

# THE DAILY TIMES

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## MARYVILLE AND ALCOA SET FOR ANOTHER CLASH. 1B

## BALLET COMPANY TO PERFORM 'BLUEJEANS, BELL BOTTOMS.' 9A

# Deputy honored for saving Sevier County man's life

BY VICTORIA ALDRICH

victoria.aldrich@thedailytimes.com

Dying was the last thing Seth Lafollette expected on July 13, when he and a friend, Koleman Roach, hit the waters of Poland Creek for a fishing tournament.

Lafollette's mother, Cynthia McKay, was getting ready to board a plane when the call all parents dread came.

Roach tried to revive Lafollette with CPR after he suddenly collapsed in their boat.

"They said he went into cardiac arrest," McKay said. "They said he had been taken to a hospital and was put on ventilation."

Lafollette, 21, a Sevier County utility worker, was healthy and had no history of heart disease before he experienced a ventricular fibrillation, a common cause of sudden heart failure.

The irony that another mother's quick thinking and skill saved his life wasn't lost on anyone who was on hand to watch McKay and her husband, Gary, help to award Blount County Sheriff's Deputy Elizabeth Murphy her Lifesaving Award pin Wednesday morning at BCSO headquarters.

Murphy jolted his heart with two vital electric shocks using an automated external defibrillator before continuing CPR.

"The doctors said that's the only reason he survived," McKay said.

McKay's quivering voice dropped almost to a whisper as she described how Murphy's skill kept her son from becoming an organ donor that day.

"Thank you for saving my son," McKay said as she hugged Murphy.

"I'm just glad I was in

SEE SAVING, 5A



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CYNTHIA MCKAY (LEFT) AND Blount County Sheriff officer Elizabeth Murphy and her daughters Jasmine, 6, and Jayden, 7, talking after a ceremony to present the Life Saving Award to Murphy for her actions to save the life of McKay's son Seth on July 13.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

THE FUTURE "TOWNSEND SUNSHINE" covered bridge saw the first phase of construction start Monday with workers from Quality Steel out of Knoxville erecting five steel arches. The arches are set to take only 10 days to finish.

# Walking on 'Sunshine'

## Construction on Townsend's covered bridge begins

BY ANDREW JONES

andrew.jones@thedailytimes.com

After more than 20 years of speculation, deliberation, fundraising and various stops and starts, crews began construction on Blount County's only public covered bridge early this week.

Commonly known as "the bridge at Kinzel Springs" or the "Sunshine" bridge, the structure once used as a single-lane road was closed for years until several like-minded Townsend enthusiasts decided to save it from destruction.

Monday marked the first day of significant construction on the bridge and by Wednesday, workers from



CREWS ON WEDNESDAY WORK on welding steel arches for the covered bridge near Kinzel Springs, a project that has been in the works for more than 20 years. The bridge is set to be finished in around five to six weeks according to Richard Maples who has led the project's design and fundraising efforts for over a year.

Quality Steel out of Knoxville had five steel arches up.

The arches are set to take only 10 working days

SEE BEGINS, 3A

to complete, and the tin roofing will soon follow, according to Richard Maples, who has been heading up the project for more than a year.

Roofing will take around two to three weeks, Maples said, and altogether, weather permitting, the bridge should be done within five to six weeks and — after some necessary paving work — ready for pedestrian traffic.

"We're off to the races," Maples said. "We've got all the money in hand and we're ready to go."

Maples is a businessman from Knoxville and while he and others have been

# Clayton-Bradley Academy holds groundbreaking

BY AMY BETH MILLER

amy.miller@thedailytimes.com

With a ceremonial groundbreaking Wednesday, Clayton-Bradley Academy celebrated the upcoming construction of the final education building on its campus, which will raise capacity at the private school to 570 students.

More than 300 students lined up on the outline of the "Student Union Educational Building" for the speeches and to be filmed by a drone flying overhead. Executive Director Pat

Bradley noted that three of the 10 members of the Class of 2020 were among the first 77 students when the school opened in 2013.

Bradley thanked parents for "taking a step of faith with us," and enrolling their children when the campus was just a grassy hill. "I think that was pretty courageous of them," she said.

She credited Keven Clayton, CEO of Clayton and a board member for the school, for turning her dreams for an innovative school into a reality.

"What we're doing here is really changing education," Clayton said, calling the project-based approach at the center of the school a "smarter, more relevant way to learn."

Just like the fast growth at Clayton Homes, he said, it reminds him of the need to "#stayflexible" through what can be challenging change.

"The next five or six or seven years is probably going to be more exciting," he said.

Mary Bogert, vice chair of the school's Innovative

Education Partnerships board, said the school was designed to grow the pipeline of engineers, scientists and others in STEM-related disciplines (science, technology, engineering and math) "needed to support the growing talent demand for Innovation Valley."

Clayton-Bradley Academy is "the fastest growing independent school in the state of Tennessee," she said.

Three new cottage-style classroom buildings already have been added to

SEE GROUNDBREAKING, 5A



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MORE THAN 300 CLAYTON-BRADLEY Academy students line up on the footprint of the newest building to be built on the campus during a groundbreaking ceremony Wednesday morning. The 22,498 square foot Student Union Educational Building is scheduled to be ready for the 2020-21 school year and will raise the private school's capacity to 570 students.



Blount Records .....4A Crossword .....9B  
Bridge.....6B Dear Abby.....10A  
Classified.....6B Deaths.....4A  
Comics .....8B Horoscope.....9B

Money & Markets.....7A Sports .....1B  
Nation & World.....8A Sudoku .....9B  
Newsmakers.....9B Weather.....9B  
Opinion.....6A Weekend .....9A

A t-storm around in the p.m.  
High 95 | Low 69



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**DAILY SPECIALS**

Monday.....Chicken and Dressing  
Tuesday.....Fried Steak w/Mushroom Gravy  
Wednesday ..Chicken Dumplings  
Thursday.....White Beans and Ham  
Friday .....Open Face Roast Beef

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