

Republican Eddie Mannis makes his victory speech after winning the District 18 Seat in the Tennessee House of Representatives Tuesday night at the Crowne Plaza.

set his sights on the state house. "I've always wanted to help my community," Mannis said during

coming atraise Virginia Cochran on running a great race." Political campaigns are never easy

at times. It's been discouraging at times and it's been exciting at times. **Continued on page 3**



PHOTOS BY MIKE STEELY

Two rezoning notification signs mark the front of the former East Towne Mall. The abandoned mall property is being bought with plans for an e-commerce distribution center and the idea passed first reading at the Knoxville City Council meeting Tuesday evening.

## Veterans Day Parade cancelled but other events planned

**By Mike Steely**  
Senior Writer  
steelym@knoxfocus.com

Wednesday is Veterans 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 sponsors of the hugely popular parade have cancelled the event.

Annually thousands of people gather along Gay Street as various veteran groups, individuals, and supporters march down the street. The streets will be empty this year. Knoxville's

events in the nation.

The American Legion Post 2, which organizes the annual event, notes that the parade has only been cancelled two other times during World War II. One local television station, WBIR Channel 10, is planning to air last year's parade.

The ringing of church bells, eleven times at 11 a.m., is being requested.

American Legion Post 2 invites all local veterans to join with their motorcycles or other vehicles for a Veterans Day Ride/Drive through East Tennessee State Uni-