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# Thank you UT Veterinary Medical Center

ou realize that precious reature is a part of the family. Regular readers of The Focus will recall the fre quent mentions of my little ack Russell terrier, Opie From the time I saw him. I instantly bonded with hir

Naturally, my love for Opie has become some thing I get tessed about regularly by my family. My son, Stephen, for whate reason was describing the pecking order in our family once, telling my wife Kim. " guess Dad loves you best, then us kids..." and suddenly stopped and started "I guess Dad loves un kida...

ng from lunch with Opie, I ced that he was doin his best not to put weight on his right back leg. Needless to say, I was concerned and I picked him up and we were off to Tazewell Pike Animal Clinic. Opie's regular ets Dr. Joanne Hibbs, Dr Lori Smith and Dr. Meghan Zeise did a great job in their initial examinations. Their



Pictured at the UT Veterinary Madical Center are (Front row, left to right): Dr. Diane Hendris, Carol Taft, La Wibb (with Opie), Dawn Hickey, Jamie Singfle, (back row) Tonya Foster, Dr. Hannah McLean, Ashley Colanton, Jo Nedy and Dr. Marti Drum. Nat pictured are orthogodic surgoom Dr. Ryle Snowden and Dr. Whitney DeGroot.

would need surgery.

At that point his regular vets recommended that I take Opie to the UT Veteri-

I knew the UT Veterinary Medical Center was a wonderful place from past

Opie had his knee sur-

gery and it was very suc-cessful. I quickly established a regular pattern of visiting times. I was aston-

ished by two things: how quickly he recovered and the care he was receiving infection and immediately began to go through the doggie equivalent of rehab There are quite a few steps in our house and I wanted to be certain Onle would have no difficulty going

anywhere in his house he

is very invested in their animal patients. Over the next six weeks, it became absolutely obvious that everyone there truly cares about each and every one

of the animals in their safe

keeping Opie's staff cuddled with him and gave him

doctors checked him reg supervising his rehab handled him both expertly and gently. Each time I visited Opie, I was given a detailed progress report. It was not icine administered with a big dollop of affection and understanding. In all candor, Opie could

not have received better care and treatment any where. The folks at the UT Veterinary Medical Center treat their patients just as we would if we only had the necessary skills. I've been so impressed

ve told my wife Kim that if I have to go to the hospital Veterinary Medical Center special treatment, I would tell you without hesitation to try the UT Veterinary Medical Center

You may well think this column is an advertorial, and perhaps it is, but I can assure you, it's not for pay-ment. It's out of repayment and pure old-fashioned

Opie and I and our entire family thank you UT Veteri-nary Medical Centeri

## Hardy Johnson 'keeps going' on 89th birthday

City, only stopped working on his 89th birthday last His son Jim, who man

es Custom Shoe Rebuild ers at 5503 North Broadway St., would normally have been working too, but he had to take his mother in-law to the doctor. Earl er Jim also had been gone to Michigan a few days to represent the family at the funeral of his father's brother-in-law

ad backed up Hardy Johnson kept

A lot of folks are 89 years old, but not many still work six days a week like Hardy or on their birthday

Johnson's day was bright-med early that afternoon when next-door neighbors from Henson's Automotive and Alignment brought over a half-dozen chocol ate cup cakes with chocolate icing



Hardy Johnson's 89th hirthday was

"He's the most excellent human being I've ever encountered in my 60 years," said Vickie Henson 'He's real. He's the same every day. He's just got a smile on his face all the . It makes you feel

good to be around him."

Hardy is the third in his family's four generations of shoe cobblers. His grandfather, William Carson, was 'His shop was on what

said Johnson, who believes

Ocala Drive now. in the neighborhood would bring shoes by during the day, and grandpaw would fix them at night."

Harrly said his dad. Hardshop, and worked with

### Council to consider short-term rental ordinance

The ordinance to regu ate signs in the city was debated passionately for sion was adopted. An rdinance to regulate short-term rentals may ace the same drawn-out struggle.

The growing popularity of Airbnb and other corporate and private rentals of homes and rooms nationwide is perplexing the Metropolitan Planning Commission and the Knoxville City Council. On Tuesday evening the council may actually consider a first reading of The MPC passed their

mendation' along to the council on a split vote, 8-4. Some homeowners and neighborhood association object to including R-1, R4A, and R1-E neighborhoods, those areas with finer homes, in the ordi-More than 300 short-

visitors, especially during football games and holiscale homeowners and tions want homes in their zones excluded from permitting rentals. It is estinated that more than 8,000 people have taken advantage of the brief rentals in the city.

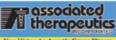
From the city's perspective, the short-term rentals have been operating illegally since there has been no ordinance way to regulate them to collect taxes on the rentals as a business

The proposal would term rentals in all zoning districts but limit to owner occupied residences in residentially zoned areas. The proposed ordianne would establish



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