

Deadline passes, ballots set

DUANE SHERRILL
News/Sports Smithville Review
Smithville, Tennessee

There are three candidates running for Smithville mayor this August but not a single entrant threw a hat in the ring to lead Alexandria.

In the race for Smithville mayor, incumbent Jimmy Poss will be opposed by second-term alderman Josh Miller and Curtis Rust. The qualifying deadline for municipal, school board and state primary offices fell Thursday at noon.

While Poss will be opposed, there will be no fight over who gets the two city aldermanic spots up for grabs this year as newcomer Brandon Cox and incumbent Gayla Hendrix will take the seats without opposition. Their lack of opponents comes after two-term incumbent alderman Jason Murphy withdrew his name from the ballot this past week, saying he needed to devote more time to his business.

In Liberty, incumbent Mayor Dwight Mathis is asking for reelection but Darrell W. Johnson is standing in his way, seeking election to the post this August. The aldermanic council including Dwayne Blair, J.D. Bratten, Derek Johnson, Jason H. Ray and William Howard Reynolds Jr. will be reelected without opposition.

While no mayor race is up this year in Dowelltown, there are three open aldermanic spots. However, only Ronald L. Griffith is guaranteed one of those seats as no other aldermanic candidates qualified to run for them.

In Alexandria, no one stepped up to run for mayor after incumbent Bennett Armstrong said he does not intend to run again. There are also five seats open on the city council, only one of which is claimed by Lloyd Dyer who opted to qualify. Anyone wishing to run as a write-in candidate must notify the election office at least 50 days before the election of their intention to seek any of the offices.

As far as school board goes, only second-district incumbent Jerry Wayne Johnson will face a contested race as he will be opposed by Thomas Alan Hayes in August. Incumbents Danny Parkerson in the first, Jim Beshearse in the third, Kate Miller in the fourth and Shaun Tubbs in the seventh will be elected to four-year terms without opposition. Meanwhile, two spots held by WJ. (Dub) Evins III in the fifth and Doug Stephens in the sixth do not come up for election until 2020.

CRIME REPORT

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A shake down at DeKalb County Jail this past week shook out two inmates, both of whom are charged with possessing drugs inside the institution.

Christopher Derrick, 22, is charged with contraband in a penal institution and simple possession. He was busted as officers were searching the jail annex during the early morning hours in a surprise inspection. A corrections officer who was walking the inmates out of the wing was radioed that Derrick may be in possession of an ille-



DERRICK

gal substance. When the jailer approached him he passed something to another inmate. The officer was able to grab the container and found it contained a lighter and pills. Derrick admitted it was clonazepam.

During the same inspection, inmate Thomas B. Nix, 22, of Smithville was charged with possession of contraband in a penal institution. Officers say they found marijuana hidden under his bunk during the morning shakedown.



NIX



JOHNSON

In other news from Sheriff Patrick Ray:

- Daniel Lynn Johnson, 21 is charged with theft for allegedly stealing a dirt bike worth \$1,400 from a residence on Page Drive.
- Riley A. Bullard, 52, of Smithville is charged with public intoxication. He was arrested after deputies went to a residence on a call there was an unwanted guest present. He was found to have an odor of alcohol about him and was unsteady on his feet. He was taken into custody for the safety of himself and the public.

All the above mentioned defendants are to appear in General Sessions Court on April 12.



BULLARD

DWS students get taste of working world

How do you draw pictures for a children's book? Is it scary climbing up a tall pole to fix a problem? Why did you want to work with the Tennessee Highway Patrol? These were just a few of the questions community leaders answered when they visited DeKalb West School March 22 for the annual Elementary Career Day.

"The state of Tennessee encourages school counselors to begin as early as elementary school introducing students to the world of work and showing the relationship of work and education together," said DWS School Counselor Bill Conger. "As part of the Path to College program, we're striving to have students begin to explore a variety of careers at an early age."

Illustrator/author Shan Burklow demonstrated to students in kindergarten through fifth grade how she draws the pictures for books. Jennifer Buterbaugh, whose children Grant and William attend DWS, told students about her career as a registered nurse. She let students use a stethoscope to listen to their heartbeat and showed them how to take a person's temperature, along with other aspects of her job



Lieutenant Jimmy Neal of the Tennessee Highway Patrol speaks to DeKalb West students during Elementary Career Day.

with the Rutherford County Health Department. Tom Koblinsky told about one of his previous careers as a postal worker while Lieutenant Jimmy Neal of the Tennessee Highway Patrol explained the duties of his job and urged students to always buckle up when their parents are driving. Matt Adcock and Jerry Johnson with the DeKalb County Fire Department brought the firetruck out and discussed what skills it takes to become a firefighter. Josh Hoot with the DeKalb Telephone Cooperative not only talked about his job as a cable repairman, but he also showed students how he climbs the poles and how DTC's lift truck operates.

A career day for students in the middle school grades will be held at DWS in May.

DCHS BASKETBALL COACH

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Highlights of his career thus far include leading Smith County Middle to a 34-1 record in 2013-14 and winning the James C. Hailee AA State Tournament and then finishing in the Final Four of the TNT State Tourney in Spring-

field. In 2015-16 his Smith County squad finished 22-11 and were District 8AA champs and advanced to the semi-finals of the Region 4AA tourney. He was named 8AA District Coach of the year that season. His teams made the region semi-finals two of the three years he was head

coach at Smith County. He will be replacing the second winningest coach in school history in Lynus Martin. The long-time coach stepped down after

this past season. "Coach Martin has done a great job with the program the last 16 years so I know the program would be in great shape," Coach

Sanders said, noting he hopes to be in the top four in the district this year and make it to the region tournament. "We want to get the kids to compete and

play hard and enjoy what they're doing." The coach is married to Kristen Oldham Sanders and they reside in Smith County.

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PHYSICAL THERAPIST SPOTLIGHT

MERLE B. GUERRERO, PT, DPT

My name is Merle B. Guerrero, PT, DPT. I am a naturalized U.S. Citizen, and I have been a practicing Physical Therapist in the United States for 26 years. I graduated with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Physical Therapy from Emilio Aguinaldo College - Manila in the Philippines in 1992 and acquired my Doctorate in Physical Therapy degree from Utica College in New York in 2017.

My work experience includes hospital, inpatient, outpatient, Skilled Nursing Facility and more recently, for the past seven years, the Home Health setting.

I am a member of the Tennessee Physical Therapy Association and the American Physical Therapy Association including the Home Health section of the APTA.

I have been married to Bernartino A. Guerrero for 30 years. We have two children, Dr. Aileen LiFuin, who is a U.S. Navy physician based in Norfolk, Virginia, and, Bernardino B. Guerrero, Jr., who is a mathematician/statistician and lives in Cookeville. I am blessed with two grandchildren and one more on the way.

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