



SPORTS

WCHS soccer has high hopes **1B**



TIME CHANGE

Remember to set your clocks ahead Saturday **3A**

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Man caught with stolen 1965 Corvette

Classic car valued at \$125,000

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

A man caught hauling a stolen Corvette valued at \$125,000 hasn't been able to outrun a mountain of felony theft and gun charges leveled against him.

James Larry Tittsworth, 38, faces theft charges for allegedly stealing the Corvette, a Massey Ferguson

tractor, an enclosed trailer, and two Chevy trucks. As a four-time convicted felon, Tittsworth is prohibited from possessing a firearm, yet a search of his property netted four shotguns, three rifles, and one pistol, according to the warrant for his arrest.

The incident which led to Tittsworth's most recent legal trouble began when an officer noticed him behind the wheel and knew he

had an outstanding warrant for his arrest so he conducted a traffic stop.

Tittsworth was hauling a trailer that included a 1965 Chevrolet Stingray Corvette that had been reported stolen from a barn in Warren County. The vintage car was valued by its owner at \$125,000.

Later that day, officers executed



TITTSWORTH

a search warrant at the Tittsworth home and found a 2006 enclosed trailer that was reported stolen from the Chickamauga Police Department in Georgia. The trailer is valued between \$2,500 and \$10,000.

Also found was a Massey Ferguson 283 tractor that was reported stolen from Warren County. The tractor, with a tiller attached, has a reported value of \$9,500.

Other vehicles on the property which were reportedly stolen include a 1986 Chevrolet Silverado pickup, and a 1986 Chevrolet C30 truck. Tittsworth was also hit with the felony charge of operating a chop shop.

Among the cache of weapons reportedly found on his property, one weapon was a shotgun with a barrel length of less than 18 inches, thereby making it a prohibited weapon. Tittsworth stands to face eight felony charges when he is scheduled to make his next court appearance May 23.



As spring looms so does an increased chance of tornados



A tree is pictured atop a home in the Irving College community following a tornado in April 2017, the last tornado to hit Warren County.

Margaret Hobbs photo

Stay informed, E-911 director says

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

Spring can be a paradise of blooming flowers, but it can swiftly turn into a weather-related nightmare.

"If I could stress anything, it would be weather awareness in the spring," said E-911 director Chuck Haston. "A minute or two out of your day is a small sacrifice and it could save your life."

Tornados are unpredictable and can happen any time of the year. However, almost two-thirds of tornados take place in the spring months, Haston said.

The life-saving measure suggested by Haston is checking the National Weather Service website on a regular basis.

"Severe weather outbreaks are usually predicted several days in advance by the National Weather Service so all it takes is a brief stop to the NWS Nashville website to stay up to speed," he said. "I would encourage people to subscribe to any text notification system or purchase a weather radio. Weather radios are the best."

The city of McMinnville, in conjunction with E-911, offers an out-



HASTON

door warning system, but residents should not rely solely on that service, according to Haston.

"Outdoor siren systems are just that, outdoor, and are designed to warn those outdoors to take shelter and turn on their radio or TV," said Haston. "Sirens are not designed to wake you up inside your house."

Do you know the difference between a National Weather Service Severe Thunderstorm Watch and a Severe Thunderstorm Warning?

Continued on **2A**



State trooper Billy Prater investigates the fatal accident on Aug. 28, 2014. The driver of the maroon Saturn car, Gregory Lewis Lima, is expected to have his case sent to a jury Friday.

Jury expected to rule on fatal wreck Friday

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

A jury trial is expected to conclude Friday for a man who faces four charges from a fatal wreck in 2014.

Closing arguments and jury deliberations are scheduled at Warren County Courthouse for Gregory Lewis Lima, who has been indicted on four charges from the death of his uncle Leon Carter, 50.

Lima has been indicted for failure to yield right of way resulting in death, reckless endangerment with a motor vehicle, driving without a valid license, and violation of the financial responsibility law.

Lima, in turn, has filed a civil lawsuit against the county claiming poor stop sign visibility.

The fatal crash occurred Aug. 28, 2014 at the intersection of Smithville Highway and Old Smithville Highway

near On the Way Market. The two roads intersect in a Y fashion.

Lima was 26 at the time and driving himself, Carter, and a backseat passenger to work. State trooper Kyle Herron says Lima was on Old Smithville Highway and failed to stop at the stop

sign, thereby entering the path of an oncoming Ford F-250. The F-250 slammed into the passenger side of Lima's vehicle where Carter was sitting.

Trooper Herron said the obvious cause for the crash was Lima ran the stop sign. Reckless endangerment with a motor vehicle is a Class E felony. The remaining three charges are misdemeanors.

Special Judge Craig Johnson is presiding over the case. Judge Bart Stanley recused himself because of Lima's lawsuit against the county, which will be heard separately.



LIMA

ADA compliance may force relocation of utility poles

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

Utility poles located on sidewalks are an obstacle for the city of McMinnville meeting state requirements for ADA compliance.

But who should foot the bill for their relocation?

That question was posed to the Board of Mayor and Aldermen by McMinnville Public Works Department assistant director Brad Hennessee, who says he can begin to address the issue of sidewalk compliance once he's provided the answer.

"The problem we're having is utility poles

in the sidewalk," said Hennessee. "We've been told in the past by McMinnville Electric that if we requested a pole to be moved, then we would have to pay a fee per pole to have that done. That's really the only answer that we're looking for: the utility poles decision. If we had that answered, it would make which sidewalks to target easier."

Frontier Communication also has poles on sidewalks, but Hennessee has not contacted that company about the situation.

Americans with Disabilities Act sidewalk requirements mandate a minimum width of 4 feet be provided in all cases.

Continued on **2A**



Lisa Hobbs photo

Utility poles in sidewalks might become a bone of contention between the city of McMinnville and the companies they belong to - McMinnville Electric System and Frontier Communication. In order to become ADA compliant by December 2019, the sidewalks have to be obstacle free for a minimum width of 4 feet.

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