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**Sarah Lange**  
Financial Advisor

255 West Court Street  
Prestonsburg, KY 41653  
Bus. 606-889-9004  
Cell 606-875-5621  
Fax 888-806-4901  
sarah.lange@edwardjones.com  
www.edwardjones.com

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# CHRONICLE & TIMES

Weekend Edition, April 19-21, 2019

FLOYD COUNTY

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## PCUC increases water, sewer rates

By **ELAINE BELCHER**  
STAFF WRITER

The Prestonsburg City Utilities Commission announced Tuesday a 25 percent water and sewer rate increase for residential customers will be going into effect beginning in the March 25 through April 25 billing cycle. This includes the communities of Allen and Dwale which will be charged under county rates, according to PCUC officials.

"As utility costs throughout the industry continue to rise, PCUC staff is committed to managing those costs and staying efficient while upholding the city's commitment to a sustainable future," said Michael Campbell, Prestonsburg City Utilities manager. "The adjusted rates are designed to fund the operating and capital needs of the city's water and sewer utilities."

According to the PCUC statement, the adjusted rates, effective as of Tuesday, raise water rates 0.1662 cents per 100 gallons for residential water customers within city limits and 0.2126 cents per 100 gallons for customers within the county, and sewage rates 0.174 cents per 100 gallons for residents within the city and 0.2181 cents per 100 gallons for the county residents. The 2019 rate adjustments

See **WATER**, Page 8A



## Takedown

Appalachian Newspapers photo by Chris Anderson  
Officials lead Mohammed Mazumder, Scotty Akers and Denver Tackett to a vehicle waiting to transport them to the Pike County Detention Center after the three made an initial appearance in federal court Wednesday. The three were arrested as part of a federal task force operation linked to the illegal distribution of opioids.

## Five local health care providers charged in action by Appalachian Regional Prescription Opioid Strike Force

AN APPALACHIAN  
NEWSPAPERS  
STAFF REPORT

Five people, including two doctors, a dentist and a former Pikeville doctor and his live-in girlfriend, have been charged locally as part of an action

See **TAKEDOWN**, Page 8A



Scotty Akers



Serissa Collier



Mohammed Mazumder



Denver Tackett

## Fiscal court opposes Martin annexation



## Bartley says Martin plans to 'rape' taxes from businesses

County Attorney Keith Bartley talks about Martin's proposed annexation during an April 16 fiscal court meeting.

Floyd Chronicle and Times photo by Mary Meadows

By **MARY MEADOWS**  
STAFF WRITER

The Floyd County Fiscal Court officially levied its opposition to a proposed annexation by the City of Martin this week, with the county attorney alleging Martin is trying to "rape tax monies"

from businesses.

On April 16, the fiscal court voted unanimously to have County Attorney Keith Bartley research the fiscal court's legal options and the "potential filing of a temporary injunction" to stop the

See **MARTIN**, Page 2A

## Health Dept. to expand needle exchange, HEART program

By **MARY MEADOWS**  
STAFF WRITER

The Floyd County Health Department is expanding its HEART program and its needle exchange program this year.

The HEART (Healing Empowering Actively Recovering Together) program started in September 2018 and is currently serving the Prestonsburg area, in partnership with several state agencies and Destination Commu-

nity Church, where it is held every Tuesday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Director Thursa Sloan recently reported the health department will also start offering an additional HEART class in Wheelwright this year.

The Wheelwright City Commission gave the health department permission this month to start hosting HEART in the Wheelwright city gym. Sloan said it is tentatively scheduled to begin there in May.

The program helps mothers who give birth to babies while they were using illegal drugs.

"It's to help new moms, or old moms, who have had their babies

See **PROGRAMS**, Page 4A

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**MARTIN**  
Continued From Page 1A

annexation.

The Martin City Council approved the second reading of an attempt to annex more than 600 acres on April 10. The city's annexation proposal has changed several times over the past few months, and it has been met with increasing opposition from the public.

The fiscal court's action came after comments were made Tuesday by Terry Thornsberry, one of the founders of a group that is opposing the annexation. The fiscal court discussed the matter in executive session, citing "potential litigation" as the reason for the closed session.

Thornsberry spoke at length about numerous issues he has with the proposed annexation, saying Martin plans to annex more than 33 miles of roadways and residents and businesses in the future.

He highlighted several questions about Martin's financial issues and its ability to provide services to residents and businesses in the areas targeted for annexation. He alleged that Martin "manipulated" this annexation to keep out voters who could oppose it at the polls.

Prior to the vote, Williams talked about the loss of revenue in Floyd County over the past decade, reporting a decrease of between 33 and 35 percent.

"So, the City of Mar-

tin needs to face this new reality that we're all having to tighten our belts up," Williams said. "We have a budget of \$12.5 to \$13 million that we operate on. We keep up 400 miles of road. We maintain a jail, a county attorney's office, EMS, 911, coroners, on \$13 million. They have 600 residents and they're getting \$1.5 million. Their budget is 10 percent of ours and they can't operate the City of Martin. I'm not trying to throw anybody under the bus, but facts are facts."

Williams said he believes Martin is seeking this annexation because it needs infrastructure upgrades that the city cannot afford.

"They have a cash shortage. They have upgrades, infrastructure upgrades that need to be made, so rather than raise the taxes on the residents there in town, they're just going to go out and bring more residents into the fold, more people, businesses into the fold, to help compensate and pay for those upgrades that are necessary, even though those folks, more than likely, will never, ever receive any services in return," Williams said.

Fiscal court officials voiced concern about how future annexations in Martin could decrease the county's insurance premium tax and taxes collected for fire departments, among other issues.

"What happens, and I think what people don't realize is the more these little towns get gobbled



Floyd Chronicle and Times photo by Mary Meadows

**Floyd County Judge-Executive Robbie Williams tells fiscal court members that Martin's proposed annexation will take revenue out of the county's budget.**

up and do these annexations, it reduces our tax base," Williams said. "Well, guess what? We still have to maintain a jail and we still have all of these services that we're required by the state to maintain. So it's a domino effect. So, eventually what's going to happen, the more they take of our tax base, what it does to us, then we have to increase taxes or find alternate revenues, or start laying folks off."

Bartley said he will investigate all potential legal remedies the fiscal court might have in regards to the annexation. He said he agreed with allegations Thornsberry made about Martin.

"I agree with you. I think that their proposals to expand, to businesses, and to essentially rape tax monies from

businesses is not fair," Bartley said. "I think it's a land grab. I think that's the words I said to the judge from the very beginning, that it's designed just for them to be able to take taxes. You talked about their sewage plant, how they couldn't afford a \$15 or \$20 million sewage plant, if they could afford a \$15 million sewage plant, they wouldn't need this tax money. They wouldn't need this annexation."

He talked about issues the fiscal court had with prior administrations in Martin.

"I can remember a decade ago, having a fight with the City of Martin, and what was the result of that fight?" Bartley said. "We uncovered what was the biggest polluter in the history of Floyd County,

and that was the City of Martin sewage plant. And what happened when we got through there? The mayor went to the penitentiary. The mayor's husband went to the penitentiary. The mayor's son, stepson, went to the penitentiary when we got through. An investigation ain't something Martin wants, I promise you."

Williams said the fiscal court wants to "make sure that we make the right move" by having Bartley investigate legal remedies.

"We don't want to get ahead of ourselves and do something that could potentially not work out for us, so we want to take our time and make sure we're calculated in what we do," he said.

During the meeting, the fiscal court authorized payment of more

than \$13,400 for the county's share of Martin's redevelopment project.

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City of Prestonsburg  
Prestonsburg City's Utilities Commission  
2560 South Lake Drive  
Prestonsburg, KY 41653  
Customer Service Department

Dear Prestonsburg City's Utilities Commission (PCUC) customer,

This is to inform you of the adjusted rates for water, and sewer services that will go into effect for the March 25th through the April 25th billing. The rate adjustments impact to residential customers is listed in the chart below. As utility costs throughout the industry continue to rise, PCUC staff is committed to managing those costs and staying efficient while upholding the City's commitment to a sustainable future. The adjusted rates are designed to fund the operating and capital needs of the City's water and sewer utilities. These rate adjustments will help ensure the reliability and continued compliance of State and Federal regulations while providing the dependable delivery of basic water and sewer service you have been provided in the past. They will also support the Commission's commitment to the replacement of aging infrastructure, which will mean fewer interruptions of water and sewer service. The City maintains over 300 miles of water system pipelines and sewer pipelines, many which are over 50 years old and are approaching the end of their useful lives. Rate increases will help provide funding for high-priority pipeline replacements and other capital improvements needed to support the continued provision of safe and reliable water service and sewer collection. Since City sales and property taxes do not fund water or sewer services, those costs must be recovered through customer's monthly fees. Water and sewer rates are used only to pay for water and sewer expenses and cannot be used for any other purpose. The 2019 rate adjustments are based on a detailed cost of service analysis to ensure that each utility customer pays their proportionate share of the costs to provide services. Impacts to water and sewer bills will vary based on customer meter size.

If you have questions about the rate changes, please contact Customer Service at 606-886-6871, Monday through Friday, 8a.m. to 5p.m. or visit [www.prestonsburgwater.com](http://www.prestonsburgwater.com) where you can view a detailed rate structure.

Thank you,

City of Prestonsburg and the Prestonsburg City's Utilities Commission.

Adjusted Rates April 16, 2019			
City			
Meter Size	Service Fee	Water Rate	Sewer Rate
5/8 - 3/4	\$ 10.52	\$ 0.8311 per 100 gallon	\$ 0.8701 per 100 gallon
County			
Meter Size	Service Fee	Water Rate	Sewer Rate
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# U.S. Attorney's Office focused on stopping violent crime, fighting unique drug issues

By **Russ Cassady**  
Regional Editor

Robert Duncan, who took the office of U.S. attorney for the Eastern District of Kentucky in 2017, is no stranger, either to prosecuting cases in the region or to the district itself.

The Sheldon Clark High School graduate and Inez native began working as an assistant U.S. Attorney in 2005 and served as a prosecutor in the Eastern District of Kentucky for nearly the next 13 years before being tapped by the administration of President Donald Trump in November 2017 to take over the role of U.S. Attorney.

Duncan's experience is heavily rooted in the challenges faced by law enforcement here.

"Early on, particularly, I prosecuted a lot of cases in southeastern and Eastern Kentucky, did violent crime work, prosecuted a lot of cases out of our federal prisons," he said.

However, about midway through his service, he moved into prosecuting mainly drug trafficking cases, particularly "large-scale, complex, multi-jurisdictional cases."

Near the end of his time as an assistant U.S. attorney, Duncan said, he saw the shift in trafficking cases in the district move to mostly heroin and particularly the drug fentanyl.

Duncan recently spoke with Appalachian Newspapers on the focuses of his office as well as the challenges facing the region.

## Reducing violent crime

Throughout the district, Duncan said, his office has focused on working within the Project Safe Neighborhoods program, partnering with local and state law enforcement in an attempt to prosecute the "worst of the worst," in terms of violent crime.

"(We're) trying to remove those folks from the communities and hopefully increase the community's safety and quality of life," he said.

Duncan said that one key to this is for his office to empower local law enforcement.

"With the partnership of local law enforcement, we're able to identify those folks and work hand-in-hand to, hopefully, improve safety for all our citizens," he said.

Those types of partnerships, he said, are vital for the office to be effective.

"The administration and the president have stressed that our role is to be good partners and we want to be seen as a resource," he said. "I want folks to know in the law enforcement community that we're out there, that we're available and we're sincere about wanting to be good partners."

## Reducing access to opioids

Duncan said he is also

focused on fighting back against drug trafficking, particularly against opioid abuse and drugs such as methamphetamine.

"The opioid crisis is something that affects all of us," he said. "It's not just an Eastern District of Kentucky problem, necessarily, it's a nationwide problem. And many would argue that we're at ground zero of that."

Duncan said many initiatives of his office, both on the criminal and civil sides, are aimed at reducing access to illegal opioids.

On the criminal side, he said, the office prosecutes through the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force which uses resources at different levels to "investigate and dismantle and disrupt serious transnational criminal organizations that are involved in the drug trade generally, but here specifically in the opioid trade."

He said his office also focuses on "local impact" cases.

"Where we've seen first heroin and then fentanyl is primarily first northern Kentucky, then moving down into central Kentucky and the Bluegrass," he said.

While fentanyl has not moved into all parts of the Eastern Kentucky, he said, methamphetamine continues to be a growing danger.

"The meth that we're seeing now is completely different than the meth we saw when I became a prosecutor," Duncan said. "Back 13, 14 years ago, the meth that we had was home-grown, or home-cooked. It was of much lower purity. It was made in a much more dangerous and volatile manner."

Duncan said that the work being done to fight against drugs also connects with the attempt to reduce violent crime, especially with methamphetamine.

"There's an association of violence that goes along with the drug trade, in general," he said. "But it seems like with meth, in particular, we get a lot of meth and firearms cases together."

Opioids will remain the most pressing drug problem, Duncan said.

"We're also focusing on the illegal diversion of opioids by healthcare professionals," he said. "In our district, we've historically done (pill mill) cases and we're going to continue to do those."

One prosecutor in Duncan's office, he said, is focused on the healthcare provider cases.

## Other initiatives

Duncan said his office also is focused on cases brought against those who are believed to be responsible for providing opioids which then led to someone dying of an overdose or suffering serious bodily injury as a result.

"We've prosecuted a number of those all throughout the district,"

he said. "It does send a very strong message that we don't tolerate this conduct. It's difficult for the victims. We want to seek justice for them."

In addition to providing justice for those left behind, Duncan said, the initiative also sends a strong message, particularly in sentencing, to those who are selling the drugs.

"With those overdose death cases, they have mandatory minimum penalties associated," he said. "It's a 20-year pen-

alty just to start."

Duncan said his office will continue to focus on child exploitation, which is seen throughout the district, and include cases such as child pornography. Also, he said, the office will keep as a priority public corruption.

"If you don't have honest government, you don't have honest service, what's the point of having government?" he said. "Government's there to serve the people, not the other way around."



Robert Duncan



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**PROGRAMS**

Continued From Page 1A

while they are on drugs, so the babies are having neurological problems after birth, and they're having to be reunified with those moms," Sloan said. "Those moms have to prove that they have the ability to take care of that child."

Sloan said the program offers "intensive parenting classes," childcare, free lunch and resources for parents.

"We've had some really good success stories with what's happened with some of those moms," Sloan said.

Sloan also reported that the health department recently received an opioid crisis grant from the Kentucky Department of Public Health to establish a mobile needle exchange program in the Big Sandy area.

The \$75,000 grant will provide a 22 ft. van that provides enough space for needle exchange staff, a nurse

and counselor who will meet with each needle exchange client. Sloan said the van will be fitted with an area where labs can be done.

Sloan said the department also received another \$75,000 grant to fund operations on that van, and the department shared \$25,000 of it with Pike County to establish a mobile needle exchange there.

She said health department staff in Floyd and Pike counties will use the van twice a week and Johnson County is also interested in using the van once a week.

"We hope to do syringe exchange three days a week in this county, two days on the van and one at Prestonsburg," Sloan said.

She said she wants to establish the mobile needle exchange in the southern end of Floyd County to serve residents in that area and surrounding counties that don't have needle exchange programs. She asked the Wheelwright

City Commission to host the mobile needle exchange in that city, but the commission tabled the matter as members voiced concerns about providing syringes to illegal drug users.

It's a one-to-one needle exchange program through which clients receive syringes only if they turn them back in to the health department. The program is geared to slow the spread of hepatitis.

The health department started the needle exchange program in January 2017, and since then, it has given out about 100,000 syringes and disposed of about 89,000 syringes that were returned, Sloan said.

"We've actually had a 101 percent return because if you bring back 50 and we gave you 40 the visit before, you're still just getting 40," Sloan said.

She said that since the program started, 252 people came to the health department to receive 40 syringes and did



Floyd Chronicle and Times photo by Mary Meadows  
**Floyd County Health Department Director Thursa Sloan, left, asks the Wheelwright City Commission for permission to offer a mobile needle exchange program in the city.**

not return them.

Sloan reported that the needle exchange program tracks clients without names, by unique identifying numbers and zip codes. She said residents from Knott are picking up syringes in Prestonsburg.

"We're not trying to attract business, by any means, but that gives us a chance to have them come and see a nurse or a drug alcohol coun-

selor on that van, and

get some counseling, get some information about, you know, 'Why don't you think about quitting? Here's what it's doing to you. Here's where you can go for resources.' Because we get a lot of people who say they can't quit because they don't have any resources. Well, there are. A lot of people just don't know they're out there," Sloan

said.

She said the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ranked Floyd County as the 10th most likely to have a rapid dissemination of hepatitis C to HIV. She said two new cases of HIV were recently reported in Floyd County.

For more information, visit the health department's Facebook page or call, (606) 886-2788.

# Criminal charges, lawsuits filed in Floyd

**A FLOYD CHRONICLE AND TIMES STAFF REPORT**

The following charges were filed recently in Floyd District Court:

**Felony cases filed**

Ralph J. Bryant, 41, of Beaver; three counts of second-degree possession of a controlled substance, first-degree possession of a controlled substance, possession of drug paraphernalia, carrying a concealed deadly weapon

Jacob S. Slone, 21, of Wayland; first-degree possession of a controlled substance

Wendy Jarrell, 54, of Dana; second-degree assault

Rachel D. Johnson, 32, of Weeksbury; first-degree possession of a controlled substance

Kristy Click, 37, of Langley; two counts of first-degree possession of a controlled substance, second-degree possession of a controlled substance, driving under the influence, failure to maintain insurance, failure to produce insurance card, failure to wear seat belts, obstruction of vision/windshield

Nathan J. Hamilton, 35, of Teaberry; first-degree possession of a controlled substance

Joseph Collett, 39, of Martin; third-degree burglary, public intoxication of a controlled substance

Rebecca Morton, 48, of Garrett; first-degree possession of a controlled substance, first-degree trafficking in a controlled substance

Gregory Smith Jr., 36, of Prestonsburg; two counts of trafficking in a controlled substance, possession of drug paraphernalia, prescription not in proper container

Marie Robinson, 39, of Harold; theft by unlawful taking

Chasity Grace Smith, 28, of Prestonsburg; theft by unlawful taking

Ralph J. Byrant, 41, of Beaver; first-degree possession of a controlled

substance, three counts of second-degree possession of a controlled substance, possession of drug paraphernalia, tampering with physical evidence, prescription not in original container

Joshua O'Quinn, 27, of Larkslane; careless driving, improper signal, driving on a suspended license, driving under the influence, first- and third-degree possession of a controlled substance, illegal possession of a legend drug, controlled substance not in original container

Desmond Smallwood, 27, of Wheelwright; first-degree possession of a controlled substance, possession of marijuana

Joshua Ray Henson, 34, of Myra; second-degree assault; first-degree wanton endangerment

Lisa Lowe, 47, of Prestonsburg; flagrant nonsupport

Heather Slone, 37, of Watergap; first-degree promoting contraband

Keshon Lee, 21, of Detroit, Michigan; first-degree arson

**Misdemeanor cases filed**

Michael Kimmel, 44, of Harold; nonpayment of fine, failure to appear

Jimmy D. Newsome, 43, of Beaver; harassment

Brandi J. Brown, 27, of Langley; third-degree criminal trespassing

Lenny R. Goble, 49, of Van Lear; alcohol intoxication

Shelby Stacy, 41, of Garrett; theft by unlawful taking (cold checks); fraudulent use of a credit card

Linda Smith, 55, of Allen; harassment

Timothy M. Hicks, 36, of Hueysville; public intoxication of a controlled substance, first-degree of disorderly conduct, resisting arrest

Jonathan Howell, 36, of Beaver; fourth-degree assault, menacing

Megan Chaffins, 24, homeless; public intoxication of a controlled substance

Elaine Heldreth, 36, homeless; public intoxication of a controlled substance

Tommy Shepherd, 44, of Martin; public intoxication of a controlled substance

Rebecca Morton, 48, of Garrett; harassment

Devon Baldwin, 25, of East Point; theft by unlawful taking

Jessica Johnson, 32, of Williamsport; theft by unlawful taking (shoplifting)

Marie Robinson, 38, of Harold; theft by unlawful taking (purse snatching)

Lakota Mullins, 19, of Hi Hat; unlawful transaction with a minor

Kenneth Lowe, 56, of Marion, Ohio; alcohol intoxication, third-degree possession of a controlled substance

James Timothy Akers, 50, of Pikeville; second-degree possession of a controlled substance, public intoxication of a controlled substance, possession of marijuana, controlled substance not in original container

Tina Sampson, 48, of Pikeville; public intoxication of a controlled substance, third-degree possession of a controlled substance, prescription not in original container

Larry Anderson, 50,

Megan Spriggs, 30, of Drift; third-degree terrorist threatening

Betty J. Watts, 62, homeless; alcohol intoxication

William T. Crothers, 55, homeless; alcohol intoxication

Richard C. Smith, 30, of Prestonsburg; second-degree possession of a controlled substance, possession of marijuana, possession of drug paraphernalia

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

Paul Setser, 43, of Prestonsburg; alcohol intoxication, first-degree disorderly conduct, menacing

Rogie Case, 40, of Martin; public intoxication

Sharon Osborne, 53, of Ivel; alcohol intoxication

Clarey Hamilton, 44, of Printer; public intoxication of a controlled substance

Rebecca Morton, 48, of Garrett; harassment

Devon Baldwin, 25, of East Point; theft by unlawful taking

Jessica Johnson, 32, of Williamsport; theft by unlawful taking (shoplifting)

of Williamson, W.Va.; alcohol intoxication

Jessica Howell, 40, of Harold; public intoxication of a controlled substance

Justin Handshoe, 34, of Leburn; public intoxication of a controlled substance

Christopher Blackburn, 39, of Banner; third-degree criminal mischief

Thomas Shepherd, 44, of Martin; third-degree criminal mischief

Gregory L. Shepherd, age and address unavailable; public intoxication of a controlled substance

Lavonda Spriggs, age unavailable, of Drift; harassment

Amanda Adkins, 28, of Prestonsburg; harassment

Kaleb Wicker, 24, of Mousie; fishing without a license

Jonathan Delong, 20, of Prestonsburg; second-degree disorderly conduct

Cody Wayne Ray,

27, of London; driving under the influence, possession of marijuana, improper equipment

Dontae Thompson, 28, of Lexington; fourth-degree assault, menacing

Jeff Beasley, 48, of Langley; second-degree wanton endangerment

Jeffrey Slone, 50, of David; public intoxication of a controlled substance

Shawn Hamilton, 32, of Harold; fourth-degree assault, menacing

Jamie Abvatich, 56, of Dwale; criminal trespassing

Michael Trimble, 33, of Ivel; receiving stolen property

*Editor's note: The above list reflects people who are charged in Floyd District Court. The charges filed against them are merely accusations and the defendant is presumed innocent or not liable until proven guilty.*



By Christopher Epling c 2019, Floyd County Chronicle and Times 04.16.19



**GUEST COLUMNS**

**Common loons**



By JK COLEMAN  
APPALACHIAN  
NEWSPAPERS

The common loon is well known for its echoing, eerie cries and wales. So no wonder it was adopted as the official state bird of Minnesota back in 1961.

Given the list of folks they've elected to represent them, it's obvious that the population there is in love with loons in general.

The current loon doing the loudest wailing is Minnesota's U.S. Rep Ilhan Abudlahi Omar, a looney Somali who's been an American citizen since 2000 but wants to tell us real Americans what's wrong with America.

When she isn't working to eliminate our border patrol she's condemning Jews and making light of the 9/11 terrorist attacks. I've gotten Omar figured as part loon and part coo coo. Thanks Minnesota.

Omar replaced another Minnesota dingbat by the name of Keith Ellison, the first Muslim to be elected to Congress. Keith refused to pay his taxes and even had his driver's license suspended for unpaid fines, but now wants illegal immigrants to be issued drivers licenses. If you're like me, you're offended by that.

I remember back in school when some drivers ed genius was squawking about how driving a car on the road, "is a privilege, son," to only grow up and realize that being forced to pay to get my license and tags renewed, along with insurance and gasoline taxes, to then follow some moron in the left lane who's probably done none of the above, wasn't exactly doing me any favors. By the way, Ellison was accused of abuse by two former girlfriends but nothing was ever done about it since he's not a Republican.

We couldn't speak of Minnesota Dodo birds without mentioning Jesse Ventura, a pro wrestler who rode his big mouth and fake moves all the way to the governor's seat.

This clown actually thinks that if

9/11 wasn't an inside job, then we at least knew it was going to happen and allowed it to so we could go to war in the Middle East. The guy would blurt out anything to get on TV, but since a job as a Minnesota governor gives a man little influence across the state line I never took his freak show serious.

I used to watch Saturday Night Live back in the '70s when it was just plain funny and wasn't centered around ridiculing conservative Republicans. The only unfunny guy on the show at that time was Al Franken, even when his skits involved him wearing a diaper.

Of course, he went on to serve as a Minnesota senator. During his campaign he made fun of John McCain, though I'm sure if Franken were still in office when John passed he'd be singing his praises like all the other Democrats did.

Al ultimately got accused of enough sexual misconduct that even the Democrats couldn't find a way to excuse it, and he got kicked out of Congress.

And, of course, on his way out the door, he blamed it all on Donald Trump.

**Metaphors & 2x4s**



By SJ RUTH  
APPALACHIAN NEWSPAPERS

The roller coaster news cycle has been jarring this week. Who better to ride the Beast with than Meat and Tater?

I beat them to the punch and was knocking on their front door yesterday with a pot of coffee. Tater let me in.

"Why do you knock, SJ? Meat just barges right in!"

"Well ... you know ... I don't want to be rude."

"He doesn't want to get shot."

"O Meat, you wouldn't shoot SJ!"

Probably not now, but there was a time. I'm not sure Tater realizes how much she's changed the old boy. He was once convinced a certain president was going to take his guns and he'd pull the AK from under the couch as soon as he heard steps on the front porch.

But I digress. Let's not dwell on Meat's past. There is so much more interesting past to dwell on this week.

Meat's in a good mood. "Boy SJ, I don't know about you, but Tiger winning the

Masters has me thinking maybe things are turning around. All could be right with the world.

You may not believe this, but Meat was a scratch golfer in the '80s. He once drove down to Augusta and we rode over to Augusta for a Master's practice round. Of course, we got thrown out when Meat spit tobacco juice on the 12th tee. He probably wouldn't have done that if he just hadn't had seven beers by 10:30 in the morning.

"Yeah buddy, I kind of got the same feeling. Seeing old broke down Tiger Woods beating up on the 20-somethings who always talk about dreaming of playing against Tiger. Well here's your nightmare!"

"It figures you two would be hung up on some sports story and double if it's old rich white men sports."

Meat turned to Tater. "Come on honey, it's so big Obummer and Cadet Bonespurs actually agreed on something. Make Tiger Woods Great Again and America will follow!"

"O lord. Y'all can drink that Kool Aid all you want. When a place like Notre Dame goes up in flames, it's hard to focus on good."

"Don't be hung up on the past Tater!" Meat's plea produced a long, exaggerated eye roll. Tater's eye rolls are so pronounced, you can hear them.

Meat pushed on. "Look at it this way, that is if you can straighten those eyes. Notre Dame is an institu-

tion people kind of took for granted. It almost went up in flames and everybody thought it was gone. But it wasn't. It mostly survived the fire and can be fixed."

Meat looked directly at me. "Some might say that's a perfect ... what's that word ... you know, representation of the good old U.S.A."

I cocked my head. "You mean metaphor?"

"I don't know what you met her for, but it's like our country is on fire and everybody's worried it's going to burn up. But maybe it isn't. Maybe we can put the fire out and rebuild, just like old Notre Dame."

Tater stared at him. I stared at him. We were both speechless for the same reason, which would be Meat exhibiting reason.

What a week!

**CHRONICLE & TIMES**

LETTERS OR COMMENTS:  
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Jeff Vanderbeck, Publisher  
(jvanderbeck@news-expressky.com)  
Russ Cassidy, Editor  
(editor@news-expressky.com)  
Danny Coleman, Ad Director  
(dcoleman@news-expressky.com)  
Bobby Gilliam, Production Manager  
(bgilliam@news-expressky.com)  
Lisa Moore, Office Manager  
(lmoore@news-expressky.com)  
Randy White, Sports Editor  
(sports@news-expressky.com)  
Emma Burchett, Office Manager  
(eburchett@floydct.com)



# Inmate allegedly broke another inmate's jaw

**A FLOYD CHRONICLE AND TIMES STAFF REPORT**

A Pike County resident is facing two felony charges after allegedly breaking the jaw of a cell mate at the Floyd County Detention Center.

According to documents filed in Floyd District Court, Joshua Ray Henson, 34, of Myra, was

arrested last week for second-degree assault and first-degree wanton endangerment.

Lt. Parker DeRossett reported in court documents that charges stem from a fight that occurred between Henson and inmate James Hall on March 30.

Parker reported that Henson punched Hall

several times in the body and head and then kicked him in the head several times.

Hall was taken to Highlands Regional Medical Center, DeRossett reported, and was then taken to the University of Kentucky Medical Center, to have surgery to fix his broken jaw.

He also received mul-

multiple stitches in the head, DeRossett reported.

The case was filed on April 15, the day Henson appeared in Floyd District Court for arraignment.

He pleaded not guilty to the charges.

District Judge Jimmy Marcum scheduled a preliminary hearing for April 24.

## FLOYD COUNTY CHRONICLE AND TIMES OBITUARIES

**Nello James Francis**

Nello James Francis, 99, of Garrett, died Wednesday, April 17, 2019.

Visitation will continue Friday, April 19, at Hall Funeral Home, Martin.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m., Saturday, April 20, at the funeral home.

Burial will follow in Davidson Memorial Gardens, Ivel.

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

Burial will follow in the Auxier Relocation Cemetery, Auxier.

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

**Donald J. Spears**

Donald J. Spears, 81, of Harold, died Wednesday, April 17, 2019.

Visitation will continue Friday, April 19, at the Toler Creek Freewill Baptist Church, Harold.

Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m., Saturday, April 20, at the church.

Burial will follow in the Rogers Cemetery, Harold.

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

## KSP seize meth, cash in drug bust

**A FLOYD CHRONICLE AND TIMES STAFF REPORT**

A Prestonsburg resident is facing two first-degree drug trafficking charges after the Kentucky State Police allegedly found him in possession of a large quantity of methamphetamine, cash and hydrocodone.

Gregory Smith Jr., 36, of Prestonsburg, was arrested last week for two counts of first-degree trafficking in a controlled substance, possession of

drug paraphernalia and prescription not in original container.

Kentucky State Police Trooper D. Thompson reports in the citation that he and troopers Derek Coleman and Nick Brummett were called to investigate a disturbance reported at a home on Ky. 114.

Thompson reported he saw a clear plastic baggie that appeared to contain methamphetamine when Smith showed him his identifi-

cation, and, in the wallet, he found more than \$1,500, in mostly small bills.

Thompson reported that one of the troopers found a black bag filled with three other bags of suspected methamphetamine, as well as hydrocodone pills.

"Given the significant amount of suspected methamphetamine which totaled approximately 40 grams, the small bags, digital scale, and the quantity of curren-

cy this is consistent with common characteristics of trafficking controlled substances," Thompson wrote.

Smith waived his right to a preliminary hearing on Monday and Floyd County District Judge Eric Hall referred the case to the grand jury for consideration.

He is currently being held without bond, as he was given a six-month sentence for contempt of court.

**Roberta Powers**

Roberta Powers, 86, of Auxier, died Tuesday, April 16, 2019.

Funeral services will be held Friday, April 19, at Auxier Freewill Baptist Church, Auxier.

## Inmate allegedly tried to start fire at the jail

**A FLOYD CHRONICLE AND TIMES STAFF REPORT**

A Floyd County Detention Center inmate allegedly tried to set fire to his cell.

According to documents filed in Floyd District Court, Keson Lee, 21, of Detroit, Michigan, is facing a felony count of first-degree arson for an alleged incident that occurred this month at the jail.

Lt. Parker DeRossett reports in the citation Lee allegedly piled toilet paper and notebook paper at the door of his jail cell and use an electronic cigarette battery to light

a fire.

"He then got a towel, covered his nose and mouth and sat down on his mat," Parker wrote.

DeRossett reported that Lt. Greg Johnson used a fire extinguisher to put out the fire. The jail housed more than 180 inmates at the time, DeRossett reported, and the alleged crime was recorded on the jail's surveillance system.

Lee was arraigned in Floyd District Court on Monday. He pleaded not guilty to the allegations. District Judge Jimmy Marcum scheduled a preliminary hearing for April 24.

## Man arrested for allegedly sleeping at sewer plant

**A FLOYD CHRONICLE AND TIMES STAFF REPORT**

A Martin resident who allegedly passed out at the city's sewer treatment plant is facing a felony charge.

Last week, the Floyd County Sheriff's Department arrested Joseph Collett, 38, of Martin, charging him with third-degree burglary and public intoxication of a controlled substance.

According to the citation, filed by Deputy Kevin Thacker, the sheriff's department was called to investigate a report that Collett was found sleeping at the sewer plant.

"Workers advised when they went in the office (Collett) was sitting

behind a desk asleep," Thacker wrote in the citation. "Upon my arrival (Collett) advised he got lost in the hills and entered the office knowing it was not his residence. He advised he remained inside because he didn't know where his residence was."

He lives about a mile from the sewer plant, Thacker reported.

Collett, represented in Floyd County District Court by Public Defender Carla Tackett, was referred to drug treatment program on Monday, the day his case was set for a preliminary hearing. The charges could be amended if he completes the program, the court file says.

## Marriages, property transfers filed in Floyd

**SPECIAL TO THE FLOYD CHRONICLE AND TIMES**

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

### Marriages

Brianna Paige Hall, 20, of Beaver, to Jace Alex Short, 26, of Grethel

Sara Joe Craft, 40, of Minnie to Shawn D. Stephens, 37, of Minnie

James Allen Prater, 34, of Martin, to Carrie Michelle Skeens, 36, of Martin

Bruce Stapleton, 61, of Harold, to Teresa Conley, 50, of Harold

Katelyn Alexandria Olivia Hamilton, 19, of McDowell, to Christopher Jordan Patton, 21, of McDowell

Seth Wayne Lee Miller, 19, of Wheelwright, to Emily Grace Gayheart, 20, of Wheelwright

Betty Conley, 47, address unavailable, to Trenton Ward, 46, address unavailable

### Property transfers

William L. Hammonds to Jason Jarvis and Quinlyn Jarvis (Deeds Book 644, pg. 418)

Gloria Dean Salisbury to Tina Case (Deeds Book 644, pg. 421)

Dawn Caudill and Herman Caudill to Ricky Music and Christine Robinson (Deeds Book 644, pg. 423)

Steve Slone and Tracy Slone to Steve Meadows (Deeds Book 644,

pg. 435)

Master Commissioner Gregory A. Isaac, American General Home Equity, Equity One, Tax Ease Lien Servicing, Roger McKinney, Vanessa McKinney and Ernie Ray Laferty to Kentucky Property Taxes (Deeds Book 644, pg. 438)

Master Commissioner Gregory A. Isaac, U.S. Bank National Association, Azzie Justice, Loretta Justice, Ricky Justice, Tommy Justice and Viola Roberts to U.S. Bank National Association (Deeds Book 644, pg. 447)

Appalachian Wireless and East Kentucky Network, LLC to New Cingular Wireless (Deeds Book 644, pg. 452)

Britannia Investments, Inc. to Amanda Good and Anthony S. Good (Deeds Book, 644, pg. 456)

Brian Patton, Kevin Patton, Meredith Patton, Stacy Patton, Brian Poff and Jennifer Poff to Sharon Patton (Deeds Book 644, pg. 468)

Glenna Combs and Glenn Owens to Charles Owens and Glenna Owens (Deeds Book 644, pg. 471)

Linda Lou Johnson to Carmel Hall and Melinda Hall (Deeds Book 644, pg. 476)

Master Commissioner, Ronald Meade, to Pennymac Loan Services (Deeds Book 644, pg. 486)

Debra A. Collier to Joe Collier (Deeds Book 644, pg. 492)

Della Rose Mullins, Freddie Mullins, Michelle Dawn Mullins, Kathryn Rose Laporte, Michael J. Laporte to Michael Reynolds (Deeds Book 644, pg. 497)

First Commonwealth Bank to Daniel Harris, property at McDowell (Deeds Book 644, pg. 503)

James William Allen to James Gregory Allen (Deeds Book 644, pgs. 508, 511)

Brooksie Akers to Jason M. Hall (Deeds Book 644, pg. 513)

Kennis Hall to Jeannie Hall (Deeds Book 644, pg. 517)

Kennis Hall, Jeannie Hall to Homer Parsons (Deeds Book 644, pg. 522)

Progressive Development LLC to James A. Conn, property at Ivy Creek (Deeds Book 644, pg. 526)

Charles Hager, Rue Hager, Tammy Butcher, POA, to Ballard Slone, property at David (Deeds Book 644, pg. 529)

Vincent Justice Jr. to Sarah Rose (Deeds Book 644, pg. 532)

Sharon Rogers to Udell Rogers (Deeds Book 644, pg. 542)

Master Commissioner Gregory Isaac, Jessica Dye, Dustin Dye, Community Trust Bank to Community Trust Bank (Deeds Book 644, pg. 551)

Also known as Linc Conn, Linc J. Conn, Linc J. Conn Sr. and Link Conn to Linc J. Conn Jr., Linc J.

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## Christ is risen!

They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus.

– Luke 24:2-3

Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?”

– John 11:25-26

With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And God’s grace was so powerfully at work in them all

– Acts 4:33

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

– 1 Peter 1:3

He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: ‘The Son of Man must be delivered over to the hands of sinners, be crucified and on the third day be raised again.’ ”

– Luke 24:6-7

You killed the author of life, but God raised him from the dead. We are witnesses of this.

– Acts 3:15



For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, and then to the Twelve. After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers and sisters at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles, and last of all he appeared to me also, as to one abnormally born.

– 1 Corinthians 15:3-8

Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us.

– Romans 8:34

## The meaning of Easter

“Or don’t you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.”

1 Peter 1:24-25 NIV



Easter is the oldest and arguably the most important celebration in the Christian church, commemorating the resurrection of Jesus after his crucifixion and death. Easter is celebrated on the first Sunday following the full moon that occurs after the vernal equinox, leading some to suggest that the holiday has pagan roots. This idea is reinforced by the fact that the name of the holiday is connected to the Anglo-Saxon word “Eostre,” which was the name of the goddess of Spring. The fertility symbols that have somehow accreted onto the modern holiday, such as eggs and rabbits, adds further credence to that view. However, early celebrations of Easter were clearly not about these pagan fertility symbols, but were intended to c o m m e m o r a t e

Jesus’ rising from the dead and ascending to heaven after his death. That the celebration takes place at a time when the cold, seemingly dead earth comes back to life at Springtime is perhaps a fortuitous reminder that there is something of a resurrection built into nature. The seed must die and be buried in the earth in order to spring back to life. Early Christians were encouraged by Jesus’ resurrection to believe that by dying with Christ in their heart they might, like the seeds in Spring, rise to new life in heaven.

–Christopher Simon

## Who killed Jesus?



By JAMIE BECKETT  
CHRONICLE & TIMES

Who killed Jesus?

When Mel Gibson’s “The Passion of the Christ” was popular, I heard Jews were upset about the film because they were portrayed in a bad light. I read the movie placed the blame of Christ’s death upon the Jews. Personally, I’ve never watched the movie, so I can’t comment. (I know, I probably should watch it, but I just don’t wish to see the Jesus’ gory torment and suffering. Perhaps that’s the very reason why I should watch, but I can’t handle that type of stuff, both in films and real life.)

For several years, I thought I could have easily answered the question “Who killed Jesus?” At that particular point in time, I considered two groups responsible for the death of Christ – the Jews and the Romans.

The Jewish leaders hated Jesus. They were constantly looking for ways to trip him up, find fault and discover just one shrewd piece of evidence allowing them to arrest Jesus. However, they found nothing. The disciple Judas made a deal with the chief priests and betrayed Jesus for 30 pieces of silver (Matthew 26:14). They arrested Jesus and took him before the high priest Caiaphas (Matthew 26:57). The chief priests and the whole Sanhedrin were looking for false evidence against Jesus so they could put him

to death. Though many false witnesses came forward, still, they had nothing (Matthew 26:59–60).” When Jesus was asked if He was the Messiah, the Son of God He answered, ““You have said so,” Jesus replied. ‘But I say to all of you: From now on you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One and coming on the clouds of heaven’ (Matthew 26:64).” Upon hearing these words, they charged Him with blasphemy.

The rulers wanted Jesus executed; however, they couldn’t kill Him. Therefore, they sent Jesus to Pontius Pilate, the Roman governor. Pilate said, “I find no basis for a charge against this man (Luke 23:4).” The crowd insisted. Upon learning Jesus was a Galilean, Pilate sent Jesus to Herod, ruler of that district. Herod and his soldiers “ridiculed and mocked him” then sent Jesus back to Pilate (Luke 23:11). Pilate announced to the crowd that Jesus was undeserving of death. In response, the mob called for His death and Barabbas to be released. (Barabbas had taken part in an uprising and was a murderer.) Finally, Pilate gave in to their demands.

Reading these words, I thought both Jews and Romans were responsible for Jesus’ death. But then I heard a song and considered a second option – we are the cause of Jesus’ death. Jesus’ death was the reason why God sent Jesus to this earth. As sinners, we needed a way to be reconciled with God. Reconciliation comes through the blood of Christ. We needed His blood to cleanse us. Therefore, it is you and I who are responsible for Jesus going to the cross. He died for our sins. We are the sinners. We are

the guilty ones. We deserved death on the cross. However, Jesus went in our place. He bore the cross for us. Therefore, it is us who are responsible.

More recently, I’ve heard a third option as to who killed Jesus. God killed Jesus.

What? That was my first thought.

I was completely shocked by this statement. How? What? I didn’t have an opportunity to respond, as I was sitting in a service, listening to a sermon. Therefore, I continued to listen. I, of course, can’t give you the word-for-word explanation that followed. But, I’ll attempt to give you the gist of the message. God holds the power. He is in control of all things.

“You would have no power over me if it were not given to you from above.”

As Pilate questioned Jesus, Jesus gave no answer. I imagine Pilate becoming aggravated and angry. He saw no reason to kill Jesus, but the crowd was pressuring him. ““Do you refuse to speak to me?” Pilate said. ‘Don’t you realize I have power either to free you or to crucify you?’ Jesus answered, ‘You would have no power over me if it were not given to you from above’ (John 19:10-11).”

God is all-knowing. And Jesus, God and the Holy Spirit are one. There-

fore, Jesus knew what was about to happen. He knew Judas would betray Him (Matthew 26:23). He knew He would be flogged. He knew He would be crucified. He knew the torment and pain He was about to face. Before that took place, Jesus went to the garden of Gethsemane to pray. “He fell with his face to the ground and prayed, ‘My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will’ (Matthew 26:39).” “And being in anguish, he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat was like drops of blood falling to the ground (Luke 22:44).” Yet, regardless of what was to come, Jesus was obedient, even to death on a cross (Philippians 2:8). Isaiah prophesied, “Yet it was the Lord’s will to crush him and cause him to suffer (Isaiah 53:10).”

Did you catch that? “The Lord’s will to crush him and cause him to suffer.”

I overlooked those words multiple times.

The Jewish leaders sought to kill Jesus. Unable to do so, they sent Him to the Romans to complete the task. Fearing a riot, Pilate gave into the pressure and sent Jesus to be crucified. He bore our sins on the cross. But ultimately, it was God who put it all into motion. Since the beginning of time, God made a way for us to be reconciled with Him. God knew we would fail. He knew that we would need an atoning sacrifice, and Jesus became that sacrifice for us. If Jesus were not meant to die on the rugged cross at Golgotha, it would have never happened. For the One who created the earth, holds the power over all things that happen upon the earth – even the death of His one and only Son.

## Local church directory

### COW CREEK FREEWILL BAPTIST

Route 194, Cow Creek  
Phone: (606) 424-8313 • Find us on Facebook  
Pastor Nathan Lafferty  
Assistant Pastor BJ Crider

#### SUNDAYS

Sunday School – 10 a.m.

Worship – 11 a.m.

#### WEDNESDAYS

Service – 7 p.m.

### CROSSRIDGE BAPTIST CHURCH

9239 Ky Rte 122, Minnie  
Phone: (606) 377-2560 • Facebook: CrossRidge  
Pastor Steve Richardson

#### SUNDAYS

Sunday School – 10 a.m.

Worship – 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.

#### WEDNESDAYS

Service – 7 p.m.

### FAITH REVELATION MINISTRIES

62 South Harkens Avenue, Prestonsburg

#### SUNDAYS

Sunday School – 10 a.m.

Worship – 11:15 a.m.

#### THURSDAYS

Bible Study – 7 p.m.

### FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ALLEN

354 US Hwy 23 North, Allen  
606-874-9468  
Pastor Tim Searcy

#### SUNDAYS

Bible Study – 9:30 a.m.

Services – 10:45 a.m & 7 p.m.

#### WEDNESDAYS

Service – 7 p.m.

### FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH (IRENE COLE MEMORIAL)

157 S. Front Street, Prestonsburg  
606-886-8681

Pastor Thomas R. Biddle

#### SUNDAYS

Sunday School – 9:45 a.m.

Worship – 11 a.m & 6:00 p.m.

#### WEDNESDAYS

Bible Study – 6:00 p.m.

#### OTHER

Baptist Learning Center (1–5 years) Monday–Friday 7 a.m. – 5:15 p.m.

### FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF PRESTONSBURG

660 North Arnold Avenue, Prestonsburg  
Minister Kevin G. Jett

#### SUNDAYS

Morning Worship – 11 a.m.

Sunday School/Junior Church – 11:30 a.m.

List your church in the directory, call (800) 539-4054 or email ads@news-expressky.com

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**WATER**

Continued From Page 1A

are based on a detailed cost of service analysis to ensure that each utility customer pays their proportionate share of the costs to provide service and impacts to water and sewer bills will vary based on customer meter size, according to Campbell.

As an example, a customer who uses 1,000 gallons of water would pay an additional \$1.66 per month within the city or \$2.12 per month in the

county for water.

A customer providing 1,000 gallons of sewage would be charged an additional \$1.74 per month within the city or \$2.18 more per month in the county.

The statement also said PCUC is raising meter service fees from \$9.15 to \$10.52 — a \$1.37 increase.

“Since city sales and property taxes do not fund water or sewer service, those costs must be recovered through customer’s monthly fees,”

Campbell said. “Water and sewer rates are used only to pay for water and sewer expenses and cannot be used for any other purpose.”

PCUC maintains over 300 miles of water and sewer pipelines, many over 50 years old and approaching the end of their usefulness, according to Campbell.

“These rate adjustments will help ensure the reliability and continued compliance of state and federal regulations while providing

the dependable delivery of basic water and sewer service you have been provided in the past,” Campbell said. “They will also support the commission’s commitment to the replacement of aging infrastructure, which will mean fewer interruptions of water and sewer service.”

For questions about the rate change call PCUC customer service at, (606) 886-6871, or visit, prestonsburgwater.com.



Judy Williams Daniel

# Daniels hired at BSCTC

**A FLOYD CHRONICLE AND TIMES STAFF REPORT**

Big Sandy Community and Technical College announced that Judy Williams Daniel was hired as director of business and industry development.

Daniel brings over two decades of entrepreneurial experience to her role at the College.

“Her real life, in-the-trenches experience in having created, managed and sold a thriving telecom company gives her a unique and beneficial perspective when working with the area businesses,” a press release from the college said. “Her successes include partnerships with AT&T, Xerox, Avaya, BellSouth

and Dell.”

Daniel, the former director of the Paintsville/Johnson County Chamber of Commerce, currently serves as vice president of the chamber’s board of directors, and she is a member of the Johnson County Economic Development Authority and the University of Kentucky’s State Cooperative Extension Advisory Council.

She is a past president of Kiwanis Club of Paintsville and has served on the boards of UK Alumni Association, Big Sandy Chapter, the David School and BSCTC’s Information Technology Advisory Board.

She lives in Oil Springs with her husband, Michael.

**TAKEDOWN**

Continued From Page 1A

announced by the U.S. Department of Justice Wednesday as an attempt to deal with the national opioid epidemic.

In a statement issued Wednesday, U.S. Attorney General William P. Barr announced that a total of 60 people have been charged in connection with crimes that involved more than 350,000 prescriptions and 32 million pills in Kentucky, Ohio, Tennessee, Alabama and West Virginia.

The three doctors who were charged as a part of the operation, records show, face a variety of charges.

Scotty Akers, 37, of Fields Way, Pikeville, and his live-in girlfriend and former office manager, Serissa Collier, also known as Serissa Stamper, 32, were lodged in the Pike County Detention Center Wednesday on charges of conspiracy to unlawfully distribute controlled substances and six counts of unlawful distribution of controlled substances.

According to a statement from the office of U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Kentucky Robert Duncan, among the allegations against the couple are that Akers signed opioid prescriptions for individuals who communicated with Stamper over Facebook Messenger. Stamper, the statement said, then allegedly delivered the signed prescriptions to prearranged retail parking lots in exchange for cash.

Records with the Kentucky Board of Medical Licensure show that Akers’ medical license, which was already under restriction by KBML,

expired in February. Akers formerly owned the Pikeville Sports, Spine and Pain Center, but, according to KBML records, his violations of accepted prescribing practices occurred while he was practicing at Paul B. Hall Medical Center in Paintsville and was found by KBML to have engaged in conduct which violated the state’s prescribing laws.

Akers has also served in the past as a volunteer Pike County Sheriff’s Deputy. However, Pike County Sheriff Rodney Scott said Akers has not been with the department for the past three years.

According to the indictment, the charges against Akers and Collier each carry a maximum prison sentence of 20 years, and a potential \$1 million fine, if found guilty.

Also arrested Wednesday was family practice physician Mohammed Mazumder, 44, of Lexington, whose Appalachian Primary Care is located in Prestonsburg.

Mazumder was indicted on charges including conspiracy to commit health care fraud, health care fraud (four counts), conspiracy to distribute a controlled substance and distribution of a controlled substance.

According to Duncan’s office, among the alleged crimes committed by Mazumder are that he allegedly unlawfully distributed controlled substances to patients of Appalachian Primary Care and another clinic by pre-signing prescriptions for controlled substances or directing clinic employees, who were unlicensed and not practitioners, to meet with patients while he was away and call-in controlled substance prescriptions in his name.

The four counts of health care fraud each carry a maximum sentence of 20 years in prison and a potential \$1 million fine while the rest of the charges carry lesser penalties.

Dr. Denver Tackett, 64, of Ky. 122, McDowell, was arrested and lodged in the Pike County Detention Center on charges of health care fraud and 15 counts of unlawful distribution of controlled substances.

Duncan’s office said Tackett is alleged to have written prescriptions for opioids which had no legitimate medical purpose and were outside the usual course of professional practice; removed teeth unnecessarily; scheduled unnecessary follow-up appointments; and billed inappropriately for other services.

The charges of distribution of controlled substances each carry a maximum prison sentence of 20 years and a maximum \$1 million fine.

Dr. Sai Gutti, 60, whose Neurology Clinic Pain Management businesses, including those in Pikeville and South Williamson, were the focus of attention last month as federal and state investigators descended on them to investigate, is the target of an indictment unsealed Wednesday charging him with eight counts of federal health care fraud.

According to Duncan’s office, the indictment alleges that Gutti devised a scheme to repeatedly bill

Medicare, Medicaid and other health insurers for medically unnecessary urine drug testing.

The charges against Gutti each carry a potential prison sentence of 10 years and a maximum \$250,000 fine. Gutti was not arrested Wednesday, but was ordered to appear in U.S. District Court in Lexington later this month in his case.

Barr referred to the takedown operation as potentially life-saving.

“The opioid epidemic is the deadliest drug crisis in American history, and Appalachia has suffered the consequences more than perhaps any other region,” Barr said. “But the Department of Justice is doing its part to help end this crisis. One of the Department’s most promising new initiatives is the Criminal Division’s Appalachian Regional Prescription Opioid Strike Force, which began its work in December. Just four months later, this team of federal agents and 14 prosecutors has charged 60 defendants for alleged crimes related to millions of prescription opioids. I am grateful to the Criminal Division, their U.S. Attorney partners, and to the members of the strike force for this outstanding work that holds the promise of saving many lives in Appalachian communities.”

*Editor’s note: An indictment is merely an accusation and the defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.*

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**Family Hope Project**  
 Approximately 15 million children are exposed to domestic violence each year.  
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 The Family Hope Project provides evidence-based behavioral health treatment and wraparound community support for children, youth, and their families who have witnessed or experienced domestic violence.  
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**To learn more about the Family Hope Project, contact Mountain Comprehensive Care Center at any of the following locations:**

<b>Prestonsburg Clinic</b> (606) 886-4350 104 S Front Ave Prestonsburg, KY	<b>Pikeville Clinic</b> (606) 432-3143 18 River Road Pikeville, KY	<b>Paintsville Clinic</b> (606) 789-3518 1110 South Mayo Trail Paintsville, KY	<b>MCCCC</b> www.mtcomp.org <b>24 Hour Helpline</b> 1-800-422-1060
<b>Martin City Clinic</b> (606) 285-3142 112065 Main Street Martin, KY	<b>Belfry Clinic</b> (606) 353-1287 26229 US 119 N Belfry, KY	<b>Salysville Clinic</b> (606) 349-3115 1410 Royalton Road Salysville, KY	
			<b>Inez Clinic</b> (606) 298-7902 Rt. 3 Rockcastle Rd. Inez, KY

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**Floyd County Animal Shelter**  
 This week’s celebrity is **TERRY BRANHAM**, our Senior Citizen representative.  
 Terry is with **MATILDA** who is Shepherd mix. Matilda has three other siblings also waiting for their forever home.

**Terry & Matilda**



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## District honors 'Young Authors'

Some of the winners of the 33rd Annual Floyd County Schools Young Authors program were honored at a banquet held by the school district recently at the Jenny Wiley State Resort Park Wilkinson-Stumbo Convention Center.

Submitted photos

By **ELAINE BELCHER**  
 STAFF WRITER

The Floyd County Schools District recognized the story-telling talents of students recently during the 33rd Annual Young Authors Program awards ceremony at the Jenny Wiley State Resort Park.

Students from Adams Middle and Allen, Betsy Layne, Duff-Allen Central, John M. Stumbo, May Valley, Prestonsburg and South Floyd elementary schools submitted their original works to be judged by a panel of volunteers to select a school winner who then went on to district competition. The winners are:

### Eighth Grade:

"Big Bertha's Bad Game" by Kynzi and Kimmie Slone, AMS, won illustrated work; "Story of Sid Matthews" by Jacob Mullins, SFES, won non-illustrated; "Nature" by Shian Crum, AES, won poetry/song lyrics; "The Tree That Saved a Family" by Kaitlyn Hager, AMS, won picture book; "Love and Lost" by Alyson Kilburn, AES, won real world; "Bobby Selton Slone" by Sage Slone, AMS, won the 'our people' category; "Past Floods Causing Pollution" by Payton Hansford, DACE, won

photo essay — past; and "County Animal Shelter" by Maggie Nelson, AMS, won photo essay — present.

### Seventh Grade:

"What She Doesn't Know" by Karly Williams, BLES, won illustrated work; "Dazzling" by Faith Akers, BLES, won non-illustrated; "The Beauty of Nature" by Brayleigh Darnell, AES, won poetry/song lyrics; "Just A Little Jump" by Natalie Hayden, AES, won picture book; "Just Say No To Shut Down" by Bryan Maynard, AMS, won real world; "Major Stephen Lee Prater" by Todd Prater, DACE, won the 'our people' category; "4 Wheeling" by Zachary Halbert, DACE, won the 'our place' category; "Hindman Settlement School" by Grace Mullins, SFES, won photo essay — past; and "Eating Out" by Alexa Morris, DACE, won photo essay — present.

### Sixth Grade:

"My Puppy" by Sarah Boyd, DACE, won illustrated work; "The Closet" by Lexie Mullins, AES, won non-illustrated; "Seasons Change — Memories" by Briah Samons, DACE, won poetry/song lyrics; "Dream Big" by Slone Akers, DACE, won picture book; "Silent Deer Killer" by Adam Jus-

tice, AES, won real world; "My Grandmother's Years" by Talan Avery Bailey, BLES, won the 'our people' category; "McDowell High School Home" by Carson Allen, DACE, won the 'our place' category; "Past Treasures of the Past — Wayland" by Sara Brown, DACE, won photo essay — past; and "The Water Crisis" by Paisley Akers, AMS, won photo essay — present.

### Fifth Grade:

"A Home for Delta" by Stella Whitaker, PES, won illustrated work; "Three Heroic Champions" by Joshua Blankenship, SFES, won non-illustrated; "Sports" by Aubrey Shelton, MVES, won poetry/song lyrics; "Time Will Tell" by Tessa Spencer, DACE, won picture book; "The History of Games" by Hunter Stumbo, SFES, won real world; "My Great Grandpa" by Anthony Wallen BLES, won the 'our people' category; "East Kentucky" by Rylee Daniels, SFES, won the 'our place' category; "The Prestonsburg, KY Bus Disaster" by Lakin Spradlin, PES, won photo essay — past; and "Foster Care" by Whitley Hall, MVES, won photo essay — present.

### Fourth Grade:

"A Dog Named Bea-



ver" by Jonah Stephens, AES, won illustrated work; "Bully Basketball" by Austin Meade, MVES, won non-illustrated; "The Wind" by Tyra Tackett, JMS, won poetry/song lyrics; "'Good Sea Life" by Ashton Wallace, PES, won picture book; "Birds" by Danielle Ashia, MVES, won real world; "My Papaw David" by Jackson Hall, MVES, won the 'our people' category; "How the 1958 Bus Wreck Affected..." by Korbin Combs, AES, won the 'our place' category; "The Story of Wheelwright" by Aubrey Setser, MVES, won photo essay — past; and "The Rise and Fall of Eric C. Conn" by Lydia Johnson, JMS, won photo essay — present.

### Third Grade:

"Dream Traveler" by Brielle Bilite, MVES, won illustrated work; "Jacob's Guitar" by Madelyn Engle, SFES, won non-illustrated; "Girl Got Game" by Mahayla Garcia, MVES, won poetry/song lyrics; "The Lost Turkey Finds A Home" by Ryan Jarrell, AES, won picture book; "The Best Trip Ever" by Greyson Akers, JMS, won real world; "What Was it Like When ...?" by Lacey Little, JMS, won the 'our people' category; "My Mountain Heritage" by Morgan Mar-

sillett, PES, won the 'our place' category; "Searching for Bus 27" by Brody Horne, MVES, won photo essay — past; and "Our Litter Problem" by Tianna Ward, MVES, won photo essay — present.

### Second Grade:

"My Adventures with Daisy" by Sydney Cavins, AES, won illustrated work; "A Girls Friend with a Fairy" by Jayden Isaac, MVES, won non-illustrated; "Dirt Bike Poems" by Noah Tackett, SFES, won poetry/song lyrics; "The Lonely Dragon" by Eli Strong, JMS, won picture book; "How to Use Emojis" by Julia Johnson, JMS, won real world; "Back in Time" by Emily Hayes, MVES, won the 'our people' category; "Past The Battle of Middle Creek" by Austin Risner, MVES, won photo essay — past; and "The Story of the Water Problem" by Jessa Johnson, JMS, won photo essay — present.

### First Grade:

"My Dog Sky" by Brayden Isaac, SFES, won illustrated work; "Avery and Poppy Down on the Farm" by Ava Johnson, SFES, won non-illustrated; "Family Dogs" by Luke Tackett, JMS, won poetry/song lyrics; "Looking Out" by Lauralee Slone, AES,

won picture book; "Chocolate Covered Strawberries" by Kinley Allen, MVES, won real world; "'Lana's Life" by Shelby Wright, SFES, won the 'our people' category; "Where I Come From" by Landon Farler, MVES, won the 'our place' category; "Roll on Highway" by Blaze Shelton, MVES, won photo essay — past; and "To Golf or Not to Golf" by Annabelle Jackson, MVES, won photo essay — present.

### Kindergarten:

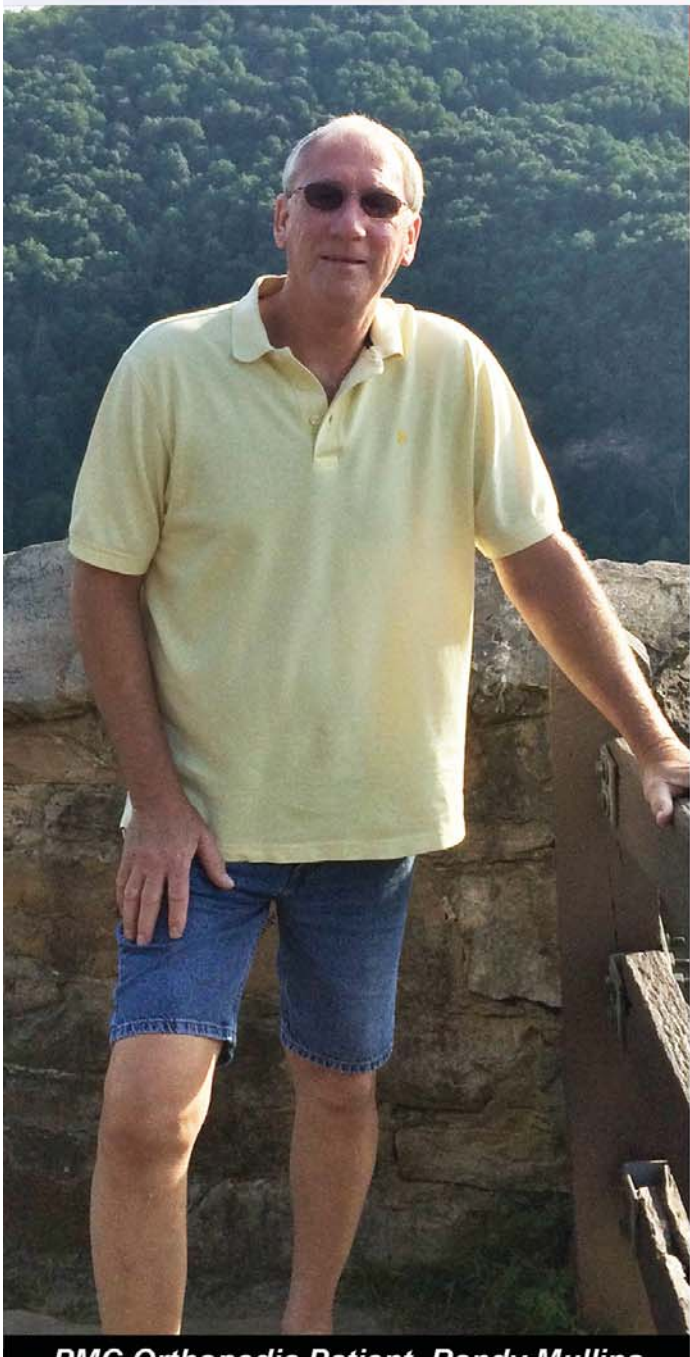
"Sparkle the Little Pony" by Jaycee Hagans, DACE, won illustrated work; "Learning Sign Language" by Layla Lawrence, SFES, won non-illustrated; "Adventures with my Brother" by Kylie May, AESS, won poetry/song lyrics; "Life Cycle of a Parrot" by Alirah Bailey, PES, won picture book; "Me and My Dad" by Luke Anderson, BLES, won real world; "Music Makes Life Better" by Kasyn Barnette, MVES, won the 'our people' category; "My Mountain Heritage Appalachia" by Lyla Helton, SFES, won the 'our place' category; "Past We Remember" by Zadia Hunter, SFES, won photo essay — past; and "Litter Problem" by Lindsey Johnson, SFES, won photo essay — present.





**Together.  
We  
Rise.**

# **PIKEVILLE MEDICAL CENTER**



**PMC Orthopedic Patient, Randy Mullins**

## **RANDY MULLINS – AN ORTHOPEDIC SUCCESS**

By: Amanda Jo Lawson

Randy Mullins of Harold, KY struggled with knee pain for years. He started to experience lifestyle limitations, limited movement and pain that interrupted his sleep.

He realized he was not living the life he wanted and decided to make an appointment with Pikeville Medical Center's (PMC) Orthopedic Surgeon, Kevin Pugh, MD.

"Dr. Pugh treated my knee pain before," said Mullins. "My knee had given me problems in the past, but this was a different kind of pain than I had experienced."

He said Dr. Pugh informed him he would need a total knee replacement due to the excessive damage to his knee.

A knee replacement is a surgical procedure designed to replace the weight-bearing surfaces of the knee joint to relieve pain and disability in one's knee.

Dr. Pugh made Mullins feel comfortable regarding his procedure and helped him understand how a knee replacement could improve his lifestyle.

Mullins' surgery was scheduled at PMC to repair his knee.

"PMC orthopedic staff thoroughly explained the knee replacement process," said Mullins. "I was prepared and knew what to expect."

He says he had full confidence in Dr. Pugh to perform his operation and trusted his medical opinion.

"Dr. Pugh is an extraordinary physician. I was very familiar with how well PMC patients recover from this operation and I had full confidence in him operating on me," added Mullins.

PMC has recently been recognized for orthopedic care.

The CareView Medical Excellence Award Summary showed outstanding rankings for the PMC Orthopedic Department for joint replacement and major orthopedic surgery when they were listed as number one in KY and the top 10 percent in the region and the nation.

"I knew PMC's quality program was nationally recognized and is among the best programs in the state," said Mullins.

Mullins total knee replacement operation went well.

He said he was grateful for the care he received and could not ask for better care than what he received at PMC.

"Our staff strives every day to provide world-class quality health care to all our patients," said Dr. Pugh. "PMC's orthopedic team offers patients like Mullins the ability to stay close to home when undergoing advanced procedures."

Mullins is doing well and is expecting to complete outpatient rehabilitation, a program designed to assist patients in resuming their normal day-to-day activities.

For more information about PMC's orthopedic services or to schedule an appointment, call 606-218-2206 or visit [www.pikevillehospital.org](http://www.pikevillehospital.org).

## **ORTHOPEDIC ADVANCEMENT STOPS PAIN COLD**



**iovera° – a non-opioid nerve block**

By: Amanda Jo Lawson

Pikeville Medical Center (PMC) is providing the region with the nations most advanced technology for orthopedic patients. PMC is one of the few hospitals in the state offering iovera°.

iovera° was implemented to assist qualifying patients who are undergoing a total knee replacement. Most patients needing total knee replacement are candidates for iovera°.

iovera° is a non-opioid way to manage pain by treating peripheral nerves. The advanced technology distributes cold on targeted nerves that will temporarily disrupt the transmission of pain signals from the pain receptors to the brain. This treatment can be performed before knee surgery to help reduce pain during the weeks following surgery.

PMC patients who qualify for iovera° will receive this treatment before surgery, during their pre-surgery appointment. The device is applied directly to the knee to freeze the nerves. This procedure controls pain for the patient even after surgery. Patients typically see less pain up to 90 days after the procedure.

This process allows PMC physicians to deliver precise, controlled doses of cold temperature on the targeted nerves. iovera° minimizes the chance for damage to tissue and surrounding areas.

"iovera° significantly improves patient recovery

time," said PMC Orthopedic Surgeon, Dr. Kevin Pugh. "Patients see less pain postoperatively. iovera° was designed to reduce opioid dependence in patients after surgery."

PMC staff has completed extra training to provide this advanced care for patients.

"This advanced technology keeps us on the cutting-edge for orthopedic surgery," Dr. Pugh said. "PMC Orthopedic surgeons take pride in providing quality care to all our patients."

He says the enactment of iovera° was a way to help patients safely manage their pain by reducing the amount of pain medication a patient would require.

PMC's orthopedic department recently received the gold seal of distinction for all three certifications for Joint Replacement Hip, Knee and Hip Fracture for successfully meeting national standards, clinical guidelines and outcome of care.

"PMC is the only hospital in the state to receive all three prestigious certifications," said PMC Orthopedic Clinic Manager, Kim Jackson. "We take pride in staying on the forefront of technology to provide quality care to our patients."

She says in addition to receiving the award, the implementation of iovera° is another example of PMC's commitment to patient care.

For more information about PMC's Orthopedic Services call 606-218-2206 or visit [www.pikevillehospital.org](http://www.pikevillehospital.org).



Pikeville Medical Center provided the Official First Aid Station for the annual Hillbilly Days Festival held in downtown Pikeville April 11-13. During the three day event, PMC performed free health screenings, had physicians on-site answering health questions, held live Q and A sessions and raised awareness about various health concerns people in the region are facing.



PMC Research Coordinator Leandra Johnson, poses inside the inflatable colon, on loan from the Kentucky Cancer Program for Hillbilly Days. Visitors to the colon left with updated colorectal screening information and knowledge of why colon screenings are so important. More than 25 visitors meeting certain criteria, signed up to receive an at-home screening kit.



## KAITLYN KEATHLEY CHOOSES PRESBYTERIAN COLLEGE

By **RANDY WHITE**  
 REGIONAL SPORTS EDITOR

Choices, choices, choices.

Prestonsburg's Kaitlyn Keathley had a lot of choices when it came to playing college basketball.

Thursday afternoon, she made a decision.

Keathley announced that she was going to be playing college basketball at Division I Presbyterian College.

Keathley is expected to sign her national letter of intent to make it official in a couple of weeks.

Keathley had an outstanding senior year at Prestonsburg.

Keathley averaged 17.5 points per game and pulled

down 6.8 rebounds per game.

Prestonsburg won 20 games this season with Keathley as a leader of the team.

Keathley's 17.5 points per led the team in scoring and her 6.8 rebounds placed her second on the team in rebounding.

The guard has a versatile game, but she thrives in the open court. Keathley can shoot the ball from the outside, but thrives going to the basket.

Keathley was named as an Appalachian Newspapers Inc. Player of the Year Finalist and an All-Mountain First Team selection for her season.

Keathley played her ju-

nior season at Pikeville.

Keathley played her eighth-grade season through her sophomore season at Pike Central.

In her career, she scored 1,396 points.

Presbyterian College competes in the Big South Tournament.

Last season, Presbyterian played the University of Tennessee, Vanderbilt and Georgia in regular season play.

Presbyterian knocked off Winthrop 64-52 in the opening round of the Big South Conference Tournament before falling to No. 1 seed Radford in the second round.

Presbyterian is coached by Alaura Sharp.



Prestonsburg's Kaitlyn Keathley



Floyd Central's Brayden Hamilton takes a pitch against Lawrence County during a 58th District baseball game on Monday. The Jaguars fell to Lawrence County in back-to-back games Monday and Tuesday. The Jaguars fell to the Bulldogs 10-5 Tuesday evening at Lawrence County.



Floyd Central's Caleb Hager fouled off a pitch as the Jaguars hosted Lawrence County in a 58th District baseball game on Monday.

Floyd Chronicle and Times photo by Steve LeMaster

## Jaguars falter to Lawrence County

By **STEVE LEMASTER**  
 SPORTS WRITER

LOUISA — Floyd Central was unable to prevail on the road as host Lawrence County battled back to win 10-5 in a 58th District baseball game on Tuesday.

With the loss, Floyd Central dropped to 7-8 overall and 2-2 in the 58th District.

Lawrence County improved to 15-2 overall and 6-0 in the district with the win.

Floyd Central plated three runs in the top half of the first inning and owned momentum during multiple frames. However, Lawrence County erupted for seven runs in the top half of the sixth inning to pull away for the victory.

Jackson Feltner earned the win on the mound for the Bulldogs. Feltner allowed five hits and five runs over six innings, striking out seven.

Lucas Maynard threw one inning in

relief out of the bullpen for Lawrence County to help close out the district contest.

Floyd Central pitcher Chase Conley suffered the loss. Conley surrendered nine runs on 11 hits over five and a third innings, striking out three.

Lawrence County collected 12 hits. CJ Fairchild, Lucas Maynard, Hunter Crum and Bryce Blevins each managed multiple hits for the Bulldogs. Fairchild went three for four at the plate to lead Lawrence County in the hits column.

Matt Combs led Floyd Central at the plate, providing two hits in three at-bats.

Floyd Central turned in an error-free performance in the field. Defensively for Floyd Central, Logan Conley had the most chances in the field with seven.

The victory allowed Lawrence County to complete a regular-season sweep of the Jaguars. Lawrence County defeated Floyd Central 12-5 in a 58th District baseball game in Eastern on Monday.

## Lady Bobcats fall to Lady Wildcats, 15-4



Betsy Layne's Lauryn Watkins prepares to swing at a pitch against Shelby Valley Tuesday evening.



Betsy Layne pitcher Nicole Castle delivers a pitch to home plate against Shelby Valley Tuesday evening. The Lady Bobcats fell to Shelby Valley 15-4.

Floyd Chronicle and Times photo by Randy White





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**ABOVE:** Betsy Layne's Zach Bentley slides into second for a steal against Shelby Valley in action earlier this season. The Bobcats fell to the Wildcats 8-1 Wednesday evening at home.



**RIGHT:** Betsy Layne pitcher Cameron Kimbler delivers a pitch to home plate against Shelby Valley earlier this season.

Floyd Chronicle and Times photo by Randy White

# Lady Blackcats drop home game to Lady Commodores

By **STEVE LEMASTER**  
SPORTS WRITER

**PRESTONSBURG** — Prestonsburg fell behind early and couldn't recover from its slow start as visiting Perry County Central pulled away to win 17-2 in five innings in a high school softball game on Tuesday.

With the loss, Prestonsburg dropped to 11-9.

Perry County Central improved to 8-6 with the win.

Following back-to-back scoreless innings, Perry County Central plated the game's first run. Prestonsburg countered with one run of its own but couldn't limit the Lady Commodores. Former 14th Region frontrunner Perry County Central erupted for eight runs in two consecutive at-bats to pull away from the Ladycats.

Perry County Central pitcher Kim Hughes claimed the win in the circle. Hughes allowed two runs on five hits while striking out eight and walking one in five

innings.

Prestonsburg pitcher Katelyn Bingham suffered the loss. Bingham surrendered 10 runs on eight hits over four innings while striking out four.

Perry County Central connected for 10 hits in the matchup. Hughes and Allana Hurt each collected multiple hits for the Lady Commodores in

the victory.

Prestonsburg collected five hits in the contest. Bingham and Alison Campbell each delivered multiple hits for the Ladycats. The versatile Bingham went 3-for-3 at the plate to pace Prestonsburg in the hits column.

The Ladycats committed a pair of errors in the setback.

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## Bobcats fall to Shelby Valley

By **STEVE LEMASTER**  
SPORTS WRITER

**BETSY LAYNE** — Betsy Layne fell behind in the opening inning and couldn't overcome its slow start as visiting Shelby Valley pulled away to win 8-1 in a high school baseball game on Tuesday.

With the loss, Betsy Layne dropped to 5-9.

Shelby Valley improved to 7-8 with the win.

Shelby Valley pitcher Jackson Wierwille tossed a complete game and earned the win on the mound. Wierwille surrendered one run on four hits over seven innings, striking out seven and walking zero.

Betsy Layne pitcher Sam Boyd absorbed the loss. Working out of a starting role, Boyd lasted three and two-thirds innings, allowing five hits and six runs while striking out three.

Andrew Kidd and Cameron Kimbler entered the game as relief pitchers for Betsy Layne, throwing two and a third innings and one inning, respectively.

Shelby Valley doubled up former 15th Region champion Betsy Layne 8-4 in the hits column.

Defensively, Shelby Valley exited the game error-free.

Mikey Mullins and Logan Billiter led much-improved Shelby Valley offensively, delivering two hits apiece for the Wildcats in the winning effort.

Helping his pitching cause, Boyd went two for three at the plate to lead

Betsy Layne in the hits column.

The Bobcats committed two errors in the setback.

Betsy Layne was hosting Phelps on Thursday. Results from the Betsy Layne-Phelps baseball game were unavailable at press time.

### SUDOKU & CROSSWORD ANSWERS

4	3	2	5	1	7	8	6	9
9	1	8	3	6	4	7	2	5
7	6	5	9	2	8	1	3	4
5	9	6	2	7	1	4	8	3
8	7	4	6	5	3	2	9	1
1	2	3	4	8	9	6	5	7
2	5	7	1	3	6	9	4	8
6	4	1	8	9	5	3	7	2
3	8	9	7	4	2	5	1	6

L	A	S	S	I	E	R	A	M	P	R	A	M		
I	G	U	A	N	A	O	V	A	L	O	L	A		
D	E	B	U	G	S	O	A	R	A	S	T	I		
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T	R	E	A	T	M	E	L	D	E	N	S	E		
W	E	B	S	C	P	R	B	A	A					
E	G	O	S	H	E	V	A	G	U	E	L	Y		
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P	L	Y	W	O	O	D	E	D	S	S	A	W		
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A	R	G	U	E	F	E	N	S	P	E	N	D		
P	E	N	N	S	Y	L	V	A	N	I	A			
P	L	O	D	E	A	U	U	N	W	R	A	P		
L	A	M	E	T	I	E	M	A	N	T	R	A		
E	Y	E	D	I	R	S	B	I	S	E	C	T		

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**1-606-886-6025**

**turning point**  
Domestic Violence Services

Providing shelter for victims and their eligible dependents in a safe, confidential environment.



Calm down and don't feel pressured by what others do this year. You may be bombarded with options and suggestions, but unless you are fully prepared, you are best off taking a wait-and-see attitude. Build a solid base and stick to what you know. Avoid risk.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19) - Don't let the words or actions of others push you in a negative direction. Concentrate on what you can do, and learn all you can before you make a commitment or personal change.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20) - Emotional matters should be addressed and relationships should be nurtured. What you contribute will make a difference to the way others treat you. Romance is in the stars.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20) - Your prospects look bright, as long as you don't trust the wrong person. If you ask questions, you'll come to practical conclusions that will help you do what's right. Be a leader, not a follower.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22) - Be innovative when dealing with anyone using emotional tactics to get his or her way. If you offer only what's fair, you'll gain respect. Choose moderation over abundance.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22) - Mull over an unpredictable situation carefully, before you commit to something unstable. If someone pressures you, consider it to be a warning sign and back away. Do your own thing.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) - A change of plans will work in your favor. Don't overreact or show disappointment. Once you adjust to what's transpired, you will discover that accepting the inevitable comes with benefits.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) - Be open to suggestions, but don't do someone else's dirty

**DAILY  
ASTROGRAPH**  
by Eugenia Last



work. Use your intelligence and outsmart anyone trying to take advantage of your kindness or generosity.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) - Share your thoughts with someone as creative and unique as you. A friend or relative will give you a nudge and help you see a situation in a different light.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) - Clear your head before you make a mistake. If you let someone coax you into an argument or questionable action, you'll have regrets.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) - Do what feels right and make adjustments at home or to your lifestyle that will help ease stress. Engaging in enjoyable activities with loved ones should be your priority.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) - Take care of financial, health or legal matters that are causing you anxiety or holding you back. The freedom you will feel when you let go of things you no longer need will be enlightening.

**PISCES** (Feb. 20-March 20) - Don't lose sight of what's important and necessary. Handling matters in a practical manner will be liberating. Romance is on the rise and will improve your life.

**TODAY'S SUDOKU PUZZLE**

**HOW TO PLAY:**

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

			5	1			6	9
						7		
7				8				
	9	6			1			3
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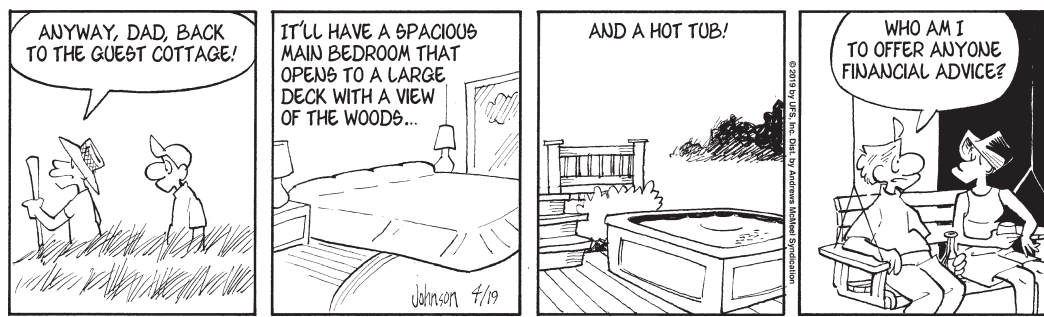
All answers are in today's edition

**TODAY'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE**

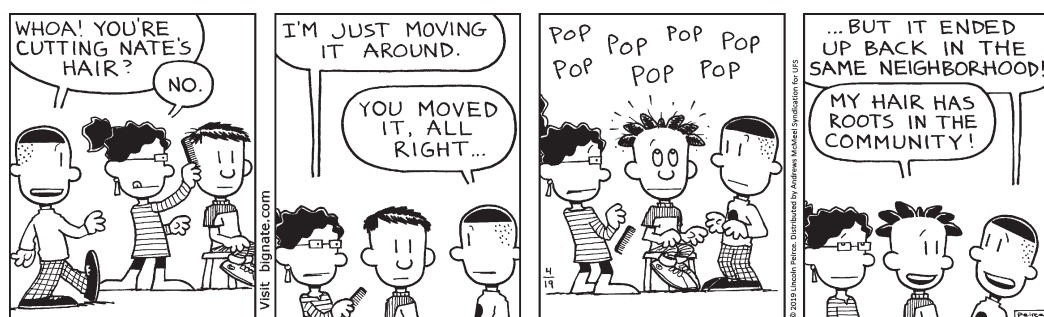
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- ACROSS**
- 1 Dog star
  - 7 Leader of the flock
  - 10 Baby buggy, in London
  - 14 Edible lizard
  - 15 Livy's eggs
  - 16 Albright or Montez
  - 17 Troubleshoots
  - 18 Boathouse item
  - 19 Italian wine city
  - 20 Act of making known
  - 23 Buy a round
  - 26 Gibson or Brooks
  - 27 Jammed together
  - 28 Spider creations
  - 29 Paramedic's skill
  - 30 Sheep's cry
  - 31 Sense of self
  - 32 That woman
  - 33 In an unclear manner
  - 37 Moved swiftly
  - 38 Neutral color
  - 39 Rage
  - 40 Teachers' org.
  - 41 Building material
  - 43 Publishing execs
  - 44 Got a peek at
  - 45 Signs off on
  - 46 ER staffers
  - 47 Positive
  - 48 Debate
  - 51 Boggy lowland
  - 52 Run up bills
  - 53 Harrisburg's state
  - 56 Walk heavily
  - 57 - de cologne
  - 58 Open a gift
  - 62 Weak, as an excuse
  - 63 Dressy accessory
  - 64 Meditator's chant
  - 65 Gave the once-over
  - 66 Capone foe
  - 67 Cut in half
  - 21 Menace
  - 22 Traditional sayings
  - 23 Punk
  - 24 Lordly
  - 25 Durable wood
  - 29 Great disorder
  - 30 Minstrels
  - 32 Uses a poker
  - 33 Type of sausage
  - 34 Come later
  - 35 Memorize
  - 36 Wobbled, as a rocket
  - 42 Injured
  - 46 Vaudeville shows
  - 47 Lays upstream
  - 48 Tim Cook's company
  - 49 Pass along
  - 50 Dwarf relative
  - 51 Aptitude
  - 52 Red Sea peninsula
  - 54 Bigfoot's kin
  - 55 Without feeling
  - 59 AAA suggestion
  - 60 Orbit path
  - 61 Stroke gently
- DOWN**
- 1 Ceiling
  - 2 Long time
  - 3 Long sandwich
  - 4 Condo luxuries
  - 5 Silver bar
  - 6 Compass heading
  - 7 Certain subcontractor
  - 8 Benefit
  - 9 Painter Chagall
  - 10 Mesa
  - 11 Violinist's aid
  - 12 Singing voices
  - 13 Mount Katahdin state

**ARLO & JANIS**



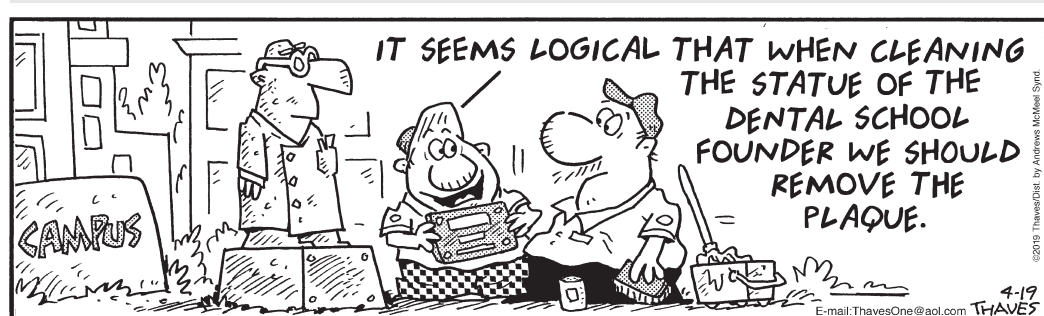
**BIG NATE**



**BORN LOSER**



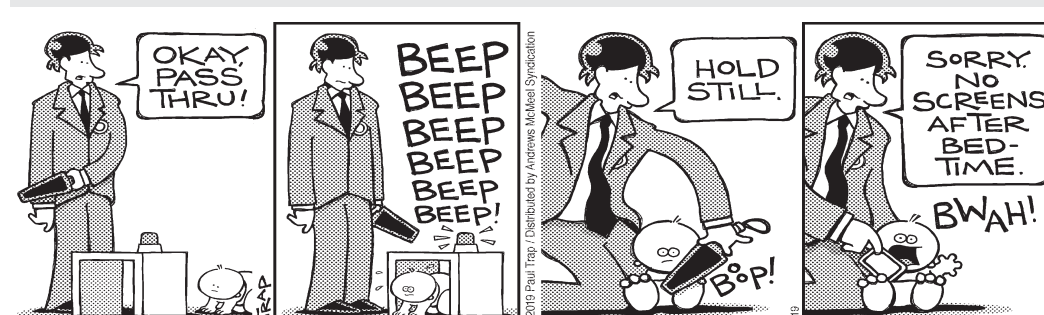
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All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination, call HUD



toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

**POLICIES**

The *Floyd County Chronicle and Times* reserves the right to edit, properly classify, cancel or decline any ad. We will not knowingly accept advertising that discriminates on the basis of sex, age, religion, race, national origin or physical disability.

**PLEASE CHECK YOUR AD**

Please read your ad the first day it appears in the *Floyd County Chronicle and Times*. Report any errors immediately and we will gladly correct any errors published. Credit will be issued for one (1) day only. After the first day the ad can be corrected for the remaining number of runs, but credit will not be issued for days ad ran incorrectly.

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**LEGALS**

**NOTICE OF INTENTION TO MINE Permit Number 836-0463**

In accordance with KRS 350.070, notice is hereby given that Tackett Energies LLC, P.O. Box 3655 Pikeville Ky. 41502, has applied for a permit for a Coarse Refuse Removal area affecting 7.91 acres located approximately 2.49 miles southwest of Martin in Floyd County.

The proposed facility is approximately 1.09 miles South West from Rt. 1210's junction with Ky. Rt. 80 and located 0.01 miles South of Stephens Branch Creek.

The proposed facility is located on the Martin U.S.G.S. 7 1/2 minute quadrangle map. The surface area is owned by Chris Click. The operation will affect an area within 100 feet of public road Ky. Rt. 1210. The operation will not involve relocation or closure of the public road.

The application has been filed for public inspection at the Division of Mine Reclamation and Enforcement, Hazard Regional Office, 556 Village Lane, Hazard, Kentucky 41702. Written comments, objections, or requests for a permit conference must be filed with the Director, Division of Mine Permits, 300 Sower BLVD second floor, Frankfort, Kentucky, 40601. **This is the final advertisement of this application:** all comments, objections, or requests for a permit conference must be received within thirty (30) days of today's date.

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Please contact :  
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**FLOYD COUNTY FISCAL COURT**

Attn: Anna W. Allen  
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