

SPORTS

Broncos gallop
past Dibrell **1B**



LOCAL NEWS

Angler praised for
U.S. record walleye **6A**

WEDNESDAY
JANUARY 24, 2018
McMinnville, Tennessee
southernstandard.com
Vol. 140
No. 10



75¢

Southern



Standard

Man charged with firing at deputies

Officers were searching for pickup thief

BY **DUANE SHERRILL**
Reporter for the Southern Standard
(McMinnville, Tennessee)

A Bethany man faces felony assault charges after he allegedly opened fire at deputies as they were looking to arrest him after a burglary.

The suspect, Cauley McClinton Cross, 45, is charged with aggravated assault on law enforcement, theft over \$10,000, aggravated burglary, unlawful possession of a weapon, and driving on a revoked license.

Officers went to a location on Bethany Road after a resident there

said someone had kicked in his door and taken a 2015 Toyota pickup. The victim told lawmen Cross lived in an office nearby, suggesting Cross may have been the one who took his truck. Officers found a laundry basket containing Cross' laundry



CROSS

along with a gun that had been taken from the victim's home lying in the driveway.

Deputies searched the area and found a truck matching the one that had been stolen in a nursery field and started looking for a suspect.

"As we were searching, a shot was fired from the wood line," said deputy Lynn Cannon, noting they took cover and were

able to locate Cross, taking him into custody without further incident. "He admitted he had kicked in the door and took the truck and gun."

Cannon added Cross is a convicted felon who is not allowed to have a firearm. It was not revealed if Cross was intentionally shooting at the deputies. However, the mere fact they were placed in fear by gunfire allows him to be charged for aggravated assault.

NO. 1 FAIR



Warren County named best in state



Fair president Kenneth Medlen and Fairest of the Fair Haile West Adams hold the state championship trophy.

BY **MARGARET HOBBS**
Lifestyles Editor for the Southern Standard
(McMinnville, Tennessee)

Break out the cotton candy and funnel cakes. It's time to celebrate. The Warren County A&L Fair was named best fair in the state over the weekend in Nashville.

Warren County received the State Championship Award in the AA Division during the 96th annual Tennessee Association of Fairs 2018 Convention. There are three divisions.

According to fair president Kenneth Medlen, it has been over a decade since receiving the recognition.

"We are very honored to receive this award and we are all very happy," said Medlen.

"I'm first to say it's not about me, because it takes everybody to make an award-winning fair. We have a dedicated group of officers and volunteers who work tirelessly."

Medlen clarified that Warren County has the only completely free fair in the state. There is no charge for admission, parking, or viewing any of the music, pageants or other entertainment.

As part of the state competition, a group of judges visits the fair on a random night to experience first-hand the events and buildings.

"We have quality entries and our buildings and grounds are very well maintained," said Medlen.

Continued on 3A

Mayor's seat might not be on ballot

Newman in line if Haley voted county executive

BY **LISA HOBBS**
Reporter for the Southern Standard
(McMinnville, Tennessee)

McMinnville Vice Mayor Ben Newman could take over the city's mayoral responsibilities, should current Mayor Jimmy Haley win his bid for Warren County Executive in August.

Per city code, "The board shall elect an alderman to the office of vice mayor, who shall serve as mayor when the mayor is absent or unable to discharge the duties of the mayor's office, and in case of a vacancy in the office of mayor, until the next regular municipal election."

Vice mayors are appointed by majority vote of the city board after each municipal election, which occurs every two years. Newman was elected by voters in 2012 and re-elected in 2016. He was appointed as vice mayor in 2012, 2014 and 2016.

When asked if he would be willing to serve as mayor, Newman said, "I certainly would."

If the vice mayor is unable to perform the duties of the

office, city code also outlines the succession to the office of vice mayor: 1) chair of the Finance Committee; 2) chair of the Water and Sewer Committee; 3) chair of the Safety Committee; 4) chair of the Streets and Sanitation Committee; 5) chair of the Building and Grounds Committee; 6) chair of the Parks and Recreation Committee.

Newman's service as mayor could be lengthy because there doesn't appear to be enough time to get the mayor's race on the November ballot should Haley be voted county executive in August. City code requires 20 days from the time of vacancy for an office to make the ballot.

The county election is Aug. 2. Winners will begin their terms Sept. 1. The qualifying deadline for city elections is Aug. 16 at noon. Haley can, if he wins and chooses to do so, resign as mayor Aug. 3. However, that does not meet the 20-day requirement.

The mayoral race could get on the November ballot should Haley resign at least a week before election day.

Election administrator Donna Smith said she believes the city's vice mayor would serve the unexpired term, which is until 2020. She's waiting on a legal opinion to make the final decision.



State looks to inject \$30M into fight against opioids

BY **JAMES CLARK**
Editor for the Southern Standard
(McMinnville, Tennessee)

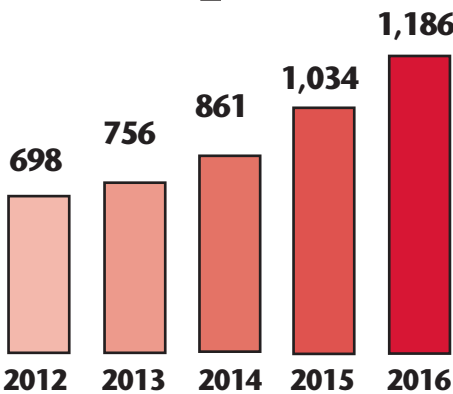
It was cause for alarm when a local elementary teacher was arrested last year for buying Percocet on campus during the middle of a school day.

The drug deal ultimately resulted in three Warren County teachers losing their jobs.

Opioid drugs like Percocet are commanding attention this year in the Tennessee General Assembly as the state tries to harness a drug epidemic that's claiming victims from all walks of life, from school teachers to business executives.

Each day in Tennessee, an average of more than 3 people die from an opioid-related overdose. That's more than the number of daily traffic fatalities. The epidemic is so deep-rooted, there are more opioid prescriptions written each year in Tennessee than there are people living in the state.

Fed up with sobering statistics, Gov. Bill



Opioid overdose deaths in TN

Haslam announced a plan of action Monday to help end the devastating cycle of opioid addiction. Called TN Together, the \$30 million plan combines prevention, treatment, and increased law enforcement efforts to battle the problem.

Continued on 5A

Crash and DUI arrest



The driver, Tyler Benjamin Scott, 36, was charged with DUI after he crashed his vehicle Sunday morning on Swann Mill Road. He was traveling westbound when his truck left the road and struck a mailbox, street sign, and tree.

THE WORKS™
VEHICLE CHECKUP

\$44.95

931-668-2177
kiddford.com

KIDD |

SYNTHETIC BLEND OIL CHANGE* • TIRE ROTATION & PRESSURE CHECK
MULTI-POINT INSPECTION • BREAK INSPECTION • FLUID TOP-OFF
BATTERY TEST • FILTER CHECK • BELTS & HOSES INSPECTION

24985