



PHOTO BY BOB KING

**Kelsea Andrews, Sue Smartt, Rebecca Cook Pruitt, Troy Brown and Elena Brown at Foothills Title Services' Open House last week.**

**By Mike Steely**  
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With the formal opening of the company's third office at 3208 Tazewell Pike Thursday, Foothills Title Services now has three branches in our area.

Attorney Troy D. Brown founded Foothills in 1997 after serving in Desert Storm and Bosnia where he flew KC-135s with the Air Force. A UT law school graduate, he opened his first office in Maryville. The Blount County office is at 121 Station Drive and his other Knox County office is at 516 Ebenezer.

Why would an attorney choose the title business?

"to go into business. I felt a law licensee would give me an advantage compared to my competition regardless of which business I chose to pursue," Brown told The Focus.

When asked what is unique about Foothills Title Services, Sue Smartt, Closing Agent for the Tazewell Pike office, was quick to reply.

"It's our customer service. There are so many underlying conditions to a title search," she said, adding that they specialize in working with buyers and sellers and dealing with estates.

"If you don't ask the right

right answers," she said.

"And having an attorney on staff sets us apart," she pointed out. Smartt comes to Foothills Title Services after several years as owner of Acquire Title. The Fountain City lady is joined in the Tazewell Pike office by Kelsea Andrews and Rebecca Cook Pruitt.

The company is a full-service title company handling all aspects of real estate transactions to include title searches, title insurance, commercial and residential real estate closings, and 1031s. Clients have followed Smartt to the new location and she said the best type of business

referrals.

Smartt said that Brown did most of the remodeling of the Tazewell Pike office.

"We accomplish excellence through our combination of service, convenience and legal knowledge," Brown said, adding, "Our goal is to inspire utmost confidence such that from the initial order request to post-closing documentation our clients rest assured that we are taking care of their every need."

You may contact the Tazewell Pike office of Foothills Title Services by calling (865) 312-6212 or reach Smartt on email at [S.Smartt@title.com](mailto:S.Smartt@title.com)

Smartt assumed the position and over the course of the year, the county officials selected 7th District Commissioner Charles Busler. The 6-5 vote saw Busler win out over Michelle Carringer with Schoonmaker, Busler, Wright, Dailey, Thomas and Brantley supporting Busler. Gill, Carringer, Smith, Nystrom and Anders voted for Carringer, the 2nd District commissioner.

The commission then set about naming members of various committees including those of Cable TV, Court, Finance, Insolvency, Rules and the Joint Education Committee.

## Proposed controversial policies sent back to board unchanged

**By Pete Gawda**

At their last meeting the Knox County Board of Education could not decide on the wording for two proposed controversial policies on student harassment and employee harassment. Therefore, they sent the policies back to the policy review committee for further consideration. After considerable discussion at their Wednesday, September 20 meeting, the policy review committee sent those two proposed policies back to the board of education with the wording that had been recommended by legal counsel.

The committee's discussion centered around