

Wanted: Building Inspector

by *Loren Eastep*
WKSr NEWS DIRECTOR

The Pulaski Board of Mayor and Aldermen’s building inspector committee decided to make a short-term recommendation to the full board regarding a building inspector at its meeting yesterday (Monday). Aldermen Colby Baddour, James (Pike)

Gentry and Charles Jenkins were present, while Mayor Pat Ford was not. Baddour told the committee he felt it should address two things: how to address the building inspector issue in the short term and the long term. Although Jimmy Thompson currently serves as the city’s building inspector, he has not completed all

necessary certification. The committee decided to recommend to the full board that it expects City Administrator Terry Harrison to shoulder some, if not all, of the building inspector duties. Members said Harrison may keep Thompson on for part of the duties and split the \$12,000 department budget how he sees fit or he

may choose to fire the inspector and take on all department duties himself. The committee stressed their recommendation is a temporary fix and is not intended to add to Harrison’s duties permanently. The next meeting of the building inspector committee will be at 4:15 p.m. Tuesday, May 6, at city hall.

Local Hospital Unveils New Name

» NEW NAME, A1

“As affiliates of LifePoint Hospitals since the company’s founding in 1999, our four hospitals have benefited from shared services, such as information technology, best practices in quality care and patient safety and access to capital for ongoing investments in facilities and equipment,” said Young. “By coming together under this new structure, we will create new opportunities to expand physician coverage in primary care, medical and surgical subspecialties. The new system also will allow our physicians to expand

existing services, such as cardiology, orthopedic surgery and others and bring new services previously unavailable to our communities. Additionally, by coordinating certain management services we will realize efficiencies and standardizations that will advance our commitments to quality care and patient safety.” Significant changes are occurring in the healthcare industry, with more on the horizon. Last October, new Health Insurance Marketplaces opened as part of the Affordable Care Act. This is expected to increase the number of

Tennesseans who have access to healthcare services, in turn creating the need for improved healthcare delivery systems, especially in Tennessee’s rural communities. By joining forces, these four hospitals will have the scale to add and expand services, and to collaborate in ways that continue to improve quality, efficiency and service. In considering potential name changes, each hospital’s Governing Board, comprised of community leaders, physicians and hospital representatives, sought to demonstrate strength as a regional healthcare system while

preserving the unique identities of each individual facility. Each campus will have an official sign unveiling ceremony at various times May 1. The celebrations begin in Sewanee at 8 a.m., Winchester at 10 a.m., Pulaski at 1 p.m., and Lawrenceburg at 3 p.m. Jeff Noblin serves as CEO in Lawrenceburg, Harold Siglar is interim CEO in Pulaski, and Ralph Underwood is the hospital Administrator in Sewanee. In addition to his role as Market President for STRHS, Young serves as CEO in Winchester. —STRHS Pulaski

Coworkers Respond to Save a Life

» SAVE A LIFE, A1

life-saving measures performed that day at Frito Lay, James would have died there at work. Many of them used the term ‘miracle man’ to describe him surviving the severity of his heart failure. “If not for them, I’d be a widow.”

Griggs said citizens don’t have to be paramedics to save a life. “The folks at Frito Lay were calm, professional and willing to help,” Griggs said. “Learning CPR and how to use an AED are the basics, especially for folks who live in rural areas.”

Anyone may call the ambulance service at 363-8505, the American Heart Association or the Red Cross to ask about CPR training. A standard CPR class is about four hours long, a heart saver class is about three hours and there are safe sitter classes, which include child and

infant CPR, offered by Hillside Hospital to area youths. “A patient’s chances of survival are much higher if they are given immediate care,” Griggs said. “If you have the chance — learn CPR and you too may one day save a life.”

Assessments Yield More County Tax Revenue


» REVENUE, A1


Based on a 5 percent delinquency rate, County Financial Management Director Beth Moore estimated the penny would bring in approximately \$50,350 for 2014-15. For the 2014-15 budget year starting July 1, real property assessments are projected at \$454 million, personal property assessments at \$50 million and public utilities assessment at \$26 million for a \$530 million total. For the 2013-14 budget year ending June 30, the General Purpose School Fund received \$1.1912 of the \$2.7711 tax rate or \$5,997,489. County General spending was \$5,909,580 or \$1.1737 of the tax rate. Highway department spending was \$1,834,754 or .3644 of the tax rate, while debt service was \$210,463 or .0418 of the tax rate.

Tax rate spending was \$13,952,489 for the 2013-14 budget year, according to figures from the county financial management office. Elected officials in the 2014-15 budget will get a state-mandated 3.37 percent raise, Moore said. The State Department of Finance and Administration, based on preliminary estimates, has projected no premium increase for health insurance in calendar year 2015, according to information given the Budget Committee. On April 30 and May 1, the Budget Committee will hear requests from non profit and charitable agencies for the 2014-15 budget year. Hearings will start at 9:30 a.m. in the basement meeting room of the Giles County Courthouse Annex. A p p r o x i m a t e l y \$624,979 was appropri-

ated for 2013-14, and \$684,374 is sought for 2014-15. The Giles County Fire and Rescue Squad is asking \$229,000, up \$24,000 from last year, while the E-911 Board is asking \$112,000, up from \$100,000 last year. Another \$16,000 is sought for building renovation for the Giles County Historical Society. Committee members also: • Recommended 2013-14 budget revisions of \$81,900 for the county highway department, which was money shifted to and from different budget line items. The highest was \$45,000 for crushed stone, \$15,000 for bridge construction and \$10,000 for fuel oil. • Recommended 2013-14 budget revisions of \$374,645 for the county schools system. Among the highest budget items

were \$75,000 for textbooks, \$53,053 for psychological personnel, \$51,000 for medical insurance and \$27,000 for speech pathologist services.






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