

GUARDIANS SKID AGAIN

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Medina County man faces murder charges
next month, LOCAL, B1



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Former fugitive faces murder charges

Garrett Looker
The Chronicle-Telegram

Former fugitive Donte Parker, who went on the run from Elyria police in February before being recaptured in July, is now an accused killer after being charged in connection with a 2024 murder in Lorain.

Parker, 24, of Elyria, was arraigned Monday in Lorain Municipal Court on charges including aggravated murder, aggravated burglary and felonious assault. He is accused of killing Leonard A. McCall Jr., 39, of Lorain, on Nov. 25, 2024.

The Lorain Police Department

previously said McCall was shot and killed near a West 14th Street home on that date.

The additional charges come on the heels of Parker being charged with multiple other crimes, including strangulation, unlawful restraint and resisting arrest — leading, in part, to his stint as an fugitive that lasted more than five months.

Acting Judge Matthew Bobrowski set bond at \$2 million. Jason Harless, Parker's court-appointed attorney, had asked that a "reasonable bond" be set while Assistant Lorain City Prosecutor Rocky Radeff asked for the

\$2 million bond due to Parker's previous charges and fugitive status.

Parker "is a known flight risk," Radeff said.

Jail records said the new charges were filed Friday by the Lorain Police Department.

The Lorain Police Department did not respond to a request for further information Monday. No further details were provided regarding the additional charges.

A preliminary hearing for Parker is scheduled in Lorain Municipal Court Sept. 2 at 1 p.m.

At the close of Monday's arraign-

ment, Harless was asked if he would come out and see Parker.

"Yes, I'll be out," Harless said. "I don't know about before Tuesday, but I'll be out."

"Thank you very much, thank you very much," Parker said.

Elyria police had attempted to arrest Parker on a felony warrant on Feb. 3 at an apartment on Washington Avenue. Officers said they found him hiding under a bed with a gun, which Parker wasn't allowed to have because he is a convicted felon.

Handcuffed by Elyria police, Parker broke away from officers, ran and

escaped across the Black River. Elyria police, along with sheriff's deputies and the North Ridgeville police K-9 unit, set up a perimeter, but were unable to find him.

Parker allegedly fled to Michigan, where he was being sought by the U.S. Marshals Service. His girlfriend, Petra Pintar, allegedly was on the run with him before turning herself in to authorities in April.

Pintar, 20, of Elyria, has pleaded not guilty to failure to comply, a felony, in a separate case in Lorain County Common Pleas Court.

See FUGITIVE, A2

SPOUTS AWAY!



BRUCE BISHOP / CHRONICLE

A waterspout makes an appearance about 8 p.m. Monday as seen from the pier on the Port of Lorain on Lake Erie. Forecasters said there will be thunderstorms and a chance for more waterspouts today.

LORAIN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Lorain man held in fatal July shooting

Dave O'Brien
The Chronicle-Telegram

The Lorain County Sheriff's Office on Monday arrested a Lorain man on charges he shot and killed another man in Lorain last month.

Jomar Perez, 21, of South Nantucket Drive, was being held without bond in the Lorain County Jail. He is charged with murder, a felony, in the July 29 shooting death of Robert Willis, 28, of North Ridgeville, according to a Sheriff's Office news release.

The Major Crimes Task Force and SWAT team served arrest and search warrants on Perez and his home early Monday morning, the Sheriff's Office said. The news release said Perez was "the target of an ongoing task force investigation for his alleged involvement" in Willis' murder.



Perez

Perez will be arraigned later this week on the murder charge in Lorain Municipal Court, according to the Sheriff's Office. Further

information is expected to be released at a news conference today.

Willis was shot and killed at about 9 p.m. July 29 in the 1700 block of Meister Road. Sheriff's deputies covering for Lorain city officers who were preparing for the following day's funeral of Lorain police Officer Phillip Wagner responded to the scene. Deputies found Willis shot behind the wheel of a car that had rolled several hundred yards before crashing.

See SHOOTING, A2

Two girls hurt after hit by car

Owen MacMillan
The Chronicle-Telegram

LORAIN — Two children were injured after being hit by a car while crossing the road in South Lorain on Sunday.

Councilman Angel Arroyo, D-6th Ward, said the girls, ages 7 and 9, were crossing East 31st Street at Clinton Avenue when they were hit. He said they sustained "road rash" and other injuries in the crash.

Neighbor Tony Padilla lives on East 31st Street near the intersection where the crash occurred, and was the one to call for help after the crash, which happened at 3 p.m.

Lorain city employees installed stop signs on East 31st Street at Clinton Avenue

on Monday, but on Sunday the crossing only had a fading painted crosswalk and yellow pedestrian signs.

The speed limit in the area is 25 mph and there were already stop signs on Clinton Avenue at the intersection.

Padilla showed security camera footage of the incident to Lorain police, and he also showed it to a Chronicle reporter.

In the video, two girls are seen crossing East 31st Street to the north. When they are about halfway across the street, screeching tires can be heard and then a silver car enters the frame traveling west through the Clinton Avenue intersection.

See GIRLS, A2



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T-STORMS,
COOLER

High of 69. Low of 50.
Forecast on A6

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