

Partin, Zavogiannis chosen to lead conferences

In a rare accomplishment, two attorneys from Warren County have been elected to lead their respective conferences at the statewide level.

District Attorney General Lisa Zavogiannis has been elected as president of the Tennessee District Attorneys General Conference, while Public Defender John Partin has been elected president of the Tennessee District Public Defenders Conference.

Both elected officials serve the 31st Judicial District, which covers Warren and Van Buren counties.

Zavogiannis was elected by the members of the Tennessee District Attorney Generals Conference, which is the statewide organization created by the Tennessee General Assembly. In her role as president, Zavogiannis will lead the administration of statewide responsibilities, which

includes developing and lobbying for legislative change.

"I look forward to setting the direction over the course of this next year and focusing on several issues to strengthen our laws," said Zavogiannis. "That includes opioid abuse, working aggressively to protect senior citizens, and working on proof of sentencing."

Proof of sentencing serves to inform the victim how long the defendant will serve behind bars. Zavogiannis said this can often be difficult to determine because range one offenders can serve as little as 30 percent of their sentence before parole eligibility and other good behavior



ZAVOGIANNIS

programs can reduce that time even further.

Zavogiannis said working to strengthen state laws is one of the best ways to help people in the 31st Judicial District.

"Working aggressively in Nashville to change laws will help the citizens in my community," said Zavogiannis. "You have to be involved in order to make a difference."

A primary focus for Zavogiannis has been the fight against opioid drug abuse. In 2009, she led an intensive campaign against the Upper Cumberland Private Clinic's application to locate a methadone clinic in Spencer and was ultimately successful in keeping the methadone clinic out of

her district.

Also, since being elected, Zavogiannis has annually presented the multi-media, anti-drug programs Meth Destroys and Deceptive Dangers/ Bath Salts to the students in each of the middle and high schools in her district. She is dedicated to educating our students with the goal of deterring future drug use.

Zavogiannis has been instrumental in writing and helping pass new legislation to protect our most vulnerable citizens and serves as chair of the Elder Abuse Committee and as a representative for the District Attorneys Conference on the Statewide Coordinated Community Response Team for Vulnerable and Elderly Adults.

Zavogiannis, now in her second term, manages a staff of 23 employees. She and her

husband, Jimmy, live in McMinnville with their three children, Anastasia, Pano and Christos, son-in-law Steven Handy, and grandchildren, Rush and Ella Handy.

Partin is serving his first term as 31st District Public Defender. His office of three attorneys handled more than 2,000 cases in 2016-17.

Partin's election as president of the Tennessee District Public Defenders Conference comes after he has served on the conference's executive committee as Middle District representative, secretary, treasurer, and vice president. The conference represents public defenders in all of Tennessee's 31 judicial dis-



PARTIN

tricts.

"I am honored and excited to serve in this position," said Partin. "I look forward to continuing to build upon the hard work of my colleagues at the conference."

A McMinnville native, Partin graduated from MTSU and received his law degree from the University of Tennessee-Knoxville College of Law. He was an attorney in private practice with the McMinnville firm of Galligan & Newman for 14 years, and also served as municipal judge for the city of Morrison.

Partin lives in McMinnville with his wife Becky. They have two daughters, Amelia and Evie.

Wreck leads to DUI charge



Lisa Hobbs photo

A Warren County woman has been charged with second offense DUI after a wreck on Bradford Street Wednesday. The driver, Beverly McKeel, 56, failed to negotiate a curve, left the roadway, and crashed through a wooden fence before being stopped by a tree. She escaped serious injury and was arrested at the scene.

Blanton

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Ms. Blanton has been charged with facilitating an escape, filing a false report, and tampering with evidence. She reportedly threw the cellphone she used to make the 911 call in a nearby pond which resulted in the tampering with evidence charge.

Mr. Blanton was caught in Warren County around 7 p.m. Monday night hiding in a closet of a home on Salem Road. U.S. Marshals used tear gas when Blanton refused to leave the closet.

Blanton was transported to Warren County Jail. He was sentenced Wednesday at Warren County

Courthouse as a matter of convenience because he was being housed here. As Circuit Court Judge for the 31st Judicial District, Judge Stanley presides over Warren and Van Buren counties.

Since Blanton already has a 212-year sentence, prosecutors may opt not to pursue the jail escape charge against him because it won't result in him serving any more prison time. However, his mother will face prosecution and it's possible charges could be brought against other family members who reportedly helped Blanton during his 18 hours on the run Monday.

Fire departments

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That increase would bring the allocation to the seven department from a combined \$42,000 to \$56,000.

"We doubled them last year," said Commissioner Morris Bond.

Bell replied, "Nearly every one of the departments is paying nearly \$10,000 in insurance alone. They have to fundraise on top of that. I think the county needs to step up and help them."

Rounding out the other allocations under consideration:

- AMERICAN RED CROSS, \$6,000
- CARING HEARTS UNITED, \$1,000
- CHEER MENTAL HEALTH, \$4,000
- CITIZENS FOR PROGRESS, \$3,500
- FAMILIES IN CRISIS, \$2,250
- GOVERNOR'S BOOKS FROM BIRTH, \$2,000
- HELPING HAND MINISTRIES, \$1,000
- HERITAGE ALLIANCE, \$500
- MAIN STREET MCMINNVILLE, \$1,250
- CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, \$3,000
- WARREN COUNTY SENIOR CENTER, \$8,000
- PACESETTERS, \$2,000
- SISTER CITY PROGRAM, \$5,000
- TENNESSEE OPPORTUNITY PROGRAMS (RSVP), \$500
- WARREN COUNTY A&L FAIR, \$10,000
- WARREN COUNTY EMERGENCY FOOD BANK, \$3,000
- WARREN COUNTY MEALS ON WHEELS, \$3,000
- YOUNG MEN UNITED, \$2,000

Committee members unanimously approved the list. The measure will be sent to the county Budget and Finance Committee for consideration.

Left unchanged, the total allocation for 2018-19 will be \$114,000, an increase of \$20,000 from the \$94,000 given for fiscal year 2017-18.

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GENERAL SESSIONS

Judge Bill Locke ruled on the following cases Tuesday in General Sessions Court.

Kaylynn Haston was given an 11-month, 29-day probationary sentence and a judicial diversion for domestic assault. The judicial diversion means the charge can be erased if probation is successfully completed.

Adam Cope was ordered to serve 10 days of an 11-29 sentence for vandalism up to \$1,000.

Robert Hill Jr., was ordered to serve 90 days of an 11-29 sentence for shoplifting and violation of probation. He was ordered to stay out of Walmart and make \$25.21 restitution.

The following people had probation revoked for violation of probation: Lucas Ray Collins, Natasha Kay Jenkins, Douglas McCrary, John Allen Russell, Darrell C. Green, Sasha Sade Otis, and Tyler McClure.

Clayton Nicholas was given 10 days to serve for violation of conditional

release.

Getting jail time for violation of probation were Jose Perez (30 days) and Quindale Dasean Pollard (90 days).

Dale Lee Deason was given 11-29 probation for theft.

Kevin Douglas Dyer was ordered to serve 120 days of an 11-29 sentence for theft. He must pay \$850 restitution.

Robert N. Ghrist was ordered to serve 90 days for assault. He also had probation revoked for violation of probation.

Stanley A. Poe Jr. was allowed to enter the 90-day second chance program for domestic assault.

James W. Judkins was allowed to enter the second chance program for domestic assault.

Tyler Andrew Moore was released on time served for violation of probation.

Kayla Robertson was released on time served and given 11-29 probation for child endangerment. She was granted a judicial diversion.

OBITUARIES

Joyce May Vaughn Allen, 61

Joyce May Vaughn Allen, 61, a McMinnville resident and Dayton, Ohio native, was born July 24, 1956 and died June 27 at St. Thomas River Park Hospital.

She was a home health employee, member of Full Gospel and daughter of the late James E. and Ola Mae Jones Vaughn. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by husband, William Hinton "Billy" Allen, and two sisters Ann Vaughn and Betty Vaughn.

Mrs. Allen is survived by son Jay Allen of McMinnville; stepson Dennie Vaughn of McMinnville; five grandchildren, Talia and J.J. Vaughn, Madison Allen, Christopher and Cody Martin; one great-grandchild, Illiana Graclynn Vaughn; special niece and nephew, Lacey and Aaron Cannon; special great-nephew, Jason Elliot Donovo; four brothers, Estel Lee Vaughn of Smyrna, Kenneth Vaughn and Eddie Vaughn, both of McMinnville, and John H. Vaughn of Campaign; sister Brenda Fann of McMinnville; and special friend Troy Farless of McMinnville.

Graveside service and interment will be held at 2 p.m., Sunday, July 1, at Bethlehem Cemetery with Johnny Haston to officiate. There will be no service or visitation at High's. Friends are asked to meet at the cemetery. Online condolences may be made at www.highfuneralhome.com.

High Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.
 Southern Standard
 (McMinnville, Tenn.) June 29, 2018

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