

Cindy McAdams, first female to be elected Mayor of Greenfield

By Karen Campbell
Press Reporter

James Betts had a seventh grade education. Doris Simmons Betts made it through the 11th grade. Both wanted more for their children, and daughter Cindy complied. She was the first to graduate from college in her family. And, after a teaching career that spanned 40 years, Cindy Betts McAdams was the first female mayor the citizens of Greenfield ever elected.

Running unopposed for her fourth term, they appear to be satisfied.

"Greenfield is a small place, but we are growing," she said in a recent interview. "We've increased revenue for the town. People seem happy."

Cindy certainly is. She celebrated her 40th anniversary with husband Johnny in July. They took a cruise in October to recognize the achievement. In the last year, she also ensured that her entire family including son, Jonathan, daughter Amber and three grandchildren



Former teacher, Mayor Cindy McAdams stands by a sign for Greenfield's Summer Reading Program

Hunter, Amelia Grace and Nolen enjoyed Disneyworld.

And seeing the town keep the

businesses that have found a home in Greenfield while adding new enterprises keeps the smile

for which Cindy is known as a semi-permanent fixture on her face.

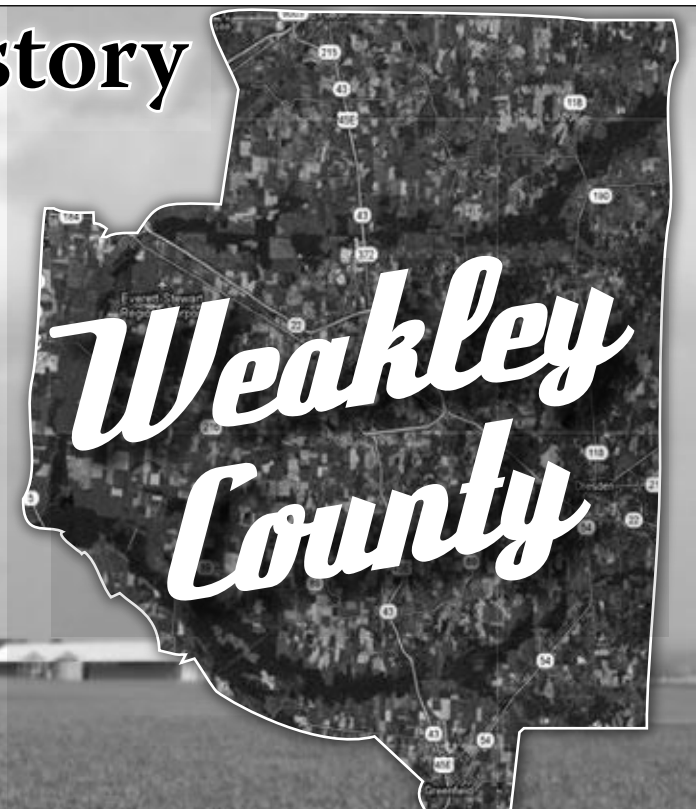
Born in Chicago, Cindy was transplanted to the south at three months of age – plenty of time to begin cultivating the slow Southern drawl that suggests humility while also hinting at an underlying savviness. She called Union City home until graduating from UTM. Her first two years of teaching in Obion County had her falling in love with the rural students there. And then she made the switch to special education, where she happily stayed for 38 years. Her marriage to Johnny brought her to Greenfield and his stint at a city alderman was the impetus for her considering the position.

She says she took several things into consideration when she first thought of serving the people of Greenfield. One was whether her husband would back her. (He did.) Another was that Montez Robinson had already paved the way as the first woman on the city board. And, after she decided to pursue the role of mayor, another was the fact that her father was originally

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