

Commission

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and the county Fire Department headquarters.

The commission's business meeting, usually on the third Monday of the month, was rescheduled and held immediately following the regular study session because county offices were closed for the observation of the Juneteenth holiday.

Hardin County Mayor Kevin Davis said the new committee on polling locations was formed in response to a decision by the Hardin County Election Commission to close three polling places.

Many citizens in the affected areas weren't happy at the thought of having to drive farther to vote - as were some county commissioners.

It was also learned in March that the local election commission wants to soon move

to a new form of polling place recently approved by state law called "convenient voting centers."

When a county adopts the convenient voting center model, there are usually fewer polling places, but voters can use any voting center to vote on election day instead of being restricted to the one determined by their home address.

There are pros and cons to the new model. Convenient voting centers can save money over voting at traditional polling places, but some in Hardin County are concerned about how many voting centers there might be and where they will be put.

At an emergency meeting called by the Hardin County Election Commission on March 31, several commissioners and community members spoke out against the decision. Most contended the change would be difficult on some voters and

suppress voter turnout. "This is just an advisory committee, to study polling locations and how we as a legislative body may be able to help. The aim is to try to create the best possible solution to increase voter participation for all of Hardin County," Davis said.

The ultimate authority to set polling places lies with the county and state election commissions,

Hardin County Election Commission Chairman John White has been appointed as one of the five members of the advisory committee. His agreeing to serve on the advisory committee could signal a willingness by the election commission to at least work with the committee.

Relations between the local election commission and the county's legislative body have been somewhat rocky, following years of rejected budget

increase requests from election officials.

Also appointed to the advisory committee are Don Robertson, Randy Rinks, and County Commissioners Mike Fowler and Kenny Harris.

The commission also unanimously created another new committee, the Hardin County Clean Drinking Water Advisory Utility Board, at the request of Commissioner Tom Smith.

Smith said it would be smart to plan for the long-term to ensure county residents continue to have clean drinking water with the least possible disruption.

Davis, who noted there is currently no shortage of drinking water, said the commission will study how the county can help the various water utilities in Hardin County, as well as hire a consultant to help the board work on long-term planning.

The members of the new Clean Drinking Water Advisory Utility Board are County Commissioners, Tom Smith, Roger Jenkins, Kathy Smith,

Philip Blackwelder, Shane McGee, Adam Coleman and T.J. Barker.

In other business, according to Courthouse Committee meeting minutes, the Budgeting & Accounting Department has long been in need of larger office space.

The committee recommended that the finance department which is now in the Courthouse Annex swap offices with the Hardin County Fire Department currently in the Courthouse. The recommendation was unanimously approved by the county commission.

The county commission also approved six resolutions and several budget amendments, and renewed two contracts. The budget amendments are primarily amendments of county offices and Hardin County Schools to balance real spending and revenues throughout the year with original budgets created last year, as the fiscal year comes to a close at the end of the month.

The commission passed a resolution to lower the speed limit on Partridge Lane to 35 mph from the existing 55 mph.

Four resolutions were approved to declare property belonging to the Fire, Solid Waste, Animal Services and Youth Services departments as surplus were approved to allow items to be sold at auction.

The commission passed a resolution to update the county Open Records Policy. The county Open Records Policy has been, and as updated continues to be, an adoption of the state Office of Open Records Counsel's model policy.

Mayor Davis advised there are no substantial changes in the update.

The commission also appointed Chancellor Vicki Hodge Hoover to the Court Security Committee, reappointed Commissioner Kathy Smith to the county Audit Board, and reappointed Bob Averett, Milton Tall and Commissioner Joseph Bonee to the county Board of Sanitation.

Community news Eureka



Patsy Gibbs
Community Writer
731-925-3376

After 4 days of showers, the summer sun appeared bringing sunny, hot days. The showers gave us cooler than normal days for June. I suppose hot days are here for a few months. Several of my friends have told me their swimming pools have been too cool to enjoy. The rains last week made my neighbor's vegetable garden shine with new growth.

Eureka Methodist Church members worked the local food bank last week in Monday. We had plenty of help and had a steady stream of clients. In addition to taking care of the clients, there were plenty of other jobs such as sorting produce and checking temperatures. After the work, I took lunch with Marcia and David Tedford before returning home.

I was pleased to have my granddaughters from Chattanooga as visitors over the weekend. Anna Nicholson accompanied her sister, Emily Burns and daughters, Mila and Hanna, to visit me here. Emily drove and Anna made sure the little girls were safe and entertained on the 4 hour trip. Chris Burns and Chandler Nicholson remained in Chattanooga for work and animal care. Kenlee Parrish and Rhett joined us Sunday afternoon for 1 year old, Rhett, to play with 2 year old, Hanna, and 6 year old, Milo. It was a joy for me to watch the little great grandchildren play together.

On Sunday, my Chattanooga visitors attended church services with me at Eureka Methodist Church. It was wonderful to have my pew filled with family again. The girls returned to Chattanooga later Sunday afternoon. They plan to spend July 4 with their uncle Jeff Gibbs in Hendersonville. I will bloom when I am planted here at home in Savannah.

Congratulations to the Hardin County High School State Bowling Champions who won their tournament. This was 10 years of state champion wins for the girls and 3 years of state champion wins for the boys teams. This is quite an accom-

plishment for the team members and coaches, Jennifer and David Chanell. Five members of the state champion girls team later traveled to Beaver Creek, Ohio for the United States High School National Tournament. Our Hardin County team are now the US National champs winning first place in the national tournament. Hurrah for these girls and their coaches.

Our prayer list at Eureka Church seems to grow longer each week. Please remember to pray for all cancer victims as they fight this terrible illness. Get well wishes to Stanley Franks, Lee White, Stan Smith, Gary Mansell, who have all been ill. Tim Stanfill, Martha

Community news Double Springs



Esther Godwin
Community Writer
925-4618

I am so glad to have good attendance at Church on Sunday. Glad to have our visitors, we welcome them back.

Kelli Boyd, bride elect of Tyler Webb, was honored with a bridal tea at the church on Sunday afternoon. She received many nice and useful gifts, a large crowd attended.

Alice Whitlow was among the group from Hardin County Senior Center that went to the Outpost for lunch last Thursday. About 20 in all were present.

Alice Whitlow, Janet Franks, and Corey Franks were in Jackson Friday afternoon to watch Aliza Franks, daughter of Cory and Kelsey Franks play in the allstar softball game.

I had a call one morning last week from a lady in Memphis telling me how much she enjoyed reading my column in the Courier each week. Her little girl Carter just had a birthday and I would like to wish her a happy birthday. I want to thank the lady for calling and telling me how much she enjoyed my column.

Those who were in Summerville on Friday and Saturday to watch Whit Franks, son of Colton and Ashley and brother of Ella, playing on the allstar baseball team. They won both games on Saturday and will be going back on

Davey, and Ricky Wilkerson who are all having medical issues at this time.

Our quote for the week comes from author, Barbara Hinske, "If plan A doesn't work out, the alphabet has 25 more letters, keep going."

Have a great week and enjoy the bluegrass music at the Blue Grass Festival in Savannah this weekend. Friday, June 30, and Saturday, July 1. Friday's concert will be at Wayne Jerrolds Park and Saturday's music will be at the Savannah Market pavilion.

Have a happy 4th of July holiday as we celebrate our great country. This blessed United States of America!

Monday as the tournament continues. I hope you win them all Whit.

I had a surprise visitor last Wednesday morning, Jocey (Cagle) Fischer, from Nashville, stopped by for a visit. I sure did enjoy her visit.

Alice Whitlow and Karla Cossey attended the line dancing class at the senior center on Friday morning.

Shelton Neill, from Chattanooga, formerly from here, spent the night Friday night with Terry and Pat Neill and then on Saturday afternoon Thomas, Jullie Neill, and grandsons, Noah and Levi, from Chattanooga came by for a while. They all had attended the Bryan reunion at the Outpost on Saturday and all had a good visit.

My friend, Rita Chancy brought me a beautiful vase of flowers last week that was cut from her garden. Some of my favorite, Dahlias and Gladiolas and several other kinds have lasted a week so far and some are still pretty.

May each of you have a blessed week.

On the Record week of June 29

Savannah Police Dept.

The following items are derived directly from official Savannah Police Department reports and spokesmen.

June 25

Matthew R. Talley, 31, was arrested on two counts of aggravated robbery, and driving on a revoked license, criminal impersonation, altering a license plate and probation revocation. Talley is accused of robbing Cedar Pantry on Florence Road on June 23 and Discount Mini Mart on Wayne Road on June 24. During the investigation officers identified the vehicle used in the incidents and conducted a traffic stop on Young Lane, leading to Talley's arrest.

Terrance J. Johnson, 42, was pulled over by police on Wayne Road for speeding and cited on a charge of driving on a suspended license.

Police were dispatched to Cromwell St. regarding a complaint that someone was smoking marijuana in a residence. Terry E. Bressler, 60, 75 Cromwell St., was cited on a charge of simple possession of marijuana (12.1 grams).

PUBLIC NOTICE

Savannah Public Utilities is changing the Commissioner meeting due to the July 4th holiday. The meeting has been changed to July 11 at 6 p.m. at the Saittilo Utility Office building.

HOLIDAY CLOSING

The Hardin County Courthouse and Annex Building will be closed on Tuesday, July 4, 2023 in observance of Independence Day.

HOLIDAY CLOSING

Pickwick Electric Cooperative will be closed on Tuesday, July 4, to observe Independence Day. Standby crews are available in case of emergency. Have a safe and happy holiday.

PICKWICK ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

PUBLIC NOTICE

SAVANNAH CITY COMMISSION MEETINGS

The City Commission will meet as follows:

Study Session
Tuesday, July 3, 2023, at 6:30 p.m.

Regular Monthly Meeting
Thursday, July 6, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.

All meetings are held at Savannah City Hall, 140 Main Street, Savannah, TN 38372.

Any person with a disability needing special accommodations should call (731) 925-3300 prior to the above-mentioned time.

Thank you Hardin County for the Bill Bellis Pinnacle Award

Joe Hurd and family want to thank the Hardin County Chamber of Commerce and sponsors of the 27th Annual Distinguished Community Service Awards. The Hurds would like to thank the Bill Bellis family, our Courier family, the caterer Mollie Monday's, all volunteers, sponsors, Hardin County High School and the community. Congratulations to all the award nominees, recipients, students and the graduating leadership class. We are honored to be a part of a county so dedicated to service. Thank you for a memorable and special evening.

Lt. General (Ret)
Joe Hurd
and Family

Congratulations from the Hardin County School Board and Director of Schools

Leslie Thurman
Educator of the Year

Mia Shirley
Student of the Year

First United Methodist Church

Located in downtown Savannah or follow the sound of the church bells.

Sunday School 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11 a.m.

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Watch our Sunday Live Stream @ 11 a.m.
www.savannahfumc.com