



SPORTS

Teams fight for tournament titles **1B**



LIFESTYLES

Fairview celebrates Fourth **4B**

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FESTIVE FOURTH



A combined Honor Guard composed of members of the VFW and American Legion present the colors during McMinnville's downtown Fourth of July celebration Tuesday morning. Tom Cantrell, front, gave the commands.

At right, Kate London Owens is joined by her dog, Jet, for the Fourth of July celebration in downtown McMinnville on Tuesday morning.

Below, Irving College resident Dalton Pack, holding a shield he made himself, poses for one of his many pictures Tuesday morning in downtown McMinnville dressed as Captain America. Said Dalton, "The Fourth of July is my favorite holiday and Captain America is my favorite superhero. Mix them together and it makes for a great day."



Dibrell is one of two schools that needs better cell-phone coverage, the School Board says.

Hello? Schools seek answers for poor cell service

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

Can you hear me now?

The Warren County Board of Education says it cannot, especially at outlying schools like Irving College and Dibrell where cellphone service is sketchy at best. Board members say this creates a security issue.

"I think cell coverage is critical for the safety of the children," said School Board member Tanya Bess, who represents the area which includes Irving College School where cellular coverage is sporadic. "In case of an emergency, cell coverage

may be vital."

Director of Schools Bobby Cox pointed out Dibrell School has as big of a dead zone as Irving College when it comes to getting a cell-phone signal. He agreed it isn't just the convenience of having access to a smartphone during school hours, but it is necessary in case of emergencies. He noted it is not just school-day issues but there is a concern about after-hours events like extracurricular activities and ballgames.

"I think we need to ask for an explanation," said Cox.

Continued on **2A**

Seller gets no money from \$750,000 deal

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

The purchase of 202 Bell Street by the city of McMinnville was completed June 29.

According to a statement of actual settlement costs, the city's purchase price of \$750,000 paid all the debt associated with the MPC property, including monies owed to the bank and delinquent city and county property taxes.

Seller Jim Dyer walked away with \$0.

• Gross amount due to seller: \$750,000
• Settlement charged to

seller: \$2,400

• Payoff of loan to First National: \$581,822

• Property taxes to Warren County Trustee: \$10,013

• Property taxes to City of McMinnville: \$10,596

• Delinquent property taxes due to Clerk & Master: \$141,010.

• City taxes for Jan. 1, 2017 to June 29, 2017: \$2,137

• County taxes for Jan. 1, 2017 to June 29, 2017: \$2,020

Total reduction amount due seller: \$750,000

• Cash to seller: \$0

The property was purchased by the city's Water and Sewer Department. Funds came from city water user fees, not property taxes.

Rotary shines light on Nathan Smith

He's recognized for work with homeless

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

Nathan Smith has been lighting the way for homeless residents to have a place to live for the past 12 years.

McMinnville's Breakfast Rotary Club has recognized Smith for his efforts by giving him the Let Service Light the Way Award. In gaining the annual award, Smith had a Paul Harris Fellowship donated to the Rotary Foundation in his name.

"He started in 1996 when he began to offer Bible study to local youth," said Breakfast Rotary outgoing president David Lescarini. "His ministry quickly grew from there. He soon found out that when some children turn 18, their parents would kick them

out and they would need a place to stay and Lighthouse Ministries got its start."

Smith was humble in accepting the award.

"I keep waiting for someone to realize the real award should go to my wife," said Nathan referring to his wife, Tesh. "She's the one who has to deal with me being gone all the time."

Nathan gave credit to his parents, Tyree and Joyce Smith, who he said provided him a fitting example of how to live. Nathan said that much like Jesus Christ looked to his father for guidance, he too has turned to his parents.

It was 12 years ago when Lighthouse Ministries purchased a building by the fairgrounds that once served as the county's Humane Society. After remodeling, the building now serves as a

homeless shelter for men with a kitchen, living room, and several bedrooms. There are 12 beds.

"Sometimes we have more than 12 people and have guys sleeping on recliners and sofas," said Smith. "We are trying to change their lives. We don't take just anybody walking the street. We want people who are trying to get straightened out."

Lighthouse Ministries has a no-drugs, no-alcohol policy. It offers life counseling classes to help residents secure employment and teach them about saving money so they can work toward getting transportation and a different place to live.

Two years ago, Lighthouse Ministries opened a women's shelter near Centertown. A new home has been purchased closer to town that is more convenient.



Nathan Smith, left, is established as an honorary Paul Harris Fellow by outgoing Breakfast Rotary president David Lescarini as part of his Let Service Light the Way Award.

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