

There's going to have growth but we need to do it correctly. We have a great opportunity for good jobs," Thomas said.

The Republican noted that military veterans "made our country and our county" and pledged to continue to support programs for them.

Currently Thomas serves as the At-Large Commissioner, Seat 10, which is a county-wide position. He

serves on the Knox County Cancer Society Board, the Arts and Cultural Alliance and the Thompson-Rising Arena Use Committee.

He and his wife, Kim Simms Thomas, who was a local television news anchor, have three children and five grandchildren.

Thomas pledges to keep taxes low, get the most from our tax dollars, make sure our children receive the best possible education, keep our neighborhoods

Above, County Commissioner Bob Thomas' visit to the Corryton Senior Center drew a huge crowd Thursday. Thomas is running for Knox County Mayor and spoke briefly to the audience of local citizens and the many county elected officials who turned out to support him. Right, Candidate for Knox County Mayor, Bob Thomas, greets former Commissioner Jack Middleton at last Thursday's event.

safe and, above all, listen to citizens.

"I have over 40 years of involvement in our community and I hope you'll join me

and help move the county forward. Together we can make great things happen for all of Knox County," Thomas said.



Town Hall meeting hears about school security

By Pete Gawda

"Our primary role is to protect these children," said George Padovani, chief of security for Knox County Schools. "We do not get involved in school discipline." Padovani made these remarks in a speech Monday evening, March 22 at a Town Hall East meeting.

Padovani was appointed chief of security in 2013 by then superintendent Dr. Jim Montgome after 20 years with the Knoxville Police Department (KPD).

Padovani described the difference between school resource officers (SROs) and school safety officers

