

Lee and Dean to face off in October for 3 debates

NASHVILLE (AP) — Republican Bill Lee and Democrat Karl Dean are slated to face off in three Tennessee governor's race debates in October.

According to a Lee campaign news release, the debates will be Oct. 2 at the University of Memphis; Oct. 9 at the Eastman Employee Center in Kingsport; and Oct. 12 at a location in Nashville to be determined.

Dean's campaign wanted to go head-to-head in more than just the three debates.

Lee's campaign pointed out that the two already shared the same stage during eight forums before their Aug. 2 party primary elections, albeit alongside other candidates.

Both candidates were invited to a *Southern Standard*/WCPI political forum Oct. 1 at Warren County Administrative Offices.

Lee is chairman of a Franklin mechanical contracting, facilities and home services company. Dean is a former Nashville mayor. They are competing to succeed Republican Gov. Bill Haslam, who is hitting term limits.

NASHVILLE (AP) — Ed King, a former guitarist for Lynyrd Skynyrd who helped write several of the group's hits including "Sweet

STATE ROUNDUP



LEE



DEAN

Home Alabama," has died in Nashville, Tennessee, according to a family friend. He was 68.

Scott Coopwood said King died Wednesday due to cancer. Funeral arrangements had not yet been announced Thursday.

King joined the band in 1972 and was part of its first three albums with its distinct three-guitar sound.

He is credited on several of Lynyrd Skynyrd's songs, including "Saturday Night Special" and "Workin' for MCA," and his voice can be heard providing the opening count on "Sweet Home Alabama." The song was a response to Neil Young's songs "Southern Man" and "Alabama," which focused on the Southern white man's rise on

the back of slavery.

The song is now considered a Southern anthem played often at sporting events and was used for a time on Alabama license plates.

DALTON, GA. (AP) — A police chase that began in Tennessee has ended with the shooting of a shoplifting suspect in Georgia.

News outlets cite a Georgia Bureau of Investigation release saying a man and a woman were reported shoplifting at a Bradley County, Tennessee, store and accused of threatening employees with a handgun Wednesday. Deputies from three counties gave chase, as the suspects crossed state lines.

When Georgia troopers used a maneuver to stop the suspects' car, the male driver surrendered, but the woman grabbed the wheel and fled on her own. When authorities conducted the same maneuver on her, police say she got out with two handguns, at which point multiple officers shot her.

It's unclear to what agencies those officers belonged.

Her condition hasn't been released. No officers were injured.

Winner!



Lisa Hobbs photo

Shirley Reed is this week's lucky winner of Word Match, a competition offered by the Southern Standard. Participants have an opportunity to win each week with an official entry blank published in Friday's edition. Reed said her first entry into Word Match netted her \$50.

Cotten gets approval for job

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

Justin Cotten has been officially approved as Warren County government's new Finance Department director.

"I'm excited for this opportunity. I can't lie. I'm a little nervous. It's a lot of responsibility," said Cotten.

The department oversees revenues of approximately \$86 million a year.

Cotten says he's looking forward to working with the Warren County Commission. The oath of office will be administered to the 24 commissioners Aug. 27.

Cotten graduated from Warren County High School.

"I look forward to working with Mr. Haley," he said of County Executive-elect Jimmy Haley. "We have to work closely together, not only because we share a space but because of the overlap. Two people have to sign checks. I haven't really spoken to him much since I graduated high school. He was a teacher of mine. I look forward to working with him in keeping the county going in the right direction."

Linda Hillis hired Cotten in April 2012 when the 81 Act was adopted. She is retiring, and he was offi-

cially appointed as her replacement Monday by the full Warren County Commission.

As director, he plans on redistributing the workload within the department.

"First, I'm going to restructure the workload. It's what Linda did when I came onboard. She gave me responsibilities. Over time, when I became comfortable with the duties I had, I took on more. That's the first place I'm going to go, a restructuring of the workload."

Financial Management Committee members mentioned during his hiring process an assistant to the director is needed, a realization that Hillis had a tremendous workload. However, the budget for fiscal year 2018-19 was approved without any additional funds for that position.

"I'm going to see about spreading the workload within the office," said Cotten.

A hiring process will begin for two employees. With Cotten being hired from within the department, someone is needed to replace him. Also, an employee is retiring. Those two open positions will be advertised in Friday and Sunday's edition of the *Southern Standard*.



Lisa Hobbs photo

Justin Cotten has advanced to director of the Warren County Finance Department. He was officially appointed Monday night by the full Warren County Commission. He was hired in 2012 by Linda Hillis, who is retiring.

VETERANS CORNER Southern Standard

AMERICAN LEGION POST 173
Our MONTHLY MEETINGS are held the first Thursday of each month at Billy's Restaurant (2822 Nashville Highway in McMinnville). Members will meet at 5:00 pm for dinner with the meeting to follow at 6:00 pm. All members are encouraged to attend. Prospective members are also welcome to attend. Everyone is invited to visit our Facebook page @post173 to stay up to date on all American Legion activities.
New Post address is: American Legion Post 173, P.O. Box 173, McMinnville, TN 37111. The Ladies Auxiliary meets at the same time.

THE BOBBY RAY DETACHMENT OF THE MARINE CORPS LEAGUE
Our MONTHLY MEETINGS are held the first Thursday of each month at the Warren County Administrative Building (201 Locust Street) in the Magnolia Room. Doors open at 1800 and the meeting starts at 1830. All honorable discharged Marines, Navy FMF Corpsman and Navy Chaplains who served with the marines are invited to attend. For more information call 931-934-5619.

AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS CHAPTER (POST 173)
Our MONTHLY MEETINGS are held the third Saturday each month at Gondola Restaurant (305 Mullican St. in McMinnville). Members will meet at 9:00am for breakfast and the meeting will follow at 10:00am. We will ride after the meeting. We are looking for new members. Everyone is invited to visit our Facebook page @ American Legion Riders Chapter Post 173 McMinnville. For information please contact Director John A. Davis at American Legion Rider Chapter Post 173, PO Box 173, McMinnville, TN 37111.

VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA, ROYCE DAVENPORT CHAPTER 1112
Monthly meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month at Billy's restaurant (2822 Nashville Hwy. in McMinnville). Members will meet at 5:00 p.m. for dinner, with meeting starting at 6:00 p.m. All members are encouraged to attend. Prospective members will need to bring copy of DD Form 214 to verify service and join. Everyone is invited to visit our Facebook page @ VVA1112 to stay up to date on all VVA and AVVA activities.

Associate Vietnam Veterans of America, Royce Davenport Chapter 1112
Meeting is the same time and place as the VVA (see above). Anyone can be a member. There is no requirement to be related to a Veteran in anyway, however Veterans can also join. Please come and join our organization. Royce Davenport Chapter 1112 will again be collecting non-perishable items for the Warren County Emergency Food Bank during the Main Street Live Concert Series on Friday nights starting June 9, 2017 and continuing through the series. Your donations are greatly appreciated.

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS POST 5064
Our MONTHLY MEETINGS are typically held on the third Thursday of each month at the VFW Post Home (3340 Sparta Highway) at 7:00 pm. Prospective members are encouraged to attend. Call 931-668-8392 for more information. **The VFW Auxiliary meets at the same time.**

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