



## SPORTS

WCMS softball claims CTC title **1B**



## LIFESTYLES

WCHS students enjoy Greek-themed prom **4B**

**WEDNESDAY**

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# Southern Standard



## Terry Smith ousted as Register of Deeds

### VOTE TOTALS

#### REGISTER OF DEEDS

Wes Williams	2,465
Terry Smith	1,816

#### CIRCUIT COURT CLERK

Casi Cantrell	2,064
Melanie Milstead	1,256
Duane Sherrill	896

#### SHERIFF

Rodney Whiles	2,194
Herb Rowland	1,331

## Wes Williams advances to General Election

BY JAMES CLARK  
Editor for the Southern Standard  
(McMinnville, Tennessee)

Terry Smith won't return for a sixth term as Register of Deeds.

Political newcomer Wes Williams ousted Smith after 20 years in office, winning the Democratic Primary on Tuesday night by 649 votes.

"I felt like we were the underdog the whole time and I never thought

we had it won," said Williams. "We went with the message that this would be a new generation of leadership and I think that was key in my campaign. We have a lot of momentum but we don't have it won yet and we're 100 percent focused on August."

The victory does not give Williams the Register of Deeds office. He still has to defeat independent Danny Cummings in the

General Election. The winner of that race will assume duties as Register of Deeds on Sept. 1.

In a three-way battle for Circuit Court Clerk, Casi Powell Cantrell won by a surprisingly large margin of victory getting 48.8 percent of the vote to earn the Democratic nomination. She defeated Melanie Milstead and Duane Sherrill.



WILLIAMS

Continued on 6A

## BACK TO THE STRIP



Classic vehicles are sure to fill the street this Saturday for the seventh annual Back to the Strip. The event will begin in downtown McMinnville on Saturday morning. Pictured is last year's event.

## Car show moves downtown

BY JAMES CLARK  
Editor for the Southern Standard  
(McMinnville, Tennessee)

Tom Cochran is famous for singing, "Life is a highway ... I wanna ride it all night long."

If the thought of cruising The Strip gets your motor running, the seventh annual Back to the Strip is this Saturday, May 5. The event has expanded into an all-day, all-night extravaganza and begins at 7 a.m.

"This is a chance to have a good time riding up and down The Strip and to help Meals on Wheels in the process," said Mary Lee Walker, one of the organizers. "Excitement is building. I think the move downtown is a big part of that increased enthusi-

asm. We are confident adding the 5K to our schedule of activities will bring even more excitement, more participation and more visitors to the most beautiful part of our lovely city."

The big change this year is the majority of daytime activities will be in downtown McMinnville. This includes the 5K run with registration to start at 6 a.m. and the race to begin at 7 a.m.

The car show begins at 9 a.m. with a \$10 entry fee. Spaces are assigned on a first-come, first-serve basis. The band Cripple Creek Review is scheduled to begin playing its unforgiving brand of classic rock at 11 a.m.

Topz and the city have partnered to offer a showing of the movie "Cars" at Park Theater beginning at 2 p.m.

The movie is free.

The car show ends at 3 p.m. and that's when the event gravitates to The Strip. Car show winners will be given their traditional place of honor on the front row of the Foodland Plus parking lot.

There's no set time when riding The Strip begins. The DJ is usually in place in front of Foodland Plus around 5 p.m.

Last year's event generated \$30,000 in monetary donations and 15,000 pounds of food for Meals on Wheels. Back to The Strip has raised more than \$150,000 for Meals on Wheels since its inception. A trailer will be available for nonperishable food donations downtown and at Foodland Plus.

## Voter turnout 'disappointing'

BY JAMES CLARK  
Editor for the Southern Standard  
(McMinnville, Tennessee)

Voters treated Tuesday's Democratic and Republican primaries like a spectator sport.

The vast majority of active voters in Warren County, nearly 75 percent, watched from the sideline and did not participate.

According to the Warren County Election Commission, 5,090 voters cast ballots during the primaries. Of those, 550 cast ballots in the Republican Primary where no races were contested. The remaining 4,540 voted in the Democratic Primary.

The end result was a voter turnout of 26.2 percent. There are 19,394 active voters in Warren County.

"It's disappointing of course, but you can't make people vote," said election administrator Donna Smith. "For an

### VOTE TOTALS

COUNTY COMMISSION	
<b>1ST DISTRICT</b>	
Christy Ross	166
Sally Brock	162
David Rhea	126
<b>7TH DISTRICT</b>	
Tommy Savage	214
Gary C. Martin	192
Susan Rogers	92
<b>10TH DISTRICT</b>	
Cole Taylor	280
Gary Prater	235
Harold Hyatt	120
<b>11TH DISTRICT</b>	
Steve M. Glenn	252
Mary Roller	197
Morris Bond	165

Top 2 advance

election of this size, with so many offices on the ballot, I thought it would be higher. It's not encouraging."

Continued on 3A

## CAST YOUR VOTES

Best of the Best ballots have been published and votes are flooding in for the Southern Standard's annual community recognition contest.

With the deadline looming, the Standard wants to remind local residents the last day to submit your ballot is this Friday, May 4, at 5 p.m.

Over 150 categories are up for grabs. This includes everything from Best Fried Chicken, to Best Doctor, to Best Beauty Salon.

One of the many highlights is the selection of Mr. and Ms. Warren County.



## Children touched by random act of kindness

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

The note simply read, "Enjoy this random act of kindness. Take a penny ... Make a wish." It was held in place by a small jar of pennies and placed on the ledge of the downtown fountain.

"We don't know who put it here," said Drake Jefferson. "It was already here. I've made three wishes."

Random acts of kindness can be fun for the recipient, as well as the provider. They are meant to cheer someone up, let them know someone cares, and inspire them to show kindness to oth-

ers. Making the act anonymous is like being an undercover agent for good.

While not originally designed to be a wishing well, local residents have taken to tossing spare change into the water of the Court Square fountain and making wishes. As the ritual goes, wishes are thought to be granted if accompanied by tossing a coin into the water.

Drake refused to say what his wishes were out of fear the magic might be broken.

"If you tell, they don't come true," he said.

The last time the fountain was drained by the city of McMinnville, \$68 in change was collected.



Lisa Hobbs photo

A random act of kindness is providing others with the chance to have their wishes come true. Brothers Drake, 7, and Carter Jefferson, 5, discovered a jar of pennies Monday beside the downtown fountain. The jar was accompanied by a note urging visitors to take a penny and make a wish.

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