

Cope seeks Circuit Court Clerk position

My name is Chris Cope and I'm an independent candidate for Circuit Court Clerk.

I was born and raised in Warren County and am a 1995 graduate of Warren County High School. I am the son of Lewis and Linda Cope of Lewisburg, Tommy and Pam Harris of McMinnville, and the late Kathy Harris Brown. My grandparents include Lillie Harris, the late Ray and Joyce Cope, Sam and Dorothy Brock and J.C.Hayes.

I have a daughter Hennessee who is 6 and will be entering the second grade at Centertown School. I have two broth-

ers, Traye Cope and Brandon Harris.

I began working as a stocker and a bagger at Newtown Foodland at age 14. After graduation I moved to Kingwood Foodland where I was assistant manager.

At 25, I bought my first business, Bridge Side Market & Deli on Beersheba Street. After eight successful years there in the store/ restaurant business, I took on a new challenge.

In February 2011, I bought the foreclosed old Crisp Springs Market building which had been empty for almost two years. After a lot of hard

work in April 2011 we were open for business. In less than four years, the once-foreclosed, rundown property was again a booming business with sales that exceeded over \$1 million a year.

Over seven years later I'm still running and operating all aspects of the day-to-day operations of my business. If elected I plan on keeping the store open and running as smoothly as ever.

I'm a member of

Centertown UMC where I teach High School Sunday School and sit on various committees (finance, worship, education, and stewardship), and am chair of the PPR committee.

I'm the newly elected vice president of the Centertown School Parent Involvement Club. Over the past 15 years, I've been a proud supporter and volunteer of Warren County, sponsoring many students in their extracurricular activities along with the



COPE

Warren County Toy Ride, Back to the Strip (I helped to organize the 5K), and coach T-ball.

I enjoy kayaking and am an avid runner. I competed in my first half marathon in October (the day after turning 40) and have run two more since. I hope to train and compete in my first full marathon in December.

I've been involved in theater and arts, along with my daughter. We have performed around 20 shows on stage at the Arts Center of Cannon County. In May, I got to do a small performance on stage at the Park Theater with Hennessee during her

dance recital.

I'm confidently ready for the next challenge that lies ahead. I have a proven track record of hard work and determination that I hope to bring to serving the citizens Warren County. My vision is leading this office in a new technological era, with upgrades that will make the office more efficient and user friendly.

Thank you for your loyalty to this community and for considering me as your next Circuit Court Clerk. Feel free to contact me with any concerns or creative ideas for the betterment of Warren County. I'm asking for your support and vote.



Bank on it. Security Federal Savings Bank stepped up to assist a Warren County High School FCCLA student in her efforts to provide fuel bags to students who need food on weekends and holiday breaks. Pictured, from left, are student Kataen Shockley with bank employees Sabrina McKnight, Hillary Adcock, Chelsea West, Sabrina Jennings, and Amber Morrison.

Security Federal lends helping hand

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

Security Federal Savings Bank has joined the fight to end hunger among Warren County High School students.

The bank partnered with Family Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) member Kataen Shockley on her Focus on Children Junior Star Event project.

Her mission is titled "Feeding Friends: Steps to Ending Hunger" and focuses on creating fuel bags that provide students with food to eat on weekends and holiday breaks.

"We are more than happy to

help with Feeding Friends: Steps to Ending Hunger to collect food for such a great cause," said Sherry Clendenon, senior vice president of the bank. "I have seen the need in our community first-hand so I know how critical it is to have this available to our students. When I introduced the idea to our employees, they immediately jumped on board and went above and beyond to make this successful."

One bank employee embraced the program with enthusiasm.

"Autumn Malone really stepped up and took the reins and collected money from the ones that didn't have time to shop and did the shopping for

them resulting in several carloads of items," said Clendenon. "She was a driving force in our efforts to fill those donation boxes and I can't praise her enough for taking on that role."

Generous customers also made it possible and Clendenon hopes those continue.

"We'd also like to thank our customers who contributed either by bringing in items or donating money. We want to encourage everyone to keep the donations coming since there will be a great need for these fuel bags over the summer months for these students and we want to make sure they have food available. We have donation boxes set up at

our main office as well as our New Smithville Highway branch."

Shockley thanked Security Federal Savings Bank, its employees and its customers for the donations and the dedication shown to Feeding Friends: Steps to Ending Hunger.

"I am passionate about providing my friends and schoolmates with the security of knowing they will have food over the weekends and during long breaks," she said. "My partnership with Security Federal Savings Bank has provided food items to help me create more fuel bags for our students."

To date there have been 1,591 items donated.

Acting TBI director to retire

NASHVILLE (AP) — The Tennessee Bureau of Investigation's interim leader says he will retire amid an investigation into allegations he misused state funds.

In a news release, acting director Jason Locke said that by stepping down, he's acting out of respect for the integrity of the bureau and its agents.

Locke said his last day will be Monday, when Knoxville Police Chief David Rausch will be sworn in as the new director. Gov. Bill Haslam picked Rausch over Locke and one other finalist to fill the job permanently.

Locke said he will continue to cooperate fully with the authorities through the conclusion of the investigation.

The governor's office produced emails that Haslam received last week from Locke's wife, Kim Locke, about her husband, alleging he used taxpayer money to carry on an affair with another state official, Sejal West of the Tennessee Department of Mental Health & Substance Abuse Services, from November 2016 through July 2017.

Locke and West have been placed on administrative leave.

"I have been blessed to have enjoyed a full career in serving the citizens of Tennessee as a law enforcement officer," Locke, a 21-year-veteran of the bureau, said in the statement released by his lawyer, Jeff Cherry. "I am thankful for the relationships that were forged over those many years. I am also thankful for the opportunity to have been impacted so greatly by all those that I came in contact with along the way."

State authorities and the Nashville district attorney general's office have confirmed they are investigating the allegations against Locke.

Thomas named Knoxville's first female police chief

KNOXVILLE (AP) — A Tennessee city is getting its first female police chief.

Knoxville Mayor Madeline Rogero has announced the appointment of Eve Thomas as the new chief of Knoxville Police Department. Thomas succeeds Chief David Rausch, who was selected to become director of the TBI.

Thomas has been with the department since 1993. She was promoted to deputy chief in February. Rogero says Thomas has shown leadership, dedication, thoughtfulness and commitment to public service in her 25 years with the force.

Thomas takes over the position Monday.

STATE ROUNDUP

KNOXVILLE (AP) — Students at the University of Tennessee's Knoxville and Chattanooga campuses won't have a tuition increase next year.

Tennessee's Board of Trustees on Friday approved a budget for 2018-19 calling for no tuition increase at either of those two schools. Students at Tennessee's Martin campus will see a 3-percent tuition hike.

This marks the first time since 1984 that any school in the UT system hasn't had a tuition increase.

"I felt like we could really send an incredible message, help families out and stu-

dents," Tennessee president Joe DiPietro said. "I thought it was doable. To the credit of the chancellors, they rolled up their sleeves as a challenge and have done it."

Students at Chattanooga will have no increase in tuitions or fees. Knoxville students will pay \$36 more in a fee supporting student services, activities and programs offered by the school's

division of student life.

Also on Friday, the Board of Trustees approved a review of DiPietro that said his overall performance over the past year had been "more than satisfactory." Trustees granted DiPietro separate bonuses of just over \$100,000 for 2016-17 and \$67,000 for 2017-18.

This comes several weeks after the University of Tennessee faculty senate censured DiPietro for ousting chancellor Beverly Davenport.


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