

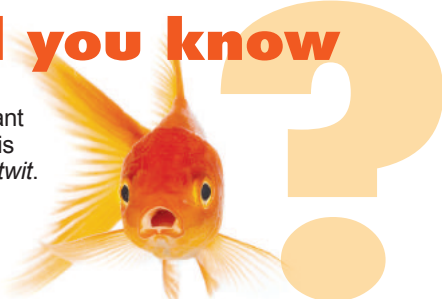
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A pregnant goldfish is called a *twit*.



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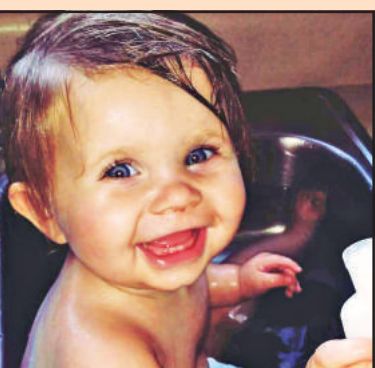
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Fighting for her life



Ariel Salaiques, 2, of Laurel Bloomery is now fighting for her life after a stray bullet struck her in the head last Friday while playing in her yard. The investigation of the incident is ongoing but demonstrates the dangers of celebratory gunfire or the unlawful discharge of a firearm. Submitted photo

Toddler receives treatment at East Tenn Children's Hospital after being struck by stray bullet.

By Meg Dickens
Staff Writer

Two-year-old Ariel Salaiques of Laurel Bloomery was struck in the back right-hand side of her head by a stray bullet last Friday. The bullet severed an artery, which caused a stroke and loss of brain function on that side.

According to current information, (at the writing of this article) Salaiques is still receiving treatment at East Tennessee Children's Hospital in Knoxville, Tennessee. Reports show she made it through surgery, but her intracranial pres-

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Foundation announces grant opportunity

Fund is accepting proposals until April 11, 2019.

By Tamas Mondovics
Editor

Johnson County Community Foundation (JCCF), an affiliate fund of East Tennessee Foundation (ETF), has announced last week that applications for grants are now being accepted.

According to JCCF officials, non-profit organizations, schools, and units of government organizations that are tax-exempt 501(c)(3) or other exempt entities and located in or serve residents of Johnson County are encouraged to submit proposals.

Created by a group of Johnson County residents in 2001 to serve the people of their beloved county, Johnson County Community Foundation gives donors a way to connect their giving with local nonprofits, public agencies, and compelling charitable causes.

"JCCF, established as a permanent endowment, provides an on-going resource to fund endeavors creating opportunities and addressing challenges for all Johnson County citizens," said Advancement Officer Samantha Amick in a recent release.

East Tennessee Foundation, established in 1986, is a regional community foundation serving 25 counties in East Tennessee. With the

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Plastic recycling on hold in Mountain City

By Tamas Mondovics
Editor

Due to the recent closure of Tri-City Waste Paper, the recycling center in Mountain City is no longer accepting plastic recyclables.

TCWP stopped receiving recyclable material last month and has officially closed its doors on Friday, March 16. The plastic recycling

"It is sad. Once [the dump] fills up, then where do we go from here? Expect to see more garbage on our roads in Johnson County. Recycling is a good thing."

Mountain City resident, Elizabeth Herod

dumpsters have already been removed from the drop-off sites.

As a result, Johnson County Mayor Mike Taylor announced this

week that the county's recycling center is no longer accepting plastic products.

In an announcement this week

Taylor stated in part: "Due to the recent closure of Tri-City Waste Paper, Johnson County Recycling Center will no longer be able to accept plastic products. We will continue to clean cardboard and paper until further notice."

Of course, the recent change has raised some concern for many

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Cheering them on



Former Johnson County High School cheerleader, Caleigh Blair, left, now cheering her team at Tusculum University, and Sydney Osborne, who has secured a spot on King College's squad are just two of the many talented athletes representing the Johnson County cheer program. JCHS cheer coaches are now gearing up for a tryout and stunt clinic next month. Submitted photos.

Tryouts, stunt clinic in the works for Johnson County cheerleaders

By Tamas Mondovics
Editor

With four for four, this year the Johnson County High School cheerleading program and its talented squad have every reason to be in great spirit and high hopes less than two weeks from its upcoming tryouts.

The event scheduled for the week of April 8-12 will be coupled with a stunt clinic planned for Monday and Tuesday.

On Wednesday, April 10, the event organizers will

enjoy the assistance of cheerleaders from Milligan College and King who are looking forward to working with the girls teaching cheers, chants, and dances.

The week will wrap it on Thursday with practice and stunt evaluations leading up to Friday for each girl to be judged by college cheerleaders.

"For the past four years, we have placed cheerleaders at colleges with scholarships," Casey Sutherland JCHS science teacher and cheer coach proudly said.

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Tennessee Gov. Bill Lee's 2019-2020 budget recommendation includes nearly \$60 million in appropriations for Tennessee Tech. Submitted photo.

TENNESSEE STATE BUDGET

Proposed \$60 million good news for Tenn Tech

By Tamas Mondovics
Editor

Tennessee Gov. Bill Lee's 2019-2020 budget recommendation includes nearly \$60 million in appropriations for Tennessee Tech, which according to a recent release also includes more than \$11 million in capital appropriations.

The recommendation means \$16 million in additional funding for Tennessee Tech.

"Governor Lee's budget shows his confidence in Tennessee Tech," said Tennessee Tech President Phil Oldham. "We appreciate the support he is showing to Tech and our efforts to serve the entire state, from Memphis to Mountain City."

Lee's office explained that the "recommendation includes funds recognizing Tech's strong outcomes under the funding formula, its status as a doctoral university, its cyber security efforts, as well as funds for the planning of the new engineering building and additional campus renovations."

The 2019-2020 recommendation is a 10.4 percent increase over

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Memorial marks 20th anniversary of tragic event



Jadey Dunn's mother Jeanie Lonton proudly shares her son's airborne school graduation photo. Photo by Bethany Anderson

By Bethany Anderson
Freelance Writer

A group of family and friends came together, on Friday, March 15, some after many years apart, to mark the 20th anniversary of a tragedy.

Mountain City local, Jadey Dunn who was at the time only 19 years young, was killed by a drunk driver at approximately 10:30 p.m. on Monday, March 15, 1999, at the intersection of Shady Street and the main entrance of the Pioneer Village Shopping Center.

Along with his grieving parents, his death took him from his three sisters and one brother (Susan Trivett, Robin Ellison, Alicia Dunn, Heather Maze, and Charley Brown) as well as his son Jadey Preston Dunn who never got to meet his father as he was born three months after his death.

The driver, Robert Wesley Taylor, had previously been at a nearby

bar heavily drinking before getting behind the wheel and driving dangerously through Mountain City.

According to the report by Mountain City Police Officer Earl Steinmetz, Taylor's blood alcohol level as taken at Johnson County Community Hospital following the crash was .16, which was twice the legal limit of .08.

The police report notes "a witness advised that the vehicle driven by Dunn had entered the intersection on a green light and was struck by the vehicle, which was driven by Taylor, which caused the death of Jadey Dunn."

It was the first car crash that Officer Steinmetz worked as an officer with the Mountain City Police Department. In his report of the incident, he made a note of the state Taylor was in at the scene saying, "While speaking with the defendant this officer detected a strong odor of an alcoholic beverage emanating from his breath, his eyes were

bloodshot, and his speech slurred."

Jadey Dunn had recently completed the Army's airborne school and was stationed at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. He was home on leave in between active duty stations at the time of the crash.

Family and friends took the opportunity to share many fond memories of Jadey at the memorial gathering to mark the 20th anniversary.

Jadey's sister Susan shared, "If there were one thing I'd want the world to know about my brother, it would be that Jadey wasn't afraid to tell you he loved you. No matter where he was or who was around, he never got too big for that."

Jadey's mother, Jeanie Linton tearfully welcomed the many stories shared by those who had grown up with him, which reflected the sweet and silly nature he was known for.

Dunn's friend, Billy Gambill shared stories of their various high

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