

# One killed, six injured on lake

**DUANE SHERRILL**  
Editor *Smithville Review*  
Smithville, Tennessee

The July 4 observance proved to be a dangerous one on Center Hill Lake as one man drowned and six were injured in a boat crash during Independence Day on the lake. Kenneth Farron Young, 57, of Cookeville passed away Friday at Cookeville Regional Hospital from complications arising from his

near drowning in Center Hill Lake on July 4. The incident happened while swimming in the Mine Lick Creek area of the lake in the Austin Bottom community. Although there is no boat ramp there, the incident occurred just off shore at the end of a road in an area used by boaters to access the lake. A boater reportedly saw the man go under the water and then float back up. Attempts at reviving the man were made, and he was

rushed for treatment in Cookeville. Around the same time on the Fourth of July, a boat accident was being worked elsewhere on Center Hill. According to TWRA reports, two boats collided northeast of Davies Island. The injured were transported by TWRA boats to the Johnson's Chapel Recreation Area where ambulances were waiting. None of the boaters sustained life-threatening injuries.

# Durham calls out city

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A citizen added some sizzle to an otherwise mundane second reading of the city's budget for the coming year, saying the board of mayor and aldermen should raise taxes, pay police more, and that at least one alderman at the table needs to dress nicer. "Your budget is absolutely terrible when it comes to your police officers," stated Gary Durham who took his opportunity to address the board for three minutes as a concerned citizen prior to their vote on the budget. "You're paying \$15 an hour. That is under poverty level." He went on to point out that the average pay for police in a town the size of Smithville is about \$39,000 and that the average officer in Tennessee makes \$44,000. "There are 135 police officers killed every year," Durham noted as he stood at the meeting table, refusing to sit down. "Does anybody here want to put on a uniform and go on the street for \$15? I don't think so." Alderman Shawn Jacobs countered that after benefits, and given their new



**Gary Durham stands at the meeting table, telling the city board of mayor and aldermen that they need to raise taxes so they can better pay their police officers.**

pay scale, which starts all officers at \$15.21 and gives them tier raises, an officer will, in reality, make in the neighborhood of \$45,000 per year working for the city of Smithville. He pointed out the city pays more than the county does for its officers. "I live in the city, I don't care what the county does," Durham countered, then turning his ire toward Alderman Danny Washer who was sitting at the end of the table, questioning his choice

of attire in attending a city meeting wearing shorts and a ball cap. "My father would have knocked my head off if I sat down at the table dressed like that," Durham said, his criticism getting a rise out of Washer who said he "took offense" to being singled out. Alderman Gayla Hendrix told Durham that a lot of issues with the tight budget this year is because the city is having to pay off big ticket items. I wish we could pay every city employee a lot more money than we are, but one of the reasons we are not spending as much this year is because we have made some very major capital outlay expenses in the last few years with our sanitation truck, fire truck, and other improvements, and then we lost a lot of our water customers from the DeKalb Utility District. We are hoping after this year we won't have any major outlays for a little bit and we can start doing some more for our employees and others. I would like to see our police department make more and to have more paid firefighters," she said. The budget passed unanimously, leaving taxes unchanged and providing for a one percent raise for city employees.

## EARLY VOTING

Continued from 1A primary or visa versa." Primaries in the Aug. 2 election include races for governor, congress, state senate and state representatives. Those coming to the polls are asked to bring a photo identification, preferably a valid driver license. Voters are also advised to familiarize themselves with the ballot. "It's a fairly long ballot," Stanley said. A sample ballot ran in last week's Smithville Review and can be found by going online to [www.dekalbelections.com](http://www.dekalbelections.com).

## OBITUARIES

### Anthony Neal "Tony" Bates, 58

Anthony Neal "Tony" Bates, 58, a native of Smithville and a long-time resident of Gainesboro passed away Saturday morning, June 30 at Cookeville Regional Medical Center. He was a Christian and a construction worker. He was preceded in death by his parents, Homer Lee and Juanita Johnson Bates; son, Matthew Bates; three sisters, Wanda Kay Pack, Sheron Ann Whitworth and Sandra Bates; three brothers, Ronald Wayne Bates, Donald Lane Bates and Eddie Carmel. He is survived by his wife, Regina Bates of Gainesboro; three children, Jared Bates of Gainesboro, Jordan Hutson of Gainesboro and Jennifer Hawkins of Smithville; two grandchildren, Faith and Eli Judkins; four sisters, Thelma (Bobby "Stub") Martin, Janet Hawker, Peggy Colwell and Louise Arnold, all of Smithville; one brother, Kenny (Maira) Bates of Smithville; two sisters-in-law, Vickie Bates of Smithville and Dorothy Johnson of McMinnville; several nieces and nephews also survive. Serving as pallbearers were Jackson Jaques, Jordan Hutson, Chris Martin, Kenny Bates, Ricky Pooler, and Clifford Jaques. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, July 5 at DeKalb Funeral Chapel with Michael Hale officiating and burial will following in Bonham Cemetery. DeKalb Funeral Chapel of Smithville was in charge of the arrangements.



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### Sue Ellis, 70

Sue Ellis, 70, currently of Paris, Texas, and a long-time resident of Alexandria passed away quietly on Friday, July 6 at her home surrounded by her loving family. She was born March 3, 1948 in Nashville to Jesse Edgar and Beulah Williams Greer. Sue had several careers in her working life, having served as Dr. Cripps medical assistant for several years, and then retired from the Wilson County Sheriff's Department. She also worked as a cosmetologist and as an emergency medical technician at different times. Sue had many loves, her family most of all, her God, horses, and all kinds of animals. She enjoyed riding motorcycles with her husband and if you knew her, she was kind and straight to the point. She is survived by her husband of 55 years, Elmer Lee Ellis, Jr., of Alexandria; daughter, Tammy (John) Harrington, of Paris, Texas; son, Jeff (Lynette) Ellis and children, Jordy Ellis, Jorjenna (Jemini) Chrisman, all of Silver Point; son, Jamie (Patty) Ellis and children, Jay Ellis and Kristen Ellis, all of Watertown; great-grandchildren, Anthony, Braedyn, and Caisyn; brother, Don (Carol) Greer, Goodlettsville; sister, Becky Hobbs, Smithville; as well as several nieces and nephews, cousins, and friends. Funeral service for Mrs. Ellis was conducted July 10 at Avant Funeral. Interment followed in Hillview Memorial Cemetery. Avant Funeral Home of Alexandria was in charge of the arrangements.



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## FAIR

Continued from 1A The Lip Sync Battle will be returning this year as well. Made famous by LL Cool J, Monday night's competition, will offer a ton of entertainment as contestants will be performing to their favorite song vying for a place in Friday night's finale where the winner will walk away with the Lip Sync Battle trophy and \$250 cash. First runner-up will receive \$150 cash with second runner up taking home a \$50 cash prize. The fans decide the winners. This year's pageants are sponsored by DTC Communications. Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday night winners will receive a \$50 cash prize from DTC. Gate prices are \$5 a night and four-year-olds and under get in free. Ride arm band prices are \$15 on Monday, \$16 on Tuesday, \$14 on Wednesday and \$18 Thursday through Saturday. Gates and midway opens at 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday and 4 p.m. on Saturday. "So whether you're out with your friends, on a date with your sweetheart, or having a fun night out with your family...the DeKalb County Fair welcomes you back each and every year as you build your own traditions along with us," Meadows said. We'll see you every night under carnival lights." Fair books are still available at many locations including the *Smithville Review*.

VOTE  
Randy Paris  
FOR  
County Mayor  
AUGUST 2

Randy Paris, a local businessman is running for DeKalb County Mayor in the August 2nd election. His roots run deep in this territory. Bill and Carmyn Paris, his grandparents were long time residents of Smithville. Carmyn was a teacher at DeKalb Elementary and Bill was a banker and Justice of the Peace at the time of his death. Don and Pat Paris, Randy's parents were also residents of Smithville and owners of Smithville Marine for many years.

Randy made his mark as a businessman who has spent many years developing commercial real estate in and around Smithville. As a resident of Smithville for more than 30 years he has a genuine desire to give back to his community. Randy hopes to improve the quality of life for all people and bring a brighter future to the community. He is an ambitious, hard working individual who is ready with new energy and ideas for our country.

VOTE

POLITICAL AD ORDERED & APPROVED BY RANDY PARIS.

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