

Blow out



McMinnville resident David Summers collects items from his overturned black Ford on Smithville Highway on Tuesday afternoon. Once his rear passenger tire blew out, Summers lost control of his SUV causing him to flip into a ditch. According to sheriff's deputy Ben Cannon, a DeKalb County deputy was driving behind Summers and witnessed the whole incident.

Lacy Garrison photo

Minton requests naming tennis courts after Dunlap

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

Greta Minton is asking McMinnville officials to serve up some love by naming its tennis courts after Jackson Dunlap.

The son of Joey and Deitra Dunlap, Jackson was born Feb. 3, 2004. He was born with Down syndrome and was subsequently diagnosed with leukemia. Initial cancer treatments were successful. However, it returned in his teens. He passed away April 10, 2018 at age 14.

"His challenges in life notwithstanding, Jackson maintained a particular radiance and a positive outlook that touched all who encountered him," said Minton. "He was renowned for his glowing smile, his tremendous heart, and his love of life."

Jackson's grandfather is David Dunlap. For decades, he served as an educator, mentor, and as coach to tennis players in the community.

"Of note also is the fact that Jackson was himself a regular figure at the tennis courts of McMinnville Civic Center," said Minton. "According to his mother, Jackson was particularly fond of the courts and enjoyed visiting with the players. The courts became one of his favorite regular destinations and brought great joy to his life."

At this time, the city is renovating two

outdoor tennis courts. Minton's letter request to the Parks and Recreation Committee stated a sizeable sum has been raised in support of a permanent memorial for Jackson and to name the courts "The Jackson Dunlap Memorial Tennis Courts."

Vice Mayor Ben Newman stated he would like to name a tennis court after David Dunlap because he was instrumental in getting the tennis program started.

"Before I was contacted about this, I had in mind that we should name it after David Dunlap," he said. "David has done so much for tennis and the city. He's offered lessons, organized tournaments and

done all sorts of things. I think we could do both."

There are two sets of courts. Considered was naming one after David and one after Jackson.

"I haven't talked to David to see if that's something he would want," said Newman. "Sometimes, they don't get to choose. Sometimes, we get to choose. It might be good to contact David and see if he wants a court named after him."

Suggested was naming the entire compound The Jackson Dunlap Memorial Tennis Complex and naming the tennis courts after other individuals.

The discussion was tabled. Prior to the next meeting, the Dunlap family will be invited to attend.



Trump attempts damage control after Russia ordeal

WASHINGTON (AP) — Blistered by bipartisan condemnation of his embrace of a longtime U.S. enemy, President Donald Trump sought Tuesday to "clarify" his public undermining of American intelligence agencies, saying he had misspoken when he said he saw no reason to believe Russia had interfered in the 2016 U.S. election.

"The sentence should have been, 'I don't see any

reason why I wouldn't, or why it wouldn't be Russia" instead of "why it would," Trump said, in a rare admission of error by the bombastic U.S. leader. His comment came — amid rising rebuke by his own party — about 27 hours after his original, widely reported statement, which he made at a Monday summit in Helsinki standing alongside Russian President Vladimir Putin.

"I accept our intelli-

gence community's conclusion that Russia's meddling in the 2016 election took place," Trump said Tuesday. But he added, as he usually does, "It could be other people also. A lot of people out there. There was no collusion at all."

Moments earlier, Senate Republican leader Mitch McConnell issued a public reassurance to U.S. allies in NATO and Europe with whom Trump clashed during his frenzied Europe trip last week.

"The European countries are our friends, and the Russians are not," McConnell said.

The scripted cleanup dealt with only the latest of Trump's problematic statements during his week-long trip, in which he sent the NATO alliance into emergency session and assailed British Prime Minister Theresa May as she was hosting him for an official visit.

Senate Democratic leader Chuck Schumer said

Trump was trying to "squirm away" from his comments alongside Putin. "It's 24 hours too late and in the wrong place," he said.

Reaction back home has been immediate and visceral, among fellow Republicans as well as usual Trump critics. "Shameful," "disgraceful," "weak," were a few of the comments. Makes the U.S. "look like a push-over," said GOP Sen. Bob Corker of Tennessee.

On Capitol Hill, top Republican leaders said they were open to slapping fresh sanctions on Russia but showed no signs of acting any time soon.

"Let's be very clear, just so everybody knows: Russia did meddle with our elections," said House Speaker Paul Ryan. "What we intend to do is make sure they don't get away with it again and also to help our allies."

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The annual Vervilla Picnic for the upkeep of Bascom Cemetery
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Schedule of Activities:
Memorial Service: 11:00
Games 1:30-3:00
Cake Walk 4:00-5:30
Parade of Antique Vehicles & Tractors 5:30-6:30
Auction 6:30pm
Fireworks Immediately Following
Concessions available throughout the day. Request handmade items for the auction and Baked goods for the Cake Walk.
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