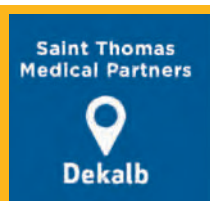


# REVIEW



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**STYLE** Cantrell named Dairy Month Chairman **7A**

**SPORTS** Six Tigers make all-district team **1B**

## Cripps asks for teacher raises

**DUANE SHERRILL**  
News/Sports Smithville Review  
Smithville, Tennessee

Saying he is going to fight for his teachers, Director of Schools Patrick Cripps asked the county budget committee for a \$3,000 raise for DeKalb County teachers in hopes of retaining quality instructors that are being lured away by higher paying counties.

"We can't compete with Wilson and Putnam," Cripps flatly admitted as he addressed County Mayor Tim Stribling and the budget committee, noting that starting pay in DeKalb County for teachers is right at the state minimum. "I know it's a huge amount to ask for but

to get the best people in here we're going to have to start paying them better."

The raise, which would technically leave the county on the line for \$2,400 per teacher thanks to \$600 being kicked in by the state, was called for during a special meeting of the board of education. Increases in insurance premiums next year for teachers will have a major economic impact if they are not countered by higher teacher incomes, the school board fears. The call for raises also includes \$1,500 for non-certified employees.

As for the county's 228 teachers, Cripps told members of the committee that DeKalb needs to do something to recruit and retain teachers.

"When we got our preliminary BEP (Basic Education Program) money, the April statement showed that we are right at \$1,800 below the average state salary," Cripps told the budget committee. "The average is \$44,024 and we are at \$42,287. We all know that last year our insurance went up tremendously across the board, and everyone was wanting big help in their insurance, but when you look long range what is going to help their retirement it is their highest five years of salary. That is what their retirement is based on. With the increase in salary, that will help offset some of their costs."

Continued on **2A**



DeKalb County Director of Schools Patrick Cripps asks members of the county budget committee for \$3,000 raises for its teachers, ahead of insurance premium increases next year.

## Quirino busted for DUI

**DUANE SHERRILL**  
News/Sports Smithville Review  
Smithville, Tennessee

A drunken party guest who turned down a sober ride home has been charged with drunk driving after a deputy busted him behind the wheel.

The drunk driver, Brian Quirino, 33, of Goodlettsville is charged with DUI and driving on a revoked license. He will appear for arraignment on June 14.

His charges come after a deputy was called to a residence on New Home Road around 2 a.m., where a drunken party guest was causing trouble and refusing to leave. When the officer arrived, he found Quirino unsteady of his feet, having slurred speech and an odor of alcohol.

"He admitted to drinking all night," said Sheriff Patrick Ray.

Knowing the man was in no condition to drive, the deputy told him to call for a sober ride home. He would be permitted to leave his car there and come back to get it the next day. After agreeing to the deputy's terms, the ride was called and Quirino and the lawman waited around until 3:30 a.m. for him to arrive.

While it appeared Quirino was going to avoid jail that evening, he ended up messing up his chance when he abandoned his friend's vehicle and got into his own. The deputy then watched as Quirino tried to drive away.

"He went through a ditch without his lights on," the sheriff said, noting the deputy immediately stopped him and placed him under arrest.



QUIRINO

## In remembrance



Members of the American Legion Post 122 place a wreath at the Veterans Memorial downtown in front of the DeKalb County Courthouse as part of Memorial Day observances in Smithville.

## County observes Memorial Day

**DUANE SHERRILL**  
News/Sports Smithville Review  
Smithville, Tennessee

With the mournful sounds of TAPS filling downtown, the citizens of DeKalb County paused Monday morning to remember those who gave all.

"Why does somebody jump on a grenade?" asked keynote speaker Ben Franklin during the Memorial Day program sponsored by American Legion Post 122, the veteran paraphrasing the scripture in the Bible which says that there is no greater love than a man who will lay down

his life for his brother. "A lot of time it's just common ol' fella's that does this."

Franklin also pointed to the Alamo where many laid down their lives for the idea of liberty. "They knew they were probably going to die," Franklin said of those defending the Alamo against Mexican attack, asking why ordinary people would do extraordinary things. "The only answer I can come up with is freedom."

Franklin's comments came during the pair of events held to mark Memorial Day in Smithville Monday morning.

First, a gathering was held at the

county complex where the colors were presented by Boy Scout Troop 347 and the anthem was sung by Erica Birmingham. Patriotic music was played by Mary Lynn Page. After prayer by Larry Green and Franklin's talk, the ceremonies were moved to the courthouse where a wreath was laid at the downtown memorial and a prayer was offered by Don Riggsby. TAPS was played by DeKalb County High School trumpet player, Josh Moon.

Highlights of both events may be viewed by going to [www.smithvillereview.com](http://www.smithvillereview.com) and clicking the multimedia tab at the top of the page.

## State snafu costs city \$60K



Smithville City Administrator Hunter Hendrixson breaks the bad news to the board of mayor and aldermen that a state sales tax snafu will cost the city \$60,000 in anticipated funds this year.

**DUANE SHERRILL**  
News/Sports Smithville Review  
Smithville, Tennessee

The city of Smithville just found itself \$60K poorer.

"This wasn't just us," City Administrator Hunter Hendrixson told the city board of mayor and aldermen of the \$60,568 city coffers will be short this year. "It was statewide."

At issue was sales tax and who it was to be paid to. According to Hendrixson, the amount, which will be deducted from the city's payment from the state, was wrongly attributed to the city of Smithville when it should have been given to DeKalb County. It was discovered during a routine state audit.

"It's a one-time deal and everything is straight now," Hen-

drixson said, adding things could have been a lot worse as the audit only went back for a year so the city will not have to pay any back amounts.

Hendrixson said he does not know why the sales tax was wrongly earmarked for the city when it should have been given to the county. The mistake, he added, with not on the city or county but instead on how the state set up on to whom the sale tax share was to be paid.

While the damage was limited, members of the city board were not thrilled by the loss of funds.

"It was basically the state's error and now we're paying for it," said Alderman Gayla Hendrix, pointing out that extrapolating it out, it will cost the city about \$5,000 a month for the year.

## TDOT crash



Ashley Singleton of McMinnville was heading north on Congress Boulevard Friday afternoon when she slammed her Chevy Trailblazer into the rear of a TDOT truck driven by Jarrod Bonar of Lascassas. One of her children suffered noncritical injuries and was treated at St. Thomas DeKalb. She was cited for violation of the due care law.



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