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Weekend Edition, July 5-7, 2019

FLOYD COUNTY

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Three named in federal meth, firearm case

SPECIAL TO THE FLOYD CHRONICLE AND TIMES

Three local individuals were named in a federal grand jury indictment in U.S. District Court in

Pikeville on charges of possessing firearms while in a conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine.

The indictments shows Amy Jo King, Gregory Phillip Chaffins

and Christopher Azzle Moore were each indicted on charges of being a convicted felon in possession of a handgun, conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine and

possession with intent to distribute methamphetamine by a federal grand jury. King was also indicted on an additional charge of possession with intent to distribute

meth. The conspiracy to distribute meth charge, according to an affidavit filed in support of

See **THREE**, Page 3A



Stonecrest RC Flyers, a remote-controlled aircraft club based out of Prestonsburg, recently held its biggest event of the year. The "Fun Fly" gave club members and local community members the opportunity to enjoy a fun-filled day of food, fellowship and remote-controlled aircrafts.

Appalachian Newspapers photos by Austin Blankenship



Local club 'flying high'

By AUSTIN BLANKENSHIP APPALACHIAN NEWSPAPERS

PRESTONSBURG — A local club based out of Prestonsburg recently held its largest event of the year, in hopes of giving

its members and others in the community an outdoor hobby, filled with fun, food, fellowship and remote control aircrafts.

Stonecrest RC Flyers, formerly known as the Jenny Wiley Flyers, are a local AMA

(Academy of Model Aeronautics) chartered club based out of Prestonsburg that gives its members, as well as others in the community an opportunity to come out and learn the ins-and-outs and even how to op-

erate radio controlled airplanes, helicopters and multi-rotors, all in what Flyers chairman Joe Meade said is "a good clean fun" environment.

See **FLYING**, Page 2A

Harold sewer project is complete, for now

By MARY MEADOWS STAFF WRITER

The third phase of a multi-million project geared to provide sewer services to hundreds of Floyd County residents is now complete.

The work on the Harold sewer project is now finished, and as part of the effort to officially close out the project, the Big Sandy Area Development

District will host a public hearing to review past use of funds and performance at 4 p.m. on Monday, July 8, in the fiscal courtroom at the county courthouse.

Last month, the fiscal court voted to pay more than \$307,000 to Boca Enterprises, the company that received the \$1 million bid for work on the

See **PROJECT**, Page 5A

Road projects rank at bottom of priority list

By MARY MEADOWS STAFF WRITER

The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet released its list of "data-driven" highway projects that are "candidates for state transportation funding," and projects that could impact Floyd County, once again, ranked well below other areas of the state.

The Cabinet created the list of more than 123 projects us-

ing SHIFT, the State Highway Investment Formula for Tomorrow, which relies on data on safety, congestion, asset management, economic growth and "benefit-cost ratios" to determine where state road funds would best be spent.

"The results will be a key component in developing the upcoming 2020 Highway Plan,"

See **ROAD**, Page 5A



FLYING

Continued From Page 1A

"We've had this club here for about 18 years," Meade said. "I've been president of the group for the last six years now and was vice president before that, so I've been active with this group for almost nine years."

According to Meade, the club began as a way to give people in the community and surrounding areas an alternative outdoor hobby, as opposed to the social events in which most people may associate.

"Some people enjoy hiking, golfing and plenty of other things that you can do outdoors," Meade said. "Personally a lot of those things aren't for me and it just so happens that I was lucky enough to find people who were passionate about something I am."

Meade said the Flyers have grown throughout the years, as word began to leak out about a local club that flew remote control aircrafts up on Stonecrest, which the club has turned into its own facility.

"We've got a shelter that we've been able to add on over the years," Meade said. "We're lucky to have plenty of space up here. We've got a good-size grass runway and even have space for people to camp out up here."

Camping out in anticipation for the Flyers events is almost a regular occurrence, according to Meade, who said people come from all over to participate or spectate the fun.

"We have a ton of people come up here and camp," Meade said. "Some of the people up here today have been camping out since yesterday, so we try to have plenty of space and storage available for them."

Charles Brooks, of Nicholasville, has been an avid remote aircraft flyer for over 25 years and said that he and his family have been making the two-and-a-half hour drive for a number of years now, so that he can share his passion with them.

"I was a little shocked that Prestonsburg had a flying club due to all the hills," Brooks said. "I have been coming for several years now and my wife

is from the area, so it makes it easy coming in and seeing everybody."

According to Brooks, once he heard of others sharing his passion in his wife's hometown, he had to be a part of it, which was easy, he said because of all the love and hospitality from the club.

"The club members go above and beyond to make sure everyone has a great time," Brooks said. "From day one they made me feel as if I was a member of the club and we love coming in the night before, so we can do some night flying or just sitting around talking about the hobby with everyone."

Brooks said the involvement with Flyers has helped his daughter develop that same passion that he has long carried, as he has begun teaching her how to build and fly planes, in hopes, that she can join the club he adores so much.

"As with all clubs, we need to get the youth involved in the hobby," Brooks said. "They're the future and they will get to carry on the things we love, once we no longer can."

Spreading that passion, not only to the youth, but anyone interested is something the Flyers always try to do, according to Meade. He said the club makes an effort to include the community as much as it can, and has an open invitation for anyone interested in joining, or even just watching all the fun.

"You don't even have to have your own equipment," Meade said. "You can roll up here, ask us to try it out. We'll break out the trainer plane and 'buddy-box' you until you're comfortable enough to handle it."

"Buddy-box," Meade said, is a term they use for helping new or beginning aircraft flyers operate the club's trainer plane.

"We purchased the trainer plane just for people new that were interested in trying all this out," Meade said. "It's



Appalachian Newspapers photos by Austin Blankenship
The Stonecrest RC Flyers recently held the club's biggest event of the year, when it had its "Fun Fly." The event saw families come from near and far to participate in the fun, food and remote control aircrafts, while also enjoying what many people at the event called a beautiful scenic location to enjoy a hobby they love.

easy to use and has radios bound to it, so we can control it until you're comfortable enough to handle it on your own."

According to Meade, many people think that flying remote control aircrafts is an "extremely expensive" hobby to keep up with, but that's not the case.

"You can spend a lot of money in this hobby, as with a lot of hobbies," he said. "But just like with others, it can be cost-friendly. It's all about the person and how much they want to spend."

"It doesn't have to be expensive, there are definitely cheap avenues that allow you to enjoy the fun we have," he added.

The club recently held its annual "Fun Fly" event, after which Meade said the club took a portion of the funds generated and donated it to the local veterans group in Prestonsburg. It is the club's largest event every year, but said that there are many smaller events held throughout the year.

Anyone interested in finding out more information about Stonecrest RC Flyers, or interested in joining, call, (606) 205-6950, or visit the club's Facebook page.

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Burglary, theft, other crimes alleged in indictments

A FLOYD CHRONICLE AND TIMES STAFF REPORT

A Floyd County grand jury issued approximately 40 indictments last week, and several of those indictments were filed in connection with theft cases.

Three separate indictments were issued against Jonathan Howell, 37, of Beaver, who faces two counts of receiving stolen property over \$10,000, two counts of theft by deception over \$500, third-degree burglary, second-degree criminal possession of a forged instrument and three counts of allegedly being a persistent felony offender in the first degree.

According to documents filed in Floyd District Court, Howell allegedly stole items from Debra Hall in January and pawned them at the Pink Elephant and Wholesale Jewelry and Pawn. The citation filed against Howell in February also alleges that he broke into Hall's car and allegedly stole blank personal checks that he forged. The value of some of the items pawned totaled more than \$10,000, court documents allege.

Howell wasn't the only person charged with receiving stolen property.

Steven Bryant 45, of Grethel, was indicted on one count of receiving stolen property valued at more than \$10,000, a Class C felony.

According to documents filed in that case by Kentucky State Police Trooper Shane Hurtt, Bryant was allegedly found to be in possession of a vehicle that had been reported stolen in West Virginia, court documents say.

The grand jury also indicted Donnie Robinette, 41, of Betsy Layne, for receiving stolen property under \$10,000. The indictment alleges he was in possession of property owned by Penny Boyd and Steve Webb in September 2018. Robinette was allegedly found to be in possession of a stolen motorcycle last September in the Cow Creek area.

He was also arrested in March, in another case in which he was charged

with first-degree possession of a controlled substance, second-degree fleeing/evading police, giving an officer false information and theft of identity. That case has also been sent to the grand jury.

The grand jury also indicted Kermit Williams, 56, of Pikeville on similar charges. He is charged with receiving stolen property under \$10,000, giving officer false identifying information, driving on a suspended license, failure to produce insurance card, security covering a motor vehicle no insurance and for allegedly being a persistent felony offender in the first-degree.

Other indictments issued last week by the grand jury include the following charges:

•Jared Mitchell, 26, of Harold; second-degree trafficking in a controlled substance

•Nikki Spurlock, 29, of Martin; second-degree trafficking in a controlled substance

•Lakota Mullins, 19, of Hi Hat; first-degree trafficking in a controlled substance, possession of drug paraphernalia, carrying a concealed deadly weapon

•Misty Ratliff, 26, of London; first-degree criminal possession of a forged instrument, theft by deception under \$500

•Melissa Varney, 46, of Prestonsburg; first-degree criminal possession of a forged instrument,

theft by deception under \$500

•Kyle Ray Waddle, 37, of Prestonsburg; first-degree criminal possession of a forged instrument, theft by deception under \$500

•Jesse Hamilton, 32, of Prestonsburg; third-degree burglary, fourth-degree assault, first-degree persistent felony offender

•Danielle Stevens, 26, of Dwale; third-degree burglary, fourth-degree assault

•Reece Curtis Spurlock, 28, of Allen; second-degree burglary,

third-degree criminal mischief, fourth-degree assault, terroristic threatening

•R.B. Robbins, 54, of Thelma; driving under the influence, fourth offense or greater, driving on a suspended license

•Sammy N. Rife, 52, of Royalton; driving under the influence, fourth offense or greater, driving on a suspended license

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

THREE

Continued From Page 1A

the indictment, occurred across Floyd, Knott and Letcher counties from August 2018 through November 2018.

The indictment attributed more than 500 grams of methamphetamine to King, with Chaffins and Moore each being attributed with distributing 50 grams or more.

According to the affidavit, in September 2018, King was found to be in possession of seven firearms, four of which were handguns, while in possession of more than 50 grams of methamphetamine in Floyd County.

Additionally, in November 2018, while in Letcher County, the affidavit said King was in possession of 500 grams or more of methamphetamine that she was intending to distribute.

In October 2018, on separate dates, Moore was located with 50 grams of more of methamphetamine while also in possession of a handgun in Knott County and Chaffins was located with 50 grams or more of methamphetamine and a handgun, the affidavit said.

Arrest warrants were issued for each of the three individuals on Tuesday.



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GUEST COLUMNS

Smoke-filled rooms, Kentucky-style



FIVE SMOOTH STONES KENTUCKY

By
MARK WOHLANDER

Over the past several days, weeks, months and, yes, even years, Kentuckians have been introduced to a litany of those responsible for standing in the way of Gov. Matt Bevin's unprecedented attempts to reshape the Commonwealth in an image which better suits those who sit in smoke-filled backrooms, those who really call the shots of who is and isn't among the chosen few.

For those who might not have heard the phrase "smoke-filled room," it can be traced back to 1763 in Boston when a small group of men — yes men — met behind closed doors to select candidates for office. During those meetings, the room was filled with cigar smoke that was so thick, it was diffi-

cult to see from one end of the room to the other. Sadly, the decisions made in those rooms were made in secret without any concern for anyone. Worse yet, not much has changed and those smoke-filled rooms still exist today.

Fast forward to today and one easily imagines those who would never have been chosen as candidates in those smoke-filled rooms. One could easily imagine that anyone who would dare interfere with Bevin's newly defined vision of the Commonwealth would never be among the chosen few worthy of being anointed to represent the party. And undoubtedly, there is little doubt that among the litany of those who would have been rejected as candidates in these mod-

ern smoke-filled rooms would be those who have been subjected to the unhinged attacks by Bevin, and, oftentimes, his cronies, like hard-working, dedicated teachers; members of the state judiciary; members of the legislature, including members of his own party; recipients of Medicaid and even those who run Kentucky's rural hospitals and healthcare clinics.

Of course, if that wasn't enough, it now appears that those in attendance in these smoke-filled rooms have decided that even Lt. Gov. Jenean Hampton, who very honestly was the reason Bevin was elected in the first place, would be — and had to be — rejected and replaced with a candidate who will rubber stamp any and all policies which Bevin and his cronies choose for Kentucky. What is abundantly clear is that if you disagree with this man, or his cronies, you can expect the unexpected, you can expect the knock on your door, or worse yet, a deluge of leaked stories intended to destroy your reputation.

In the case of Hampton, it should be obvious to even the most casual observer that as a successful business woman, military veteran and supporter of public education, that there are those in the leadership of the party who fear that she might just decide to run against one of the party's leaders. While one never knows what could happen in a statewide political race, one thing is certain, and that is if Hampton decided to throw her hat in the proverbial ring, she would be a formidable candidate, someone who would be, and should be, feared by the party establishment.

So, one is left to ask that rhetorical question of who actually sits in these smoke-filled rooms; who are these self-appointed, power brokers who decide the next slate of candidates who the party loyal will be forced to vote for in the next election. Well, without listing those names, it is easy to imagine the names of those will be in attendance, and it is certain that among those invit-

ed to attend these secret meetings will certainly not include a teacher, a state judge, members of the legislature who fail to fall into line with the demands of the governor, and undoubtedly, you will not find any women, let alone a successful woman, military veteran with the name Jenean Hampton sitting at the table.

In the end, should there be any wonder why Kentuckians are fed up with this corrupt political system? Should there be any wonder why many party loyalists will simply decide to stay home and sit out the general election this November? Of course not! Sadly, nearly 200 years after Andrew Jackson first spoke about corruption in the House of Representatives, we find ourselves at a crossroad where we will have to choose from the list of those anointed in these smoke-filled rooms, otherwise we will be left with the Hobson's choice which Jackson talked about when he said, "I weep for the liberty of my country when I see at this early stage of its suc-

cessful experiment that corruption has been imputed to many members of the House of Representatives, and the rights of the people have been bartered for promises of office."

So, as I often do, I would invite each of you to join me on my imaginary mountaintop, a place where we can watch all of those who believe they can make decisions in smoke-filled rooms out of political intrigue and chicanery, decisions which are motivated mostly out of personal greed, not out of concern for Kentuckians; a mountaintop where all Kentuckians can shout loudly that enough is enough, that it is time to clear out those smoke-filled rooms and conduct the business of the people in the light of day.

Mark Wohlander, a former FBI agent and federal prosecutor, practices law in Lexington, Kentucky and throughout the mountains of Eastern Kentucky. His other columns and Liberty prints are available at fivesmoothstonesky.com.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

An open letter to Gov. Matt Bevin

I was overjoyed to learn that you are introducing the study of the Bible into public schools of Kentucky. I congratulate you on your fearless and total disregard of the First Amendment in the Bill of Rights in order to do this. It is high time that those godless liberals who corrupt

our precious children by teaching all sorts of atheistic things be put in their place by those eternal truths that Jesus Christ and his father represent.

It does occur to me that there are more than 450 translations of the Bible into English, of which the New Revised Standard Version is the most

popular, with the King James in a strong second place, at least among the fundamentalists of this country. Which one of the 450 do you plan to choose?

Which also brings to mind the different sects of the Christian religion we have here, because you will have to choose

those whose representatives will be entrusted to impart the holy word of God to our innocent little lambs.

There are Catholics, Adventists, Baptists, Congregationalists, Lutherans, Methodists, Pentecostals, Presbyterians, Episcopalians and God knows with what sect

these community megachurches ally themselves. So which of God's messengers will you chose to interpret the Bible translations, whatever that will be?

I personally don't believe you should stop with just the Bible in bringing religion to our public schools.

After all, there are also many books such as the Quran, Book of Mormon, Bhagavad Gita, Guru Tranth Sahib, Tripitaka, Torah, Agamas, Kojiki and Kitabi-Agolas, all of which profess some access to Holy Writ. It would be a shame to leave any of them out.

These would be decisions that I'm not qualified to make, but I trust that you have considered all these alternatives prayerfully before signing the recent Bible bill.

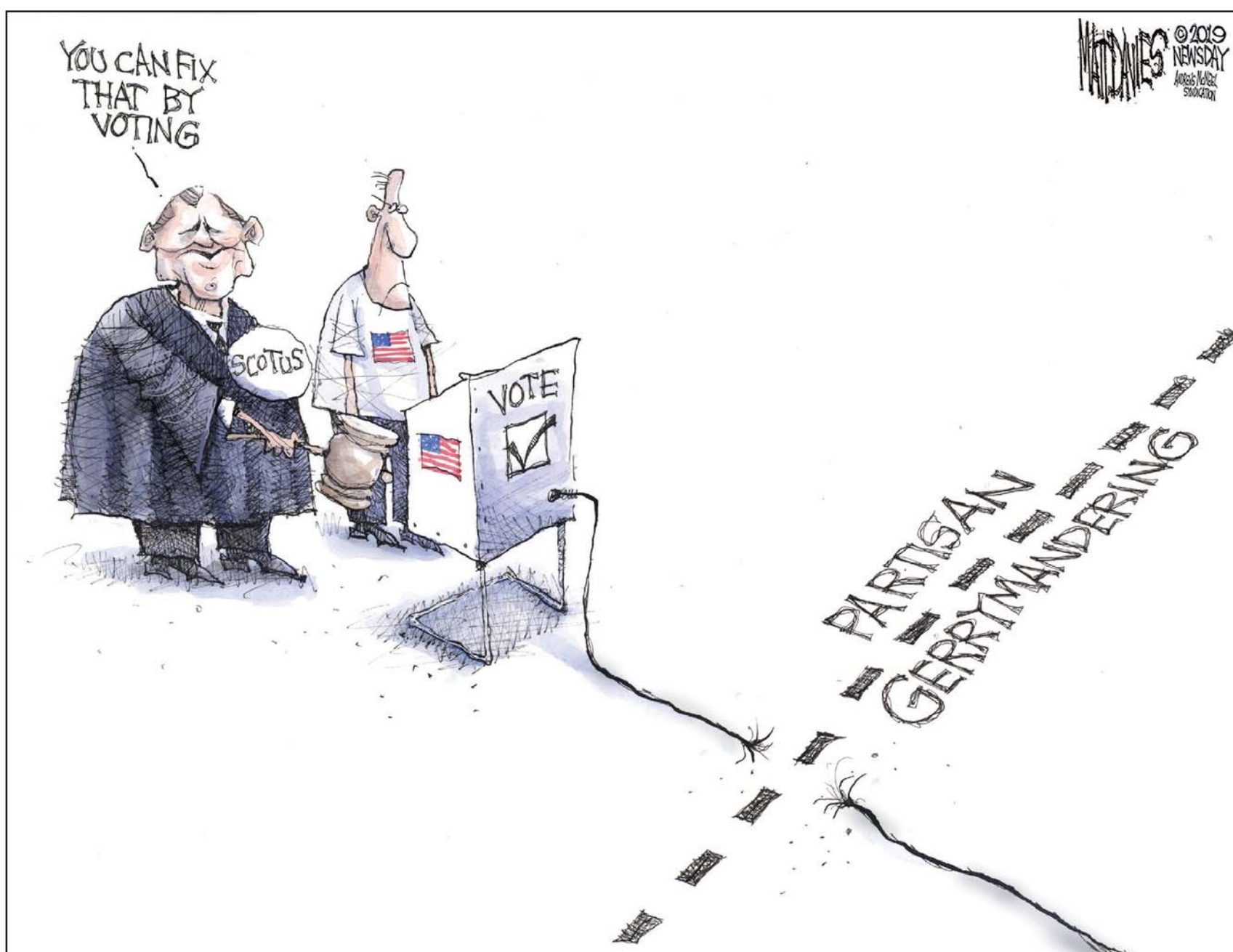
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Mother indicted in alleged child abuse case

Grand jury ditches wanton endangerment allegation

A FLOYD CHRONICLE AND TIMES STAFF REPORT

A Floyd County grand jury decided not to seek felony charges against a Harold resident accused of abusing a child.

Last week, the grand jury indicted Darlene Kidd, 27, of Harold, on three misdemeanor charges: Endangering the welfare of a mi-

nor and two counts of fourth-degree assault, one involving child abuse and one involving domestic violence.

In the indictment, the grand jury charged Kidd with endangering the welfare of a minor for allegedly failing or refusing to "exercise reasonable diligence in the control" of her child "to prevent him from becoming ne-

glected, dependent or delinquent."

When the case was initially filed against Kidd in Floyd District Court, Kentucky State Police Trooper Billy Ball charged her with another charge, a felony count of first-degree wanton endangerment. The grand jury, however, did not charge Kidd with that crime.

Ball arrested Kidd at

her home in Harold on May 7.

He reported that he was dispatched to a domestic violence complaint and encountered Kidd and five children in the home with her boyfriend, Christopher Blevins.

Kidd reported that she had a verbal argument about the power bill and money with Blevins, Ball wrote in the cita-

tion, and she said that no physical altercation occurred.

Ball reported that Blevins appeared to have scratches on his neck.

Blevins claimed that Kidd assaulted him while he was holding their one-month old baby, and she "pushed him in the back causing him to fall into the wall," Ball wrote in the arrest citation.

The baby's head struck the wall, Ball reported, and the child was transported to Pikeville Medical Center for treatment.

Since the grand jury issued all misdemeanor charges against Kidd and not the felony she initially faced, the case will be referred back to Floyd District Court for further proceedings.

ROAD

Continued From Page 1A

a press release said.

The list of 123 SHIFT projects included what the state described as 49 "high-ranking projects" that are being considered for funding and 74 "committed projects that are highly-ranked enacted projects" from the 2018 Recommended Highway Plan.

All of these projects will "receive priority consideration" as the Transportation Cabinet creates the next six-year highway plan, which will be presented to legislators in 2020, the press release said.

The Statewide Project List includes three Floyd County projects, all of which involve the a "major widening" of the Mountain Parkway project — and each of these rank among the bottom six on the list of priorities.

They include about \$49.5 million to improve

the road from Neeley Branch to County Road 1386 at Prestonsburg Elementary School (ranked 44th out of 49); about \$78.7 to improve the road from the Magoffin/Floyd County line to the head of the Left Fork of Abbott Creek (ranked 46th out of 49th) and \$63.4 million to improve the road from the head of the Left Fork of Abbott Creek to Neeley Branch Road (ranked 48th out of 49th).

The list also included \$117.5 million for Magoffin County to improve the parkway from U.S. 460 to the Magoffin/Floyd county line. That project is scored at 27.4, ranking it 41st among the 49 top priorities.

The rankings place these projects farther down the list of priorities than they were the last time a SHIFT plan was released.

In the 2017 SHIFT statewide project ranking, the Mountain Parkway widening from Neeley Branch to the head of

the Left Fork of Abbott Creek, listed as \$70.5 million, ranked 58th and 59th out of 89, while another related project, extending the parkway from the Magoffin/Floyd County line to the head of the left fork of Abbott Creek, ranked 68th out of 89.

Another neighboring project, one that would provide \$1 million for a transportation study to build I-66 from Hazard to Pikeville, received a SHIFT score of 11, ranking as the 49th of 49 projects to be prioritized for funding. In 2017, that project ranked 80th out of 89.

The Committed Projects List includes several Floyd County projects that are already part of the state highway plan, which spans from 2018-2024, and they have already been designed, the SHIFT website says.

The Minnie-to-Harold project was not on the SHIFT list of statewide projects in 2017 or this

year, but it was listed among the most important road projects in the Eastern Region, ranking 68th out of 177 on that list in 2017, and it was added to the 2018 state highway plan.

The state highway plan includes \$34.6 million to improve the Minnie-to-Harold Connector from Little Mud to the Mouth of Tackett Creek — projects that are designated for completion in 2022 and 2023.

Floyd County Fiscal Court officials have repeatedly complained about the delay in completion for this project, reporting that only two miles of work needs to be finished.

Another project on the Committed Projects List is \$2.9 million to improve safety and access on U.S. 23 between Ky. 80 and Ky. 3384, a project targeted for completion in the highway plan from 2019 and 2021.

The Committed Project List also allots \$87.4

million to Magoffin County for the Mountain Parkway project.

The release of these project priorities are the first of several steps that will be taken before the new state highway plan is finalized.

"Leaders in four broad geographic regions of the state — each including three KYTC districts — will gather to discuss priorities for their areas from a list of more than 1,000 regional projects and statewide projects that did not advance to the statewide list," the press release said.

It explained that the state and regional lists developed under the SHIFT 2020 scoring will "guide formulation" of the state highway plan.

"The plan will also include funding for priorities outside of SHIFT, including projects already underway and federally designated programs such as the Transportation Alternative Program and the Congestion Mit-

igation Air Quality program funding through the Office of Local Programs," the statement said.

Projects targeted for regional prioritization, which would move them up on the SHIFT priority list, will be determined in "late summer," the Transportation Cabinet reports online, and development of the new plan is expected to be completed this fall.

The new state highway plan is expected to be announced this winter and implemented in the spring of 2020.

The highest-ranking projects on the SHIFT list of statewide projects would provide funding for road projects in Fayette, Kenton, Laurel, Woodford, Jefferson, Campbell and Pulaski counties.

For the complete list, videos and information about how projects are selected and a copy of the 2018 highway plan, visit, transportation.ky.gov/SHIFT.

PROJECT

Continued From Page 1A

final phase of this project in 2016.

Planning started more than a decade ago, when the project was called "Pride on the River," but it took several years to obtain funding.

The Kentucky Public Service Commission granted a certificate of public need for the project to the Southern Water and Sewer District in 2012 and accepted a fi-

ancing plan that totaled more than \$3.7 million for the first two phases. The first and second phases used \$1.6 million in coal severance funding, \$200,000 in a rural development grant, \$765,900 from an state revolving loan fund, \$500,000 from the Appalachian Regional Commission, \$328,200 in an state revolving fund grant and about \$355,000 in coal severance funding.

The first two phases — which included construction of a 100,000

gallon wastewater treatment plant and expansion of services to residents in the Betsy Layne area — were completed in 2013, according to Brenda Powers, who oversees administration of the project funding through the Big Sandy ADD.

The work was completed in the third phase for a cost of more than \$1.2 million, she reported. The fiscal court received \$750,000 in Community Development Block Grant funding, \$390,000 in Appalachian Regional

Commission Funding and \$200,000 in coal severance funding to finish it.

The third phase was completed through an interlocal agreement between the Floyd County Fiscal Court, the Southern Water and Sewer District and the Prestonsburg City Utilities Commission.

Prestonsburg currently maintains the utilities there, while all funding is received and disbursed through the fiscal court.

Powers said chang-

es in the project saved some federal funding. The county sent back

\$43,154 in unused Appalachian Regional Commission funding and \$82,573 in unused Community Development Block Grant funding, she reported.

"In the beginning, when this went from Southern owning it, and then Prestonsburg was managing their sewer projects, some of the inspection dollars came out of it, and Prestonsburg was permitted to do their

inspections using somebody on staff. So, that saved the project some money," she said.

Powers reported that the first two phases provided services to approximately 230 customers, and the recently-completed third phase serves 136 customers in the Betsy Layne bottom, Store Hollow and Lower Hollow.

Service can be expanded in the future, she said, to serve up to 1,500 residents in the area.

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Woman pleads to forced labor charge

Walsh and boyfriend still face more than 100 charges each in Perry County

AN APPALACHIAN NEWSPAPERS STAFF REPORT

A Hazard woman still facing more than 100 charges of abuse in state court related to the alleged abuse of her children pleaded guilty in U.S. District Court in London to a charge of forced labor, a charge which carries a potential of 20 years in federal prison.

At the same time, in state court, the woman, Tiffany Louise Walsh, is facing more than 100 charges of criminal abuse, while her boyfriend, Jordan Otis, is facing more than 100 charges, including rape, sexual abuse and sodomy, linked to the same case.

In a plea agreement linked to the federal case, prosecutors charged that between March 2017 through May 2017, Walsh benefited from a venture in which her four minor children were forced to work for the benefit of she and Otis (identified in the federal court documents only as J.O.), facing threats and abuse for not meeting expectations.

According to the agreement, Walsh and her children began living with Otis in Mt. Sterling approximately seven years ago, and left Kentucky to live in several states, until they returned to live in Hazard in March 2017.

Neither Walsh nor Otis, the documents said were gainfully employed and Otis was home with the children all day under the guise of homeschooling them.

Otis, the documents said, had the children complete writing assignments a few hours per

day. However, after that, the documents said, Otis used both threats and physical force to compel the children to make wooden plaques and other handmade items.

"(Otis) forced them to walk door-to-door in Hazard, Kentucky approximately six hours per day selling handmade items and cancer awareness bracelets," the documents said. "He also forced the victims to hand out flyers he made offering various services the victims would provide to members of the community for payment. If the victims did not make (Otis') required daily quota of money for (Otis), the victims suffered severe emotional and physical abuse by (Otis)."

The children, the agreement said, had to choose a punishment from a "punishment jar" filled with punishments hand written and imposed by Otis.

"During the time they lived in Hazard ... (Otis) made the victims do excessive physical exercise, eat food condiments that made them sick, sprayed them with bleach, threatened physical injury to them and, on occasion, beat them with a wooden rod," the agreement said, adding that, while living in another state, Otis held three of the four victims down against their will and gave them tattoos.

The agreement said that, in May 2017, the children knocked on the door of a house selling bracelets not realizing the house was a children's advocacy center, sparking concern on the part of the employees and further investiga-



Tiffany Walsh



Jordan Otis

tion, leading to the state charges.

Walsh, the documents said, knew Otis forced the children to engage in the labor and knew about some of the punishments, helped make some of the handmade crafts and helped to hand out fliers and sell items.

Further, the agreement said, Walsh knew Otis kept the money for himself and used it to purchase lottery tickets, cigarettes and carry-out food for the couple and admitted she benefited financially from the forced labor.

During a hearing in U.S. District Court Friday, Walsh pleaded guilty to the charge of forced labor and is scheduled to be sentenced Oct. 17.

Both Walsh and Otis

are currently scheduled for pretrial conferences July 31 linked to the state court case, originally filed in 2017.

In that case, it's alleged that Otis subjected the children to various severe acts of sexual abuse and physically and mentally tormented the children, including torturing one child physically and mentally by beating her with wire hangers, confining her by locking her in closets and forcing her to write in "journals" that the acts of sexual abuse were committed by someone other than Otis.

Both Walsh and Otis remain lodged in the Kentucky River Regional Jail.

Orville "Fat Boy" Frasure

Orville "Fat Boy" Frasure, 92, of Grethel, died Tuesday, July 2, 2019.

Funeral services were held Thursday, July 4, at Hall Funeral Home, Martin.

Burial followed in the Effie Hall Newsom Cemetery, Grethel.

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

Teresa Lynn Hicks

Teresa Lynn (Crisp) Hicks, 64, of Melvin, died Tuesday, July 2, 2019.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m., Friday, July 5, at Hall Funeral Home, Martin.

Burial will follow in the Richmond Cemetery, Prestonsburg.

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

Virginia Robinson Hopkins

Virginia Robinson Hopkins, 92, of Price, died Sunday, June 30, 2019.

Funeral services were held Thursday, July 4, at Little Rosa Old Regular

Baptist Church, McDowell.

Burial followed in the Morgan Hall Cemetery, McDowell.

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

Phillip Dean Hunt

Phillip Dean Hunt, 50, of Banner, died Monday, July 1, 2019.

Funeral services were held Thursday, July 4, at the Free Pentecostal Church, Dwale.

Burial followed in the Crum Cemetery, Banner.

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

Mercedith Ann Turner

Mercedith Ann "Cedar" Turner, 75, of McDowell, died Sunday, June 30, 2019.

Funeral services were held Wednesday, July 3, at Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, Martin.

Burial followed in the Lucy Hall Cemetery, McDowell.

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

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UPike starts podcast

SPECIAL TO THE FLOYD CHRONICLE AND TIMES

The University of Pikeville launched a podcast to "Transform the narrative of Appalachia" by highlighting leaders who are creating positive change in the region.

"Appalachia Rising," presented by UPike, is hosted by President Burton Webb, who talks with guests with "inventive ideas and effective solutions to issues faced by rural areas," a press release from UPike said.

Webb moved to Pikeville from Idaho in 2016 and was "quickly drawn in by Appalachia as well as its culture and, most of all, its people," the statement said.

"He also promptly took note of the region's often negative portrayal in the media at the state and national levels," it said.

"When we, as a university, started to consider the types of things that would help Appala-

chia grow, develop and become the wonderful region that many of us who live here already believe it to be, we thought that it's time for Appalachians to take control of the stories about Appalachia," said Webb. "So much of what you see in the press outside of the region talks about the problems that exist here. We believe there are problems, but there are Appalachians creating solutions here that are fantastic. Those are the stories that need to be told. Telling them well is the reason we decided to create Appalachia Rising."

The first season of the podcast contains six episodes, starting with a conversation between Webb and Jared Arnett, executive director of Shaping Our Appalachian Region (SOAR).

Appalachia Rising presented by UPike is available on Apple Podcasts, Google Podcasts and Spotify, and can also be found at, upike.edu/appalachiarising. A video format of the production is aired on Pike TV, a local government broadcasting organization in Pike County, and is accessible at upike.edu/appalachiarising.

2018 Southern Water & Sewer District annual water quality report is available. This report contains important information about your drinking water. Please go to www.krwa.org/2018ccr/southernwater.pdf to view your 2018 annual water quality report or to request a paper copy call (606) 377-9296.

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Wheelwright seeks police officer, again

A FLOYD CHRONICLE AND TIMES STAFF REPORT

Once again, the City of Wheelwright is searching for a police officer.

The city commission held a special meeting on Tuesday, July 2, to address the resignation of

Officer Bradley Calhoun, effective July 25.

Calhoun was hired by the city on April 24 and has received praise for his work there. A U.S. Army veteran, he previously worked with Commercial Vehicle Enforcement and at the

Prestonsburg Police Department.

He will be working at another law enforcement agency in Perry County, officials said.

He's the second police officer the city has hired — and replaced — this year.

On Feb. 13, the city hired Michael Napier, a former Martin Police Department chief, and he worked several weeks before resigning the position. Napier replaced David Pridemore, who was hired last winter and resigned on Dec. 15, af-

ter being elected as constable in Johnson County.

Police Chief Randy Johnson has been off work on medical leave since last year in Wheelwright.

The city is seeking a police officer who is

academy trained.

Applications may be picked up through July 19 at the Wheelwright City Hall from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

For more information, call, (606) 452-4202.

Two people arrested after alleged high speed chase

A FLOYD CHRONICLE AND TIMES STAFF REPORT

The Prestonsburg Police Department recently arrested two people following an alleged high speed chase Sunday evening.

On June 30, Ralph Frasure of the Prestonsburg Police Department arrested Trenton G. Mahaney-Pitcher, 19, of Cambridge City, Ind., and Jonathan Bentley, 22, of Dwale, following the alleged pursuit.

According to docu-

ments filed in Floyd District Court, Frasure was traveling behind the vehicle when he observed Mahaney-Pitcher allegedly make a "sudden left turn" on Ky. 1428. Frasure reported that Mahaney-Pitcher allegedly sped off when he initiated a traffic stop.

"The above vehicle then began to accelerate at a high rate of speed," Frasure wrote in the arrest citation. "We continued on to Ky. 1428 and came to the traffic control device located past the

Goble Roberts at which time the above vehicle continued through the red light. The above vehicle continued south on Ky. 1428 at a high rate of speed and (was) weaving between both the north and south bound lanes of traffic and passing several oncoming vehicles."

He reported that the vehicle "came to a rest" against a guardrail at the Emma bridge.

Bentley, the passenger, was in the vehicle when Frasure approached it, the documents say,

and Mahaney-Pitcher was running on the other side of the bridge. Officer Nick Bingham assisted in the search for Mahaney-Pitcher, who was found in a field near a bridge, the documents say.

Bentley claimed that he was walking along Ky. 1428 and was picked up by Mahaney-Pitcher prior to the pursuit. Frasure reported that Bentley claimed to have "continued to beg" Mahaney-Pitcher to stop the vehicle.

"While at the detention center and inside my patrol vehicle (Mahaney-Pitcher), on his own free will, referenced his good driving abilities and said that they would not have wrecked if the passenger did not pull the emergency brake," Frasure wrote.

Police allegedly found drug paraphernalia in the vehicle, including pipes, a grinder and rolling papers.

Mahaney-Pitcher was charged with first- and second-degree fleeing/

evading police, reckless driving, possession of drug paraphernalia, disregarding a traffic control device, first-degree wanton endangerment, improper registration plate and no/improper registration receipt. He is also being held for allegedly being a fugitive from another state.

Bentley was charged with first-degree fleeing/evading police.

Preliminary hearings are scheduled to be held next week in both cases.

Criminal charges, lawsuits filed in Floyd

A FLOYD CHRONICLE AND TIMES STAFF REPORT

The following criminal charges and lawsuits have been filed recently in Floyd District Court and Floyd Circuit Court:

Felony cases filed

Trenton G. Mahaney-Pitcher, 19, of Cambridge City, Ind.; first- and second-degree fleeing/evading police, improper registration plates, no/improper registration receipt, reckless driving, first-degree wanton endangerment, disregarding a traffic control device, possession of drug paraphernalia

Jonathan Bentley, 22, of Dwale; first-degree fleeing/evading police

Amanda Jarrell, 29, of Prestonsburg; first-degree possession of a controlled substance, possession of drug paraphernalia

Cleo Hamilton, 47, of Prestonsburg; persistent felony possession of a firearm, possession of a gun by a convicted felon

Johnny Ray Slone, age unavailable, of Harold; theft by failure to make required disposition of property

Misdemeanor cases filed

Vicky Johnson Hen-son, 44, of Melvin; harassment

Shannon Seymore, 48, of Prestonsburg; failure of parent to send child to school

Joshua Little, 27, of Prestonsburg; violation of an emergency protection order, second-degree disorderly conduct

Joshua Hale, 28, of Martin; possession of marijuana

Marcus Allen, 35, of Grethel; third-degree terroristic threatening

James H. Johnson, 21, of Hi Hat; fourth-degree assault

Darin Gullett, 43, of Salyersville; DYI driving on a suspended license, failure to produce insurance card, failure to maintain insurance, possession of license when privileges are revoked,

failure to surrender revoked operator's license, improper display of plates

David Farmer, 39, of Wheelwright, theft by failure to make required disposition

Keesha Yates, 28, of Prestonsburg; two counts of failure to parent to send child to school

Brandon Shepherd, 18, of Prestonsburg; harassment

Martina Shepherd, 44, of Prestonsburg; harassment

Kristy Farley, 40, address unavailable; three counts of third-degree criminal trespassing

Stephen Rawlins, 33, of Harrodsburg; public intoxication of a controlled substance, second-degree disorderly conduct, third-degree criminal trespassing

Cody Bartley, 27, of Ivel; public intoxication of a controlled substance

Jarred Hall, 46, of McDowell; third-degree criminal trespassing

Cody Akers, 21, of Teaberry, fourth-degree assault, resisting arrest

Vicky Johnson, 41, of Prestonsburg; theft by unlawful taking (shoplifting)

Jimmy Hall, 35, of Grethel, falsely reporting an incident, public intoxication of a controlled substance

Lula Mae Shepherd, 38, of David; third-degree terroristic threatening

Johnny Ray Slone, age unavailable, of Harold; two counts of harassment

Jeffrey Samons, 59, of Martin; failure to illuminate navigation lights

Homer Tackett, 43, of Melvin; alcohol intoxication in a public place

Darlene Kidd, 27, of Harold; two counts of fourth-degree assault, endangering the welfare of a minor

Lawsuits filed

Billy R. Bolen vs. Nicole Hooks; personal injury complaint

Jacquelyn F. Marquis Sizemore vs. Timothy Sizemore; family court case transferred from another county

Rachael Tackett vs. Pamela S. Johnson; personal injury complaint

Lekita K. Johnson vs. R&L Paving; personal injury complaint

Gregory and Freeda Kidd vs. Sara Case; petition for emergency custody Charles R. McDowell vs. Denise T. Fields; petition for child support and healthcare insurance

Vanderbilt Mortgage and Finance vs. Christopher Hall, Delonda Hall, Jaclyn Hall; complaint concerning debt

ABC Support Company vs. Kentuckian General Construction, Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company, Floyd County Housing Authority; complaint concerning debt

Joshua Maple vs. Jordan Craft; personal injury complaint

Sara Case vs. Freeda and Gregg Kidd; petition for immediate entitlement

Toshia R. Hamilton vs. Tracelen D. Tackett; petition for custody

Samantha Moore vs. Elden Howard; petition for custody

Christ McKinney vs. Floyd County Board of Elections, Gregory Dempsey, Barry Davis, Chris Waugh, Sheriff John Hunt; petition for declaratory judgment, injunctive relief

Pricilla Cather vs. Jonathan Cather; divorce

Darla Innis vs. Nathan Innis Jr.; divorce

Chase Ousley vs. Sarah N. Reed Ousley; divorce

Hazel Shepherd vs. Jeff Shepherd; divorce

Johnna B. Hayden vs. Nathan Hayden; divorce

Teddy Castle vs. Amanda J. Castle; divorce

Brandon Goble vs. Rebecca Goble; divorce

Magdalene Moore vs. Timothy Camp, Miranda Camp; petition for custody

Joshua Maples vs. Jordan Craft; personal injury complaint

I Shree Khodiyar LLC vs. City of Prestonsburg, Prestonsburg City Utilities Commission; property damage complaint

Community Trust Bank vs. Kathleen and Jesse Miller; complaint concerning debt

Community Trust Bank vs. Emma and Ronnie Goodman; complaint concerning debt

Traci Newsome vs. Donnie Newsome; personal injury complaint

Citibank vs. Okie Mae Shell; complaint concern-

ing debt

Midland Funding vs. Diana Hale; complaint concerning debt

Gena Clevenger vs. Roy d. Burke, State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance; personal injury complaint

Rhonda Clevenger vs. K-VA-T Food Stores; personal injury complaint

Kentucky Child Support Enforcement, John Coleman vs. Beverly Fleenor; petition for child support and healthcare insurance

Kentucky Child Support Enforcement, Holly Motherwell vs. Daniel Motherwell; petition for child support and healthcare insurance

Portfolio Recovery Associates vs. Bruce Phillips; complaint concerning debt

Editor's note: The criminal charges and lawsuits filed against these individuals are merely accusations and the defendants are presumed innocent or not liable until proven guilty.



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Heroin, fentanyl allegedly seized in Paintsville

By **AARON K. NELSON**
APPALACHIAN NEWSPAPERS

PAINTSVILLE — An arrest Monday evening of a Rowan County man on Main Street in Paintsville is the second such bust in less than a week's time involving what police allege to be heroin and fentanyl, Paintsville Police Chief Mike Roe said.

According to court documents, Travis Preston, 37, of Morehead, is alleged to have sold suspected heroin and a tablet of fentanyl to a confidential informant, leading police to obtain and execute a search warrant of a residence on Main Street in Paintsville.

There, police allege in the arrest citation,

they recovered their own undercover buy money, scales and other alleged drug paraphernalia, as well as \$180 cash.

"Subject admitted to the sale and all items belonged to him," Capt. Jonathan Holbrook alleges in the citation.

Roe, Sgt. Bill Ramey, Clyde Woods and Jeremy Shepherd assisted Hol-

brook in executing the search warrant, Roe said.

Because of the proximity to Paintsville Independent Schools, Preston was charged with trafficking a controlled substance within 1,000 feet of a school, trafficking in a controlled substance (heroin), trafficking in a controlled substance (fentanyl) and first-de-

gree possession of a controlled substance (heroin).

PPD Chief Mike Roe said this second case makes clear that heroin and fentanyl, both extremely addictive and dangerous, have made it to Paintsville, likely from the same out-of-state source.

"Now, it's come home

to little old Paintsville," Roe said.

Roe said Preston had admitted to officers that the fentanyl tablet was so powerful, he was afraid to use it himself.

Roe said a second such tablet was found in the search.

According to the chief, the case will be prosecuted vigorously.

Marriages, property transfers filed

SPECIAL TO THE FLOYD
CHRONICLE AND TIMES

The following marriages and property transfers have recently been filed at the Floyd County Courthouse:

Marriages

Taylor Elizabeth Lee, 28, of Prestonsburg, to Jason A. Hughes, 33, of Prestonsburg

Laura Renae Hicks, 50, of Prestonsburg, to Bobby Murrell, 52, of Van Lear

Property transfers

First Franklin Mortgage Loan Trust, Deutsche Bank National Trust Company, trustee, to Jarred K. McGuire; property at Auxier (Deeds Book 646, pg. 116)

Benjamin Wagner to Benjamin and Tanee Wagner (Deeds Book 646, pg. 122)

Steven and Alicia Dawson Family Foundation to Alicia and Steven Dawson, property on Left Beaver (Deeds Book 646, pg. 126)

Anita Glaser to Brandon Burchett (Deeds Book 646, pg. 130)

Charles G. May, Cheryl May to Charles G. May II, Kimberly Nunnery May; property on Ky. 1428 (Deeds Book 646, pg. 135)

Donald Howell, Darlene Johnson to Billy J. Johnson, Darlene Johnson (Deeds Book 646 pg. 140)

Debra Boyd, Louisa Boyd, Paul R. Boyd to

Timothy Miller (Deeds Book 646 pg. 144)

Lonzie Isaac to Lisa Isaac (Deeds Book 646 pg. 148)

Patricia L. Webb Maynard, William A. Maynard to Byron K. Hughes, Tamyra Hughes (Deeds Book 646 pg. 151)

U.S. State of America to JDF Court LLC (Deeds Book 646 pg. 155)

Patricia L. Maynard, William A. Maynard, Patricia Webb to Keith Hughes, Tamyra Hughes (Deeds Book 646 pg. 171)

Conley Smith, Olie Smith, Ollie M. Smith to Brandon Brewer, Gretchen Brewer (Deeds Book 646 pg. 177)

Patricia L. Maynard, William A. Maynard, Patricia Webb to Keith R. Frasure, Pamela S. Prater Frasure (Deeds Book 646 pg. 181)

JP Morgan Chase Bank to Scott Mullins (Deeds Book 646 pg. 185)

Joseph Tackett to Kimberly Tackett (Deeds Book 646 pg. 202)

Charles and Sonya Rice to Jeremy B. Conley, Kristin C. Conley (Deeds Book 646 pg. 204)

James Mueller Sr., Janice Mueller to David K. Reffett (Deeds Book 646 pg. 209)

Frieda C. Moore, Stephen V. Moore to Candy K. Moore, William C. Moore (Deeds Book 646 pg. 215)

Jackie P. Patton to Charles Patton (Deeds Book 646 pg. 218)

Thomas Ousley to Thomas Ousley Jr. (Deeds Book 646 pg. 224)

Charlie Johnson, Rachael Johnson to Mazola Salmons (Deeds Book 646 pg. 228)

Donald Mayo, Ruby Mayo to John T. Mayo, Thomas D. Mayo (Deeds Book 646 pg. 231)

Franklin Delano May to Connie L. McKinney (Deeds Book 646 pg. 275)

Joshua and Tanika Bates to Denise and Steven Blevins (Deeds Book 646 pg. 234)

Kyle Griffith to Bill Click (Deeds Book 646 pg. 237)

Master Commissioner Gregory Isaac, Angela Blackburn, Shannon Halbert to Lauren Casey Ross (Deeds Book 646 pg. 250)

Phyllis M. Ousley to Phyllis Ousley Revocable Trust (Deeds Book 646 pg. 255)

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Marilyn Ratliff, Steven Ratliff, Marilyn Walker to Ethan Walker (Deeds Book 646 pg. 265)

Ethan Walker, Jessica Walker to Hannah Brown (Deeds Book 646 pg. 268)

T&M Evan Rentals LLC to Kentucky Power Company; easement (Deeds Book 646 pg. 271)

Sheila Hall, Stacy Hall to Kentucky Power Company; easement (Deeds Book 646 pg. 273)

Brandon and Valerie Akers to Kentucky Power Company; easement (Deeds Book 646 pg. 275)

Thomas and Virginia Howell to Kentucky Power Company; easement (Deeds Book 646 pg. 277)

Wayland Historical Society to Kentucky Power Company; easement (Deeds Book 646 pg. 279)

Billy J. Slone to Bonnie Manns, Tommy Mullett (Deeds Book 646 pg. 281)

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Estate of Maggie Daniels, Pamela Daniels, Thomas D. Daniels, Charles D. Daniels, Darren Daniels, Deborah Daniels, Duane Daniels to Jacqueline Fannin (Deeds Book 646 pg. 292)

Edith and Jerry Butcher to BM Properties of East Kentucky LLC (Deeds Book 646 pg. 297)

Estate of Ella Robinson, Ronald Joe Robinson, Ella Robinson to Howes Coal and Land Company (Deeds Book 646 pg. 303)

Robert Reynolds, Sandra Reynolds to Sheena A. Hernandez (Deeds Book 646 pg. 315)

Albert and Laurel King to Albert and Pamela King (Deeds Book 646 pg. 318)

Anthem provides software for HRMC

SPECIAL TO THE FLOYD
CHRONICLE AND TIMES

A grant from the Anthem Foundation equipped physicians treating patients in emergency departments across Kentucky with new software.

Highlands Regional Medical Center in Prestonsburg was the first Kentucky hospital to implement the software, a press release from the Kentucky Hospital Association said.

The software, called EDie, was developed by Salt Lake City-based Collective Medical Technologies and is being provided at no cost to hospitals across the commonwealth by the Kentucky Hospital Association, thanks to the \$250,000 grant.

The partnership enables KHA member hospitals' access to the Collective Medical network and EDie solution, a real-time, risk-adjusted event notification and care collaboration platform. It helps KHA mem-

bers identify and support high-risk patients in need and facilitates collaboration of providers across care settings.

As a result, the partnership aims to reduce avoidable readmissions, further enable statewide efforts to address the opioid epidemic and better manage complex patients who frequently seek care in EDs.

Ten Kentucky hospitals have already adopted the technology with 28 additional facilities in the process of onboarding the software.

These facilities will not only have access to data provided by each other, but also to data from hospitals in other states as well as substance use disorder facilities, skilled nursing facilities and specialty clinics across the country.

"Information is a powerful tool in medicine, especially emergency medicine when life and death decisions must be made quickly," said Harold C. Warman, president of Highlands

Regional Medical Center in Prestonsburg. "EDie instantly consolidates information from multiple sources that would otherwise take hours to obtain, and lets emergency physicians make faster, more informed clinical decisions."

"One particularly powerful application of this technology is in fighting Kentucky's opioid epidemic," said KHA President Nancy Galvagni. "Emergency room hopping is a serious obstacle in helping people suffering from addiction and this software can tell a treating physician if the patient has a history of ER visits for pain treatment. EDie can be the difference between enabling addiction and treating it."

"At Anthem, our mission is to simplify health care, and improve lives and communities. We value the relationships we have with providers, which in this instance is working to breakdown information silos and deliver better care," An-

them Blue Cross and Blue Shield in Kentucky President Kennan Wethington said. "We're incredibly proud of this innovative partnership because it will put this technology in the hands of more physicians as more forward-thinking hospitals choose to participate."

EDie collects data from thousands of hospitals, urgent cares, clinics and health plans. It then packages needed data for emergency situations and delivers critical information to the emergency physician in real time, the instant it's needed. In one concise report, the ED team can see patient history, visit summaries, medical providers, security events, and even care recommendations like preferred language and drug allergies.

The Anthem Foundation awarded the Kentucky Hospital Association this \$250,000 grant as part of the organization's efforts to create a more collaborative and efficient health care system.

Community Events

Friday, July 5

•7 p.m.: Front Porch Pickin', Mountain Arts Center, Prestonsburg. Admission is free.

•8:15 p.m.: Mary Poppins Jr. on stage, Jenny Wiley Amphitheatre, Jenny Wiley State Resort Park. Tickets are \$12

Saturday, July 6

•12 p.m. until dark: Left Beaver Fire and Rescue to host its Fourth Annual Light Up the Night event at the Minnie Ballpark, with food, inflatables, live music and a fireworks show at dark. Admission is free. Attendees are encouraged to bring chairs and blankets.

•7:30 p.m.: Billie Jean Osborne Kentucky Opry performs at the Mountain Arts Center. Tickets are \$16 per adult, \$14 for senior citizens and \$12 each for groups of 10 or more. For more information, visit, macarts.com.

•7:30 p.m.: Rocky Ridge Stables to host horse show, Stone-Crest. Admission is \$6 per adult, free to kids age 12 and under.

Sunday, July 7

•3 p.m.: Mary Poppins Jr. on stage at the Jenny Wiley Amphitheatre. Tickets are \$12, general admission. For details, visit, macarts.com.

Monday, July 8

•9 a.m.: Big Sandy Regional Industrial Development Authority meets, Big Sandy Area Development District

•4 p.m.: Big Sandy Area Development District to host a public meeting regarding the close-out of the Harold Sewer Project, Floyd County Fiscal courtroom

Tuesday, July 9

•12 p.m.: Prestonsburg Tourism meets, Mountain Arts Center

•6 p.m.: Wayland City Commission meets, community center

Wednesday, July 10

•9 a.m. to 11 a.m.: Drop-in for Science features activities for parents and children, East Kentucky Science Center.

•5 p.m.: Wheelwright City Commission meets, city hall

Tues.-Sat., Through Aug. 3

•2 p.m.: East Kentucky Science Center hosts "CAPCOM GO! The Apollo Story" exhibit in celebration of the 50th anniversary of Apollo's first manned moon landing. The science center will also exhibit moon rocks and soil samples that were brought back from the moon by Apollo astronauts. (606) 889-4809

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Market 606 returns; two more upcoming in 2019

By Aaron K. Nelson
Appalachian Newspapers

PAINTSVILLE — Paintsville's Main Street was again transformed this weekend for the second Market 606 of the year.

The event, put on with the help of Main Street's small businesses, Paintsville Tourism and other agencies, brings together shopping, food and live music as the sun goes down. Vendors line the sidewalks in both directions from the College Street intersection, and the established businesses in the area stay open later for the event.

Main Street is also once again home to multiple restaurants, including the Alley on Main, which is set to open as early as next month and which offered out a taste of what to come, and the Prime Diner and Grill, as well as regular Market 606 food vendors such as Hillbilly Hibachi.

Train rides, local community service groups fundraising and more capped off the evening's events for all ages.

The last two Market 606 events will be held Sept. 7 at 6 p.m. and Nov. 2 at 4 p.m. For more information and updates in the event of inclement weather, find Market 606 on Facebook.



Shopping, food, music and more turned Paintsville's Main Street into one big party with the second Market 606 of the year on Saturday.

Appalachian Newspapers photo by Aaron K. Nelson

SUDOKU & CROSSWORD ANSWERS

4	6	1	2	5	9	3	7	8
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GULL	PADS	INKY
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TORO	LAUD	TREVI
ENTREATS	DEARER	
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Floyd students auction 'Tiny House'



Submitted photos

A FLOYD CHRONICLE AND TIMES STAFF REPORT

A "Tiny House" built by Floyd County Area Technology students is among several that will be sold online this month.

The Kentucky Valley Education Cooperative is seeking bids online through 3 p.m. on July 16 in the 2019 Tiny House Auctions.

In its third year, the program is part of the cooperative's "Building it Forward" program that teaches students skills in carpentry, welding, electricity, design and budgeting.

Floyd County Area Technology students built this year's Tiny House with energy efficient appliances and windows and a split air-conditioning system.

It offers 302 sq. ft. of total living space with two lofts, waterproof laminate flooring and oak stair treads.

All homes featured on the online auction are sold "as is," and the majority of the proceeds from the sale will be reinvested back into the school's program to pay for next year's Tiny House project.

On June 27, the annual "Tiny House Cookout" was held at Roy Campbell Drive in Hazard, adjacent to the KVEC office on Roy Campbell Drive.

During the event, community members were able to tour seven tiny houses up for auction.

The online auction may be accessed at, theholler.org/auctions.

The public may tour Tiny House projects that are available for sale on any Tuesday or Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the KVEC offices, located at 412 Roy Campbell Drive in Hazard.

For more information, call Danny Vance at, (606) 765-9743.

Floyd County Area Technology students built this "Tiny House" for 2019 Tiny House Auctions, which continue through July 16. For details, visit, theholler.org/auctions.



Don't forget to 'Drop-in for Science'

Moon rocks, soil samples on display July 9-20



"Drop-in for Science" attendees show their excitement while learning about bubbles at the East Kentucky Science Center and Varia Planetarium last month. The event is open to children and their parents from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. every Wednesday through July 31, featuring hands-on activities, demonstrations and planetarium shows. Admission is \$6 per adult, \$4 for children and free to children age four and under.

Floyd Chronicle and Times file photos

A FLOYD CHRONICLE AND TIMES STAFF REPORT

The East Kentucky Science Center is offering several activities for children and adults this summer, including a month-long celebration of the first manned moon landing and weekly events for families.

The center, located on the campus of Big Sandy Community and Technical College in Prestonsburg, is celebrating the 50th anniversary of the first manned moon landing with the opening of "CAPCOM GO! The Apollo Story."

The historical documentary opened this week and will continue through Aug. 3. It will begin at 2 p.m. on Tuesdays through Saturdays at the EKSC. It showcases the achievements of the Apollo program and what it took to put the first man on the moon.

"It introduces a new generation to the immense challenges they overcame and will inspire them to become the explorers, designers, engineers, thinkers and dreamers of the future," a statement from EKSC said.

The science center's exhibit hall will feature a pictorial exhibit, "Many Inspired Steps," as part of the event, as well as memorabilia from the moon landing.

"Many Inspired Steps was organized by Thomas A Lesser, who has donated the exhibition, and is distributed by Audio Visual Imagineering, Inc., which has donated the distribution of the exhibition to the East Kentucky Science Center and Varia Planetarium," the press release

said. "Duplication of the panels was made possible by a donation from Steve and Jan Russo."

The EKSC is also allowing visitors to hold moon rocks and soil samples, starting next week.

From July 9 through July 20, the EKSC will offer moon rocks and soil samples that came from NASA and were brought back from the moon by the Apollo astronauts.

"These samples are encased in a Lucite disk so that they can be handled without being damaged," the press release said. "These samples can be examined by the public, and you can have your pictures taken with them."

As part of this month-long celebration, the science center is also offering an "Astronaut 101" camp on July 11-12.

The camp is open to students who will be entering fourth through sixth grades in the fall. Campers will build rockets and launch them at the science center and learn what it takes to become an astronaut. The cost for the two-day camp is \$40 for EKSC members and \$50 for non-members.

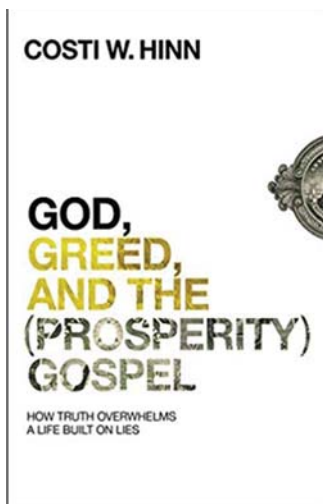
Families are also invited to attend the center's weekly "Drop-in for Science" events.

"Drop-in for Science," held every Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. through July 31, features hands-on activities, demonstrations and planetarium shows for children and their caregivers.

Science center admission is \$6 per adult, \$4 per child and free to children ages four and under.

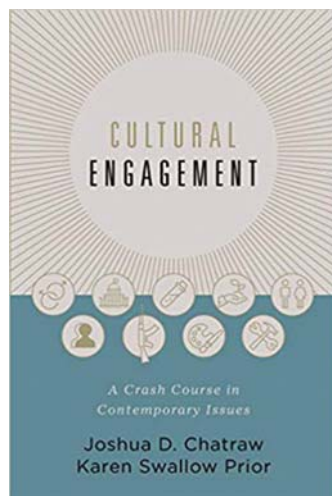
For more information, call, (606) 889-4809.

July book releases



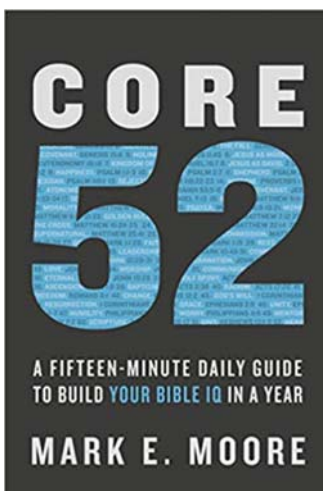
God, Greed, and the (Prosperity) Gospel: How Truth Overwhelms a Life Built on Lies

By Costi W. Hinn



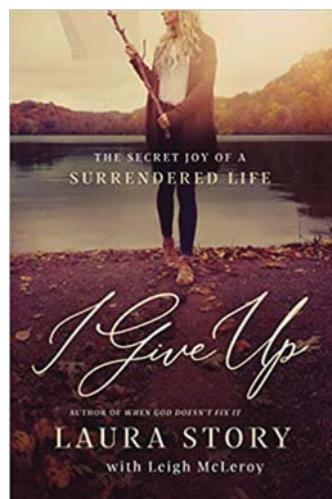
Cultural Engagement: A Crash Course in Contemporary Issues

By Joshua Chatraw and Karen Swallow Prior



Core 52: A Fifteen-Minute Daily Guide to Build Your Bible IQ in a Year

By Mark E. Moore



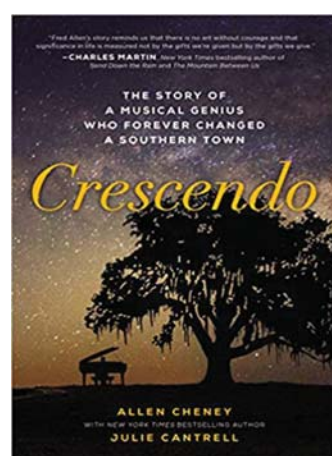
I Give Up: The Secret Joy of a Surrendered Life

By Laura Story



The Enlightenment of Bees

By Rachel Linden



Crescendo: The Story of a Musical Genius Who Forever Changed a Southern Town

By Allen Cheney and Julie Cantrell

The Son sets you free



By JAMIE BECKETT
CHRONICLE & TIMES

America prides itself on being a land of freedom. People have the freedom to worship how they choose, live how they wish and be who they want to be. Unfortunately, there are still people around the world who can only dream of such freedoms. Take North Korea, for example. The people are forced to worship their Supreme Leader Kim Jong-un and hang his photo in their homes (which is inspected every so often). The people are taught only what the dictator wants them to know. They have no link to the outside world. They don't know the realities of what is beyond their borders. The freedom we have in America, is completely foreign to them. Sadly enough, North Koreans are not the only ones

who are being oppressed in this day and age.

Though we live in a land of freedom, there is another freedom people don't always know about. That freedom can only be found in Christ.

When we become Christians, we are freed from the grip of sin. Paul writes in Romans 6 how we are buried with Jesus in baptism and raised to a new life, just as Jesus died on the cross and was raised from the dead. Paul explains, "For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin—because anyone who has died has been set free from sin (Romans 6:6-7)."

The world – (referring to those who have not yet become Christians) – fails to understand the concept of freedom in Christ. Instead, outsiders believe Christians are the ones who carry the bondage of "having to do right." But the reality is, it's just the opposite. Without Christ, without His righteousness, we are simply slaves to sin, as Paul pointed out. Under

sin, lives are governed by the flesh. Galatians gives us a list of sins of the flesh: "sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like (5:19-21)." When you think about it, that seemingly short list can cover a lot of ground.

**"For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."
– Romans 6:23**

Idolatry, for example, can be anything from actually worshipping something other than God himself, to our lives being consumed by one thing, such as work, money, sexual desires, etc.

The world believes that by doing whatever we want to do is how you live

life to the fullest. But what benefit comes with that? Paul tells us such things result in death (Romans 6:21). On the other hand, if you have heard the Word, believed it, repented, confessed Christ as the Son of God, and been buried in the watery grave of baptism to wash away your sins, you have been gifted with the Holy Spirit and eternal life. "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 6:23)." That freedom is greater than any freedom any country can grant you. Your freedom and reward will never fade away. It will never rust, never deteriorate, and you shall live in the presence of God – forever. Death has no hold upon the Christian for Christ has overcome.

On this Independence Day, we celebrate the blessings that we have living in a land of freedom. But we can also celebrate the freedom we have found in Christ. "So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed (John 8:36)." And that freedom is far greater than anything we can ever imagine.

Why we suffer

"Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in him."
Psalm 34:8 NIV

Why we suffer is complicated and doesn't have a simple answer. The Book of Job is one response to this question, with Job, an admittedly good and upright man, asking God to explain why he is suffering so much misfortune Job's friends put the blame on Job, suggesting that he is being punished for something he did. This is a natural response. When we see someone suffering from cancer or heart disease, we often wonder if their lifestyle led to their disease. While it is often true that we have contributed to our own problems, we should resist the urge to blame people's suffering on themselves. Sometimes suffering is the result of natural forces (viruses, hurricanes, earthquakes, and the like). While these "acts of God" are often blamed on God, or at least suggest a God who is indifferent to our welfare, these events often bring out the best in humanity. When natural disasters occur, noticing those who help is often what redeems our faith in God and man alike. Finally, there is a significant amount of suffering that is caused by our moral failures. Man's inhumanity to man is perhaps the greatest indictment of our humanity. Couldn't God have created us to be kinder and less prone to evil? But to blame God for the evil that we do is to forget that God gave us free will. Our human nature is usually inclined to pro-social behavior but can easily go awry. In the end, our response to why we suffer is highly personal and reflects how we think about God and the nature of the cosmos.

—Christopher Simon



Local church directory

ALLEN BAPTIST CHURCH

354 US HWY 23 South, Prestonsburg, At junction of HWY 23 and RT 80

Phone: 606-874-9468 • Find us on Facebook

Pastor Dr. Tim Searcy

<http://allen-baptist-church.twenty28cms.co>

SUNDAYS

Bible Study – 9:45 a.m.

Worship – 10:45 a.m. & 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAYS

Evening Worship – 7 p.m.

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH OF BETSY LAYNE

80 Pike Floyd Hollow, Betsy Layne

Phone: (606) 478-5369

Pastor Bro. Tim McClanahan

SUNDAYS

Sunday School – 9:45 a.m.

Worship – 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.

WEDNESDAYS

Prayer Meeting – 7 p.m.

COMMUNITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

147 Burke Ave, Prestonsburg

Phone: 606-886-8087

Pastor John Carwell

www.cumcprestonsburg.org

SUNDAYS

Sunday School – 10 a.m.

Worship – 11 a.m.

Evening Worship – 6 p.m.

WEDNESDAYS

Bible Study – 7 p.m.

Youth/Children – 7 p.m.

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.

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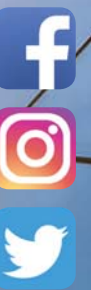
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PIKEVILLE MEDICAL CENTER



PMC'S NEWEST PRIMARY AND SPECIALTY CLINIC COMING TO SOUTH WILLIAMSON'S SOUTHSIDE MALL

By: Carol Casebolt

On Wednesday, June 26, 2019, at 9:45am, Pikeville Medical Center's (PMC) CEO and Vice President of the Board of Directors, Donovan Blackburn entered into a contractual agreement for South Williamson's newest health care facility.

The new Pikeville Medical Center Primary and Specialty Clinic will be located in the South Side Mall in the former location of Magic Mart and Kmart.

This new location will provide approximately 20,000 square feet of space. The first phase of this project is scheduled to open by September 30, 2019 and will fill an 8,500 square foot space within the structure.

There will be parking spaces conveniently located directly in front of the clinic and also on the right side of the building with over-flow parking provided in the mall parking lot.

PMC has had an extremely successful specialty clinic in South Williamson for several years. Due to structural issues beyond the control of PMC, the specialty clinic will be forced to close temporarily during construction at the new location.

"The space the hospital has occupied in the old school house simply does not measure up to our standards," said Blackburn. "We are beginning construction in our new location immediately, during which time our South Williamson Specialty Clinic patients will be seen on our main campus in Pikeville."

This temporary set-up is designed with patient

care and safety first and foremost.

"We feel our patients throughout the area will be thrilled with our new location," stated Blackburn. "We are an active part of this community that we serve. We sincerely care about our patients and their good health, and we anxiously look forward to opening this new state-of-the-art facility.

Blackburn says the new location will be modern, comfortable and convenient.

"Our footprint in the area is growing exponen-

tially. This move will be extremely beneficial for the patients in and around the area, but it will also stimulate economic growth for the mall area and other local businesses," Blackburn stated.

This new facility has tremendous growth potential.

Blackburn said, "We are offering better options and more specialized medicine. It is fair to say that in all areas of health care, PMC intends to be the leader.

KENTUCKY ASSOCIATION OF NURSING STUDENTS DONATES MAMAROO TO PMC NICU



By: Amanda Jo Lawson

On June 25, 2019, Big Sandy Community College Kentucky Association of Nursing Students (KANS) presented Pikeville Medical Center (PMC) with a 4moms mamaRoo to be used in their Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU).

PMC's NICU is an around-the-clock service for newborns who require intensive nursing and medical care.

The group of KANS students, an association of

nursing students whose goal is encouraging service and professionalism, chose to donate the machine to improve infants stay in the NICU.

The mamaRoo is designed to bounce up and down and sway from side to side, just like parents do when comforting their babies.

"This is a great addition to our NICU. We are so grateful KANS thought of us when making this donation," said PMC Director of Labor and Delivery, Tondra Blevins. "The babies in our NICU will greatly benefit from this generous donation."

The mamaRoo offers a better option for soothing and entertaining children.

"The mamaRoo is calming because it helps our babies feel contained. It offers a feeling that they're used to. The machine moves, there's a bit of sound, two things we find that are very soothing for our babies," said PMC NICU Manager, Jodi Ison.

PMC HONORS PHYSICIANS FOR 25 YEARS OF SERVICE



Drs. R.V. and Jyothi Mettu, with staff members of the PMC Sleep Center

By: Amanda Jo Lawson

Pikeville Medical Center (PMC) has recognized long-time physician R.V. Mettu, MD, (Dr. Mettu) for his 25 years of dedication and commitment to the hospital's Sleep Center.

Chief Executive Officer and Board of Directors Vice President, Donovan Blackburn said, "PMC has been truly blessed to have Dr. Mettu, along with his wife, Jyothi Mettu, MD, (Dr. Jyothi) who have dedicated their careers to treating patients."

Drs. R.V. and Jyothi Mettu saw the need for pulmonary and critical care needs upon their arrival to this community in 1982. He treated critical care patients while she worked with pediatric patients.

PMC's Sleep Center was established in 1994 to diagnose and treat respiratory sleep disorders such as sleep apnea, narcolepsy, insomnia, and restless leg syndrome. At that time, Dr. Mettu was named Medical Director.

Just one year later, the Sleep Center received accreditation by the American Academy of Sleep Medicine (AASM). The AASM is the gold standard by which the medical community evaluates sleep medicine facilities.

Over the years, the center has doubled in size to meet the demands of patients.

In 2001, Dr. Jyothi recognized an increase in the need to treat pediatric patients with sleep disorders in the area. At that time, she became one of fewer than 100 physicians cer-

tified in the United States to treat Pediatric Sleep disorders.

She joined her husband, growing the center exponentially to accommodate adults and pediatric patients.

In addition to providing care to the region, the two spend time demonstrating many acts of kindness by participating in charitable events throughout the community.

Blackburn says the couple deserves recognition for their incredible loyalty and passion for the region.

Dr. Jyothi is now retired and currently serving on PMC's Board of Directors, while Dr. Mettu continues to treat patients with sleep disorders.

"The dedication, leadership, and commitment of PMC's administration is an integral part of the Sleep Center's success," said Dr. Mettu.

He says he would like to recognize the staff for their dedication to PMC's Sleep Center: Dwight Buckley, Todd Werner, Faye Hagerman, Patricia Stuartson, Margaret Ashby, Kim Jacobs, Kay Casebolt, Linda Greer and Susan Varney.

Throughout the years, they helped maintain quality care for the patients.

For more information about PMC's Sleep Center or to schedule an appointment, call 606-218-3989 or visit www.pikevillehospital.org.

PMC CANCER CENTER HOSTS ICE CREAM SOCIAL FOR COMMUNITY

By: Amy Charles

Pikeville Medical Center (PMC) hosted an ice cream social for the community on Friday, June 28. The event was organized by Oncology Outreach Coordinator Melissa Bentley and was held on Clinic 10, the new home of the Leonard Lawson Cancer Center.

Over 6,000 invitations were sent out in the weeks leading up to the event. In all, more than 200 visitors came through the line to enjoy their choice of a banana split, sundae or waffle cone. PMC's Food and Nutritional Services catered everything, including sugar-free ice cream and topping options.



"I loved this event because it was a time that everyone who is a part of the cancer center could come together as a family and realize that life after cancer is worth a celebration," said Bentley. "Many of our former patients were so touched that we still consider them part of the Cancer Center family."

Another special highlight of the event was the balloon art. To get to the ice cream, event-goers had to pass under a large balloon arch with balloon milkshakes anchoring both ends. There was also a six-foot ice cream sundae created from balloons. PMC IT Auditor Ricky Hamilton, created it all for the Cancer Center and the enjoyment of everyone there.

"This was a great way to introduce everyone to the brand new Cancer Center," said Leonard Lawson Cancer Center Manager Marigo Werner.