



Gena Coats, left, presents Janice Gilispie with the Tennessee Conservation District Association Employee of the Year.

Gilispie wins state award

The Warren County Soil Conservation District employees attended the 74th Tennessee Association of Conservation Districts Annual Convention in Jackson.

Gary Martin, chairman of the Warren County Soil Conservation District announces Janice Gilispie was honored as the Tennessee Conservation District Association Employee of the Year.

Gilispie serves as president of the Tennessee Conservation District Employees Association. She is active on the county, area,

state and south-east levels and recently attended the National Association of Conservation Districts annual meeting that was held in Tennessee this year.

Gilispie also was recognized for 35 years of service. Neil Walker, soil conservation technician for Warren County SCD was recognized for 20 years of service. Neil assists landowners with best management



TRAPP

practices and manages the Tennessee Department of Agriculture Ag Resources Conservation Fund.

Also a student from Warren County High School received a scholarship to further her education in the agricultural field of study. Haven Trapp received an award from TACD. She wants to study to become a large animal veterinarianian.



Neil Walker is recognized for 20 years of service with the Warren County Soil Conservation District by Janice Gilispie.

Ross runs for District 1 County Commissioner

I am Christy Ross and I am seeking your vote to be District 1 County Commissioner.

I would like to bring my enthusiasm for growth and change to the County Commission.

There's lots of work to be done and I believe a revitalized spirit and fresh perspective are very much needed.

As the great Author Ralph Waldo Emerson said, "Nothing great ever happens without enthusiasm."

A master barber for 28 years, I am the owner/ operator of Ross and Company Salon for the last six years on Main Street McMinnville. Passion and drive for my profession led to the appointment by Gov. Phil Bredesen to serve on the Tennessee Board of Barber



ROSS

Examiners.

I have served as your Downtown Business Alliance president for the last five years helping to revitalize our beautiful downtown.

In addition, I currently serve on the Promotions Committee of our Main Street McMinnville organization, secretary for the Tourism Development Board and also serve on the BBQ Board.

I successfully championed the liquor referendum to keep \$3.2 million of your tax dollars in Warren County.

I ask for your vote to be your champion for progress, for change, for growth and for enthusiasm in my bid for County Commission District 1.

There's lots of work to be done and I am ready to work for you.

Tennis

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The city is awaiting bids on the estimated \$6.1 million project.

Once those are received, the actual cost for construction will be known.

At that time and based on city officials' positive or negative reaction to those numbers, the project can move forward in its entirety or the scope of work can be reduced as a cost-saving measure.

Barrett was given a chance to speak during the meeting.

"I'm here this evening, along with many others, to inform you of our love for the sport of tennis and the need for an indoor tennis court," she said. "Our community needs an indoor tennis court. Not only do our students use it during the winter months to practice for the spring tennis season, but many people in the community use it as well. Tennis is a life-long sport. Once learned, you can play well into your 80s."

She referenced former alderman Lester Cowell, who is now 83 years old and still playing in tournaments.

"The indoor court is used when it rains. It is also used when there is a

tournament going on. When all the outside courts are being used, players are sent indoors. The Winter League pays a fee to use the indoor court with an average of 30 to 40 people playing each year. Some of these players are from out of town where they don't have an indoor court and they appreciate the use of ours at our Civic Center."

WCMS student and tennis team member Caroline Stewart followed.

"Please, don't take away our tennis courts," she said. "I have enjoyed playing tennis and hope to continue playing on the middle school and the high school team in the future, but I can't play tennis and no one else can if we don't have our courts. During our season of tennis, it is hard for use to go outside. It may rain or it may be too cold. During those times, we look toward the inside court."

The Civic Center offers four outdoor courts and one indoor court. Stewart urged officials to not be swayed by the loss of only one.

"Because all of the cold weather this year, we have only been able to

practice outside once. Think of how unprepared we would be for our matches. Also, the Winter Tennis League needs it, too. My sister was on it, and thanks to the inside court, they were able to practice and have matches. Other people need it in our community. That's what the Civic Center is all about, right? It provides the community with a place to play sports and take classes for things."

Mayor Jimmy Haley attempted to ease concerns by stating the proposed renovation plans currently include an indoor tennis court and to his knowledge "nothing has been cut or deleted from the plan" but nothing has been finalized.

McMinnville Parks and Recreation director Scott McCord said bids, which will provide the city with the actual cost of construction, could be received by the end of July.

The city's plan, as this time, is to fund Civic Center renovation using local option sales tax settlement payments received from the 25-year lawsuit settlement between it and Warren County government.

Trump walks back tough talk for NRA

WASHINGTON (AP) — Not two weeks ago, President Donald Trump wagged his finger at a Republican senator and scolded him for being "afraid of the NRA," declaring that he would stand up to the powerful gun lobby and finally get results on quelling gun violence following last month's Florida school shooting.

On Monday, Trump struck a very different tone as he backpedaled from his earlier demands for sweeping reforms and bowed to Washington reality. The president,

who recently advocated increasing the minimum age to purchase an assault weapon to 21, tweeted that he's "watching court cases and rulings" on the issue, adding that there is "not much political support (to put it mildly)."

Over the weekend, the White House released a limited plan to combat school shootings that leaves the question of arming teachers to states



TRUMP

and local communities and sends the age issue to a commission for review. Just two days earlier, Trump had mocked commitments as something of a dead end while talking about the opioid epidemic.

"We can't just keep setting up blue-ribbon committees," he said, adding that all they do is "talk, talk, talk."

Seventeen people were killed in last month's

shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, prompting a national conversation about gun laws, fierce advocacy for stronger gun control from surviving students and, initially, a move from Trump to buck his allies at the National Rifle Association.

In a televised meeting with lawmakers on Feb. 28, Trump praised members of the gun lobby as "great patriots" but declared "that doesn't mean we have to agree on everything. It doesn't make sense that I have to

wait until I'm 21 to get a handgun, but I can get this weapon at 18."

He then turned toward Sen. Pat Toomey, R-Pennsylvania, and questioned why previous gun control legislation did not include that provision.

"You know why?" said Trump, answering his own question. "Because you're afraid of the NRA, right? Ha ha."

Toomey had a ready response after the president's tweet Monday: "It's quite obvious that I'm the guy that stood up to the NRA," he said.

Asked if Trump was afraid of the NRA, Toomey said, "I don't know what's driving his decision."

His words rattled some Republicans in Congress and sparked hope among some gun control advocates that, unlike after so many previous mass shootings, meaningful regulations would be enacted. But Trump appeared to foreshadow his change of heart with a tweet the very next night.

"Good (Great) meeting in the Oval Office tonight with the NRA!" the president wrote.

NOTICE TO ELDERLY OR VOTERS WITH DISABILITIES

Pursuant to TCA 2-3-109(e), elderly and/or voters with disabilities who are assigned to vote in inaccessible precincts in Warren County, Tennessee, have the right to vote at the Election Commission office on Election Day, May 1, 2018. Any voter voting for the first time pursuant to this provision must provide written notice to the Election Commission no later than April 21st of their intention to vote at the Election Office on Election Day. Any registered voter may vote early April 11 - 26 in the Early Voting Room located around back of the County Administrative Building. Sample ballot and hours for Early Voting will be published on April 1st in the Southern Standard. This information will also be available on our website www.warrentnelections.com

WARREN COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION
BILL WEBB, CHAIRMAN; PATRICIA DAVIS, SECRETARY; BILL LEE, MEMBER;
CHARLES YANCY, MEMBER; BEN NIXON, MEMBER; DONNA SMITH, ADMINISTRATOR

NOTICE BY THE WARREN COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION

Our office is located in County Administrative Office Building
Address: 201 Locust Street, Suite 3
McMinnville, TN 37110
Telephone (931) 473-5834; Fax (931) 473-3984
Email Address: warren.commission@tn.gov
Office Hours: 8 - 4:30 Mon thru Thurs, 8 - 5 Friday

THE NEXT ELECTION IS MAY 1, 2018 - WARREN COUNTY REPUBLICAN AND DEMOCRATIC PARTIES WILL HOLD PRIMARIES TO SELECT NOMINEES FOR COUNTY-WIDE OFFICES AND ALL COUNTY COMMISSION DISTRICTS VOTER REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS APRIL 2ND INCLUDES ANY IN-PERSON OR "POSTMARKED" MAIL-IN REGISTRATIONS

QUESTION ABOUT YOUR REGISTRATION STATUS? CALL OUR OFFICE 473-5834 OR USE THE "VOTER REGISTRATION LOOKUP" OPTION AT: govotetn.gov

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