



Living50Plus

Appearing in court can be a frightening experience. The anxiety can be magnified when you're a child and often without a parent in your corner.

That's where Rachel Kirby enters the picture. As an attorney at law, Kirby is appointed by the judge to serve the best interest of children appearing in court. The child's best interests can include placing him or her in foster care or finding adoptive parents.

"I'm in a good position to find long-term stability for the child," said Rachel. "This can be long-term foster placement or placement with a relative. The most important thing is to make sure it's a healthy environment for them. I can be a very rewarding thing to see that you've helped."

Her job is challenging as all sorts of problems are funneled into a courtroom to be ruled on by a judge. She says today's parents are immersed in problems and often can't provide proper care for their own children. Increasingly, children are developing their own issues at a very early age.

"Teen behavior is a big thing we're facing," said Rachel. "There are all sorts of mental health issues with kids such as ADHD. They are dealing with so many issues at home like sex abuse, physical abuse and emotional abuse. On top of that, there are still children who are hungry. There are still children

who need basic shelter."

The legal work can be daunting and draining, especially when it comes to determining if a child should have contact with their own parents. Kirby says she's been fortunate to have a very capable support network to help her perform her duties.

"We have some great case managers and some great mental health workers who are good people and who really reach out," said Rachel.

At 54 years old, Rachel says she has always made a commitment to stay active. She understands the benefits and stress relief that come with exercise. A longtime runner, she has successfully completed many half-marathons, although her current fitness routine doesn't include running a grueling 13.1 miles at one time.

She was one of the organizers who worked to bring the triathlon back to McMinnville after a several-year hiatus. That event serves to draw many people to Warren County from Middle Tennessee and beyond.

"I started running years ago and it's branched out to other things like biking and playing tennis," said Rachel, who plays doubles with husband Bobby. "For a while, traveling around to marathons and half-marathons is what we'd do for fun. It would get us out doing things together."

She has served on various boards including Kids of the Community and the Children's Advocacy Center.

C I T I Z E N S T R I - C O U N T Y B A N K

GOLDEN CLUB FUTURE TRIPS 2018-2019



MAINTAINING,
PRESERVING
AND PROTECTING



(Trips are subject to change due to availability and pricing)

TRIPS FOR 2018

- **Mystery Trip** April 14
- **Nova Scotia** June 12-19
- **American Queen "Mark Twain" Theme Cruise (sold out)** July 29-August 6
- **Creation Museum & Ark Encounter** August 14-17
- **Chattanooga** September 14
- **Iceland: In Search of the Northern Lights** October 21-27
- **Historic Sumner County** November 8-9
- **Elvis' Blue Christmas** December 4-6

SNEAK PEEK FOR 2019

- **Day Trips:**
Grand Ole Opry, Falcon's Rest, Cumberland County Playhouse, Cheekwood Gardens
- **Short Trips:**
Asheville / Biltmore, Myrtle Beach SC
- **Long Trips:**
Canary Islands Cruise February 12-24 (selling now, full payment due Nov. 2, 2018)
N. Ireland / Scotland June 18-28

Look for the 2019 schedule in the mail and get your name on the list early! Call Laura at 423-949-2173.



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