

Four customers to get new water supplier

BY **LISA HOBBS**
Reporter for the Southern Standard
(McMinnville, Tennessee)

Four McMinnville Water Department customers will soon see a change in their bill, as far as who they pay.

The city Water and Sewer Committee has approved a measure to relinquish four customers at the intersection of Highway 8 and Shellsford Road to Warren County Utility District. The four are near Warren County's EMS station.

According to Water Department director Anthony Pelham, a leak at the intersection will be costly to repair.

"There is leak in the ditch right in front of the EMS building that became a lot worse last week, as

you can imagine, with the weather," said Pelham. "To correct it, I need to kill the line. It only goes to those four. To replace and upgrade would require approximately 1,000 feet of pipe and a road bore up Highway 8. It's currently serviced by a 1-inch galvanized line that's failing. It's leaking presently and my estimate to replace it would be in excess of \$20,000."

The area is outside the city limits.

"Those customers are in the Warren County Utility District service area," said Pelham. "They have a 12-inch line already there. My request, although not my place to approve it, would be to seek committee approval to cut and cap our line, abandon the old dilapidated line, and

either sell for fair market value or trade out services for them."

Alderman Everett Brock asked if the homeowners have issues with becoming water customers of Warren County Utility District.

"I haven't spoken to them," said Pelham. "They are going to get about 40 pounds of pressure better. It would be off a 12-inch line as opposed to 1 inch. The rates are essentially equivalent since there's no sewer. They aren't inside the city. If you look at where the city limits are, we are well beyond any growth projection I can fathom."

The process to transfer the four customers, said Pelham, should be done within the month.

Helping Hamilton Street



Duane Sherrill photo
Dayron Deaton-Owens arrives at the McMinnville Young Professionals kickoff event with a donation for the Hamilton Street Activity Center. McMinnville Young Professionals chair Justin Tanner and Hamilton Street director Lisa Harvey accepted his donation. The activity center will be MYP's community outreach organization this year.

State Republicans discuss direction

NASHVILLE (AP) — Tennessee Senate Republicans say they want to tout their accomplishments more effectively as they face legislative elections and a Democratic base energized by a U.S. Senate race in Alabama.

They also want to sharpen their message as the party could divide over President Donald Trump.

At a Senate Republican Caucus meeting Wednesday, chair Bill Ketron said the Alabama contest, in which GOP candidate Roy Moore lost, helped provide a recent bump for Democrats.

Senate Majority Leader Mark Norris said Republican senators should focus on achievements, and distributed a presentation of 2017 state budget highlights.

"We've got to do a better job of putting our best foot forward and telling people all the good things we've done," said Norris, a Collierville Republican who is awaiting U.S. Senate confirmation to become a federal judge.

Sen. Kerry Roberts of Springfield said his caucus needs to brand its accomplishments as the Tennessee agenda because Trump could divide the party.

"It'll take a unified voice from this Senate to break through the cacophony of noise that's going to push back," Roberts said.

"Anyone who runs on the Trump agenda right now, you potentially alienate members of our own party that just haven't warmed up to Donald Trump."

Republicans hold supermajorities in the House and Senate, where 17 of 33 seats are up for election. All 99 House seats are on the ballot.

Ketron also said the caucus should focus on the re-election of Sen. Brian Kelsey, a Germantown Republican whose district voted for Trump by only a thin margin.

Norris also gave an update on his nomination

for a U.S. district judge in West Tennessee. He will remain a state senator until the U.S. Senate votes to confirm him, a vote that hasn't been scheduled.

"I don't know what's going to become of it, but I'm not going to resign the seat for which my constituents elected me or this leadership post for which you elected me,"



NORRIS

Norris told his Senate Republican peers.

Trump nominated Norris in July and the Senate Judiciary Committee voted to send his nomination to the full Senate in December.

Because the Senate didn't take a vote by the end of the year, Trump had to re-nominate him and others, Norris said.



She's no longer whistling Dixie. Dolly Parton has dropped "Dixie" from the name of her popular Pigeon Forge horse show attraction.

Dolly's Stampede dropping 'Dixie'

PIGEON FORGE (AP) — Country singer Dolly Parton has discarded "Dixie" from the name of a popular dinner show. From now on, the attraction will simply be known as Dolly Parton's Stampede.

Parton said in a statement the name change was spurred by changing attitudes and "will remove any confusion or concerns about our shows" as the company that operates the attraction expands into new markets.

World Choice Investments currently operates the Stampede dinner show for Parton in Pigeon Forge, Tenn., and Branson, Mo.

World Choice spokesman Pete Owens said Parton is referring shifting attitudes about the word "Dixie" and its connotations.

"It has added to confusion in discussions about the expansion of our dinner theaters to new locations across the country and around the world," he said in a statement. "They do not realize The Stampede is a very patriotic, spectacular, horse show with 32 beautiful horses as the stars."

OAK RIDGE (AP) — The U.S. Department of Energy's largest science and energy laboratory is laying off 100 employees in Tennessee.

The Knoxville News

STATE ROUNDUP

Sentinel reports these layoffs at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory follow a voluntary reduction of 232 employees.

The cuts focus on areas affected by the 2017 budget reductions, including climate change research for the Carbon Dioxide Information Analysis Center and fusion energy research.

However, ORNL spokesman David Keim said this round of reductions will mostly focus on overhead positions not funded by the Department of Energy, Homeland Security or through other government and university partnerships, but he couldn't say for certain which programs would be impacted.

Terminated employees will be notified of their status by mid-February.

NASHVILLE (AP) — An average of three people died by suicide each day in Tennessee in 2016, the highest recorded in the state in more than 35 years.


News outlets cite Tennessee health officials as saying white, middle-aged men in rural areas account for a majority of the deaths. White males make up 40 percent of Tennessee's population, but made up 77

percent of suicide deaths in 2016.

Officials from the Tennessee Department of Health's Office of Health Statistics say suicides also are increasing among those 10 to 19 years old.

East Tennessee Suicide Prevention Network official Amy Dolinky says the vast majority of people kill themselves with guns.

Dolinky says the difficulty of talking about feeling suicidal and the stigma surrounding mental illness have contributed to the rise in suicides.



Monday, we proudly honor a great American leader and a great American hero: Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Let's keep alive his message of peace, equality and respect for all people.

Our Offices Will Be Closed
Monday, January 15, 2018

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- FIRST NATIONAL BANK**
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- HOMELAND COMMUNITY BANK**
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Member FDIC

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VETERANS CORNER

Southern Standard

AMERICAN LEGION POST 173
Our MONTHLY MEETINGS are held the first Thursday of each month at Billy's Restaurant (2822 Nashville Highway in McMinnville). Members will meet at 5:00 pm for dinner with the meeting to follow at 6:00 pm. All members are encouraged to attend. Prospective members are also welcome to attend. Everyone is invited to visit our Facebook page @post173 to stay up to date on all American Legion activities.
New Post address is: American Legion Post 173, P.O. Box 173, McMinnville, TN 37111. The Ladies Auxiliary meets at the same time.


THE BOBBY RAY DETACHMENT OF THE MARINE CORPS LEAGUE
Our MONTHLY MEETINGS are held the first Thursday of each month at the Warren County Administrative Building (201 Locust Street) in the Magnolia Room. Doors open at 1800 and the meeting starts at 1830. All honorable discharged Marines, Navy FMF Corpsman and Navy Chaplains who served with the marines are invited to attend. For more information call 931-934-5619.

AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS CHAPTER (POST 173)
Our MONTHLY MEETING are held the fourth Saturday each month at Billy's Restaurant (2822 Nashville Hwy. in McMinnville). Member will meet at 9:00am for breakfast, meeting to follow at 10:00am. Group will go for a ride after the meeting, weather permitting, location to be determined by the Road Captain. We are looking for new members. For information contact Rider Director John Davis American Legion Rider Chapter Post 173, PO Box 173, McMinnville, TN 37111.

VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA, ROYCE DAVENPORT CHAPTER 1112
Monthly meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month at Billy's restaurant (2822 Nashville Hwy. in McMinnville). Members will meet at 5:00 p.m. for dinner, with meeting starting at 6:00 p.m. All members are encouraged to attend. Prospective members will need to bring copy of DD Form 214 to verify service and join. Everyone is invited to visit our Facebook page @ VVA1112 to stay up to date on all VVA and AVVA activities.

Associate Vietnam Veterans of America, Royce Davenport Chapter 1112
Meeting is the same time and place as the VVA (see above). Anyone can be a member. There is no requirement to be related to a Veteran in anyway, however Veterans can also join. Please come and join our organization. Royce Davenport Chapter 1112 will again be collecting non-perishable items for the Warren County Emergency Food Bank during the Main Street Live Concert Series on Friday nights starting June 9, 2017 and continuing through the series. Your donations are greatly appreciated.

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS POST 5064
Our MONTHLY MEETINGS are typically held on the third Thursday of each month at the VFW Post Home (3340 Sparta Highway) at 7:00 pm. Prospective members are encouraged to attend. Call 931-668-8392 for more information. The VFW Auxiliary meets at the same time.



On Sunday, January 28, 2018 the Southern Standard will publish special pages entitled "In Memoriam... 2017" honoring the memory of those having passed away in 2017. A listing of names, by month, from obituaries printed in our paper will be given.

As part of these pages we are providing the opportunity for family and friends to honor that special someone. The cost will be \$15 for a 30 word message, \$20 if you wish to include a photo (30 words is in addition to person's name, birth date and death date).

Deadline 5:00pm on Tuesday, January 23.

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