

# Business

## Fugitive almost tracked by cellphone

Ever try to get out of a cellphone contract? It's about as much fun as playing dodgeball with a bowling ball.

Apparently the cellphone companies don't cut anyone slack – even the fine members of our law enforcement community looking for a fugitive.

The story I'm referring to comes to us from the great city of Carrollton, Ohio, known by many as the Detergent Capital of the World. Police in Carrollton wanted to use the fugitive's cellphone signal to track him in hopes of avoiding any more trouble from a man described as mentally disturbed. That's never a good description.

However, the cellphone company had just shut off the man's service over an unpaid \$20 bill and refused to turn it back on – even for just a few minutes – to help officers. The sheriff had gone to the cellphone company to talk to employees himself but to no avail. The sheriff was about to pay the \$20 bill himself when deputies captured the man.

I guess employees from that cellphone company won't have much ground to stand on if they try to wiggle their way out of a speeding ticket. Generally speaking, I try to be more cooperative with people who have the power to arrest me.

As for other news of the odd, strange and curious nature, it's been several weeks since I've found a dumb criminal worth mentioning in Business Pulse, but that streak is about to be broken. And we have so-called gang member Alex Fowler of Jasper, Texas to thank.

Despite his claims to being rough and reckless, and having the words "Crip for Life" tattooed on his neck, Mr. Fowler found himself in a rather embarrassing situation. During an attempted home-invasion robbery, Fowler



was chased from the house by an 87-year-old female armed with a can of Raid insect repellent and threatening to spray him.

I think what this country needs is more gangsters like Fowler who can be run off by old ladies with bug spray. It would make America a much safer place to live.

That's enough silliness for now. It's time to get down to what pays the bills and that's Business Pulse.

### Tim's Motors settling in at new location

Tim and Stacey Floyd have gone from a cozy car lot to a king-sized dealership at the new location of Tim's Motors on Smithville Highway. They now have plenty of space for a used car supercenter and say they plan to keep 60 to 75 vehicles on hand when they get fully stocked.

They are now open and selling cars at their new spot, but they admit there is still much work to be done.

"Rome wasn't built in a day," said Stacey. "We're working to add to it every day. It will take us a good three to six months to get it how we want it."

Added Tim, "We've already used 127 gallons of paint. Thanks to us, I think Lowe's had a pretty good month."

The Floyds have a great success story that began in November, 1997 when they opened a tint and clean-up shop by the bridge in Mt. Leo. They stayed there for seven years



James Clark photos  
**Dr. Karl E. Lawrence has joined the River Park Hospital staff as its seventh hospitalist. He is shown with patient Janessa Bounds who is recovering from knee cap replacement surgery.**

before moving next to L&M Carpet on Smithville Highway. That's when they expanded the business to include vehicle sales.

The move to the old Dodge dealership puts Tim's Motors at one of the prime real estate spots in town. There's a 16,000-square-foot building and 6.2 acres, much of it paved.

"When we started, we planned on growing and growing," said Stacey.

Tim said they had been considering the property for months and figured now was the time to act with the current economic downturn and lower real estate prices. Tim and Stacey attribute

their success to offering quality vehicles that are dependable. They have traditionally sold a lot of Nissans, but have started to diversify more with different brands.

"I've always been around cars and I've done clean-up work for so long I know what to look for," said Tim. "I can tell pretty quickly if a car has been well maintained and if it's going to be a good vehicle. And we're pretty picky about what we sell. That's why it's going to take us a little while to build our inventory."

Stacey says she still does all her own window tinting and Tim says they will gradually be

offering more services. The first thing he plans to get running is a car rental service. He has other things in mind but doesn't want to reveal them just yet.

"We plan on using all this space over time," said Tim.

Several people have stopped by with résumés asking about jobs, and Stacey says they hope to be able to grow their workforce, but she stressed that will be in the future.

All vehicles on the lot are listed at [www.timsmotors.com](http://www.timsmotors.com) with several pictures. The phone number is 474-8467.

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### Quote NOTEBOOK

It is better to have a permanent income than to be fascinating."

– Oscar Wilde

"History teaches us that men and nations behave wisely once they have exhausted all other alternatives."

– Abba Eban

"The problem with any unwritten law is that you don't know where to go to erase it."

– Glaser and Way

"To be positive: To be mistaken at the top of one's voice."

– Ambrose Bierce

"The best car safety device is a rear-view mirror with a cop in it."

– Dudley Moore

"The trouble with being poor is that it takes up all of your time."

– Willem de Kooning

"The thing I hate about an argument

## Business Pulse

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Tim and Stacey are proof that hard work and good business practices do lead to success. They've grown from a small shop by the bridge to a 6-acre car lot. They've done well and Business Pulse wishes them continued success.

### River Park hires new hospitalist

Dr. Karl E. Lawrence has joined the staff of River Park as its new hospitalist. Since most people don't know what a hospitalist is, I'll explain.

River Park started its hospitalist program in July 2004 at the request of local family doctors. Since most doctors have jammed packed schedules and stay busy operating their practices, there's not much time to make regular hospital visits to care for their patients who are hospitalized.

Thus, River Park's hospitalist program was created. It started with three physicians and has grown to seven with the addition of Dr. Lawrence.

"This programs allows doctors to focus on their out-patient practice and if one of their patients should come to the hospital they will be in our care 24-7 and 365 days of the year," said River Park chief medical officer Dr. Randal Rampp. "It really helps doctors who are strapped for time juggling patients at the office and patients at the hospital. We're here and we're here all day long so it's a better quality of care. And it's been proven that hospitalist programs around the nation generally decrease a patient's hospital stay by about one day so it gets



James Clark photos

**Scott Carroll gets a tattoo Friday afternoon at TCB Tattoo by artist Mark Nichols. A new Tattoo for Toys program is aimed at generating money for Warren County's annual Toy Drive.**

them home quicker and helps save health care dollars."

Dr. Lawrence has been a practicing doctor at Knoxville-area hospitals for most of the past decade. He said he came to River Park because of its reputation.

"I've been told this is one of the top-rated hospitalist programs in the nation," said Dr. Lawrence. "The main thing is to help the patients get better, to give them a thorough exam, and to communicate with them so they can be actively involved in all steps of their care and the decision-making process."

Friday was Dr. Lawrence's third day at River Park so he's still making the transition from Knoxville to McMinnville. His wife and

their two children, ages 10 and 7, are still living and going to school in Knoxville for the time being.

Dr. Rampp says River Park is fortunate to land a hospitalist with the experience of Dr. Lawrence.

"Hospitalists are really in demand. There's a huge need for them," said Dr. Rampp. "So were are very pleased to find someone like Dr. Lawrence who has 10 years experience."

Dr. Rampp says the primary reasons patients are admitted to River Park are for chest pain, pneumonia, congestive heart failure and respiratory problems.

### LaCazona ready for expansion

I told you about two months ago that LaCazona was eyeing the space next door formerly occupied by Factory Connection. I saw LaCazona owner Manuel Ochoa at the soccer field last week and he told me his plans are in fact to take the space for an extravagant addition.

"I'm going to do it right and make it very nice," said Manuel. "It will probably take six months to get it the way I want it. I'm thinking water features and things like that to make it really nice."

LaCazona wants the extra space so it can accommodate banquets, large parties and regular meetings from civic clubs. Plus, it gets fairly busy on the weekends and sometimes it can be hard to get a table.

sale to get rid of every piece of furniture currently in their store.

"I don't want to have any of it left so there are going to be some people who get some really great deals," said Steve. "Come by and make me an offer because I don't want any of it left."

They say their shutdown will come because Village is moving two of its underground gasoline tanks from one portion of their parking lot to another. They figure the construction work will be such a mess it will be easier to close than limp through a month of poor business. When they reopen, they say the furniture will be gone and they will have a different focus, although they are not revealing what it is.

The tank removal will likely impact all four businesses in that immediate area. Village will have to stop selling gas during the transition. Furniture Depot is closing, while Subway and Images customers will have to tangle with heavy equipment scattered around the parking lot.

### TCB offers Tattoos for Toys

If you have always wanted to help the Warren County Toy Drive, but didn't know the best way to do it, TCB Tattoo has the

answer – get a tattoo.

Every customer who gets a tattoo and donates \$1 for a raffle will be eligible to win a free \$500 tattoo. Of that \$500, \$250 will be given to the tattoo artist and the other \$250 will be given to the annual Toy Drive organized by the Rescue Squad.

"You can help kids in Warren County and win a free tattoo in the process," said TCB owner Jack Feingold. "We just started this and there's already \$100 in there now. And I'm going to encourage the artist to donate their \$250 back to the Toy Drive. If I'm the artist, I know that's what I am going to do."

Jack is one of the bikers that helped to organize the annual Toy Ride that's been taking place in Warren County for the past 10 years. He said he's seen how times have changed over the past decade.

"It's getting tighter and tighter each year with the money," said Jack.

### That's all folks

If you have business news, I have the perfect place to put it. No, not there. Right here in this column. Give me a call at 473-2191, send me an e-mail at [standard@blomand.net](mailto:standard@blomand.net), or send me a fax at 473-6823.

