

**We honor the legacy of the event and the heroes involved.**

**We Remember Those We Lost 9.11.01**

**A SPECIAL FEATURE INSIDE THIS WEEK'S PAPER, PG B-8**

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**Trade Mill & Native Heritage Days**

**This weekend!**

**Saturday, Sept. 14: 9 AM - 9 PM**

**Sunday, Sept. 15: 9 AM - 5 PM**

Gates open at 8:30 am both days

See page A8 of this week's paper for more information.



# THE TOMAHAWK

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**CITY COUNCIL**

## Package store building inspection to come first

**By Bethany Anderson**  
FREELANCE WRITER

Following the usual opening with prayer and pledge of allegiance, this week's City Council meeting quickly turned into a confusing quarrel between the legal representation of the proposed '2 Sisters' package store and the city attorney.

Although permits were granted at the previous meeting, conditions were placed on those permits, which included having the buildings inspected and passed for occupation resulting in some contention.

Because the wording, the original ordinance "did not specify the need for such

inspections."

To start to the dialog, Alderman Bob Morrison clarified, "Our concern is that our building inspector is not certified in the state of Tennessee." He added, "Any structural changes need to be made an inspected before we can approve it."

The attorney representing "2 Sisters" said, "as a part of this process, we have to have that permit to apply to the state ABC. It's a cart before the horse situation were we need that certificate to move forward."

Mayor Kevin Parsons commented, "This is all new to us, so if we need to modify that, we may have to."

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**JOHNSON COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL**

## Joco Robos land \$25,000 grant

**By Meg Dickens**  
STAFF WRITER

The Johnson County robotics program has flourished since its genesis in 2016. Both the JCMS and JCHS

teams have won a plethora of awards and qualified for both state and world competitions. Their achievements attracted more enthusiasts and students to the program. The JCMS teams doubled in

size for the 2019-2020 school year; JCHS added a team to its rosters as well.

It is no shock that these talented youths have garnered government support. State Representative Timo-

thy Hill and State Senator Jon Lundberg bestowed a physical manifestation of this support with a \$25,000 state grant, which they presented outside of Johnson County

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## "I remember exactly where I was..."

### Locals recall pain of 9/11

**By Jill Penley**  
FREELANCE WRITER

Six hundred miles away from New York City on that fateful day in September eighteen years ago, Johnson Countians could feel the pain as the news began to report horrific events that would change the course of life in the U.S. and around the world forever.

When the smoke and thick dust cleared, Americans learned militants associated with the Islamic extremist group al-Qaida had hijacked four airplanes and carried out the deadliest terrorist attack in history against targets

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A marker, created by middle school students for New York City Firefighter Gerard Terence Nevins reminds many to never forget the hundreds of first responders that have lost their lives during the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. In the attack militants associated with the Islamic extremist group, al-Qaida hijacked four airplanes used against targets in the United States including the twin towers of the World Trade Center in New York City, the Pentagon just outside Washington, D.C. The fourth plane crashed in a field in Shanksville, Pennsylvania, resulting in the total deaths of nearly 3,000 people. Photo by Tamas Mondovics



Alicia Phelps, center, accepted the award on behalf of NETTA from TNHTA President and CEO Rob Mortensen and Chairman of the Board Wayne Tabor. Submitted photo

## Arts, recreation breathe vitality into tourism success

**Northeast Tenn. Tourism Association named Destination Marketing Organization of the Year**

**By Tamas Mondovics**  
EDITOR  
Content also contributed by NETTA

The Tennessee Hospitality and Tourism Association recently named the Northeast Tennessee Tourism Association (NETTA) the state's Destination Marketing Organization of the Year.

NETTA is a nonprofit tourism agency that serves and supports Johnson, Carter, Greene, Hancock, Hawkins, Sullivan, Unicoi, and Wash-

ington counties, as well as portions of Southwest Virginia. The organization also serves as one of nine statewide, regional tourism organizations recognized by the Tennessee Department of Tourist Development.

The honor took place during the Stars of the Industry Gala at the Music City Center in Nashville as part of the Tennessee Governors Conference on Hospitality and Tourism September 4-6, 2019.

Tourism is the second-largest economic driver in Tennessee, with Northeast Tennessee generating more than \$877 million in direct tourist spending, more than

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## State landmarks lit up for 'Child Support Awareness Month'

**By Jill Penley**  
FREELANCE WRITER

Notable Tennessee landmarks and structures were lit green recently to symbolize Child Support Awareness Month and to recognize the positive impact the Tennessee Department of Human Services (TDHS) Child Support

Program provides to strengthen families and children.

Some landmarks remained lit most of the month in support of Child Support Awareness Month, while others displayed green during specific days.

"The work of our Child Support program does make a positive difference in the lives of children across the state of Tennessee," said Commissioner Danielle W. Barnes.

Tennessee Department of Human Services Child Support employees work more

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Government officials along with art enthusiasts, cut the ribbon 2 years ago on the Johnson County Center for the Arts. The art center celebrated its anniversary on August 29 and continues to grow. File photo

## Art center continues to grow after two years

**By Meg Dickens**  
STAFF WRITER

August 29 marked two years since the Johnson County Center for the Arts opened its doors. The building transformed from a simple storage area to a cultural town attraction with more than 30 juried artists. The center continually grows in prestige.

Nationally esteemed guest speakers and Executive Director Cristy Dunn's IGOR acceptance are distinct signs.

The patrons and volunteers welcome the community with the slogan "Art is for everyone!" The center offers classes on painting, drawing, cyanotype printing, filmmaking, robotics, photography, marketing and more.

Classes are on a first-come-first-serve basis, and the spaces fill up quickly. One example is the recent mural group. Locals of all skill levels joined forces to create murals to beautify the area during the Long Journey

Home festival, which has its home base at the art center.

"It was the best yet! The weather was perfect, and we got a lot of positive feedback. The mural artists worked so hard, and their murals turned out amazing," said Executive Director Cristy Dunn about the 2019 Long Journey Home. "Thank you to all the patrons, volunteers, and artists who are part of our community. We invite anyone who hasn't visited to come by."

At the Long Journey Home,

the center released an extended trailer for its upcoming film project Short Life of Trouble: The Legend of G.B. Grayson with Germain Media in association with Appalachian Memory Keepers. This project is possible through funding from the Tennessee Arts Commission, the East Tennessee Foundation's Arts Fund, The Johnson County Center for the Arts, Germain Media, Appalachian Memory Keepers, the Rural Arts Proj-

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