



**RELIGION**  
**Church Briefs,**  
**The Solution**  
**Column**  
 Page 5



**SPORTS**  
**EHS teams**  
**pick up**  
**big wins**  
 Page 11



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# Elizabethton Star

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Star Photo/Curtis Carden

Elizabethton Parks and Recreation Director Mike Mains addresses attendees during Thursday's Carter County Advisory Board meeting.

## CAB: Process continues for future farmers' market

BY CURTIS CARDEN  
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The future of a farmers' market continues to look bright as the months go on.

Members of the Carter County Advisory Board convened inside the Elizabethton-Carter County Public Library Thursday to discuss the future addition for the city.

CAB member Cheri Tinney, who also serves on the farmers' market subcommittee, provided an update on the recent status of online surveys that were geared to future attendees on what they wanted to see at a market. Tinney added the group received 270 responses. That, along with

■ See MARKET, 6



Star Photo/Curtis Carden

Horace Mann has been on the forefront of assisting teachers across the area with projects located on the DonorsChoose.org website. Pictured, from left, is Greg Odom, Mariah McClain and Rick Walters, area coordinator for DonorsChoose, with thank you cards the office has received from students at local schools.

## Horace Mann helps local schools with Donors Choose

BY CURTIS CARDEN  
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An idea created 16 years ago by a New York public school history teacher to assist students continues to hold strong to this day.

DonorsChoose.org is a website that was established by Charles Best to help teachers across the country fund various projects needed in the classroom. The board for the organi-

■ See DONORS, 6

## Big John's closing is only a rumor

A Letter to the Editor by Dan D. Nave published Wednesday, Aug. 30, incorrectly stated that Big John's Closeouts in Elizabethton was closing.

According to the owners of the local business, the business is not closing and is open daily

Monday through Saturday at its location on West Elk Avenue.

Nave, who said he got his information from Facebook, apologized for the incorrect information in his letter. "I'm glad it was just a rumor and not the truth," he said.

# Milligan launching 2 new graduate programs in education

BY ABBY MORRIS-FRYE  
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In the midst of Milligan College's 150th anniversary year, the college's leaders are not only looking to the past, but are building on the future of the college as well.

To that effect, Milligan College President Dr. Bill Greer announced during a special luncheon on Thursday that the school will be launching two new graduate programs in the field of education in Summer 2017 — a Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership (Ed.D.) and Education Specialist (Ed.S.) Leveraging the strength of its teacher education and business faculty, as well as regional school partnerships, Milligan's Ed.D. and Ed.S. programs will help lead currently practicing teach-

ers toward certification as school administrators in two years.

"The environment of education is ever changing," Greer said. "Our world needs transformative leaders in preK-12 education who are well-trained in organization and management. Both Milligan's Ed.D. and Ed.S. programs are not only specifically designed to help meet that need and reflect Milligan's Christian mission, but they are some of the most economical education programs in our region — even priced below the local state university."

As he emphasized the need for more trained leaders in school systems around the world, Greer said in his opinion every great achievement made by anyone can be traced back to the influence of a teacher.

■ See MILLIGAN, 6



Star Photo/Abby Morris-Frye

Milligan College President Dr. Bill Greer announced the college will be adding two new post-graduate programs in education during a special luncheon at the school on Thursday.



Star Photo/Curtis Carden

The Elizabethton-Carter County Public Library saw high attendance for the "first day of school" at Hogwarts. Attendees were greeted with different activities, snacks and various books involving the Harry Potter series.

# Wizard Wonderland

Elizabethton-Carter County Public Library  
 open school year with trip to Hogwarts

BY CURTIS CARDEN  
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Are you from House Gryffindor? What about House Ravenclaw? Maybe you have traits of House Slytherin or House Hufflepuff.

No matter the affiliation, all was welcomed Thursday evening as the Elizabethton-Carter County Public Library kicked off their events for the school year by celebrating the first day of school at Hogwarts described in the *Harry Potter* book and movie series.

"It's the first day of Hogwarts," Children's Librarian Ashlee Williams said. "To celebrate that, we hosted this event as our kick off for events we'll have going on during the school year."

And as the children filed in, Williams liked what she saw from the recent attendees of Hogwarts.

"We're very pleased with the amount of kids we have out here this evening," she said. "We hope to make this an annual event."

The newest batch of students for Hogwarts had a plethora of activities to choose from. Whether it was receiving books, creating wands or studying herbology — no stone was left unturned.

■ See LIBRARY, 2



Star Photo/Curtis Carden

Flying around Hogwarts, Sophia Jenkins cracks a smile while riding a dragon.



Contributed Photo/Tennessee Secretary of State Tre Hargett

Tennessee Secretary of State Tre Hargett, shown here, and state election officials are asking voters in the state to encourage their fellow residents to register to vote through social media. Participants are asked to take a photo with a sign declaring they are registered to vote and then post the photo on social media sites using #GoVoteTN.

## #GoVoteTN — state officials launch social media campaign to encourage residents to vote

BY ABBY MORRIS-FRYE  
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September is National Voter Registration Month and state officials are urging Tennesseans to use their social media accounts as a way to encourage others to vote.

Tennessee Secretary of State Tre Hargett, whose office includes the State Election Commission, is encouraging voters to have a picture made holding a sign reading "I'm registered to vote. Are You?" and then share those photos through social media using #GoVoteTN.

The signs are available for downloading and printing through the state's election website www.GoVoteTN.com. Users can even customize the signs to their own color scheme or choose from several pre-made schemes featuring the colors of a number of Tennessee's universities and sports teams.

Joining Hargett in posting the photos are a number of other well-known Tennesseans from a variety of professions. Some of those who have posted pictures with their signs are U.S. Senator Bob Corker, members of the Nashville Fire Department, Tennessee Speaker of the House Beth Harwell, Mike Martin of the Tennessee Titans, and country music stars Billy Ray Cyrus and Kix Brooks.

While the event continues throughout the month of September, a flurry of posts is expected on Tuesday, Sept. 27, to celebrate National Voter Registration Day.

According to Hargett, #GoVoteTN is consistently one of the most successful state-led voter registration social media campaigns in the country.

"We will share posts on Twitter, Instagram and Face-

book to highlight who is proud to be registered to vote, including many well-known Tennesseans," Hargett said. "Snap a photo, use #GoVoteTN and post. It's that easy to show the world Tennesseans care about their right to vote."

Voters must be registered at least 30 days before an election to cast a ballot. Tuesday, Oct. 11, is the registration deadline to vote in the November 8 general election.

"Tennesseans will be heading to the polls to vote for the next president of the United States before we know it," Hargett said. "It's crucial that people understand the need to get registered now so there won't be any surprises in November."

In addition to getting their sign for the social media campaign, voters can also visit www.GoVoteTN.com to check their registration status, find out what precinct they vote in or download a voter registration form. The form must be filled out and either returned in person or mailed to the Election Commission office for their county of residency.

Residents in Carter County can also pick up voter registration forms at the Carter County Election Commission office, the Department of Safety office, the Department of Human Services office, the Carter County Health Department, the Elizabethton/Carter County Public Library and several offices at the Carter County Courthouse.

The Carter County Election Commission is located at 116 Holston Ave. For more information on voter registration, contact the Election Commission at 423-542-1822.

## Johnson County festival honors old-time musician

The Second Annual Long Journey Home, Johnson County's Musical Heritage Festival, is this weekend in Mountain City.

Events will begin with the unveiling of the final mural in the Musical Heritage series. The new mural and this year's events will focus on Fiddlin' Fred Price, Clint Howard and Clarence "Tom" Ashley, who along with bandmate Dock Watson, are credited with sparking the folk music revival of the 1960s. The mural unveiling will take place this evening at 6 p.m. on Main Street in downtown Mountain City.

Performers will entertain with

authentic old time and bluegrass music throughout the downtown area. Businesses will stay open late, and the streets will be filled with mountain music.

Saturday brings more music and at 11 a.m., the Musical Heritage Tour will begin at the County Courthouse, the site of the last hanging in Johnson County with music from the "Ballad of Finley Preston."

Beginning at the hanging site and throughout the day, live music will be performed at various sites throughout the county.

Brochures will be available to guide participants through a

full day of discovering the stories, songs, people and places that make Johnson County unique.

This year's tour will include some popular sites such as the home of Clarence "Tom" Ashley, where Kenny Price will perform Ashley's signature clawhammer banjo style, and the homeplaces of Clint Howard and Fred Price.

The day will culminate with a performance at Price's mountain home, followed by an open jam. Be sure to bring lawn seating.

For more information, visit www.longjourneyhome.net or call 423-202-4386.

## Wandell

Continued from 2

is Tennessee's only certified 3K race. Awards will be presented to the top overall competitive male and female winners and the top competitive male and female winners of their respective age group.

Please register for the competitive race or the fun/run walk and enjoy a wonderful morning of fun for everyone as there will be inflatables, vendors, Chiropractic massages and one of our most popular events, a silent auction. Team Wandell will host a silent auction on the day of the race. We have a lot of great items

that would make super gifts for the holidays, and a plethora of really nice things that have been generously donated for some lucky bidders. Check the Team Wandell Facebook page frequently for pictures of some of the items. You do not need to be a race participant to come and bid. Bidding starts at 9:00 am and ends at 11:00 am. We have had some excellent gifts donated. Please contact Ms. Tammy Troutman for additional information or if you'd like to contribute an item at: tammy.troutman@ecschoools.net

The opening ceremony is scheduled for 9:45 am and the 3K competitive run starts at 10:00 am followed by the fun run/walk at 10:30 am.

Team Wandell encourages individuals to register to show your support for Dr. Josh Wandell and ALS awareness and receive your 2016 Race For Wandell shirt.

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## Market

Continued from 1

the future location of the market, was discussed at the subcommittee meeting held last week.

"We had a great meeting last week," Tinney said. "We're going to work on configuring some of the responses we received from the survey."

One of the key components discussed during last week's subcommittee meeting was the usage of parking at First Baptist Church in Elizabethton.

Mike Mains, who was in attendance for Thursday's meeting as well, told the subcommittee he spoke with the church and they were "very receptive" to partnering for parking. When discussing hours of operations, Mains added he spoke with City Manager Jerome Kitchens and that parking would be a concern, so the idea of evening hours would be ideal.

Tinney did say Thursday that the idea of having the farmers' market at Walter Curtis Park, between the Carter County Health Department and senior center, is the location that has been unanimously supported. Walter Curtis Park is soon to undergo already scheduled renovations.

In the minutes provided from the subcommittee, Tinney organized tasks for different members of the subcommittee, including work on a mission and vision for the market, rules and requirements for the market, compilation of survey data, a market location coord-

inator, the creation of a farmers' market ownership committee and the distribution of surveys to Roan Mountain, Bristol, Kingsport, Erwin and the Town of Unicoi.

Tinney, who serves as the Community Outreach Specialist at the ECCPL, also announced the addition of an intern at the library and future plans of constructing an outreach center near the library to help serve the community. The specialist added that the farmers' market has been a long endeavor, but plans are underway to help better serve the needs of Elizabethton and Carter County.

"We identify as a need for the community," Tinney said of the ECCPL. "We want to offer the resources available for anybody that may need it."

Mains took the floor to tell members that the Elizabethton Parks and Recreation Department has seen their summer activities triple over the summer with 14 bands taking part in the Covered Bridge Jams, the success of the outdoor movie in the park and other events like the Independence Day Celebration.

The Parks and Recreation Department will be busy over the week, Mains added, with the second annual Tweetsie Trail Treasure Trip and Celebration.

"We scaled it back some from last year," he said. "With last year being our first event, we wanted to go all out. We're hoping to see

another good turnout for this year. The Treasure Trip will be held along the trail from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m. Saturday while the Tweetsie Celebration, held at Covered Bridge Park, lasts from 5 to 9 p.m.

CAB secretary Jilian Reece added that plans are in place to honor Shane Case's daughter, Camryn, who passed away. Case, with Lowe's of Elizabethton, has played a key part of helping with the community gardens, Reece added, with the facility donating plants.

Honoring Case along the Tweetsie Trail was brought up, with Mains showing support and adding that a policy would need to be drawn up and taken before the Parks and Recreation board.

CAB members unanimously approved a measure to begin work on a memorial for the daughter of Case once the policy is put in place by the department.

Other items discussed during the meeting included Emily Barton with the UT Extension office of Carter County providing a quick presentation about her office. Along with Barton, Memorial Park Community Center Director and Macaroni Kid Newsletter Publisher Amanda Hollifield talked about her free children's e-newsletter and the upcoming schedule of events in Washington County.

For more information on the organization, visit the Carter County Advisory Board Facebook page online.

## Donors

Continued from 1

zation isn't too shabby, sporting the names of various celebrities and philanthropists like Bill and Melinda Gates, Stephen Colbert and Oprah Winfrey.

The website sees traffic locally, as well, with Rick Walters, LUTCF, FSS, serving as the Donors Choose Area Coordinator along with his duties as an agent with Horace Mann.

"Donors Choose is one of the largest websites to help teachers raise money for projects in their classrooms," Walters said Thursday. "It is an incredible organization to be associated with. I've had the chance to meet Mr. Best and you see the support it receives. Stephen Colbert, who serves on the board, recently donated \$800,000 to classrooms in South Carolina that had projects needing to be funded on the website."

Education is something that Horace Mann does not take lightly,

evident in their projects they help orchestrate through the website.

Since 2011, the agency assisted schools in Washington, Carter, Unicoi, Sullivan and Johnson counties by raising \$157,604.94 for various projects on the Donors Choose website.

For work this year, Walters' report as of Thursday noted that \$15,567 has already been raised with two local teachers receiving assistance: Melissa McClain from Little Milligan for a project of \$338.49 and Marissa Henry of T.A. Dugger for a project of \$794.

"It is a great opportunity for teachers," Walters said. "It is very simple. Any project that needs funding for supplies or anything like that, the request is placed on Donors Choose — where donations are gathered to fund each project."

Three projects also wrapped up fundraising marks in rather quick

fashion. Mrs. Pless with West Side Elementary School accomplished her second grade classroom's needed goal of \$352 for vinyl chair pockets to allow extra storage. Mrs. Estep with Harold McCormick achieved her third grade room's goal of \$547 to obtain proper seating to help children learn easier and Mrs. Cannon of East Side Elementary obtained her goal of \$371 to help implement writing and reading materials for her first grade class.

Once a goal is reached, the classrooms typically send thank you cards to the office, but it is all in a day's work for the agency, Walters said.

"I enjoy it," he added. "It is great help the classrooms reach their goals."

For more information on Horace Mann or the Donors Choose, contact Walters' office at 433-543-0059.

## Milligan

Continued from 1

"I've seen the impact of great teachers in the lives of my own kids and in the many students here on the Milligan campus," Greer said.

In addition to this year marking the college's 150th anniversary, this year also marks the 25th year for Milligan's Masters of Education program.

"I'm really delighted we are able to go back to one of our core programs and build on it," Greer said.

Like Milligan's distinguished Master of Education program, the college's Ed.D. and Ed.S. programs have deep roots in regional school systems, where many Milligan alumni serve as teachers, coaches and administrators.

"Our programs were designed with the help of representatives from these local school districts who served on the planning committee," said Dr. Lyn Howell, chair of Milligan's Area of Education. "In addition, we truly value the strength of the mentored experience and each Ed.D. candidate will be assigned to a local, working administrative mentor — many of whom studied education at Milligan."

One such Milligan alum, Director of Elizabethton City Schools Dr. Corey Gardenhour, shared his thoughts on the program during the luncheon.

"We're not just looking to put leaders in the schools, we're looking for people to move the students forward," Gardenhour said.

Graduates of Milligan's 24-30 month long Ed.D. program will be uniquely prepared to become principals and administrators in public and non-public school systems, nonprofits and government agencies, according to Greer.

The Ed.D. is a practice-based program built on a cohort learning model of approximately 10-20 candidates who progress through the program together. The Ed.S. allows candidates who don't need a doctorate degree to develop a specialized knowledge with many of the same courses in the Ed.D. program, but without the requirement to write a dissertation.

The education area is accredited by the State of Tennessee and the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE). Both the Ed.D. and Ed.S. programs are pending accreditation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC). They have been approved by the State of Tennessee.

The application deadline is Feb. 13, 2017. Learn more at www.milligan.edu/edleadership.

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