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e: 865-686-9970 | Fax: 865-686-9966 | PO Box 18377, Knoxville, TN 37928 | Located at 4109 Central Avenue Pike, Knoxville, Tennessee 37912 Wreaths Across America seeking sponsors

rogam that traces its beginning to 1992 then the Worcester Wreath Co. found itself with an excess of Christmas wreaths Whirpester shipped the expess wreaths to Arlington National Cemetery asking that they be placed on the headstones in an rely visited part of the cemetery

for America's Veterans was noticed, and today, veteran cemeteries across the December as National Wreaths Across this year. At noon on this day, wreaths will be ceremoniously placed on veter an headstones in the Knox County area's

just decorating for Christmas: REMEM-BER, HONOR and TEACH Knowille's National Cemetery on Tyson

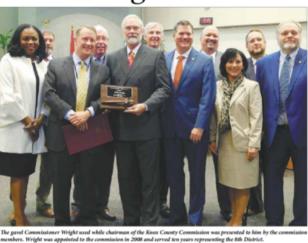
St., next to the Old Gray Cemetery has

The East Tennessee State Veteran's Cemetery on Lyon's View Pike has approxi nately 5,000 graves. The East Tennesse

about 2,500 graves, a number that is con stantly increasing, as it is the curre active cemetery. Last year, only about 1/3 were hedecked with a Christmas weath As already mentioned, this is a grassroots effort: there is no state or federal funding

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# Dave Wright Honored



mission in 2008 and served ten years representing the 8th District.

### By Mike Steely

Dave Wright, elected as state House District 19's representative, resigned from the Knox County Commission after twice serving as chairman. His ten years came to mind as he spoke to the comnission last week "I still want to say it this way, "My fellow

Wright said as he began to address the

arrived at county commission during a adding, "and I am leaving Knox County But in the middle of all this in the

Eighth District there's been library exp sion, the senior citizens worked on and built the Senior Citizens Center, con-venience centers built, updated traffic lights " he listed. "There have been hur dreds of things that have worked out in the Eighth District

It's through organizations in the

Fighth District like churches, civic group and regular old groups of people like the Republican Clubs that allowed the repentation to come out of the Eighth District." He recognized the efforts of various people in building Carter Elementary

and Gibbs Middle Schools including Phil Ballard, Mike McMillan, Richard Armstrong, Jack Huddleston and Steve "It's not been just me, it's taken all the

## Senior housing project gets city funding

to create 53 affordable housing units for low-income senior citizens. Tues-day's council meeting saw a series of actions toward that project beginning with the closure of a series of alleys.

Those authorizations to close the illeys led to the transfer of the proper located at Clifton Road, Sanderson Road and Chillicothe to Knoxville's Housing Development Corporation at no charge

The three-steps ended with the ci council authorizing the award of \$1.2 million in Affordable Rental Dev ment Funds to the Housing Development Corporation at the request of the Development Corporation.

The senior dwelling project will cost almost \$6 million with additional fund ing coming from state and federal sources. Senior residents who qualify as low-income recipients would pay 30% of their gross income and some would qualify for rent vouchers.

Planned for the area south of West ern Avenue and east of I-640 in West Lonsdale, the project is "a no brainer" according to Knoxville's Commutor Ben Bentley. He added that thou sands of senior citizens are on a wait-ing list for affordable housing.

The council also authorized spending \$500,000 for an art project for the little park at Summit Hill Road and South Gay Street. Requested by the office of redevelopment, the huge sculpture was selected from various submissions.

Liza Zenni, executive director of he Arts and Cultural Alliance, told the council that THEVERYMANY, LLC submission was selected because it will create a gathering place and is designed to "draw people in." She said the art sculpture will have places to will transform the little are that has been called the "Country Music Park." Councilman George Wallace asked

if city engineers would approve of the structural integrity of the large sculpture and Chief Operating Officer David Brace said, "We're prepared to do that." "We'll make sure it is

safe," Brace said. Zenni called the small park one of Know an Gwen McKenzie said the design is

Continued on page 2

## Pension suit faces chancellor hearing Wednesday

The Knox County Retiremen and Pension Board met Monday November 19, and adopted a policy for retirees allowing up to 43 days of unused vacation time to be and permitted within their

In the midst of a court suit against the board and several recent retiring uniformed officers the board moved on as if the entire matter had been resolved. After swearing in Commissioner Randy

voted to amend their policy to

Uniformed officers will apparently continue to receive, upon full retirement, 75% of their pay, a three-percent increase each year, and the 'cash out' payment of their unused vacation days over their final two years will be tacked onto their monthly retire ment checks. Law Director Richard "Bud"

board which had been adding



r Randy Smith takes the oath for the Knox County Retirement and Pension from Attor ney John Owings. Smith replaces Commissioner John Schoonmaker, who resigned from the board.

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