

Pack remembered for downtown presence

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

Flowers and notes have been placed on a Main Street bench where Kenneth Pack Sr. used to spend his days.

Mr. Pack passed away Sunday at his home after battling health problems in recent months. He was 64.

"We're going to miss him," said downtown businessman Tommy Foster of Foster & Foster Realty. "This bench and all the decorations on it are reflective of how nice and how kind he was to people."

Mr. Pack liked to frequent the bench in front of Foster's business and would often sit there for hours at a time

smiling and chatting with people as they walked by. Tommy said he thinks he picked that bench because it was close to his apartment and he liked to interact with downtown visitors.

Faye Braxton works across the street at the District Attorney's Office.

She said Mr. Pack kept a watchful eye on the downtown area.

"He paid attention and he let people know when they were parked for too long and were close to getting a ticket," said Braxton. "He kept up with parking."

Faye said a few years back, Mr. Pack saw a rat scurry down a gutter on a Main Street building. He said seeing that rat left an impression and he would occasionally mention it in



Flowers, wreaths and a cross decorate the downtown bench in front of Foster & Foster Realty where Kenneth Pack would often spend his days. Mr. Pack died Sunday at 64.

conversation.

Mr. Pack made it a daily habit to visit that bench and had been sitting there for more than four years.

He would even bundle up and endure the cold so he could sit on the bench in the middle of winter.

Services for Mr. Pack are being handled by Gardens of Memory Funeral Home.

There has been talk of having a balloon release in his memory in downtown McMinnville, although services have not been finalized.

Michael Martin

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Martin objected. He first asked if permission for the change had been given by County Executive Herschel Wells and requested a written statement from Kester.

"We've got to get that approved through Herschel first," said Martin. "I can't approve a full-time person."

Wilcher replied, "I'm going to put this in the form of a motion here in a minute and if we pass it on, if he wants to try to shoot it down, that will be his decision. It will go on to Budget and Finance."

"I'll need a letter from her (Kester)," said Martin. "I want to see in writing that she approves that."

Pettrey, who has been on medical leave, stated verbal approval has been given by Kester and Bouldin for the change in hours.

"You really ain't supposed to be here," said Martin. "You're still on medical leave."

Pettrey replied, "Excuse me. I can be here any time I want to."

"You're still on medical leave," said Martin. "You've got an attitude problem."

Pettrey replied, "I've got what? I can be here any time I want to."

"I need you to leave," said Martin. "I need you to leave the meeting."

As Pettrey moved to stand just outside the door, she stated, "I think you're ridiculous."

The discussion continued.

When Martin again insisted on a written statement from Kester, Pettrey commented, "I'll make sure you have that tomorrow afternoon."

Martin ordered her from the building, but Pettrey insisted she would not leave and he could not make her.

"I can make you leave the building," said Martin. He rose from his chair and attempted to shut the door. "You need to back up out of the doorway."

Pettrey stated, "Don't touch me."

"Get out of the doorway before I call 911 and get a deputy to make you leave," said Martin.

Pettrey urged, "Go ahead. Call them."

"Kim, it's not worth it," said Wilcher.

As she retreated, Martin shut the door.

Committee members, after more discussion, approved the proposed budget 4-1. Martin voted against it.

Vulgarity was heard several minutes later when Wilcher mentioned Martin's action of removing Pettrey from the room as one of the reasons why people in the community think negatively of Health and Welfare Committee members.

"You know what," said Martin. "It's stuff like what y'all do. Y'all dog lovers. All y'all care about is a dog. When I bring up something, you're negative. Just like when the deputy was making all those phone calls, you were negative about that."

Martin said Pettrey has been violating county policy by allowing animals to be sent to rescue groups without first taking them to a veterinarian.

"She hasn't been taking them to the vet first," he said. "She's been shipping them out of town. By this policy, she's got to take them. You want to read the policy?"

Wilcher replied, "Well, you've done a sorry job as a chairman for not letting us

known that then, in my opinion. If you're going to hold back stuff because you think it makes you look smarter, it doesn't work."

"When I bring it up, you don't want to hear it," said Martin, who then accused Wilcher of being "T'd off" or upset about not being named chairman of the committee.

Wilcher denied the allegation.

"You've been T'd off," said Martin. "Maybe you can get it next time."

Wilcher added, "I won't have to see you talk to women like that anymore. That's one thing."

"You're just like your crazy ass brother," said Martin, who then turned his wrath onto the newspaper reporter covering the meeting. "And you can print that in the paper, too. Because you do a hell of a bad job."

The meeting ended with a motion to adjourn by Commissioner Teddy Boyd.

When contacted Thursday, Pettrey contradicted Martin and said all animals are taken to the vet before leaving Animal Control and have a health certificate.

Governor candidates push to decriminalize marijuana

MEMPHIS (AP)—Former Nashville Mayor Karl Dean and Tennessee House Minority Leader Craig Fitzhugh expressed support Thursday for eliminating criminal punishment for possessing small amounts of marijuana statewide if elected governor.

The Democrats, along with Republicans Beth

Harwell and Randy Boyd, attended a forum sponsored by the Tennessee Bar Association and The Commercial Appeal in Memphis. The candidates seeking to replace term-limited Republican Gov. Bill Haslam answered questions on Confederate statues, the Memphis industrial Megasite, immigration, and legal topics such as cash bail reform.

Dean said he would look into getting the General Assembly to change the state Criminal Code to decriminalize simple possession of marijuana.

Currently, Tennessee law imposes a misdemeanor charge punishable by up to one year in jail and a \$2,500 fine on people caught with a half-ounce or less of marijuana.

A September 2014 report by the Center on Juvenile Justice and Criminal Reform, citing statistics in five states that implemented marijuana reforms, concluded that blacks were more likely to be arrested for marijuana offenses than all other races and ethnicities.

Dean said the current approach disproportionately affects minorities "even though the majority of the population uses marijuana probably as much as anybody else." Those who are hit with a misdemeanor conviction for having a small amount of the drug could be prevented from getting jobs and housing, Dean said.

OBITUARIES

Frances Yvonne Drake, 82

Frances Yvonne Drake, 82, a Warren County resident and native, was born Sept. 26, 1935 and died June 13 at NHC Healthcare of McMinnville following an extended illness.

She was a retired saleslady with JC Penney, member of Mt. Leo Church of Christ, and daughter of the late James Louis and Willie Mabel Hobbs Dodson. Mrs. Drake was married Nov. 9, 1956 to George W. Drake, who preceded her in death. In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by daughter Holly Kaye Lawson; son Dennis Dean Drake; brother Gary Dodson; and great-grandson Byron Bradshaw.

Survivors include three sons and daughter-in-law, Dustin Wayne and Karen Drake of Huntsville, Ala., Daniel Wade Drake and George E. Drake, both of McMinnville; 10 grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; two brothers, Thomas Dodson of Florida and Fred Dodson of Whites Creek; sister Norma Bates; and several nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be held at 3 p.m. Sunday, June 17, at High's Chapel with Dustin Drake to officiate. Visitation will be 5 to 7 p.m. Saturday, June 16. There will be no visitation Sunday before the service. Online condolences may be made at www.highfuneralhome.com.

High Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Southern Standard
(McMinnville, Tenn.) June 15, 2018

Jo Rhea, 90

Jo Rhea, 90, a Morrison resident and Warren County native, was born Aug. 28, 1927 and died June 13 at Lynchburg Nursing Center following an extended illness.

She was retired from Findlay, a member of the Baptist Church, and daughter of the late James Alexander and Rosie Lee Mathis Smith. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by husband, Noble D. Rhea; daughter Virginia Sue Rhea Hibdon; sons Larry Noble Rhea and Jimmy Howard Rhea; brothers Fred H. Smith and Ernest M. Smith; sister Roberta Cunningham; and daughter-in-law Gail Rhea.

Mrs. Rhea is survived by daughter-in-law Pam Rhea of Beechgrove; eight grandchildren and spouses, Brandy and Brandon Skipper of Murfreesboro, Megan Rhea of Williams Bay, Wis., Crystal and Michael Robison of Manchester, Leah and Dinos Kouyias of Waukesha, Wis., April Rhea of Manchester, Nicholas and Monica Saine of Morrison, Nicholas and Lindsay Hibdon of Manchester, and Jimmy and Abbey Rhea of Bradyville; and 10 great-grandchildren.

Funeral service will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, June 16, at High's Chapel with Ronnie Powell to officiate. Interment will follow at Mt. Zion Cemetery. Visitation will be 6 to 8 p.m. Friday, and 9 a.m. Saturday until the time of service at High's. Online condolences may be made at www.highfuneralhome.com.

High Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Southern Standard
(McMinnville, Tenn.) June 15, 2018

Marilyn Adele Gaither, 90

Mrs. Marilyn Adele Gaither, 90, of McMinnville died Thursday, June 14, at NHC Healthcare.

She was born July 17, 1927 in Grundy County, was a homemaker, and a member of the Church of Christ at Bethany. Mrs. Gaither was preceded in death by parents Lawrence and HESSIE Scott Walker, husband Leonard Gaither, and daughter Kathy Ann Gaither.

Survivors include her daughter Reba Gaither of McMinnville, granddaughter Tisha (David) Smith of Manchester, and great-grandchildren Damaris (Dru) Kaegi, Tristan Malone, and Alarik Smith.

Funeral service will be 1 p.m. Saturday, June 16, at McMinnville Funeral Home Chapel. Bro. David Costello will officiate. Interment will follow at Centertown Cemetery. The Gaither family will receive friends Saturday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the parlors of McMinnville Funeral Home. Online condolences may be made at www.mcminnvillefuneralhome.com.

McMinnville Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

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(McMinnville, Tenn.) June 15, 2018



Ed Higdon, 79

Spencer resident Ed Higdon, 79, passed from this life Tuesday, June 12, with his family at his bedside.

He was born April 14, 1939 in Marion County. Mr. Higdon was a registered nurse and retired U.S. Navy HM1 (Hospital Corpsman 1st Class). He was a member of Bellview Southern Congregational Methodist Church.

Mr. Higdon was preceded in death by parents Bill Higdon and Versie Green Higdon, brother Willie Higdon, sisters Daris Higdon, Beulah Mae Neal, Violet Brown and Josephine Osterhaute.

He is survived by his loving family, wife Arlene Thacker Higdon of Spencer, son Jeff (Mona) Worrix of Bon Air, daughter Lajeana (Bron) Howard of Spencer, brother Sonnie Higdon, sisters Tawanda Herrin, Genevieve "Babe" (George) Henry, grandchildren Justin, Sierra, Preston and Steven, and a host of nieces, nephews and extended family.

Funeral service was Thursday, June 14, at Layne Funeral Home Chapel with Bro. Bruce Nunley officiating. Burial followed at Spencer Town Cemetery. Online condolences may be made at www.laynefuneralhome.com.

Layne Funeral Home and Cremation Services of Spencer in charge of arrangements.

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McMinnville Funeral Home
OBITUARY LINE
473-5700
mcminnvillefuneralhome.net
117 Underwood Rd.
473-6606

High's Inc.
24 Hour
Obituary Information
473-8585
For Other
Information or Service
473-2137
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SHILOH CEMETERY PICNIC
HOMECOMING & DECORATION
Saturday, June 16th 2018
Hwy. 56 South Beersheba Hwy.
Festivities begin at 11am
Auction begins at 6pm
Please bring an item for the AUCTION
ALL PROCEEDS GO TO THE
UPKEEP OF THE CEMETERY
Come & enjoy some
good food, good fun
and fellowship!
Contributions may be mailed to:
Boyce Wanamaker
3641 Trousdale Lane
Columbia, TN 38401

UPCOMING EVENTS
Lucky CIC Meet The
Candidates Event & Auction
Lucky CIC Meet the Candidates event and auction is Saturday, June 23 at 5pm. Prater's BBQ and Dr. Pepper products will be available for purchase. The proceeds are going toward upgrades of community center playgrounds. For more information contact Russell Pedigo at 931-273-1394.
Providence Baptist Church VBS 2018
Providence Baptist Church's 2018 VBS will begin June 18-22, at 6:00-8:30 nightly. Classes for babies, youth and adults. For more information call 931-934-2745.
Central High School Class of 1952 Get Together
Central High School, class of 1952, will be having their monthly "get-together" on Tuesday, June 19th, at 12:30, at Nana's Country Kupaard on Sunnyside Heights. We would like to extend an invitation to all of our classmates to try and attend.