

The local grill team will be heading to Regionals in Knoxville after taking first place in the Center Region 4H Outdoor Meat Cookery contest in Lebanon.

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# Evins re-elected school board head

#### DUANE SHERRILL Editor Smithville Review Smithville, Tennessee

Longtime board member and incumbent board chairman, W.J. (Dub) Evins, III has been unanimously re-elected head of the school board of education.

Evins was the only name placed in nomination by the school board during its last regular meeting. He humbly agreed to take the job for another year.

"I will do the best I can. We will have a year with quite a few things going on but we can make it a good year of opportunity with a building program and a number of other projects," he said. "I wish us all best of luck and blessings." Evins was joined in the leadership of the board by his first district co-member Danny Parkerson who was unanimously elected vice-chairman by the board. Fellow member Shaun Tubbs was also unanimously elected for another term as secretary. First district member Danny Parkerson was elected Vice-Chairman and Seventh District member Shaun Tubbs was re-elected Assistant Secretary.

The meeting saw Alan Hayes welcomed to the board after his election this past August.

As for official acts, the board granted permission for the high school softball team to build 40' x 60' covered batting cage next to the softball field. The batting cage, located on the home side of the field, will be paid for by funds generated in the program.

The board revealed that although health insurance premiums are rising by 2.5%, teachers have nothing to fear as the school board will be picking up the difference through its funds, thereby saving school employees from going into their own pockets.

And, although they have been using the fields for some times, the DeKalb County Youth Soccer Program was officially granted permission to use the fields this year at Northside Elementary School for league play. The official granting of permission was needed so the recreational league could get covered by insurance.

## 4-H grilling team wins championship

#### LEIGH FUSON 4-H Agent

Smithville, Tenness

DeKalb County 4-H members Creston Bain, Hailey Bogle, Clayton Crook, and Lily Martin smoked out the competition at the Central Region 4-H Outdoor Meat Cookery contest, held each year at the Wilson County Fair in Lebanon.

The team placed 1st overall and will be representing DeKalb County and the Central Region at the state contest in Knoxville on October 13th. Will Mathis also competed as an individual in the junior high division. There were over 150 participants this year from around 20 counties, marking the biggest contest to date.

4-H'ers in grades 7-12 can participate in this fun, practical contest that not only teaches them how to grill, but how to do it safely. Each contestant must start his or her own charcoal grill, prepare the meat, and cook it to perfection. On a four-person team, each member is responsible for grilling a different species of meat: beef, poultry, lamb, and pork. They are judged throughout the cooking process to make sure they start their fires properly, prepare the meat safely, and cook it to the correct temperature. Finally, the meat is judged on taste, texture, appearance, and originality of recipe. Individually, Clayton Crook placed 3rd in beef, Creston Bain 1st in lamb, Hailey Bogle 1st in pork, and Lily Martin was 1st in chicken. Will Mathis placed 10th in lamb in the junior high division.

As regional champs, they were invited to attend the Tennessee State Fair celebrity grilling contest where local news channel personalities grilled hamburgers and sides to showcase local Tennessee food products. Creston and Clayton attended and served as "consultants" to the competitors. They also started and prepared the grills for their teams. They were able to interact with agriculture and media industry leaders and even made television appearances! This was a wonderful opportunity to showcase DeKalb County 4-H.

The 4-H members would also like to say thank you to Smithville Food Lion for helping to supply quality meat for the contest. If you are interested in participating in this contest next year, or any other activities, please contact the 4-H office at 615-597-4945.

4-H is the Youth Development program for University of Tennessee and Tennessee State University Extension. 4-H teaches leadership, citizenship, and life skills to more than 302,000 youth in grades 4-12. UT/TSU Extension provides equal opportunities in programs and employment through the cooperation of county, state, and federal governments.



Dub Evins was reappointed school board chairman during the board's last meeting.

## COUNTY TAX NOTICES REPRESENT WILDCATS



Friends of DeKalb County, Sean Driver here to report on the 2018 property tax notices. For 2018, a maroon color will be shown to represent our Smithville Elementary Wildcats. This is our 4th year of selecting a different color to go on the property tax notices to represent our county schools. Your property tax notice will be on an 8 1/2 X 11 sheet of paper with information on the front and back. For 2018, the tax rate will be the same as the 2017 tax year @ 1.8335% of \$100.00 of your assessed value. Property taxes will be due and payable starting on October 1, 2018 through February 28, 2019 before any interest becomes due on March 1, 2019. Take a good look at your property tax bill and study what we offer in the trustee's office and to where the property taxes are being spent on the pie chat on the back of the notice.



VOTE AND SUPPORT AT THE DTC ANNUAL MEETING.





The Trustee's office offers at this time up to 6 different OPTIONS TO PAY your property tax:

1.) Come in person to the office to pay

2.) Mail in your payment

3.) Pay online at www.tennesseetrustee.org, then select DeKalb and follow the instructions to the next screens-Our Vendor (Business Information Systems) BIS accepts Discover, MasterCard, or American Express-The Vendor convenience fee of 2.75% on the total tax bill will apply and fees are subject to change for using credit/debit cards. Also, a \$2.75 fee will be assessed on an e-check payment of any amount.

4.) A QR(Quick Response Code) is also on your tax notice to access the website www. tennesseetrustee.org with your smart phone.

5.) We do have a Dropbox located on the outside of the building at the County Complex (County Offices Section) for your convenience after hours or on weekends.

6.) We do accept Partial Payments and you the taxpayer sets the amount to pay.

### TAX RELIEF

I always want to mention the Tennessee State Tax Relief Program. This program was implemented in 1973 and the program will have a few changes every year. So, for the 2018 tax year, you can qualify for Tax Relief if: A.) Your DeKalb County home is your primary residence, B.) You are 65 years old (or older) on or before December 31, 2018, or totally and permanently disabled per the SSA or another qualifying agency, and last C.) Your 2017 Annual Income of all persons on the deed and their spouses did not exceed \$29,270.00. If the State of Tennessee qualifies you for a Tax Relief, then you can receive a rebate up to \$118.00 for 2018. You must pay your 2018 tax bill IN FULL to start the application.

Also, the State of Tennessee offers TAX RELIEF for Disabled Veterans and the surviving spouses of a disabled veteran. You must provide proof from the Veteran's Administration that you have a total and permanent disability rating that was service connected. You and your spouse will NOT have to report any income to apply as a disabled veteran or the widow or widower of a disabled veteran. If the State of Tennessee qualifies you as a disabled veteran or the surviving spouse of a disabled veteran, then you can receive a rebate up to \$745.00.

The Trustee's office will start accepting applications for the TAX RELIEF PROGRAM on October 1, 2018 through April 5, 2019. If you would like to inquire more about a possible tax relief, come by the County Complex in the Trustee's office at 732 S Congress Blvd-Room 103, Smithville, TN 37166 or call us at 615-597-5176.

May God Bless Us All.

Sean Driver DeKalb County Trustee