

Business

Boats can be important for navy

Since this is a business column, I occasionally write about folks who I think have really tough jobs. While I was scanning the wire last week, I think I discovered the man with the toughest job in the world.

His name is Farah Ahmed Omar, and he has recently been appointed the chief of Somalia's navy. This job is a position of international prominence because of all the recent pirate activity off the coast of Somalia. Some of you may recall a few months ago when American troops even got into the mix when snipers killed three pirates who were holding the captain of a ship hostage.

Pirate activity near Somalia has been rampant at times, which means Omar has a challenge ahead. What makes his job even more difficult is the fact the Somali navy doesn't have a single warship. To be technically correct, it doesn't even have a boat. Thus, it should come as no surprise that the Somali navy doesn't have a single sailor.

It should also be noted that Omar himself has not been to sea in 23 years. Despite all these shortcomings, Omar is an optimist. He says he believes the pirates can be stopped. I'm guessing Omar must consider himself a really strong swimmer.

However, Omar does have one thing in his favor. Somalia has started a recent campaign to attract recruits and is dangling a handsome salary of \$60 a month for any man who wants to enlist. Yes, I did say \$60 a month.

I can only assume once all these sailors flock to sign up,



James Clark

they will receive classroom training. There might be problems training them at sea without a boat. After reading about this situation, my underlying question is this: Is it possible to have a navy without a boat? Wouldn't that be an army?

And in one last tidbit, we are all well aware of how gracefully our local governments operate. It gets even better in other parts of the country.

A council in Lincoln, Neb., has made headlines for its recent squabble about reimbursing a jail inmate for pants he claims were lost after he was arrested. City officials admitted liability for the missing pants. The argument stemmed from the value of the pants. The jail inmate claimed he paid \$12, but a city official was adamant the same pants could be purchased for \$10. In the end, the city voted 2-1 to pay the inmate \$12.



OMAR

Logan's Roadhouse not eyeing McMinnville

I thought it was odd when a Cookeville restaurant employee called me last week and said the big news up that way was that Logan's Roadhouse has plans to locate in McMinnville.

That would certainly be welcome news and a big boost for this city, but it seemed to me like it was coming from left field. Turns out, the hot rumor up in Cookeville is not true, according to Logan's spokeswoman Heather MacDonald.

"There are no immediate plans for a Logan's in your community," said MacDonald, "although we're always looking for appropriate locations for new restaurants."

Since I mentioned Logan's at the end of last week's column, a number of people asked me if the restaurant was in fact coming. When I told MacDonald about all the inquiries, she was pleased.

"It's always a good thing to have people excited about your restaurant," she said. "I'll pass it along to the people in site development."

As for company info, Logan's Roadhouse is headquartered in Nashville and currently has 194 restaurants in 24 states. In a little-known bit of trivia, Logan's opened its



Dawnmarie Riley-Cavner is the new OB/GYN in McMinnville. She begins seeing patients this week at her office on Sparta Highway. For an appointment, call 815-8800.



A taco stand has located in the parking lot of Favorite Market and is receiving steady business. It's open from 10 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. every day.

first restaurant in Lexington, Ky., in 1991.

McMinnville has female gynecologist

If you've been waiting for a female gynecologist to locate in town, your wait is over. Dr. Dawnmarie Riley-Cavner has made the move from Southern California to McMinnville and will begin seeing patients this week.

Although she's new in town, Dr. Riley-Cavner has already

delivered. She's been the OB/GYN on call at River Park Hospital and has delivered two babies.

"The No. 1 thing people have told me is they're glad to have a female doctor in town," she said. News of her arrival has traveled quickly and she says she already has eight or nine appointments scheduled.

"I want my office to be more of a California spa experience than a doctor's office," said Dr. Riley-Cavner. "That's why there aren't baby pictures on the wall. It's warm, relaxing

decorating and I'm looking forward to helping women with their health in general."

Although she's a newcomer, Dr. Riley-Cavner says she has made a commitment to this community. Not only did she bring her husband, Erin, and three children, she also brought her parents. Her mother is glad to return to the South, having spent time in Pikeville and Chattanooga as a girl. Dr. Riley-Cavner's son, Nicholas, is a sophomore on the Warren County football team.

"All that you see on TV about gangs and drugs in Southern California is true," she said. "This is much better and we've really had a warm welcome."

Probably no two people are happier about the arrival of Dr. Riley-Cavner than McMinnville's longtime OB/GYNs, Dr. Rene Del Valle and Dr. David Watlington. They had been on call every other night and every other weekend. Now they'll be able to be on call every third night and every third weekend.

River Park recruited Dr. Riley-Cavner and is pleased at her arrival.

Quote NOTEBOOK

In honor of the new baby doctor in town, here are some quotes about children:

"People who say they sleep like a baby usually don't have one."

Leo J. Burke

"The first half of our lives is ruined by our parents, and the second half by our children."

Clarence Darrow

You know children are growing up when they start asking questions that have answers.

John J. Plomp

"The best way to keep children home is to make the home atmosphere pleasant--and let the air out of the tires."

Dorothy Parker

"I have found the best way to give advice to your children is to find out what they want and then advise them to do it."

Harry S Truman

"It is not giving children more that spoils them; it is giving them more to avoid confrontation."

John Gray

"If you want to see what children can do, you must stop giving them things."

Norman Douglas



Logan's Roadhouse, known for those great-tasting peanuts, says it doesn't have plans to locate a restaurant in McMinnville at this time.

Business Pulse

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“We want to keep adding to the medical staff and meeting the needs of the community,” said hospital representative Claudia Hall.

Dr. Riley-Cavner’s practice is called Namaste OB/GYN. Namaste is a greeting that originates from India that means, “The light within me honors the light within you.” The office is located in the same building as Dr. Del Valle at 3087 Sparta Highway. The phone number is 815-8800. Her Web site is www.namasteobgyn.com.



Boyd honored by statewide organization

The Tennessee Municipal Electric Power Association (TMEPA) presented its prestigious Outstanding Service Award to McMinnville Electric System’s Rodney Boyd at the association’s annual conference held in