



Striking a pose for success

■ Lifestyles, Page 11A



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CHRONICLE & TIMES

Weekend Edition, March 29-31, 2019

FLOYD COUNTY

VOLUME 5, NUMBER 26 • 22 PAGES • 50 CENTS

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PMC considering Prestonsburg property for new facility



Floyd Chronicle and Times photo by Elaine Belcher
Pikeville Medical Center is expanding to Prestonsburg with the potential purchase of land to build a facility on South Lake Drive.

By ELAINE BELCHER
STAFF WRITER

Pikeville Medical Center may expand to Prestonsburg with the potential purchase of land to build a facility on South Lake Drive.

The Prestonsburg City Council, during a special meeting Thursday, signed a resolution to declare the site of the former Pop's Chevrolet, purchased from My Three Sons of Prestonsburg for \$440,000 by the

city in November 2017, as surplus property and to be sold to Pikeville Medical Center.

"Whereas the City of Prestonsburg ... has determined that said surplus property could be utilized for economic development purposes if sold to Pikeville Medical Center, Inc, that the transfer of such property would benefit the citizens and City of Prestonsburg by providing new industry and

See PMC, Page 9A

Loan approved for Southern

By MARY MEADOWS
STAFF WRITER

The Floyd County Fiscal Court agreed to help Southern Water this week.

During a special meeting on Wednesday, March 27, the fiscal court approved a resolution to provide a short-term loan of \$150,000 and to co-sign a loan for Southern Water.

The funds will be dispersed to Southern Water in \$75,000 increments, according to the

See LOAN, Page 2A

Progress reported on Martin project

By MARY MEADOWS
STAFF WRITER

The Martin Redevelopment Project has another new project manager, the new Renaissance Learning Center should open prior to the start of the next school year and demolition should begin on homes this year, officials with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers reported Tuesday.

See MARTIN, Page 10A

Rural road funding decreases in Floyd



Floyd Chronicle and Times file photo
This section of the Minnie-Harold connector is incomplete.

Minnie-to-Harold project won't be funded for years, KYTC officials says


By MARY MEADOWS
STAFF WRITER

For the second consecutive year, a discussion about the amount of rural and secondary road funding Floyd County will receive brought out frustration about a stalled road project during last week's fiscal court meeting.

Floyd County should expect to receive about \$1.6 million for work on rural secondary roads, according to Matt Moore, a section engineer with the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet's Highway District 12 in Pikeville.

That's less than the \$1.7 million in anticipated rural and

See PROJECT, Page 10A



Floyd Chronicle and Times photo by Mary Meadows

Matt Moore, a section engineer with the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet District 12 in Pikeville gives the Floyd County Fiscal Court an overview of rural secondary road projects his office is proposing for Floyd County.



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LOAN
Continued From Page 1A

resolution. Fiscal court members asked that the district provide a report showing how the funds were used before the second \$75,000 disbursement is made.

"We want the public to know we're moving through this process and being as cautious with the tax dollars as possible," Judge-Executive Robbie Williams said.

Southern Water Chairperson Jeff Prater told fiscal court members that request was "more than fair."

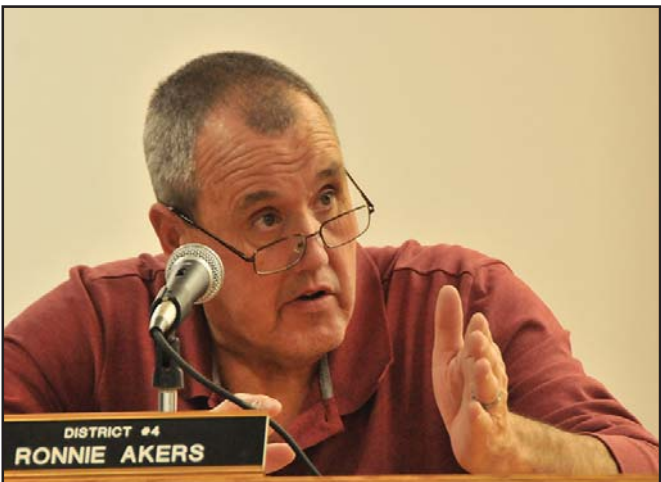
Southern Water recently declared a financial emergency and is seeking an emergency rate increase through the Kentucky Public Service Commission. On Monday, the district's board learned that it ended the month of February with a negative cash balance of around \$37,741 in the bank.

Prater addressed the fiscal court prior to the vote, telling them that he and other board members — who were recently appointed — take their appointments to the board "very seriously."

"We have looked into every possible avenue that we can," he said. "As of Monday night, we signed an emergency management agreement with UMG (Utilities Management Group) because we didn't see any feasible way moving forward to correct some of the systemic problems that we have without that."

He said the district needs cash to keep the district operating until the PSC approves the emergency rate increase application that is expected to be filed soon.

"We expect that to



Floyd Chronicle and Times photo by Mary Meadows
Magistrate Ronnie Akers asks questions about the operation of the Southern Water & Sewer District during a special meeting Wednesday.

take a minimum of 90 days, maybe more," Prater said. "But what we are here tonight to ask the fiscal court is two things. We're here to ask the fiscal court to help us to obtain short-term funding of a \$150,000 loan. The second part of our request is we're asking the fiscal court if they would entertaining loaning Southern Water \$150,000 until we can secure that loan from whatever financial institution and repay the fiscal court upon obtaining the loan."

Prater told the fiscal court that a 2017 agreement transferring about 1,200 of Southern Water's customers to Prestonsburg City Utilities is one of the reasons the district is struggling financially.

"The revenue from those 1,200 customers was not, I guess, adequately — the deal wasn't looked at financially very well because the revenue loss from those 1,200 customers really crippled Southern Water and the amount of revenue they're taking in now just cannot support the operations without those customers," Prater said. "It's create a terrible cash flow situation ... and you compound that with the problems. There's systemic problems with

the system with high water loss, failed meter issues and things that we're just now beginning to uncover that are going to take some capital investment and some time to correct."

Referencing UMG, Prater said the board believes it is developing plans "to turn this thing around."

He said the board is "trying to make long-term decisions and plans to put Southern in a position where that it will not only survive, but thrive in the coming years."

Greg May of UMG also addressed the fiscal court.

"First of all, I'd like to say — reiterate what Jeff says about we're not worried about what water's went under the bridge," May said. "We're not going to back up to try to catch that water or paddle back upstream, but I've had a team of five people, including myself, for two days over in Southern Water and we've uncovered a lot of issues."

He said his team found between 700 and 750 meters that are "dead running zero" on Southern's system, as well as 200 meters that are inactive. The residential and commercial customers that are "dead



Floyd Chronicle and Times photo by Mary Meadows
Southern Water & Sewer District Commission Chairperson Jeff Prater asks the Floyd County Fiscal Court for financial help.

running zero," are being billed for minimum water usage from the district, he said.

"There's going to have to be a meter replacement program," May said, noting that he believes the district is losing between 12 and 15 percent of its revenues on old meters that run slowly. He reported they found meters that are more than two decades old that have never been tested as required.

"We didn't come headhunting or to throw anybody under the bus, but, basically, the management of Southern Water, not casting any blame on whoever, but the management, not to stay on top of a waterline replacement and meter replacement and just a good comprehensive plan on operating this system, it's just not been there," May said.

He said his team

found issues both in the field and in administration, telling the fiscal court that both teams should work "hand-in-hand" to make the district successful.

Williams asked whether the prior management should have found some of the deficiencies May's team has discovered this week.

"Yes," May said. "I just don't know how you operate a system if you don't keep ... The management has not been very good."

Magistrate Ronnie Akers was the only fiscal court member present Wednesday who also served with previous administrations that dealt with repayment of a \$2.2 million bond the county backed for Southern Water years ago. In the past, fiscal court members have repeatedly criticized Southern Water because of that bond payment.

Akers asked numerous questions about Southern Water, seeking details about the management contract with UMG and other matters, including Southern Water employees, who are now managed by UMG. Williams made the motion to approve the resolution, while Akers seconded it. It was unanimous, with Mike Tackett absent.

Williams reported that the PSC contacted the county attorney to inform him that Southern Water does not need PSC permission for the loan if it will be repaid within two years.

A written contract was not available at the time the resolution was approved on Wednesday. Assistant County Attorney Beth Shortridge advised the fiscal court that the funds could not be released until that contract is written and signed by both entities.



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Progress reported on Mink Branch tank replacement

By MARY MEADOWS
STAFF WRITER

The Southern Water & Sewer District is a step closer to replacing a dilapidated water tower on Mink Branch.

During a meeting on Monday, Troy Hogge of the Kentucky Engineering Group told Southern Water commission members that a grant from the Appalachian Regional Commission will fund the entire project.

He explained that the ARC previously gave pre-approval for a \$500,000 grant for the project, and the Kentucky Engineering Group was going to seek a loan of around \$200,000 on behalf of Southern Water to complete it, but the ARC has now authorized the entire cost of the project.

The Kentucky Engineering Group has worked on the engineering and design for this project for years. Hogge previously reported that it has more than \$100,000 in design fees pending for work his company has already completed.

He said his company submitted requests for proposals for a project administrator for this project, and he presented two proposals from the Big Sandy Area Development District and Ceda, a

Troy Hogge with the Kentucky Engineering Groups answers a question about a proposal from the Big Sandy Area Development District to administer a federal grant that would be used to replace a dilapidated water tower in Mink Branch.

Floyd Chronicle and Times
photo by Mary Meadows

company in Richmond. The commission unanimously approved selecting the Big Sandy ADD as the project administrator, with officials reporting it would earn about \$13,500 from the grant for that work.

Hogge said Big Sandy ADD will disperse all of the funds, seek bids for the project and report to the commission monthly.

Hogge reported his company had to resubmit the documents regarding potential environmental impacts for this project.

He said he expects the funding to be available within 30 to 45 days.

Officials reported the tank was constructed in the 1960s and it serves 1,000 people. Plans to replace it have been pending for several years, and



prior funding attempts failed because of financial issues at Southern Water.

The tank is leaking and officials reported that it is also in danger of slipping off the hillside.

The plans call to relocate the tank more than a mile to another location at the same elevation, according to information previously provided to the commission. Officials said the capacity of the current tank is about 150,000 gallons, but the new tank will hold 200,000 gallons or more.

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Hall responds to PSC investigation

By MARY MEADOWS
STAFF WRITER

On Wednesday, Prestonsburg Attorney Ned Pillersdorf filed a response to the Kentucky Public Service Commission investigation the operation and management of Southern Water by former Manager Dean Hall.

In response to alleged violations of laws requiring Southern Water to periodically test its meters, Pillersdorf explained that those violations occurred because of “circumstances beyond his control.”

“Due to significant cash flow problems, the Southern Water board failed to allocate funds for the new meters,” he wrote, reporting that Hall sought grant funding.

He reported that Hall has been manager since 2014 and had “continuously requested” new meters. Greg May of Utility Management Group told the fiscal court this week that they found some meters over 20 years old that had never been tested on Southern’s system. The PSC requires meter testing every 10 years.

Pillersdorf also cited the lack of funding in response to the alleged failure to provide “adequate and safe” service due to water loss. He referenced the district’s old infrastructure, the region’s topography and asserted — as Southern officials testified in January — that 99 percent of county residents have access to clean water.

Addressing other allegations raised by the PSC, Pillersdorf reported that Hall was not aware the district could force fire departments to pay penalties for not submitting reports on their free water usage.

In response to allegations that Hall provided water to customers without charging them, Hall attached a letter from former Prestonsburg City Utilities Commission Superintendent Turner E. Campbell regarding the discovery of 40 customers in the Harold-Betsy Layne area who were getting free service.

Campbell testified about finding customers getting free water in January, but in the letter, submitted after the hearing, he reported that no incidents of straight hookups on nonfunctioning meters in that area were documented.

“As Dean Hall testified at the hearing in January 2019, they simply do not have the personnel to go out and check approximately 6,000 customers to see if people are improperly receiving free water,” Pillersdorf wrote. “Dean Hall specifically denies intentionally allowing anyone to receive free water including any commercial establishments.”

As requested, Pillersdorf also attached water service payment records from Champs Country



Floyd Chronicle and Times file photo
Officials report that Dean Hall, the former manager of Southern Water & Sewer District, was injured at work on March 22 and is currently on medial leave. The district’s board hired the Utilities Management Group of Pikeville to manage the district.

Cooking since 2015. They show the business was billed between about \$31 and \$231 each month, and the \$231 charge in 2015 was the only time in that period in which the business’ water bill exceeded \$100. Payments, however, exceeded \$100 ten times since 2015, the document shows.

May told the fiscal court on Wednesday that his team found between 700 and 750 meters that are “dead running zero” on Southern’s system, as well as 200 meters that are inactive. The residential and commercial customers that are “dead running zero,” are being billed for minimum water usage from the district, he said.

Hall also denied allegations that he changed the terms of loans for Southern Water in order to get those loans without PSC approval. The PSC requires approval from loans that last more than two years, and the change in the terms extended those loans past two years, the PSC reported.

Pillersdorf wrote, “Apparently, there was a misunderstanding between the board and (CPA) Jeff Reed as to whether or not the PSC should have been notified of the loan transactions.”

The loans were necessary for district operations, he reported, and “there is certainly no intention of anyone involved to mislead anyone” about them.

Hall is scheduled to appear at the PSC for a hearing in the case on May 8.

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EDITORIAL

A matter of motive

Martin's lack of transparency raises even more questions about city's operations

Let's be clear — we do not expect perfection from elected officials and public servants.

Serving in a public service capacity — if done correctly — is tough, complicated and often thankless.

People have different reasons for seeking election to public office. Some do so because they want to better their community and believe they can facilitate that. Some, however, seek office for more selfish reasons — to pad their resume or sometimes even financially or otherwise benefit from public office.

Motive, in the case of seeking public office, matters. And motive not only matters in that case, but it often comes to the surface when the rigors of service really hit hard.

With the City of Martin, questions of motive abound and also may explain why we're doing such a deep dive into their finances and paying so much attention to this small town.

A few months ago, somewhat due to growing concerns over the city's eye toward annexation, questions began to arise. In our role as a watchdog for the people — one of our key jobs — we began

asking questions.

As a part of that, we asked the Martin city government for a number of records, mainly centered on the city's finances. Over the ensuing months, we have received records from Martin, but have yet to receive all the records for which we asked.

Recently, Kentucky Attorney General Andy Beshear's office, which is the initial arbiter for disagreements between government agencies and the public on open records issues, found that, in the case of the records we requested, the city "subverted" or undermined the authority of the state's open records laws in not providing those records.

We're not alone. Terry Thornsberry, a key participant in the "We The People" organization that opposes the city's annexation, also received similar opinions from the AG's office.

We have been accused of bias against Martin for our searches for information regarding its operations. We would caution that those who attempt to impugn our motives likely have something to hide.

The Floyd County Chronicle and Times is

a part of Appalachian Newspapers, an organization operating newspapers in four Eastern Kentucky counties and one in West Virginia. The reporters with Appalachian Newspapers cover municipalities throughout the region.

The records we've requested from Martin are not something odd or out-of-the-ordinary for our operations. What is out-of-the-ordinary, however, is the level of obstruction to which we've been subjected in Martin.

In many municipalities, our reporters simply ask for these documents at the government body's meeting and they're provided. That's it. There are no redactions, there's no obstruction. We simply ask and receive. Sometimes we raise questions based on the data, but more often, we simply examine it to do the best job we can to ensure the public is being represented well.

And that's where motive comes in. Again, elected officials aren't perfect. They don't always do the right thing or know everything they need to know to correctly make all the right decisions.

But, if a person's mo-

tive for public service is right — serving, not being served — then, instead of being obstructive, elusive and refusing to provide the public to see behind the scenes, they will attempt to make sure the public is informed.

In Martin, we have had to undertake steps and deal with issues to which many of our reporters — some of whom have decades of experience in covering public agencies — have never been subjected.

Let us again be clear again — this isn't the case of a news agency asking a city to go over and above. We are asking the city to do the bare minimum of work required to ensure governmental transparency.

And, despite the opinion of the state's top prosecutor that Martin had not followed the law, the city continues to not provide complete records and has avoided its responsibility under the law.

What we see in Martin is evidence of a government agency that has decided that it is the final authority on what happens with the revenues (mostly collected through involuntary taxes) it collects and the expendi-

tures it makes.

The City of Martin officials, if they ever had a basic understanding of the principles of our representative republic that requires that they serve and answer to the public, not the other way around, have either intentionally or unintentionally lost sight of that.

Make no mistake. We will continue digging for answers in Martin. Why? You deserve to know — that's why. The City of Martin collects taxes and fees from its residents and those who work in or travel through the city.

You have no choice but to pay these taxes or fees. As a result, the city has a basic responsibility to be open to questions about how they're using those revenues. And, honestly, the questions at which we have arrived during our examination of Martin raise serious questions about the city, its operations and its ability to operate into the future.

But we don't see the whole picture. Unfortunately, that's by design.

Despite, however, the city's continued skirting of the law and of basic ethical responsibility, we will continue to ask the questions. We will con-

tinue to file open records requests. We will continue to attend meetings and publish stories about what's going on in Martin.

The more they attempt to hide, the more questions raise. And we commit that we will be there to see that the public gets the answers to those questions. That's not a legal requirement, that's our duty.

CHRONICLE & TIMES

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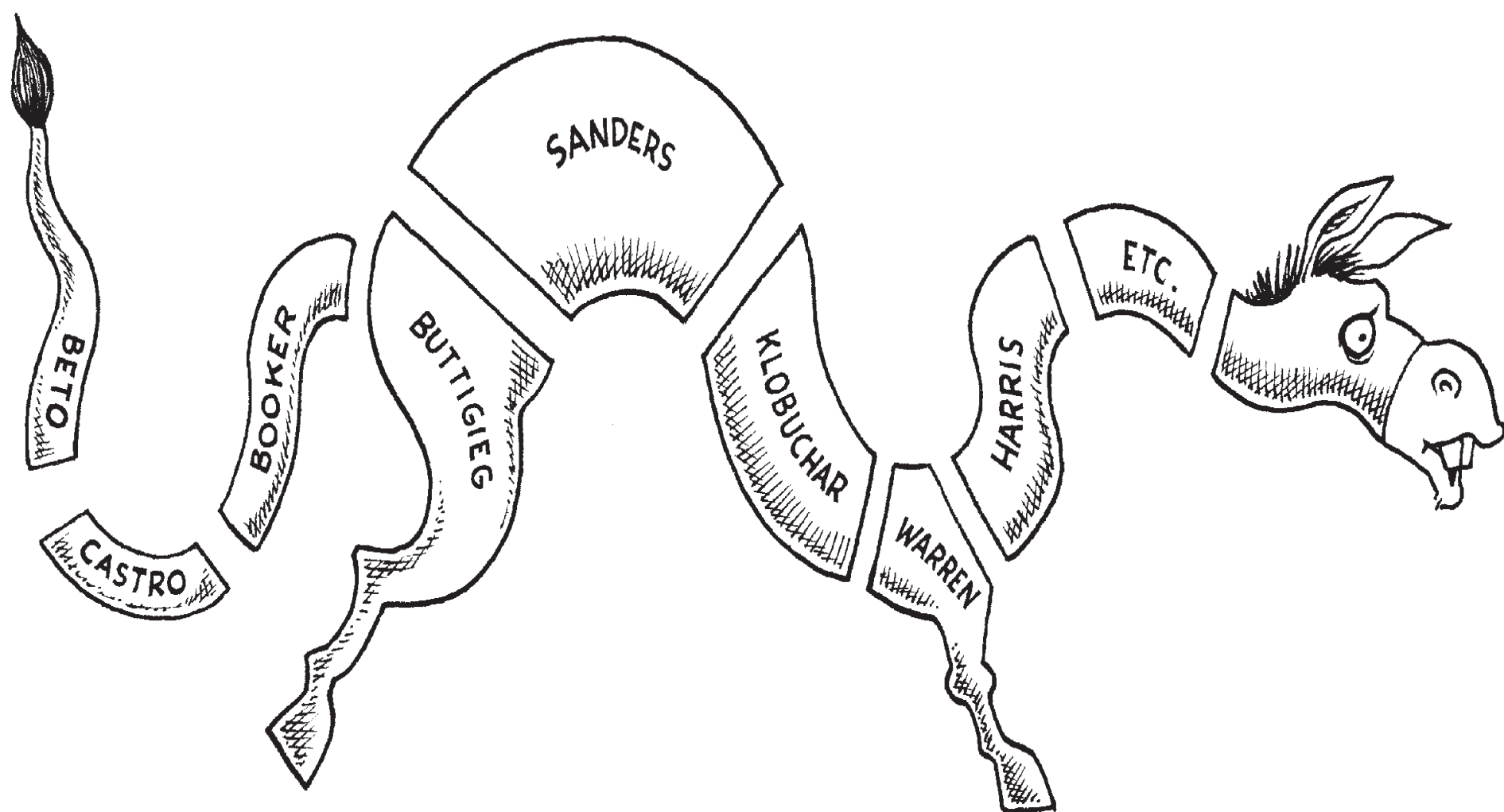
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FLOYD COUNTY
CHRONICLE
AND TIMES

OBITUARIES



Dallas Calhoun

Dallas Calhoun, 80, of Martin, passed away on Monday, March 25, 2019, at St. Joseph's Hospital, Lexington.

He was born May 22, 1938, a son of the late Wallace and Easter (Potter) Calhoun.

He is survived by his wife, Freda Collins Barnett Calhoun, of Martin and was a retired banker.

He is also survived by two sons: Scott Calhoun and his wife Lucy of Lexington and Derek Calhoun of Greenville; one daughter, Delayna Care of Lexington; one stepson, Rick Barnett and his wife Terri of Dema; one step daughter, Kathy Barnett Cox and her husband Jim of Banner; eight grandchildren: Tana, Emma, Nicholas, Taylor, Dallas, Jimmy Radford, Beth and Colby; six great-grandchildren; two brothers: Don Calhoun and his wife Rita of Lexington and Darrell Calhoun and his wife Vicki of Mt. Sterling; one sister, Josephine Plazek and her husband Ed of Omsted Falls, Ohio and a host of nieces, nephews, family and friends.

Visitation was held Wednesday and Thursday, March 26-27, at Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, Martin.

Celebration of Life services will be held at 1 p.m., Friday March 29, the funeral home, with Moderator Omery Chuck Hall.

Burial will follow in Gethsemane Gardens, Prestonsburg.

Arrangements are under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home of Martin.

This is a paid obituary.

Thelma K. Conway
Thelma K. Conway, 90, of Versailles, died Tuesday, March 26, 2019.

Visitation will be held at 6 p.m., Friday, March 29, at Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, Martin.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m., Saturday, March 30, at St. Martha's Catholic Church, Prestonsburg.

Burial will follow in the Buckingham Cemetery, Bevinville.

Arrangements are under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home of Martin.

Alice E. Hale

Alice E. Hale, 90, of Fairborn, Ohio, formerly of Paintsville, died Tuesday, March 26, 2019.

Visitation was held Thursday, March 28, at the Belton-Stroup Funeral Home, Fairborn.

Visitation will be held at 5 p.m., Friday, March 29, at Hall Funeral Home, Martin.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m., Saturday, March 30, at the funeral home.

Burial will follow in the Dave Hale Cemetery, Martin.

Arrangements are under the direction of Belton-Stroup Funeral Home of Fairborn and Hall Funeral Home of Martin.

Myredia Howell

Myredia Howell, 68, of Teaberry, died Thursday, March 27, 2019.

Visitation will continue Friday, March 29, at the Zion Old Regular Baptist Church, Grethel.

Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m., Saturday, March 30, at the church.

Burial will follow in the Andy Branch Cemetery, Tinker Fork.

Arrangements are under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home of Martin.

Ray Edward Ousley

Ray Edward Ousley, 53, of Paintsville, died Wednesday, March 27, 2019.

Visitation was held Thursday, March 28, at Carter Funeral Home, Prestonsburg.

A memorial service will be held at a later date.

Arrangements are under the direction of Carter Funeral Home of Presontsburg.



Belinda G. Wilson

Belinda Goble Wilson passed away on Saturday, March 16, 2019, in upstate New York. She was 65.

Belinda was born in Prestonsburg and raised in Allen. Fiercely independent and ever the adventurous spirit, she lived in Arizona, Florida twice, Alabama and New York with stints in Kentucky in between. Belinda was a registered nurse who did missionary work in Costa Rica and particularly enjoyed the fast pace of the emergency room.

Anyone who knew Belinda knew she was passionate about her dogs Slinky, Rachel, Luke and Ramsey, to name a few. She was multi-talented with a keen eye for color and aesthetics. Belinda was creative and artistic and incredibly skillful with her hands, whether it was sewing, ceramics, gardening or playing the piano. Her favorite places in the world were the mountains of Kentucky, where she grew up, and beaches of Florida.

Belinda was preceded in death by her parents Fannie and James Goble and her son Stephen M. Wilson.

She is survived by her son and daughter-in-law, Adam M. and Vivian and Vivian Wilson-Hwang; her grandson Beckett M. Wilson-Hwang; her siblings: James Goble, Sheila Griffith and Sharon G. Neeley; and her nieces and nephews: Angelia Neeley, Richard Neeley, Matthew Goble, Sarah McCoy, Andrew Griffith and Andrea Griffith.

A celebration of Belinda's life will be held at 171 Cemetery Loop Road, Allen, on Saturday, April 29, at 2 p.m. A picnic will follow at Dewey Dam, Shelter #4, Jenny Wiley State Park, Prestonsburg, Ky.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the ASPCA.

This is a paid obituary.

Criminal charges, lawsuits filed in Floyd

A FLOYD CHRONICLE AND TIMES STAFF REPORT

The following charges and lawsuits were filed recently in Floyd District Court and Floyd Circuit Court:

Felony cases filed

Amy R. Bevins, 40, of Hardy; first-degree trafficking in a controlled substance, second-degree fleeing, paraphernalia

Kevin Jarrod Warrix, 41, of Pikeville; first-degree trafficking in a controlled substance, possession of drug paraphernalia

Frankie Myers, 40, of Hardy; first-degree trafficking in a controlled substance, possession of drug paraphernalia

Nathaniel Newsome, 36, of Craynor; first-degree trafficking in a controlled substance

Melissa L. Slone, 46, of Garrett; first-degree possession of a controlled substance, possession of drug paraphernalia

Rogie Case, 40, of Martin; first- and second-degree possession of a controlled substance

Brian K. Wright, 46, of Prestonsburg; excessive window tinting, rim/

frame obscuring lettering, first-degree possession of a controlled substance, carrying a concealed deadly weapon

Misdemeanor charges filed

Mike Johnson, 53, of Melvin; fourth-degree assault

Steven Castle, 35, of Wheelwright; public intoxication of a controlled substance

Christian C. Crawford, 20, of Ivel; two counts of third-degree criminal mischief

Steven Moore, 39, of Mallie; second-degree criminal mischief (remanded from circuit court)

Kayla D. Rogers, 44, of Harold; public intoxication of a controlled substance

Thelma Elizabeth Hall (Perry), age and address unavailable; third-degree criminal mischief, theft by unlawful taking

Rhonda Hinkle, 47, McDowell; theft by deception (cold checks)

Olivia Artis, 20, of Pikeville; no registration plates, no registration receipt, failure to maintain insurance, trafficking in marijuana, driving on a

suspended license

Rogie Case, 40, of Martin; public intoxication of a controlled substance

Destiny Gooslin, 27, of Pikeville; theft by unlawful taking (shoplifting)

Zeola L. Vance, 35, of Pikeville; public intoxication of a controlled substance

Kimberly Crisman, 47, of Pikeville; theft by unlawful taking (shoplifting)

Chad Mitchell, 45, of Teaberry; falsely reporting an incident, second-degree disorderly conduct

Joseph Fink, 41, of Van Lear; fishing without a license

Vernis Thornsberry Jr., 43, of Kite; receiving stolen property

Brian K. Samons, 47, of Garrett; theft by unlawful taking

Whitney L. Robinette, 30, of Tram; fourth-degree assault

Kandy Hamilton, 45, Teaberry; second-degree criminal mischief

Chad Allen, 47, of Garrett; third-degree criminal mischief

Nicholas Burkett, 24, of Prestonsburg; harassment

Michael Carver, 20, of Dwale; possession of marijuana

Marriages, property transfers filed in Floyd County

SPECIAL TO THE FLOYD CHRONICLE AND TIMES

The following marriages, property transfers have recently been filed in the Floyd County Clerk's office:

Marriages

Melissa Manock, 45, of Prestonsburg to Kenneth Ray Hinton, 51, of Prestonsburg

Johnna Simone Dobson, 22, of Prestonsburg to Lance Ralph Phillips, 21, of Prestonsburg

Jerred Keith Emmett Chapman, 34, of Harold to Jennifer Henderson, 29, of Harold

Kayla Nicole Mitchell, 27, of Prestonsburg to Nathan Ray Lazar, 29, of Prestonsburg

Matthew K. Johnson, 31, of Bevinville to Hannah Lynn Hahn, 24, of Bevinville

Aurora D. Thacker, 37, of Weeksbury to Don

Alan Burke, 47, of Weeksbury

Property transfers

Appalachian Wireless, East Kentucky Network to New Cingular Wireless LLC, lease (Deeds Book 644; pg. 95)

Ralph Brown, Wilman Brown to Trena A. Beard-sley (Deeds Book 644; pg. 100)

Charles Ramey to Judy Crum, Virgil Crum (Deeds Book 644; pg. 104)

Randy Stevens to Paul Howell (Deeds Book 644; pg. 107)

Emma Hicks to Curtis Hall Rentals LLC (Deeds Book 644; pg. 111)

Master Commissioner Isaac Gregory, Joseph C. Akers, Margaret Akers, Calvary SPV 1, Commonwealth of Kentucky, Department of Revenue, Department of Treasurer,

Division of Collections, DOT Capital Investments, Floyd County KY, Internal Revenue Service, MTAG Custodian for MDG, United States of America to Kenneth Hall (Deeds Book 644; pg. 232)

Mary June Allen to Dennis Deboard, Janice Deboard (Deeds Book 644, pg. 203)

Alma Land Company to Cindy Irene Mullins, Larry James Mullins (Deeds Book 644, pg. 181)

Norman Arflack, Sonya Bogale, Leslie Clay, Matt Clay, Samantha Ellis Piedad, Cory Spencer, Patrick Jones, United States Marshal to J, LLC (Deeds Book 644, pg. 164)

Phillip J. Bartley to Samantha Sifers (Deeds Book 644, pg. 173)

Jordyn Elizabeth Conn to JDF Court II, LLC (Deeds Book 644, pg. 132)

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- Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FOPIR)
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- Head Start (only households meeting the income qualifying standard)**

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Appalachian WIRELESS

Weekend Edition, March 29 - 31, 2019 • Page 7A

Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.

– 1 Corinthians 15:58

And they sang a new song, saying:
 “You are worthy to take the scroll
 and to open its seals,
 because you were slain,
 and with your blood you purchased for God
 persons from every tribe and language and people and
 nation.
 You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to
 serve
 our God,
 and they will reign on the earth.”
 – Revelation 5:9-10

Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."
– Matthew 28:18-20

Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."

– Matthew 9:35-38

Now in the church at Antioch there were prophets and teachers: Barnabas, Simeon called Niger, Lucius of

Cyrene, Manaen (who had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch) and Saul. While they were worshipping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." So after they had fasted and prayed, they placed their hands on them and sent them off.

– Acts 13:1-3

Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved,
a worker who does not need to be ashamed and who
correctly handles the word of truth.
– 2 Timothy 2:15

Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains. Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should. Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.

– Colossians 4:2-6

"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples."

– John 15:5-8

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.
– Colossians 3:23-24



BY JAMIE BECKETT
CHRONICLE & TIMES

This week, our congregation took part in Light the Fire, a 10-year initiative where various congregations and groups of Christians are constantly praying for the Word of God to be spread across the world. Hand-outs outline prayer suggestions, starting with praising the Holy God. Topics include praying for unity, our leaders, the church, obstacles hindering evangelism, locally supported missionaries, as well as persecuted Christians.

The tide may be turning against Christianity in the United States, but in other places around the world, people are already suffering great persecution because of their beliefs. Voices of Martyrs (VOM) lists 30 countries where Christianity is either "restricted" or "hostile." Restricted is defined as "countries where government-sanctioned circumstances or anti-Christian laws lead to Christians being harassed, imprisoned, killed or deprived of possessions or liberties." On their list of 30 countries, 24 of them fall into this category. The other six countries are hostile, meaning "governments consistently attempt to provide

protection for the Christian population, but Christians are routinely persecuted by family, friends, neighbors or political groups because of their witness." Currently, VOM lists 15 people imprisoned for their Christian beliefs, six people in Eritrea and five in China.

Open Doors, another non-profit organization, releases a yearly World Watch List of the top 50 countries where Christians face "extreme persecution," "very high persecution," or "high persecution." Topping both lists by Open Doors and VOM is North Korea. North Korea has been ranked number one for 18 years in a row on the World Watch List. They report the state drives persecution. "Christians are seen as hostile elements in society that have to be eradicated." "If Christians are discovered, not only are they deported to labor camps as political criminals or even killed on the spot, their families will share their fate as well." A study from the International Bar Association says "Christians are heavily persecuted and receive especially harsh treatment in prison camps, with one former prison guard testifying that 'Christians were reactionaries and there were lots of instructions...to wipe out the seed of reactionaries.'"

While we may not be there to personally aid these Christians, we are asked to pray for them. Our hand-out outlines ten ways to pray for our persecuted brothers and sisters in Christ, which I'd like to

share with you.

1. Pray that persecuted believers will sense God's presence (2 Kings 6:16).
2. Pray that they will feel connected to the universal body of the church (1 Corinthians 12:20, 26).
3. Pray they will experience God's comfort when their family members are killed, injured or imprisoned for their witness (2 Corinthians 1:3-5).

Christians are
seen as hostile
elements in society
that have to
be eradicated.

- 4.** Pray they will have more opportunities to share the gospel. That those who would persecute would see the love of Christ and desire it (Colossians 4:3).
- 5.** Pray for their boldness to make Christ known (Philippians 1:14).
- 6.** Pray they will forgive and love their persecutors (Matthew 5:44).
- 7.** Pray that their ministry activities will remain undetected by authorities or others who wish to silence them.
- 8.** Pray they all rejoice in suffering (Acts 5:41).
- 9.** Pray they will be refreshed through God's Word and grow in their

faith (Ephesians 6:17-18).
10. Pray they will be strengthened through the prayers of fellow believers (Jude 20-25).

Despite the unethical, harsh realities these Christians face, there are blessings. An unidentified Christian worker states, "Persecution became fertilizer for the spread of the gospel." VOM reports, "In places where there was strong persecution, the evangelists observed more eagerness among the new believers to apply biblical principles to their lives. In some places, their dedication even made communities more accepting of Christians. 'Extending discipleship to the persecuted will bring about a stronger church,' the Christian worker said."

Even in the Bible we see that persecution was a catalyst for spreading God's Word. Stephen was the first Christian martyr. "On that day a great persecution broke out against the church in Jerusalem, and all except the apostles were scattered throughout Judea and Samaria... But Saul began to destroy the church. Going from house to house, he dragged off both men and women and put them in prison. Those who had been scattered preached the word wherever they went (Acts 8:1-4)."

God can and will use persecution to spread His Word. We may not like the method, but in the end, God will be glorified. In the meantime, may we pray for our fellow Christians who are suffering.

If you are someone who “lives inside your head,” that is, who thinks a lot or who dwells on things, positive or negative, you are probably aware that your thoughts have an effect on your body. Thinking too much about our plans for tomorrow turns into worrying about tomorrow and keeps us awake and leads to a generally unhealthy state of mind and body. Conversely, keeping our minds focused on positive things, such as all the things we have to be thankful for, generally leads to positive feelings which suffuse the body with a sense of peace and gratitude. What fills the mind eventually makes its way into our bodies, and what fills the mind very often comes to us through our bodies. If we want to have peace of mind, therefore, we should guard our eyes, our ears, and even our mouths. What we see and hear most certainly enters our minds, but what comes out of our mouths also has its effect on our bodies. Think of the pangs of regret we have immediately after saying something unkind or imprudent. The mind-body connection works in both directions: what goes into our minds affects our bodies and what we do with our bodies affects our minds.

—Christopher Simon

“A heart at peace gives life to the body,
but envy rots the bones.”
Proverbs 14:30 NIV

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Services – 10:45 a.m & 7 p.m.
WEDNESDAYS
Service – 7 p.m.

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Big Sandy ADD encourages Opportunity Zone development

By **ELAINE BELCHER**
STAFF WRITER

Big Sandy Area Development District Director Ben Hale encouraged board members to take advantage of areas of their counties classified as Kentucky Opportunity Zones at the ADD's recent meeting.

According to Hale, a Kentucky Opportunity Zone is a low-income U.S. Census tract that encourages individuals and corporations to invest in a variety of economic development projects through "opportunity funds."

"These zones offer tax credits and financial aid for up to 10 years, but you have to actually start building within the zone before you can get the credits," he said.

According to information from the Opportunity Zone website, KyOz.com, designation as an Opportunity Zone allows certain investors in these zones to realize

significant federal tax advantages, such as a deferred gain must be recognized on the earlier of the date on which the opportunity zone investment is sold by or before Dec. 31, 2026.

The zones also offer a step-up in basis for capital gains reinvested in an opportunity fund and, according to the site, the basis of the original investment is increased by 10 percent if the investment in the qualified opportunity zone fund is held by the taxpayer for at least five years, and by an additional five percent if held for at least seven years, excluding up to 15 percent of the original gain from taxation, according to KyOz.com.

A permanent exclusion from taxable income of capital gains from the sale or exchange of an investment in a qualified Opportunity Zone fund, if the investment is held for at least 10 years.

(Note: this exclusion

applies to the gains accrued from an investment in an Opportunity Fund, not the original gains).

According to Hale, the purpose of these tax advantages is to attract capital investment into economically distressed areas.

"The IRS has not yet released guidelines for opportunity funds but is expected to do so soon," he said. "These areas in Kentucky — both urban and rural — have been classified as low-income or undeveloped. In fact, over half the communities eligible for designation as Opportunity Zones had fewer jobs and fewer businesses in 2015 than in 2000."

Opportunity Zones were created by Congress to encourage long-term investments in low income urban and rural communities nationwide. Gov. Matt Bevin submitted Kentucky's nominations to the U.S. Treasury Department on March

21, 2018, and on April 9, 2018, the U.S. Treasury Department certified Bevin's nominations, officially designating 144 areas in 84 counties as Opportunity Zones spread across Kentucky, with one or more zones being within driving distance of all Kentuckians.

According to Hale, the Kentucky Cabinet for Economic Development has been charged with administering the state's Opportunity Zones.

"The cabinet, in cooperation with local communities, will maintain and disseminate updated, current information about available sites and opportunities for investment in Opportunity Zones, established opportunity funds, and other information necessary to connect investors with opportunities in Kentucky," he said.

For more information about opportunity zones, visit, KyOz.com.

LIHEAP program funding extended

SPECIAL TO THE FLOYD CHRONICLE AND TIMES

Community Action Kentucky is extending its enrollment period for the crisis component of the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). Applications will now be accepted through April 30, a 30-day extension, or until designated funds are depleted on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Qualified residents should apply at any one of the 23 Community Action Agencies located across the state.

"We are happy to be able to extend the enrollment period for the LIHEAP Crisis Component, giving those struggling to pay their heating bills more time to access these critical funds," said Roger McCann, executive director of Community Action Kentucky. "Each year, the Community Action Kentucky Partnership provides heating assistance to over 100,000 Kentucky

families through LIHEAP. We encourage qualified applicants to check with their local Community Action Agency as soon as possible to secure available funding."

LIHEAP support is divided into two components, a subsidy component and a crisis component. The subsidy component can offset heating costs based on an

individual's income and primary fuel type. Benefits, which range from \$34 to \$274, are paid directly to the primary fuel vendor. Enrollment for the subsidy component is open November-December each year.

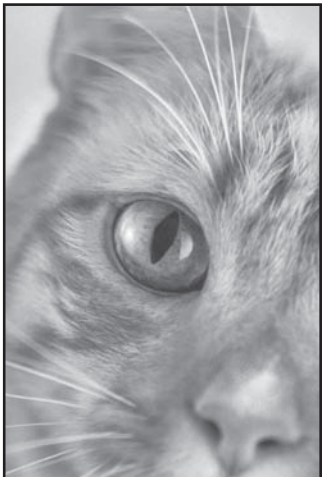
To utilize the crisis component, applicants must meet the same income eligibility requirements as the subsidy

component, as well as have received a "disconnect" notice from their utility company or be within four days of running out of a non-metered fuel such as propane. Applications are being accepted now for the crisis component.

For more information, call the agency's office in Allen at, (606) 874-4350.

Community Events

- March 29, 7:30 p.m.: The Oak Ridge Boys, Mountain Arts Center. macarts.com
- April 1-5; 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.: Big Sandy Area Community Action Program, 60 Court St., Allen, offers free garden seeds to low income families. Proof of income from prior month, social security numbers for all household members, utility bill for proof of address required. (606) 874-3595
- April 1, 6 p.m.: Allen City Commission meets, Allen City Hall. (606) 874-2953
- April 2, 5:30 p.m.: Free Bornlearning Academy for children age birth to five and their parents, South Floyd Elementary. Free meal. Final event. (606) 263-6175
- April 5: RSVPs request for "Sensitive Easter Bunny," a sensory-friendly event for children with autism or special needs, which will be hosted by ARH on April 20 at Graceway United Methodist Church in Langley. (606) 377-3431
- April 6, 10 a.m.: Volunteers sought for Park Day cleanup of the Middle Creek National Battlefield, Prestonsburg. Bring weed eaters, trash bags, gloves, lawn mowers. Park Day t-shirt will be provided, as supplies last.
- April 8, 9 a.m.: Big Sandy Regional Industrial Authority meets, Sandy Area Development District. (606) 886-2374
- April 8-13: Floyd County Spring Cleanup. Free dumping at Garth transfer station from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on week days and from 8 a.m. to noon on Saturday. (606) 886-9193
- April 8, 5:30 p.m. Final Tiny Eagle Academy for kids age birth to five, Allen Elementary. Free. (606) 874-2165
- If you have been thinking about becoming a foster/adoptive parent, please contact Jacqueline Mosley with the Cabinet for Health and Family Services at (606) 889-1724 for more information. The cabinet needs families who are interested in fostering teens and sibling groups.
- Every Tuesday, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.: Moms Meet Moms in Recovery support group, offering free diapers, baby items, babysitting, food, refreshments, informational resources, at Destination Church. Qualifies as "parent education" and "peer support group" required by drug court. For information, call Kelly at, (606) 886-2788
- Every Sunday, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.: The Art Gallery in Langley is open at 297 Johns Branch Road in Langley. artgalleryinlangley.org



“AT FIRST I WAS EMBARRASSED. ME, A CAT, LIVING WITH A SINGLE GUY. BUT WHEN I WATCH HIM PICK SOMETHING UP WITH HIS HANDS AND EAT IT, I CAN’T HELP BUT LOVE HIM.”

—MARU
adopted 01-10-10

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Federal judge rejects Medicaid work mandate

By JOHN CHEVES
LEXINGTON
HERALD-LEADER

A federal judge has once again struck down Gov. Matt Bevin's tougher eligibility rules, such as work requirements and premiums, for several hundred thousand low-income people receiving health coverage through Kentucky's Medicaid program. The new rules were set to take effect on Monday.

U.S. District Judge James Boasberg in Washington, D.C., rejected Bevin's Kentucky HEALTH proposal and returned it to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services for further consideration. States cannot refashion Medicaid "in any way they choose," Boasberg wrote in an order handed down Wednesday. By law, Medicaid must promote health coverage for people, he said.

"As a consequence, once again finding the re-approval was both contrary to the (Affordable Care Act) and arbitrary and capricious, the court will vacate and remand to HHS for further review," Boasberg wrote.

Bevin's office did not immediately respond to a request seeking comment Wednesday.

Bevin repeatedly has threatened to terminate Kentucky's expanded Medicaid program for more than 400,000 low-income adults if the courts prevent him from going forward with the tougher eligibility rules of Kentucky HEALTH. Boasberg referred to Bevin's threat in his decision, writing: "Kentucky, it seems, has now picked up that gun by threatening to de-expand Medicaid."

Sixteen Kentucky Medicaid recipients sued the federal government in January to prevent Bevin from adding 80-hour-a-month work, study or volunteer requirements; premiums; monthly reporting duties; and six-month coverage lock-out periods for failing to cooperate for able-bodied adults who are enrolled in the state's \$9.7 billion-a-year Medicaid program.

A similar group of plaintiffs successfully blocked Bevin's Kentucky HEALTH proposal last summer. However, in November, the U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services re-approved Bevin's Medicaid waiver

proposal with minor revisions — Boasberg called them "modest changes" Wednesday — prompting an amended lawsuit to be filed this year, again in Boasberg's court.

In his decision, Boasberg said HHS erred by approving Kentucky HEALTH for reasons unrelated to the fundamental purpose of Medicaid, such as saving the state of Kentucky money and theorizing that people are healthier if they are forced to search for employment because a job will teach them "self-sufficiency."

"The secretary (of HHS) does not weigh the benefits of their self-sufficiency against the consequences of coverage loss, which would harm and undermine the financial self-sufficiency of others," Boasberg wrote. "These deficiencies render his determination arbitrary and capricious."

Boasberg also faulted the government for not having any clear notion of how many Kentuckians could lose their coverage under Kentucky HEALTH. Critics have offered numbers ranging from 95,000, using the Bevin administration's own estimates, to 297,500.

"Whatever the precise calculation, the number is undoubtedly substantial. While the secretary has now nominally acknowledged that (95,000) estimate, none of his responses evinces the kind of 'reasoned decision-making' that arbitrary-and-capricious review requires," Boasberg wrote.

One of the groups representing the Medicaid recipients in court, the National Health Law Program, said Wednesday that Medicaid "is not and never has been a program intended to encourage work."

"The law is about providing health care services to low-income individuals and families and under-served populations. It is nonsensical and illegal to add obstacles to Medicaid for large groups of individuals who are already working," said NHLP legal director Jane Perkins.

Among the outside groups that filed briefs against Bevin's plan in court were the American Medical Association, the American Psychiatric Association, the Catholic Health Association of the United States, the American Academy of Pediat-

rics, the American College of Physicians, AARP, the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys, and the Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund.

In their briefs, the groups said tens of thousands of Kentuckians unfairly would be pushed out of Medicaid as the state charged premiums from people living near the poverty line; made them search for work or volunteer positions even in poor, rural communities where few opportunities exist; and required them regularly to report their shifting hours and wages to a state agency, or else be locked out of their coverage.

These critics have pointed to Arkansas, where 18,000 Medicaid recipients have lost their coverage since that state last year added work requirements and other

rules similar to Bevin's proposal, most of them without finding jobs. In a related ruling Wednesday, Boasberg also struck down Arkansas' work requirements for Medicaid recipients.

More than 1.3 million Kentuckians were enrolled in Medicaid last fall, about 30 percent of the state's population.

Insurance coverage for Kentuckians surged under the Affordable Care Act. The uninsured rate fell from 20.4 percent in 2013 to 7.8 percent in 2016, the nation's biggest decline, according to the University of Louisville's Commonwealth Institute of Kentucky. Most health researchers credit the decline to the decision by former Gov. Steve Beshear to expand Medicaid to Kentuckians living at or below 138 percent of the federal

poverty level — many of them working but without employer-provided insurance.

Bevin, a Republican, was elected to succeed the Democratic Beshear in 2015.

Bevin has promoted Kentucky HEALTH by saying that able-bodied adults on Medicaid will be healthier if they are engaged in their communities as workers, volunteers or students, and if they contribute toward the cost of their care. Monthly premiums would begin at \$1 to \$15, eventually topping out at \$37.50.

"This idea that we are somehow punishing people — that somehow this will be a detriment to people — I think is a huge, huge misunderstanding of what people need, the dignity and the respect that comes from

giving people an opportunity," Bevin told reporters last year.

The long-running battle over how Kentucky's expanded Medicaid program should be managed might be made irrelevant by another looming courtroom fight.

This week, President Donald Trump's administration filed paperwork in the U.S. 5th Circuit Court of Appeals arguing that the entire Affordable Care Act should be scrapped, including the section that allows states to expand their Medicaid programs to the working poor. If Trump and a coalition of Republican state leaders are successful in this case, an estimated 21 million Americans could lose their insurance, including those who receive federal subsidies for private plans and those covered by expanded Medicaid.



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PMC

Continued From Page 1A

access to health care ...," the resolution said.

Pikeville Medical Center CEO Donovan Blackburn said in a statement Thursday afternoon that PMC is still in the due diligence phase of the property acquisition.

Pending the outcome of that process being favorable, the statement said, the sale will proceed.

At that time, the statement said, PMC will provide more detail on the services that will be offered at the new loca-

tion.

"We look forward to the opportunity to more conveniently meet the healthcare needs of the people of Floyd County and the surrounding areas," Blackburn said in the statement. "We thank Mayor Les Stapleton and the Prestonsburg City Council for their assistance with this project, their commitment to improving the availability of healthcare resources in the community and their foresight concerning the economic development opportunity that this project can bring to the city."

BSCTC students hope to inspire other female mechanics

A FLOYD CHRONICLE
AND TIMES STAFF REPORT

Big Sandy Community and Technical College highlighted two women who are enrolled in the college's automotive technology program this week.

Samantha Walker and Regina Rogers, described by the college as women who "love everything about motors," work "very closely" together at the college's automotive tech program at the Mayo Campus.

"From actual engine swaps to shop talk about cam shafts, timing covers, etc., these women feel as though they have a big responsibility in the pursuit of their careers," a press release said. "They hope they will inspire other women and girls to join the ranks of the auto tech world."

Rogers is a second-generation student at Mayo, where her father was also educated.

When asked about

women working in a male-dominated industry, Rogers said, "Women have to work extra hard in the auto tech industry. She must have a lot of passion, but women can have a 'man's job.'"

Inspired by her father and grandfather, Walker said her family was always rebuilding Volkswagen engines throughout her childhood. When asked if she wanted to specialize in repairing imports she answered, "What isn't an import in the auto industry?" She enjoys rebuilding older engines.

Before Walker enrolled in the automotive technology program, she earned degree in ultrasound technology.

"The days of being indoors in a dimly lighted room did not work for her. So, she came back to community college to pursue her dream of becoming an auto mechanic. Her father encouraged her to change careers in order to find personal



Samantha Walker and Regina Rogers are students in the Big Sandy Community and Technical College automotive technology program at the Mayo campus.

happiness," the press release said.

For more information, contact Heath Keathley

at, hkeathley0002@kctcs.edu or Forrest Steward-

son at, forrest.steward-son@kctcs.edu

PROJECT

Continued From Page 1A

secondary road funding Moore announced to the fiscal court in February 2018.

He presented a list of the district's proposed projects for some of that funding to the Floyd County Fiscal Court last week.

He explained that of the \$1.6 million, \$796,600 will be set aside for routine maintenance like signage and snow removal, \$2,400 will be set aside for county judge expenses and \$145,137 will set aside for Flex funding that the county can spend on

county roads. That leaves about \$656,000 in funding for construction work on rural secondary roads.

Moore said the district is recommending spending that \$656,000 on a project that would replace two culverts on Branham's Creek, and fund the patching of asphalt on Ky. 2030 from Printer to Little Mud, as well as on Frasures Creek, where a coal mine closed, and on State Road Fork and Ky. 1750.

Moore told fiscal court members that he'll give them a couple of weeks to review the recommendations and add to it, if needed. Magistrate Ronnie Akers wasted no time

in making his request known.

"Matt, I've got a question. You said that magistrates in a couple of weeks could add a road. Can I go ahead and add mine tonight?" Akers said. "I'd like 680 from Tackett Branch over to Minnie completed."

"Me, too," Judge-Executive Robbie Williams said.

Moore said he expected to be asked about that road, which is 2.8 miles short of completion, so he spoke with the chief engineer before attending the meeting.

"Right now, it's not scheduled to go to bid until 2022," Moore said.

Akers responded, "2022. So, that will be after the governor's race, right, when he'll be out of office?"

Williams said, "Three more years."

The project would connect Minnie and Ky. 680 to U.S. 23 at Harold. The Transportation Cabinet announced the beginning of construction of the next-to-the last section of the road in 2015, but, a 2.8-mile section in the center of the project is still incomplete.

Rep. Ashley Tackett Laferty filed House Resolution 160, urging the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet to resume construction of the road this

year. It was adopted by voice vote on March 13.

The resolution reports that the cabinet introduced a "Pause 50" program in 2016, "in an effort to restore funding levels" to the state road fund.

The resolution alleges that because of the stalled construction, Ky. 680 is incomplete and a portion of it that transitions into Ky. 979 has been "transformed into a dangerous roadway to navigate."

At the meeting, Moore also answered questions about when Ky. 1428 — which was closed this year because of a mudslide — will be reopened.

Moore said district officials met with the property owner and a natural gas company.

"The slide originated off our right-of-way, and there's a lot of material that's coming down from the top, and we're trying to work out a solution to have it fixed," he said.

Williams said, "If you can, just let your bosses know it's a major inconvenience for folks out there. I understand we're all in a similar situation with all the rain we've had. We're fighting it, too," Williams said.

Both he and Moore said they receive several calls a day about the road closure.

MARTIN

Continued From Page 1A

Cpt. Roxanne A. Jones of the US Army Corps of Engineers answered questions about the redevelopment project prior to the Martin City Council's March 25 meeting, which was canceled for lack of a quorum.

Jones reported that the completion date for the entire project is 2023, but she noted that a federal environmental review may extend the project through 2027.

Jones said she recently obtained all signatures required on the memorandum of agreement approved by the city council last month for a waterline project to serve the new school, which is located on Varia Mountain. She said Corps officials would provide final approval on that agreement this week and work on the waterline project should get underway soon.

In the agreement, Prestonsburg City Utilities agreed to replace an existing master meter, pressure reducing

valve, vault and associated pipes, valves and other parts of the water supply for no more than \$72,200. The agreement calls for Martin to construct a 1,000-foot water main for of cost of no more than \$294,000. Summit Engineering is assisting with that part of the project. Jones said this work should be finished by the start of the new school year in August.

It was originally expected to be completed last school year, but waterlines on Varia Mountain did not provide enough water pressure for the school. The school board recently moved RLC students into the former Allen Central High School building, citing concerns with the building in the downtown area of Martin.

After the meeting was canceled, Jones

also answered questions about the redevelopment project for council members James Reynolds, Bonita Compton and Harold Case.

Jones reported she was moving into a new position and introduced them to Mark Sutton, the new project manager for the redevelopment project — the third project manager to take on the position since last year.

She reported that four homes in the downtown area are expected to be demolished this year and she presented council members with a document, saying it was a notice informing the city that the old city hall building in the downtown area will also be demolished.

Reynolds told her he received a request from someone who is interested buying the old city hall

building and moving it to another location. She told him she could contact the company, Danny Sullivan Excavating, that was awarded the bid to do the demolition and pass along that information.

Reynolds also asked

whether the city can retain the post office on Varia Mountain — a question raised several times over the past several months by Reynolds and other council members. The post office is currently housed in a building that is leased from a

private entity.

Jones said the future development of the Phase 1 site is to be determined by the Floyd County Fiscal Court, Martin City Council and the Big Sandy Area Development District.



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Submitted photos
Caitlyn Collier and Kathy Burchett of Pikeville and Kelly Johnson of Prestonsburg competed at the National Physique Committee Northern Kentucky Grand Prix in Louisville on March 23, winning in their individual categories.

Striking a pose for success

K-Fitness team sweeps NPC Northern KY Grand Prix

By ELAINE BELCHER
STAFF WRITER

As K-fitness in Pikeville approaches its first anniversary, the hard work of owner Kelly Johnson of Prestonsburg and her staff of fitness trainers is already making its mark.

Johnson with clients Caitlyn Collier and Kathy Burchett of Pikeville, competed at the National Physique Committee Northern Kentucky Grand Prix in Louisville on March 23 and won in their individual categories. The National Physique Committee is the largest amateur bodybuilding organization in the United States.

Collier swept the bikini category with a first place finish in class B,

novice class A and true novice class A divisions — after only eight months of training with Johnson.

Burchett won first place for masters over 50 bikini category, fifth place in class C, second place in the novice A figure and true novice B figure and fifth place in novice B figure

Johnson who placed first in the class c and masters over 40 bikini divisions, competed in her first NPC competition last year and used the experience to inspire her clients to reach their own fitness goals.

"Caitlyn and Kathy really worked hard and put every ounce of effort into getting ready," said Johnson. "We get up at 3:30 a.m. and train until 5:30 a.m. four or five days

a week and eat a very strict diet to get down to 10 percent or less of body fat. They are both amazing women and I am proud of them for their hard work."

The trio's accomplishments in the Northern Kentucky Grand Prix qualify them to compete in a national-level event against bodybuilders from across the nation. Burchett and Johnson can compete at the 2019 NPC North American Championships in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, while Collier can go to the 2019 NPC National Championships in Miami, Florida.

"Bodybuilding is not easy. Everything has to be earned and it takes a lot of hard work and sacrifice," said Johnson.

"The team at K-fitness are there to inspire our clients, offer our support, be it emotional, nutritional or motivational support, to help them reach their goals."

K-Fitness is a 24-hour women's gym offering weight-lifting resistance training and numerous studio classes with access to personal trainers.

"The fact is that anyone can set and reach a fitness goal," she said. "If it's just to drop some weight, build muscle or for a competition — it just takes work and the willingness to eat right and work out consistently to reach them."

For more information about K-fitness, call, (606) 552-0410, or visit the business' Facebook page.



Submitted photo
Caitlyn Collier, 27, of Pikeville swept the bikini category at the National Physique Committee Northern Kentucky Grand Prix with a first place finish in class B, novice class A and true novice class A divisions — after only eight months of training.



Nominations sought

SPECIAL TO THE FLOYD
CHRONICLE AND TIMES

Big Sandy Community and Technical College is seeking nominations for its "Outstanding Alumni" award.

The award recognizes the achievements of alumni who "exemplify BSCTC's commitment to community, profes-

sion and/or BSCTC," a statement from the college said.

Qualifying candidates are alumni of BSCTC, Prestonsburg Community College or Mayo State Vocational School.

To nominate someone for the honor, contact Teresa McCoart at, teresa.mccoart@kctcs.edu



'Music Rules Fest' to be held

SPECIAL TO THE FLOYD
CHRONICLE AND TIMES

The Mountain Arts Center and Capture Kentucky will present the "Music Rules Fest" on Saturday, May 11, at the amphitheater at Jenny Wiley State Resort Park in Prestonsburg.

The music will start at 3:30 p.m. and it will last throughout the evening. The event will also be open to vendors selling

food and other items.

The lineup includes music by Arlo McKinley & The Lonesome Sound, Leah Blevins, Joslyn & The Sweet Compression, Sean Whiting, Chelsea Nolan and Waylon Nelson.

Tickets are \$22 in advance or \$27 at the door. They can be purchased by visiting, macarts.com, calling (888) MAC-ARTS, or stopping by the MAC Box Office.



Debbie Blackburn completes role as member of PMC Board of Directors

By CAROL CASEBOLT

Monday, March 18, 2019, Debbie Blackburn served her last day as a member of the Pikeville Medical Center (PMC) Board of Directors. During the board meeting, PMC Board of Directors President Ron Burchett presented Blackburn with a plaque and gift in appreciation of her dedication and service to the hospital.

Blackburn graciously served the hospital for five years as a board member. Her motivation to serve on the board was multifaceted. She knew what the hospital meant to the city, not only for health care, but also because of the economic driver it had become.

"I also listened to my heart," said Blackburn. "My daddy had suffered a heart attack seven years earlier. I

knew what it meant to him to be able to receive the quality care he needed for the rest of his life, without the burden of travel."

Blackburn has a genuine passion for the hospital and has thoroughly enjoyed her time on the board. She says it is a remarkable process that you cannot fully comprehend from the outside looking in.

"I am blessed to have found new friends and enjoyed the diversity and comradery of the board members and staff," she said. "Seeing the dedication that the entire PMC staff has to this hospital, but more importantly to the patients, is nothing short of inspirational. There are countless examples of employees going above and beyond health care to show compassion for their fellow man!"

She recalled several new advancements during her five

years of service on the board.

"It is amazing to know that we are on the cutting-edge of technology, especially in our heart and vascular institute," she added. "Watching the cancer center rebound with superior new physicians has been very rewarding."

Although she no longer serves as a board member, she has every intention to continue to give to PMC. She plans to continue working on the Annual East Kentucky Heart Ball, the hospital's largest, most successful fundraiser. She also has an unending passion for the development of the PMC Children's Hospital.

"I am excited to give my input, not only as a previous board member, but as a mom and Mimi."

She says she has full confidence in those who are leading the organization forward.

"The nine executives at the helm are an exceptional group," said Blackburn. "They are not only experts in their respective fields, it is obvious they have a tremendous passion for the organization, want it to succeed and work extraordinarily well together. With the help of the nearly 3,000 incredible employees, they will successfully lead PMC to greater heights than most can imagine."

Her message, as she closes this chapter of her life, is one of optimism and love.

"I wish PMC great prosperity and will cheer all future accomplishments with a sense of pride. I pray that God will continue to lead, guide and direct the hearts, minds and footsteps of every person who has a part in the accomplishments of the hospital!"



PMC thanks physicians

By AMY CHARLES

On October 30, 1990, President George Bush signed a resolution into law designating March 30 as National Doctors Day. Pikeville Medical Center (PMC) takes time on this day to say thank you and remember all the credentialed physicians and providers who work tirelessly to save lives and restore health to those in the region.

PMC leaders appreciate the doctors who treat PMC's growing number of patients and recognize their talent.

"PMC Senior Leadership and I are continually grateful to the caring physicians on staff here at the hospital," said Donovan Blackburn, CEO. "Our doctors continue to provide quality care to the region despite the rapid growth of our facility. We could not continue to provide these specialty services without our dedicated team of physicians."

"As a physician, I am proud to be counted among the outstanding providers here at PMC," said Senior Vice Presi-

dent, Chief Medical Officer/Assistant CEO Aaron Crum, MD. "I truly appreciate the hard work and dedication our doctors put into building this great organization."

This year promises to be another year of development thanks to the Physician Recruitment Department, who continue to recruit physicians who add new specialties to PMC's ever-expanding services.

"The progression of this hospital and our continuous growth makes 2019 a very exciting year here at PMC. We continue to focus our commitment on recruiting nationally recognized specialists and providing our region with the most advanced life-saving procedures," said PMC Physician Recruitment Director Ashley McCoy. "Thank you to all of our physicians for your devotion and efforts to making PMC a leader in health care! Happy Doctors Day!"

For more information about the services offered at PMC, please call 606-218-3500 or visit www.pikevillehospital.org.

PMC Wound Care Center saves local doctor's foot

By AMANDA JO LAWSON

Richard Salisbury, OD, of Martin, Ky is a real success story for the wound care treatment he received at Pikeville Medical Center (PMC). Dr. Salisbury came to PMC to seek an additional opinion for his diabetic foot ulcer after receiving treatment at a medical facility in Lexington, Ky.

"I was experiencing no healing in my sore. I developed discoloration and redness all over my foot," said Dr. Salisbury. "I was searching for answers to improve my condition."

Diabetic foot ulcers occur in approximately 15 percent of patients with diabetes.

"I sought a second opinion after the physician in Lexington suggested that amputating a portion of my foot was the only solution for healing my wound," said Dr. Salisbury. "After researching information about PMC's Wound Center I decided to make an appointment."

"PMC had an impeccable reputation for wound care," added Dr. Salisbury. "They came highly recommended from everyone I talked to. I was hopeful that my diagnosis could improve with their medical care."

"We offer patients a comprehensive approach to heal wounds that have resisted other treatments," said PMC Wound Center Manager, Tonya Goble. "We take pride in providing quality treatment to help patients avoid loss of limbs and reduce the incidence of recurrence."

She says patients who have a wound that has not begun to heal after two weeks or has not healed entirely within six weeks, may benefit from PMC's advanced modalities. The wound center offers hyperbaric oxygen therapy, MIST® Ultrasound Ther-



apy, cellular tissue-based products and bio-engineered skin grafting, total contact casting and other off-loading means, compression wrapping and advanced wound dressings.

"Dr. Salisbury's wound had been open for about a month when he began treatment at our wound center," added Goble. "The tip of the left toe had inadequate blood supply. He was at risk for amputation if we could not initiate some quick healing."

Dr. Salisbury met with PMC Podiatrist Mariano Rivera, DPM, FACFAS, and he began treatment on his ulcer by the use of advanced wound dressings, sharp debridement and negative pressure wound therapy to promote healing.

"Dr. Salisbury's foot responded to treatment," said Dr. Rivera. "We started to see significant improvement after only a few weeks."

He says PMC's Orthopedic Department, Infectious Disease Department and the Wound Center

worked together quickly to get his infection resolved and were able to save Dr. Salisbury's foot.

"I am so thankful for the wound center at PMC," said Dr. Salisbury. "Their extensive treatment allowed me to heal without losing a limb."

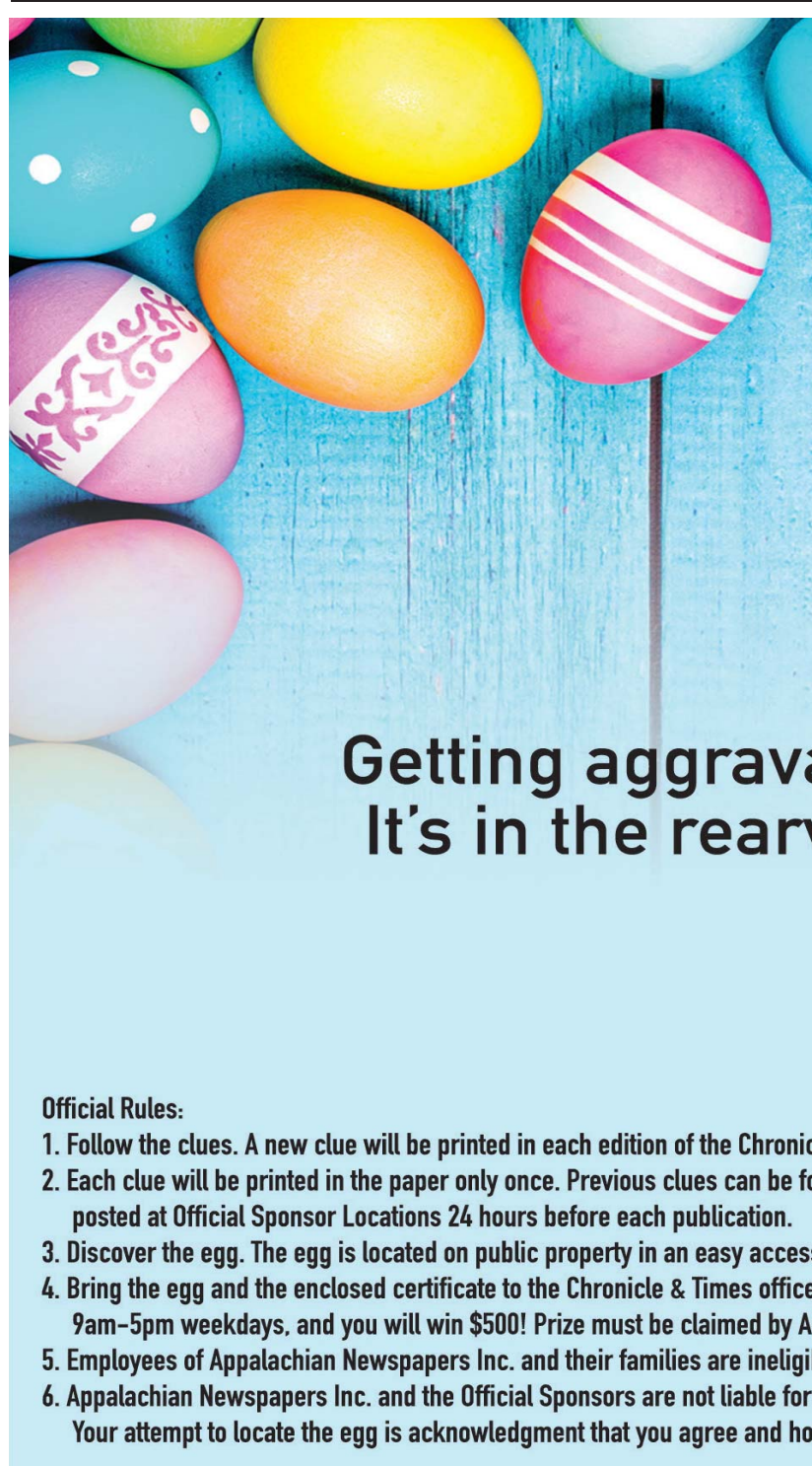
He says he received highly compassionate care during his treatment. He said the wound center treated him like family and he appreciated that tremendously.


"I felt like the staff was just as eager to save my foot as I was," added Dr. Salisbury. "They cared as if it was their foot facing amputation."

Dr. Salisbury says PMC is a top-notch facility.

"I would advise anyone to come to PMC," said Dr. Salisbury. "I could not have gotten better care anywhere else. Without the PMC Wound Center, I would not have made this much progress."

For more information about PMC's Wound Center or to make an appointment, call 606-218-4721 or visit www.pikevillehospital.org.






The 2019 Great Easter Egg Hunt

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MADNESS**





Appalachian Newspapers Inc. All-Mountain Team

All-Mountain First Team	
Noah Back	Perry Central
Connor Roberts	Pikeville
Jacob Rice	Johnson Central
Cory VanHoose	Johnson Central
Trey Francis	Phelps
Kobe Browning	Buckhorn
Christian Billiter	Pikeville
Colby Fugate	Paintsville

All-Mountain Second Team	
Wade Pelfrey	Hazard
Seth Williams	Paintsville
Nick Keeton	Paintsville
Noah Caudill	Perry Central
Isaiah May	Johnson Central
Trey James	Sheldon Clark
Rylee Sammons	Pikeville
Keian Worrix	Shelby Valley

All-Mountain Third Team	
Cameron Worrix	Shelby Valley
Brady Whitaker	Magoffin County
Caleb May	Tug Valley
Tyler Maynard	Lawrence County
Logan Hall	Hazard
Ethan Smith-Mills	Floyd Central
DaSean Penn	Pike Central
DeAndre Reed	Perry Central

Honorable Mention	
Brady Dingess	Paintsville
Braxton Tharp	Paintsville
Avery Browning	Belfry
Canaan Fletcher	Belfry
Dezmon Roblee	Belfry
Jaylyn Williams	Perry Central
Cameron Turner	Perry Central
Isaac Moore	Mingo Central
Ethan Colegrove	Tug Valley
Zach Bentley	Betsy Layne
Jordan Frazier	Betsy Layne
Grant Orsborn	Betsy Layne
Gabe Ferrell	Johnson Central
John King	Johnson Central
Seth Mayhorn	Phelps
Domineck Francis	Phelps
Graham Burchett	Prestonsburg
Grant Justice	Prestonsburg
Cameron Hess	East Ridge
Eli Sykes	East Ridge
Brady Adkins	Pike Central
Bryce Adkins	Pike Central
Orbie McPeek	Shelby Valley
Samuel Stanley	Shelby Valley
Kyle Watkins	Pikeville

Sports Editor's Note: The All-Mountain team is comprised of players from the Appalachian Newspapers Inc.'s five newspapers: The Appalachian News-Express, the Floyd Chronicle and Times, the Paintsville Herald, the Hazard Herald and the Mingo Messenger. For more on the All-Mountain Team, see the Appalachian Newspapers Inc. presents Bank On It podcast. Episode 22 will give in depth analysis of the Girls' and Boys' All Mountain Team. Appalachian Newspapers' Randy White, Trevor Thacker, Cody Davis, Steve LeMaster, Joshua Blankenship, Cory Vance and Bank On It's Wes Hutchison voted on the All-Mountain Teams. To watch the Bank On It podcast Episode 22 featuring the All-Mountain Team, snap a photo of the QR Code above for a link to the Bank On It YouTube channel.



Floyd Central's
Ethan Smith-Mills

Hicks, McKenzie Co-COY

All Mountain Co-Coach of the Year

Jim Hicks
Shelby Valley
Shelby Valley coach Jim Hicks led the Wildcats to a 28-6 record. He also led the Wildcats to their third 15th Region All "A" Classic championship in his tenure as head coach. Hicks and the Wildcats advanced to the All "A" Classic state semifinals and led for most of the game against University Heights in the semifinals. Shelby Valley fell to UHA 57-47. UHA went on to win the All "A" Classic state championship.

Tommy McKenzie
Johnson Central
It's not always how you start, but how you finish and Tommy McKenzie's Johnson Central Golden Eagles finished the year strong. The Golden

Eagles came on at the end of the season to win the 57th District championship and the 15th Region title as well. McKenzie has led Johnson Central to eight straight 15th Region championship game appearances. Johnson Central finished the season with a 27-8 record this season.

Coach of the Year Finalists

Elisha Justice
Pikeville
In his first two seasons as Pikeville head coach, Justice led the Panthers to back-to-back 15th Region championships. Justice and the Panthers advanced to their third straight 15th Region title game, but fell to Johnson Central. Pikeville finished the season with a 23-9 record and the 59th District championship.

Corey Hoskins
Buckhorn

Buckhorn wasn't expected to be in the mix in the 14th Region before the start of the season. Coach Hoskins and his team had everybody talking by the end of the season. Kobe Bowling established himself as one of the top players in Eastern Kentucky during his sophomore campaign. Hoskins led the Wildcats to a 21-10 record this season.

Landon Slone
Paintsville
Slone had the Tigers in the hunt for the 15th Region championship this season. Paintsville had a young squad loaded with talent. Slone got the talented team to play hard and Paintsville advanced to the 15th Region semifinals before falling to Pikeville. Paintsville finished the season with a 19-8 record. The Tigers return nearly their whole roster next

Cody Potter tabbed POY

Player of the Year

Cody Potter
Shelby Valley
He is a natural shooter. Many people often say he's the best shooter they've saw on the high school level. Potter can light up the score book when he gets hot. He tied the All "A" Classic state tournament for most threes in a game with nine. Potter led the Wildcats averaging 22.1 points per game and 9.6 rebounds per game. Potter shot 49 percent from the field this season. He was 122 for 288 from three-point range (42.4 percent) on the season. Potter scored 751 points on the season. Potter is just a junior and will return next season for his senior campaign.

Potter will be one of the favorites to earn Kentucky's Mr. Basketball award next season for the best player in the state.

Player of the Year Finalists

Noah Back
Perry Central
Back is a scorer. He averaged 18 points per game this season and knocked down 43 percent of his three-point attempts. He was 117 for 273 from long range. Back helped lead the Commodores to a 19-13 record last season. Perry Central won the 54th District championship and the 14th Region championship. He had a memorable Sweet 16 performance as well. He scored 17 points and knocked down five threes against Butler. Back nearly made a game-winning three at the end of regulation; the ball went in and came out.

Connor Roberts
Pikeville
Roberts was the leader on a really good Pikeville team. Roberts led the Panthers in scoring. He averaged 18.7 points per game. Roberts shot

43 percent from the field and 42 percent from the three-point line this season. Roberts was a strong guard who got to the rim and finished well. He passed well and played the defensive pass lanes well. Roberts helped lead Pikeville to a 23-9 record and their third straight 15th Region championship appearance.

Jacob Rice
Johnson Central
Rice had a big postseason for the Golden Eagles. The senior point guard sacrificed his offense for defense and that sacrifice helped the Golden Eagles win the 15th Region championship. He held Shelby Valley's Cody Potter in-check in the 15th Region semifinals and aggravated Pikeville's Connor Roberts in the championship game. He was awarded the 15th Region Tournament

See POTTER, Page 2B

Lady Jaguars drop back-to-back games

By **STEVE LeMASTER**
SPORTS WRITER

STANTON — Floyd Central dropped a pair of early-season high school baseball games over the weekend, falling to host Powell County and Perry County Central to Saturday.

Powell County 7, Floyd Central 4

Floyd Central doubled up its opponent 10-5 in the hits column but fell short on the scoreboard as host Powell County prevailed 7-4 in a high school baseball game on Saturday.

Nathan Skidmore was the winning pitcher for the Pirates. Skidmore, who is set to join the Eastern Kentucky University football program in the fall, lasted five innings, allowing eight hits and four runs while striking out six. Daniel Poe and Austin Begley entered the game out of the

bullpen and helped to close out the matchup in relief roles for the Pirates. Begley recorded the last three outs to earn the save.

Floyd Central pitcher Caleb Hager took the loss. Hager pitched six innings, allowing seven runs on five hits and striking out eight.

Wyatt Clark drove in two of the Pirates' seven runs.

Hager, Logan Conley, and Matt Combs each managed multiple hits for the Jaguars. Hager went three for three at the plate to lead Floyd Central in the hits column.

Perry Central 11, Floyd Central 1 (5 innings)

Floyd Central fell behind early and couldn't recover from its slow start as Perry Central pulled away to win 11-1 in five innings in a high school baseball game on Saturday.

Perry Central pitcher Mason McAlarnis

earned the win. McAlarnis lasted four innings, allowing five hits and one run while striking out two and walking one. Dawson Kersey threw one inning in relief out of the bullpen for the Commodores.

Floyd Central pitcher Dylan Mosley took the loss. Mosley allowed seven hits and seven runs over four innings.

Perry Central doubled up Floyd Central 10-5 in the hits column.

Ryan Couch and Zack Gayheart led Perry Central with two hits apiece. Couch and Trevor Spurlock drove in two runs each for the Commodores.

Logan Conley led Floyd Central at the plate, finishing two for two.

Floyd Central committed four errors in the setback.

Floyd Central was hosting Hazard at press time on Thursday.

Bobcats fall to Belfry

By **STEVE LeMASTER**
SPORTS WRITER

ALLEN — Betsy Layne suffered its second straight loss to a 15th Region opponent earlier in the week as visiting Belfry pulled away to win 12-1 on Tuesday.

With the loss, Betsy Layne dropped to 1-4.

Belfry improved to 5-1 with the win.

The Pirates outthit the Bobcats 13-6.

Belfry never trailed. The productive Pirates scored first and never had to play from behind during the early-season clash. Belfry led 12-0 before Betsy Layne answered with its first run in the bottom half of

the seventh inning.

Thriving late, Belfry plated nine runs over its last three at-bats.

Belfry pitcher Chandler Fluty earned the win. Fluty allowed one hit and zero runs over two and two-thirds innings, striking out five and walking one.

Betsy Layne pitcher Zack Bentley suffered the loss. Bentley surrendered five runs on five hits over five innings, striking out three. Two other Betsy Layne pitchers, Brady Robinson and Josh Hall, entered the game from the bullpen, throwing one and 1/3 innings and 2/3 of an inning, respectively.

Brett Coleman, Kev-

in Browning, Kaleb Taylor, Austin Fields and Logan Windle each collected multiple hits for the Pirates. Coleman and Browning paced Belfry with three hits apiece.

Jordan Frazier led Betsy Layne at the plate, finishing with two hits in three at-bats.

Betsy Layne committed four errors in the setback.

On the road in neighboring Pike County for another early-season matchup, Betsy Layne was visiting Shelby Valley at press time on Thursday.

Blackcats drop district game at Lawrence County

By **STEVE LeMASTER**
SPORTS WRITER

LOUISA — Visiting Prestonsburg outthit Lawrence County but couldn't take advantage of its offensive opportunities and limit mistakes defensively. Lawrence County pulled away to win 10-5 over Prestonsburg in a 58th District baseball game at Randy Keeton Field on Tuesday.

With the loss, Prestonsburg dropped to 1-2 overall and 0-2 in the 58th District.

Lawrence County moved to 5-0 overall and 4-0 in the district with the win.

The Blackcats committed five errors in the setback.

Lawrence County pitcher Lucas Maynard earned the win. Maynard allowed eight hits and five runs over three and two-thirds innings, striking out six and walking zero.

Another Lawrence County pitcher, Jackson Feltner, threw three and a third innings in relief out of the bullpen.

Prestonsburg pitcher Graham Burchett suffered the loss. Burchett surrendered 10 runs on five hits over five and a third innings, striking out three.

Tyler Maynard led Lawrence County at the plate, finishing with two hits in four at-bats.

The Bulldogs overcame three errors to earn

the win.

Payton Burke, Cameron Blackburn and Brayden Slone each provided multiple hits for the Blackcats. Burke and Blackburn led the Prestonsburg offensive attack with three hits apiece.

Less than two weeks into the 2019 high school baseball season, Lawrence County has swept 58th District baseball series from both Prestonsburg and Betsy Layne. Lawrence County is the reigning 58th District baseball champion.

Prestonsburg was hosting former 14th Region frontrunner Powell County at StoneCrest Sports Park at press time on Thursday.

POTTER

Continued From Page 1B

MVP.

Rice had a big senior season. He averaged 13 points per game and ran the offense. He helped lead Johnson Central to a 27-8 record, the 57th District championship and the 15th Region title.

Cory VanHoose Johnson Central VanHoose had an outstanding sophomore season for the Golden

Eagles. The guard led the team in scoring with 16 points per game. He scored his 1,000th career point in the Sweet 16 at Rupp Arena. He hit two big threes late against Pikeville to help the Golden Eagles win the 15th Region championship.

Trey Francis Phelps Francis can do it all on the court for the Hornets and did. Francis finished the season averaging a double-double. Francis led Phelps with 17.6

points per game and 10.6 rebounds per contest. Francis also did a lot of the ball handling. Francis helped lead the Hornets to a 15-15 record and the 60th District championship.

Kobe Bowling Buckhorn Browning's numbers jump out at you. He averaged 22.3 points per game for the season and 12.3 rebounds to go along with those points. Browning established himself as one of the



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Kingston, WWE invades East Ky. Expo Center

By Randy White
REGIONAL SPORTS EDITOR

March Madness is about to get a little madder next week at the East Kentucky Expo Center.

Wrestlemania season is in full swing and the WWE is bringing a super-show to Pikeville and the East Kentucky Expo Center.

WWE Superstar Kofi Kingston talked about visiting Pikeville so close to Wrestlemania.

“Kentucky in general is definitely huge,” Kingston said. “Pikeville is an under rated wrestling town. We always enjoy going to Pikeville. We really enjoy these non-televised events because it is a way more intimate experience. People get into the shows because we are constricted by time to the two or three hour show. So we don’t have to adhere to our normal time for a match, so we can be looser and get more into a match. It’s a lot more fun to interact with the people. People can bring their signs and cheer who they love and boo the people they don’t like. And that’s all OK. It’s all good. We enjoy feeding off of that energy. That’s great for us.”

With the Raw and Smackdown shows featuring WWE Superstars exclusive to each brand, the Supershow is a rare treat for fans.

“It’s great because what you have is a dual branded show with Raw and Smackdown,” Kingston

said. “As far as my actual match, I will be going for the tag team titles up with my brothers Big E and Xavier Woods taking on the Bar, taking on Shinsake, Rusev and also taking on the Usos. It’s a four-way tag match. Anytime all four of us get in there it’s always a great match.

“You have Becky Lynch who is going to be there, you have the Shield who is going to be there from Raw. Pretty much all of your favorite WWE Superstars will be there right before Wrestlemania. It’s the best time to go experience a show because Wrestlemania is the biggest show of the year for us. It is where everything comes to a big culmination. It’s a pinnacle of all of our storylines coming together. The fact that we are coming to Pikeville right before Wrestlemania, you get to feel that energy of everyone waiting for everything to pop off. Having guys from both brands there is a rare treat these days. It’s cool, we can’t wait to be there.”

Kingston is in the mix to get a WWE title shot at Wrestlemania. Each week, Kingston finds new obstacles getting in his way for his title shot on the biggest stage of the wrestling world.

“It’s definitely a huge moment for me,” Kingston said. “Right now, I’m trying to get to Wrestlemania. A lot of matches are filling up the card. We’re trying to figure out a way onto the show. Like you said man,

I’m trying to get in there and I’m trying to fight for the WWE title. Nothing is official, nothing is set in stone. That’s my goal.”

Kingston is chasing a life long dream and he is glad to have the fans on his side as he looks to find a way to make it into the Wrestlemania for a shot at the WWE title.

“Obviously as a kid, it’s all I ever wanted to do,” Kingston said. “My dream as a child was to have a match at Wrestlemania for the WWE title. It seems like we’re on the verge of that happening, but like I said, I really don’t know. Tonight we have Smackdown and Vince (McMahon) is going to be on the show and address what happened to me at Fastlane. He basically insinuated that I was going to be in the WWE title picture in a triple threat match. But he told the Bar to come out and put in me in a two-on-one handi-cap match and I got beat up pretty bad. Tonight he is going to have to explain himself. Hopefully within the next couple of weeks it leads into the Wrestlemania picture. I don’t know though because that depends on Vince and what he says. I’m one day at a time kind of a guy. I’ve been around for long enough to know that you

can be on top of the world one day and be gone the next. If I do get a chance to fight for the WWE title at Wrestlemania, it will be a dream come true. Fingers crossed. I know I have a lot of support on social media and my friends and family at home, people in the locker room, I have a lot of people behind me. Hopefully all that positive energy leads in the right direction.”

Positive thinking is something that Kingston and his tag team the New Day talk about. He lives by the code of positive thinking and hopes that will spill over to the rest of the WWE Universe and its fans.

“We as the New Day talk about the power of positivity,” Kingston said. “It’s not something that we just embrace as characters in the ring, it’s something that we embrace in our real lives. When people come to the show, especially in Pikeville, we take pride in them leaving with an experience that they feel better in a positivity aspect. We want them to make sure they remember the New Day and that they smile and have a good time.”

Kingston is close to a title shot and it’s all because of the fans.

“It means the world be-

cause I’ve been on WWE television for 11 years,” Kingston said. “I’ve put in a lot of work and a lot of sacrifice all for the fans of the WWE Universe. It means the world to have the fans to be so supportive. I take a lot of pride in being able to read all the messages on my social media and Twitter. I haven’t been able to do that the last three weeks because always consistently coming in to the point where I can’t get to the bottom of my timeline. Everybody is invested in this. Everybody has my back and it’s a great feeling because I’ve been here for so long. I’ve been fortunate enough to experience so many cool moments. The thing about it is, it’s just not me experiencing it, I’ve experienced these moments with the WWE Universe. This whole journey to Wrestlemania right now is all of us. It’s bigger than just me it’s everybody out there who has fought for something. Fought hard for something and put time into something they love. They want to see it culminate in the greatest way possible. That would be at

Wrestlemania winning the WWE championship in front of everybody, in front of the world. We’re all on this journey together and I think that’s why everybody is invested because I’ve been here for so long.”

WWE is coming to Pikeville next Friday at the East Kentucky Expo Center. Come out and cheer on the New Day and the rest of the WWE Superstars.

Sports Editor’s Note: To listen to the entire Kofi Kingston interview check out a special edition of the Appalachian Newspapers Inc. presents Bank On It podcast. To see the interview visit ourpoint your phone at the QR code accompanying this story.



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SUDOKU & CROSSWORD ANSWERS

8	3	4	1	5	6	2	9	7
9	1	5	2	3	7	4	6	8
2	6	7	8	9	4	3	5	1
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	SALK		AMIE	
LATIN		WIELDING		
ALONG		VERNE		COL
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EVE		LORDS		SONAR
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	YOYO		YOGA	
VAMPS		GOVERNOR		
ALAI		ANODE		COKE
IMPS		SURER		HERA
LAST		KNELT		SLAP

April

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<div><div>Calendar Key (B) - Bookmobile (EB) - Eastern Branch (P) - Prestonsburg</div><div> Tuesday April 9th, 5:30 PM (P)</div><div> Thursday, April 18 10:00 & 2:00</div></div>	<div>1 Wesley Christian (B), Dwale (B)</div> <div>8 Wesley Christian (B), Auxier (B),</div> <div>15 Wesley Christian (B), Dwale (B), Book Club 5:30 PM (P)</div> <div>22 Wesley Christian (B), Auxier (B)</div> <div>29 Wesley Christian (B), Dwale (B)</div>	<div>2 Creekside (B), Ivy Creek (B), Shrinky Dink Keychains 5:30 PM (EB), Sign Language 5:30 PM (EB), Unsolved Mysteries/Unsolved Crimes 7:30 PM (P)</div> <div>9 Warco (B), Highland Terrace Outreach 4 PM (P), Egg People Craft 5:30 PM (P), Sign Language 5:30 PM (EB)</div> <div>16 Creekside (B), Ivy Creek (B), Sign Language 5:30 PM (EB)</div> <div>23 Warco (B), Highland Terrace Outreach 4 PM (P) Sign Language 5:30 PM (EB), Charlotte's Web Celebration 5:30 (P)</div> <div>30 Creekside (B), Ivy Creek (B), TV Game Show Night, Sign Language 5:30 PM (EB)</div>	<div>3 Cliffside (B), Left Beaver Creek (B), Toddler Time 12 PM (EB)</div> <div>10 Dixie Apartments (B), Toddler Time 12 PM (EB)</div> <div>17 LIBRARY IS CLOSED FOR STAFF TRAINING</div> <div>24 Dixie Apartments (B), Toddler Time 12 PM (EB)</div> <div></div>	<div>4 Adventure Story Time (B), NO STORY TIME (P), Pen & Tell Writer's Group 5:30 PM (P)</div> <div>11 Adventure Story Time (B), Martin IGA (B), Story Time 10 & 2 (P), Martin Senior Citizen's Outreach, Pinewood Derby 6 PM (P)</div> <div>18 Adventure Story Time (B), Story Time Easter Egg Hunt 10 & 2 (P), Wheelwright Senior Citizen's Outreach, Chair Exercise 5:30 (EB), Walking Class 6 PM (EB)</div> <div>25 Adventure Story Time (B), Martin IGA (B), Story Time 10 & 2 (P), Adult Arts & Crafts 5:30 PM (P), Chair Exercise 5:30 PM (EB), Walking Class 6 PM (EB)</div> <div></div>	<div>5</div> <div>12 Adams Middle School (B), Social Media and Online Service Class 11:00 AM (P)</div> <div>19 Wayland (B), Garrett (B), Highland Terrace (B), Social Media and Online Service Class 11:00 AM (P)</div> <div>26 Adams Middle School (B), Social Media and Online Service Class 11:00 AM (P)</div> <div> 1st Tuesday's Monthly 7:30 PM</div>	<div>6</div> <div>13 Sew for Hours 10 AM (EB), Very Hungry Caterpillar 50th Anniversary Celebration 11:00 (P) </div> <div>20</div> <div>27</div> <div></div>

FLOYD COUNTY
CHRONICLE
AND TIMES

COMICS

Weekend Edition, March 29-31, 2019 • Page 4B

Rethink your strategy and spend time contemplating your options. This is a year of transition and preparation for what lies ahead. The more you learn and position yourself for future opportunities, the better off you'll be when the time comes to make a personal or professional move.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) – Sit tight, observe and keep your thoughts to yourself. You'll benefit if you are subtle and learn from others' mistakes. An inevitable situation will be a blessing in disguise.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) – Put more energy into getting ahead and benefiting your surroundings. Making a commitment will encourage you to pitch in and contribute. Romance is on the rise.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) – Be careful how you treat others. Someone will be eager to make you look bad if given the chance. If you act responsibly, you will rise above a personal affront.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) – You've got more going for you than you realize. Follow your instincts and give it your all. If you want something, go after it.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) – Take on what's doable and protect yourself against injury, exhaustion or a confrontation with someone eager to make you look bad. Honor your promises and learn from your mistakes.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) – Get involved in events and activities that will bring you closer to someone you enjoy spending time with. A change in attitude will result if you look at situations from someone else's perspective.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) – Responsibilities should be taken care of. Once

DAILY
ASTROGRAPH
by Eugenia Last



you've completed what needs to be done, you can have some fun. Consider doing something that will enhance your intelligence or appearance.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) – You'll learn a lot about others through observation. Sit back and enjoy the show. There will be telltale signs leading to romance and new beginnings. Let your intuition guide you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) – Think twice before you share personal information, or you'll be taken advantage of. Spend time at home or with trustworthy people who look out for your best interests.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) – Change can be good if you know what you want, what you are doing and how to best realize your plans. Home improvements and romance are favored.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) – Make reasonable plans. If you take on too much, you will fall short of your expectations. If someone else wants to take a risk, don't follow along. Play it safe.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) – Share only with someone you know you can count on. Trust will be an issue with someone you must deal with regarding medical, financial or legal issues.

TODAY'S SUDOKU PUZZLE

HOW
TO
PLAY:

- Each column has to have numbers 1 to 9
- Each row has to have numbers 1 to 9
- Each 3x3 Box has to have numbers 1 to 9

	3							7
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		7					5	1
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All answers are in today's edition

TODAY'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE

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59						60					61			
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ACROSS

- Symbol of peace
- In secret writing
- Big Island port
- Marsh bird
- Sky blue
- Camelot lady
- Active Sicilian volcano
- Tijuana parent
- Pinnacle
- Big fibs
- Tells a secret
- Polio vaccine inventor
- Fifi's girlfriend
- Livy's language
- Brandishing
- for the ride
- Jules — of sci-fi
- Blimp title
- Game show sound
- Sent in the taxes
- Flaky mineral
- Festive night
- Aristocrats
- Sub detector
- Savings (2 wds.)
- Ulterior motive
- Simple toy (hyph.)
- Meditative exercises

- Boot uppers
- State VIP
- Tien Shan range
- Battery post
- Hot-burning fuel
- Urchins
- More certain
- Vindictive goddess
- Coming after all the others
- Genuflected
- Insult

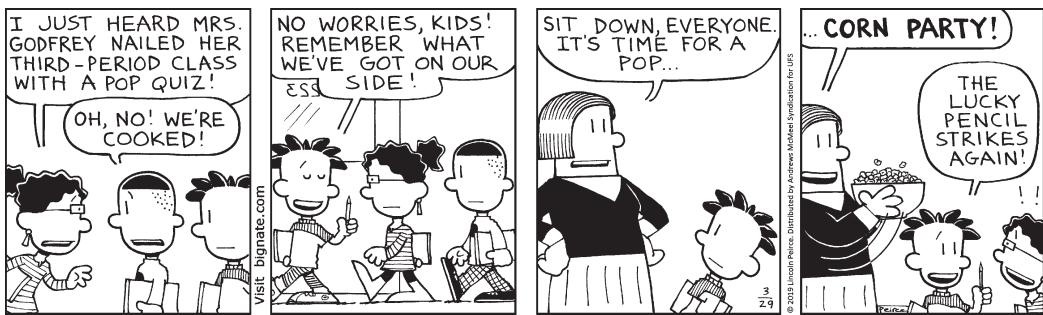
DOWN

- Sketched
- Vow
- Italian wine
- Passing by
- Oasis sight
- Arkansas mountains
- Clothing
- Slip up
- Sandra or Ruby
- Made healthy again
- Ancient empire
- Nesting place
- Keats' works
- Sharp pain
- Ill humor
- Buenos —, Argentina
- Gradually get better
- Weighed down
- Existing
- Firms up
- Fuses
- Clinching
- Lighter than lite
- Stare angrily
- Zodiac sign
- Stick-in-the-mud
- Kings and butterflies
- Durocher and Carrillo
- Kind of advice
- Office worker
- Sing in the Alps
- Not secret
- Rockies ski resort
- Gluck of opera
- Explorers' needs
- Skirt panel
- Caroler's tune
- Green pod
- Gather crops
- Say please
- "Sister Act" role

ARLO & JANIS



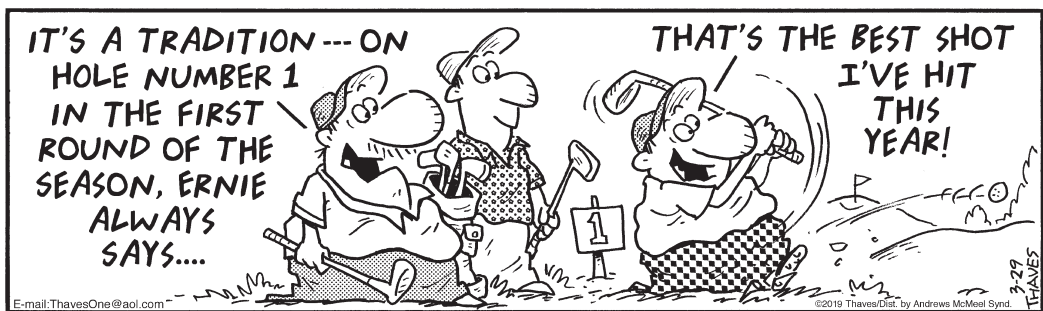
BIG NATE



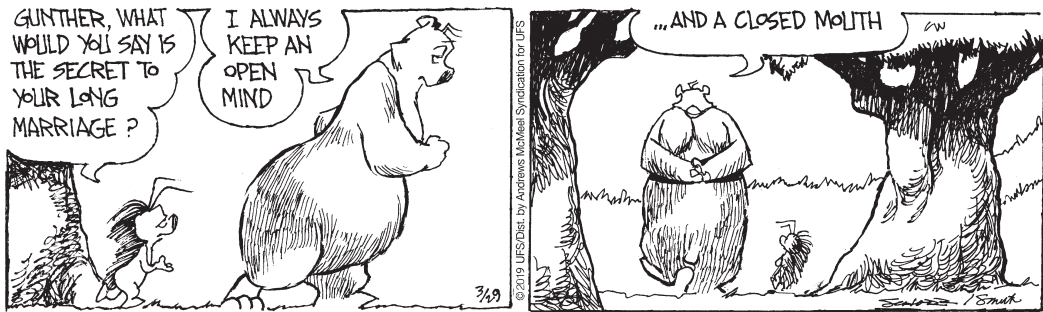
BORN LOSER



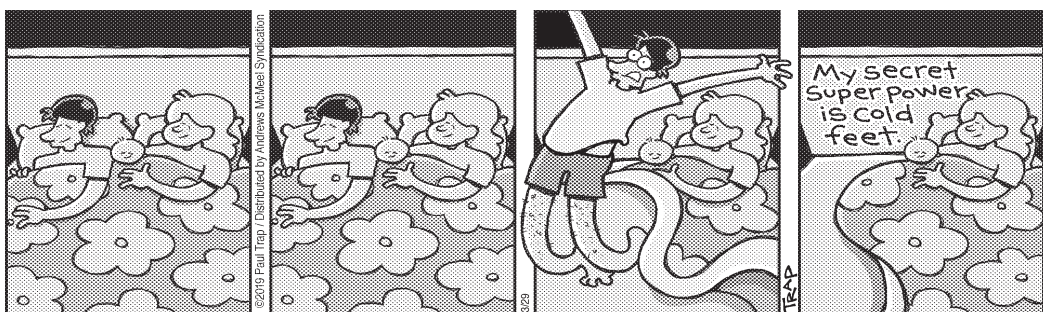
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Two cemetery lots at Davidson Memorial Gardens. Good location! Close to US 23. \$1,500 each - firm. Call 304-673-1819. Leave message.

APARTMENTS- UNFURNISHED

2BR APARTMENT FOR rent in Prestonsburg. No pets. No HUD. Ref. Req. Call (606)205-9510.

2 BR APARTMENT. Living room, kitchen, laundry room, some appliances. 5 minutes from H R M C . \$460/month. 606-793-2762

2BR DUPLEX, CENTRAL heat/air, total electric. Close to Prestonsburg. Call 606-886-9007 or 606-889-9747.

HOUSES FOR RENT

3BR, 1BA HOUSE for rent. Carport, large yard. Located between Prestonsburg and Paintsville. Call 606-886-9007 or 606-889-9747.

MOBILE HOMES FOR RENT

2BR/ 1BA MOBILE home for rent in Prestonsburg. Water, sewer, garbage included. \$500/mo. 606-339-9544

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working knowledge of computer operations and software. Knowledge of current office practices and procedures. Working ability to communicate orally and in writing. Must have ability to work with confidential information. Must have a valid Kentucky Driver's License. Pay commensurate with experience. Applications will be taken, in person only at Central Office of the Authority of Floyd County at Warco Apartments, 402 John M. Stumbo Drive, Langley, KY. Weekdays from 9:00A.M. to 4:00P.M. Wednesdays from 9:00A.M. to NOON. No phone calls. The Housing Authority of Floyd County is an Equal Opportunity Employer.



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LEGALS

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO MINE

Permit Number 836-0463 In accordance with KRS 350.070, notice is hereby given that Tackett Energies

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing will be conducted by the Public Service Commission of Kentucky in Hearing Room 1 of the Commission's offices at 211 Sower Boulevard, Frankfort, Kentucky, on April 16, 2019, at 9:00 a.m. Eastern Daylight Time for the purpose of examining Kentucky Power Company and its witnesses in Case No. 2019-00002 on the application of Kentucky Power Company's Fuel Adjustment Clause from November 1, 2016 through October 31, 2018.

This hearing will be streamed live and may be viewed on the PSC website, psc.ky.gov.

LEGALS

LLC, P.O. Box 3655 Pikeville Ky. 41502, has applied for a permit for a Coarse Refuse Removal area affecting 7.91 acres located approximately 2.49 miles southwest of Martin in Floyd County. The proposed facility is approximately 1.09 miles South West from Rt. 1210's junction with Ky. Rt. 80 and located 0.01 miles South of Stephens

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LEGALS

Branch Creek. The proposed facility is located on the Martin U.S.G.S. 7 1/2 minute quadrangle map. The surface area is owned by

LEGALS

Chris Click. The operation will affect an area within 100 feet of public road Ky. Rt. 1210. The operation will not involve relocation or

LEGALS

closure of the public road. The application has been filed for public inspection at the Division of Mine Reclamation and Enforcement,

LEGALS

Hazard Regional Office, 556 Village Lane, Hazard, Kentucky 41702. Written comments, objections, or requests for a permit conference

LEGALS

must be filed with the Director, Division of Mine Permits, 300 Sower BLVD second floor, Frankfort, Kentucky, 40601.

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