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Star Photo/Curtis Carden

U.S. Sen. Lamar Alexander stopped by the region to provide an update from Washington at the First Tennessee Development District in Johnson City Tuesday. Pictured, Alexander talks with county and city mayors that comprise the First Tennessee Development District.

U.S. Sen. Alexander visits area, meets with local mayors

BY CURTIS CARDEN
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It was a busy Tuesday throughout the state for U.S. Senator Lamar Alexander.

While touring the region, the Senator stopped by the First Tennessee Development District office in Johnson City and met with the eight county mayors and local officials that make up the organization.

Carter County Mayor Leon Humphrey was on hand for the meeting and liked what he heard from Republican Senator's trip to the region.

"(Alexander) is a great institute for everyone in East Tennessee because he's a champion of state's

rights," Mayor Humphrey said. "He's doing everything he can to bring the power of the legislature here locally. We really appreciate him taking the time out of his busy schedule to come out to the development district, work with the mayors and give us his input and feedback on what all is actually going on in Washington."

Various items were discussed during the meeting, including the upcoming overtime law that goes into effect December 1.

"I think all the issues we discussed today are relevant to Carter County," Mayor Humphrey added.

■ See ALEXANDER, 8

HISTORY REVISITED

*Milligan College
prepares for
Homecoming
2016*

BY CURTIS CARDEN
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An escalation of 'Buffalo Pride' is circulating through Milligan College's campus this week.

With annual tradition of hosting Homecoming for current, future and former students and faculty, 2016 is adding an extra piece to the puzzle with the institute's 150th anniversary, according to Milligan College President Dr. Bill Greer.

"You can tell there's a sense of excitement on campus because there's a lot of preparation going on for Homecoming," Dr. Greer told the Elizabethton Star on Monday.



Photo Courtesy Milligan College

Milligan students, as well as primary students, faculty and staff pose for a picture during 1890 in front of the old administration building, now the site of Derthick Hall. The history of Milligan College will be on full display this week for their 2016 Homecoming celebration.

"We expect a record number of attendees for the Homecoming festivities this weekend. Partly because it is in celebration of

our 150th anniversary. That's a historic milestone for any organization."

The homecoming, which

begins with a church service on Thursday, Oct. 20 and lasts until

■ See MILLIGAN, 6



Star Photo/Curtis Carden

Elizabethton High School teacher Dustin Hensley provides an update from the student-led Bartleby Project.

BOE hears report from high school's Bartleby Project

BY CURTIS CARDEN
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The Elizabethton Board of Education is looking at bringing in another part for their operation next month.

After seeing the recent strides

made by students, the idea of having a student liaison serve on the BOE was brought up during Tuesday's meeting.

The idea of having a student on the board was talked about in

■ See BOE, 6

Miller Farmstead reopens after renovations

BY BRYCE PHILLIPS
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The work is finally finished, and Roan Mountain State Park's historic Miller Farmstead has reopened.

In August, contractors started preservation work to replace the foundation under the house at the Farmstead.

"The house itself was built in 1907," said Roan Mountain State Park manager J.R. Tinch. "The foundation was just crumbling. A century ago they just used whatever they could to make mortar and make a foundation. So a

hundred years later, the foundation had crumbled to the point that the house was off balance, and it was sinking into the ground at one point. If we had not fixed the foundation, then the house would have started deteriorating and could have even fallen."

To replace the foundation, workers had to lift the house eight feet into the air so new concrete footers could be poured. Any wood that had rotted was replaced.

"The house is going to last for gen-

■ See FARMSTEAD, 6



Contributed Photo/
Roan Mountain State
Park

The house at the Miller Farmstead was lifted eight feet so the foundation could be replaced. The Farmstead, which was closed in August due to preservation work, is now open to the public.



DAILY 50¢

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Farmstead

■ Continued from 1

erations to come now,” Tinch said.

Funding for the project came from a grant by the Tennessee Historic Commission.

The house itself is not actually opened to the public because family heirlooms are kept inside. However, the ground

around house are open to the public, Tinch said.

In 2014, the Miller Farmstead, which is located at the highest point in the state park, was added to both the State Register of Historic Places and the National Register of Historic Places.

“It is really one of the most popular locations inside the state park,” Tinch said. “The Miller Farmstead is truly one of representations Appalachian culture. We really wanted to the project done and Farmstead opened back up because October is one of our busiest times of the year.”

Grant

■ Continued from 2

aging children’s pool at the site.

TDEC Commissioner Bob Martineau and Gov. Bill Haslam announced early August that a series of grants totaling over \$17 million would be unraveled to various cities and towns across the state in the coming months – including Elizabethton.

“We appreciate the consideration by Gov. Bill Haslam and TDEC for allowing us to receive this opportunity,” City Parks and Recreation Director Mike Mains told the *Elizabethton Star* following August’s announcement. “Our baby pool facility was very much outdated. With the pump system, mechanical issues ... we were looking at a way to make things safer and more cost efficient.”

Along with the help from local and state government, Mains also credited City Planning and Development Director Jon Hartman and Lance Lowery with the First Tennessee Development District for helping secure the

grant and working through the application process.

The lawmakers said the move is expected to improve safety and maintenance at the facility, as well as draw a new demographic of patrons to the city’s pool complex. The existing full-size pool will remain.

“Our parks and pools are an important part of our communities,” said Senator Crowe. “These funds will help improve the pool complex for families to enjoy for many years to come. I congratulate our local officials who were instrumental in helping secure these funds. We appreciate Governor Haslam’s and Commissioner Martineau’s attention to this project.”

Holsclaw, a native of Elizabethton, also appreciated the people that made the project possible.

“These funds will go a long way in helping make improvements to serve local citizens, as well as visitors in our area,” added Rep. Holsclaw. “We thank

all of those who helped in bringing these funds home to Elizabethton.”

Rep. Hill added, “I join in congratulating the city and its leaders on this grant. This splash pad will be another arrow in the quiver to increase the quality of life in Elizabethton”

Franklin Pool is located near Sycamore Shoals State Park, the Elizabethton Linear Trail, and the Franklin Athletic Club, all popular facilities. This will be the only splash pad in Carter County and one of only a few in Northeast Tennessee.

The Tennessee General Assembly established the LPRF grant program in 1991 to provide local governments with funds to enhance and expand outstanding recreational projects such as parks, community centers, ball fields and playgrounds. The grants are administered through the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC).

BOE

■ Continued from 1

more detail by Elizabethton High School teacher Dustin Hensley during his update to the board on the school’s recent achievement with the “Bartleby Project” – which was awarded \$200,000 by XQ America during the Super School competition.

“We are really excited about the student school board member,” Hensley said. “We spoke with a representative with XQ and he said their president thought the idea was the coolest thing they’ve heard during all of this is the student school board member. They thought it was the biggest thing out of all of this, even the \$10 million projects.”

Having a student serve with elected officials will only help bridge the gap between the board and students, BOE Chair Rita Booher said.

“I know that when we were in Mountain City a few weeks ago, we were talking about having a student serve on the board with us,” Booher added. “We love the idea. We would hope it would make the board seem more approachable to our students and show that we care about what

they say.”

The idea of having a student on the board will also show what the BOE goes through when approaching plans and seeing some limitations officials may go through when delving into an item, according to the chair.

“I’m looking forward to it,” Booher added. The City Director of Schools Dr. Corey Gardenhour added the item would be looked at during November’s meeting.

Hensley went into detail about what’s ahead for the sociology students that created the Bartleby Project. The students and faculty that assisted with the project will hold a special banquet at TCAT – Elizabethton in Stoney Creek on Thursday, Oct. 27, at 6:30 p.m. to meet with the community and discuss how the students can get involved.

“We want to go into the audience and ask what can we do to partner with you?,” Hensley said.

The teacher went on about how the school is hoping to implement two classes for the 2017-18 school year – the Bartleby Community Improvement class and Bartleby Entrepreneurial

Project class. Hensley added that each class would include around 15 students that would be selected following an application process and vetting from boards.

The banquet will also house Sebastian Turner, XQ Lead for Special Projects, to explain what the organization is all about and Lee Hirsch. Hirsch, who recently worked on the documentary titled “Bully,” will be on hand to film the event for XQ in part of the recent Super School Project movement.

In other business, the BOE voted to:

- Approve a contract with Blackburn, Childers & Steagall for audit services.
- Approve the 2016 LEA Compliance Report
- Ratify the approval of two assistant positions to meet IEP requirements for special education students.
- Approve the contract renewal with Rebekah Price for public relations services.
- Approve equipment disposal request of one 1997 Chevrolet Lumina.

150

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MILLIGAN

■ Continued from 1

Sunday, Oct. 23, falls in line with the continual celebration of the sesquicentennial that caps off during the month of December.

“This Homecoming is the pinnacle of Milligan’s historic sesquicentennial celebration that kicked off at least year’s Homecoming,” Theresa Garbe, director of alumni relations, said in a statement released from the college. “We are pulling out all the stops this year and expect between 750-800 guests for this incredible, fun-filled weekend.”

Following Thursday’s service, the Homecoming will kick-off with its first event on Friday, Oct. 21, a black tie optional Sesquicentennial Gala scheduled for 6:30 p.m. at Steve Lacy Fieldhouse.

The event includes attendees taking a stroll through Milligan’s 150-year history with song and dance. Retired faculty members Drs. Lee and Pat Magness will be recognized as Milligan’s 2016 Distinguished Alumni while former First Lady Clarinda Jeanes will receive the Hardin “Spirit of Milligan” Award.

Greer said he’s expecting around 450 for the event.

“We look for that to be a great time of celebration,” he added. “It’ll be the perfect opportunity to reflect on where we’ve been and the excitement about where we’re going.”

And with the Gala taking place at an athletic facility, attendees are encouraged to head across to Anglin Field following the Gala to watch the men’s soccer

team play Hiwassee College at 8:30 p.m.

Other events during Homecoming includes:

- “Forward with Faith: The Milligan College Story,” an original play written and directed by Milligan alumna Rosemarie Shield (’59), celebrates 150 years of Milligan history from its early days as the Buffalo Male and Female Institute to its current status as a nationally-recognized Christian liberal arts college. Show times include Thursday, Oct. 20 and Saturday, Oct. 22 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, Oct. 23, at 2:30 p.m. Each three performances will be held at the McGlothlin-Street Theatre. Seats are \$5 at the Milligan Bookstore.
- Saturday morning will begin with the annual Milligan Buffalo 5K/2.5K Walk, hosted by the Associated Ladies for Milligan. The race starts at 8 a.m. at the Steve Lacy Fieldhouse, and all proceeds will benefit student scholarships.
- A photography exhibition titled “And Who Is My Neighbor?” by alumnus Joel Carillet (Milligan ’96, Emmanuel ’99) will open at 11 a.m. on Sunday in Milligan Art Gallery located in Derthick Hall and run through Nov. 20. Inspired by the parable of the Good Samaritan, Carillet shows people, landscapes and current events across the multiple countries.
- The annual Homecoming parade will make its way down Blowers Boulevard at 2 p.m. on Saturday and lead into the festival on Derthick lawn from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m., which includes ket-

tle corn and inflatables for kids of all ages.

- A short, family-friendly concert titled “And All That Jazz” will take place in Milligan’s Mary B. Martin Auditorium located in Seeger Chapel at 3:30 p.m. on Saturday. The concert showcases a variety of great jazz hits and features the Milligan Concert Choir, Women’s Chorale, Heritage, Heard Mentality, Jazz Ensemble and the Milligan Orchestra.
- Saturday night will close with a firework display on Anglin Field.

“We’ll be having our trustee meetings this week as well, so I have a little work to do between now and then before I get to the party of Homecoming,” Dr. Greer said with a laugh.

But with all the festivities, Sunday ends the way the celebration starts – with a 9:30 a.m. service at Seeger Chapel.

“We think it is appropriate for this institute to stop at the end of all the excitement and craziness and say ‘we’re here because of God’s providence’, and we’re ending Homecoming the way it started,” Dr. Greer said. “We want to pause and thank him for that.”

But while the bulk of events start Thursday, students have already been underway.

“I think I venture into a dunk tank on Wednesday,” Dr. Greer said with smile.

For more information and a complete schedule for Homecoming 2016 or register online, visit www.milligan.edu/homecoming, or call the Alumni Office at (423) 461-8718.

UT Extension to hold a ‘Canning College’ on Oct. 22

BY ABBY MORRIS-FRYE
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Have you ever wanted to learn how to can and preserve food?

If so, the Carter County UT Extension Office is holding a special “Canning College” on Saturday, Oct. 22.

“We are going to go into the basics of canning, such as pressure canning and water baths,” said UT Extension Agent Vickie Clark, who oversees programs on Family and Consumer Sciences.

Just in time for the holiday season, Clark said the upcoming Canning College will be titled “Preserving Food for Gifts.”

“We are going to be doing jams, chutneys and pickles,” Clark said.

To take part in the class, Clark is asking par-

ticipants to bring six pint jars with lids and rings as well as a \$10 fee to cover the produce and other materials for the program.

In addition to discussing methods of canning and preserving, Clark said the program will also focus on food safety, especially as it relates to canning.

Because of the nature of the class, space is limited so those wishing to participate will need to call in advance and reserve a spot. Clark said slots can be reserved by calling the Extension Office at 423-542-1818.

“If this one fills up we will schedule another one,” Clark said.

The class will be held from 1-4 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 22, at the TLC Community Center located at 145 Judge Don Lewis Boulevard across from the National Guard Armory in Stoney Creek.



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