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Foothills Title Services opens new office

Randy Smith voted Commission Chairman

By Mike Steely
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Randy Smith, a graduate of Bearden High School and the University of Tennessee with a degree in Business Management, has been chosen by the Knox County Commission as its new chairman. Smith, the 3rd District commissioner, won over John Schoonmaker in a 7-4 vote with Commissioners Carson Dailey, Schoonmaker, Bob Thomas and Ed Brantley supporting Schoonmaker, the 5th District Commissioner. The selection came in a 4 p.m. special session of the commission last Monday.

Smith, who has been serving as vice chairman, received votes from Commissioners Evelyn Gill, Michelle Carringer, Smith, Hugh Nystrom, Brad Anders, Charles Busler and out-going Chairman Dave Wright.

Smith assumed the position and oversaw the election of a vice chairman. The elected 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.



PHOTO BY ROSE 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? "My intention was always

to go into business. I felt a law license 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 questions, you don't get the

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 is repeat customers and

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 Sue@foothillstitle.biz.

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

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Coalition will bring community together for Mental Illness Awareness Week



PHOTO BY MIKE STEELY

The Helen Ross McNabb Center held a groundbreaking for the Behavioral Health Urgent Care Center last Friday. This pre-arrest diversion program is the result of significant collaboration from the Governor, the State's Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse, Knox County, the City of Knoxville, KCSO, KPD and the DA's office. Members of the Safety Center Committee, which began an effort that became the Behavioral Health Urgent Care Center, pose behind shovels during the ground breaking Friday. Many other committee members are not pictured.

The Behavioral Health Awareness Coalition and the Helen Ross McNabb Center will present the annual Community Day at Market Square in Knoxville on Friday, Oct. 6 from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Community Day is a free event, open to the public, which works to raise awareness, reduce stigma and provide information regarding mental health resources in our community. Attendees can sing and dance along with music provided by The Kincaid Band and WIVK 107.7 FM will emcee the event. There will be food, face painting, door prizes and so much more!

More than 30 organizations from the Knoxville

area will be at Community Day with booths to provide information about their services.

Community Day is a traditional part of Mental Illness Awareness Week. Mental illness affects one in five individuals in the country. MIAW is designed to promote a better understanding for mental illness in our area. For more information regarding Community Day contact Pamela Coleman, 865-544-3841 ext. 4105.

The Helen Ross McNabb Center is a not-for-profit provider of behavioral health services in East Tennessee. Since 1948, the Center has provided quality and compassionate care to children, adults and families experiencing mental illness, addiction and social challenges.

Open House October 2.

Enrollment specials all day.

For more information, call 859-7900 or visit TennovaFitness.com.

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