

# Church sings praises for sewage assistance

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

A local church may find saving grace when it comes to financial assistance for a sewage crisis cleanup.

The city Water and Sewer Committee met last Tuesday and considered a request from city attorney Tim Pirtle to negotiate with ServePro over a \$17,353 bill from it Mt. Leo Church of Christ to clean the basement after sewer backed up into its

basement.

Pirtle says the city is not liable for damages. However, after reviewing the entire sequence of events, he found items working in the church's favor.

The city initiated the cleanup work with the company.

"We, and when I say we I'm talking about the city of McMinnville, initiated that contact with ServePro on the same day the issue was reported," said Pirtle. "And, maybe, at least started to

undertake some cleanup. Some remediation of the problem."

An insurance adjustor took up to 10 days to determine financial responsibility, so the company started the cleanup effort without a clear understanding of whom would be paying the bill.

"Because there was a delay, five to 10 days as I see it, between the occurrence and the investigation of the claim by the insurance adjustor, there was a gap period

there where ServePro was performing work and there had been no determination as to who would be responsible for the bill."

Pirtle disputes the charge. "That bill turned out to be sizeable, a very significant charge based on my experience and based on my conversations with TML Pool (the city's insurance carrier), with the independent adjustor that was at the scene and investigated it, and with other cities in this area that address similar problems."

The church paid the bill and congregation member Terry Mullican came before the Board of Mayor and Aldermen on June 12 seeking reimbursement.

"We are not a wealthy congregation. We are asking that the city reimburse Mr. Leo Church \$17,353 which is the cost of the ServePro cleanup. In this situation we had no choices. The insurance company contacted ServePro. ServePro came out and they started the work. We had no idea what

the cost would be. Certainly, the cleanup had to be done but we didn't have any options or it appeared that we did not."

Pirtle requested permission to negotiate a settlement with the remediation company for the max amount the committee can spend without Board of Mayor and Aldermen approval, that being \$10,000, and it refund the church \$7,353.

Committee members unanimously approved.

## Rock Island

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"If houses or subdivisions were built on these tracts, it would have severely impacted the viewshed and tranquility of the park setting, not to mention destruction of sensitive habitat which includes many threatening hemlock trees. Our staff works very hard protecting this special place each day. We are excited about the addition."

The Tennessee Department of Environmental and Conservation approved moving forward on the first 15-acre tract and a subsequent 31-acre tract. Purchase of the first

15-acre tract was recently finalized. The adjoining 31-acre tract is currently under a purchase option with assistance from Tennessee Parks and Greenways Foundation.

TPGF, including several local supportive members, was instrumental in helping with both of these land protection projects. TPGF, in conjunction with the park, is currently fundraising to cover \$40,000 of outstanding costs incurred related to appraisals and processing.

If you are interested in helping with fundraising efforts for the outstanding \$40,000, please contact TPGF at tenngreen.org or call 615-329-4441.

# Groovin' by the River delights

BY **ATLANTA NORTHCUTT**  
Southern Standard Staff  
(McMinnville, Tennessee)

Smooth Rapids continued its summer music series Groovin' by the River on Saturday night, providing concert-goers with rocking tunes, good food and beer, and a laid-back experience.

It made for the perfect environment to kick back and enjoy listening to live music on a summer night.

The lineup included three local bands and headliner Griffon Winton.

Winton, a native of Warren County, is a singer-songwriter with an Americana sound who is currently playing shows in Nashville and throughout Middle Tennessee, as well as performing out of state to promote his new album "I'm Not Trying to Flirt with

You or Anything."

He is a naturally talented musician who says he enjoys playing in McMinnville because there's not a lot of live music offered here often so people are more appreciative and excited to hear new things.

The other bands who played were Ashes of Folly, Chariot the Moon, and Speak Easy, a cover band which had the crowd singing hit after hit.

Topz Frozen Yogurt and Deli, Bad Boys BBQ, and the Smooth Rapids Beer Tent provided food and refreshments.

The next Groovin' by the River will be Saturday, July 28, with the highly anticipated three-day music festival Reggae at Smooth Rapids following a week later Aug. 3-5.



Griffon Winton performs Saturday night at Smooth Rapids. The next show in the Groovin' by the River concert series is set for Saturday, July 28.

## Fourth of July

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"We are really excited. There are a lot of traditions we're keeping alive that they have every year, but we are also bringing a lot of new stuff in," said Clyde. "There's a lot of fun stuff going on downtown so people should definitely come and check it out."

At Midway, the Fourth of July celebration will feature a coaches softball game, live music, and the ever-popular homemade ice cream.

"People pitch in to make Midway an inviting place to come and celebrate the Fourth," said Debbie Glenn, a longtime volunteer. "You can come to sit under shade trees, listen to

music and relax all day long. It's a break from our fast-paced lives. We don't want our community to ever not be a community. I think people come here and do feel a sense of patriotism."

At Morrison Ruritan, the baby pageant is always a draw, along with a full 90 minutes of Bingo.

"Bingo is huge, especially for our older residents, and the fireworks are the best there are," said Morrison Mayor Sue Anderson. "Parents and grandparents get all excited about the baby pageant. We have a small-town atmosphere but everyone is welcome. We'll be showing movies in the library for the kids."

## Miniseries 'Remastered' to showcase iconic brands

**NASHVILLE (AP)** — A miniseries that airs beginning this month highlights the personal stories behind six iconic Tennessee brands.

The Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development says the companies featured in the series include Jack Daniel's, Lodge Cast Iron, St. Blues Guitars, United Record Pressing, Barrett Firearms Manufacturing, and Prophetik Haute Couture.

The miniseries "Remastered" was shot and produced last year. It includes appearances by John Rich of country music duo Big & Rich; Laura Daily, chief merchant for Cracker Barrel; Ketch Secor of Old Crow Medicine Show; and Hunter Lewis, editor in chief of Food & Wine magazine.

The first episode is scheduled to air at 7 p.m. CDT July 11 on RFD-TV. New episodes will air on Wednesdays.

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