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Veterans Heritage Ridge Run is Saturday

By Mike Steely
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The Veterans Heritage Site Foundation and the Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 1078 will team up Saturday to sponsor the 2nd Annual Veterans Heritage Ridge Run.

The 5K Trail Run and Family Trail Walk kicks off

at 9 a.m. and begins at the Lincoln Park Technology Trade School at 535 Chickamauga Avenue. Admission as a runner is \$30 for the 5K run and \$25 for the Run Run which starts right after the 5K begins.

Proceeds will go to the foundation's efforts to continue construction of trailhead markers, place

new benches and keep up Sharps Ridge Veterans Memorial Park.

Parking for the run is at Lincoln Park Baptist Church at 830 Chickamauga Avenue and a shuttle service is being provided between the church and the start area. There are 240 slots in the 5K Run.

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Whether running for fun or for competition, the Sharps Ridge trails are exciting, beautiful and fun. Maintained by the Veterans Heritage Site Foundation, improvements to the trail will be funded by Saturday's 2nd Annual Veterans Heritage Ridge Run.

Free Tennessee Smokies tickets to reward good behavior

County's Parks & Rec starts new program

By Steve Williams

Mike Donila had a big handful of tickets to Tennessee Smokies baseball games Thursday he was looking to give away.

Yes, there is a catch. After all, it is baseball. But earning the free tickets still can be as easy as walking to first base.

Next time you're at one of Knox County's many parks and you're spotted doing a good deed - like properly disposing a beverage can instead of throwing it on the ground - you may be rewarded with one of Donila's ducats.

A bicyclist riding through the park wearing a protective helmet could be presented a Smokies ticket too just for displaying good safety.

There's going to be many county representatives looking to give away these tickets.

Knox County Mayor Tim



A young woman is one of the first to receive some free Smokies baseball tickets from Mike Donila, Knox County Parks Community Relations Manager, Thursday at Admiral Farragut Park.

Burchett, the Knox County Parks & Recreation Department and the Tennessee Smokies baseball organization are teaming up to reward good behavior and recognize park visitors and users who have gone out of their way to help

the county.

The new program was announced Thursday, May 10, at Admiral Farragut Park off South Northshore Drive.

Craig Jenkins, CEO of The Jenkins Agency, said Donila, Knox

County Parks Community Relations Manager, was "the driving force behind this."

Jenkins referred to the Smokies tickets as "park perks" - a reward that "recognizes visitors

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Ethics Committee may get new rules

By Mike Steely
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The meeting of the Knox County Ethics Committee Wednesday morning produced a discussion about a possible change of rules. The discussion, mostly between Chairman Jonathan Cooper and Deputy Law Director David Black, concerned an ethics violation complaint against Brad Anders.

Anders, a county commissioner and then-candidate for Knox County mayor, has a complaint against him filed by Bruce Williams. In the complaint, Williams charged that Anders accepted several golf matches as part of a Rural/Metro team, received gift bags, and then voted to extend that ambulance service's contract with the county.

Black pointed out that the golf participation charges go back several years. This pointed to a discussion of changing the complaint requirements. The law department will be looking into

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Karns Middle Students Headed to National Competition in Atlanta

By Ken Lay

Social Clubs are part of the scholastic experience for many middle and high school students. But one club requires extra work outside of the classroom at Karns Middle School.

The school's Technology Student Association competed in the State Conference in Chattanooga recently.

The Karns students competed in 20 Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) events and placed in all 20 categories.

The competitors ranged from public speaking to video game and website design. The club meets twice weekly after school.

"It requires hard work and dedication," KMS STEM teacher and TSA advisor Jeff Smithers said. "They worked hard and took first, second or third place in 19 events."

Smithers has been at the school for three years but school's TSA dates back to 2003.

Karns Middle's showing at the state conference qualified it for the National Competition in Atlanta from June 22-26 and Smithers noted that the TSA will continue to meet throughout the summer.

The Karns Middle TSA has set up a Go Fund Me Account to help offset the expenses for the upcoming trip to Georgia.



The Karns Middle School Technology Students Association recently placed in 20 events at the State's TSA Conference. Karns will compete at the national level in Atlanta in June. Photo submitted.

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