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# Southern Standard



ALLISON KAYE ROE



HOUSTON SKY KING

## Two charged with felony child abuse

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

A mother and her live-in boyfriend both face felony child abuse charges after a local doctor's office discovered severe injuries to an 18-month-old girl.

The mother, Allison Kaye Roe, 21, and her live-in boyfriend, Houston Sky King, 19, have both been charged with aggravated child abuse. The charge has been enhanced to a Class A felony under Haley's Law because of the nature of the injuries and because it involves a vulnerable child under age 8.

According to the warrant for Roe's arrest, "These injuries are atrocious or cruel."

The injuries came to light when the 18-month-old victim, identified only as Jane Doe, was taken to a local doctor's office. When the attending physician noticed the girl's injuries, it raised alarm and law enforcement was contacted.

Jason Rowland with the Warren County Sheriff's Department and Stuart

Colwell with the District Attorney's Office both responded.

"The injuries inflicted were done at the hand of an adult and this was perpetrated on her by being struck on the left side of her face and head in some manner by an adult," the arrest warrant reads.

Through the course of the investigation, it was determined the girl left the care of a grandmother on April 3. There were no injuries to the girl at that time.

Roe told investigators she found injuries to her daughter the morning of April 4. She and King both had control over the girl during the time in question. However, both have denied inflicting the injuries or having any knowledge of how the injuries occurred. As a result, both have been charged.

**SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING**

It is state law to report all cases of suspected child abuse. For story, see **PAGE 6A**

## Getting testy



Warren County students will be undergoing state testing beginning Monday. Pictured during a science experiment to help students refine their thinking skills are, from left, Dibrell Elementary teacher Dorian Loeffler, Stephanie Velazquez, and Jazmin Casas.

## Students encouraged to get rest as standardized testing begins

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

TN Ready test week begins this Monday and the Warren County School System is urging parents to help their children prepare for the standardized test.

"It is always a great idea for parents to help students to get plenty of rest, eat right each morning, and don't stress about being perfect but to try their best," said school system representative Vickie Dodd. "The

students worry about not knowing the right answers to everything, but that's OK. We just want them to not worry about things like that and to just always do their best."

The TN Ready testing window begins April 16 and goes through May 4. Each day there is a different test or section that is completed by students. Parents are also asked to make sure their children attend school each day, arrive on time and avoid checking out for appointments.

Parent volunteers are needed. "We always need parents to volun-

teer to proctor in classrooms during the testing times," said Dodd. "We invite any available parent to call their child's school and volunteer. That also helps the parent become more comfortable with the TN Ready atmosphere."

State testing serves many objectives. It shows academic progress and how it aligns with grade-level expectations. It also provides parents and teachers a big-picture perspective about how a student is progressing compared to peers across the district and state.

## Heavenly performance



### Wariner to play Park Theater

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

He was discovered playing in a club in Indianapolis by Warren County's own Dottie West and rose to country music stardom, highlighted by 1998 Song of the Year "Holes in the Floor of Heaven."

This coming Saturday, April 21, Steve Wariner will take the Park Theater stage, bringing an arsenal of songs that includes 14 No. 1 hits. The concert is scheduled to begin at 7 p.m.

Wariner got his break when his high school band was seen performing by Dottie West. It was the beginning of a career that would include four Grammy Awards.

"I was a senior in high school and playing on the west side of Indianapolis when Dottie heard me singing and playing," said Wariner in an interview with the *Standard*. "She offered me a job that night. We took off on the road and I was able to finish my classes in between. I was almost ready to graduate anyway. It was a big change for me. I'd never been out of Indiana or Kentucky and suddenly I'm on a bus ride to Reno, Nevada."

Four-time Grammy Award winner Steve Wariner will be performing this coming Saturday, April 21, at the Park Theater. Tickets are available through the Chamber of Commerce by calling 473-6611.

Continued on **8A**



An effort is underway to extend Magness Drive to Highway 70S bypass. McMinnville officials have asked permission from the state to connect the two roads at this intersection near Three Star Mall.

## City wants to add road off bypass

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

Consideration is underway to extend Magness Drive to the bypass to alleviate traffic concerns from the construction of Motlow's Advanced Robotics Center.

The Tennessee Department of Transportation is considering a request made by the city of McMinnville to allow another entrance onto Highway 70S if the city extends Magness Drive to the existing three-way intersection near the mall.

The Advanced Robotics Center will be

located on Vo Tech Drive, which intersects with Magness Drive. Vo Tech Drive is the only main access to Highway 70S in that area.

City administrator Bill Brock says Todd Herzog asked the city to make the request of the state.

"He (Herzog) wanted us to try to get another entrance into that area," said Brock. "The city sent in an application, a request form, to the Access Land Committee to cut the fence. They can approve or disapprove."

Continued on **2A**

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