

GOOD MORNING Wednesday September 14, 2016



Bucs top No. 1 Men's soccer team upsets No. 1 Tar Heels/4B



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'Unthinkable': Backer cites clinic need

By ZACH VANCE Press Staff Writer z Vance@johnsoncitypress.com

Partners in proposed clinic haven't decided who will speak before City Commission

who will speak publicly to the Commission in favor of the jointly operated facility before commissioners vote on rezoning 203 Gray

Commons Circle on second reading. But a joint statement from the college and the health care provider said they look forward to the meeting...



Rhonda Coffey, shown with her son, David, founded a support group, The Addict's Family, after David died of an overdose in 2015.

TASTE OF JOHNSON CITY



Time for a taste

This is an opportunity for them to throw out an item they might want to put on their menu.

Actually, this year's event will offer dozens of local tasting opportunities

est-ed in local food and beverage establishments. The 34th annual Taste of Johnson City will be held at the Johnson City Country Club from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

A staple of Taste of Johnson City, the Johnson City Country Club decided to shake things up a bit last year with Mexican cuisine.

PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

Vote cues arts center architect

It's expected to be four or five months before work begins on site

By GARY B. GRAY Press Staff Writer ggray@johnsoncitypress.com

Johnson City's \$8 million investment in East Tennessee State University's new performing arts center will nearly double the main auditorium's seating capacity and bring the project cost to \$52 million.

The State Building Commission last week approved the facility's expansion, which includes an agreement with the city that grows the number of seats from 635 to a minimum of 1,200. ETSU's budget for the new addition has now

The state architect approved the details, and I know the end result will be an opening in the spring of 2019.

U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT COLLEGE RANKINGS

New category, familiar result for Milligan

CONTRIBUTED TO THE PRESS

MILLIGAN COLLEGE — Milligan College continues to be ranked high nationally for academic quality and affordability, having been recently elevated to the "Master's Colleges and Universities" level by the Carnegie Foundation due to the college's expanded graduate offerings.

Because of the reclassification, U.S. News & World Report now ranks the college in a higher category among the top regional universities in the South, positioned at No. 22 in the magazine.



Milligan College President Bill Greer announces the addition of new degrees.

Black Flag campaign puts focus on suicide

Flags represent yearly U.S. student suicides

By TONY CASEY Press Staff Writer tcasey@johnsoncitypress.com

A field of 1,100 black flags outside of the D.P. Culp Center on East Tennessee State University's campus caught the eye of Guro Marie Lien Tuesday morning.

The Norway native — at ETSU for two semesters of study — pulled out her phone

to take a shot of the message in the middle of all the flags.

"Over 1,100 college students die by suicide each year," the banner read, as part of the school's participation in the Black Flag Campaign.

Along with the display of the black flags, there will be several other events throughout the week on ETSU's campus to



More than 1,100 black flags, each symbolizing the suicide of a college student, surround a banner on display on the ETSU campus Tuesday.

WEATHER/2A

High 87 Low 62



WWW

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DEATHS/3A, 6A

JOHNSON CITY: Gailda Orrin; ELIZABETHTON: Kenneth Hayes; JONESBOROUGH: Grover Rex 'Adam' Renfro; KINGSPOUR: Claude 'Buddy' Abajah; ZIMMERMAN: Mildred Godsey Hammond; SUGAR GROVE, N.C.: Wanda Maude Farthing

Daniel Boone High School set to induct 2016 Hall of Fame class/3B

SPORTS/1B

The David Crockett volleyball team swept Science Hill in Big 7 action Tuesday, earning 25-23 and 25-10 wins.

INSIDE

Carters County Classified ads 6A, 12B; Comics 9B; Dear Abby 8B; Editorial 8A; Fun & Games 8B; Local Lottery 4A, 9A; On the air 2A; Stocks 9A; Tastes 5A

To suggest a story, call 722-1330. To buy a classified ad, call 722-0509. For display advertising, call 929-3111. To subscribe, call 722-0510.

Advertisement for Dr. Daniel R. Schumaier & Associates Audiologists, featuring photos of Dr. Sarah Schumailer, Dr. Sharon Rutledge, and Dr. Daniel Schumaier, and contact information for their office at 106 East Watauga Avenue, Johnson City, TN.

ARCHITECT

From Page 1A
 risen from \$40,650,000 to \$52,338,250.

"With the increased budget, the architect can begin design and development," ETSU Chief of Staff Jeremy Ross said Tuesday. "We were there, as was City Manager Pete Peterson. The state architect approved the details, and I know the end result will be an opening in the spring of 2019."

The university is eligible to receive \$25 million in funds from the state, should ETSU allocate \$3.5 million and raise \$10.2 million in additional matching funds for the center.

The Johnson City Commission approved the agreement Aug. 4. At that time, the university had raised about \$8.4 million. Washington County Commissioner and former ETSU President Dr. Paul Stanton told commissioners an additional \$1 million to \$1.5 million donation was coming soon.

Ross said the university has received an additional \$1 million and now has \$9.4 million in matching funds. He also said an updated construction schedule should be available in about one week.

Denark Construction and architect McCarty Holsapple McCarty, both based in Knoxville, will work to prepare bid packages.

"It's still going to be four or five months before you see anything happening out there," Peterson said. "But the state has approved the city's investment, and there's been a lot of people working on this for a long time."

City commissioners voted 3-1 in a third attempt to come to terms with university officials on the new structure that will be built adjacent to the Millennium Centre off West State of Franklin Road.

Vice Mayor David Tomita and Commissioners Jeff Banyas and Jenay Brock voted for the agreement. Mayor Clayton Stout, who has expressed continual concerns over what he felt were architectural delays and cost uncertainties, voted against the move. Commissioner Ralph Van Brocklin was absent.

"I'm thrilled that it's happening," Van Brocklin said. "It does sound now that the architect can be turned loose. But one of the issues we've been concerned about is that the university have a full accounting of donations. They are going to have to have those funds on hand, because the state insists that all the dollars have to be there up front."

Johnson City held a special referendum in the 1990s in which voters were asked to increase the local sales tax rate by 25 percent. The new revenue would have gone to a city-owned performing arts center, but the measure failed by a 3-1 margin.

The \$8 million will come from the issuance of debt, paid for with money from the city's hotel-motel tax. An increase in the tax from 5 percent to 7 percent is bringing in an additional \$560,000 per year. The projected debt service payments are \$540,000 per year over 20 years.

In return for its investment, the city asked for increased seating capacity, added or expanded restrooms, lobbies and public areas, expanded elec-

MILLIGAN

From Page 1A
 fire suppression and other systems. City officials also want the arts center and Millennium Centre to be physically connected, through design or renovation of the Millennium Centre.

Johnson City's total investment is closer to \$10 million. It includes the \$8 million for construction, a \$500,000 donation for a courtyard adjacent to the Millennium Centre, \$350,000 for signalization at the intersection of West State of Franklin Road and West Harris Drive, about \$150,000 for a storm-water detention site and \$1.5 million provided through the Washington County Economic Development Council and Washington County.

The agreement also provides public availability for a minimum of 20 dates per year at no cost to the community and includes a minimum of 10 events per year targeted for Johnson City and surrounding communities.

Like Gary B. Gray on Facebook at www.facebook.com/garybgrayjcp. Follow him on Twitter @garybgray

From Page 1A
 1-ranking Vanderbilt University, based on academic quality, affordability, admissions and graduation rates, retention and the student experience.

"I'm deeply honored that our progress as an institution, reflected by this new master's-level classification, continues to be recognized in these recent national rankings," Milligan President Bill Greer said. "Milligan strives for high quality and affordability, all while championing our core values of scholarship, community and faith."

Milligan's "Great Schools, Great Prizes" No. 4 ranking is based on the college's ratio of academic quality to price, need-based aid and per-

centage of need-based scholarships and grants that offset total cost. The higher the academic quality and the lower the actual cost, the better the deal, according to U.S. News. The college's "A+ Schools for B Students" inclusion was based on the overall performance ranking and average freshman retention rate.

The most complete version of U.S. News' exclusive new rankings, data, tables and lists — including extensive statistical profiles for each school and a search tool to enable prospective students and parents to find the college that best fits their needs — is available online at www.usnews.com/colleges.

Washington Monthly named Milligan among the top 20 master's universities in the nation, which examines what colleges are doing for their students and the public good.

Christian Universities Online moved Milligan up to No. 15 in its "50 Best Christian Colleges and Universities" ranking for 2017, measuring personal attention to their students, selectivity, readily available financial aid and overall student satisfaction.

BestColleges.com, partnering with HigherEducation.com, ranked the college as the No. 2 best four-year college in Tennessee, behind No.

1-ranking Vanderbilt University, based on academic quality, affordability, admissions and graduation rates, retention and the student experience.

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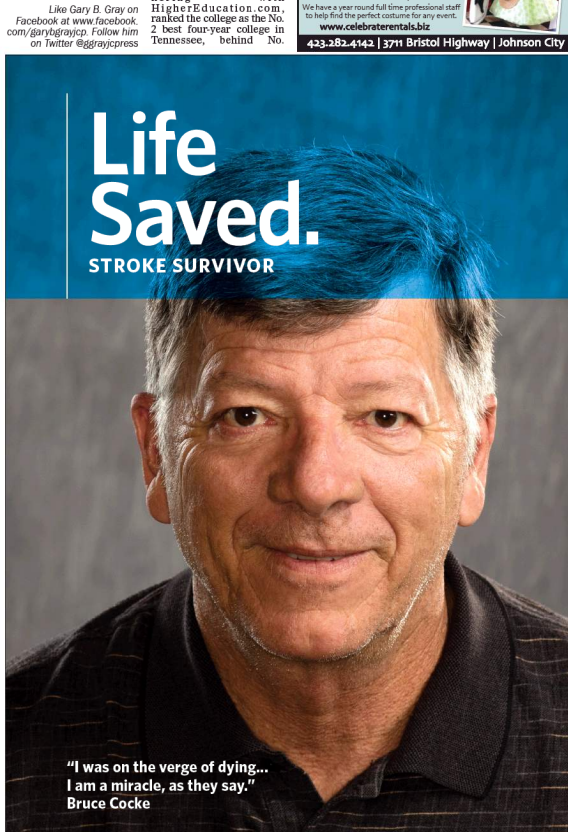
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Our nation's Vietnam War commemoration is a long-overdue opportunity for all Americans to recognize, honor, and thank our Vietnam Veterans and their families for their service and sacrifice during one of America's longest wars. On Sunday, July 24, the MountainState Veterans Home honored their 30th Anniversary & Welcome Home Celebration for our Vietnam Veterans with a parade, picnic, and commemorative ceremony.

Dominion Senior Living of Johnson City was proud to stand by Bill West who served in the Navy for 30 years. He and his wife, Jo West, attend this celebration every year to remember and appreciate their VA colleagues. Everyone here at Dominion would like to commemorate Bill West and all our fellow veterans whose sacrifice led to our rights and freedom today.

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