnson City, it is all part of the county system," Grandy said. "The City of Johnson City adds funding for the schools that are in their corporate limits. They've created a fantastic school system, and that's all important, but it's important that we as a county fund all of our schools in the Washington County School System."

According to the finalized agreement, the \$500,000 per year paid to the city over the next 12 years can be used to pay for the construction of additional classroom

space at Woodland, South Side, Lake Ridge and Towne Acres elementary schools. Back in June, Peterson explained this extra space will become necessary as the city looks to move fifth-graders back to elementary schools when Indian Trail becomes the city's second middle school, a move that could come as soon as the fall of 2022.

"We're counting on that money coming in from Washington County in order to pay the debt service for the elementary school additions," Peterson told the News & Neighbor at the time.

As Johnson City Commissioners prepared to vote on the inter-local agreement back in March, they did

SEE COMMISSION, 3

Welcome **Lauren C. Rushing, MD**



We are very pleased to welcome Dr. Lauren C. Rushing to the team of comprehensive ophthalmology specialists at Johnson City Eye Clinic. In addition to routine ophthalmology and cataract surgeries, Dr. Rushing will specialize in treating a wide array of retina and vitreous disorders.



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United Way kicks off 2020 campaign in unique fashion



Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the United Way of East TN Highlands was forced to get creative with this year's campaign kickoff. Instead of holding its traditional luncheon, the group adopted a hybrid approach, mixing virtual and small in-person events last week to launch the 2020 Annual Giving Campaign.



Dr. Steve Barnett receives a \$2,500 check from the local United Way to help lessen the effects COVID-19 has had on Johnson City Schools.

The United Way of East TN Highlands kicked off its 2020 Annual Giving Campaign a little different this year with a mix of virtual and in-person events throughout the day on Aug. 27. The goal for this year's campaign is \$1.5 million, and that money will help over 40 nonprofit programs in alignment with the United Way's mission to break the cycle of poverty by strengthening the health, education, and financial stability of every person in our community.

To kick off the 2020 Campaign, the United Way of East TN Highlands donated \$2,500 to all the school systems in their service area for a total of \$12,500. This donation will help lessen the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on children as they start the school year, whether they learn from home or at school.

“Even though things might look a little different this year, we are excited to kick off the 2020 Campaign because we’ve already seen the power of community during this pandemic,” said Donna Depew, Board Chair.

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Civitan Club gives to food pantry



Steve Alexander, president of the Jonesborough Civitan Club, presents a gift of \$500 to Rev. Karen Lane, president of the Jonesborough Ministerial Association. PHOTO COURTESY OF TOM PARDUE

The Jonesborough Civitan Club recently presented a donation of \$500 to the Jonesborough Ministerial Association in support of the Food Pantry operated by the Association.

Civitan Club President Steve Alexander commented: “The donation was given in recognition of the increased needs of families during this global pandemic. The joblessness resulting from this virus has put a strain on all social services, and the Club sought to alleviate the hardships in some way.”

The Jonesborough Civitan Club has been addressing the needs of Jonesborough and Washington County since 1947. Currently, the Jonesborough Civitan Club has partnered with the Town of Jonesborough and the Boyd Foundation to construct a dog park for the local citizens along SR-34 beyond the Town Garage.

Local mask mandate extended to Sept. 30

Washington County Mayor Joe Grandy is extending the requirement of face coverings for all residents, visitors and businesses in Washington County through Sept. 30.

“Our regional health officials predicted that following CDC guidelines, including face coverings, would slow the increase in positive cases,” Grandy said. “We are now 46 days into our local face covering requirement and trends show that prediction was correct. Masks, physical distancing, keeping hands and frequently touched surfaces disinfected are

proven measures. By extending the mandate the hope is to keep us on a downward trajectory with regards to cases.”

Mayor Grandy’s County Executive Order No. 4 states that masks must

be worn by people in public places beginning at 11:59 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 29. Unless extended or repealed, Washington County will remain under this order until 11:59 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 30.

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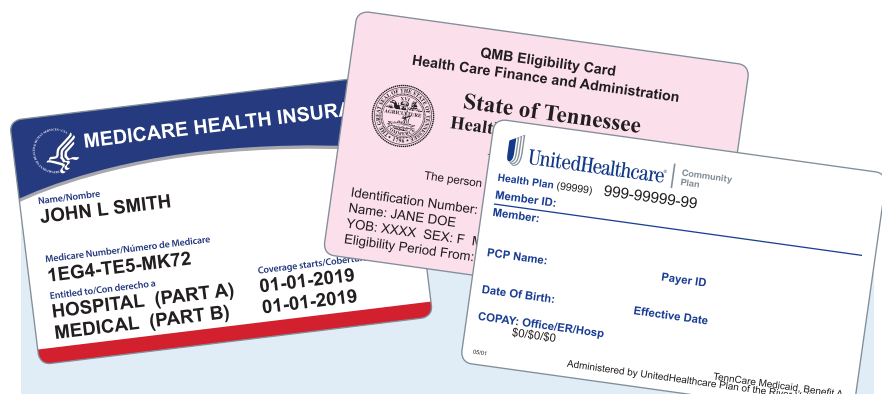


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From left, Jonathan G. Overly, Executive Director of East Tennessee Clean Fuels Coalition; Chuck Harvill of Central States Bus Sales, Inc.; Washington County Director of Schools Dr. William Flanary; Washington County Assistant Director of Schools Dr. Jarrod Adams; Washington County Mayor Joe Grandy; Washington County Schools grant writer Twana McKinney; and Washington County Commissioner Jodi Jones. PHOTO BY DAVE ONGIE

Washington County Schools add five propane-powered buses

BY DAVE ONGIE, NEWS EDITOR

Thanks in part to a \$102,500 grant, Washington County Schools was able to obtain five new propane powered school buses that will be added to the fleet. The buses were unveiled during a ribbon-cutting ceremony in Jonesborough last Wednesday afternoon.

During the ceremony, Dr. Bill Flanary, director of Washington County Schools, noted that it took a year and a half of work in order to secure the buses. He added that out of the 118 propane-powered buses in the state of Tennessee, five of them now operate in Washington County.

"This is part of our overall plan to both reduce operating costs in Washington County Schools and reduce our carbon footprint," Flanary said.

The savings created by the propane buses come largely due to the fact they require less maintenance than traditional diesel buses. Flanary said there are over \$20,000 worth of parts in a diesel bus that are not required to run a propane-powered bus.

"Those are parts we will not have to repair or replace over the 16-year life of these buses," Flanary said. "We'll start saving money almost immediately."

Through the hard work of Washington County Schools grant writer Twana McKinney, the system was able to receive a six-figure grant through Tennessee's "Reducing Diesel Emissions for a Healthier Tennessee" program. The money allocated to Washington County came from state EPA funds the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) oversees.

ETSU named Rural Health Research Center

ETSU received one of seven Rural Health Research Center grants, awarded by the Health Resources & Services Administration (HRSA), Federal Office of Rural Health Policy, to create the Center for Substance Misuse in Rural America.

The \$2.77 million award, which ETSU won in collaboration with the NORC Walsh Center for Rural Health Analysis, part of NORC at the University of Chicago, spans four years.

According to HRSA, the goal of the Rural Health Research Center program is "to conduct rural research to assist providers and policy-makers at the federal, state and local levels to better understand problems faced by rural communities. This research informs population health improvement efforts, including health care access and delivery."

Each research center is required to select a key focus area important to rural health policy and conduct nationally relevant studies to inform evidence and practice that will improve access to care

and rural health outcomes.

The ETSU Center for Substance Misuse in Rural America selected substance use disorder as its area of focus, built on the collaboration of the ETSU Addiction Science Center, ETSU Center for Rural Health Research, and NORC's Walsh Center for Rural Health Analysis.

HRSA's Federal Office of Rural Health Policy allocates over \$100 million per year to communities around the nation as part of its Rural Communities Opioid Response Program, providing a rich opportunity for the ETSU center to inform rural health policy and practice.

"This award brings together ETSU's expertise in addiction science and rural health research, and further solidifies our strong and growing partnership with NORC at the University of Chicago," said Dr. Randy Wykoff, dean of the ETSU College of Public Health. "This is another major step forward for ETSU and for the College of Public Health."

Commission from page 1

so amid calls for litigation from some Johnson City Schools officials. At that time, City attorney Sunny Sandos stated her opinion that the funding mechanism "is not illegal under current statutory language, as there are no state laws that force the county to borrow funds in any particular way."

"At the end of the day, the city must weigh its chances of getting nothing versus some guaranteed funding," Sandos said in a statement back in March. "We stand to lose far more than \$12.5 million in the form of financial impact to our taxpayers if we litigate."

The final version of the agreement that is now before the Johnson City Commission contains a "Covenant Not to Sue" that states the City, its departments, elected officials and agents have not initiated a lawsuit against Washington County pertaining to the Jonesborough

School Project and will not do so in the future unless the county breaches the agreement by not making timely payments.

If the city does pass the agreement, Grandy said it will be a huge victory for regionalism, which has become a high priority among many local business leaders and elected officials in recent years.

"It would have been very difficult to not be able to cooperate within your own county when reaching out to other counties and asking them to cooperate with us," Grandy said. "The City of Johnson City has been very cooperative with working through some of the details of this agreement."

"I feel like this is a possibility to move forward where everybody wins. Maybe everybody doesn't get exactly what they want, but in the end, everyone wins."



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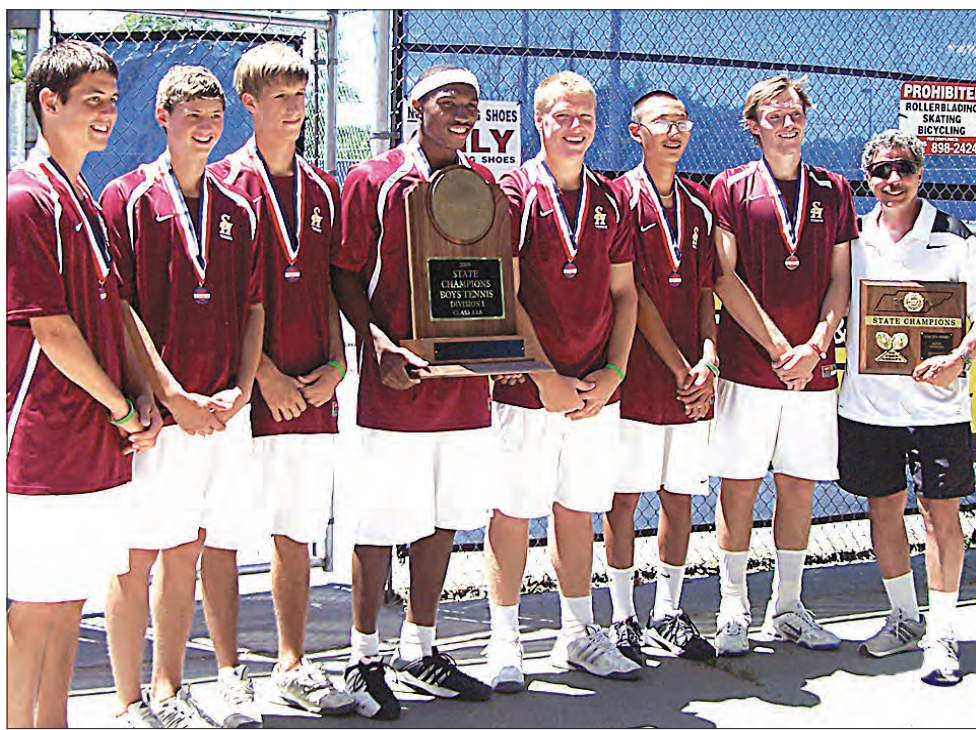


Dr. Sarah A. Schumaier
Dr. Dan Schumaier



Coach Pete Zannis was honored by past and current tennis players back in 2009. Front row, from the left, are: Jim Green, Todd Hall, John Shulman, and Wes Pectol. Back row, from the left, are: JB Pectol, Suzanne Land Depka, Kelly Kiehna, Michael Chen, Jordan Eddy, Leah Eddy, Pete Zannis, Alison Storie, Diane Storie, Hayden Holbrook, Amy Holbrook, Bryan Breese, and Travis Bauguess.

Country Club plans Zannis Cup tournament for Sept. 18-20



Pete Zannis with the 2009 Science Hill boys' tennis team, which he led to a state championship. From left: Chris Kudialis, Jordan Eddy, Hayden Holbrook, Chris Smith, John Storie, Michael Chen, Drew Kerr, and Zannis.

Last year, the inaugural Zannis Cup was held at the Johnson City Country Club.

The event was a success by any measure as 65 players and many spectators came together to celebrate and remember former Country Club tennis professional and local tennis hero Pete Zannis. The event was so successful that the decision has been made to make it an annual tradition.

This year's event is scheduled for Sept. 18-20 at the Johnson City Country Club. This will be an open event sanctioned by the USTA, which organizers are hoping will help streamline the registration process and attract a larger field of players from around the region.

Those interested in finding out more about the event can call Mike Norris at 423.723.9991 or Ana Gerbasi at 423.773.1966.

Headstone from page 1

During this time, just over 1,200 graves were relocated. The bodies of some soldiers were exhumed during this time and relocated to national cemeteries, but for whatever reason, Daniels was left behind as the water slowly rose over his final resting place.

For the next 35 years, Daniels rested under the murky waters of Watauga Lake, but that all changed in 1983 when the TVA drew down Watauga Lake for a brief time to do some work on the dam. During this time, the town of Old Butler was exposed, and former residents were allowed to visit the site and reminisce among buildings that had remained intact despite being underwater for over three decades.

Lewis believes it was during this timeframe that somebody might have happened upon Daniels' headstone and took it with them. Shortly after, the water levels rose, and Old Butler has rested under Watauga Lake ever since.

No matter when the headstone was taken, one thing became clear – Ward had uncovered a piece of history. After learning more about the

headstone, the two men turned the monument over to the proper authorities.

The headstone is property of the United States government, and after sitting either underwater or under wraps for at least 72 years, Ward and Lewis are hoping the stone will soon see the light of day. There is a possibility the headstone could be placed at the Mountain Home National Cemetery, but given the fact that Daniels' remains are accounted for under Watauga Lake, that may not be an option. Johnson City's Oak Hill Cemetery, which contains the remains of 20 other Union soldiers, is another possible destination.

As the fate of the headstone is decided, Ward and Lewis are left with questions. Who removed the headstone? Did it happen before Butler was flooded in 1948 or during the drawdown in 1983? How did it end up in Johnson City?

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Welcomes Dr. Kelley Ramsauer

For over 50 years, Dermatology Associates has provided the most up-to-date dermatologic treatments, skin care techniques, and procedures. We have grown and adapted our medical business to become the largest dermatology practice in the Tri-Cities region. In keeping with this mission, we are excited to announce the newest addition to our healthcare team: Dr. Kelley Ramsauer.

Dr. Ramsauer is originally from Johnson City, TN and grew up in Bluff City. She received her undergraduate degree from East Tennessee State University. After college she attended medical school at ETSU Quillen College of Medicine. She then completed her intern year at the University of Louisville in Louisville, KY. She completed her dermatology residency at Geisinger Health System in Danville, PA receiving multiple honors and awards from highly respected experts in the field of dermatology. Dr. Ramsauer is excited to have the opportunity to return to the Tri-Cities area to join Dermatology Associates.

With the addition of Dr. Ramsauer, Dermatology Associates has 12 ABD board certified/board eligible dermatologists, three fellowship-trained Mohs surgeons, seven nurse practitioners, and two physician assistants. Our offices are located in Bristol, Johnson City, and Kingsport. Dr. Ramsauer will begin seeing patients at our Bristol and Johnson City offices in September. To schedule an appointment to see Dr. Ramsauer for all of your dermatologic needs, please contact our office. Bristol (423) 764-7131, Johnson City (423) 928-9014, Kingsport (423) 246-4961. Thank you.

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JRT to open new season with Dearly Departed

The Jonesborough Repertory Theatre is excited to start their 2020-21 season with the very popular comedy, *Dearly Departed*, written by Jessie Jones (from the Jones Hope Wooten playwright team) and David Bottrell.

Laugh with the colorful and dysfunctional Turpin clan—a family of eccentrics from the Baptist backwoods of the Bible Belt—as amidst the chaos of a family crisis, they turn for comfort to their equally eccentric friends and neighbors, who manage to pull together and help each other in their hour of need.

In light of today's challenges, however, director Joe Smith, who directed the show years ago, wanted to approach it a little differently this time.

"It has been more than 10 years since I picked up that script, and I remember being so focused on getting the actors to hit those funny moments that I believe I lost sight of something significant: These are real people and they are facing some tough circumstances. So, at our first company meeting, I told the cast to look for the pain in their character's life. From

there they made choices about their character, and in doing so, those slapstick moments had a foundation. They are not just being funny; they are just being."

Dearly Departed is directed by Joe Smith, who is assisted by Bennett Little. Mike Musick, Mary Nell McIntyre, Johnny Archer, Suzanne Cook, Lori Erickson, Janette Gaines, Shawn Hale, Chris Jones, Charles Landry, Emily Montgomery, Melissa Nipper, Marcy Pumilia, Justin Reilly, Jessie Scarbrough, Jo Sweet, and Chris Tester make up the talented cast.

Shows run Thursdays through Sundays, Sept. 3 through 20. Tickets are \$17 general admission, \$15 for students and seniors. There is also a special group rate for parties of 15 or more. To purchase tickets, call the Historic Jonesborough Visitors Center at 423.753.1010 or go online to jonesboroughtheatre.com.

The theatre is located at 125.5 W. Main St., Jonesborough, TN. (JRT will follow CDC guidelines including mandatory masks, temperatures taken at the door, and social distance seating.)



The Jonesborough Repertory Theatre will open its new season with the comedy *Dearly Departed*. From left to right: Jessie Scarbrough, Mike Musick, Mary Nell McIntyre, Christopher Tester, Janette Gaines, Chris Jones and Melissa Nipper.

Mary Duke Cooks! Sassy Southern

This recipe for shrimp tacos is simple to make and uses one of my favorite Hot sauces, Cholula. Enjoy!



Mary Duke McCartt
Guest Columnist

Online at marydukecooks.com

Shrimp Soft Tacos with Corn, Rotel, and Avocado Salsa - Makes 12 small tacos

- 1 pound frozen, raw, peeled medium shrimp
 - 1 tablespoon Cholula hot sauce
 - 2 tablespoons olive oil
 - 1/2 teaspoon iodized salt
 - 1 and 1/2 teaspoons sugar
 - 4 minced garlic cloves (I used garlic from a jar)
 - 1/8 teaspoon chili powder
 - 12 soft flour tortillas, taco size
- Garnish: fresh lime slices and fresh cilantro leaves

Thaw shrimp. Rinse and drain. In a bowl combine marinade ingredients. Add

to shrimp. Marinate in refrigerator while you're making salsa. Make salsa. Set aside.

Remove shrimp from refrigerator. Heat a medium skillet over medium high heat. Add shrimp and marinade to skillet. Distribute shrimp so they are in one layer in the skillet. Cook 2 minutes or until shrimp just turn pink on one side. Turn shrimp over and cook 2 minutes and the other side turns pink. Remove from heat.

Assemble tacos: Layer shrimp and salsa on



tortillas. Garnish with lime and cilantro.

• 2 tablespoons fresh lime juice

Corn, Rotel, and Avocado Salsa

- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1/2 cup diced red onion
- 2 shucked ears of corn charred on grill and kernels cut from cob
- 1 can Rotel diced tomatoes with lime and cilantro, drained
- 1 avocado, skin and pit removed, diced
- Zest of one lime

Heat olive oil in a medium size skillet over medium high heat. Add red onion and corn. Cook 5 minutes or until onions are translucent. Add drained Rotel tomatoes and heat for 1 to 2 minutes, until warm. Remove from heat. And pour in a bowl. Add lime zest and zest. Gently stir in avocado. Set aside.

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Bandana



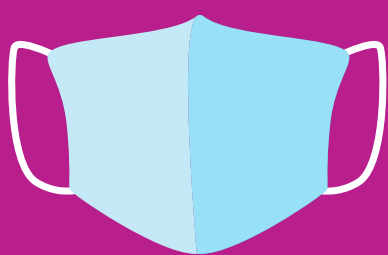
Neck gaiter



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Why I #MaskUp...



Steve Smith
President/CEO
Food City



Being a business leader in the Appalachian Highlands is an enormous privilege — and it comes with an equally enormous responsibility. We've always been very proud to help keep our communities healthy with high-value, top-quality products, and now, we're helping keep you healthy by Masking Up to stop the spread of COVID-19.

Food City stores were among the first in our region to require everyone, including our customers, to wear masks. It wasn't always popular, but it was undoubtedly the right thing to do. That's what being a good community partner and neighbor is all about.

It's clear, that if we are going to help slow the spread of COVID-19, we all have to do our part. The team at Food City is proud to be part of the solution, and we'll continue doing everything we can to help fight this virus.

Please join me, and Mask Up!



#SafeWithUs   
Visit balladhealth.org to learn more.



Washington County agriculture students receive new tractors



The agriculture departments at David Crockett High School (left) and Daniel Boone High School (right) recently received new tractors for use in their classes. Washington County Schools entered into an agreement with West Hills Tractor of Jonesborough so that students would be able to gain hands-on experience with the New Holland tractors.

A Walk in Their Boots set for Veterans Day weekend

For the ninth year in a row, “A Walk in Their Boots” will be held during Veterans Day weekend to give the public a glimpse inside the lives of American soldiers from the Revolutionary War to present day.

The event, which will be held at Tipton Haynes State Historical Site, is free to the public and will feature battle reenactments, weapon demonstrations, military vehicles and re-enactors from different eras in U.S. history and more. This year’s event will highlight the 75th anniversary of VE Day and VJ Day, which marked the end of World War II.

The event will proceed on Nov. 7-8 from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. daily with social distancing guidelines in effect.

To keep the public safe, presenters and reenactors safe, the following measures as recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines for the novel corona virus (COVID-19) will be implemented:

- The event will be conducted in a guided tour fashion with specific activities defined and rotating through the tour on a designated schedule

- Visitors must check in at the welcome area where they will be assigned to a tour group

- Tour group size will be limited to nine participants and one leader

- While most activities are held outside, indoor presentations in the auditorium will be limited to 50 people

- Everyone will be required to maintain a safe distance of at least 6 feet

- Everyone will be required to bring a facemask or cover and wear it where appropriate (i.e. indoors)

- Hand sanitizers will be available

- Battle reenactments and weapons displays will be performed in the open fields with visitors observing from a safe distance and keeping themselves 6 feet apart.

For more information, visit www.militarywalk.us or email jefferys174@yahoo.com.



A Walk in Their Boots will give the public a chance to learn more about the lives of American Soldiers throughout the history of the country during a free event to be held at Tipton Haynes on Veterans Day weekend.

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Winston 20 Gauge Steel	\$7,758	\$6,029
Essex 20 Gauge Steel	\$8,546	\$6,686
Dean 20 Gauge Steel	\$8,875	\$7,015
Milan 20 Gauge Steel	\$9,203	\$7,124
Carnation 18 Gauge Steel	\$9,313	\$7,234
August 18 Gauge Steel	\$9,422	\$7,343
Graham 18 Gauge Steel	\$10,002	\$7,929
Faith Poplar	\$11,645	\$9,314
Ellington Hardwood & Veneer	\$9,203	\$7,672
Western Poplar	\$9,422	\$7,891

Savings at Woodall-Anderson & Dugger

\$1,729

\$1,860

\$1,860

\$2,079

\$2,079

\$2,079

\$2,073

\$2,331

\$1,531

\$1,531

Morris-Baker prices for services include the following charges taken from their General Price List dated February 12, 2020: Basic Services of Funeral Directors and Staff Overhead-\$2,975, Embalming-\$595, Other Care of the Body-Cosmetology-Dressing and/or Casketing-\$295, Use of Facilities and/or Staff for Visitation-\$295, Use of Facilities And/Or Staff For Funeral Ceremony-\$425, Use of Equipment and Staff For Committal Service-\$295, Transfer of Remains to Funeral Home-\$350, Transfer of Remains to Final Disposition-\$350, Family Car-\$75, Utility Vehicle-\$55 Total Charges-\$5,710

Morris-Baker prices for caskets include the following charges taken from their Casket Price List dated February 12, 2020: Winston 20 Gauge Steel-\$1,675, Essex 20 Gauge Steel-\$2,395, Dean 20 Gauge Steel-\$2,695, Milan 20 Gauge Steel-\$2,995, Carnation 18 Gauge Steel-\$3,095, August 18 Gauge Steel-\$3,195, Graham 18 Gauge Steel-\$3,725, Faith Poplar-\$5,225, Ellington Hardwood & Veneer-\$2,995, Western Poplar-\$3,195

Stationery charge of \$195 as quoted by Morris Baker staff member and on the funeral home website.

Woodall Anderson Dugger prices for services include the following charges taken from their General Price List dated April 17, 2020. Basic Services of Funeral Directors and Staff Overhead-\$2,715, Embalming-\$495, Other Care of the Body-Cosmetology-Dressing and/or Casketing-\$150, Use of Facilities and/or Staff for Visitation-\$200, Facilities, Equipment and Staff for Ceremony-\$200, Use of Equipment and Staff for Committal Service, \$300, Transfer of Remains to Funeral Home-\$425, Transfer of Remains to Final Disposition-\$295, Family Car-No Charge, Utility Vehicle-\$165 Total Charges \$4,945

Woodall Anderson Dugger prices for caskets include the following charges taken from their Casket Price List dated April 17, 2020: Winston 20 Gauge Steel-\$990, Essex 20 Gauge Steel-\$1,590, Dean 20 Gauge Steel-\$1,690, Milan 20 Gauge Steel-\$1,990, Carnation 18 Gauge Steel-\$2,090, August 18 Gauge Steel-\$2,190, Graham 18 Gauge Steel-\$2,725, Faith Poplar-\$3,990, Ellington Hardwood & Veneer-\$2,490, Western Poplar-\$2,690

All casket sales include complimentary Stationery/Memory Package.

Sales Tax is calculated on taxable items at the rate of 9.5%. All prices are rounded to the nearest dollar.



Woodall-Anderson & Dugger Funeral Home & Cremation Services

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www.wadugger.com

Should we really have given the women the right to vote?

First, YES, I agree 100%, no, maybe 110% since Judy approves all my columns that women have the right to vote on anything they darn well want to. I have given her the right to vote on whether my column gets published or trashed.



by Bill Derby
Publisher

editor@jcnewsandneighbor.com

Wait a minute. She already had the right to review my column. I'm still confused why I started submitting my columns for her review. I think I was trying to get her to laugh once in a while. That's it. Innocent psychology.

It's only been 100 years since that boy down in Niota, TN changed his vote to 'yea' from 'nay' that women were given the right to vote. Who knew a Tennessee hillbilly held America's future political history in his hand? There should be a statue of this hero somewhere.

A historical listing says, "His name was Harry T. Burn, member of the Tennessee General Assembly, and was born in Niota. He is best remembered as the state legislator whose vote secured the ratification of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, giving U.S. women the right to vote."

I just learned of Harry's 'yea' vote and the historical event watching PBS or the Smithsonian Channel where you can learn a lot of stuff. I don't recall this being taught in any of my history classes either in high school

or college. That piece of history might have been skipped over or I was out that day.

Where's Niota, TN? It's between Sweetwater and Athens and was first known as "Mouse Creek." Harry Burn was no mouse even though his mom insisted he vote, 'yea.'

People who were against giving women the right to vote published a pamphlet, 'National Association OPPOSED to Woman Suffrage,' printed in 1920 in New York City stating a number of reasons that people needed to vote no on Woman Suffrage giving them the right to vote in elections.

The pamphlet stated a number of reasons to "vote no" and included:

- BECAUSE 90% of the women either do not want it, or do not care.
- BECAUSE it means competition of women with men instead of co-operation.
- BECAUSE 80% of the women eligible to vote are married and can only double or annul their husband's votes.
- BECAUSE it can be of no benefit commensurate with the additional expense involved.
- BECAUSE in some States more voting women than voting men will place the Government under petticoat rule.
- BECAUSE it is unwise to risk the good we already have for the evil which may occur.

The pamphlet's thoughtful author also included a number of thoughts for 'Housewives'.

- "You do not need a ballot to clean out your sink spout."
- "There is...no method known by which mud-stained reputation may be cleaned after bitter political campaigns."
- "Use oatmeal on a damp cloth to clean white paint."
- "Good cooking lessens alcohol craving quicker than a vote."
- "Why vote for pure food laws, when your husband does that?"
- "Elbow grease drives out bugs quicker than political hot air."
- "Clean houses and good homes, which cannot be provided by Legislation keep children healthier and happier than any number of uplift laws."
- Control of the temper makes a happier home than control of elections.
- Common sense and common salt applications stop hemorrhage quicker than ballots.

Can you imagine reading a pamphlet today printed in New York City with that information and what would happen? Mayor Warren Wilhelm Jr., who later changed his name to Bill de Blasio, would have his hands more than full.

Women are everyday heroes in my book and the proof is in the pudding and those delicious Almond cookies Judy bakes for me once every five years.

Confidence in the Postal Service

The United States Postal Service (USPS) plays a vital role in our country. Millions of Americans rely on USPS to deliver important mail like Social Security checks and bills. As Ranking Member of the House Veterans' Affairs



To the 1st District, Tennessee

Congressman Phil Roe

Contact info online at roe.house.gov

Committee, I certainly understand how important USPS is to veterans. The Department of Veterans Affairs mails between six and seven million prescriptions to veterans every month, 90 percent of which go through USPS. I am thankful for the men and women of the USPS who are dedicated to delivering our mail through rain or shine.

Because the Postal Service is so important, it is key that we ensure it runs as effectively and efficiently as possible. The new Postmaster General, Louis DeJoy, has taken steps to do just that. Unfortunately, opponents of these actions have spread misinformation, and some even suggest that the Postmaster General is trying to sabotage the Postal Service. This is simply false. Let's take a look at the facts.

First, let's consider the Postmaster General himself. Mr. DeJoy has endured criticism for not being a career USPS employee, as well as for his political affiliation. A closer examination reveals someone like Mr. DeJoy - who has a long career in the private sector specializing in supply chain logistics - is exactly the type of leader the USPS could use right now. He is the 5th Postmaster General since the early 1970s to come from the private sector, and he was selected unanimously by the USPS Board of Governors.

The Postal Service has received criticism recently for removing mail sorting machines and retiring mailboxes. The truth is that these actions are part of a years-long efforts to reduce costs and improve operational efficiency. With the rise of the Internet, e-mail, other online messaging apps, physical mail has declined

sharply in recent years. Overall mail volume has declined from a peak of 213 billion pieces of delivered mail in 2006 to 143 billion in 2019, about a one-third drop in volume. First class mail volume has declined every year since 2001. This decline, coupled with soaring overtime costs, resulted in losses of \$69 billion between 2007 and 2018. For years, USPS has been taking steps to reduce costs. Under the Obama administration alone, USPS removed 12,000 mailboxes. Yet no one accused the Postmaster General of sabotage then.

Critics of the Postmaster General also baselessly suggest he is taking these actions to affect the upcoming 2020 election by preventing vote-by-mail initiatives. A simple look at the numbers debunks this theory. In 2019, USPS handled an average of 471 million pieces of mail each day. We have about 158 million registered voters in America, so if every registered voter sent in their ballot by mail, it would not equal even half of the mail volume that USPS handles on a typical day. While Tennessee requires most individuals to vote in person, those who vote absentee by mail should rest assured that USPS is more than capable of handling the volume.

Earlier this month, USPS announced it is suspending operational changes until after the 2020 election. While these planned changes would have no impact on its ability to handle election mail, USPS took these steps to

remove even the slightest appearance of election impact. I am disappointed that USPS had to take these steps in response to baseless conspiracy theories.

Recently, I returned to Washington to vote against an ill-considered bill, which its supporters cast as an attempt to "save the Postal Service." This bill provides \$25 billion to USPS and prohibits operational changes until the coronavirus public health emergency has ended. The truth is the Postal Service needs flexibility to respond to the unique challenges it faces. This bill would lock the Postal Service into a failing business model to operate exactly as it was prior to the coronavirus outbreak. This makes no sense. Additionally, Congress already provided \$10 billion in emergency funding for USPS in the CARES Act, which I supported. USPS has not yet touched any of that CARES Act funding, and USPS projects that it already has sufficient funding to remain solvent through at least August 2021.

Congress should be working to ensure that USPS can implement changes it actually needs, not "saving" it from baseless conspiracy theories. The Postal Service offers a valuable service to our country, and I have no doubt that they will be able to effectively respond to the challenges of the coronavirus crisis and handle the volume of mail in the upcoming 2020 election.

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Science Hill cruises to victory over Crockett in home opener



The Science Hill defense closes in on a Crockett ballcarrier during the Hilltoppers' 35-14 victory over the Pioneers last Friday night at Kermit Tipton Stadium.



Notre Dame commit Prince Kollie finds some running room against Science Hill. Kollie scored both of Crockett's touchdowns.

PHOTOS BY DAKOTA HAMILTON, DOCO PHOTOGRAPHY



Science Hill quarterback Jaxon Diamond stares down his receiver. Diamond threw four TD passes.



Brenden Reid looks for running room against the Hilltoppers. Reid was Crockett's leading rusher.



Science Hill's Amare Redd caught a 4-yard touchdown from Diamond.

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New practice facility opens at Pine Oaks Golf Course

Area golfers looking to hone their skills now have more than 4 acres of space to practice driving, putting, chipping and pitching. The new Pine Oaks Practice Facility, a 250-yard-long by 70-yard-wide driving range and short-game area, is the culmination of efforts that began with the closure of Buffalo Valley Golf Course in 2017 when

City officials and staff agreed to divert funding to needed improvements at Pine Oaks.

"To say that I am excited about the opening of the practice facility would be an understatement," said Johnson City Mayor Jenny Brock, an avid golfer and instructor with the First Tee of Tri-Cities. "This space provides golfers of all skill levels a convenient



Bryan Bentley, golf manager at Pine Oaks Golf Course, at the new practice facility that recently opened at the course. PHOTO BY DAVE ONGIE

and inexpensive opportunity to improve every facet of their game." Golfers can tee off from the grass area or utilize a new 100-foot-long turf mat as they aim for yardage markers placed at various distances and work on their short game in a practice area that includes sand bunkers.

"This facility supplies every practice scenario needed by today's golfers," said Bryan Bentley, golf manager for Pine Oaks Golf Course. "Regardless of skill level, golfers can tee up a driver, a wedge or an iron. They will be able to work

on all the clubs in their bag. We want to build the game of golf by helping people perfect their skills. This practice facility is a simple and affordable way to engage people in the game."

While open to individuals, the practice facility is also a valuable instructional resource. Pine Oaks Golf Course offers affordable lessons to golfers of all skill levels from beginners to those with a low handicap. Youth-oriented programs like First Tee and the junior golf program offered through the City's Park and Recreation Department can

take advantage of this space as well. The practice facility will allow groups hosting tournaments at PineOaks to engage in a variety of additional contests.

Previously golfers were required to bring their own balls and had to spend time retrieving them. Now golfers pay for a bucket of balls, designated as small (30-35 balls) or large (60-70 balls), and hit at their leisure.

Pine Oaks Golf Course is located at 1709 Buffalo Road in Johnson City. For more information, call 423.434.6250 or go to pineoaksgolfcourse.com.

The Business Journal
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40 Under Forty honorees will be featured in the December issue of The Business Journal. Deadline for nominations is September 30, 2020. Nominate online at 40under.com

All 40 Under Forty nomination materials are due no later than September 15. Nominees must be 39 or younger as of October 30, 2020.

Obituaries

- Virginia L. Garden Edwards, 89, Johnson City, 8/25/20
- Donald Leon "Cranking Don" Canter, 85, Johnson City, 8/26/20
- Ethel Cates Wilson, 100, Johnson City 8/27/20
- Patricia Joann Stanton Davenport, 84, Johnson City, 8/27/20
- Doug Music, 75, Jonesborough, 8/29/20
- Charles Joe Carver, 77, Johnson City, 8/30/20

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