

Online Auction Friday, October 2 See photos at fountaincityauction.com

**Fountain City Auction** (865)474-9931

September 28, 2020

Phone: 865-686-9970 | PO Box 18377, Knoxville, TN 37928 | Located at 4109 Central Avenue Pike, Knoxville, Tennessee 37912

www.knoxfocus.com



Pilot Company and the Haslam family have donated \$5 million to East Tennessee Children's Hospital to renovate the Emergency Department at the hospital's main campus on Clinch Avenue in downtown Knoxville. Pictured from left with a rendering of the new Emergency Department are Crissy and Bill Haslam; Ann and Steve Bailey; Dee and Jimmy Haslam: and Natalie and Iim Haslam.

# Pilot, Haslams donate \$5 million for new Emergency Department at ETCH

#### East Tennessee Children's Hospital's renovation scheduled to be complete next fall

Haslam family have donated \$5 million to East Ten- cy Care Center, in honor of nessee Children's Hospi- past, present and future tal to renovate the Emergency Department at the bers and their families. hospital's main campus on Clinch Avenue in downtown

Pilot Company and the Knoxville. The facility will be named Pilot Emergen-Pilot Company team mem-

In a statement, the

Tennessee Children's Hospital is a beacon of hope in our community. The new Emergency Department will enhance the offerings and efficiency of the worldclass children's hospital in the heart of Knoxville, as well as provide improved comfort and amenities to families seeking treatment. We are grateful to partner with East Tennessee Children's Hospital in setting

the standard for pediatric emergency medical care in our region."

The donation represents gifts from Pilot Company; Natalie and Jim Haslam; Dee and Jimmy Haslam; Crissy and Bill Haslam; and Ann and Steve Bailey.

More than 60.000 injured and sick children come through the Children's Hospital Emergency

Continue on page 6

## **Board of Health** members feel 'threatened' by video narrated by Jacobs

By Ken Lay

The Knox County Board of Health's online meeting on Wednesday was business as usual as members recapped county statistics and case numbers from the COVID-19 pandemic. The meeting took a bizarre turn when voiced concerns about a for his role in narrating it video narrated by Knox County Mayor Glenn Jacobs and created by the group "Freedom Forward."

Hurt played the video. which was posted online days after the Board of Health Meeting on Wednesday, Sept. 16, to the board assembled last week

The video appeared to target members of the Knox County Board of Health. The video was taken down shortly after it was posted on social media but Hurt and other board members said the damage was already

"My adult children have begged me to install a security system to make sure that I was safe," Hurt

said. "My neighbors, both Republicans and Democrats, patrol my neighborhood to make sure people aren't harassing us.'

While Jacobs said he was sorry that board members felt threatened by the video and its dark and confrontational tone board member Maria Hurt he refused to apologize

Board member Dr. Patrick O'Brien said that he found the video to be dis-

"As a military officer who has sworn to defend this country, I felt threatened by what I saw," O' Brien said. "The division has got to stop. We're all in this together. We'll do what we can based on sci-

"If others want to go some other way or want to do it shooting from the hip, so be it. You will reap what you sow.

The video shows news clips of looting and protests from other cities across the country and states that appointed bodies like boards of

Continue on page 6

### City Council applauds **Board of Health efforts**

By Mike Steely steelym@knoxfocus.com

In a time when the county commission and Mayor Glenn Jacobs want to restrict what the Knox County Health Department and the Board of Health can do, the Knoxville City Council applauded both of those organizations by resolution Tuesday evening.

The motion by Councilwoman Lauren Rider. applauds the board spread of COVID-19.

time, effort and expertise. Mayor Indya Kincannon Jacobs cited three new deaths last the number of COVID-19 cases locally.

passed unanimously, reads: "The Knox County Health Department has worked tirelessly to implement testing, contract tracing, education, and guidance for the community aimed at protecting the health of the public. "Tennessee Code Anno-

tated §68-2-601(f)(3) currently operate. affirms that 'The powers and duties of county boards of health are to adopt rules and regulations as may be necessary or appropriate to protect the general health and than the state mandate.

safety of the citizens of the

The Knoxville Police Department stepped up recently to announce it would enforce the Board of Health and health department regulations as needed by those bodies. The Knox County Sheriff's Department has shown no statement or effort to enforce the COVID-19 local

A motion to place a "citiwho was joined by sever- zen" as a voting member al other members as spon- of the Board of Health is on the agenda of the and the health department Knox County Commission for their efforts to slow the today as well as a resolution to limit the powers of Rider disputed the "nay- that board and make any sayers" and thanked the decision they reach sub-Board of Health for their ject to the approval of Knox County Mayor Glenn

Jacobs has voted "No" Monday and an increase in on every regulation the Board of Health has passed, including a mask The resolution, which mandate, social distancing and curfews for bars and restaurants. The commission resolution would remove "regulation" from the health body and add "recommendations." The resolution would also place Knox County under the state mandate under which most rural counties

> Knox County is one of only eight counties in the state with its own health department and, by edicts from the governor, may set more restrictive measures



County Commissioner Carson Dailey, third from right, prepares to cut the ribbon at the new Seymour Fire Station. The Volunteer Fire Department there covers a 118-square mile area including portions of Knox, Blount and Sevier

# Seymour VFD dedicates a new fire station

By Mike Steely Senior Writer steelym@knoxfocus.com

Since 1971 the Seymour Volunhomes and businesses in their growand Sevier counties because all three county borders meet there.

fighters, a new fire engine, and 24 alarm installation or car seat inspeccalls during its first year.

Nowadays the volunteer departteer Fire Department has served ment is growing with its community, mour Volunteer Fire Department responding to more than 1,700 calls ing community. The department a year. The department responds to responds to calls in Knox, Blount emergency medical, fire-related and way. The department's expansion well as offering the general public

SVFD began with 12 volunteer fire- educational programs and smoke tions by appointment.

Last Monday morning the Seycut the ribbon on Fire Station No. 2. located at 7915 Chapman Highhazardous material service calls as was needed to meet the growing

Continue on page 6



