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Thirty-one candidates seek five council seats

By Mike Steely
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Noon Thursday was the deadline for qualifying and all candidates vying for the five Knoxville City Council seats now have until noon on May 25 to withdraw. Early voting starts August 9 and the Primary Election is

August 29.

Thirteen people have qualified as candidates for Councilman and former Mayor Daniel Brown's 6th District seat on the Knoxville City Council.

Seventeen people had initially pickup petitions and six had failed to return the forms in time

but last minute pickups and signature returns by Charles Frazier and Kierrie Riffley brought the crowded field to thirteen.

Other candidates for the 6th District seat include Joyce Brown, John A. Butler, Maurice L. Clark Sr., Michael Covington, David Gillette, Zimbabwe U. Matavou,

Green McKeezie, Jennifer Montgomery, Damon Rawls, Shawnee Rios and Brandy Slaybaugh.

Five candidates qualified for the 1st District seat now held by Nick Pavlis. They are Debbie Helsley, Greg Knox, Rebecca Parr, Stephanie Welch and Andrew Wilson.

The 2nd District seat, held currently by Duane Grieve, will have Brandon Bruce, Wayne Christensen, Andrew Roberto, and David Williams vying for the position.

Brenda Palmer currently holds the 3rd District seat on

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A Day at the Ballpark



PHOTO BY STEVE WILLIAMS

Knox County students and teachers cheer the second home run of the game by the Tennessee Smokies in their 7-1 win over the Montgomery Biscuits during Safe Kids Health Awareness Day May 16 at Smokies Park. See story in *The Focus* Sports & Recreation, Section C.

Policy Review Committee proposes changes

By Pete Gawda

On Thursday afternoon the Knox County Schools Policy Review Committee met to consider changes in school system policies.

Upon the advice of their legal counsel, the committee decided to change the wording on policy G-220 Harassment of Employees. Among the reasons for harassment the policy lists "actual or perceived gender, sexual orientation." The committee replaced those words with the one word "sex."

The committee made changes in wording to policy G-370 Administrative Suspension. The title was changed to Administrative Leave or Suspension and the director of schools was given the option of either placing an employee on leave or suspension.

The sentence "Under no circumstances shall the Director of Schools dismiss or suspend a tenured teacher with pay" was added to Policy G-380 Demiseal of Tenured Teachers.

"The drafting of the teacher into military service by a selective service board" was added to the list of conditions under which it is permissible to break a contract under policy G-400 Resignation.

The title of G-461 Sick Leave was changed to Sick or Bereavement Leave.

Asighchange in wording was made to G-463 Long-Term Leaves of Absence.

The committee decided to make no changes in policy G-340 Reductions in Certified Staff, G-360 Personnel Transfers, G-381 Suspension/Dismissal of Non-tenured Teachers, G-390 Appointment of Hearing Officers, and G-462 Personal and Professional Leave.

Policy G-350 Evaluation

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13th Annual Wesley House Golf Tournament in June

By Mike Steely
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The Wesley House is celebrating serving the community for one hundred and ten years this year and is looking forward to the 13th Annual Wesley House Golf Tournament coming in June. Tim Adams, Executive Director, spoke with *The Knoxville Focus* last week about the upcoming tournament and the history of the non-profit community organization.

Director Adams said the organization, Founded in 1907 by a group of Methodist women, has moved

several times, always within a couple miles of the original location, with the idea of staying local to provide services.

Wesley House now serves K-8 school children with after-school programs. Fourteen schools are visited by Wesley House busses and vehicles to pick up kids. The after-school program focuses on education support like help with homework as well as emotional and spiritual support. Adams said that 60% of the children come from single parent homes.

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This long line of golfers, from last year's tournament, ready to tee off. It is evident that The Wesley House's 13th Annual Golf Tournament on June 24th will be well attended. (Photo courtesy of Tim Adams)



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