

# Motlow's 2018 nursing class graduates



Motlow State Community College recently held a Pinning Ceremony recognizing the 2018 Nursing Class graduates. Pictured, front row, from left, are McMinnville campus graduates Christy Medley, Stacie Lyons, Hailey Sanders, Alexis Corneliuss, Chelsea Reed, and Amanda Parsley. Second row, Haleigh Smallwood, Amanda Gann, Andrea Winningham, Colleen Markwood, Amy Howard, and Courtney Caldwell. Third row, Amber London, Chelsey Chandler, Jody Blackman, Holden Null, Isaiah Allen, Reagen Scott, Gary Humphrey, and Kallie Carter.

## Deadline for Finance Director job looms

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

Prospective applicants to be Warren County's new Finance Department director have until noon on June 15 to apply. Linda Hillis has announced her retirement after 22 years. She currently oversees the county's \$86 million annual budget and has a staff of nine.

The county Financial Management Committee reviewed a proposed ad for the open position. Prospective applicants shall have a minimum of a bachelor of science degree from an accredited college or university with at least 18 quarter hours or equivalent semester hours in accounting, or at least two years of acceptable experience in a related position. The director's responsibilities include, but are

not limited to, maintaining the purchasing, payroll, budgeting, accounting, and cash financial management system for Warren County. "If we could get somebody who's a CPA (certified public accountant) that would be good," said Road Superintendent Levie Glenn. Warren County Executive Herschel Wells said, "If they're a CPA, they probably don't want

the job." "You'd be paying them a lot more money, too," said Commissioner Tommy Savage. Financial Management Committee members will be tasked with reviewing applications and conducting personal interviews of those selected. Once advertised, applications will be accepted at Workforce Solutions located at 310 N. Chancery Street.

# County executive says Bobby Ray bid too low

## Project gets final OK after 6-1 vote

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

The county Financial Management Committee gave almost unanimous approval for on a bid for Bobby Ray Elementary's renovation and expansion project. Making the vote less than perfect was Warren County Executive Herschel Wells, who voted against awarding the bid to FTM Contracting. "I can't approve something when someone is \$600,000 low," said Wells, in explaining why he voted

against awarding the bid to FTM. "There's a mistake somewhere." FTM's base bid was \$2.4 million. The Warren County Board of Education unanimously approved the bid. Board members added four alternate projects at a cost of \$348,000, upping that price to \$2.74 million. An electrical upgrade that was bid separately was also accepted at \$142,550. Combined, the

project has a price tag of \$2.89 million. Causing concern is the difference between FTM's base bid and those submitted by Sain Construction and Romach. Both those company's base bids were around \$3 million, without any additional projects included. Commission Terry Bell attempted to quell any concerns by stating, "If we get the bond, we are guaranteed." A surety bond is a contract that ensures obligations will be met. Specifically, an insurance company will guarantee that FTM Contracting can fulfill its obligations to

Warren County Schools. If FTM Contracting does not, the insurance company will cover any resulting damages or losses. "That's a good price, if you get what you're asking for," said Road Superintendent Levie Glenn. FTM Contracting was contacted by Upland Design Group architect Allen Hill. It provided a confirmation letter standing by its bid. Committee members voted 6-1 to award the bid to FTM Contracting. The electrical upgrade bid from Warren Mechanical for \$142,550 gained unanimous approval. Approval by the full Warren County Commission is not required, meaning the project is a go.



WELLS

## Teachers may be affected by TN Ready scores

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

Warren County students will not be affected by this year's state testing issues, but teachers could still be. According to Director of Schools Bobby Cox, local students and teachers are

being held blameless in the TN Ready testing situation. "Our School Board was swift to act in support of teachers and students and no scores from the 2018 TN Ready assessment will be used for students' grades on report cards, school accountability, and for the most part teacher evalua-

tion," said Cox. "We are still waiting on guidance from the state on one portion of scoring on the teacher evaluation composite score which is out of our control." The situation was discussed during Departmental Reports in Monday night's full Warren County Commission meeting. Cox says the state has control over a 10-percent portion which affects teachers. "The School Board took

all the action that it could and took that down to zero percent for the teachers," said Cox. "Everything that we can do, we've done. There's 10 percent the state department has control of. They are working to try to remedy. The Legislature passed a bill at the end of the session. I think the wording of the bill is that there would be no adverse effects for teachers." Lawmakers nullified TN Ready results.



COX

## OBITUARIES

### Judith F. Griffin, 68

Judith F. Griffin, 68, of Cape Coral, Fla., passed away Saturday, May 19, at her home. She was born Oct. 21, 1949 in McMinnville to Ezra Tatum Underhill and Imogene Johnson Underhill. She moved to Cape Coral from Marshville, N.C., in 1993. She was a member of McGregor Baptist Church. Mrs. Griffin was the owner/ operator/ president of Southwest Florida Transportation Group, Inc., owner/ president of Bluebird Mobility of Lee County, Inc., co-owner of MBA Airport Transportation, LLC, owner/ president of Yellow Cab of Lee County, Inc., owner/ president of Checker Airport Transportation, Inc., owner/ president of Checker Cab of Lee County, Inc. and owner/ president of Bluebird Taxi of Lee County, Inc. Judith is survived by her husband of 37 years, Phillip J. Griffin; her children Angela J. Gwyn (Trey) of Swannanoa, N.C., Jodie L. Dacy (Nick) of Del Rio, Texas, Michael Griffin (Jackie) of Cape Coral, John Mercer (Kate) of Nashville, and Michelle Griffin of Myrtle Beach, S.C.; her grandchildren: Tatum Lee Gwyn, Judith Alden Gwyn, Nathan Hiatt Gwyn, Ethan Joseph Corbett, Aris James Corbett, Brea Blanchard Mercer, Jack Griffin Mercer, and Caroline Rose Griffin; her mother Imogene Johnson Underhill of Marshville, N.C.; and her siblings: Nancy Jean Lance (Jeff), Debbie West (Ralph), Diane Crouch (Willis) and Johnny Smartt (Kelli). She was preceded in death by her father, Ezra Tatum Underhill in 1977 and her sister, Charlene Griffin in 1990. A celebration of Judith's life will take place Thursday, May 24, at 7 p.m. at McGregor Baptist Church, 3750 Colonial Blvd., Fort Myers (239) 936-0555. Following local services, Mrs. Griffin will be transported to Marshville, N.C., where she will be laid to rest. Online condolences can be sent to [www.fortmyersmemorial.com](http://www.fortmyersmemorial.com). In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorial contributions to McGregor Baptist Church, Marshville Presbyterian Church, or The Humane Society.



Southern Standard  
(McMinnville, Tenn.) May 23, 2018

### Max Howell Foster, 60

Max Howell Foster, 60, a McMinnville resident and Warren County native was born July 26, 1957 and passed away suddenly May 21 at Erlanger Medical Center. He was the owner of K&B Plants, a member of Liberty Cumberland Presbyterian Church, and son of the late George Max and Barbara Jo West Foster. Mr. Foster was married Oct. 5, 1985 to Marjorie Foster, who survives. In addition to his wife, he is survived by two daughters and son-in-law, Kaitlynn Foster and Breanna and Will Basham, all of McMinnville; four grandchildren, Bralyn, Kinley, Avery Kate and Abel; brother and sister-in-law, Brent and Tina Foster of McMinnville; sister Connie Wilmore of McMinnville; nephew Jared Foster and wife Christa of McMinnville; nieces, Autumn and Ali Wilmore and Mallory Foster, all of McMinnville. Funeral service will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday, May 24, at High's Chapel with Rev. Harry Green and Rev. Dr. Jacqueline DeBerry to officiate. Interment will follow at Mt. View Cemetery. Visitation will be 4 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, and 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Thursday at High's. Memorial contributions may be made to Ronald McDonald House or Blood Assurance. Online condolences may be made at [www.highfuneralhome.com](http://www.highfuneralhome.com). High Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.



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(McMinnville, Tenn.) May 23, 2018

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Higginbotham Cemetery Decoration**

The annual Decoration at Higginbotham Cemetery on Shellsford Rd. will be held Sun., May 27. For additional information on the cemetery or the Higginbotham Family of Warren County, Tennessee, contact Chris Keathley, 210 E. Main St., McMinnville, TN 37110.

**Faulkner Cemetery Decoration Day**

Decoration Day at Faulkner Cemetery will be held Sun., June 3, with the business meeting starting at 1pm. You can mail your donation for the upkeep to: Faulkner Cemetery, 206 Old Shelbyville Rd., McMinnville, TN 37110.

**Shellsford Cemetery Decoration Day**

The Annual Decoration Day at Shellsford Cemetery will be Sun., May 27. All donations will be used for upkeep of the cemetery. If you cannot attend, donations may be mailed to: Sandra Stotts, 4121 Shellsford Rd., McMinnville, TN 37110.

**McMinnville Funeral Home**

**OBITUARY LINE**

**473-5700**

[mcminnvillefuneralhome.net](http://mcminnvillefuneralhome.net)

**117 Underwood Rd.**

**473-6606**

**High's Inc.**

24 Hour

Obituary Information

**473-8585**

For Other

Information or Service

**473-2137**

[www.highfuneralhome.com](http://www.highfuneralhome.com)