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# CHRONICLE & TIMES

Wednesday, January 9, 2019

FLOYD COUNTY

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## Layoffs approved, golf course closed

### Fiscal Court makes staff changes, discusses finances

By **MARY MEADOWS**  
STAFF WRITER

Banking on what new Judge-Executive Robbie Williams said was going to be a shortfall next fiscal year, the Floyd County

Fiscal Court laid off employees, replaced others and closed the golf course during a special meeting on Monday.

The actions came with Williams

See **LAYOFFS**, Page 8A



Floyd Chronicle and Times photo by Mary Meadows  
Judge-Executive Robbie Williams talks about the financial problems the county faces during a special meeting on Jan. 7.

## Board approves contract, raise for Adkins

By **MARY MEADOWS**  
STAFF WRITER

The Floyd County Board of Education sent a message to its staff last week: Superintendent Danny Adkins is in it for the long term.



**DANNY ADKINS**

During a special meeting on Jan. 3, the board unanimously approved a four-year contract with Adkins, which begins after the expiration of his current contract in 2020, as well as an amendment to his current contract that increases his base salary by \$24,000, beginning July 1. The raise increases Adkins base salary from \$126,000 annually

See **ADKINS**, Page 7A



Floyd Chronicle and Times photos by Mary Meadows

Friends of Middle Creek members hosted a commemoration ceremony at the Middle Creek National Battlefield.

## Honoring history in P'burg

A **FLOYD CHRONICLE**  
AND **TIMES** STAFF REPORT

The Friends of Middle Creek and the Friends of the Samuel May House hosted a commemoration ceremony at the Middle Creek National Battlefield on Jan. 6, following by an Old Christmas celebration at the historic May House.

The events mark the anniversary of the Jan. 10, 1862, battle at Middle Creek, which is believed to have



See **CEREMONY**, Page 3A

## County officials take oath

A **FLOYD CHRONICLE**  
AND **TIMES** STAFF REPORT

Dozens of people piled into the Floyd County Courthouse Jan. 4 to support new and returning officials during a swearing-in ceremony.

Circuit judges Johnny Ray Harris started the ceremony by swearing in district judges Eric

Hall and Jimmy Marcum, who were each elected to new terms without opposition this in 2018.

Harris, Marcum, Hall and Circuit Judge Thomas Smith then administered the oath of office to more than a dozen county officials. All officials pledged to fulfill the duties of their elected offices

See **OATH**, Page 4A



Floyd Chronicle and Times photo by Mary Meadows

Floyd County District Judge Eric D. Hall, left, hugs Circuit Judge Johnny Ray Harris during a swearing-in ceremony on Jan. 4. Harris administered the oath of office to Hall, who has served on the bench in Floyd County since the 1990s.

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# Allen still doesn't know if it voted to spend road aid

## Auditor is not employed, officials confirm

By **MARY MEADOWS**  
STAFF WRITER

The Allen City Commission has spent more than a month trying to determine whether the city hired a paving company without approval.

It's one of two topics discussed on Dec. 3 that were revisited at the city commission's meeting on Monday, Jan. 7.

In August, the city hired Highlands Paving for \$17,500 to patch and place asphalt in the city, using municipal road aid funds the city received after it corrected its filing deficiencies with the state.

That approval, however, came without commission members actually looking at the bid. Commissioner Elmer "Fudd" Parsons said it was \$17,500, and Mayor Sharon Woods reported that Mountain Enterprises, the company that appears to have submitted the only bid the city actually received, did not qualify because it only sent a price list, per ton, for asphalt.

Weeks later, the city fulfilled an open records request for copy of the Highlands Paving bid by providing an invoice that lists the total cost for street patching and other work for \$16,500. That "bid" was dated Aug. 10, four days after the city approved hiring the company for \$17,500.

The commission talked about hiring Highlands Paving again, in Novem-

ber, with Parsons reporting it would cost \$12,000.

City Attorney Beth Shortridge told commissioners bidding would be required for this second round of paving because bids are required if the city spends more than \$20,000 per vendor in any fiscal year.

During that meeting, Parsons said the work needed to be done quickly because the asphalt plants were getting ready to close for the winter. No action, however, was taken on the matter. Mayor Woods said she would get another estimate for the work and agreed to call a special meeting, which was never called.

In December, Commissioner Elene Kinzer asked whether the city got the bids for the asphalt and she was informed that the work was already done by Highlands and the company had already been paid.

She asked for copies of meeting minutes on Dec. 3 showing whether the commission approved hiring Highlands, but, with the clerk absent, officials said they would gather the minutes and call a special meeting, which, again, was never called.

Prior to Monday's meeting, Mayor Woods apologized for not calling the special meeting because Parsons and Commissioner Clyde Woods were ill.

The commission approved meeting minutes from August, September,

October and November, and none of them show a vote to hire Highlands Paving.

"It was discussed, but you never voted on it," City Attorney Beth Shortridge said.

Woods, however, said the commission voted on it.

"It should be in the minutes if we voted on it," Commissioner Elene Kinzer said. "So you guys proceeded with it without a vote, is that what you're saying?"

Woods said they may have to research meeting minutes further back.

Commissioner Josh Kinzer asked how the city could correct the mistake.

"I don't think you can correct it now. It's done," Shortridge said. "But, I mean, this is the whole thing of open meetings and open records. You have to make, everything has to be voted on by a commission."

Woods said she would check minutes from June and July and get copies to them "as quick as I can." Kinzer asked, again, how to fix the problem.

"If we can't find it, if it turns out that we don't have a definitive answer about whether we did or we didn't a definitive answer about whether we did or we didn't, what can we do?" he asked.

Shortridge said she would talk to the Kentucky League of Cities about the issue.

"I'm going to the league of cities, but I



Floyd Chronicle and Times photo by Mary Meadows  
**Allen City Attorney Beth Shortridge, left, administers the oath of office to Allen commissioners Clyde Woods and Elmer Parsons, right. Mayor Sharon Woods and Commissioner Josh Kinzer are also pictured.**

don't know what the remedy would be because you can't go back," she said. "Somebody in the city, it's already contracted. It's already done. It's just not a good practice. You have to do everything here, on the record."

Woods said, "Honestly, I thought that everything had been done, and that's no excuse. That's the reason I want to go back and check (the minutes)."

Commissioners set a tentative special meeting for next week to discuss, among other things, whether the commission voted to hire Highlands.

Elene Kinzer also asked for clarification about whether the auditor was hired, as suggested previously by Woods and Parsons.

Monday, Woods reported, as she did last month, that the CPA is reviewing city financial records. She said, however, that he has not been hired.

She told Kinzer that

the auditor, Richard Palmer, is returning 2018 financial documents the city sent him because he cannot do the audits the city needs and the 2018 financial statement, which is also required by the state.

Woods said she "hated" seeking an auditor from another county, saying that "nobody would touch" the city financials because of stories written about Allen's financial delinquencies in the Floyd County Chronicle and Times.

Parsons said he reached out to 11 CPAs to see if they would conduct audits in Allen.

"Two of them laughed at me," he said.

Woods pointed at people in the room and said she would call them and tell them "what's going on" with the auditor.

"You need to have a meeting because it needs to be public record. Everybody needs to be informed," Shortridge told her. She made that

comment at least twice during Monday's meeting. She also explained open meeting requirements at least twice, telling commission members that special-called meetings require 24-hour notices to media and the public, and the posting of the agenda at City Hall 24 hours in advance.

In talking about hiring an auditor, she also told them, "There needs to be a vote, just for the record."

The commission voted to allow Clerk Krystal Spurlock to travel to Martin City Hall to receive training about filing the 2018 Uniform Financial Information Report with the state.

Members also reappointed themselves to the same department head posts they held in 2018. Commission members are expected to share reports each month about the departments they oversee, but that doesn't generally occur in Allen.

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# Varia, Gearheart take the oath

## Varia plans to give kids money for good grades, attendance

By **MARY MEADOWS**  
STAFF WRITER

Two Floyd County Board of Education members who were re-elected in 2018, Dr. Chandra Varia and Linda Gearheart, took the oath of office last week, and one of them announced plans for a program that she said will pay students to make good grades and attend school.

Floyd County Circuit Judge Johnny Ray Harris administered the oath of office to Varia and Gearheart on Jan. 3, prior to a special-called meeting of the board.

They have each served the school board for decades, with Varia accepting her first nomination in 2001 and Gearheart coming on board 12 years ago. In the past few years, they've helped lead the school district on numerous projects and they've both supported raises for teachers and staff.

Varia and Gearheart both talked about how much they enjoyed campaigning in 2018 and thanked those who supported them. They each talked about things they learned from Floyd County residents while they were out campaigning.

"Most of the people like what we're doing in the Floyd County board members," Varia said. "They feel like we are for the kids here, but there was some concerns also."

She said the most prominent complaints she heard during the campaign concerned changes to school lunch menus, school bus transporta-

tion, the lack of textbooks in classrooms and the need for more funding in schools throughout the county.

Gearheart said voters in her district expressed concerns about students leaving the area and "misconceptions" about her stance on those issues.

Both Gearheart and Varia said they plan to work to improve the district over the next four years.

Varia also announced a program she and her family are planning to launch, which she said would provide money, every semester, to some students who earn high grade point averages and/or who achieve perfect attendance.

Explaining that the program is in the preliminary stages, Varia said she and her family have discussed the possibility of providing \$50 every semester to high school students who earn a GPA of 3.6 or higher, \$100 every semester to high school students who earn 4.0 or higher and \$25 to \$50 as awards for attendance.

She said the program, if it is finalized, will start as a pilot program that lasts one year, and then, if it works, she said it will continue and expand into other grade levels.

"Education is so important. ...I'm here for every child, whether he is poor or rich, it doesn't matter," Varia said. "Every school is for the children. I know the board is important, the teachers are important, but it's still for the kids. Every kid."



Floyd Chronicle and Times photo by Mary Meadows  
Floyd County Circuit Judge Johnny Ray Harris, Floyd County Board of Education Member Linda Gearheart and Superintendent Dany Adkins pose for a picture after Harris administered the oath of office to Gearheart. Harris said Gearheart was his first-grade teacher.



Floyd Chronicle and Times photo by Mary Meadows  
Floyd County Circuit Judge Johnny Ray Harris administers the oath of office to Dr. Chandra Varia. Varia, who received her first nomination for the board in 2001, announced she is working to develop a program that will provide funding for some students who earn high grades and attendance.

### CEREMONY Continued From Page 1A

launched Col. Garfield's path to the White House. The Old Christmas celebration marks the generations-old tradition of celebrating Christmas in January—something Appalachian household did after England and Scotland switched from the Julian calendar to the Gregorian calendar in the 1700s.

Prestonsburg Mayor Les Stapleton talked about the importance of the city's history in addressing people who turned out at the battlefield on Sunday, emphasizing how the city's history can boost tourism.

During the event, he reported that the city will build a bridge linking the battlefield to the rail-to-trail project that's under

construction between West Prestonsburg and David.

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**OATH**

Continued From Page 1A

and, as they are required by law, they also swore that they have not fought in a duel or assisted in coordinating a duel in the state.

The list included some people who previously took the oath during a swearing-in ceremony held at the Mountain Arts Center on Dec. 30, including newly-elected Rep. Ashley Tackett Lafferty and constables Ernie Ray Moore and Gary Nelson, who took the oath in the ceremony alongside constables Larry "Boss" Jarrell and Allred "Junebug" Newsom.

Deputy Coroner Wes Gearheart was also sworn in at the event.

Floyd County Sheriff John Hunt and all of his deputies were sworn in by Marcum and Circuit Clerk Douglas Ray Hall, who has served Floyd County for 20 years, also took the oath alongside all of his deputy clerks, with Harris conducting that ceremony. Jailer Stuart Bear Halbert brought his grandchildren to the ceremony, and one of them yelled, "Yay," as the crowd applauded.

Judges also administered the oath to other long-serving county officials, including County Clerk Chris Waugh, Property Valuation Administrator Connie Hancock, Floyd County Attorney Keith Bartley and Magistrate Ronnie Akers, who have each provided decades of service in their current roles.



Floyd County District Judge Jimmy Marcum administers the oath of office to Floyd County Sheriff John Hunt and his deputies.



Floyd County Circuit Judge Johnny Ray Harris administers the oath of office to County Clerk Douglas Ray Hall and the deputy clerks who work in his office.



Floyd Chronicle and Times photo by Mary Meadows  
Floyd County District Judge Jimmy Marcum shakes hands with Floyd County Attorney Keith Bartley after administering the oath of office for him on Jan. 4.



Floyd Chronicle and Times photo by Mary Meadows  
Floyd County Circuit Judge Johnny Ray Harris administers the oath of office to Floyd County constables Ernie Ray Moore, Gary Nelson, Larry "Boss" Jarrell and Allred "Junebug" Newsom.



Floyd Chronicle and Times photo by Mary Meadows  
Floyd County Circuit Judge Thomas Smith administers the oath of office to Property Valuation Administrator Connie Hancock.



Floyd Chronicle and Times photo by Mary Meadows  
Floyd County Circuit Judge Johnny Ray Harris administers the oath of office to Jailer Stuart "Bear" Halbert, who invited his grandchildren to participate.



Floyd Chronicle and Times photo by Mary Meadows  
Floyd County Clerk Chris Waugh hugs Floyd County District Judge Eric D. Hall after being sworn in.

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## GUEST EDITORIAL

# Legislators must address pension crisis



By **MATT BEVIN**  
KENTUCKY GOVERNOR

When I ran for governor in 2015, I launched a seven-point plan outlining my vision for moving Kentucky forward, entitled the "Blueprint For A Better Kentucky." The plan was ambitious and unapologetic in its call to change government,

grow our economy and enact policies that would modernize education, healthcare and our tax code. Above all, however, I noted that no matter what we accomplish in any of these areas, our long-term success runs the risk of being undermined if we do not address the single greatest threat facing Kentucky's financial future, our public employee pension crisis.

Never has the pension crisis been more dire for our state. In less than five years, one of our largest pension systems (KERS Non-Hazardous), is projected to run out of money and collapse. This will affect the financial stability and credit rating of Kentucky and will

leave us unable to deliver on the promises we made to all our hardworking police officers, teachers, firefighters and other state employees, regardless of which pension plan they happen to be in. While we've made the unpopular budget cuts needed to fully fund the pensions, recent declines in the financial markets threaten our fragile pension system further, and remind us that even in a strong economy, we cannot allow the financial foundation of our state to rest solely on the shifting sands of the stock market.

The passage of Senate Bill 151 (SB 151) was an important first step by the General Assembly (also known as the

legislature) to address a problem that has been shamefully and irresponsibly ignored by past legislators and governors. It was also a meaningful attempt to save our failing pension plans for past, current and future workers. While some of our pensions have undergone modest structural reforms over the years, the Teachers Retirement System (KTRS) has never been meaningfully addressed.

Sadly, the Supreme Court took a specious, political stance and invalidated SB 151 based upon the legislative process used by the General Assembly, rather than considering SB 151's merits. In doing so, the Supreme Court not only disman-

ted meaningful reform for our pension systems, but also ignored the fact that the Kentucky General Assembly (and most other legislatures in America) used the same legislative process every year for decades to pass other bills.

Given the possibility of such a ruling, I began dialogue with the leadership of the General Assembly in the days before the Supreme Court issued its opinion. Together, in multiple face-to-face and telephone meetings, we discussed a plan to avoid further financial uncertainty and damage to Kentucky's credit rating in the event that SB 151 was struck down.

Despite what many in the media and gener-

al public incorrectly believe, as Governor, I do not have authority under the Kentucky Constitution to draft, sponsor or pass the legislation necessary to address our failing pension system. The General Assembly is the only branch of government with the constitutional authority to stop the financial bleeding and save our pension plans for current and future generations. I made it crystal clear, however, as my talks with legislative leadership progressed throughout the weekend prior to the special session, that the executive branch stood ready to assist any legislative effort that would

See **BEVIN**, Page 6A

## GUEST COLUMN



By **JK COLEMAN**  
APPALACHIAN NEWSPAPERS

Well hot diggity damn. What about you getting high on bourbon balls and telling everyone at the New Year's Eve party you loved them, only to then swear off people, alcohol and chocolate the very next morning? Ar-

en't you the fickle one? Here it's been only a few days and you're already back to your familiar self — alone, shooting whiskey, eating cookie dough and pondering as to how to cancel a five-day-old gym membership. We've all been there pal.

One short week has passed since the gleeful holiday season ended, and here now comes the vengeful new year, packing a brand new number yet the same old retribution. Maybe that's the real reason you'll date everything as if it's still 2018 until about March.

Already in denial as to the oncoming post-holiday financial crunch as it is, if there's a God in heaven, you'd think the mistake to at least render the aforementioned gym contract null and void.

The onset of each new year's financial crunch makes the desire for newfound frugality inevitable, even if historically unattainable. Particularly when stoked by the realization that your credit cards are now as impotent as the giant blow-up Santa that lies face down, deflated on the front lawn. So nat-

urally you're not about to blow a week's worth of this summer's cruise boat Margarita money at a fitness center just to watch skinny trophy wives fake crunches of their own. And definitely not while that obnoxious couple down the street sit poised to post their annual pictures of an airplane wing as they fly to the same seaport themselves.

To make matters worse, a good chunk of your cruise fund, or tax refund as Uncle Sam likes to call it, now needs to go towards paying off the

Power Wheels car you charged on your Mastercard a few weeks ago. Should you need reminded, that's the plastic Jeep Wrangler Little Johnny didn't as much run the battery down on before parking it atop one of your neighbor's favorite azalea bushes and staggering away from it, to then commence to playing in the box it came in.

Hang on, there's more. Thanks to the federal government shutdown, you may not even get that tax refund check in time, if at all. Word is that whenever Washing-

ton gets in a crunch, the heartless liberal employees who they've hired to receive your tax dollars are still guaranteed their salary. But the nice little conservative fella who mails out the refunds is the first guy told to clean out his desk. Thank Nancy Pelosi when Little Johnny has to watch his repod Wrangler go down the road on a roll-back.

Just the other day you were partying like it was 1999. So eat more pizza, drink more beer and do fewer crunches, before it's too late. Remember, New Year's resolutions are for quitters. You may be in a New Year's crunch, but you ain't no quitter.

# New Year's crunch



## CHRONICLE & TIMES

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**BEVIN**

Continued From Page 5A

move pension reform forward.

It was with this mutually acknowledged understanding of responsibilities, that I convened the General Assembly into a special session the following Monday. The legislation read in the House chamber that first evening, House Bill 1 (HB 1), was a trimmed down version of SB 151; the very bill passed earlier this year by the same legislators. While some legislators wanted to add to what was passed in SB 151, this was not done. The first bill actually introduced in the special session, was drafted by legislative staff based on specific input from legislative leadership, after multiple conversations on the topic. HB 1 simply removed the provisions of SB 151 that were most likely to be challenged in court, which would only result in many wasted months of further litigation. Credit rating agencies such as S&P and Moody's have recognized that the uncertainty of litigation surrounding reforms to the Commonwealth's pension systems itself threatens Kentucky's credit rating. HB 1 would have allowed the General Assembly to once again take a small, first step toward saving the pension system, and its multiple pension plans, without a cloud of litigation.

HB 1 did not fail to pass through the General Assembly in the special session due to a lack of planning but, rather, due to a lack of legislative will. The weak excuse that there was not enough understanding among legislators about the contents of HB 1, diminishes the sole power and responsibility that the General Assembly possesses to control the legislative process. Such excuses

also reflect poorly on the legislative leadership's ability to communicate with their own members. I believe the leadership is better than such excuses would imply. The General Assembly alone is responsible for drafting bills, amending legislative language and passing laws and is the only branch of government with the full constitutional authority and ability to hasten or slow the process to accommodate the needs of its members.

In light of these significant constitutional powers afforded to our legislative branch, Kentucky taxpayers should rightfully be offended by the hollow excuse that the General Assembly adjourned simply because of the minor differences between HB 1 and SB 151.

In a letter dated Dec. 18, the morning after the special session began, my General Counsel Steve Pitt, sent every legislator a letter stating that while our administration was confident in the legal right of the legislature to pass SB 151, the slimmed down version known as HB 1, would lessen the chance of litigation that could slow down meaningful reforms. It should be noted, that it was Steve Pitt and his team who defended in court (on behalf of the legislators who chose not to defend themselves), the legislative process used by the General Assembly in the passage of SB 151. The letter clearly stated that the decision about whether or not to pass an identical version of SB 151 or the slimmed down HB 1, rested entirely with the General Assembly. If SB 151 truly had more support among legislators, it was their sole prerogative and responsibility to introduce and pass that same exact bill back into law. Instead, they chose to continue kicking the proverbial pension can down the road.

While I am disappointed that the General Assembly did not have the ability to pass needed pension reforms in 2018, it was not for lack of multiple opportunities given to them to do so. The pension crisis is now looming larger than ever and yet, I remain optimistic that the legislature will do the job that only they can do to start fixing this problem in 2019. Our elected representatives in the General Assembly must address the pension crisis before Kentucky's retirees, workers, businesses and taxpayers face further financial harm. The problem will not go away if it is ignored.

In conclusion, and contrary to the myth perpetuated by many members of the media and legislature, the special session was not abruptly called with no warning to, or input from, the legislative leaders. The exact opposite is true. HB 1 was not a surprise to those who were elected to lead on this issue. The only surprise was the lack of legislative ability to solve the problem during a 2018 special session. I am expectantly hopeful that the General Assembly will return to Frankfort in January with a renewed sense of purpose to address the pension crisis, because continued waffling, punting and excuses are not going to fix anything. It will take the right combination of knowledge, courage and leadership by a majority of the 138 men and women with the responsibility to save our pensions.

As I have since I first published my "Blueprint For A Better Kentucky," I continue to stand ready and willing to work with our legislators to save our pension system and move Kentucky forward together. For the sake of all that we love, we must not fail.

# FLOYD COUNTY CHRONICLE AND TIMES OBITUARIES

**Joey Lee Bailey**

Joey Lee Bailey, 41, of Georgetown, died Sunday, Jan. 6, 2019.

Arrangements are under the direction of Hall Funeral Home of Martin.

**Joyce Gail Blankenship**

Joyce Gail Blankenship, 64, of Harold, died Sunday, Jan. 6, 2019.

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

**Bert Lee Corder**

Bert Lee Corder, 78, of Auxier, died Thursday, Jan. 3, 2019.

Arrangements were under the direction of

Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home of Martin.

**Maggie Lamona Daniels**

Maggie Lamona (Mead) Daniels, 78, of Betsy Layne, died Sunday, Jan. 6, 2019.

Arrangements are under the direction of Hall Funeral Home of Martin.

**Clyde Hancock**

Clyde Francis Hancock, 86, of Allen, died Thursday, Jan. 3, 2019.

Arrangements were under the direction of Hall Funeral Home of Martin.

**Joey Hicks Jr.**

Joey Hicks Jr., 68, of

Prestonsburg, died Sunday, Jan. 6, 2019.

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

**Ivan Johnson**

Ivan Berline "IB" Johnson, 84, of Weeksbury, died Saturday, Jan. 5, 2019.

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

**Ethel Wallace**

Ethel Wallace, 56, of Banner, died Friday, Jan. 4, 2019.

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

## IN MEMORY



**Francis Crum  
1933 - 2018**

Francis "Frank" G. Crum passed away peacefully in his favorite chair while watching football on Jan. 6, 2018.

Frank was born Feb. 24, 1933, in the small coal mining town of Betsy Layne, to Palmer and Carlie Crum. When Frank entered high school he was known throughout Eastern Kentucky as one of the best basketball players ever to play. At Betsy Layne High School Frank set numerous scoring and shooting records and until the advent of the three pointer he was still listed in the top 50 scorers of all time.

He was selected to play in the prestigious Kentucky vs. Indiana All-Star basketball game

in 1951. He received offers from University of Kentucky and numerous other nationally known programs but decided to attend Marshall University, where he played four years of varsity basketball. More importantly he met his wife of 62 years, Jean Huddleston.

Upon graduation from Marshall in 1955, with a business degree, Frank began working for Alcoa. During this time he was commissioned as a Reserve Lieutenant in the U.S. Army. After discharge from the Army Frank then attended Case Western Reserve obtaining an MBA.

His son, Jon, was born in 1963 when the family was moving from Cleveland to California to Pittsburgh and finally back for good to Southern California in 1965, where their daughter Nancy was born. Frank was involved in all aspects of his children's lives, especially sports. He coached numerous teams never missing a game.

An avid golfer he played every Saturday at Green River Golf Course for 50 years. Frank re-

tired in 1992 after 37 years as a controller with Alcoa shortly after his grandchildren Emily and Grant were born. He was also very involved with their sports careers as well.

Frank never met a person he did not like. He talked to everyone, even people he had never met. He always had a smile on his face and loved wearing colorful shirts, shorts and his ever present Kangol hats, usually pink.

In 2007 Frank was inducted into the Betsy Layne Hall of Fame and named to the Fab 50 team. He enjoyed yard work and landscaping, sitting on his patio reading the Floyd County Times and feeding his adopted squirrels and blue jays.

Frank is missed by all.

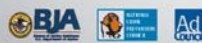
He is survived by his wife Jean Huddleston Crum; son Jon Crum of Irvine; daughter Nancy Crum of Arlington, Va., and grandchildren Emily Crum and Grant Crum.

Arrangements held last year at McAulay & Wallace Mortuary of Fullerton, Cal.

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# BOE meeting calendar approved

**FLOYD CHRONICLE AND TIMES STAFF REPORT**

The Floyd County Board of Education elected officers and adopted its meeting calendar during a meeting last week.

During a special-called meeting on Jan. 3, the board unanimously approved the appointment of Sherry Robinson as chair, Jr. Newsome as vice chair, Superintendent Danny Adkins as secretary and Tiffany Campbell as treasurer. Newsome's appointment is the only change from the 2018 school year, when Dr. Chandra Varia was elected as vice chair.

The board made no significant changes to its annual meeting calendar, which details meetings that will continue

to be held on the fourth Monday of every month at 6:30 p.m. at various schools, with some changes due to holidays.

The board started hosting meetings at schools years ago to give board members the opportunity to tour schools throughout the district and give community members access to meetings in their attendance district. Most schools offer special presentations, exhibits and performances prior to these board meetings.

The schedule calls for meetings on the fourth Monday on Jan. 28 at May Valley, Feb. 25 at Betsy Layne High, March 25 at Prestonsburg Elementary, April 22 at South Floyd Elementary, June 24 at Prestonsburg High, July 22 at Duff-Allen Central, Aug. 26 at Stumbo

Elementary, Sept. 23 at Adams Middle, Oct. 28 at Floyd Central and Nov. 25 at Betsy Layne Elementary.

The scheduled is changed in May for Memorial Day, and December for Christmas. Those meetings will be held May 20 at Prestonsburg High and Dec. 16 at Allen Elementary.

Superintendent Danny Adkins said the board will be holding meetings at one school, Prestonsburg High School, twice in 2019, but school officials will only be required to provide one presentation to the board.

The schedule calls for two meetings that will be announced at a later date. A budget session is expected to be held in May and an assessment session is expected to be held in Sept. or Oct.



Floyd Chronicle and Times photo by Mary Meadows  
**Floyd County Board of Education Chair Sherry Robinson, right, asks for a motion to extend the contract for Superintendent Danny Adkins, left, during a Jan. 3 meeting. Adkins' new contract ends in 2024.**

## ADKINS

Continued From Page 1A

to \$150,000 annually.

Board Chairperson Sherry Robinson said the board decided to extend Adkins' contract early to provide "stability" to employees.

"The importance of it is because the board feels like our employees need to have stability," Robinson said. "There had been some speculation that because he got a two-year contract that after two years, he was gone. So, we felt like the employees needed the security of knowing that he was here to stay."

She said it was an easy decision to make.

"He's done above and beyond an excellent job for the seven months that he's been here, and it's well deserved," she said.

She talked about Adkins' presence in the community, commending him for taking part in events and activities all over the county. She talked about how he has engaged with students by taking selfies with them, giving away T-shirts to students who know the district's motto at ballgames and spending time with students. Robinson also commended Adkins for implementing a program that equalizes disciplinary procedures and rules

across the district.

"He did things to engage with the students to get to know them, and the teachers have seen how fair and honest and equal that he is, across the board," Robinson said.

She said Adkins' personality traits are "trickling down throughout the district."

"Team Floyd is strong," she said.

The terms of the new contract and the addendum to the current contract were not publicly discussed at the meeting, but district officials provided copies of the documents afterwards.

The addendum adds the \$24,000 salary increase for Adkins, beginning July 1, and the new contract differs with the current contract slightly.

Under the current contract, the board is permitted to give Adkins raises. Under the new one, however, that provision has been removed. Under the current contract, Adkins is set to be reimbursed for mileage when he uses his personal vehicle and has "use of" a district vehicle. Under the new contract, he will be "provided with a four-wheel drive capable vehicle for his exclusive use" during "any part of any day worked."

Adkins said he was "thrilled" with the new contract.

"I love it here in Floyd County," he said. "It's a great staff, great school system, great communities. Everybody is concerned about their students. You hear that old saying, it takes a village. Truly, we have that village."

He has faced several issues since becoming superintendent several months ago, including a scathing audit from the Kentucky Department of Education that alleged inappropriate assessment practices and other problems that occurred during prior administrations. Adkins is overseeing the implementation of a corrective action plan required by the state.

"We are working with it every day, every day. We are," he said.

He, too, said the new contract will give him the stability he needs to continue to lead the district.

"This allows me to take this and run it the way the children deserve," Adkins said.

"It'll be it's run as a business, and the business is their education ... This will give me the longevity to work with the staff. They know Mr. Adkins is going to be with us for the next four or five years. We're going to have that longevity and that continuity to put programs in place and move forward."

# Isaac, Campbell appointed

**A FLOYD CHRONICLE AND TIMES STAFF REPORT**

Floyd County Schools Superintendent Danny Adkins reported the appointments of two central office staff last week.

Adkins reported that South Floyd Elementary teacher Denise Isaac was named as director of district wide services for the school district, replacing Tonya Williams, who previously held that role.

Adkins also reported that Tiffany Warrix Campbell has been promoted to finance director, replacing former director Matt Wireman, who was elected as the judge-executive in Magoffin County.

Adkins praised both women in press releases announcing their appointments.

Isaac has worked as a teacher, assistant principal and principal in Floyd County.

"We're excited to see Denise working in this capacity for Floyd County students," Adkins said. "She brings a lot to the district as she has over twenty years of classroom experience at the middle level and administrative experience at the elementary, middle and



**Denise Isaac**

high school levels. In addition to her experience, she brings a passion for expanding technology and STEM opportunities for students of all ages."

Isaac's "enthusiasm and passion for educating kids is contagious," Adkins said.

In the statement, Isaac express gratitude for being appointed to the position, explaining that she wants to help develop programs that give Floyd County students the same opportunities that students have elsewhere.

Adkins also commended Campbell for her service with the district. She started working there in 2004 as a bookkeeper at a school and later moved to the central office. She earned a



**Tiffany Warrix Campbell**

bachelor's degree in accounting at the University of Kentucky and earned credentials as a certified public accountant and a certified school financial manager certificate.

"We're happy to have Tiffany move into this role," Adkins said of Campbell. "She's been a member of our organization for over fourteen years as she served as a financial analysis and held the position of school board treasurer. Her existing knowledge of the district and school finance along with her diligence are sure to make Tiffany a success in this role."

Campbell said in the statement that teamwork, support and leadership will be the foundation for her new role.

## Community Events

- Jan. 9, 5 p.m.: Wheelwright City Commission meets, city hall. (606) 452-4202
- Jan. 10, 12 p.m.: Floyd County Communities Against Drug Addiction meets, Prestonsburg First Presbyterian Church
- Jan. 10, 5:30 p.m.: Floyd County Extension Board meets, Floyd County Extension Office. (606) 886-2668

- Jan. 14, 9 a.m.: Big Sandy Regional Industrial Authority meets, Sandy Area Development District. (606) 886-2374
- Jan. 15, 1 p.m. and 5 p.m.: Private Pesticide Applicators Class, Floyd County Extension Office. (606) 886-2668

## Request for Proposals

The City of Prestonsburg is seeking Request for Proposals for lease of the Prestonsburg Equine facility.

Interested parties should contact Mayor Les Stapleton at 606-886-2335 or email les.stapleton@prestonsburgcity.org to obtain the specifications regarding the lease.

Proposals are to be submitted to the City no later than 4:00 pm on January 31, 2019.

The City of Prestonsburg reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals.

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## Repairs underway in Abbott

**A FLOYD CHRONICLE AND TIMES STAFF REPORT**

Abbott Creek Road in Floyd County closed to all traffic at mile point 6.8

starting, Tuesday, Jan. 8.

This site is about 2.3 miles from U.S. 23, where temporary traffic signals have been keeping one lane open since Jan. 2.

Highway District 12 EIT Brittany Ball said the road will be closed from 8:15 a.m. until around 6 p.m. each day so that the state highway department's contractor can fix the embankment failure

at the site. School traffic will be accommodated as needed when school lets out, the cabinet reported.

Work is expected to take two days, possibly three, depending on weather. The contractor will have to drill two rows of railroad steel to get the pavement and shoulder width back where they should be.

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# State police arrest two after pursuit

**A FLOYD CHRONICLE  
AND TIMES STAFF REPORT**

The Kentucky State Police arrested two men after they crashed on Ky. 1210 in the Manton area, also known as Stephens Branch, last week.

On Jan. 3, KSP trooper B. Bond arrested James Sexton, 30, of Martin, and Christopher Sexton, 29, of Prestonsburg, following a chase that started on U.S. 23 that afternoon.

Bond reported in the citation that he observed a vehicle on U.S. 23, the plates were expired and he observed someone throw a plastic baggie out the window, then the alleged driver, James Sexton, "hit his brakes to make a U-turn."

The pursuit continued onto Ky. 114, turning on to Ky. 404 and ended on Ky. 1210, KSP reported, when the driver lost control and crashed the Pontiac Grand Prix he

was operating.

Bond reported James Sexton drove about eight miles on Ky. 404 "at a high rate of speed moving in and out of traffic crossing into the opposite lane of travel."

Several KSP troopers pursued the vehicle, Bond reported. He reported that KSP troopers were waiting on the Martin side of Ky. 1210 to deploy spike strips, but the vehicle made a u-turn and traveled in the oppo-

site direction, crashing into another vehicle driven by an unnamed male. Bond also alleged in the citation that the vehicle nearly crashed into KSP Trooper Hurtt after James Sexton made that u-turn.

Bond reported the men attempted to flee on foot after the vehicle came to a rest following the crash, but they were arrested without further incident.

James Sexton was

charged with speeding 26 miles over the limit, driving on a suspended license, reckless driving, first-degree wanton endangerment of a police officer, first-degree fleeing/evading police, possession of a handgun by a convicted felon, driving under the influence and criminal littering.

Christopher Sexton was charged with first-degree fleeing/evading po-

lice, public intoxication of a controlled substance and criminal littering.

Both of them appeared in Floyd District Court on Jan. 4.

District Judge Eric Hall placed James Sexton under a \$10,000 cash bond and Christopher Sexton under a \$5,000 surety bond.

Both men are scheduled to appear in court on Jan. 14 for a preliminary hearing.

## LAYOFFS

Continued From Page 1A

saying other county positions will be consolidated to stop what he said appears to be the "overlapping" of services, and other cost-cutting measures will be considered.

The actions also came days after an interview in which Williams chastised the prior administration for repealing the insurance premium tax last year. He talked about the possibility of approving a smaller insurance premium tax to keep the county afloat.

### Staffing changes

On Monday, the fiscal court voted 4-1 to approve the layoff of seven employees in litter abatement, parks and the Allen golf course, with Williams reporting the golf course would be closed until officials can "get a handle" on the county's financial situation.

Magistrate Ronnie Akers voted against the measure and the 2019 county employee list, which also passed with a 4-1 vote.

Akers said, "The park guys, during the winter months, they always put up our road signs, and our children at play signs and things. Who's going to be doing that?"

Williams said officials will "have a plan in place" to address those issues at the next meeting.

"So, they'll be brought back next month?" Akers asked.

"Well, I'm not saying they'll be brought back next month, but we'll address it in the meantime. Hopefully, we can have a plan in place, yes," Williams said.

The list of county employees approved includes several new hires, including Trudy Little as senior citizens director, Anna Allen as executive secretary and Jason Jones as a custodian. It also gives two paid positions to two people.

Joe Reynolds of Allen will work as the county's code enforcement officer and solid waste director, and Reynolds was also hired to serve as a clerk in the emergency services department under Emergency Management Director Tim Fields. His collective salary for both positions was approved as \$32,500 annually.

Steve Little will work as the county's purchase order clerk and road crew director—a position that has not been budgeted by the county.

Akers complained about that issue during the meeting.

"The PO director, you've got him down as two jobs, and there's not a, we don't have a road crew director in the budget. That's not a line item," Akers said.

Williams said the budget would be amended to accommodate that position. In the list approved Monday, Little will earn more than \$46,000 in both positions annually.

These new hires will replace former purchase order clerk Larry Howell, former senior citizens director Maura Minix, former administrative assistant Sharon May and Randy Bryant in code enforcement/solid waste.

One official reported that Howell would stay on board temporarily to train Little on purchase orders, but his name was not on the employee list approved.

Akers complained that salaries listed for some of these individuals are higher than approved in the county budget, which continues through June 30.

He specifically pointed out a listing of former jailer Roger Webb as deputy judge executive, noting that it lists a \$50,000 salary for him, but the budget only allotted \$36,000 for that position.

Williams said, however, that Webb, who attended the meeting, would not be hired at this time. After the meeting, Williams and Webb said that former Deputy Judge-Executive Barry Davis, who is no longer employed, was hired under the prior administration at a \$50,000 salary, even though it wasn't in the county budget.

County Treasurer David Layne, who did not attend the meeting, echoed that assertion. He said the fiscal court did a funds transfer to accommodate Davis' salary. He said the approval to hire Davis at that salary came to "give him more time" after the state took over the county attorney's child support enforcement contract last year.

Akers did not point out one problem in the salary list approved by the fiscal court. It lists salaries of \$12,875 annually for each of the county's four constables. The budget allows \$12,800 to be spent, collectively, for all constables, but the fiscal court on Monday approved spending \$51,500 for them, a difference of nearly \$39,000. Officials said this was an oversight and would be corrected.

### Financial shortfall discussed

Prior to these votes,

Williams talked about financial issues the county is facing—issues he also talked about during a recent interview with the Floyd Chronicle and Times.

In the meeting, he talked about the prior administration's approval of the insurance premium tax in 2017, and how the fiscal court repealed that tax last year.

He said the revenue from the tax was "used to collateralize" a \$2.2 million bond the fiscal court approved for roadwork and the county jail. The county now owes that bond, as well as a \$2 million bond for Southern Water that "placed back in our lap."

"So, we have a \$4 million debt that's been thrust on this court and laid at our feet in the last three, four months that we're going to have to address," he said. "The tax is repealed. It comes off in July. We've been running our numbers, trying to get a plan together for the county. We want to do a four-year plan. As we run our numbers and we start, we start looking at the information that's available, the numbers just don't add up. We're going to be back of the same situation we're in at the end of this year that we was in previously."

Williams said the fiscal court won't be able to draft a balanced budget, as required by law, unless there's new revenue.

"A balanced budget is not going to be achievable, based on the numbers we have. So, basically, I just want to start the conversation, because we're going to have to find alternative ways to generate revenue," he said.

He explained that officials would try to cut expenses in the budget by consolidating jobs to stop the "overlapping of services."

"But we really don't know if we're going to get to where we need on cutting the budget immediately, and, so, basically, I just want to say, I just want to open the door and let everyone know that there's some things that's going to have to happen in the near future in order to keep the county solvent and moving forward and keep the state out of our hair, moving forward," he said. "I just want to put this information out there, let the magistrates know, you know, what we may look at, going forward, may or may not."

No other fiscal court member addressed that financial issues during

the meeting, Williams, however, made additional comments about the problems during the recent interview.

He said state officials told his team that the tax repeal has left the county unable to balance its budget in the next fiscal year. If new revenue is not found, Williams said the county will have to approve a seven- or eight-percent insurance premium tax for 2020, but he and Layne believe the county may be able to cut expenses and implement a smaller tax instead.

"What we're looking at is we're hoping that we're not having to do an eight percent tax then (in 2020)," he said. "If we can potentially go in and say let's do a three percent, you know, or can we get by with a two percent, four percent, you know, something, and we make cuts to offset. So, you would still see a reduction in the tax come July 1, but it can't go away. I don't see how it can because what's going to happen, we either pay a little now, or we're going to pay a lot later and, I'm telling you, if it goes to seven or eight percent, it will devastate this county."

When asked directly

whether his administration would impose the tax again, Williams said, "I'm not putting it back on. I am going to lay it out there, and the people's going to make the decision, if they want it or not. I'm not putting it back on, but I can lay the scenario out. This is the scenario. This is how it's going to play out and when you get to where you have a budget deficit, it's out of my hands at that point. The state does it. The state does it, and that's where this all got lost before. The state basically told Ben (Hale) he had to do it, and they called a special meeting and raised taxes, they don't explain it to anybody, and you have to."

He said the tax was repealed "out of spite."

"It was a lame duck court and they did it out of spite," he said. "They were not concerned about the future of Floyd County. Ben did it, and you can quote me on this, I hope you do because I think the people need to realize this. He did it purely out of spite. It was not at the wishes of the citizens of Floyd County. It was not what was in their best interest. It just seems to be the trend with outgoing

judge-executives here, let's see how bad we can leave things for the next person coming in, and that's just why they did it. They did it out of spite."

He continued, "People have to understand. I can see where this thing is going in 2020, and, you know, we can't cut enough in the budget to get this thing balanced. There's not enough meat on the bone to do it. I mean, we're down to revenues coming in, I think it's about \$13 million a year, trying to maintain 400 miles of road."

Williams said he will be evaluating each county employee position to determine if it's sufficient for the pay and the amount of work performed, and he expects personnel changes in the future. He said magistrates will be asked to prioritize roads and needs in their districts as administrators work to create a four-year plan.

"I think it's important that we go in and we have a plan in place and they stick to it....I think for a long time, they just went down there and put out fires, whatever the fire is for the day, and you know, I think we should prioritize," he said.

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submitted by January 11, 2018. The Housing Authority of Martin is an equal opportunity employer.

**LEGALS**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Pursuant to 405 KAR 8:010, Section 16(5), the following is a summary of permitting decision made by the Department for Natural Resources, Division of Mine Permits with respect to applications to conduct surface coal mining and reclamation operations in Floyd County. LIBERTY MANAGEMENT LLC, 836-5672.

**THE CITY OF Prestonsburg** is seeking Request for Proposals for lease of the Prestonsburg Equine facility. Interested parties should contact Mayor Les Stapleton at 606-886-2335 or email les.stapleton@prestonsburgcity.org to obtain the specifications regarding the lease. Proposals are to be submitted to the City no later than 4:00 pm on January 31, 2019. The City of Prestonsburg reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals.

**LEGALS**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Notice is hereby given that Greg Hopper of East Point has filed an application with the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Cabinet, to replace an existing bridge with a new bridge, within the floodplain of Little Paint Creek near the community of East Point, KY. The site is located on the south side of Route 1100 in Floyd County, Kentucky. More specifically at latitude 37°42'58.87" N and longitude 82°48'24.62" W. Any comments or objections concerning this application shall be directed to: Kentucky Division of Water, Water Resources Branch, 300 Sower Boulevard, Third Floor, Frankfort, KY 40601. Phone: (502) 564-3410

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Notice is hereby given that RODNEY KERN PATTON, 581 ROUTE 680, McDowell, Kentucky 41647, has filed an application with the Energy and Environment Cabinet to construct a small fill for the purpose of building a house. The property is located 0.60 miles east of the intersection of KY Route 122 and KY Route 680 on Frasure Creek in Floyd County, Kentucky. Any comments or objections concerning this application shall be directed to: Kentucky Division of Water, Surface Water Permit Branch, Flood Plain Management Section 300 Sower Boulevard Frankfort, Kentucky 40601. Phone: (502) 564-3410.

**Thanks For Reading The Floyd Chronicle & Times**

**LEGALS**

**NOTICE OF BOND RELEASE**

In accordance with the provisions of KRS 350.093, notice is hereby given that Revelation Energy, LLC, P O Box 189, Lackey, KY 41643 intends to apply for a phase 1 bond release on increment 1 of its permit **836-5641**, which was last issued on 2/5/2015. This application covers an area of approximately 3.30 acres, located 3.8 miles southeast of McDowell in Floyd County. The operation is located 3.8 miles southeast of McDowell in Floyd County. The operation is approximately 0.7 miles east from KY Route 1929's junction with Neds Fork Road and located in Neds Fork. The operation is located on the McDowell U.S.G.S. 7 1/2 minute quadrangle map. The total bond now in effect for increments 1 is \$75,000.00. Approximately 54.40% (\$40,800.00) of the original bond amount on this increment is included in this application for phase 1 release. Reclamation work performed includes backfilling/grading/topsoiling/seedling, completed in the Summer of 2018. Results thus far achieved include backfilling, grading, seeding, and topsoiling of the disturbed areas. Written comments, objections, and request for a public hearing or informal conference must be filed with the Director, Division of Mine Reclamation and Enforcement, 300 Sower Blvd. 2nd Floor Frankfort, KY 40601 by **February 22, 2019**. A public hearing has been scheduled for **10:00 a.m.** or as soon

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thereafter as may be heard, on **February 25, 2019** at the Prestonsburg

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informal conference is received by **February 22, 2019**.

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**NOTICE**

Kentucky Power Company plans to file amended tariff sheets 11-2 (Tariff C.S.-Coal), 12-1 (Tariff C.S.-I.R.P.), and 37-6 (Tariff E.D.R.) with the Public Service Commission of Kentucky on or before December 21, 2018. The purpose of the amendments is to extend the current December 31, 2018 expiration date for certain tariff provisions related to customers engaged in the extraction or processing of coal. The proposed amended expiration date for the tariff provisions is December 31, 2019.

Other than the extension of the expiration date of the affected tariff provisions Kentucky Power is not proposing to change any charge, fee, condition of service, or rule regarding the provision of service under the tariffs. The proposed amendment will not produce a change in existing rates or the amounts paid (as a dollar amount or as a percentage).

The proposed effective date for the amended tariff sheets is January 1, 2019.

A person may wish to intervene as a party in any Commission proceeding to review the amended tariff sheets by filing a timely written request for intervention with the Commission in accordance with the requirements of 807 KAR 5:001, Section 4(11). If the Commission does not receive a written request for intervention within thirty days of the initial publication or mailing of this notice, the Commission may take final action on the amended tariff sheets.

Written comments on the amended tariff sheets may be submitted to the Executive Director, Public Service Commission, 211 Sower Boulevard, P.O. Box 615, Frankfort, Kentucky 40602-0615 or via the Commission's website: <http://psc.ky.gov>. The amendments to the tariff sheets described in this notice are the provisions proposed by Kentucky Power; the Commission may deny the proposed amendments, or order different changes, including a different expiration date.

Upon their filing, a copy of the amended tariff sheets and any related documents that Kentucky Power may file with the Public Service Commission may be examined at Kentucky Power's offices located at 855 Central Avenue, Suite 200, Ashland, Kentucky 41101 with a phone number of 606-327-2600; 1400 E. Main St. Hazard, KY 41701 with a phone number of 606-436-1322; and 3249 North Mayo Trail, Pikeville, KY 41501 with a phone number of 606-437-3827; and the Company's website: [www.kentuckypower.com](http://www.kentuckypower.com).

A copy of the proposed amended tariff sheets and any related documents that Kentucky Power may file with the Public Service Commission may be examined Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. through 4:30 p.m. at the offices of the Commission at the address listed above or through the Commission's website: <http://psc.ky.gov>.

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## Lady Jaguars capture 15th Region 2A title



Floyd Chronicle and Times photo by Steve LeMaster

Floyd Central captured the 15th Region 2A girls' basketball title at Magoffin County High School on Saturday night.



Floyd Chronicle and Times photo by Steve LeMaster

Floyd Central junior Brook Stumbo goes up for a layup during the second half of the 15th Region 2A title game.

By STEVE LEMASTER  
SPORTS WRITER

SALYERSVILLE — Floyd Central remains undefeated and has a region title to show for its perfect start in the 2018-19 girls' high school basketball season. The Lady Jaguars, under the direction of head coach Justin Triplett, defeated Pike Central 58-50 to capture the 15th Region 2A girls' basketball title at Magoffin County High School on Saturday.

With the win, Floyd Central moved to 15-0.

Pike Central dropped to 11-6 with the loss.

The determined Lady Jaguars battled back from behind to claim the Class 2A region championship.

Floyd Central edged Pike Central 14-13 in the opening quarter but faced a deficit at halftime. Pike Central outscored Floyd Central 22-17 in the second quarter to lead 35-31 at the break.

But Floyd Central finished strong, limiting Pike Central to 15 points after

the intermission period.

The Lady Jaguars outscored Pike Central 16-6 in the fourth quarter.

Floyd Central switched to a man-to-man defense during the second half of the 2A title game. And the move paid off.

"Switching to the man-to-man defense was the difference in the game for us," Triplett said, following his team's title-clinching victory. "You could feel the intensity pick up when we went to a man-to-man defense."

Floyd Central shot 46.3 percent (19 of 41) from the field. The Lady Jaguars were three of six from three-point range.

Floyd Central shot 60 percent (18 of 30) from the free-throw line.

Katie Moore led Floyd Central with a double-double, scoring 13 points and pulling down a game-high 14 rebounds. Accompanying Moore in double figures in the Floyd Central scoring column, Lauren Preston added 10 points for the Lady Jaguars.

Floyd Central used a balanced

See JAGUARS, Page 14A

## Spurlock resigns; Hager named interim coach

By STEVE LEMASTER  
SPORTS WRITER

EASTERN — Kevin Spurlock resigned from his position as head coach of the Floyd Central boys' basketball team on Friday. Spurlock's decision to step down from the coaching post was his own. He remains a teacher at Floyd Central. Spurlock is also the head coach of the Floyd Central softball team.

A longtime boys' basketball head coach

at multiple high schools, Spurlock guided Floyd Central to 19 wins, a 58th District championship and a 15th Region Tournament appearance during the school's debut season. Earlier in his career, Spurlock guided Hazard to the All "A" Classic state title.

In December, eight members of the Floyd Central boys' basketball team quit the squad. Following allegations made by the players, Spurlock served a three-game sus-

pension before returning to guide his team.

Currently, Floyd Central is 2-14 overall.

Shawn Hager, who leads the Floyd Central football and baseball programs, has been tabbed as the interim head coach of the Jaguar boys' basketball team.

Floyd Central is scheduled to host North Laurel for its next game on Saturday. Tip off for the Floyd Central-North Laurel boys' basketball game is set for 7:30 p.m.



Floyd Central's Shawn Hager

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# Bobcats drop two straight

BY STEVE LEMASTER  
AND RANDY WHITE

Betsy Layne dropped its last two games to Shelby Valley and Phelps.

## PHELPS 55, BETSY LAYNE 47

The Bobcats made a late push against Phelps Monday night, but it wasn't enough as Betsy Layne fell 55-47.

Trey Francis split a pair of free throws for the Hornets with 5:21 left to give the Hornets a 40-24 lead.

The Bobcats started to fight back after that.

Betsy Layne's Byron Tackett knocked down a three with 2:22 and was fouled on the play to cut the lead to 43-35; he missed the free-throw. Chase Mims knocked down a pair of free throws with 1:48 left to cut the lead to 44-39.

Betsy Layne couldn't get the lead under six, though and Phelps held on for the eight-point win.

Jordan Frazier led the way for the Bobcats with a game-high 21 points and seven rebounds. Zach Bentley followed with 11 points and eight rebounds.

The Bobcats only shot 18 percent from the field during the game.

Phelps' Trey Francis led the way for the Hornets with a team-high 19 points. Don Francis followed with 17 points for the Hornets.

Betsy Layne held a 6-4 lead at the end of the first quarter. The Bobcats lead grew to 9-4 after Frazier split a pair of free throws with 6:56 left in the first.

Phelps took its first lead of the game at the 3:55 mark of the second when Jason Casey knocked down a three. The Hornets outscored the Bobcats 15-7 in the second to take a 19-13 halftime lead.

Phelps (5-5) is scheduled to visit Letcher Central at 7:30 p.m. this evening.

Betsy Layne (7-7) is scheduled to host Pike Central at 7:30 p.m. Thursday night.

## SHELBY VALLEY 76, BETSY LAYNE 36

Betsy Layne had the tough task of hosting current 15th Region frontrunner Shelby Valley in its 2019 debut. Shelby Valley moved ahead early and never faltered during its latest trip to Betsy Layne, pulling away to beat the Bobcats 76-39 on Thursday.

Longtime 15th Region rivals, Betsy Layne and Shelby Valley met for a non-district matchup.

Betsy Layne dropped to 7-6 following the loss.

As a result of the win, Shelby Valley improved to 11-1.

Shelby Valley shot 47.2 percent (25 of 53) from the field. The Wildcats were four of 10 (40 percent) from three-point range.

Shelby Valley shot 71 percent (22 of 31) from the free-throw line.

The Wildcats dominated inside, outrebounding the Bobcats 34-11.

Cody Potter led Shelby Valley with a double-double, scoring 23 points and pulling down 11 rebounds. Three Shelby Valley players reached double figures in the scoring column as Orbie McPeek and Cameron Worrix contributed 13 points apiece.

John Flanery finished one field goal short of reaching double figures and notching a double-double for the Wildcats, posting eight points and 11 rebounds.

Shelby Valley led 32-19 at halftime. The Wildcats put the game out of Betsy Layne's reach shortly after intermission, outscoring the Bobcats 27-7 in the third quarter.

Samuel Stanley and Keian Worrix contributed six points apiece for the Wildcats in the win.

Two other players, Zack Johnson and Aaron Bates, rounded out the Shelby Valley individual scoring, chipping in five points and two points, respectively.

Betsy Layne shot 33.3 percent (13 of 39) from the field. The Bobcats were two of nine from three-point range.

Betsy Layne shot 50 percent (eight of 16) from the free-throw line.

Forced to play from behind throughout the matchup, Betsy Layne didn't feature any scorers in double figures. Jordan Frazier paced the Bobcats with nine points.

Zach Bentley netted seven points for homestanding Betsy Layne while Brady Robinson added six points.

Davy Bentley (five points), Nicholas Howell (five points), Chase Mims (four points), Nathaniel Mims (three points) and Lukas Manns (two points) accounted for the rest of Betsy Layne's individual scoring.



Betsy Layne's Brady Robinson gets under Shelby Valley's Keian Worrix last Thursday night at Betsy Layne. The Bobcats fell to the Wildcats, 76-36.



Betsy Layne's Zach Bentley lobs a shot over Shelby Valley's Cody Potter last Thursday at Betsy Layne.



Betsy Layne's Davey Bentley pulls up for a three Monday night against Phelps.



Betsy Layne's Jordan Frazier drives to the basket for a shot Monday night against Phelps.



Shelby Valley's Shawn Howell attempts a shot under the basket Thursday night against Shelby Valley.



Betsy Layne's Nate Mims attempts a shot in traffic Thursday night against Shelby Valley.

Floyd Chronicle and Times photo by Cory Vance

Floyd Chronicle and Times photo by Cory Vance

Floyd Chronicle and Times photo by Randy White

Floyd Chronicle and Times photo by Randy White

Floyd Chronicle and Times photo by Cory Vance



# Keathley leads P'burg past Magoffin County

By **STEVE LeMASTER**  
SPORTS WRITER

**PRESTONSBURG** — Senior Kaitlyn Keathley scored 26 points and pulled down seven rebounds as host Prestonsburg defeated 15th Region rival Magoffin County 74-55 in a non-district girls' high school basketball game at the Fieldhouse on Friday night.

Prestonsburg topped Magoffin County for its fifth straight win.

The Lady Blackcats owned numerous double digit leads before winning via the 19-point margin.

Prestonsburg shot 48.1 percent (26 of 54) from the field. The Lady Blackcats were five of 21 from three-point range.

Prestonsburg shot 58.6 percent (17 of 29) from the free-throw line.

Sophomore Caroline Ariaz followed Keathley in double figures in scoring and paced Prestonsburg inside, posting 19 points and eight rebounds.

Accompanying Keathley and Ariaz in double figures, Reesce Endicott netted 14 points for the

Lady Blackcats. Faith Lazar added six points, Celina Mullins posted five points and Alivia Slone chipped in four points in Prestonsburg's victory.

Kennedi Stacy, a senior guard, led Magoffin County with a game-high 26 points. Accompanying Stacy in double figures for the Lady Hornets, freshman guard Macy Thacker scored 16 points.

**SHELDON CLARK 60, PRESTONSBURG 55**

Prestonsburg was unable to remain in the win column over the weekend. Visiting Sheldon Clark upended Prestonsburg 60-55 in a non-district girls' high school basketball game on Saturday.

Sheldon Clark's victory halted Prestonsburg's latest winning streak at five games.

With the loss, Prestonsburg dropped to 8-6.

Sheldon Clark improved to 7-8 with the win.

Madison Thompson led Sheldon Clark with a double-double. Thompson scored 17 points and pulled down 26 rebounds

to pace the Lady Cardinals.

Sheldon Clark used a balanced offensive attack to top Prestonsburg. In other individual scoring for the Lady Cardinals, Lakyn Porter posted 15 points while Paige Maynard netted 13 points and McKenzie Preston contributed 10 points.

Prestonsburg shot 45.7 percent (21 of 46) from the field. The Lady Blackcats were five of 22 from three-point range.

Prestonsburg shot 72.7 percent (eight of 11) from the free-throw line.

Alivia Slone led Prestonsburg with a team-high 14 points. Accompanying Slone in double figures for the Lady Blackcats, Kaitlyn Keathley and Reesce Endicott contributed 13 points apiece.

Narrowly missing double figures, Caroline Ariaz netted nine points for the Lady Blackcats.

Rounding out the Prestonsburg individual scoring, Alison Campbell and Faith Lazar chipped in four points and two points, respectively.



Floyd Chronicle and Times photo by Steve LeMaster  
Prestonsburg senior Kaitlyn Keathley heads down the floor during Friday night's home game against 15th Region rival Magoffin County.



Floyd Chronicle and Times photo by Steve LeMaster

Sophomore Alivia Slone dribbles for host Prestonsburg on Friday night.

## Blackcats edge June Buchanan, 74-71

By **STEVE LeMASTER**  
SPORTS WRITER

**PIPPA PASSES** - Visiting Prestonsburg managed to edge June Buchanan 74-71 in a non-district boys' high school basketball game on Wednesday (Jan. 2).

Familiar rivals, Prestonsburg and June Buchanan hail from neighboring regions.

With the win, Prestonsburg improved to 7-6.

June Buchanan slipped to 3-10 with the loss.

Excelling offensively, Prestonsburg shot 65.9 percent (29-of-44) shot from the field. The Blackcats were eight of 11 (72.7 percent) from three-point range.

Prestonsburg shot 57.1 percent

(eight of 14) from the free-throw line.

Senior Blake Slone led Prestonsburg with a game-high 26 points and eight rebounds.

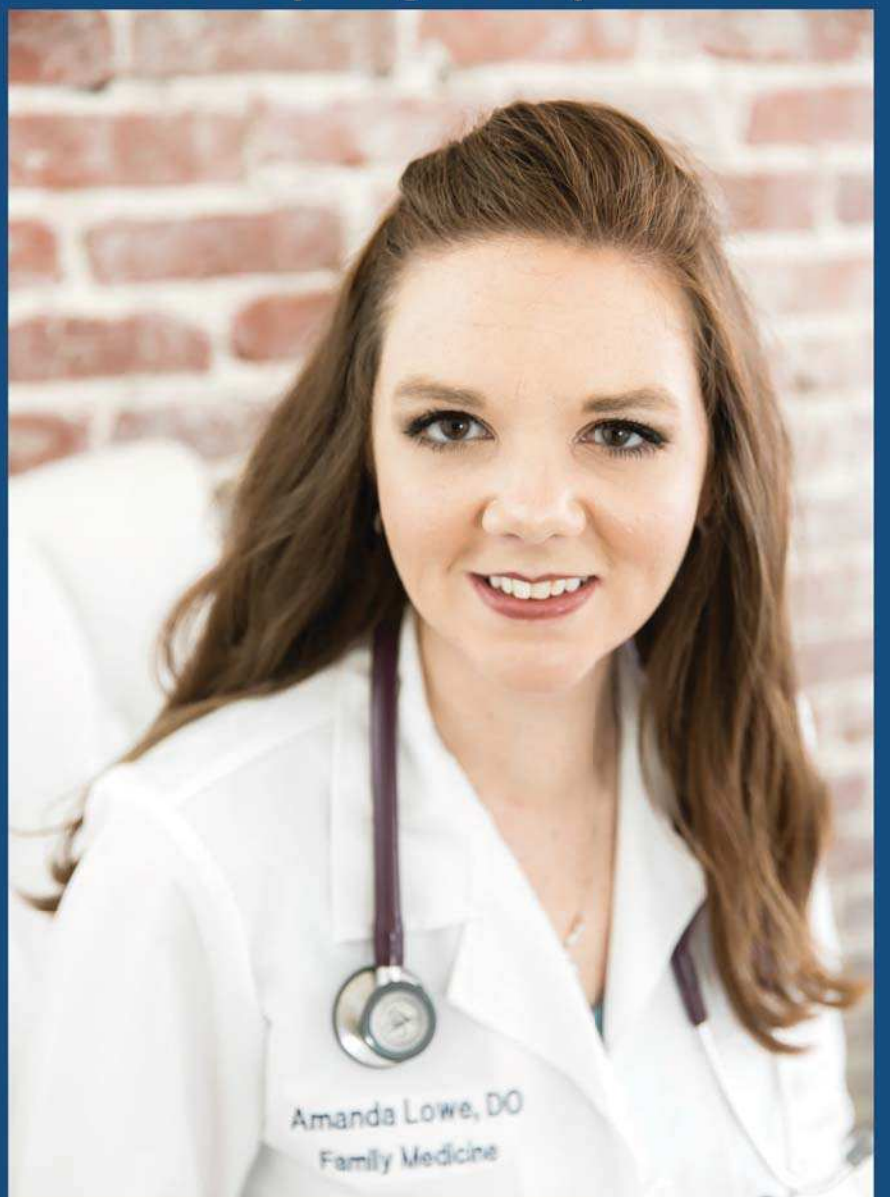
Following Slone in the Prestonsburg scoring column, Graham Burchett added 20 points.

Three Blackcats reached double figures in scoring as Adam Slone netted 12 points.

Will Gullett (seven points), Josh Hall (four points), Grant Justice (three points), Kane Scarberry (two points) and Clayton Smith (two points) provided the additional scoring for Prestonsburg in the victory.

The Blackcats are slated to host June Buchanan for a late-season matchup on February 11.

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## JAGUARS

Continued From Page 11A

scoring effort to outlast Pike Central. Grace Martin, Kaylee Moore and Abby Maggard added eight points apiece for the Lady Jaguars.

Brook Stumbo and Kennedy Harvell accounted for the rest of Floyd Central's individual scoring, posting six points and five points, respectively.

Struggling to connect on foul shots, Pike Central was only three of 16 from the free-throw line.

Cassidy Mullins led Pike Central, pouring in a game-high 27 points for the Lady Hawks. Other scorers for Pike Central in the setback were Bailey Birchfield (eight points), Kelsi Brinager (seven points), Lexi Newsome (three points), Haley Boyd (two points), Alicen May (two points) and Chloe Neece (one point). Both Brinager and Newsome fouled out during the fourth quarter of the title game.

Floyd Central is slated to face 16th Region title winner Rowan County in the Kentucky 2A Championships Sectional Tournament in Morehead on Saturday, Jan. 12.



Floyd Central sophomore Katie Moore works on her team's offensive end on Saturday night.

Floyd Chronicle and Times photo by Steve LeMaster



Eighth-grader Abby Maggard works her way to the basket for undefeated Floyd Central.

Floyd Chronicle and Times photo by Steve LeMaster



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## What's coming up?

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 8**  
Men's College Basketball: Texas A&M at Kentucky, 7:00 p.m.

Boys' High School Basketball: Pikeville at Belfry, 7:30 p.m.; Pike

Central at Floyd Central, 7:30 p.m.; Sheldon Clark at Paintsville, 7:30 p.m.; Piarist at Betsy Layne, 6:00 p.m.; Shelby Valley at Magoffin County, 7:30 p.m.

Girls' High School Basketball: Belfry at Shelby Valley, 7:30 p.m.; Betsy Layne at Letcher Central, Phelps at Pike Central, Sheldon Clark at Paintsville, 6:00 p.m.

**Wednesday, January 9**

Boys' High School Basketball: Jenkins at Prestonsburg, 7:30 p.m.; Phelps at Letcher Central, 7:30 p.m.

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 10**

Men's College Basketball: Life University at UPIke, 8:00 p.m.

Women's College Basketball: Life University at UPIke, 6:00 p.m.

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