

line to law enforcement after a stint in the Air Force.

The number of retired and current sheriff's deputies and other law enforcement professionals joining Spangler for the opening of his headquarters was amazing. It was impossible to miss that Spangler has deep and strong support from his fellow law enforcement officers, but there was a big crowd of ordinary citizens in attendance as well. That a large crowd turned out was not surprising at all as Spangler is known for being

one of the most community-minded men in the county. Spangler is one of the most ethical and moral men I know and he has the passion and qualities to lead the sheriff's department. The 1000+ employees can trust the leadership of someone who has the experience to lead the department.

"Tom Spangler is a candidate we the taxpayers can trust to make the most of the county's resources. If given the opportunity by the voters he will make a great sheriff for the citizens of Knox County."



PHOTOS BY ROSE KING

Above, Linda and Tom Spangler at the grand opening of the Spangler for Sheriff Headquarters. Left, Spangler mingles with the crowd of citizens and active and retired law enforcement officers.



MPC talks sidewalks again

By Pete Gawda

At their meeting on Thursday, January 11 the Knoxville-Knox County Metropolitan Planning Commission (MPC) once again came up against the issue of sidewalks when a developer protested what he called "a sidewalk to nowhere."

Primos Land Company presented for concept/use on review approval a pro-

posed subdivision with the conditions for approval was that a sidewalk be constructed outside the subdivision along Crippen Road. The developer requested that condition be removed. He noted that it would not connect to an existing sidewalk and that he had plans for sidewalks within the subdivision and a sidewalk going to a nearby ball field.

"I really have a problem requiring a sidewalk that

Chair Rebecca Longmire. "That just doesn't make sense to me."

In response to a question staff stated that there are no plans for a county sidewalk in that area.

The MPC granted approval without the sidewalk requirement.

Jim Sullivan's request for concept/use on review approval passed with no opposition and no discus-

2018's political year update

By Mike Steely
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The primary election deadline for filing is a month away but already there are several races drawing opponents, most of them Republican. So far of the 24 announced candidates for the various county offices only four are Democrats. The at-large seat 10, where county mayor candidate Bob Thomas now serves, has two Republicans and two Democrats who have petitions for election.

year for Knox County, the state and the national offices.

Thus far there are few Democrats stepping forward to get petitions for election. County Democrat Chair Emily Gregg told The Focus that there are potential candidates but they have not declared yet.

United States House of Representatives

Knox County Mayor Tim Burchett picked up his petition for U. S. Congress to replace retiring 2nd District Congressman Jimmy Duncan. Repub-