

Stribling wins by seven votes

DUANE SHERRILL
News/Sports Smithville Review
Smithville, Tennessee

It came down to seven votes, the incumbent County Mayor Tim Stribling defeating his predecessor Mike Foster by a count of 1,066 to 1,059.

The razor-thin margin left Stribling with a chance in August to retain his office.

Meanwhile, Nicole Wright will

get a chance to win the office she works in as she defeated Mark Milam for the Democratic nomination for circuit court clerk by a count of 1,203 to 1,023. The position has been held by Katherine Pack since 2002. Pack is not seeking re-election to a fifth term. Wright works for Pack in the Circuit Court Clerk office. Milam has served as Constable of the fifth district for over 25 years. Wright will face Republican Susan Martin

in the County General Election on August 2.

Sheriff's challenger Michael Agee advanced to August without opposition in the Democratic primary. Agee will face Republican Incumbent Sheriff Patrick Ray in the general election.

Jimmy Sprague was unopposed for the Democratic nomination for road supervisor. He will face Republican Danny Hale in August.

County Court Clerk James L. (Jimmy) Poss, Trustee Sean Driver and Register of Deeds Jeff McMullen got an election cycle off and will be unopposed in August.

For the 14 county commission seats up for election this year:

In the first district, incumbent Julie Young and Dennis Slager both moved on without opposition in the primary. They will face Republican Tom Chandler in August, with the two top vote getters

winning office.

In the second district, incumbent Joe Johnson will not get a chance for reelection as he was defeated by Nora Harvey and Myron Rhody in the primary, Harvey getting 147, Rhody 168 and Johnson 139. They will advance to take on Republican Sabrina Farler in August with the top two winning office.

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PROM 2018



Duane Sherrill photo

Sophie Cripps gives Seth Whaley a kiss before the DeKalb County High School prom this past weekend. For more prom pictures, see page 6A.

Day of Prayer Thursday at courthouse

DUANE SHERRILL
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The community will join the rest of the nation Thursday in pausing at noon for a time of prayer.

The National Day of Prayer will be observed Thursday, May 3 in America. Smithville will observe this day at noon on the east side of the DeKalb County Courthouse (out on the lawn). The rain location is in the basement of the DeKalb County Courthouse.

"All are invited to join for a time of prayer for our nation, state and city led by local ministers from Smithville and the surrounding areas," said event coordinator Issac Gray. "It's time for God's people to come together and seek His face; we have a chance to do that on the National Day of Prayer."

A national day of prayer was first called for by the first Continental Congress in 1775 and was first established by President Abraham Lincoln in 1863. In 1952, Congress unanimously voted to establish a National Day of Prayer. The day was made official when President Harry S. Truman signed it into law. The annual observance is held on the first Thursday of May and is designated by the United States Congress as a time when people are asked "to turn to God in prayer and meditation." Each year since its inception, the president has signed a proclamation, encouraging all Americans to pray on this day.

The constitutionality of the National Day of Prayer was unsuccessfully challenged in court by the Freedom From Religion Foundation after their first attempt was unanimously dismissed by a federal appellate court in April 2011.

It's time for God's people to come together and seek His face; we have a chance to do that on the National Day of Prayer.

Issac Gray

Banquet recognizes community leaders

DUANE SHERRILL
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In the midst of an already festive and exciting evening, Leadership DeKalb representatives Jen Sherwood and Beth and Darrell Gill, were given the opportunity to recognize well deserving leaders of the community with the annual Community Leader of 2017 and the Legacy Leader Awards.

The Community Leader of the Year is awarded to the individual who most emulates the definition of community trustee and servant-leader in his or her recent service to DeKalb County. Nominees are considered who have made a significant and positive impact on our county specifically in 2017 and in a capacity beyond their professional role.

The 2017 Community Leader of the Year is Blake Cantrell. Blake works in IT professionally, but while attending the DeKalb County Citizen Fire Academy in the fall of 2014, he saw the opportunity to give back. He became a volunteer fireman in 2015. His commitment didn't stop there, however. Since January 2016,

he has served as the DeKalb volunteer fire department communications officer. Blake has been recognized for his many volunteer hours to the county fire department as the recipient of the 2017 "Git-R-Done" Award. He is the current President of DeKalb Emergency Services Association, president of 2017-18 Project Graduation Committee, and has served as vice president of the DCHS Quarterback Club for nine years.

Blake also gives freely his IT and technical services to many community groups throughout DeKalb County, such as Help, Haven of Hope, and Lighthouse Christian Camp, and various churches. Darrell and Beth Gill presented the award to Blake and thanked him for his leadership and service to DeKalb County.

The Legacy Leader Award is awarded to someone who most emulates the definition of community trustee and servant-leader in his or her continued service to DeKalb County. The winner has made a significant and positive impact on our county over a considerable period of time and in multiple and lasting ways.

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Duane Sherrill photo

An emotional tribute video concluded the evening at the annual chamber banquet last week, chronicling Chamber Director Suzanne Williams' recovery after she suffered a severe throat injury in an accident. She was all smiles afterward as her daughter, Shan Burklow relieved her behind the mic so she could rest her voice.



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REVIEW

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