



Today: Sunny to partly cloudy and less humid.
High: 86
Low: 62
Details: A2

75 cents
★★★★★
June 29, 2009

Monday NEWS SENTINEL

Knoxville Knoxville.com

DYING TO SAVE



How to keep funeral expenses under control. **C1**

ELECTION 2010:
THE RACE FOR GOVERNOR

Givers become getters

Candidates for governor have donated to others

BY TOM HUMPHREY
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NASHVILLE — All the major Tennessee gubernatorial candidates, who are now actively seeking contributions with an eye to a July disclosure deadline, have a history of actively making donations themselves — doubtless creating political goodwill, but with some unintended consequences.

Consider that state Rep. Bill Dunn says the receipt of more than \$15,000 in campaign contributions from Bill Haslam and members of his family “never crossed my mind” when he cast a committee vote that, at least arguably, could benefit Haslam in the Republican gubernatorial primary. And when former Gov. Ned McWherter and his son gave \$1,000 each to state Sen. Roy Herron, they never thought about the money being used by Herron in a run for the Democratic gubernatorial nomination against son Mike McWherter, says Kim Sasser Hayden, campaign manager for the younger McWherter.

Lt. Gov. Ron Ramsey, using both his state Senate campaign account and a political action committee he founded, funneled about \$788,000 to GOP state-level campaigns and committees in the last election cycle — more than any other gubernatorial candidate of either party.

See **ELECTION** on A12

Find Knox reappraisals in database

Online tool created for more transparency, searchable by owner, parcel ID or address

BY JOSH FLORY
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Curious about how your neighbors fared in this year's property reappraisal? Now it's easy to find out.

The News Sentinel has created a database of property reappraisals for Knox County parcels. The database shows the 2009 reappraisal value, the previous value, and the percentage increase or decrease.

ON KNOX NEWS.COM
Database: Search Knox County property reappraisals

The online tool (<http://appraisal.knoxnews.com>) is searchable by owner, parcel ID or address.

The database is aimed at providing greater transparency in a process that has sparked considerable controversy in recent weeks. The state-mandated reappraisal occurs every four years, and many county residents were stumped to see their property values rising in a down economy.

County officials have repeatedly emphasized that the reappraisal accounts for the change in values over four years.

They also emphasize the process is revenue-neutral, unless county commissioners vote to set a tax rate that brings in additional revenue. For

See **DATABASE** on A12

SECOND IN A THREE-PART SERIES

hooked up

Web, cell phones make prostitution easier to commit, harder to police

BY J.J. STAMBAUGH
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The world's oldest profession is now also one of the most technologically savvy. Gadgets like pagers and cell phones as well as the Web have made it easier than ever to buy and sell sex, police say.

“They reinvented the wheel with the Internet,” said Investigator Jim Marcum of the Knoxville Police Department's Organized Crime Unit. Marcum has been investigating prostitution, drugs and gangs since the late 1980s.

HOOKED: SEX FOR SALE IN EAST TENNESSEE

Sunday: Among Tennessee cities, Knoxville has a higher arrest rate for streetwalkers, driven by drugs and the thrill of the trick

Monday: Anonymous and prosperous: Why escort services thrive in East Tennessee

Tuesday: Area sex trade workers pose serious syphilis and HIV threats to population at large.

“It's made our job a lot more difficult. ... There's so many of them and so few of us. What are the odds?” Marcum said.

Prostitutes can be lumped into two types that rarely cross paths: streetwalkers, who tend to solicit business from public sidewalks, and escorts or call girls, who operate in a more discrete manner that's meant to draw as little police attention as possible to themselves or their customers.

The former type of prostitution hasn't changed much over the past few decades, but high-end hooking bears little resemblance to the norm of even a generation ago.

Until the late 1980s, upscale prostitutes often worked in brothels, but the invention first of pagers and then cell phones meant there was no longer any need to set up shop in a particular location, Marcum said. The Internet eventually made it cheaper and easier than ever for women to go into business

See **TECHNOLOGY** on A6

Click for Rates!

County	Rate/Hour
Anderson	\$150.00 special
Blount	\$150.00 special
Grainger	\$200.00 special
Jefferson	\$200.00 special
Knox	\$150.00
Loudon	\$200.00
Roane	\$150.00 special
Sevier	\$200.00 special

WHO ARE YOU INTERESTED IN MEETING?

SCREEN SHOTS FROM ASSORTED WEB SITES OF AREA OPERATORS.

Prostitution a means to an end for college student

BY J.J. STAMBAUGH
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The 19-year-old Roane State Community College student shows up for an interview at Panera Bread on Cumberland Avenue looking like countless other college kids: red hair in braids, a small piercing in her nostril, a “PEACE” button on her coat.

Mary Jayne sips her coffee and explains that she's a sophomore in the process of earning a degree in alternative and complementary medicine.

Unlike many of her peers, however, she's already found a part-time career that earns her an hourly rate comparable to that charged by the highest-paid attorneys, accountants and physicians.

Mary Jayne is a professional escort — she provides her services at the rate of \$350 an hour — and an occasional adult film actress. Mary Jayne is the name she goes by in films and as an

See **MARY JAYNE** on A6

ON KNOX NEWS.COM

Video: Confronting the escort trade; on the front lines of a KPD prostitution sting; riding the streets with KPD officer Scott Noye

Gallery: Top prostitution offenders in Knox County; Knoxville prostitution sting

Searchable databases: Records showing people arrested on prostitution, patronizing prostitution charges in Knox County from 1999-2009

Iraq ups security ahead of withdrawal

U.S. troops to leave capital, other cities and towns Tuesday

BY PATRICK QUINN
Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Iraqi security forces bolstered checkpoints and banned motorcycles from the streets of Baghdad as they prepared Sunday for more violence before Tuesday's withdrawal of U.S. combat troops from the capital and other cities and towns.

Despite the increased checks, a roadside bomb targeting a U.S. convoy in eastern Baghdad wounded six bystanders. It was unclear if anyone in the convoy was injured, police said.

A car bomb also exploded in the parking lot of a police academy in western Baghdad, killing one police officer and wounding six others, police said.

Iraq's main Sunni political bloc joined Shiite Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki in describing the June 30 deadline for the U.S. withdrawal from urban

areas as a turning point for the country.

Al-Maliki's government has declared Tuesday National Sovereignty Day and decreed a public holiday.

“June 30 is an important turning point on the civilian, security and political levels, and this is the feeling shared by all Iraqis,” Salim al-Jubouri, spokesman for the Sunni Iraqi Accordance Front, said in a statement.

He also said “terrorist elements” would try to disrupt

the withdrawal but added that Iraqi forces were capable of ensuring security. Although considerable progress has been made in reconciling Sunnis and Shiites, there is still a divide between the two Islamic sects that nearly brought the country to the brink of civil war in 2006-2007.

In Sunday's attacks, insurgents apparently were taking advantage of a major sandstorm that blanketed the capital and

See **IRAQ** on A10



Lifestyle only way to pay bills, single mom says

BY J.J. STAMBAUGH
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"Kelly," a 22-year-old call girl from Knoxville, doesn't mince words when it comes to explaining how she feels about her job.

"I needed to make money quickly," says Kelly, who has worked as a hooker on and off for the past year and only agrees to be interviewed on the condition that she be identified by one of her working aliases. "I need to make money to take care of my son, at least \$100 a day."

She continues: "I'm not comfortable with what I do. I'm ashamed. I'm embarrassed. My family doesn't know. I know this is morally wrong."

While Kelly says she wants to

do something else for a living, she feels she has no choice. She's been struggling as a single mother, and has been unable to make enough money in the current job climate to even make the transition from a motel home to a more permanent residence.

Unlike many escorts who have moved onto the Internet as "independents," Kelly is on her way out for an escort service. Her boss arranges dates and takes \$50 of the \$150 per hour she charges per client. She also follows the various instructions that he gives to her to avoid being picked up by the police, who conduct occasional vice stings at area motels.

"It's not talked about on the

phone, that it's about sex," she says. "When you're there, make them get undressed first, don't let the money get put in your hand, don't talk about it. A cop cannot get undressed. That's the biggest rule."

Kelly doesn't entirely trust the advice, even though she's thus far avoided building a criminal record. She's heard too many stories of other call girls getting busted despite following the rules of the trade. "I've heard that you can get arrested just by talking to a date on the phone, that they can call that soliciting," she says.

When asked about her clients, Kelly says they fit pretty much the same profile: "Most of them are lonely. They want someone to

make them feel good."

She says it's very rare to meet a client who's under 40 years old. The vast majority are married men with kids that allow them to afford her services. "They have problems with their wives, they don't see their wives, they're traveling a lot, they have kids and their wives won't sleep with them," she says.

Kelly says she has the right to refuse clients or to perform certain acts, but the job sometimes requires her to cater to the fancies of men who want to indulge in various fantasies or fetishes.

"Some of them want you to play dead," she says, without elaboration.

While some might think prostitution is recession-proof, Kelly says the economic downturn has all but devastated the service she works for. Her pimp, who fills out his tax paperwork as an "entertainment provider," has recently been forced to declare bankruptcy, she says.

The bottom line, she says, is that she can't stand to look at her child and turn down the only money she feels she can get.

"Some people do it for the right reasons, not because they like it," she says. "I do it to take care of my family."

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HOW ESCORTS EVADE THE LAW

Escorts and escort services often describe themselves as entertainment ventures for tax purposes.

Escorts typically argue that they're not being paid for sex but rather for their company or for entertainment. If sex takes place, it is supposedly not held directly to the payment they receive but is instead considered a "private matter between consenting adults." For instance, escorts do not charge for individual sex acts but instead charge hourly rates that are meant to reflect time spent with a client rather than specific activities.

Some escort services are known to make their employees sign contracts stipulating that any sexual activities an employee engages in are a matter that's strictly between the employee and the customer. This is to protect the escort service from criminal prosecution.

There is no way to accurately gauge how many escorts operate in Knoxville, but more than 100 local women advertise their services through various Web sites.

PROSTITUTES CHARGED IN KNOX COUNTY

711 — Jan. 1, 1999, to April 29 of this year
525 — Jan. 1, 2004, to April 29 of this year

PROSTITUTION CUSTOMERS CHARGED IN KNOX COUNTY

426 — Jan. 1, 1999, to April 29 of this year
257 — Jan. 1, 2004, to April 29 of this year

GENDER AND ETHNICITY OF PROSTITUTION OFFENDERS, 2004-08*

White female: 62.5 percent
White male: 20 percent
Black female: 11 percent
Black male: 5 percent
Other: 1.5 percent
*Includes customers

Source: Knox County Criminal Justice Information Management System and Knoxville Police Department.

Lexe-Politique - a discreet & erotic referral service

Professional
5 years of reviews TBD TER

Home Ladies Calendar Contact Q A RSVP NOW

When you first email or call, please have your reference or any information about you available upon my request. References from you allows us to know you are who you say you are and that you don't wear a BLUE uniform for a living!

Byron: My standards are so high that I can't be done so we can make me promise to not let you down. Your extra time and hassle will be well REWARDED!!!

Mary Jayne - Just the idea of a provider with a heart of Gold comes to the surface of one's consciousness when they meet Mary. She stands at almost 5 feet 115lbs with B-cups that are accentuated by perfect small Her very "Happy-Like" attitude towards giving and pleasing is her trade make because it represents itself when you get to be alone with her. "Make Love Not War" - is what she says. As she should be, she is in school so check availability

Screen shots from the Web sites of local escorts

MARY JAYNE

from A1

ort, and she agrees to be interviewed only on the condition that she not have to reveal her real name.

Although sex with customers isn't technically what Mary Jayne is paid for, it's the norm. She usually meets with clients in hotel rooms — the precise location may vary — and engages in the type of activity that, if she's unlucky, could earn her a trip to jail and a misdemeanor criminal record.

"I always had a strong feeling about prostitution, I thought it should be legalized, so it was natural to start doing it," Mary Jayne says. "It's not what most people think."

To her, being a call girl is a dream job: high wages, little risk and a flexible schedule that provides her with a degree of freedom that few women achieve. Most of her family doesn't know what she does, she says, and she's told only a select group of friends about her profession.

While the thought of running afoul of the law is certainly a concern, she says she has yet to be caught and has faith in the screening process that she and three co-workers use.

"We're very selective with our screening and everything like that. I feel safe at all times," she says. "But there are always concerns with that. But to me, it's a victimless crime, between two consenting adults... I don't see the point in a law that's not protecting anyone."

Mary Jayne also says that she's far from being an atypical escort. "Your typical idea of a sex worker is that they're desperate, or hooked on drugs, but that's not it," she says. "A lot of girls provide for their families, or are going to school... Many of them have middle-class backgrounds, they could get 9-to-5 jobs, but that's not what they want."

Mary Jayne says that she and her co-workers don't have a pimp or organizational backing. They all work through an escort service that's largely the brainchild of Marcus Washington, 31, of Knoxville.

Washington describes himself as a left-wing anarchist and advocate of legalizing prostitution and marijuana. He believes his outspoken political views helped land him in prison for selling glass marijuana pipes in 2000. Already a convicted pot dealer, he was running a pro-marijuana Web site at the time. His subsequent status as a felon meant he was unable to find a decent-paying job upon his release.

To best Washington and Mary Jayne describe it, Sex-Pol Studios, which advertises primarily through its Web site, functions like a cooperative with no hierarchy.

It's as much about advancing a countercultural agenda as it is in making money, they say.

Washington has also put together a number of XXX-rated movies with a satirical political twist, and he is proud that his local film troupe has garnered write-ups in national publications that focus on the adult entertainment industry.

They make a point of dismissing any suggestion that the women involved are in any serious danger or in any way exploited.

"If it's done completely safely and responsibly, there's nothing unhealthy," Washington says. "This is radically feminist. It's not oppressive or patriarchal."

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TECHNOLOGY

from A1

— often by themselves. Call girls now use the Web to arrange meeting places, usually hotels.

In a series of Internet searches, The News Sentinel found approximately 100 local women advertising as escorts on Web sites at rates ranging from \$100 to \$500 an hour. Those searches didn't include Craigslist, which has become notorious for its "erotic services" category over the past two years and has generated approximately 45 busts by KPD over the past 18 months.

Also, more than 30 local escort services advertise openly in the phone book or on the Internet.

Those figures, however, may be misleading because many services can be traced back to a small group of providers who pay for multiple ads using different business names, Marcum said.

The online ads are explicit, often including nude photographs and descriptions of the sexual activities women offer, couched in acronyms and euphemisms.

One escort service's Web site even included photographs of a resort home near Pigeon Forge equipped with a hot tub and pool table that can be rented out for "swingers parties."

The differences between streetwalkers and escorts are stark and can easily be understood by simply focusing on their motivations for hooking, according to KPD Investigator Gina Pierce.

"The people on the street, most of them have an addiction they're feeding," said Pierce, who has played the role of an undercover escort for nearly 10 years. "For the escorts, it's quick, easy money. They may abuse drugs, but they're not necessarily motivated by addiction."

Some women choose escort services, which collect part of their earnings, rather than working as "independents" because the agencies provide screening, steady work and security, she said.

Sgt. Chris Baldwin said it's impossible for police to infiltrate an escort service using an undercover female officer because she would be required to have sex as part of the job. Instead, undercover officers target both prostitutes and their customers by taking out fake ads or responding to real ones.

Capt. Gary Holliday said he's skeptical that

much can be done legally to prevent the Internet from being used for prostitution and cited the recent changes at Craigslist as an example of how resilient the sex industry can be.

Faced with intense criticism from law enforcement, Craigslist announced this spring it would replace its "erotic services" category with a new "adult services" section that will pre-screen submissions and require users to pay a fee.

Holliday, however, said the day after the changes took effect he found out that not much had changed on Craigslist.

"I got on there and happened to look," he said. "There were already two prostitutes advertising locally."

Metropolitan Nashville Police Department spokesman Don Aaron said that police in the



Investigator Jim Marcum watches surveillance video from a prostitution sting in the basement of the Knoxville Police Department.

state's capital use many of the same tactics as their peers in Knoxville. He didn't provide any estimate of how many escorts are busted in Nashville compared to streetwalkers but stressed that police try to focus equally on both types of hooking.

"For example, with Craigslist, individuals who respond to those ads come to hotels, meet with undercover operatives, agree to sex deals, are cited with the offense of patronizing prostitution," he said. "When we do this, we post the photographs of the defendants on our Internet site."

Chattanooga Police Department spokeswoman Sgt. Jerrl Weary said that Chattanooga has very few professional escorts. Most of that city's prostitutes are streetwalkers, she said.

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