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Briefs

Egg hunt final stret

by RALPH B. DAVIS
MANAGING EDITOR

The 2011 Great Easter Egg Hunt has nearly reached its end, and thus far no one has turned in the grand prize egg.

The Great Easter Egg Hunt is an annual contest staged by The Floyd County Times and a host of sponsors. During the contest, a prize egg worth \$500 is hidden by The Times, which then publishes a list of 12 clues to its location in the newspaper. To claim the prize, all someone has to do is find the egg and return it to The Times.

After today, only one clue to the egg's location remains, to be published in Friday's paper.

Last year was the first year that no one found the egg after all 12 clues were published. The paper then created an unprecedented 13th clue, which turned out to be the lucky 13th clue for Eddie and Janie Ratliff, who found the egg mere hours after the paper was published.

The Times only publishes each clue once. For those who missed a clue or who started the game late,

(See EGG, page 7)

3 DAY FORECAST

Today



High: 74 • Low: 49

Tomorrow



High: 67 • Low: 49

Friday



High: 74 • Low: 56

Get up-to-the-minute
weather forecasts at
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Magistrates pass buck to circuit court

SHELDON COMPTON
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — One group of people living along Finance Hollow will have to first go through legal channels at the circuit court level before county officials will vote on whether or not to change the weight limit on the county road in their area.

Residents approached members

of the fiscal court Friday with complaints about a series of trips by coal trucks on the road they say have caused problems, ranging from broken off bits of the road itself to ditches filled with spilled debris and flooding due to the ditch line blockage.

"It's not wide enough for one," said resident Fay Nelson. "It's not wide enough for cars let alone a coal truck. Mud and water have got

into my garage. I've been to two lawyers about this, and I just think you people should consider me."

Before Nelson's comment, Warren Jarrell, the newest member of the fiscal court, made a motion when the resolution was presented to table a decision to "see how it was dealt with in circuit court and then whatever they say, we'll do."

Jarrell also talked of a snowball effect that could result in changing

weight limits on county roads.

"If we do it for one, we'll have to do it for everybody," Jarrell said.

According to county road foreman Mike Jarrell, there are roughly 10 county roads that are currently mandated by weight limits.

"Fay does have a serious problem," Mike Jarrell said. "I've done everything I know to do with it."

(See ROAD, page 6)

ECONOMIC SUMMIT



photo by Sheldon Compton

The Big Sandy Economic Summit kicked off Tuesday with a panel on workforce and education. Thomas Rainey, director of the Carl D. Perkins Job Corps Center, fielded questions from those gathered. The following panel on the future of coal included speakers from Faces of Coal, the Kentucky Coal Association and the Kentucky Coal Academy.

Future of coal discussed

by SHELDON COMPTON
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — Bill Higginbotham, one of four speakers addressing the future of the coal industry at the annual Economic Development Summit at the

Mountain Arts Center Tuesday, started by turning off the lights in the conference room.

Higginbotham let those attending the summit's panel discussion sit silently for a few heartbeats in the darkness and then switched the lights

back on.

"How important is coal?" Higginbotham said, then turned out the lights. "Fun ain't it?"

Higginbotham, the executive director of the Kentucky

(See COAL, page 7)

Economy affects even funeral homes

by JARRID DEATON
FEATURES WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — Local and national economic issues affect prices of regular consumer goods and services, but another service, often called the "final expense," also appears to be affected by

the financial downturn.

The choice for cremation, the mechanical and/or thermal process that reduces human remains to ash and bone fragments, has almost doubled in the past two years, according to Carter Funeral Home Director Jim Carter.

"Sometimes, it's a personal

preference, but I'm wondering how much the economy has to do with it," Carter said. "It's less expensive than a traditional funeral and burial. It depends on what the family wants in regards to the services."

(See ECONOMY, page 7)

Dance Etc. teams take top awards in Orlando

by JARRID DEATON
FEATURES WRITER

ORLANDO, Fla. — The four elite dance teams from Prestonsburg's Dance Etc. had a season to remember, capping it all off with a victory at the U.S. Finals Championship in Florida on April 9.

The teams consist of over 100 dancers from eight counties and 20 schools across Eastern Kentucky.

In Orlando, the teams competed in jazz, pom and lyrical categories, bringing home first-place awards in all divisions. The junior team defeat-

ed a dance team from Scotland that had flown over 25 hours to participate in the competition.

In May, the teams will be judged by video against the other first-place teams from U.S. Finals Championships in seven other states for overall awards.

According to information provided by Dance Etc., the elite team members are selected each spring based on their performance in weekly dance classes.

"The Dance Etc. teams have

(See DANCE ETC., page 7)

Last day of school could be longest

by JARRID DEATON
FEATURES WRITER

HI HAT — Students in Floyd County could spend an extra 30 minutes in class on the last day they would want — the last day of school — if the board of education votes to approve the additional instruction time during its monthly meeting on Monday.

The board is scheduled to meet at South Floyd High School to discuss the additional instruction time along with numerous other action items on the agenda.

The board will also consider permission for band students from Betsy Layne Elementary to travel to King's Island on June 1, a commercial carrier for Allen Elementary's Academic Team's trip to Pigeon Forge, Tenn. on June 5, the renewal of the roof management program

(See BOARD, page 6)

Vet cemetery site to undergo study

by SHELDON COMPTON
STAFF WRITER

MIDDLE CREEK — An archaeological study will need to be conducted at the site where a veteran's cemetery is planned near Middle Creek Battlefield, located at the junction of Routes 114 and Route 404, before any further development can take place.

County officials gave a green light Friday for the study, which will be overseen by Archaeological and Historic Preservation Services, along with Cultural Resources Analysts Inc.

Frank Fitzpatrick, whose family donated

(See CEMETERY, page 5)



The elite teams from Dance Etc. took home first-place awards in all divisions at the U.S. Finals Dance Championship in Orlando, Fla., on April 9.

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Obituaries

Gladys Sturgill Allen

Gladys Sturgill Allen, age 94, of Prestonsburg, widow of Thomas J. Allen, died Friday, April 15, in the Highlands Regional Medical Center, Prestonsburg.

She was born August 23, 1916, in Amba (Toler Creek), a daughter of the late B.L. and Goldie Ella King Sturgill. Gladys was a retired Social Worker, long-time member of the First Presbyterian Church, Prestonsburg, where she served as a Treasurer, Teacher, Elder and Deacon of the church. Additionally, she served as a Representative for the church to the General Assembly in Atlanta, Ga. She served as a volunteer to Highlands Regional Medical Center, Prestonsburg, serving over 3,500 hours as a volunteer. She was a Cub Scout Leader, Girl Scout Leader and member of the Democratic Women's Club. She is survived by one son, Thomas J. Allen Jr. (Yukiko), of Jonesboro, Ga.; one daughter, Beverly Lynn Allen Goble (Freddie aka Monroe), of Prestonsburg; one sister, Elizabeth "Betty" Castle, of Prestonsburg; three grandchildren; and five great grandchildren.

In addition to her husband and parents, she was preceded in death by three brothers, Cecil, J.W. and Ralph Sturgill, and three sisters, Beatrice Leslie, Barbara Hignite Frost, and Trilby Ilsenko.

Funeral services for Gladys Sturgill Allen were conducted Tuesday, April 19, at 1 p.m. in the First Presbyterian Church, in Prestonsburg, with Tim Jessen officiating. Burial followed in the Allen Family Cemetery, Hueysville, with the Hall Funeral Home, in Martin, caring for those arrangements.

In lieu of flowers family request donations to the First Presbyterian Church, Prestonsburg.



Janie Ann Allen

Janie Ann Allen, 50, of Palm Coast, Florida passed away Saturday, April 16, 2011.

Janie was born February 11, 1961, in Prestonsburg. She graduated from Daytona Beach Community College with a degree in Criminal Science. Janie loved working with animals and volunteered at the Flagler Humane Society. She was a beautiful, warm and attentive daughter, sister and friend. Janie loved nature walks, bike riding, the beach and everything outdoors. She enjoyed music, movies and lively debates. Janie had a special sense of humor, her infectious laugh brought smiles to everyone. Her father John Allen Jr. preceded her in death.

Survivors include her

mother Judie Musick Allen, of Palm Coast, Fla.; her sister Johni Lynn Allen, of Harold, her nephew John Wesley Jakobson, of Prescott, Ariz., and her special niece Yoni, in lieu of flowers please donate to Flagler Humane Society, 1 Shelter Drive, Palm Coast, FL 32137 or Homeless Shelter/Community Involvement Center, 173 Redale Road, Pikeville, KY 41501.

Bertha Stapleton Cline

Bertha Stapleton Cline, 80, of Prestonsburg, died on April 13, 2011, at Bristol Regional Medical Center. Born October 9, 1930, in Whitehouse, she was the daughter of the late Marion and Goldie Ramey Stapleton and the wife of E.L. Scotch Cline. She was a homemaker.

Survivors include one son: Elcaney Cline of Prestonsburg, KY; two daughters: Maxine (Johnny) Hager of Paintsville, KY and Carolyn (John) Ramey of Prestonsburg, KY; two sisters: Nora Jean Hurd of Ypsilanti, MI and Lillian Smith of Lakeland, FL; two grandchildren: John (Stephanie) Ramey and Elnor (Jennifer) Cline and five great grandchildren: Dylan, Zach, Hailey, Dustin and Aydin.

She was preceded in death by her parents, sisters: Evelyn Booth, Dolly Kendrick, Elizabeth McCoy, Idellis and Melinda Wiley; brother: Francis Stapleton and half-brothers: Bill Jarrell, Hershel Jarrell and Wesley Jarrell.

Funeral services were held on Sunday, April 17, 2011, at Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, in Martin, with Rick Kelly officiating. Burial followed at the Cline Cemetery, in Sugarloaf. Pallbearers were: John Ramey, Elray Cline, Johnny Hager, John Ramey, Scottie Brahm and Martin Endrey.

Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Willie Eugene "Pig" Holt

Willie Eugene "Pig" Holt, age 66, of McDowell, husband of Sandra Tackett Holt, passed away Friday, April 15, 2011, at the Hazard Appalachian Regional Hospital.

He was born July 25, 1944 in Martin, the son of the late Wilbur Holt and Emogene Moore Holt. He was also preceded in death by his foster parents, Johnnie and Myrtle Hall Moore. He is survived by his step-mother, Ruth Lafferty Holt of Ashland. Willie was a retired contractor.

Willie is survived by his wife, Sandra; one daughter, Shana Dawn Holt (JR) Mitchell, of Drift; two sisters, Revel Moore Archey, of Delaware, Ohio, and Shirley Holt (Ray) Burchett, of Ashland; four grandchildren: Brittney (Joe) Clark, Tyler Mitchell, Shavina Mitchell and Casey Mitchell; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, foster parents, one daughter, Deena Susan Holt Flannery, one brother, Mason Holt and one sister, Wilma Holt. Funeral services for Willie "Pig" Holt were conducted Monday, April 18, at

1 p.m. in the Hall Funeral Home Chapel, in Martin, with Rev. Ted Shannon and Dr. Dicky Tackett officiating. Burial followed in the Drift Cemetery, in Martin, with the Hall Funeral Home caring for those arrangements.

Active pallbearers: J. R. Mitchell, Tyler Mitchell, Joshua Ayala, Derrick Akers, John Adkins, and David Pack. Honorary Pallbearers: Carson Akers, Vernon Cornett, Hugo Miller, Joe C. Clark II, Donnie Shannon, Farris R. Hall, and Carlos Hall.

Janie Elizabeth Bailey Kilgore

Janie Elizabeth Bailey Kilgore, 64, of David, died April 12, 2011, at Cabell Huntington Hospital in Huntington, West Virginia.

Born June 19, 1946, in Argos, Indiana, she was the daughter of the late Bert and Catherine Sayers Bailey and wife of the late Robie Kilgore. She was a housekeeper at Riverside and a member of Living Word Pentecostal Church.

In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by three sons: Randy Holbrook, Ricky Holbrook and Robie Kilgore.

She is survived by three brothers: James Bailey of Banner, Kentucky, Richard Bailey of Coldwater, Michigan and Larry Bailey of Union City, Michigan; four sisters: Jenny Shepherd of David, Kentucky, Pamela Lazar of Prestonsburg, Kentucky, Teresa Shepherd of Prestonsburg, Kentucky and Charissa Bailey of David, Kentucky.

Funeral services will be conducted Saturday, April 16, 2011, at 1 p.m. at Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home in Martin with Charlene Osborne and Carl Shepherd officiating.

Burial will follow at Tikonsha Riverside Cemetery in Tikonsha, Michigan.

Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home have been placed in charge of funeral arrangements.

Bennie Paul Mitchell

Bennie Paul Mitchell, 67, of Banner, died Friday, April 15, 2011, at his home. Born September 23, 1943, in Pikeville, he was the son of the late Arthur Mitchell and Essie Bentley and the husband of Arlene Boyd Mitchell. He was an electrician and veteran of the United States Army.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by one son: Bryan Mitchell of Dana, Kentucky.

Funeral services were conducted on April 16 at Little Salem Old Regular Baptist Church at Dana, with various Old Regular Baptist ministers officiating.

Burial followed at Wilford Boyd Cemetery at Dana.

Nelson Frazier Funeral Home were in charge of funeral arrangements.

John Elliot Murphy Sr.

John Elliot Murphy Sr., 77, of Langley, died on April 12, 2011, at Pikeville

Medical Center. Born January 2, 1934, in Glow, he was the son of the late Elliot and Gracie Stephens Murphy and husband of Rebecca Patton Murphy. He was a retired coal miner and US Air Force veteran, DAV Garrett, American Legion, Amvets.

Survivors include one son: John Edward Murphy of Langley, Kentucky; four daughters: Toni E. "Libby" Smith of Georgetown, Kentucky, Beulah Hayes of Langley, Kentucky, Wanda Murphy of Hueysville, Kentucky and Donna Murphy of Lackey, Kentucky; two brothers: Billy Murphy of Dayton, Ohio and Tommy Murphy of South Shore, Kentucky; Edna Shenfield of Dayton, Ohio, Nell Marie of Fairbairn, Ohio, Mary Lou Penix of Millie, Kentucky and Claudia Hardwick of Morehead, Kentucky; 16 grandchildren, 24 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild; beloved dog: Penny; a host of nieces, nephews, family and friends.

He was preceded in death by his Parents; One Daughter: Lula Murphy; Brothers and Sister: Clifford Murphy, James Murphy and Margie Lou Murphy.

Funeral services were held on Saturday, April 16, 2011, at Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, in Martin, with Ronnie Spriggs officiating. Burial followed at Murrell Cemetery, in Langley.

Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Dudley Junior Murrell

Dudley Junior Murrell, 76, of Mousie, died on Friday, April 15, 2011, at his residence. Born June 12, 1934, in Knott County, he was the son of the late Dudley and Maude Hunter Murrell and the husband of Louann Tuttle Murrell. He was a disabled coal miner.

Survivors include four sons: Jack (Donna) Murrell, of Mousie, James (Cindy) Murrell, of Larklane, Bobby (Kathy) Murrell, of Johnson County, and Homer (Denise) Murrell, of Garner, seven daughters: Brenda (Jack) Shepherd, of Maytown, Rustie (Ronnie) Williams, of Hippo, Mary (Billy Ray) Shepherd, of Minnie, Kim (Eddie) Cox, of Mousie, Diane (Kenny) Wireman, Loretta (Jack) Singleton, Murrell and Natasha Hunter, all of Mousie, one son-in-law: Marcus Wallen; brother and sister: Earl Murrell, of Ohio and Kathleen Patton, of Ohio; a host of grandchildren, great-grandchildren, family and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents; daughter: Tina Murrell; brothers: Johnny Murrell and Jack Murrell; one sister: Elve Bradley.

Funeral services were held on Monday, April 18, 2011, at New Beginnings Church, in Garrett, with Glenn Adkins officiating. Burial followed at Murrell Family Cemetery, in Mousie.

Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Connie Sue Johnson Owens

Connie Sue Johnson Owens, 51, of Garrett, died April 18, 2011, at Hazard ARH.

Born November 1, 1959, in Floyd County, she was the daughter of the late Berlin Jr. and Jacqueline Manns Johnson and wife of Ronald Ray Owens. She was a homemaker.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by one step-grandchild.

She is survived by her son: Matthew Paul Tackett of Drift; two step-children: Donnie Ray Owens of Drift and Ronda Hatfield of Prestonsburg; one brother: David Lee Johnson of Wayland and 4 step-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be conducted on Friday, April 22, 2011, at 11 a.m. at Nelson Frazier Funeral Home in Martin with Pastor Bill B. Tussey Jr. officiating.

Burial will follow at Mains and Prater Cemetery.

Nelson Frazier Funeral Home are in charge of funeral arrangements.

Juanita Varney Page

Juanita Varney Page, 57, of McDowell, died April 15, 2011, at Highlands Regional Medical Center in Prestonsburg.

Born July 7, 1953, in Pike County, she was the daughter of the Lonzoo and Irene Workman Varney and the wife of the late Wilburn Page. She was a homemaker.

er and a member of the McVay United Baptist Church in Belfry.

In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by one son: Shawn Douglas Page and one sister: Charlene Varney.

She is survived by two sons: Michael Ray (Coleen) Page of Morgan Co. Kentucky and Wilburn (Valerie) Page Jr. of Martin; brothers: Edward Varney of Pikeville, Jackie Ray Gayheart and Randall Gayheart of McDowell and Randolph Gayheart of Chicago, Illinois; five sisters: Judy Varney of Louisa, Cathey Poston of Prestonsburg, Peggy Varney of Carter Co., Sharon Kay Prince of West Virginia and Patricia Marlene Gayheart of Ohio; three grandchildren: Stephanie Marie, Elizabeth Christina and Kaylee Brooke and one great-grandchild.

Funeral services were conducted on Tuesday, April 19, 2011, at Nelson Frazier Funeral Home, in Martin with ministers of the McVay United Baptist Church officiating.

Burial followed at Green Hall Cemetery at McDowell.

Nelson Frazier Funeral Home were in charge of funeral arrangements.

(See OBITUARIES, page 5)

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Card of Thanks

The family of Harold Glenn Newman would like to sincerely say, "Thank you", to all of our friends and family who helped to comfort us during this very difficult time. Those who sent flowers, food, or came by to share our loss. A special thanks to Clergyman Bobby Isaacs for his comforting message, and the Hall Funeral Home for their kind and professional service. All your love and support will always be remembered.

THE FAMILY OF HAROLD GLEN NEWMAN

Card of Thanks

The family of Phyllis Prater would like to extend their appreciation to those who helped comfort them during the time of sorrow. Thank you to all those who sent flowers or just spoke kind words, all your acts of kindness will never be forgotten. We would like to send a special thanks to Clergyman James Heard for his comforting message, the Floyd Sheriff's Department for their assistance in traffic, and the Hall Funeral Home for their kind and professional service. All your love and support will never be forgotten.

THE FAMILY OF PHYLLIS PRATER

Card of Thanks

The family of Patricia "Pat" Hall Debord would like to sincerely say Thank You to all of our wonderful friends and neighbors who helped to comfort us during this difficult time. Those who sent flowers, food, or came by to share our loss. A special thanks to Clergyman Donnie Patrick for his comforting message, the Sheriff's Department for their assistance in traffic control and the Hall Funeral Home for their kind and professional service. We will always remember all the expressions of love and kindness to our family.

THE FAMILY OF PATRICIA "PAT" HALL DEBORD

Card of Thanks

The family of Lemuel Williams would like to sincerely say "Thank You" to all of our friends, neighbors and family who helped comfort us during our time of sorrow. Thank you to those who sent flowers or just came by to share our loss. A special thanks to Highlands Regional Medical Center, Riverview Nursing Home, Floyd Co. Sheriff's Dept. for assistance in traffic and the excellent job of professional service by Carter Funeral Home. We would also like to thank the clergymen: Jerry Colvin, Threl Daniels and James R. Blair for their comforting words. Also, a special thanks to the Bonanza Freewill Baptist Church for the food they prepared.

ATTENTION DAVIDSON MEMORIAL GARDENS CEMETERY PLOT OWNERS

THIS NOTICE IS ONLY FOR THOSE THAT HAVE PLOTS IN THE OLD PART OF THE CEMETERY KNOWN AS THE S.P. DAVIDSON HILL SECTION AND IS ON THE KNOLL WHERE THE CEDAR TREES ARE LOCATED. THIS SECTION HAS NEVER BEEN PLATTED AS PART OF DAVIDSON MEMORIAL GARDENS. WE ARE NEEDING INFORMATION FROM THOSE HAVING PLOTS IN THIS AREA OR HAVING FAMILY MEMBERS BURIED THERE. YOU CAN CONTACT ME BY CALLING THE OFFICE AT 874-2551 AND LEAVING A MESSAGE OR BY CALLING MY CELL PHONE AT 228-0916.

PAUL HUGHES, OWNER

Card of Thanks

The family of Morgan Salisbury would like to thank you for your thoughtfulness. Your generosity and support during this difficult time is greatly appreciated. A special thanks to Pastor Bethel Bolen and Rock Fork United Christian Church for their comforting messages, those who sent flowers, food and kind words, the Floyd County Sheriff's Dept. for their assistance with traffic control and Nelson Frazier Funeral Home for their kind and professional services. Also, a thanks to Warren Jarrell and all of the pallbearers. We will always remember the love and kindness expressed to our family. We would also like to thank Morgan himself, for his dedicated service to the Navy, DAV-128.

The Family of Morgan Salisbury

Community Calendar

Calendar items will be printed as space permits

Editor's note: To announce your community event, you may contact her by email at nlammers@SBCglobal.net. Applications must show linkage to Amburgeys, and application must be completed and postmarked no later than May 1, 2011.

Bonneville, Missouri
65233, phone 660-882-2496, or you may contact her to request an application by email at nlammers@SBCglobal.net. Applications must show linkage to Amburgeys, and application must be completed and postmarked no later than May 1, 2011.

Free clothes and household giveaway
Free clothes and household items will be given to anyone in need on Friday, March 25, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Saturday, March 26, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the Old Middle Creek Fire Department, on Route 114.

The giveaway is sponsored by the Middle Creek Ladies Auxiliary. For more information, contact Daryl Holbrook, at (606) 886-8481 or (606) 226-3525, or Faye Click, at (606) 889-0216.

Donations of any kind are accepted.

Free Tax Filing Available
Big Sandy Area Community Action Program is once again offering FREE help for eligible tax filers in preparing and filing tax returns. The service is available in Johnson, Magoffin, Martin, Floyd and Pike Counties, for persons earning under \$49,000. IRS-certified BSACAP staff prepares and electronically files tax returns, screens individuals for the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), and offers the service free of charge to qualifying residents. To schedule an appointment, call (606) 789-3641 for Johnson, Floyd and Martin Counties; for Pike County, call (606) 218-2106, and for Magoffin County, call (606) 349-2217.

Free Parenting Classes
To determine eligibility, call John 791-9887.

Autism Awareness & Support Group
2nd Monday of each month, Calvarys Call Church, Lancer, Ky. (6-7 p.m.). Contact: Billie Chain, eaakyautismawareness@gmail.com

Autistic Children Support Group plans monthly meeting
Support group for Guardians of Autistic Children will meet the first Thursday of every month at the Haven of Rest, 1601 Airport Road, Inez, Call 606-298-0520 for information.

Joyous Junk sale
The Auxier Center will hold a "joyous junk sale" on May 5, 6 and 7, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Furniture, clothing, appliances, baby items and more will be available. All proceeds will benefit the home repair fund. The center is located at 21 South River Street, in Auxier.

Amburgey Family College Scholarship
A scholarship will be available again this year from the Amburgey Family Association. Students seeking information about the scholarship application must contact as soon as possible: Mrs. Margery P. Lammers, 720 6th Street,

Lifetime Learning Center
can help. We are now taking applications for home repairs. If you or someone you know are low income and need help with repairs on your home, please call 606-886-0709 for your application, or stop by the office at 21 South River Street, Auxier. Office hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00-4:00. Must provide proof of income and ownership.

Foster parent info
Benchmark Family Services is offering a free informational session for anyone interested in becoming a foster parent. If you have ever wanted to help a child in need, this is your chance. Monday, Jan. 24, at 10 a.m., and Wednesday, Jan. 26, at 5 p.m., at Benchmark Family Services Office. For more information, please call (606) 886-0163.

FCHD offers Body Recall exercise classes
The Floyd County Health Department offers Body Recall gentle exercise classes every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, at 9:30 a.m. at May Drive, just off 1428, and at 10:30 at the First Presbyterian Church in Prestonsburg.

Classes are free and open to the public. Call 886-2788 for more information.

Become a Volunteer with Victim Services Program
You are more likely to be hurt by someone whom you know rather than be assaulted on Kentucky's streets by a total stranger. Learn to assist victims of sexual assault, child abuse and domestic violence by becoming a Volunteer with Victim Services Program. Call today to receive an application for our free training program. Call the Volunteer Coordinator at (606) 886-4323 for further information or to request an application. (The Victim Services Program is a program of Mountain Comprehensive Care Center.)

OutPatient Drug Treatment Program and Education
Narconon warns parents that abuse of addictive pharmaceutical drugs with youth is on the rise with deadly consequences. Learn the signs of drug abuse. Call Narconon for a free brochure on the signs of addiction for all drugs. 877-379-0208. www.drugsno.com

Auxier Community Center
Free GED classes, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, from 10 a.m. to 12.

Free Bible Lessons
Write to: Bible Way Outreach Ministry, P.O. Box 3371, Kingsport, TN 37664. Lessons completely free of charge to all interested.

Need help with addiction?
Lifetime of Floyd County "Conquer

Dependency" is a Christ-centered 12-step program offering support to those who are coping with addiction and learning to live drug-free lives. The support group meets on the following schedule:

Mondays, at Minnie (beside pharmacy), from 7-8 p.m.
Mondays, at Little Mud, Spruce Pine School, from 7-8 p.m.

Tuesdays, in Prestonsburg, in the Van Ark Building, from 2-3 p.m.
Tuesdays, at David, The David School, from 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Wednesdays, at Allen Baptist Church, from 7-8 p.m.

Thursdays, at Allen Baptist Church, from 7-8 p.m.

For more information, call Shirley Combs at (606) 434-8400, or Tom Nelson at (606) 478-2836.

Need Help With Home Repairs?

The Auxier Lifetime Learning Center can help! We are now taking applications for home repairs. If you, or someone you know, are low income and need help with repairs on your home, please call 606-886-0709 for your application, or stop by our office at 21 South River Street, Auxier. Office hours: Monday-Friday, 8-4.

Hope in the Mountains
Hope in the Mountains will host public meetings on Mondays, at 9 a.m., at the junction of U.S. 23 and Rt. 80, on Water Gap Rd., behind the Trimble Chapel Church.

Meetings focus will be to offer information in regard to community resources available to women seeking freedom from drug abuse. Family members are also welcome to attend. The Hope initiative proposes to help women break free from addictive lifestyles to become self-respecting contributing members of society.

Call 874-2008 or 788-1006 for more information.

Democratic Woman's Club meets at May Lodge
The Floyd County Democratic Woman's Club meets the third Monday of each month at 6 p.m., at Prestonsburg City Hall.

Have an 'Out of this World' birthday party!
The East Kentucky Science Center is now offering a fun and distinctive party venue for kids of all ages. The Birthday Party package includes rental of a classroom and admission to exhibits and planetarium programs. Must be booked two weeks in advance; limit 40 guests. Call 889-8260 for more information.

UNITE
The UNITE coalition of

Floyd County will meet on the fourth Thursday of each month, at 5:30 p.m., at the New Allen Baptist Church. All interested persons, welcome to join UNITE's fight against drugs.

"Living Free" - A support group sponsored by the Floyd County UNITE Coalition. Group will meet weekly at the old Allen Baptist Church, on US 23 N., between Allen and Banner, on Tuesdays, at 1:15 p.m. Living Free is a faith-based 12-step support group open to all who are searching for recovery. There is no fee to attend. For more info., contact Shirley Combs at 874-3888 or 434-8400.

Prestonsburg Rotary Club

(See CALENDAR, page 5)

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Joe Girdler-Superintendent of KY Assemblies of God will be the featured speaker.
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• blood oxygen
• EKG

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Viewpoint

Amendment 1

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people to peaceably assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.

Worth Repeating ...

The probability that we may fail in the struggle ought not to deter us from the support of a cause we believe to be just.

— Abraham Lincoln

Our View

Time for new taxes? Yes and no

It seems a curious time for the city of Prestonsburg to be considering a tax increase. With the national economy still struggling to climb out of the toilet, and the local coal industry and ancillary businesses facing an uncertain future, it would seem now is not the time to saddle local businesses and workers with a larger tax burden.

As it stands now, the proposal before city leaders would raise the occupational tax on business revenues and worker salaries from 1.5 percent to 2.5 percent. If there were no clear reason for the tax hike, we would spare no time in calling for the measure to be rejected altogether.

But it's not quite that simple.

The ordinance calls for half of the additional revenue generated to be earmarked for a community center, to rival the Knott County Sportsplex. That, we feel, would be an excellent reason to raise taxes.

Such a center would attract people to the city and would help improve the health of local residents. In the long run, we feel that any tax money used for that purpose would be more than offset by additional revenue for local businesses and reduced long-term health costs for local residents.

Still, that is not the entire story. The other half of the proposed new tax is not meant for any particular purpose, other than to go directly into the city's general fund.

Quite simply, when families and businesses are struggling to make ends meet, we do not feel it is prudent for the city to improve its fiscal health by asking locals to tighten their belts even more.

With all of those things in mind, we suggest a compromise: Raise the occupational tax to 2 percent, and put all of the new revenue toward the proposed community center. We think most folks would probably be willing to cough up a small amount more in taxes, when they can be certain the money will be used for a good cause that will improve the local quality of life.

If the local economic picture improves over the next year or two, then take a look at raising the tax another 0.5 percent. Even then, that might not be necessary. The city would most likely improve its fiscal health by building the community center. We can envision visitors to such a center most likely stopping afterwards to grab a bite to eat. That not only helps local restaurants, but it also helps the city, which charges a 3 percent sales tax on restaurant food.

We urge the city council to reject the full tax hike, for the time being, but we cannot oppose a smaller increase, if it is to be used solely to build a community center. Such a compromise would be a smart investment in Prestonsburg's future, while giving local families and businesses more time to recover from the recession.

— The Floyd County Times

SARAS

The safety net that America should cut...



Guest Column

A legislative perspective

by REP. GREG STUMBO
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE

Thirteen years ago this month, in the wake of several school shootings across the nation, including Paducah, the General Assembly created the Kentucky Center for School Safety.

It was given a two-fold mission: Gather data so we know where our schools stand while helping them overcome the challenges they may have.

Based on its latest annual report, which can be found online at www.kysafeschools.org, the evidence is clear that Kentucky is making significant progress.

The center emphasized that, on any given day, the vast majority of students in elementary and secondary school do not cause serious discipline problems; over the 2009-10 school year, it amounted to less than seven percent of the total population. Still, there were nearly 41,000 expulsions or out-of-school suspensions during that time, equivalent to the size of Covington, our fourth-largest city.

The report breaks these disturbances into two categories: Law violations, which involve the courts, and board of education

violations, which cover less-serious incidents that do not require legal action. Offenses leading to detention and in-school suspensions are not included.

According to the report, the last five years have generally seen a steep decline in both law and board violations. As a result, expulsions and corporal punishment are down about half, and out-of-school suspensions have dropped a fifth.

Robberies are up significantly over the five-year period, but serious assaults, burglaries and possession of firearms on school property are down, and there have been no homicides or rape. Drug abuse had been in a four-year decline, but the trend unfortunately went in the other direction last school year. Marijuana cases now far out-pace those involving alcohol by a three-to-one margin, and prescription drug abuse is seeing a steady increase year after year, as it is statewide.

Just as most major crimes involving students have dropped, our schools have also seen similar declines during the last five years when it comes to disciplinary problems tied to students missing detention, disturbing class and defying authority. The only category to see an increase involved threats or other forms of intimidation.

In addition to breaking out individual offenses, the center also looked at the data in different

ways. For example, sixth graders had about three times as many board offenses as fifth graders, and ninth graders had 50 percent more than eighth graders. Ninth graders, in fact, had by far the most violations of any grade, but the numbers dropped quite a bit for students in 10th, 11th and 12th grades.

Not surprisingly, most of the school board offenses took place in the classroom, about three-fourths altogether. The hallway and stairwell were the next area where troubling incidents occurred most frequently. The bus accounted for about three percent, and the gym saw a little less.

Statewide, some regions are more likely to have problems at school than others. Even when factoring out differences in population, the more urban areas show a much higher rate, whether offenses involved the law or school board policies. Jefferson County regularly leads the state, while our region here in Eastern Kentucky is traditionally the lowest.

As this report shows, our schools are becoming safer each year, which is certainly good news. There is always room for improvement, but with the center's help, the schools don't have far to look for advice. The hope, of course, is that the positive trends we have seen during the latter half of the past decade continue in the same direction in the years ahead.

House week in review

by REP. HUBERT COLLINS

More than 650 bills were filed during the recent 2011 Regular Session on issues ranging from comprehensive criminal code reform to government transparency. In all, 100 bills, and a handful of substantive resolutions were sent to the governor's desk to be signed into law.

In addition, lawmakers sent a constitutional amendment to the November 2012 ballot. If approved by a majority of voters, the right to hunt and fish would be included in the Commonwealth's bedrock document.

Bills passed into law during the 2011 Regular Session and the issues they address include:

■ **African-American Heritage.** Senate Bill 64 creates the Kentucky African-American Heritage and outlines its board membership.

■ **Businesses.** SB 8 creates a one-stop online portal for businesses to conduct their transac-

tions with state agencies and gather information on potential economic development incentives. An advisory committee will issue recommendations on the portal's operations by the end of the year.

■ **Carbon dioxide.** SB 50 includes pipelines for captured carbon dioxide in the eminent domain process, allowing such a pipeline to be constructed through Western Kentucky.

■ **Consumer protection.** House Bill 382 prohibits businesses and attorneys from soliciting car accident victims as clients until 30 days following the accident.

■ **Criminal code.** SB 108 increases the jurisdiction of district courts in civil cases from \$4,000 to \$5,000 and the jurisdiction of small claims courts from \$1,500 to \$2,500.

■ **Criminal code.** HB 463 alters the state's drug laws, putting an emphasis on treatment, community supervision, and other diversion programs for those convicted of simple possession and eliminating harsher penalties for repeat offenders of those crimes. The bill also requires treatment and other anti-recidivism programs to

show evidence they work before being adopted by the state.

■ **Diabetes.** SB 63 creates a collaborative group to identify goals and plans to reduce incidences of diabetes and improve diabetes care. SB 71 creates a licensing process for diabetes educators.

■ **Doctoral programs.** SB 130 allows the state's six comprehensive universities to offer certain advanced practice doctoral programs within limits.

■ **Drugs.** HB 121 bans possession and sale of a new class of street-drug sold over the counter and marketed as bath salts, plant food, and other everyday items.

■ **Economic development.** House Joint Resolution 5 creates a study of the state's economic development programs and their effectiveness.

■ **Education.** HB 425 allows out-of-state veterans to qualify for in-state tuition at public colleges and universities.

■ **Elder abuse.** HB 52 prohibits anyone convicted of abusing, neglecting, or exploiting an elderly or vulnerable adult from being placed in a position of trust such as guardian or power of

(See COLLINS, page 5)

The Times

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Obituaries

Kenas "Leonard" Spears

Kenas "Leonard" Spears, 85, of Banner, died on Thursday, April 14, 2011, at Highlands Regional Medical Center. Born April 6, 1926, he was the son of the late Albert and Cora Crum Spears and the husband of Archie May Mulkey Spears. He was a coal miner.

Survivors include two sons: Chuck Spears and Chad Spears, both of Banner, one daughter: Jamie (Jerry) Boyd, of Banner, and two grandchildren: Okie Douglas Boyd & James Ernest Boyd.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brothers and sisters: Italy Spears, Mexico Spears, Electus Spears, Oscar Spears, Mary Ellen Mulkey, Erma Crum, Della Lafferty, Nellie Goble and Alene Crum.

Funeral services were held Monday, April 18,

2011, at Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, in Martin. Burial followed at Spears Family Cemetery, in Banner.

Patsy Ann Spears

Patsy Ann Spears, 72, of Prestonsburg, died on April 18, 2011, at her residence. Born November 6, 1938, in Prestonsburg, she was the daughter of the late Rosa Lee Woods and wife of the late Curtis C. Spears. She was a homemaker.

Survivors include one son: Jimmy Spears, of Prestonsburg, two sisters: Gail (Leo) Bradley, of Royalton and Evelyn Spears, of Prestonsburg, three brothers: Terry Woods, Timmy Woods and Jessie Woods, all of Prestonsburg, one sister: Betty Crider, of Prestonsburg, seven grandchildren and 10 great-

grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by three daughters: Diana Lee Woods, Sylvia Jean Woods and Mary M. Spears, one sister: Linda Sue Laframboise and one grandson.

Funeral services will be held Thursday, April 21, 2011, at 11 a.m. at Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, in Martin, with Steve Williams officiating. Visitation is after 6 p.m. Tuesday at the funeral home. Burial will follow at Gethsemane Gardens.

Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Angela Owens Williamson

Angela Owens Williamson, 38, of Prestonsburg, died April 15, 2011, at her home.

Born August 8, 1972, she was the daughter of Charles Owens and the late

Elizabeth "Libby" Rowe Owens and the stepdaughter of Glenna Owens and the wife of the late Keith Williams and the companion of Kevin Spears. She was a homemaker.

In addition to her mother and husband, she was preceded in death by her grandparents: Rev. Charles and Cleo Rowe and Homer Owens.

She is survived by two daughters: Emily Elizabeth Williamson and Hevin Nicole Faith Spears both of Prestonsburg; grandmother: Delta Owens of Prestonsburg; one half brother: Terry Wayne Sisco of Prestonsburg and a host of aunts, uncle, family and friends.

Funeral services will take place Tuesday, April

19, 2011, at 12 noon at Faith Independent Baptist Church in Prestonsburg with Buddy Jones, Donnie Patrick and others officiating.

Burial will follow at Gethsemane Gardens in Prestonsburg.

Nelson Frazier Funeral Home will be in charge of funeral arrangements.

Cemetery

The land where the future cemetery is to be located, explained the reason for the study is to ensure there are no historical artifacts. County officials needed to authorize the study so funding for the cemetery and further development can continue, he said.

The study will be funded by a Kentucky Transportation Enhancement Program grant meaning money spent from the county's general fund would be reimbursed once the study is complete.

There are also possible artifacts to be considered, said Deputy Judge-Executive Barry Davis.

"We can't get started until we have this study because of a possible burial ground," Davis said, while Fitzpatrick followed that statement by saying there could be the need for further studies depending on what, if anything, is found during the course of the work.

The amount of land given to the county to develop the cemetery is roughly eight acres. The transfer of the deed includes

land on both the south and north side of Route 114.

There will be easements on the south side to have some of the shared facilities, such as parking lots and trails, officials said earlier this year.

With land being given on both sides of Route 114, the next step will be to form

boards to oversee the development of the cemetery.

The overall project will be completed in phases. The first phase will be to work with existing trails at the battlefield to make them more accessible, for which a grant has already been awarded.

Collins

attorney. The bill also prohibits such people from inheriting or otherwise benefiting from the person they abused.

■ Eye care. SB 110 allows optometrists to perform certain types of laser surgery, including treatments for glaucoma and cataracts.

■ Firearms. HB 308 establishes a program for people who have been banned from purchasing a firearm due to mental illness to recover that right. HB 302 allows military reenactors to include swords and firearms.

■ Fireworks. HB 333 expands the types of fireworks that can be sold in the state, including bottle rockets and Roman candles.

■ Flu shots. SB 40 allows pharmacists to give flu shots to children ages 9-13.

■ Government publications. HB 33 bans state agencies from mailing most publications to the public unless they are requested by the recipient.

■ Government transparency. SB 7 requires the three branches of state government to put all available spending records in a searchable online database with public access.

■ Homelessness. SB 26 reduces the fee for ID cards for the homeless from \$12 to \$4.

■ Homestead exemption. HB 244 allows certain disabled people to document their disability when they apply for a homestead exemption on their property taxes and not have to re-file for the exemption annually.

■ Horse racing. SB 24 makes Kentucky the first state to join an interstate horse racing compact that

would develop joint rules for horse racing and wagering. State officials would reserve the right to opt out of any rules adopted by the compact. Kentucky will become the first state to join the compact, which takes effect once six states sign on. HB 387 allows the state to track out-of-state wagering on Kentucky races so incentive funds can get their proper share.

I will share even more bills passed during the Regular Session with you next week. Thank you again for allowing me to serve you in Frankfort.



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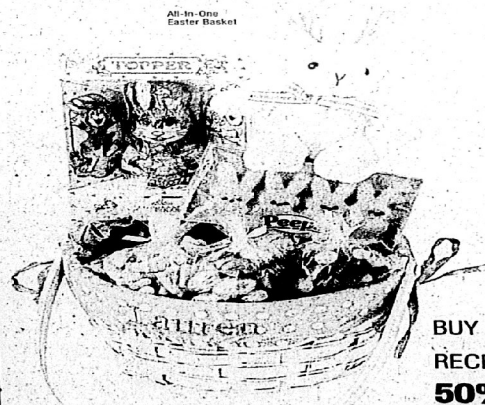
PUBLIC NOTICE

The absentee voting machine is now set up in the Floyd County Clerk's office during the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday thru Friday and 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on Saturday for registered voters to use for the following reasons:

1. Will be out of town on May 17, 2011 Election Day.
2. A women in her last trimester of pregnancy

CHRIS WAUGH
FLOYD COUNTY CLERK

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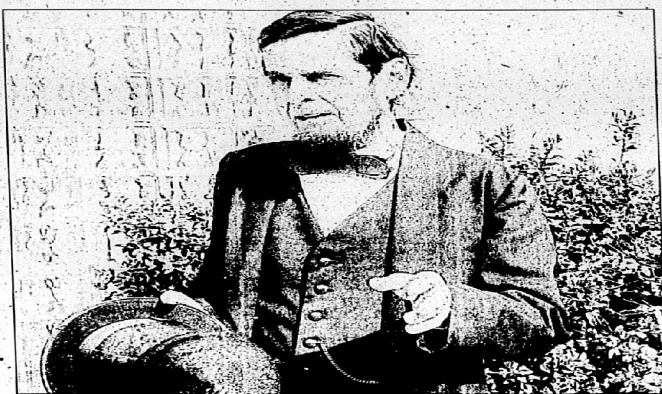
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Closed Sunday, April 24th, to observe Easter Holiday

Gerald Bestrom portrays Abraham Lincoln in Robert Redford's "The Conspirator." Bestrom came to Prestonsburg Tuesday to visit Billy Ray's Restaurant before stopping by The Floyd County Times. Bestrom will be at Billy Ray's today after 5 p.m. to sign autographs and sell photos, videos and CDs. Bestrom also plays music on a saw. Bestrom is in his 20th year, or one score, of portraying Lincoln.

photo by Jarrod Deaton



Bridge named for cancer victim

by SHELTON COMPTON
STAFF WRITER

JACK'S CREEK — The bridge located at Route 1428 and Route 122 at Jack's Creek will now be referred to as the Allison Taylor Berger Memorial Bridge.

The county's fiscal court members voted to name the bridge after the 10-year-old Berger, who died on March 26 of this year, after being diagnosed with cancer of the spinal cord in August 2009.

"This is something close to all our hearts," said Floyd Judge-Executive R.D. "Doc" Marshall. "And numerous people in that community were in agreement with naming the bridge after this young lady."

Berger was a A-average student, an avid reader with a special interest in science.



Allison Taylor Berger

Last year, she was awarded first place in her division in the East Kentucky Regional Science Fair. Four years earlier, in 2006, Berger received the Outstanding Young Citizen Award from the Kentucky House of Representatives.

During the course of her illness, she was often in surgery or undergoing radiation and chemotherapy

treatments, but succumbed to the cancer last month.

The resolution was given a unanimous vote by the Floyd County Fiscal Court and stated the naming of the bridge was "to honor Allison for all of her accomplishments and the joy she brought to so many, many throughout her life."

Among the dozens and dozens of memorial tributes found at Berger's memory book at Nelson Frazier Funeral Home are reflections of a young and vibrant

girl who embraced the life she had.

"It was a honor to get to know Allison," wrote Tamara Musgrave. "Although she only lived 10 years, she had so much to offer and teach us all. She savored life, embraced family and friends, and enjoyed this beautiful world God has graced us with. She climbed every mountain without hesitation, teaching us to always try our best. She was sent from God. She returns."

Urgent news for people who took FOSAMAX

Use of the osteoporosis drug Fosamax, may lead to femur (thigh bone) fractures. If you suffered a femur fracture after taking Fosamax, call us now at 1-800-THE-EAGLE about monetary compensation. There are no fees or costs until your case settles. We practice law only in Arizona, but associate with lawyers throughout the U.S.

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with Weatherproofing Technologies, Inc. at six schools, a change in days and hours, or the abolishment of Family Resource and Youth Service Center positions for the 2011-12 school year, a change in the allocation process for all Family Resource and Youth Service Centers in Floyd

County, and more.

The regular monthly meetings of the Floyd County Board of Education begin at 6:30 p.m. Full agendas are available at the meetings and the public can ask questions and make comments before the board begins the discussion of regular agenda items.

Road

Before a vote was conducted by the court, Floyd Judge-Executive R.D. "Doc" Marshall said Nelson and her neighbors' homes and the area would be looked at again, but that such an inspection was a different enterprise than changing weight limits for county roads.

"We'll get up there and we're going to make something happen," he said. "But that's a separate thing from the ton limit."

The motion from Warren Jarrell to table the issue until a decision from the circuit court level gives the court a ruling to use as a guide was seconded and received a full vote of approval from all members of the fiscal court.

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Dr. Gerald Dysert Obstetrician & Gynecologist

Dr. Dysert earned a medical degree from Ohio State University. He completed an internship and residency in obstetrics and gynecology at Mt. Carmel Medical Center in Columbus, Ohio.

Dr. Dysert was the Medical Director at the Center for Women's Health at Trover Foundation in Madisonville, Kentucky for many years.

He also was chairman of the Physician Advisory at Trover Clinic and Regional Medical Center.



To schedule an appointment with Dr. Dysert, please call

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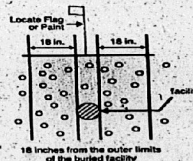
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Coal

Coal Academy, joined two others — Phil Osborne with Faces of Coal and Bill Bissett of the Kentucky Coal Operators Association — for the panel Tuesday afternoon.

The subject was one that has been debated, discussed and spotlighted in numerous public discussions since last year, when the Environmental Protection

Agency brought down stricter regulations against the coal industry.

The usual statistics were mentioned, including the fact that more than 90 percent of the state's electricity is provided by coal mining, while just over half the nation's power is produced by the industry.

"The Coal Academy was started in 2005 because we

saw the general age of active coal miners at that time was about 53 years old," Higginbotham said. "We knew we needed to generate coal miners, young miners who could continue the job."

And it's a job about which Higginbotham made what some might consider a strange observation Tuesday, saying, "Coal

mines are not dangerous."

But his statement is one he says he and the staff at his academy, including the 16 junior feeder programs throughout the state, can back up considering the time now spent on improving mining safety through a number of techniques such as simulators and actual mine experience when students are not working in the

classroom.

Osborne focused more on the ongoing problems with the EPA, a government agency the Kentucky Coal Association has filed a lawsuit against alleging "unfair standards." It was a topic Bissett also touched on, saying both his group and Osborne's continue to talk with EPA officials in attempts to come to a compromise on new regulations that have stalled more than 100 mining permits in Eastern Kentucky alone.

Another standby point was raised by Osborne in regard to long-term goals of gaining independence from foreign oil supplies through the conversion of coal to gas and liquid.

Kentucky mined 107 million tons of coal in the last year, with 75 percent of that amount excavated from hills in Eastern Kentucky. Of that percentage, half came from surface mines and half came from deep mines, according to Bissett.

Bissett said he and others

will continue to travel to parts of the state and beyond, hoping to explain to those "detached" from the actual production of coal, the day-to-day work that goes into it, to those he said "had probably never touched a piece of coal" in hopes of helping them see that coal is a primary source for not only the livelihood of Kentucky, but for an entire country that relies on the industry in the most basic of ways.

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Economy

According to Carter, cremation normally costs about one-third of the price for a traditional funeral and burial.

"It's a trend," Carter said. "Not only can I see it here, but it's a national trend in the funeral profession. People are looking for ways to honor the deceased

while still saving money."

Recent talk by the Prestonsburg City Council about raising the occupational tax led Carter to think about the effect it would have on financially strapped citizens in Prestonsburg.

"To me, this is a bad time for it," Carter said. "It's almost a form of tax-

ation without representation. I came back from the store a few nights ago and told my wife that I don't see how people on set incomes can make it. I don't see how they can even afford the essentials."

Carter said he has also noticed another surprising trend that occurs during times of economic hardship, and that is the death rate.

"I have found locally that, for some reason, when the economy is down, the death rate is down," Carter

said. "I'm not sure why that is. Most people would assume it would be the opposite."

In order to help pay for the cost of living, some people are gathering funds they have saved for the cost of dying, according to Carter.

"A lot of people are cashing in their insurance and annuities now instead of saving it for their funeral," Carter said. "To quote Clint Eastwood, 'A person has to know their limitations.'"

Dance Etc.

enjoyed a very successful season, competing in Louisville, Lexington, Cincinnati and Orlando," said Jody Shepherd, owner of Dance Etc. "They have competed against hundreds of teams from across the country."

"If you would like to see

these talented teams perform, join them for a free performance at the Mountain Arts Center on Sunday, May 1, at 2 p.m. For more information on Dance Etc., visit the dance studio's website at <http://www.danceetc.biz>.

Egg

a list of clues is available at each of the contest's sponsors. This year's sponsors include:

- Auto Accident Health Care
- Community Trust Bank
- Highlands Regional Medical Center
- McDowell

Continued from p1

- Professional Pharmacy
- Med-Zone
- Mountain Arts Center
- Parkview Pharmacy
- Prestonsburg Health Care
- Reno's Roadhouse
- Riverview Healthcare
- StoneCrest Golf Course
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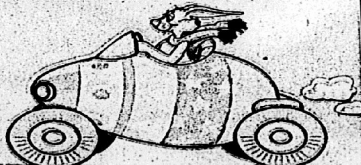
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Wednesday, April 20, 2011

FLOYD COUNTY Sports

SECTION

B

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Former EK Miner Brian Levy excels in NBA landscape

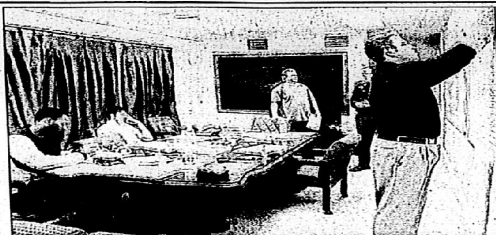
by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

BAKERSFIELD, Calif. — New Jersey native Brian Levy, 23 at the time, ventured to Eastern Kentucky in 2007 in hopes of beginning a successful professional basketball career as a member of the East Kentucky Miners front

office. Levy learned and ultimately thrived in two seasons with the Pikeville, Ky.-based East Kentucky Miners, a franchise in the tradition-rich Continental Basketball Association (CBA). With the Miners franchise, Levy worked in most all aspects. Under the tutelage of Miners head coach Kevin Keathley,

Levy worked sales and community events before eventually moving into the position of Director of Operations during the 2008-09 season. He was a part of a Miners franchise that reached the playoffs and led the league in scoring.

(See LEVY, page eight)



Former East Kentucky Miners front office member Brian Levy (pictured directly to the left) is now with the Bakersfield Jam, an NBA-D-League franchise. Levy, a New Jersey native, worked for the Pikeville, Ky.-based East Kentucky Miners during the 2007-08 and 2008-09 CBA seasons. Bakersfield is an affiliate of both the Los Angeles Lakers and Los Angeles Clippers.

Booth to play for Kentucky All-Star team

Sheldon Clark guard among 12 players picked after tryouts

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

LOUISVILLE — Sheldon Clark High School guard Carla Booth has been selected to play for the Kentucky All-Star team in the 2011 Anthem Kentucky vs. Indiana All-Star Basketball Classic. Tryouts for the Kentucky All-Star girls' and boys' basketball teams were conducted in Louisville Friday and Saturday.

The reigning 15th Region Player of the Year, Booth joins Miss Basketball Sara Hammond of Rockcastle County on the Kentucky All-Star team roster. The remainder of the Kentucky Girls' All-Star team roster features Averee Fields (Calloway County); Danay Fothergill (Southwestern); Chastity Gooch (Franklin Simpson); Natalie Greenwell (Elizabethtown); Michael Guess (Dupont Manual); Juliann Miller (Merrey); Maddie Peabody (Sacred Heart); Capisha Rogers (George Rogers Clark); Kristen Stainback (Scott County) and Lauren Tibbs (Scott).

Booth led Sheldon Clark to both the 15th Region All "A" Classic and 15th Region championships during the 2010-11 season. The Eastern Kentucky University signee averaged 24 points, seven rebounds, five assists and three steals per game as a senior for the Lady Cardinals.

The opening game of the Kentucky-Indiana All-Star basketball series will be played on June 10 at Bellarmine University's Knights Hall in Louisville. The girls' game will tip off at 5:30 p.m. with the boys to follow at 7:30 p.m. The squads will meet again in Indianapolis as well on June 11.



Sheldon Clark Guard Carla Booth



Prestonsburg outlasted Pikeville 5-4 on Thursday in the 15th Region All "A" Classic championship game at StoneCrest. The Blackcats advance to the All "A" Classic statewide baseball tournament.

Blackcats claim All 'A' title

The Prestonburg Blackcats, champions out of the 15th Region, will face the 13th Region champion in the opening round of the All "A" Classic statewide baseball tournament on Saturday, May 7. The tournament is scheduled for May 7-8 at Whitaker Bank Park in Lexington.

H.S. BASEBALL SCOREBOARD

15th Region All "A" Classic at StoneCrest

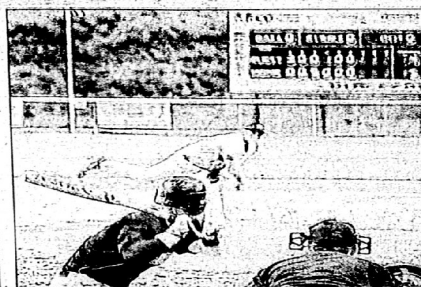
Tuesday, April 5
Allen Central 17, Shelby Valley 0 (5 innings)

Wednesday, April 6
Paintsville 4, Betsy Layne 1
Prestonsburg 3, South Floyd 0

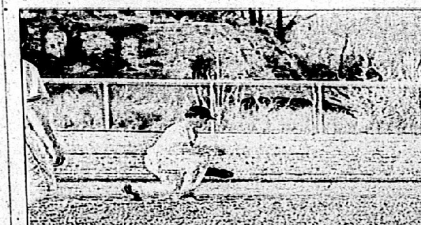
Thursday, April 7
Pikeville 4, Sheldon Clark 3
Allen Central 8, Phelps 4

Friday, April 8
Prestonsburg 4, Paintsville 1
Wednesday, April 13
Pikeville 1, Allen Central 0 (Semifinals)

Thursday, April 14
Prestonsburg 5, Pikeville 4 (Championship Game)



Trey Stapleton (above) and Grant Anderson (below) helped Prestonburg capture the 15th Region All "A" Classic baseball title.



Rebels pull away, defeat visiting Paintsville

Senior pitcher Austin Prater earns win for Allen Central

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

ALLEN — The Allen

Central Rebels snapped a four-game losing streak on their home field Monday evening, defeating visiting Paintsville 8-2.

Allen Central senior pitcher Austin Prater got the win, throwing 6 innings for the Rebels. Eighth-grader Dalton Lawson pitched the

seventh inning for the host Allen Central baseball team.

The Rebels improved to 4-8 after registering the win. Paintsville slipped to 5-7 after suffering the loss.

Junior Jake Prater was 3-for-4 with a double and a solo homerun for the Rebels. Prater picked up 3 RBI in the

non-district win.

Freshman Handshoe went 3-for-4 with a leadoff double for the Rebels.

"We played much better last night than we have the last week," Allen Central Coach Josh Todd commented. "Our pitchers hit their

spots and we put the ball in play and gave ourselves an opportunity to score runs."

The Rebels are not scheduled to face Paintsville again during the regular season.

Allen Central was entering 58th District/Floyd

(See REBELS, page 2)

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JOHNSON CENTRAL
High School

VOLLEYBALL SIGNING: Johnson Central High School senior Magen Daniel recently signed with the Kentucky Christian University volleyball program. KCU head coach Bruce Dixon (back row, middle) attended the signing.

PHS track athletes record PRs during JC meet

by STEVE LEMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

PAINTSVILLE — Less than 48 hours prior to competing in the Heart of the Bluegrass meet at Henry Clay High School, Prestonsburg traveled north to Johnson Central High School on Thursday for a meet against other area teams. PHS athletes, preparing for the upcoming at Henry Clay, only competed in two events apiece. However, multiple Prestonsburg track and field athletes notched personal records.

Veteran Prestonsburg runner Catherine Tinchler logged a personal record in the 100 Meter Hurdles. Tinchler, a sophomore, finished first in the event.

Darby Cooksey, competing in the 100 Meter Dash, also registered a personal record. Caitlin Kidd had a personal record in the 200 Meter Dash.

Alisha Owens, Shelby Blackburn and Makayla Hitchcock each turned in a personal record in the discus. Owens and Hitchcock also produced personal records in the shot put.

On the boys' side, Nathan Slone didn't turn in a personal record but placed first in both the 200 Meter Dash Triple Jump.

Wes Robinson had a personal record in the 100 Meter Dash.

The following Prestonsburg High School boys' track and field competitors had personal records in the discus: Kain Collins, Joseph Jamerson, Austin Reahard and Zach Rowe.

Jamerson and Alex Garner both notched personal records in the shot put.

Pikeville softball team sweeps conference rival St. Catharine

TIMES STAFF REPORT

ST. CATHARINE — The Pikeville College softball team ran its win streak to eight straight with a sweep of St. Catharine College on Wednesday afternoon.

The wins, coming by scores of 7-2 and 11-1, stretched the Pikeville winning streak against Mid-South Conference competition to six and improved its records to 18-15 overall and 9-11 in the league. The Bears are one game out of first place in the East Division but have the most wins against league foes.

Pikeville will remain on the road, traveling to Rio Grande on Friday afternoon.

PC 7, SCC 2: A pair of three-run home runs gave the Bears a comfortable win in the opener.

Back-to-back two-out singles by sophomores Kayla Morgan and Hannah Vinson set the stage for freshman Jordyn Combs, who hit a three-run blast to open scoring.

In the third, freshman Kayla Cantrell was hit by a pitch before Morgan and Vinson singled to load the bases. Cantrell scored when

Combs grounded out to make it 4-0 before Emily Castle, the reigning MSC Player of the Week, continued her torrid pace with a three-run homer to make it 7-0.

The Patriots scored single runs in the third and seventh.

Morgan, Vincent and Combs had two hits apiece for the Bears, while Castle and Corey Huston added one.

Morgan was the beneficiary of the offense, scattering five hits over seven innings to improve to 6-4 on the season.

PC 11, SCC 1: Pikeville exploded out of the gate again with a six-run first and closed it with four in the sixth to sweep the twinbill.

Combs plated the first run when she doubled to score Huston, who led the game off with a single. Castle singled to plate Vinson, who had reached on an infield hit.

An infield hit by Ricki Maynard delivered Combs before senior Sam Neeley blasted a three-run home run to make it 6-0.

Pikeville made it 7-0 in the second when Vinson doubled in Huston.

The Bears put the game away in the sixth. Cantrell opened the inning with a double and scored when

Morgan singled. Combs reached safely when her bunt was misplayed, allowing freshman pinch-runner Emily Walker to score. Castle delivered a double to score junior Chanoa Bledsoe, who was also pinch-running, to make it 10-1.

Combs scored the final run on a wild pitch.

Senior Whitney Compton was the winning pitcher, throwing all six innings and striking out five to improve to 8-5 on the season and drop her ERA to 2.33.

Vinson led Pikeville's 14-hit attack with three knockouts, while Huston, Morgan, Castle and Maynard had two hits apiece. Cantrell, Combs and Neeley also had hits.



JORDYN COMBS

June Buchanan center Long signs with Alice Lloyd College

TIMES STAFF REPORT

PIPPA PASSES — June Buchanan School student-athlete Kelsey Long made her college choice official earlier in the month as she signed a letter of intent to join the Alice Lloyd College women's basketball program.

Long is joining a ALC women's basketball squad that finished runner-up in the KIAC tournament this season under the direction of Coach John Mills. Mills was named KIAC Conference Coach of the year for his efforts during the 2010-11

season.

The Lady Eagles team was also recently honored nationally, receiving the prestigious Five Star Team of Character Award. The award is presented to one NAIA Division II squad each year for demonstrating high character both on and off the court, and for contributions they made to their community.

Long, a 6-2 center, was an all-district performer for the Lady Crusaders this year. On the season, she averaged 12.2 points and 9.2 rebound per game. She shot nearly 50-percent from the

floor. Long was 71-percent from the foul line. She also led her team in blocked shots.

Mills believes Long has a tremendous amount of upside to her game.

"We are happy to welcome Kelsey to the Eagle family," Mills said. "Kelsey will bring a much needed intimidating presence on the defensive end. She is very athletic and strong. She also is an excellent free throw shooter. This is a big plus, because she will get a lot of opportunities to get to the charity line with her rugged play."

Floyd softball teams fall in 15th Region All 'A' semifinals

by STEVE LEMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

PAINTSVILLE — A pair of Floyd County softball teams fell on the road in Paintsville Monday evening during the 15th Region All "A" Classic semifinals.

South Floyd and Prestonsburg were both eliminated from the regional small school tournament following losses to foes from neighboring Pike County.

Former champions Shelby Valley and Pikeville claimed victories to set the stage for an All-Pike County final Tuesday evening.

Shelby Valley jumped out in front early and gradually pulled away from Prestonsburg, defeating the

Lady Blackcats 13-2. The seasoned Shelby Valley club defeated Allen Central 11-1 in five innings on April 11 and edged Paintsville 11-10 six days later en route to the semifinals.

In an earlier matchup in the tournament, Prestonsburg pounded Phelps 15-5 on Thursday, April 7.

Pikeville pulled out the closest victory in the tournament thus far, defeating talented pitcher Ada Gayheart and the South Floyd Lady Raiders 2-1.

South Floyd blanked Floyd County Conference/58th District rival Betsy Layne 10-0 in five innings on Wednesday, April 6 to advance to the semifinals.

At press time on Tuesday

H.S. SOFTBALL SCOREBOARD
15th Region All "A" Classic at Paintsville

Monday, April 18
Semifinals
Pikeville 2, South Floyd 1
Shelby Valley 13, Prestonsburg 2
(5 innings)

Tuesday, April 19
Championship Game
Pikeville-Shelby Valley, N/A

UK set to host Blue-White Game

Wildcat program winding down spring practice

TIMES STAFF REPORT

LEXINGTON — The University of Kentucky football program is winding down spring practice. Kentucky will conduct its final practice today. The Blue/White Spring Football Game is set for Saturday, April 23, at 3 p.m. at Commonwealth Stadium. The event is presented by Verizon.

Admission and parking are free on a first-come, first-served basis. The Red, Blue

and Green parking lots open at 8 a.m. and fans are welcome to tailgate. Stadium gates 2, 3, 4, 9, 10 and 11 will open at 1:30 p.m. Seating will be available in the north, west and south lower sections of the stadium.

Verizon, the event sponsor, will be positioned inside stadium gates 4 and 9. Verizon will be giving away sunglasses, lanyards or drawstring bags while supplies last.

Team roster cards will be given away at the stadium gates. There is a coupon on the back of the roster card

(See GAME, page 8)

which is good for free admission.

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Cinema 2 - Held Over
SCREAM 4 (R), Mon-Sat. 7:00-9:00; Sun. (1:30) 7:00-9:00.
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Cinema 2 - Held Over
INSIDIOUS (PG-13), Mon-Thurs. 7:05-9:25; Fri. (4:20) 7:05-9:25; Sat-Sun. (2:05-4:25) 7:05-9:25.

Cinema 3 - Held Over
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Cinema 4 - Held Over
HAINA (PG-13), Mon-Fri. 6:55; Sat-Sun. (1:55) 6:55.

Cinema 5 - Held Over
THE LINCOLN LAWYER (R), Mon-Thurs. 9:15; Fri-Sat-Sun. (4:15) 9:15.

Cinema 6 - Held Over
SOUL SURFER (PG), Mon-Thurs. 7:00-9:20; Fri. (4:20) 7:00-9:20; Sat-Sun. (2:00-4:20) 7:00-9:20.

Cinema 7 - Held Over
WATER FOR ELEPHANTS (PG-13), Mon-Thurs. 6:55-9:15; Fri. (4:15) 6:55-9:15; Sat-Sun. (1:55-4:15) 6:55-9:15.

Cinema 8 - Starts Fri., April 22
RIO 3 (G), Mon-Thurs. 7:00-9:15; Fri. (4:30) 7:00-9:15; Sat-Sun. (2:00-4:30) 7:00-9:15.

Cinema 9 - Held Over
MADEA'S BIG HAPPY FAMILY (PG-13), Mon-Thurs. 7:05-9:25; Fri. (4:25) 7:05-9:25; Sat-Sun. (2:05-4:25) 7:05-9:25.

Cinema 10 - Held Over
SCREAM 4 (R), Mon-Thurs. 7:15-9:30; Fri. (4:30) 7:15-9:30; Sat-Sun. (2:15-4:30) 7:15-9:30.

Cinema 11 - Held Over
YOUR HIGHNESS (R), Mon-Thurs. 7:15-9:30; Fri. (4:30) 7:15-9:30; Sat-Sun. (2:15-4:30) 7:15-9:30.

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FLOYD COUNTY
Lifestyles

B3

YESTERDAYSItems taken from The Floyd County Times,
20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70 years ago, page B4**INSIDESTUFF**

Classifieds • page B5

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EVERYBODY'S SCIENCE**A new meaning
for 'SOP': 'Save
Our Produce'**by SANDY MILLER HAYS
AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE

Things are about to get ugly. If you're a gardener who dreams of the perfect vine-ripened tomato or that to-die-for cantaloupe or honeydew melon, you know too well that there are those who wish to thwart your dreams: viruses, fungi, bugs and weeds. Practically from the minute you plop that young plant or seed into the ground, the enemy is arrayed against you.

Fortunately, you have a powerful weapon on your side—a veritable army in the form of the scientists of the Agricultural Research Service (ARS). Yes, our garden enemies are legion, but we're bigger than they are, and smarter, too!

For example, ARS scientists are moving ever closer to developing an environmentally friendly bacteria-based biocontrol agent that offers long-lasting protection against caterpillars and other pests that come to plague your plantings.

Bacillus thuringiensis, more commonly known as Bt, is already used to control gypsy moths, tent caterpillars, leaf rollers, canker worms and a whole host of other pests that attack garden plants and crops.

But, alas, the commonly used strain known as B. thuringiensis kurstaki doesn't survive more than one generation. That means that after you've killed off an initial round of pests, the biocontrol dies out and a fresh round of pests turns up for home-grown goodies.

So an ARS scientist in Beltsville, Md., has been searching through the 3,500 Bt strains in the agency's Beltsville Bacterial Collection for a strain that will not only wipe out an initial generation of pests, but will live on to fight other generations.

As in any good mystery, clues are emerging. The scientists have tested 50 strains of Bt that are known to be toxic to gypsy moths, including the familiar kurstaki, and they've found that the Bt strains can be divided into two groups: the ones that produce a particular enzyme called "urease," and those that don't.

Again as in any good mystery, there's a certain "gore" element to this story. The scientists fed the 50 different strains to gypsy moth larvae, and when those caterpillars died, the scientists ground up the bodies and fed them to another cycle of caterpillars.

The scientists found that among 26 urease-producing Bt strains, 23 survived five passages through gypsy moth larvae, whereas none of the 24 strains that don't produce urease survived the same ordeal.

This finding brings the ARS scientists a step closer to finding a Bt strain that will be more effective at combating not just the dreaded gypsy moth, but perhaps other insect pests as well.

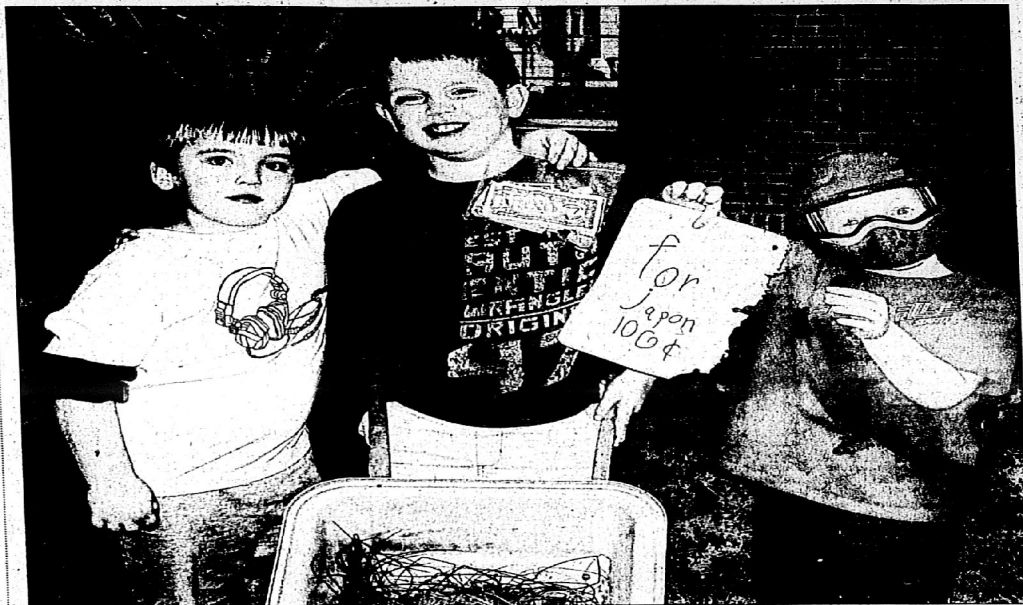
What's more, these efforts should also shed some light on other Bt strains that have other traits we'd cherish, such as the ability to grow on mulch, or to multiply on specific crops, or best of all, to thrive in gardens under attack by a targeted pest.

One such pest that's wreaking havoc in the honeydews and cantaloupes from California's Imperial Valley is a virus with the tongue-tangling name "cucurbit yellow stunting disorder virus," or CYSDV.

This virus was identified by ARS scientists in the fall of 2006 after growers in the Imperial Valley and nearby Yuma, Arizona, alerted them to its presence. A year later, the same virus turned up in Florida. No one is sure how it "leapfrogged" from California to Arizona, but there's no doubt it's the same virus.

This virus plays a dirty trick on growers: Melons from plants infected with CYSDV may look normal, but

(See SCIENCE, page 4)



Garrett Compton, Will Nairn, and Cade Nairn

ENTREPRENEURIAL HEART**Youngsters sell onions to help tsunami victims**by JARRID DEATON
FEATURES WRITER

While most people consider wild onions in their yard to be a nuisance, a group of local kids decided to be both business-minded and charitable by using the smelly green plants to drum up donations for Japan.

"Five little boys were walking toward me," said Ginger K. Nairn, mother of Will and Cade Nairn. "Garrett Compton was pushing a small plastic wheelbarrow full of wild onions. Will stopped alongside the street to pick some more. Cade was holding a sign that read 'for Japan 100¢.' Jackson Shannon was running toward me with a smile on his face and Dylan Shannon was carrying two bottles of Gatorade, neither of which were his. This was a complete team effort."

Nairn said she watched from the sideline as the children went door-to-door saying, "We're selling onions for Japan."

Several of Nairn's neighbors gave money to the children and told them they could keep the onions to sell to someone else.

"Hey, mom, we can give this money to Japan to rebuild their world," Cade said to his mother.

In total, the onion sale raised \$22. The money has already been donated to the Save the Children fund to be used for relief efforts in Japan after the devastating earthquake and tsunami.

"You can take something small and maybe even undesirable, like an onion, and do good with it," Ginger Nairn said. "You should always buy anything that a child is selling."



Jackson and Dylan Shannon

OUR YESTERDAYS

(Items taken from
The Floyd County
Times,
20, 30, 40, 50 60, 70
years ago.)

Twenty years ago (April 17-April 19, 1991)

A Floyd County company which faces a threat of court-ordered dissolution has gained tentative state approval to expand its nursing care facility in Prestonsburg and to develop a new facility in Paintsville...A 39-year-old Martin man was shot and killed Sunday night by a blind man after an altercation at a Mount Sterling stockyard. Burlin Conn, of Arkansas Creek, near Martin, was shot four times in the chest by Dale Staton, 33, of Owensville in Bath County, after Conn allegedly attacked him at the Gateway Stockyard, said Trooper Lon Fields of the Morehead State Police Post. The incident happened at 9:30 p.m. Saturday...A 19-year-old Floyd County woman was charged Friday with second degree manslaughter in connection with the death of a newborn baby found in a dumpster, Thursday, at Eastern Kentucky University in Richmond. Pamela Michelle Harris, formerly of Melvin, was charged by the school's Division of Public Safety, after the body of a newborn baby girl was found by a custodian outside of Burnham Hall, a residential hall on campus...Five Floyd County juveniles were arrested early Monday morning after leading police officials on a three-county chase through Floyd, Magoffin, and Johnson counties. A patrol by the new Middle Creek Neighborhood Watch group spotted a black Chevy pickup truck stop on the Abbott Road and saw the juveniles jump from the truck and begin beating on mailboxes with a baseball bat...Separate house fires in the county, Thursday, claimed the life of a Hueysville man and destroyed a two-story home near Jenny Wiley State Park. Charles Taylor, 64, was found dead in the remains of his home on Reed Branch at Hueysville. Taylor, a paraplegic, is believed to have been smoking in bed...A one-day strike by United States railway workers started and ended soon after it began, Wednesday, when Congress ordered the pickets back to work Wednesday night. Picket lines were set up Wednesday in Martin and Allen in Floyd County by members of

the United Transportation Union (UTU), Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees (BMWE), and Locomotive Engineers...The City of Wheelwright has hired Charles L. Harmon, 34, of East Point as police chief for the town. Harmon was officially hired by the city council, April 2, and has added a part-time police officer to the force...There died: Berlin Conn, 39, of Martin, was dead on arrival, Saturday, at Mary Chiles Hospital in Mt. Sterling; Ray Howard, 62, of Hippo, Monday, at Highlands Regional Medical Center, Grover Cleveland, 69, of Allen, Saturday, at Our Lady of the Way Hospital, following an apparent heart attack; John C. Osborne, 72, of Brainerd, former Morehead State University security guard and woodwork hobbyist, January 14, at St. Luke Medical Center, Clydia Crabtree, 85, of Estill, Tuesday, at her residence; Colonel Robert Peters, 87, of Ashland, formerly of Martin, Sunday, at his residence; Terry Jewell, 34, of Prestonsburg, Tuesday, at the residence of his father-in-law, Don Bays of Goble-Roberts; Carl Coleman, 67, of Columbus, Ohio, formerly of Prestonsburg, Monday in Mercy South Hospital in Fairfield, Ohio; John Shire, 85, of Estill, Tuesday, at his home; a drowning accident at his home in South Shore; J. B. Goble, 68, of Prestonsburg, Thursday, at his residence; a drowning accident at his home in South Shore; Grover Cleveland Rowe, 69, of Allen, Saturday, at Our Lady of the Way Hospital; Glenn Statton, Anderson St., 83, of Prestonsburg, Wednesday, at Riverview Manor Nursing Home; Susan Lorraine Lester, formerly of Prestonsburg, recently, in Lafayette, Indiana.

Thirty years ago (April 22, 1961)

A hearing on alleged violations of an injunction issued at the start of the Highlands Hospital strike four weeks ago, ended in a compromise yesterday (Tuesday). A temporary restraining order was granted Tuesday afternoon by Circuit

Judge Hollie Conley to the Transcontinental Coal Company Inc., which does business in this county as the Diamond Coal Co. Inc., limiting the number of pickets at the company location and defining their conduct...The talk at Monday's meeting of the Big Sandy Area Development District board, if not exactly bullish, was at least brave. Even the ADD's more optimistic spokesmen did not disguise the fact, however, that the future looks bleak, both for that organization and for many of the programs it handles...A Floyd County school teacher was named in a week in drug charges allegedly involving a high school student. Sandy Boyd, head teacher at Prater Creek grade school was named in warrants, Monday, accusing him of selling marijuana to a Banner youth, said to be a Betsy Layne high school junior...Jim Hanover, Prestonsburg attorney and former state senator, was disbarred from practicing law in Kentucky by the state Supreme Court last week. The court followed a recommendation of the Kentucky Bar Association that Hammond be disbarred after finding him guilty of falsifying black-lung benefit claims...There died: Ruben Isaacs, 69, of Teaberry, Wednesday, at the McDowell Appalachian Regional Hospital; Mary Ann Smith Ward, 40, of Cow Creek, Saturday, at the Highlands Regional Medical Center; Samuel Edward Elliott, 52, of Gary, Indiana, February 5; Patsy Click Samons, 70, Saturday, at her home at Martinsburg; Dick Mayo Allen Sr., 61, Saturday in Richmond; Annie Boyd Burkett, 91, of Allen, Tuesday, at the Riverview Manor Nursing Home.

Forty years ago (April 22, 1971)

Latest reported development in the hassle-ridden Floyd County Comprehensive Health Program was the threat made last week by the entire medical staff of the program to resign...Plans for stripmining acreage on Spewing Camp may have supplied a motive for the dynamiting, early last Saturday morning, of an approach to the bridge over which traffic must pass into the creek area...The coveted Silver Beaver Award was presented to Arthur Bradbury at the annual Appreciation Dinner of the Lonesome Pine Council, Boy Scouts of America, last Friday...Michael Auxier, of Emma, last week became the first Floyd Countyman to be named president-elect of the Kentucky Education Association...It's frightening," a peace officer told "The Times" this week, in a discussion of the widespread use of drugs in this county...Announcement was made last week of the appointment of Mrs. Reba T. Martin as postmaster...Prestonsburg Community College's debate team, composed of Stefan Magura, Marvin Holbrook, Phillip Meek, and Randy Clark, was awarded a trophy at the recent Kentucky Community and Junior College speech tournament...Harry

Caidill, author of "Night Comes to the Cumberlands," will speak at Pike Technology Building, Prestonsburg Community College, Tuesday, April 27...Our Lady of the Mountains School at Paintsville will no longer operate as a boarding school...There died: Omery Hall, 66, former postmaster at H. Hat, Friday, at the UK Medical Center, Lexington; Mrs. Adam Patton, 65, of Hendersonville, Tenn., native of Henderson, in a Nashville Hospital, February 13; Arvil Hall, 49, Perry County native, in Cincinnati, O., Monday; Mary Tackett Martin, 76, of Grethel, last Tuesday, at a Pikeville hospital; Sherman Miley, 63, of Ligon, last Tuesday, in a Prestonsburg hospital; Mandy Short Watson, 73, of Raven, Tuesday, at Lackey; Ben Stewart, 69, at his home at Minnie, Saturday; Charlie Ousley, 75, of Martin, last Monday, at the McDowell Hospital; Minda Frances Hall, 59, of Clyde, O., formerly of Teaberry, Friday, in Fremont, O.; David H. Butler, 83, of Ironton, O., formerly of this county, Saturday, in an Ironton hospital; Ruth L. Clark, 66, of Ivel, last Tuesday, in a Prestonsburg hospital; Densil Flannery Stumbo, postmaster at Martin, last Tuesday, at his home in Martin.

Fifty years ago (April 20, 1961)

First work on bridge and on the highway itself, from Auxier to Van Lear, was begun this week, only to be suspended abruptly by threatening actions of Johnson County men demanding employment on the projects...The survey team of the Department of Education, Frankfort, which arrived here Monday, completed its look at building needs in the county school system...Wednesday...A start was made Saturday on cleanup work, scheduled in Prestonsburg and other Floyd County communities...The fifth annual convention of Kentucky State P.E.O. Sisterhood, was held at the Brown Hotel, Louisville, April 13 and 14, with the state president, Mrs. W. A. Rose, of Prestonsburg, presiding...Ellsworth Collins, of Wheelwright, whose trumpet performance won for him the district music contest, sponsored by the Seventh District, Kentucky Federation of Woman's Clubs, will be one of nine finalists competing for state honors in Louisville...Mr. and Mrs. V. B. Howland, of Malometon, Ky., announce the marriage of their daughter, Jayne Frances, of Prestonsburg, and John K. Pitts, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Pitts, of Blue River...There died: Mrs. Emmaline Chaffins, 88, of Rock Fork, near Garrett, last

Thursday, in Hamilton, O.; Harry S. Williams, 68, of Wheelwright, Tuesday, en route to hospital; Mrs. Sarah Elkins Ward, 90, of Cow Creek, Monday, at her home; Thomas James May, 66, of Prestonsburg, last Wednesday, at a Lexington hospital.

Sixty years ago (April 19, 1951)

The site of the proposed Floyd County War Memorial Hospital will be studied by the state health department, and the site at Allen selected by the fiscal court, will be reconsidered, it was announced by Gov. Lawrence Wetherby...Conservation officers have discovered that oil and salt water from oil wells on tributaries of Johns Creek are escaping into the main stream and on into Dewey Lake...Garnis Martin, Prestonsburg High School basketball coach, was replaced by William B. Damron, following the high school's winless year...Flo Weddington, Ronald Smiley and Bill Charles Spradlin, Prestonsburg High School students, will receive school Journalism awards from the U.S. Scholastic Association of Journalism...There died: Mrs. Betsy Holbrook Hall, 68, of Bevinville; Henry Jones, 45, Ligon miner; Shirley Ann Flinders, 3-year-old daughter of Arnold and Virginia Harvey Flinders; of Hunter, of burns sustained when she fell into a pan of scalding water.

Seventy years ago (April 17, 1941)

Floyd County's 6000 coal miners remain idle for the third week as operators and UMWA officials differ over contract terms...Favorable weather was begun on the Middle Creek railroad at West

OFFICIAL SPONSORS

- Prestonsburg Health Care
- McDowell Professional Pharmacy
- Highlands Regional Medical Center
- StoneCrest Golf Course
- Parkview Pharmacy
- Community Trust Bank
- Reno's Roadhouse
- Auto Accident Health Care
- Mountain Arts Center
- Riverview Healthcare
- Med-Zone
- Wal-Mart

LOST DOG

Chocolate Miniature Pinscher
Missing in
Printer Area

{ Reward offered }
for safe return

Answers to "Romeo"

Please call
(606)285-3411



2011 Great Easter Egg Hunt

CLUE #11
My lair will be easily reckoned, if you only go to the first Second.

Science

their sugar levels are slashed—and so is their marketability... Fortunately, in 2006, the same year the virus first appeared in California, an ARS scientist noticed that a salad melon (non-sweet, and more like a cucumber) from India showed resistance, and he later found resistance in a different salad melon from Africa. He's since evaluated more than 300 melon accessions from India, and has found more plants that show promise for resistance to this virus.

As you can see, we have a tough fight on our hands with all the pests that are thrown at our favorite produce. But we're coming up with new weapons every day, so you and your garden will want to stay tuned!

The Agricultural Research Service is the chief in-house scientific research agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. You can read more about ARS discoveries at www.ars.usda.gov/news.

Free Vascular Screenings

Kentucky Heart Institute and the Kentucky Heart Foundation are offering a free vascular screening to those 50 and older beginning at 1 p.m. Tuesday, April 26, in Prestonsburg, Ky. KDMC vascular/endovascular surgeon **Brandon Law, M.D.**, will review your results immediately following your screening.

Tests include: Total cholesterol (no fasting required), blood glucose, ankle brachial index (ABI) and electrocardiogram (EKG).

Appointments are required by calling
1.866.HEART.KY (432-7859).

Additional guidelines may apply, which help us see those most at risk for vascular disease.



1.866.HEART.KY (432-7859) | kdmccom



Brandon Law, M.D.

Tuesday
April 26
beginning
at 1 p.m.

on the KDMC
Mobile Health Unit
at First Presbyterian
Church
1430 N. Lake Drive
Prestonsburg, Ky.

WANTED Enterprising Journalist

The Williamson Daily News, located in the beautiful hills of southern West Virginia, seeks and enterprise journalist that can pull strong stories out of a variety of beats.

This is a small daily newspaper, so the candidate will juggle several areas of reporting. Photography skills not required, but definitely a plus. Solid news judgment and great storytelling will be the biggest skills needed. Full-time, entry-level position with benefits. Please send cover letter, resume and at least three writing examples to:

greatonefrommatewan@yahoo.com or by mail to Mike Browning, Editor, P.O. Box 1660, Williamson, WV 25661

The Times

CLASSIFIEDS work for you!

sell — buy — rent — hire — find

Local Rates Include Online

only \$5.50 for the first three lines, \$1.00 each additional line
 Bargain Basement - Items under \$100 - 3 lines, half price
 Yard Sale Ads - 1 Day \$5.00 - 3 days \$12.00
 (30 words or less)

"For Sale
 Special"
 3 lines/
 3 days only

5 Easy ways to place your ad:

1. Call: (606) 886-8506, Ryan Hall
2. Fax: (606) 886-3603
3. E-mail: classifieds@floydcountytimes.com
4. Stop by: 263 S. Central Avenue, Prestonsburg
5. Mail: P.O. 390, Prestonsburg, KY 41653

Our hours: 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

DEADLINES:
 Wednesday's paper @ Mon., noon
 Friday's paper @ Wed., 5 p.m.
 Sunday's paper @ Thurs., 5 p.m.
 Visa - MC - Discover
 Check

The Best Way To Write An Ad:

- Begin with a key word (item for sale, etc.)
 - Use descriptive words to identify your items
 - State your price or terms
 - Include a phone number and/or e-mail address
- NAME _____
 ADDRESS: _____
 PHONE #: _____

Write your

ad here:

(approximately
 18 letters
 per line)

CREDIT CARD:

Our CLASSIFIEDS will WORK For You!!!

3500 Real Estate
 Rentals

Houses For Rent

House for rent, 638 N. central Ave.
 1st flr, dining rm, kitchen, bath,
 utility and basement. Close
 to high school & city college. Good
 neighborhood. \$1,000 mo. Refer-
 ences required plus security de-
 posit. Call 889-8554.

100 Legals

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

The following item will be offered
 at public sale on April 22, 2011 at
 First Guaranty Bank 32 Triangle
 Street Martin KY 41619 at 11:00
 AM.
 2003 Ford Expedition VIN
 1FMPU15W62913258
 All items are sold "as is where
 is" Seller reserves the right to
 bid and to reject any and all bids.
 Items are to be paid following the
 sale, or satisfactory arrange-
 ments are made with the seller.
 Announcements at public sale
 priority over ad. purchaser to take
 all taxes and transfer fees.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO MINE

Pursuant to Application Number
 898-0778 Am, in accordance
 with KRS 350.070, notice is
 hereby given that C&M Mining,
 LLC, P.O. Box 1169, Pikeville,
 Kentucky 41601 has applied for
 an amendment to an existing
 surface coal mining and reclama-
 tion operation located 1 mile
 northwest of McClure, 1PT South
 County and Floyd County, Ken-
 tucky. The amendment will add
 103.70 acres of surface distur-
 bance making a total area of
 1,117.62 acres. The amend-
 mented permit boundary. The
 proposed amendment area is ap-
 proximately 1.2 miles south of
 the Missouri River and located
 with KY 194 and located 1
 mile west of John's Creek. The
 latitude is 37-39-58. The longi-
 tude is 82-35-48. The proposed
 amendment is located on the
 Thomas USGS 7' atric2;
 minute quadrangle map. The
 surface area to be disturbed by
 the amendment is owned by
 Daniel Allen, Appalachian Land
 Company, and Helen Spears.
 The operation involves the ar-
 rest and contour methods of
 mining. The amendment ap-
 plication has been filed for public
 inspection at the Division of
 Reclamation and Enforcement's
 Pikeville Regional Office located
 at 121 Mays Branch Road,
 Pikeville, Kentucky 41602. Writ-
 ten comments, objections, or re-
 quests for a permit conference
 must be filed with the Director,
 Division of Mine Permits, No. 2
 Hudson Hollow, U.S. 127 South
 Frankfort, Kentucky 40601. This
 is the final advertisement of this
 application; all comments, ob-
 jections or requests for a permit
 conference must be filed within
 30 days of this date.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO MINE

Pursuant to Application Number
 898-0771, Amendment
 No. 4
 In accordance with the provisions
 of KRS 350.070, notice is
 hereby given that Dusty Dia-
 mond Company, Inc. 183 Tollage
 Creek, Pikeville, Kentucky 41601
 has applied for an amendment to
 an existing surface coal mining
 and reclamation operation lo-
 cated 4.5 miles southwest of
 Pikeville and is situated in both
 Pike and Floyd Counties. The
 proposed operation will add 4.82
 acres and delete 2.38 acres of
 surface disturbance and SEC
 CHAPTER V.V. The amend-
 mented permit boundary. The
 proposed amendment area is ap-
 proximately 3.2 miles southwest
 from County Road 1826 and
 located on a 127 South
 Frankfort, Kentucky 40601.
 The proposed amendment is located
 on the Pikeville U.S.G.S. 7-1/2
 minute quadrangle map. The
 surface area to be disturbed is
 owned by SEC CHAPTER V.V.
 Hubbard Hall and Central Ap-
 pache Mining. The amend-
 ment will underlie land
 owned by V.V. The amend-
 mented permit boundary. The
 proposed amendment area is ap-
 proximately 3.2 miles southwest
 from County Road 1826 and
 located on a 127 South
 Frankfort, Kentucky 40601.

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY FLOYD CIRCUIT COURT DIVISION NO. II C.A. NO. 09- CI-000209

HOME SERVING, LLC
 PLAINTIFFS VS. JOANN HALL-
 TOLLEY, DEFENDANT. NOTICE
 OF SALE. By virtue of a Judgment and
 Order of Sale of the Floyd Circuit
 Court entered the 11th day of March, 2011, in the
 above cause, as their interest
 in the subject property, for the
 sum of \$71,727.92 with inter-
 est thereon, plus additional
 sums and costs; please be
 advised that I have proceeded to
 offer for sale at the Old Floyd
 County Courthouse, Door,
 South Central Avenue, Pre-
 stonsburg, Kentucky, (behind
 the new Floyd County Justice
 Center), to the highest and
 best bidder, at public auction,
 on the 5th day of May, 2011,
 at 9:30 a.m., upon the terms
 of 076-00-0022-01 in Floyd
 County, Kentucky, the prop-
 erty is described as follows:
 Clark Stumbo Hollow, Drift, Ken-
 tucky, 41619 Said Drift, Ken-
 tucky, and more particularly
 parcel of land, being 3 acres
 and lying in Floyd County,
 Kentucky on the Stone Creek
 Branch of Left Beaver Creek
 and being part of that prop-
 erty conveyed to Clifton
 Martin by deed dated Febru-
 ary 19, 1956, and recorded in
 Deed Book 179, Page 363, in
 the office of the Clerk of the
 County of Floyd, Kentucky, which
 parcel was conveyed to me
 accurately described as fol-
 lows: Beginning at a metal
 fence post in the fence of
 other parties; thence South
 28deg; 30' West 100 feet to the
 first of the right of the
 Stumbo Hollow of the Left
 Beaver Creek; thence South
 51deg; 01' East 238 feet to a
 point three North 55deg;
 05' West, 194 feet to a point;
 thence South 72deg; 30'
 West 100 feet to the begin-
 ning; thence the hollow 30
 feet to the beginning. Sub-
 ject to any and all easements,
 restrictions, conditions, and
 legal liens in existence. Being
 the same property conveyed from
 the late Sayers and Sherry
 Sayers, his wife, to Timothy
 Hall and JoAnn Hall, his wife,
 by virtue of a deed dated
 08/30/2005 and recorded on
 09/01/2005 in Deed Book
 516, Page 395 of the Floyd
 County, Kentucky real estate
 records. A. The successful
 bidder shall either pay cash or
 make a deposit of 10% of the
 purchase price with the bal-
 ance on a credit for thirty (30)
 days. In which event the suc-
 cessful bidder shall be re-
 quired to execute bond with
 good surety thereon. Said
 bond shall be for the unpaid
 purchase price and bear inter-
 est at the rate of 12% per
 annum from the date of sale
 until the balance is paid. B.
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Employment Agencies

Adecco is hosting a Job Fair for seasonal positions at Jenny Wiley State Park on Tuesday, April 26th from 10am-1pm. Housekeepers, Ground Maintenance, Dishwashers, Cashiers For additional information, please call 859-745-0180.

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The Housing Authority of Prestonsburg has an immediate opening for a Maintenance Mechanic. This is a full-time position with health insurance, retirement and other benefits. Applications will be taken at the Green Acres Office located in the Community Building at 247 RV May Drive, Prestonsburg, KY, between the hours of 8:30 am and 4:00 pm each day. General requirements for this position are ability to perform difficult skilled work in general maintenance, repair and modification of authority owned buildings and related equipment and appliances. Position will be open until filled.

Wanted: Lifeguards for seasonal work at Archer Park Swimming Pool. Must be 17 years old with valid drivers license. If not already certified, will need to be certified and have first aid training. Classes for certification and first aid will be arranged through the park. Apply at the Park office, 98 Archer Park Drive, Prestonsburg, KY.

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The Times

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To The People of Kentucky:
Honorable Steven L. Beshear, Governor
Jonathan Miller, Secretary
Finance and Administration Cabinet
Honorable Robert Marshall, Floyd County Judge/Executive
Members of the Floyd County Fiscal Court

Independent Auditor's Report

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Floyd County, Kentucky, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2010, which collectively comprise the county's basic financial statements, as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Floyd County Fiscal Court. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, and the Audit Guide for Fiscal Court Audits issued by the Auditor of Public Accounts, Commonwealth of Kentucky. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As described in Note 1, Floyd County, Kentucky, prepares its financial statements in accordance with the modified cash basis, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Floyd County, Kentucky, as of June 30, 2010, and the respective changes in financial position and cash flows, where applicable, thereof for the year then ended in conformity with the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

The county has not presented the management's discussion and analysis that the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) has determined is necessary, in supplement, although not required to be part of, the financial statements. The budgetary comparison information is not a required part of the basic financial statements, but is supplementary information required by GASB. We have applied certain limited procedures, which consisted principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the required supplementary information. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise Floyd County, Kentucky's basic financial statements. The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal awards is presented for purposes of additional analysis as required by U.S. Office of Management and Budget Circular A-133, Audit of State, Local, and Non-Profit Organizations, and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. The combining fund financial statements and the schedule of expenditures of federal awards have been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, in our opinion, are fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, we have also issued our report dated February 28, 2011, on our consideration of Floyd County, Kentucky's internal control over financial reporting, and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards and should be considered in assessing the results of our audit.

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Auditor of Public Accounts

February 28, 2011

State law requires the Auditor of Public Accounts to annually audit fiscal courts, county clerks, and sheriffs; and print the results in a newspaper having general circulation in the county. The complete audit and any other audit of state agencies, fiscal courts, county clerks, sheriffs, and property valuation administrators may be viewed in the reports section of the Auditor of Public Accounts' website at www.auditor.ky.gov or upon request by calling 1-800-247-9126.

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The Times

Levy

ing both seasons. Now, Levy is wrapping up a very successful first season in the NBA D-League with the Bakersfield Jam. During the recent season, Levy was named Director of Player Personnel for the NBA D-League organization. A student of the game, Levy is driven to succeed and earn a spot in an NBA front office.

"Like most kids growing up, I always wanted to be a professional athlete," Levy confided. "I wanted to play in the NBA. I realized pretty early on in high school that I didn't have the necessary tools to get there as a player. That's when I started to focus in on other aspects of the game. Scouting, stats, film — all of those became much more important. I knew these were the things that would allow me to stay on the court and compete with the caliber of athletes in our conference, like future NBA players Luol Deng and Charlie Villanueva. It was shortly after high school that I knew I wanted to make basketball a career."

Bakersfield, an NBA D-League affiliate of the Los Angeles Lakers and Los Angeles Clippers, recently completed the league's biggest turnaround of the season. After ending the 2009-10 season 17-33, Bakersfield collapsed to 2-23 record, falling to Rio Grande Valley in the NBA D-League Playoffs after claiming a 1-0 lead in the series. The Jam ranked in the top-five in the league in points, assists, rebounds, blocks and three-point field goal percentage. Defensively, Bakersfield held opponents to the second lowest field goal shooting percentage. Levy helped to bolster the Bakersfield roster prior to the season tipping off and aided the Jam as the squad continued to improve throughout the campaign, essentially making the postseason.

"It's been a storybook season here in Bakersfield this year," Levy said, basking in the Bakersfield basketball franchise's glow. "I came into a team that really struggled last year in terms of wins and losses but had all the necessary pieces off the court to be a great organization. The Jam enjoy the two best owners in minor league basketball, a dedicated staff led by Coach

Will Voigt, and without a doubt, the best facilities available at this level. We built up the team with a strong draft, added some key pieces through free agency, and we just seemed to click. The Jam had the best improvement in record from last year to this year, qualified for the playoffs, and we took the defending champion, Rio Grande Valley Vipers, to the limit in the first round of playoffs. We appeared on national television four times, going 3-1 in those games. We also sold out our arena every game this year, being one of only two D-League teams to do so. The sky is the limit with this franchise, and I'm really excited about what's in store for the future."

In Bakersfield, Levy has had an opportunity to work with Gary Hunter, a former CBA commissioner who went on to become CEO of the NBA's Denver Nuggets. Hunter is a consultant for the Bakersfield Jam.

"Brian has been a wonderful addition to the Jam staff," Hunter commented. "His experience and hard work as player personnel director has had a visible impact on the Jam basketball staff and this year's success, and his experience in business operations has been a bonus to ownership. He has a bright future."

This season, Bakersfield boasted three players: Devin Ebanks (Lakers), Willie Warren (Clippers) and Derrick Caracter (Lakers) — on assignment from the NBA.

NBA Gatorade Call-up Trey Johnson, a star for the Jam, received a pair of 10-day contracts from the Toronto Raptors.

Levy has enjoyed the chance he's been afforded of working under second-year Bakersfield head coach Will Voigt, a hoops mentor who has claimed championships at multiple stops.

As a first-year member of an NBA D-League front office, Levy often applied some of the things he had learned from the previous minor league stint in Eastern Kentucky.

During his first season with the East Kentucky Miners, Levy worked in a league that featured franchises in nine other cities. The 10-team league played a very

competitive 48-game regular-season schedule.

"It was really the perfect opportunity for me," Levy said, reflecting on his time with the East Kentucky Miners. "In a small organization, like the Miners, you get to be hands-on in every area of the business. It was the main reason why I took the job. I wanted to learn how to put together a roster, how to market a team to the community, how to run game operations, and I got a chance to do all that and more with the Miners. I sold season tickets and sponsorships, helped out at practices, oversaw our internship program, drove the players around. I was happy to do anything I could to help because I knew that I'd be learning the skills I would need later on in my career. Miners owner Jay Fielder and head coach Kevin Keathley were great people to work for. I learned a lot about work ethic and commitment from them. Coach Keathley would always tell me that there was no job that was beneath you. 'If you need to sweep the floors to be involved with a team, then that's what you need to do.' It was something I really took to heart."

Working for owner Jay Fielder, a retired NFL quarterback, and under the guidance of head coach Kevin Keathley, a two-time coach of the year award-winner who was also named one of the Top 10 coaches not in the NBA by Pro Basketball News in 2009, Levy benefited from their guidance early on.

"My time in Pikeville really was a learning experience," Levy added. "I was young and hungry when I got there in 2007. I didn't know anyone there or even what to expect. There were definitely ups and downs but when I look back, I'm very happy I made the decision to come to Eastern Kentucky. I got to be a part of building something from nothing — making ideas on paper a reality. I put a lot of pride in that. We put winning teams on the floor that always entertained the fans. We did our best to do things in a first class way. I made some lifelong friends that I will never forget. I will always remember where I got my start."

Former CBA commissioner Dennis Trux worked

closely with Levy on numerous occasions throughout the 2007-08 and 2008-09 seasons.

"Brian is someone who will have a long future in the world of basketball," Trux said. "He is someone who one who strives to do the best job possible."

Thus far, Keathley has worked with Levy more than another individual. The two formed an extremely close and very successful working relationship in the CBA team's front office.

"Brian is a person that will do what it takes to help his team be successful," Keathley said. "I'm a big believer in a person paying their dues. Brian is a young guy, but he really understands that philosophy. He does what he's asked and never complains. There's times when I would ask Brian to manage the clock during practice, get involved during practice, drive players to doctor appointments. He did all this without complaining and still had time to meet his other duties that might have been more glamorous, so to speak. He didn't care to get his hands dirty and that was something I really appreciated and valued for those two years. He made my job easier, Jay Fielder's job easier, Kyle Macy's job easier and the sales department's job easier. I think that's the best compliment I can give him. Usually, winning teams and organizations have that mindset — let's all work together and make each other jobs easier. He did that and a big part of why we were successful in the CBA has to do directly with Brian's commitment to the team."

In Brian's first season, he quickly earned the trust of the team's front office and was soon helping plan community events, fielding phone calls from agents, helping with player issues, etc. This was his first four to five months on the job. He became the one person I trusted one-hundred percent with in the Miners organization. By the end of the season, Brian had his hands in every aspect of the team operations."

Levy took on an even bigger role with the Miners during the 2008-09 season. "During the offseason, we

made some offseason moves in terms of front office staff, we parted ways with Kyle Macy and moved our Director of Basketball Operations Brandon Paquin into the role of player personnel advisor," Keathley confided. "Brian took full advantage of filling that void and was moved into the role of basketball operations and worked closely with me in regards to player moves. I thought he did a fantastic job as Director of Operations for the Miners and he proved he



DAYS SPENT IN PIKEVILLE: Brian Levy (above, right) talked over strategy with East Kentucky Miners head coach Kevin Keathley prior to a CBA Draft.

had the basketball IQ and a keen eye for locating basketball talent very early into his new role."

Keathley followed Levy and the Bakersfield Jam throughout their run in the 2010-11 NBA D-League season.

"I couldn't be more proud of the success Brian had in Bakersfield with his team competing for a NBA D-League Championship," Keathley said. "They had the biggest turnaround in terms of wins this season in the D-League. He's coached players that received call-ups to the NBA and he's discussed player moves and player assignments with NBA level personnel. I'm extremely happy and proud when I think about what he's doing. Here's a guy, that at the time he was in his early 20's, packed up everything he had in his car and drove from New Jersey to Pikeville, Kentucky to pursue his dream of being in professional basketball. Now, in four short years, he's working for the Los Angeles Lakers' affiliate team. As a coach, I'm forever indebted to him and the joy he did. He made those two years much easier for me to do my job. There's no question Brian will continue to climb the ladder of success. He works hard, he works as a

Continued from p1
team player and he's always willing to learn. Those are combinations that will make him very valuable to GMs and Presidents. He's having a great time in Bakersfield. He has told many times that the ownership in Bakersfield is second to none and they do things the right way. They give their team a chance to win ball games. He's working for a fantastic coach in Will Voigt that has won on every level — the ABA, FBL and now the NBA Developmental League. He's surrounded by



DAYS SPENT IN PIKEVILLE: Brian Levy (above, right) talked over strategy with East Kentucky Miners head coach Kevin Keathley prior to a CBA Draft.

good people and a first-class organization in Bakersfield."

From Pikeville, Ky. to Bakersfield, Calif., with a stopover at home in between, Levy continues his professional basketball rise.

"Like everyone else in this league, I'm looking for my chance to jump to the NBA," Levy said. "In the meantime, I'm going to continue to work as hard as I can to bring a championship to the Bakersfield Jam."

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Team	Record
Pikeville	13-1
Lawrence County	11-2
Johnson Central	4-4
Sheldon Clark	7-4
Bellity	7-6
Prestonsburg	6-5
Paintsville	5-7
East Ridge	4-6
Allen Central	4-8
Magoffin County	3-6
Phelps	2-2
Pike Co. Central	2-6
Shelby Valley	1-4
Betsy Layne	1-7
South Floyd	0-5

Game

Continued from p2
sion to that night's baseball game at 7 p.m. versus Arkansas.

The stadium ticket office outside gate 4 will be open from 1-3 p.m. in order for current season-ticket holders to renew their tickets.

Concession stands and the Nike Team Shops will be available on the stadium concourse.

There will be a radio broadcast on the Big Blue Sports Network, including WLAP in Lexington (630 on the AM dial) and WHAS in Louisville (840 AM).

Because of some injuries and depth concerns at certain positions, the coaching staff has decided to make the Blue/White Game offense vs. defense instead of a standard game format.

The game will have a scoring system. The coaches are in the process of finalizing the system, which will be announced later in the week.

Patriots win Mid-South Conference Invitational at StoneCrest

Cumberland sweeps MSCTourneys held at Prestonsburg course

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

PRESTONSBURG — The University of the Cumberland (UC) men's golf team prevailed in the Mid-South Conference (MSC) Invitational at StoneCrest Golf Course on Tuesday, April 12. The two-day event ended with UC finishing with a total score of 595, which earned the team a first-place finish in a field that featured nine schools. With the win, Cumberland clinched the

MSC regular-season title. "I thought under these conditions, wind, rain, etc., we handled the tournament well," said Cumberland's Coach Chris Kraft. "Monday was a very clean round with very few mistakes. Tuesday we started strong, and although the conditions worsened as the round went on, we made some uncharacteristic mistakes. This team is much better when they are getting pressed and we have to learn how to keep that edge in every situation."

The University of the Cumberland women's golf team also prevailed.

Lindsey Wilson finished second behind Cumberland

in both the men's and women's tournaments.

The Patriots also thrived individually. Fredrik Lindblom finished the tournament in first with a tournament-low round of 69 and a 74 for a 143. Two shots back from him in second place was Aaron Watkins (Harlan) with a total score of 145. Rounding out the sweep of the top three spots was Pierre Carlsson with a 151. Curtis Mitchell and Nicolas Rigbrandt tied for fifth place with a 156 apiece.

All five members of the Cumberland golf team made the All-Tournament team.

The victory marked the fourth win for the Patriots in their last four outings.

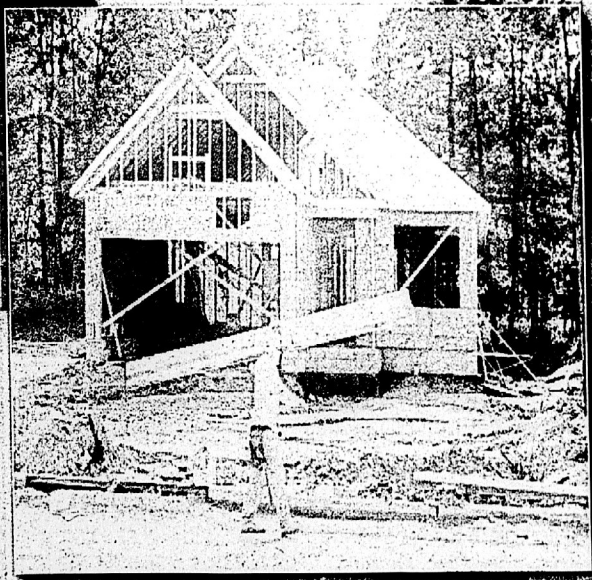
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Weatherizing homes can dramatically cut energy costs

LKLP program can help qualifying households

by CRIS RITCHIE
HAZARD HERALD

HAZARD – The freezing temperatures of winter may now be behind us until December, but that shouldn't deter local residents from weatherizing their homes, especially considering the rising cost of energy.

There are several upgrades homeowners can make to cut those energy costs, noted Josh Shuffler, evaluator and co-coordinator of LKLP's weatherization program. Some of those upgrades include weather stripping and changing from filament light bulbs to the compact fluorescent variety, the latter of which can save up to \$100 annually.

But there are also a variety of other things homeowners can do, and if they fall into certain annual income guidelines, LKLP can make those upgrades for them.

LKLP's weatherization program has weather proofed more than 350 homes in the organization's four county area since 2009, noted program director Annie Thompson. Qualifications to receive the service are based on income levels. A family of four making \$44,100 can qualify, for instance.

But making these improvements are fairly simple, added Shuffler.

"It's not really that bad" to make the upgrades, he said. "It's just typical things, and anybody can do them."

Air leaks are a major contributor to heat loss in the winter time, Shuffler said, so it's important to seal those leaks by adding weather stripping to doors or windows that need it, or sealing gaps where pipes may come through the floor and into the home.

"The biggest thing you can do is mostly air sealing," he said.

Freezing temperatures and water almost always result in ice, and it's also important to protect a home's waterlines from freezing, which can prevent costly damage, Shuffler added. He said there are a variety of products that can prevent freezing,

such as foam pipe wrap, that can be purchased locally. He said he doesn't recommend electric heat tape due to the potential danger of fires it could present if not installed correctly. For owners of mobile homes, he noted that underpinning can aid in the prevention of freezing as well.

"As long as you've got underpinning, the wind can't blow straight through" underneath the home, he said.

It's also important to check ductwork to make sure there are no air leaks, which could lead to heat loss as well, and have a professional check the home's heating and cooling system to ensure proper functionality.

All of these actions can help lower heating costs "tremendously" Shuffler said, adding that many of the program's recipients are amazed at just how well weatherizing actually helps during the colder and hotter times of the year.

"It's unreal the people we've worked with before, they say they can tell a real difference," he said. "They don't have to run the heater as much, and it stays a good temperature (inside)."

Depending on the scope of the problems, Shuffler said a proper weatherization job can cut annual energy costs by up to half.

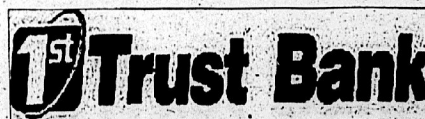
These are all actions that LKLP's weatherization program can do as well. The program services the four counties under the LKLP umbrella (Perry, Knott, Letcher and Leslie), and there are outreach offices located in each county. Thompson said to apply for the weatherization program, residents of these counties can do so at these outreach offices. The Hazard office is located on Roy Campbell Drive near the Hazard ARH medical center.

For more information on LKLP's weatherization program, call their Hazard office at 436-8853.



photo by Cris Ritchie

Charlie Stidham (left), with the LKLP weatherization program, helped prop up a piece of sheet rock as Cameron Roberts fastened screws to hold the material in place. The two were part of a crew working to add weatherization improvements to a home on Dogwood Lane in the Allais section of Hazard.



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School greenhouse offers another option for gardeners

by **CRIS RITCHIE**
HAZARD HERALD

The greenhouse is full with the site of geraniums and tomatoes at Perry Central High School, and students with the school's Future Farmers of America are ready for their annual spring sale.

Andy Moore and Andy Gullett, a senior and sophomore respectively, are running the greenhouse this year and have planted, cut and raised all of the plants currently on sale.

Not only are Moore and Gullett managing the cultivation side of the greenhouse, but the business side of things as well, noted agriculture teacher Ralph Combs, who said with the experience these students are gaining they will be very well equipped to operate their own businesses if they choose.

"Both of these boys are ready for owning their own greenhouses," Combs said.

An important aspect of the school's greenhouse and florist shop is that they enable the school to operate the shops for the forthcoming year through proceeds made during the current year. Though Moore will graduate this spring, Gullett will have an opportunity to see proceeds gained from the sale of geraniums and tomatoes this year go to purchase materials for the next season.

Not to mention that the greenhouse also gives students a good opportunity to essentially learn about running their own business.

"They do the finances, they do it from scratch," Combs continued.

Both Moore and Gullett said they

enjoy working in the greenhouse as it gives them opportunities to meet people that otherwise they wouldn't.

"There's always an unfamiliar face you run into," Gullett said, later adding that the greenhouse presents other challenges for him to overcome, such as cultivating the geraniums.

"You have to cut them precisely, you have to water them enough, sometimes you have to trim the bloom on them," he said. "It's just a work in progress."

Even if he doesn't choose agriculture for his career, Andy Moore said it will still be something he does and enjoys as a hobby, though he didn't rule out a full time career in the future. Moore is already experimenting with grafting (which Moore explained is the union between a rootstock and a scion - or more or less cloning) and plans to begin an apple orchard.

To place an order for plants from the greenhouse, you can call 439-5888. Tomato plants are \$2 for a four pack while geraniums are \$6 for a gallon container.



Perry Central senior Andy Moore (left) and sophomore Andy Gullett stand inside the school's greenhouse where the students are selling geraniums and tomatoes during their annual spring sale.

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KFTC promotes sustainable gardening with 'Growing Appalachia'

by JARRID DEATON
FLOYD COUNTY TIMES

While Kentuckians for the Commonwealth is known mostly for its environmental advocacy and criticism of mountaintop removal, the group also promotes gardening and sustainable food sources.

"Gardening can help people to supplement their income," said Rick Handshoe, a Floyd County resident with Kentuckians for the Commonwealth. "With things like mushrooms, you can grow them or find wild ones and sell them for \$12 to \$40 a pound."

Handshoe also stressed the importance of gardening in regard to the local community and economy.

"We need to get back to small agriculture," Handshoe said. "If it is grown locally, it is fresher and better. It cuts

down on the cost, too."

On April 9, Kentuckians for the Commonwealth sponsored a special workshop titled "Growing Appalachia" that focused on growing edible mushrooms, becoming a certified organic gardener, tips for beginning gardeners and more.

"We want to promote the things we can do here to help ourselves and boost our economy," Handshoe said. "Todd Howard, a guy from Hippo, grows his own heirloom tomatoes. He has a greenhouse. He came to the workshop to help teach folks how to grow their own tomatoes."

Howard is also working with members of Kentuckians for the Commonwealth on a farmer's market.

For more information, visit the Kentuckians for the Commonwealth website at <http://www.kftc.org>.

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47 things you didn't think to compost

Garden compost can be a garden's best friend. Compost promotes soil health and enables plants grow to their best ability.

Many home gardeners prefer to make their own compost. It is easily achieved with items that normally would be discarded, including many items that ardent gardeners may be unaware of.

Common compost materials

Items like eggshells, banana peels, apple cores, paper, leaves, and coffee grounds are often included in a home compost pile. These items break down by natural bacteria and produce a rich fertilizer for plants.

Lesser-Known Compost Materials

There are many things that can be turned into compost. Here's a list of common items that can be turned into compost and avoid the landfill.

1. pet hair
2. paper napkins
3. lint
4. pine needles
5. matches
6. chicken manure
7. old herbs
8. sawdust
9. weeds
10. hair clippings
11. tea bags
12. paper towels
13. bird cage cleanings
14. stale bread
15. leather
16. old pasta
17. pea vines
18. grapefruit rinds
19. newspaper
20. tissues
21. cotton swabs with paper sticks
22. dried out bouquets
23. potato chips
24. yogurt
25. shrimp shells
26. toenail clippings
27. pie crust
28. toothpicks (wood)
29. tossed salad
30. old beer
31. feathers
32. fish bones
33. envelopes
34. cardboard
35. pencil shavings
36. grocery receipts
37. dead insects
38. wool socks
39. pickles
40. dust bunnies
41. toast
42. chocolate cookies
43. oatmeal
44. tofu
45. spoiled wine
46. straw
47. nut shells

Did you know?

Compost can improve soil structure and texture and improve the soil's capacity to hold water. Eco-conscious green-thumbers love compost because it's all-natural, while cost-conscious homeowners like compost because they can improve their lawn and garden without spending a dime. Adding compost improves soil fertility and can stimulate healthy root development, enabling lawns and gardens to better withstand potentially harsh weather. Compost is effective because it provides food for microorganisms that contribute to overall soil health. When these microorganisms are fed, they produce phosphorous, potassium and nitrogen. As a result, homeowners save money because they do not need to purchase potentially costly soil amendments to maintain healthy soil. When making compost, homeowners can use ingredients they likely already have around the house. When adding these items, be sure to bury them in the compost pile so they don't attract animals.



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Spring garden time brings a wealth of colors

Few things are anticipated more in spring than the arrival of new leaves on the trees and budding flowers in the garden. A landscape awash with fresh colors can brighten the spirit and make anyone want to head outdoors.

There are many different plants that begin to show their colors in the spring. A number of perennials, annuals and trees begin to flower or show new sprouts come the springtime. Here are some plants that can be planted for springtime enjoyment.

Annuals

Looking for first signs of color? Look no further than these wonderful annuals.

■ **Alyssum:** Starting in April, this cascading bounty of tiny flowers offers a sweet aroma that attracts butterflies.

■ **Dianthus:** These vivid flowers also attract butterflies and are often a cottage garden staple.

■ **Gypsophila:** Also known as baby's breath, these delicate flowers can serve as filler in any landscape. Pink and white varieties are available.

■ **Impatiens:** One of the best-known plants for the garden, these annuals come in scores of colors and can generally tolerate full sun to full shade.

■ **Larkspur:** Belonging to the buttercup family, these flowers bloom in

shades of white to violet.

■ **Pansy:** These flowers are some of the earliest spring bloomers, arriving alongside spring bulbs like tulips.

■ **Petunias:** Petunias put on a show of color through the entire season, making them a popular bedding flower.

Perennials

These plants will come back year after year and offer spring shows.

■ **Cherry blossom:** The flowers that sprout on cherry trees are some of the first signs of spring. Their pink or white buds are often a spectacle, so much so that towns and cities hold cherry blossom festivals.

■ **Columbine:** These beautiful blooms attract butterflies and can be a nice part of a garden bed.

■ **Jacob's ladder:** Variegated foliage that is dappled with violet-colored flowers can add a sweet smell and visual interest to the garden.

■ **Primrose:** These flowers come in a variety of shades, making them versatile in any garden. They also tend to attract butterflies and hummingbirds.

■ **Sweet violet:** These fragrant flowers are edible as well as attractive. These plants can self-plant, so unless a gardener wants them to spread, they should be kept contained.



Cherry blossoms are one of the earlier signs spring has arrived.

Did you know?

■ A Rutgers university study found that flowers can create feelings of instant happiness. With this in mind, using flowers around the home when entertaining can immediately create a sense of warmth and welcome when guests arrive. It can also set the mood for the event. Go beyond the flower centerpiece on the dining room table. Incorporate flowers into other decorating as well, and don't forget to add a small vase of flowers in the bathroom. Send guests home with a potted plant as a way of saying thanks for attending the function.

■ Once reserved for baseball fields

and indoor football stadiums, synthetic grass, commonly referred to as "fake grass," can now be purchased by private citizens as well. The principle of providing a realistic and aesthetically appealing alternative to natural grass is still the same. While a common objection to synthetic grass is that it negates the positive effects grass has on the environment, namely its intake of potentially harmful carbon dioxide, it's important to note the conservation value that synthetic grass provides. Synthetic grass does not need to be watered or mowed, helping to conserve water and fuel. In fact, a synthetic lawn might help homeowners save more than 20,000 gallons of water per year.

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Easy home improvement projects for weekend warriors

Few industries have grown as much in the last decade-plus as the home improvement industry. Whereas it was once commonplace for homeowners to have a handyman on speed dial, nowadays homeowners handle not only the routine upkeep necessary to maintain a home, but many home improvement projects as well.

Home expert Danny Lipford, host of the nationally syndicated TV show, Today's Homeowner, and radio show, Homefront, said, "Today you've got not only an amazing selection of tools to help with every project, but they also shorten the time it used to take to complete the project. When you couple that with all the DIY instruction and programming out there, it's no wonder we have the confidence to do more on our own."

As popular as home improvement projects have become, many homeowners still find themselves pressed for time when it comes to tackling projects around the house. For homeowners

without much time during the week, Woodcraft offers the following projects tailor-made for weekend warriors.

Ready The Deck For Summer Fun

With spring on the horizon, the season to relax on the deck and soak up the sun is right around the corner. Homeowners can upgrade their deck and create an incredibly strong wood-to-wood bond with the Kreg Deck Jig System. Compatible with composite deck boards and ACQ treated lumber, the Kreg Deck Jig System can help homeowners create a beautiful and functional deck surface that's completely free of exposed fasteners and painful splinters. The Kreg Deck Jig System's easy grip handles help DIYers gain a secure hold and completely control each and every joint, while the system's three separate drill guides allow for easy installation of deck boards in a variety of hard-to-reach areas. When combined with a few simple tools homeowners already own, the Kreg Deck Jig System ensures homeowners

can vastly improve their deck no matter how pressed for time they might be.

Paint A New Look Inside

Spring is often seen as a season of rejuvenation, so why not give your home a brand new look by repainting the interior? Veteran DIYers can no doubt recall when painting took as much elbow grease as it did time, but times have changed. Thanks to the new Fein MultiMaster, the tedious and time-consuming job of scraping old paint with a putty knife and sanding tight spaces with paper wrapped around your finger is a thing of the past. The MultiMaster's profiled sanding pads make scraping old paint easier than ever before, while its multiple user-friendly accessories that scrape, cut, shave, sand, polish, and remove grout make the MultiMaster an ideal companion for homeowners with several projects on tap this spring.

Tackle Indoor Projects On Rainy Days

Spring might be synonymous with feelings of rejuvenation, but it also brings spring showers. On rainy weekends, tackle interior projects with the Rockwell BladeRunner. Whether you want to cut and install base molding, chair rails or hardwood flooring or frame and trim windows and doors, the lightweight, portable BladeRunner is your go-to tool. This precision cutter's variable-speed motor control and simple blade changing mechanism allow you to easily cut wood, metal, ceramic tile, aluminum, and plastic using a T-shank jigsaw blade. You can operate the BladeRunner on a benchtop or use the convenient wall mount bracket. Attach the tool's dust port to your shop vac for easy cleanup.

See HOME page 9

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Repair Affair

The Housing Development Alliance's 12th Annual Repair Affair will be held Saturday, May 21, 2012. The Repair Affair is a community sponsored event during which local volunteers complete multiple construction projects in one day for local disabled individuals and seniors in need.

The Housing Development Alliance is seeking sponsors and volunteers for at least ten home construction projects. If you are interested in participating in Repair Affair, either as a volunteer or a sponsor, please contact Jane Rose Britton at 436-0497

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

HOME cont. from page 8

Prepare Tools In Advance

While there are several projects homeowners can complete in a single weekend, no project is likely to be successful without properly maintained tools. Homeowners should take inventory of their tools before beginning any projects to ensure the tools won't cause any delays. The Work Sharp(R) Knife and Tool Sharpener can bring tools back to life in a matter of minutes. This handheld, motorized tool sharpens any knife as well as scissors, tin snips, garden shears, and even lawn mower blades for green thumbs. The sharpener's patented Flex-Tek(TM) belt technology conforms to the shape of any blade, practically guaranteeing a sharp edge and ensuring your next home improvement project will start off on the right foot.

Work Smarter

Tackling a home improvement project in a single weekend might not be easy, but DIYers can take steps to make such projects easier. For example, Vibe-Away Anti-Slip Pads are made from recycled tires and designed to reduce the transfer of vibration that occurs in most woodworking tools and stationary equipment. This shock absorption pad helps reduce sound, vibrations, and pulsating of router tables, scrollsaws, table saws and other benchtop or stationary machines, making it easier to complete a project mistake-free and in less time.

LOC-Blocks Interlocking Material Gripping Blocks grip both the work surface as well as your project without the use of any clamps. The nonslip pads support work during assembly without leaving marks, while the non-marring pads allow homeowners to lift work above the surface while finishing edges.

To learn more about products that can help you successfully complete your home improvement projects this spring, visit www.woodcraft.com.



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Maintain healthy soil through the season

A lush lawn and garden is a part of many homeowners' dream home. A lawn that emanates green and a garden that's home to succulent vegetables is desirable to homeowners across the country.

Of course, such lawns and gardens take time and effort, and a host of factors will determine if a lawn and garden is something homeowners should be proud or ashamed of. One such factor is soil health. Healthy soil helps deliver food and water to plants, allowing them to thrive and add aesthetic appeal to homes. To maintain healthy soil, homeowners should consider the following tips.

■ **Get the soil tested.** When addressing soil health, it's best to first get the soil tested. A soil test will show which type of soil you have as well as its makeup and structure, and just how good or bad it currently is. Such tests can also reveal if the soil is missing any essential nutrients. Some soil tests can be

conducted by novice green-thumbers, while others are best left to the local agricultural bureau. These tests are a good investment, as they will remove the guesswork from fertilizing. Without a soil test, many homeowners end up overdoing it when fertilizing, which can prove a costly mistake. Take a soil sample a few months before you plan to plant or landscape to give yourself enough time to apply the test's recommendations to your lawn and garden.

■ **Avoid wet soil.** When soil is wet, don't walk or drive over it and keep the kids out of the yard. When wet soil is walked on or driven over, the soil gets packed down, pushing out air and making it more difficult and sometimes impossible for water to pass through the soil. That makes it hard for roots to grow. Gardeners who plan to plant this gardening season should wait for the soil to dry before planting.

■ **Use well-drained soil.** Well-drained

soil will dry fast and enable oxygen to reach the root zone, helping build stronger roots as a result. Plants with strong roots are more likely to survive severe weather.

■ **Use compost.** Compost can prove very beneficial to soil health. Organic compost is typically loaded with nutrients that, upon maturity, feed the soil and promote soil health. Biodegradable items like grass clippings, leaves and even excess food like apple cores can strengthen the compost. Even worms, which break down compost quickly and add nutrients, can be a valuable addition to organic compost.

■ **Don't bash bacteria.** Bacteria is often seen as a formidable foe, but some bacteria can actually promote healthy soil. Bacteria decompose plant matter, releasing the nutritive value into the soil, and can also break down chemical pesticides. So while bacteria is bad more often than it's beneficial, some bacteria are quite useful, particularly

when it comes to healthy soil.

■ **Don't be scared off by slime.** Like bacteria, slime has a bad reputation. However, veteran gardeners understand that reputation isn't warranted. Slime mold is ugly, and many new gardeners see it and instantly assume it's bad for their garden. However, slime molds are good for the soil, helping break down dead wood and leaves. They might not add aesthetic appeal, but slime molds do serve a practical and important purpose in maintaining healthy soil.

■ **Pests can be an ally to healthy soil.** Some garden pests like mites, millipedes and centipedes are incorrectly assumed to be enemies of healthy soil. In fact, such pests can vastly improve soil health. Mites consume dead leaves and additional plant matter, enabling bacteria to more effectively release nutrients into the soil. Millipedes and centipedes are also beneficial to soil, as their droppings improve both the soil's texture and fertility.

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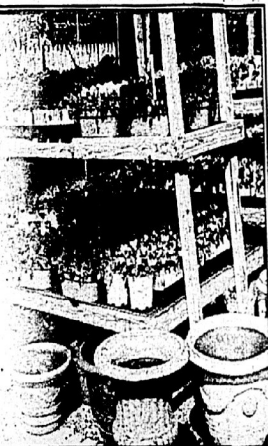
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MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

Troublesome landscapes? Try these planting ideas

There are many homeowners who aspire to have an award-winning landscape. The trouble is, not every yard is a perfect canvas for plantings. In most cases, there are one or more spots in a landscape that can prove troublesome and require different strategies.

One such strategy is using succulents and rocks to contend with the weak areas of the yard. A rock garden accented with succulent plants can help make the most of dry patches or areas of steep inclines where planting lawn or other foliage is difficult. Other areas of the yard may be marred by tree roots or sandy soil. Providing remedies for these areas can be as simple as arranging low-maintenance plants and decorative rocks.

Succulents are plants that thrive with minimal care and water. They store water in their leaves (cacti are a subset of succulents). Because they are drought-tolerant, succulents work well in sandy soil or areas that tend to be dry. They also produce shallow roots, which helps them thrive even in poor soil.

Many succulents are perennial plants, meaning they will come back year after year. They also work well in containers, which can be moved and rearranged to create different looks all around the yard.

To accent succulents in the garden, homeowners can enhance them with rocks and other decorative items. Rocks will help improve water flow

and prevent run-off of soil.

Oftentimes, gardeners can take a clipping of a succulent plant and replant it somewhere else. This makes succulents an affordable addition to the yard because they can typically spread and prosper easily.

Here are some popular succulents that can adapt to many landscapes.

■ **Hens and chicks:** These spreading plants are low-growing green leaves that form rosettes. Each rosette can grow around 5 inches wide.

■ **Autumn Joy:** This succulent emerges in very early spring and develops into a dense, cabbage-shaped plant. Late in summer the succulent will sprout stalks of pink-shaded flowers, which will darken to a russet hue as the autumn approaches. A perennial, this plant requires almost no upkeep.

■ **Yellow Ice Plant:** A late-blooming, flowering succulent that features yellow blooms against dark foliage. The foliage turns red in the winter.

■ **Agave:** A large succulent with blade-like foliage. It enjoys full sun but thrives in partial shade as well.

■ **Jade:** The tree-like variety *Crassula ovata* can grow up to 6 feet tall. It prefers full sun and drying out between watering.

■ **Aloe:** This healing plant is a succulent that can be a welcome addition to the landscape.

Troublesome areas in the landscape can be remedied with beautiful, low-maintenance succulent plants.

MCCC greenhouse program offers a bevy of opportunities

by **SHELDON COMPTON**
FLOYD COUNTY TIMES

AUXIER - The Mountain Comprehensive Care Center (MCCC) Greenhouse Program is a long-running facility that focuses on greenhouse activities for vocational training.

Those taking part, which come from a bevy of areas throughout the region served by MCCC, do seeding, transplanting, potting, watering and assisting with sales and deliveries. Training is also provided to assist individuals who need to enhance daily living and functioning abilities.

The Auxier greenhouse, located just adjacent to Highlands Regional Medical Center, Prestonsburg, since the early 1970s, has, over the years, also become a hotspot for local gardening enthusiasts, as the location provides year-round sales of a large variety of annual, perennial and vegetable plants, vegetable seeds, as well as trees, shrubs and other landscaping items.

In addition, the site also offers rental items for special occasions such as candelabras, pillars, ferns and other plants for any number of needs.

Alice Cole, the greenhouse's regional horticulture specialist since 1988, says the facility stays extremely busy during the spring season, usually between April 1 and mid-June.

"We can have up to hundreds of people coming by during that time," said Cole. "And I'll usually ask them basic questions, such as if they are planting in the shade or the sun or if they want annuals, which will die in the fall or if they want perennials, which will come back every year."

Also, Cole says they try to plant as many seeds as possible, as opposed to "buying stuff in" so that the greenhouse can produce locally grown crops that are already acclimated to the region's climate.

The greenhouse is an extension program of the MCCC, an organization that casts its net across much of the region and in a variety of ways in terms of professional care. Throughout the counties of Floyd, Johnson, Pike, Martin and Magoffin counties, MCCC provides behavioral health services that include adult mental health, substance abuse services, developmental disability services and many others.

Those interested in learning more about MCCC's greenhouse program should call (606) 886-6815. During the spring season, the greenhouse has extended hours of 8 a.m. until 6 p.m. Monday through Friday, and, during the rest of the year have normal operational hours of 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. during the rest of the year.

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Protect your patio or deck from wear and tear

Patios are typically the go-to spot for warm weather outdoor meals. Whether hosting friends or simply enjoying a relaxing meal under the evening sky, homeowners tend to spend as much time as possible on the patio once the weather warms up.

Because it's such a high-traffic area, the patio should be protected from wear and tear. Wear and tear on the patio can result from Mother Nature or be a byproduct of all those spring and summer evenings spent relaxing outdoors. Fortunately, there are a handful of ways homeowners can keep their patios looking pristine through the summer party season.

■ **Stain the concrete.** Staining concrete protects it from natural elements, which can cause the color of a patio to peel or flake. Concrete stain penetrates deep and infuses the concrete with a permanent color that's less likely to fall victim to the elements. Stains are generally solid-color stains or acid stains. Solid-color stains, as their name suggests, provide a more even and solid

look, while acid stains provide a more marble-like appearance. While neither are likely to fade or peel quickly, over time an additional coat or stain might need to be applied to counter natural factors like sunlight.

■ **Cover the furniture.** Patio furniture can vary significantly in price and quality. For those with more expensive patio furniture, durable furniture covers that can withstand year-round weather are a sound investment. Waterproof and heat-resistant fabric is ideal, as the furniture will be vulnerable to spring rains, summer showers and high temperatures during the summer party season. Covers should also fit snugly around the furniture to provide optimal protection.

■ **Consider retractable awnings.** Retractable awnings might cost a little money, but they can also pay homeowners back over the long haul. First and foremost, retractable awnings protect patio from sunlight and ultraviolet rays in hot weather. A retractable awning can also protect friends and family members should an unexpected summer shower

appear or keep them safe from sunburns during summer afternoons when the UV index is high.

When placed near a window, retractable awnings can lower energy bills. Such awnings can keep sunlight and ultraviolet rays from entering the home. This lowers the temperature indoors, which reduces reliance on air conditioning units to maintain a comfortable temperature. These awnings can also extend the life of furniture, which tends to fade when placed inside windows that get heavy sun exposure.

■ **Plant trees.** An eco-friendly way to maintain and add to a patio's aesthetic appeal is to plant trees around the patio. Trees can protect the patio from sunlight and ultraviolet radiation while providing some shade for friends and family members who want to spend some quality time outdoors on hot afternoons. In addition, trees can create a serene setting to a patio, adding to its relaxing nature.



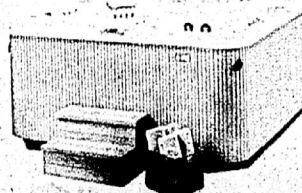
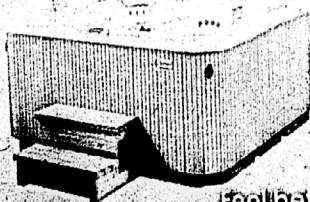
Summer can be rough on patios and patio furniture. Homeowners can take several steps to protect their patios from wear and tear.

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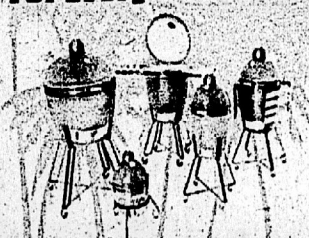
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