hear of impact of shutdown

By Mike Steely Senior Writer

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Committee meets this afternoon it will vote on the approval of hiring Pugh & Company PC for another year as the county's external auditor The company has served as the county's external auditor

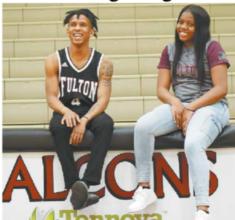
When the Knox County Audit

since 2012 and, under the old rules, would have exhausted the former eight years agreement. The new contract extends the agreement through the fiscal vear of 2021

Ted Hotz of Push and Company will address the committee on

the COVID-19 pandemic's impact. on the county

The audit committee will also hear from the finance department on COVID-19's effect on the budget and Knox County Schools will also address the pandemic



nies will include social distancing and precautionary guidelines and will be scheduled from June 8 through June 19 Board member Jennifer Owen

ited number of guests. Ceremo-

showed concerns on the 1:1 initiative first by asking how many laptops needed to be purchased immediately, "Several have two years of support ... seems since we don't know a funding source vet ... would it be more reaponalble to look at a lower number ... until we are in a better financial situation?"

Thomas followed with confirm-

ing KCS will get the maximum use out of the devices already in use and that not purchasing all the devices at once would be a financial help. Gail Byard, chief technology officer for KCS, explained the plan contemplates buying a Chromebook for every student, but doesn't specify an exact purchase date. Sheryl Martin, who has been

working with the state, spoke of how to deploy the devices. and extend the life of the cur-