



Have a Great School Year! About 6,600 students will embark on a new school year this week. The first full day of school is Wednesday, August 7th. Please be aware of school buses and school zones. *HoJo photo*

L'burg man jailed in TBI child sexual exploitation case



David M. Treadwell

By Sandi Mashburn

A Lawrenceburg man was taken into custody on Monday in connection with an investigation into child sexual exploitation concerns conducted through the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI).

Information released through TBI indicates that a cyber tip given through the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children led Special Agents with the department's Technical Services Unit to launch the investigation.

The tip indicated that thirty-eight year old David M. Treadwell was sharing child pornography images via social media. As a result of the investigation, agents, assisted by members of the Lawrence County Sheriff's Department, took Treadwell into custody on Monday. He was booked into the Lawrence County Detention Center on one count of sexual exploitation of a minor and one count of aggravated sexual exploitation of a minor. Bond was set at \$250,000.

Child sex abuse complaint yields arrest



Tommy Glenn Watkins

By Sandi Mashburn

Lawrenceburg Police officers made one arrest Monday after receiving a complaint regarding sexual abuse of a young child, and the mother is now facing charges as well.

According to information released through the department, officers made their way to the residence to investigate the complaint, and Leoma resident Tommy Glenn Watkins, age 33, was identified as the person sus-

pected of sexually abusing a four year old victim. The information released indicates that, "During the course of the investigation, it was determined that Watkins had sexually penetrated the four year old victim just prior to officers' arrival." Watkins was subsequently arrested on one count of rape of a child and transported to the Lawrence County Detention Center. He was incarcerated under a bond of \$1,000,000. Wat-

Continued on A-3

Loretto to expand industry, fun



industrial park. This site is located just south of the current Industrial Park along the west side of North Main Street. This purchase will allow the City to continue grow our industrial base for years to come. Mayor Jesse E. Turner stated that "Industrial development and recruitment is a main objective of the City. Past leaders of Loretto had the foreknowledge to create an industrial park on the north end of the city of which there is no remaining property available. This purchase builds upon what they started years ago." "The Lawrence County Chamber of Commerce congratulates the City of Loretto on this investment and looks forward to marketing the site to prospective businesses," stated Ryan Egly, President and CEO of the Chamber. "Industrial site inventory is low throughout the Tennessee Valley. This move shows a progressive commitment by the City to attract new and retain existing businesses in Lawrence County."

The City of Loretto also recently purchased approximately 33 acres from the Horn Family to expand the Loretto City Burke Park. This property is located east of the current park property and will over double the size of the existing park. Preliminary plans are to develop the Horn Addition with nature trails and walks. This City was assisted in this purchase by the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) Recreational Services Division's Local Parks and Recreation Fund (LPRF). "This is yet another accomplishment of an objective set before us in our Recreation Master Plan" stated Mayor Jesse E. Turner. "Citizens of all ages will be able to enjoy this additional recreational resource for years to come."

See related photo on Page A-3

Chance Encounters and Loretto Farmers Market inspiration

By Emily Weathers Kennedy

A conversation with a friend who is a former television personality and now a writer led to an interesting question recently. With all of his worldwide connections notwithstanding, he wondered how I found my inspiration for the stories I write for the newspaper. He wasn't asking how I could find inspiration in little old Lawrence County. He was asking how I knew when a story might be interesting enough to write about.

"As a matter of fact," I began, "I'll just tell you about a chance encounter just last Friday that gave me a terrific angle for a story. "See," I told him, "You gotta be aware that everyday occurrences could be something special. You just have to keep your eyes and ears open."

I then launched into my visit to Loretto's Farmers Market on a hot July afternoon. My mother had sent me for peaches, corn, and tomatoes. I was also looking for squash, peppers, and cucumbers. With the vegetables for both of us weighing my arms, I stopped at Dr. Methvin's booth to say hello then on to Donie Simbeck's. Now, these gentlemen are two of my favorite men in the world, so I had to plop my bags to the ground to free up my arms for hugs. Soon a handsome gentleman in a white shirt and blue seersucker pants approached Mr. Simbeck, and the two began an animated conversation. I was soon introduced. What struck me was that in little Loretto,

I had never heard of Harlan Keith Groves much less had the pleasure to meet him. But Mr. Simbeck had; their warmth indicated familiarity.

So I did the obvious writer thing and asked where he was from and how he came to Loretto. (Those stories from newcomers are quite fascinating, in my opinion.)

Keith (as he asked me to call him) answered, smiling and pushing his round, bookish glasses up as the humidity slid them down. It seems he came to Loretto from his home in Springhill as a recruiter for the U.S. Census Bureau, found the Farmers Market on his first trip, met people like Mr. Simbeck and his wife, Jane, as well as others who work tirelessly at the Farmers Market, and fell in love with them and the town. He said he has been back every Friday since!

Amazed, I followed up with the next obvious question: What is the Census Bureau doing in Loretto now? To which Keith gave me his card and instructed me to go to the U.S. Census Bureau website to read about the jobs that are being recruited all over the country at this very moment. In Lawrence County he is recruiting approximately 200 jobs now and will be available well into 2020. In addition to part-time jobs for people to drive around and check addresses, there will be more jobs including actual census takers, office workers, and

Continued on A-3



Inspiration - Donie Simbeck of Loretto and Keith Groves of Springhill credit the Loretto Farmers Market for their budding friendship.



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