

Online Auction Friday, November 13

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

Phone: 865-686-9970 | PO Box 18377, Knoxville, TN 37928 | Located at 4109 Central Ave

www.knoxfocus.com

2019 Knox County Total Population

Total Confirmed COVID-19 Cases 13.978

% COVID-19 Cases Total Population 3.0%

Deaths2 115

Total COVID-19

% COVID-19 Deaths/ Total Population .0002%

# Eddie Mannis 'ready to go to work' in state house



ter winning the District 18 Seat in the Tennessee House of es Tuesday night at the Crowne Plaza.

me off recently and his hard work paid off Tuesday night. Mannis is headed to Nashville to represent District 18 in the Ten of Representatives Mannis defeated Democrat

Virginia Couch and his victory culminates a stint of more than a year on the campaign trail

Mannis, a Knoxville business han, entered the house race after a failed attempt to become city mayor. Three months after losing that race to Democrat Indva Kincannon, he set his sights on the state house "I've always wanted to help my

at the Crowne Plaza in Downtown Knoxville. "This is the second campaign that I've been involved in over the last year-and-a-half and I can tell you that it's been hard. I've been working 60 hours a week at my day job and we had about a three

The unfortunate thing about politics and political races is that you have a first-place finisher and a second-place finisher and I've now fnished in both first and second place. This feels a lot better. I congratulate Virginia Couch on running a great race."

nth break (between) campaigns

full support of his political party When Mannis defeated Gina Oste

over the summer. Knox County Republican Party Chairman Rand; Pace labeled Mannis "a Democrat."

Fast forward a few months and Pace and Mannis embraced on the stage before Mannis addressed the crowd full of cheering well-wishers He won the seat previously occupied by Martin Daniel 'I'm just glad that the voters

spoke and we'll do anything we can," Mannis said. "It's been challenging times and it's been exciting at times Continued on page 3



ing bought with plans for an e-commerce distribution center and the idea passed first reading at the Knoxville City Council meeting Tuesday evening.

## E-commerce facility at East Towne approved on first vote

The proposal to turn former East

Towne Mall into an e-commerce distribution center received unanimous approval from the Knoxville City Council Tuesday evening. Council-woman Lauren Rider and Vice Chair Gwen McKenzie moved for approval after hearing from the developer, the Knoxville Chamber and others

Community activists Kevin Murph and Ronnie Collins were praised for their efforts to include neighbor hoods in discussions about the proi-

the Hillwood Enterprises LP develop-ment, dubbed "Project Malibu," will be a \$30 to \$40 million investment and employ 370 high-paid employees and 370 contract employees



Abandoned for years and a neighborhood eyesore, the former motel proper-ty along Asheville Highway will come down and be replaced with affordable ents if plans pass a second reading next week at the Knoxville City

become one and not two buildings, rework parking for tractor trailers, include Knoxville bus service, and

Ben Mullins, representing Hillood, said the community is being

ing design is less intrusive on the apartment complex above the abandoned mall. He said the plans for the 219,000-square foot structure

would include a buffer, and will NEW 2020 FORD FUSION \$17,981
Lane-keeping system, All power after Ford Factory Rebute with Ford Tactory Rebute with Ford Tactory Rebute RAY Sord VARNER 865.457.0704

#### Veterans Day Parade cancelled but other events planned The American Legio

Wednesday is Veter ans Day but, this year in Knoxville, there will be no parade. The social distancing required during the COVID-19 pandemic could not be followed and the local appropriate the husely popular parade have cancelled the event. Annually thousands of

people gather along Gay Street as various veteran groups individuals and street. The streets will be Veteran Day Parade is usu times during World War II One local television station, WBIR Channel 10, is planning to air last year's parade The ringing of church

Post 2, which organizes

the annual event notes

been cancelled two other

bells, eleven times at 11 a.m., is being requested. American Legion Post 2

wites all local veterans to join with their motorcycles. or other vehicles for a Veter ans Day Ride/Drive through East Tennessee State Vet erans Cemetery

### Some students struggle in Virtual Learning Program

it would continue to offer both virtual and in-person learning for the spring semester, which begins

But the first nine-week quarterly grading period recently ended and KCS Superintendent Thomas looked at the grades assigned to virtua students and 21.5 percent of the grades assigned were Fs.

assigned at the 4.5-week mark and 9.4 percent of the grades assigned were Fs," Thomas said during Fs," Thomas said during his report at the school board's work session meeting Wednesday night at the Andrew Johns Building. 'At the end of the nine-week grading period, 21.5 percent of the grades

number actually widered.

virtual program are doing a great job. Virtual learn ing favors those students who have a strong support system at home and those who are disciplined and motivated."

Thomas said that he looked at the grades and made his observations, but they results were not scientifically analyzed

I looked at the grades but this was in no way scientific," he said.

Students and parents had the option to change their learning model but was clos at the Nov. 6 deadline. But as of Wednesday, Thomas said that 3,700 students had chosen to switch from the virtual learning model to the in-person model

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Thank You to Our

Active Military and Veterans.