



CHRONICLE & TIMES

Wednesday, February 14, 2018

FLOYD COUNTY

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KSP: Johnson Co. shooter killed four before taking own life

By AARON K. NELSON
APPALACHIAN NEWSPAPERS

Detectives with Kentucky State Police and the Johnson County Sheriff's Office are continuing to investigate a multiple homicide case in which police say a man killed his parents, girlfriend

and girlfriend's mother before killing himself over the span of several hours on Saturday.

In a statement, Johnson County Sheriff Dwayne Price said he and his deputies responded to a 911 call regarding a shooting at

See SHOOTER, Page 4A

Former Martin teacher recommended to complete drug court

A FLOYD CHRONICLE AND TIMES STAFF REPORT

A Martin teacher who was found with drugs and drug paraphernalia in her vehicle while on school property was sentenced to drug court and two years probation Monday.

Raquel Cain, a former special-education teacher at the Renaissance Learning Center, appeared in Floyd District Court Monday in relation to two charges: Theft by unlawful taking and

See TEACHER, Page 2A

Flooding causes minimal damage in Floyd



By MARY MEADOWS
STAFF WRITER

Floyd County received minimal damage with flood waters that impacted the region this weekend.

Floyd County Judge-Executive Ben Hale declared a state of emergency on Feb. 10, before the storm hit, launching the county's emergency operations plan and waiving procedures related to public work so the cleanup could begin.

Several inches of rain soaked the region over the weekend, causing damage in some communities. Floyd County, however, received only minimal damage, but Hale reported the damage was widespread — with flooding causing issues in every magisterial district.

"We had a pretty good lick," Hale said.

The National Weather Service's Advanced Hydrologic Prediction

See FLOODING, Page 8A

Floyd Chronicle and Times photo by Mary Meadows
Flooding closed streets in Allen and several other communities in Floyd County this weekend. Officials reported minimal damage to homes, with most issues caused by flooded basements.

Prestonsburg Utilities creates new apprenticeship program

By MARY MEADOWS
STAFF WRITER

It's taken two years of planning, but Prestonsburg is now home to Kentucky's first apprenticeship for water and wastewater treatment plant operators.

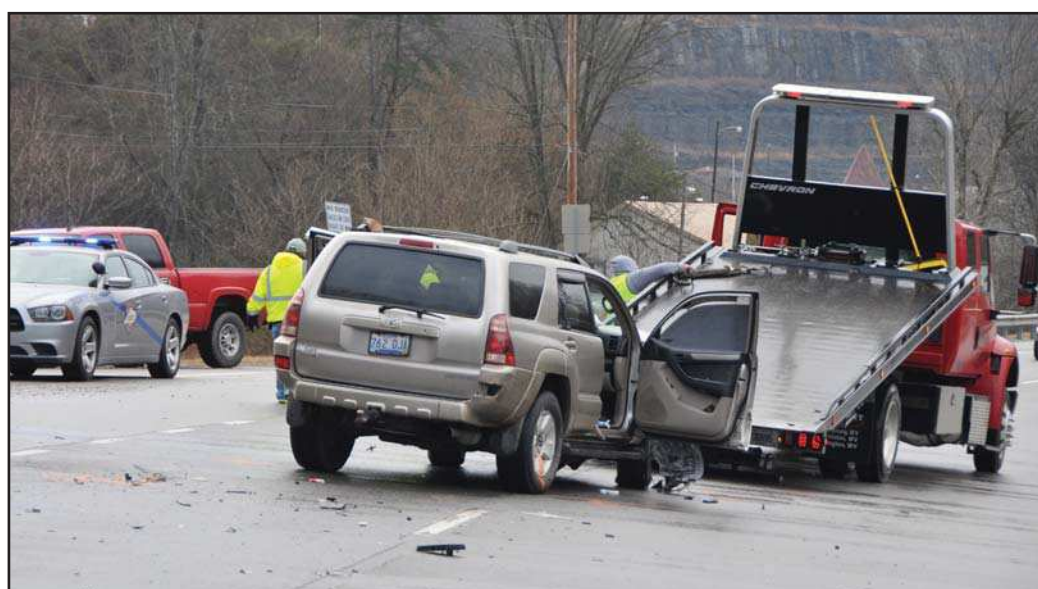
Kentucky Labor Cabinet Deputy Secretary Mike Nemes traveled with several state officials to Prestonsburg on Feb. 13 to announce

the registration of the new apprenticeship in partnership with officials from the Prestonsburg City Utilities Commission and Big Sandy Community & Technical College.

"I think this is the first one, so, after your success, it will just go on throughout the state," Nemes told Prestonsburg officials.

See PROGRAM, Page 7A

KSP: One arrested after crash



Floyd Chronicle and Times photo by Mary Meadows

A Johnson County man was arrested after a pursuit by police ended in a crash on Ky. 80 Tuesday, according to court documents. The citation in the case said that Kentucky State Police attempted to initiate a traffic stop on a vehicle driven by James Neal Sisco, 43, of Meally. Sisco, the citation said, refused to stop and was caught after he attempted to change his path of travel on Ky. 80 and turned into oncoming traffic, leading to a collision with another vehicle. Sisco was arrested on charges including fleeing or evading police, reckless driving, DUI, first-degree wanton endangerment and second-degree assault. Sisco, the citation said, admitted to troopers that he had been "smoking a joint" during the pursuit. He was lodged in the Floyd County Jail.

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Judge probates meth-related charges

By JOSH LITTLE
STAFF WRITER

A Floyd woman convicted on methamphetamine charges received a probated sentence last week, a move the judge said was a rare one.

Tiffanie Robinson, 40, formerly of Peach Tree Drive, Prestonsburg, was originally charged with manufacturing methamphetamine, driving under the influence, possession of meth, tampering with physical evidence, unlawful possession of meth precursor, possession of marijuana,

possession of a legend drug, first-degree wanton endangerment (two counts), operating a vehicle on a suspended license and possession of drug paraphernalia. These charges were filed in 2015.

Robinson's attorney told the judge that since 2015, Robinson had completed drug rehabilitation treatment, had earned two college certifications, had been employed and was now a homeowner. Robinson has been residing in West Liberty since completing treatment. Robinson has also been leading some recovery classes.

In 2015, when charges were filed, according to Floyd Commonwealth's Attorney Brent Turner, officers were informed to look out for the vehicle in which Robinson and another person were traveling.

"When they were stopped, (officers) found several meth precursors, items that can be used to make meth," said Turner, which led to the manufacturing meth charge.

During the scheduled pre-trial hearing, Robinson "owned up" to the crime, Turner said. He said that, at that time, she had already completed treat-

ment and was doing well.

"She actually came in and, without really being asked to, admitted that the items in the car were hers and the other girl in the car wasn't aware of them," said Turner. "I don't know that I've had a case like this before, where someone was that honest about it."

Turner said at the pre-trial, the commonwealth agreed to a 10-year sentence to be probated after Robinson served five years. Judge Thomas Smith amended the manufacturing charge Thursday, which is usually a 10-year sentence, to

a possession of meth precursors charge. The possession of meth precursors charge was probated for five years, 12 months probated for driving under the influence and 90 days probated for a traffic charge.

Judge Smith said he had never completely probated such sentences before and told the court he hoped he would not regret the decision.

"You are what we hope for," he told Robinson, after hearing her testimony.

Man charged with 30 counts of wanton endangerment has sentence probated

By JOSH LITTLE
STAFF WRITER

A Hueysville man charged with 30 counts of wanton endangerment after his vehicle nearly collided with a school bus was sentenced to five years probation Thursday.

Matthew Prater, 25, of Jefferson Road, Hueysville, was charged with 30 counts of first-degree wanton endangerment. Prater appeared before Judge Thomas Smith in Floyd Circuit Court Thursday for his sentencing hearing.

Floyd Commonwealth's Attorney Brent Turner said Prater could have been charged for each person on the school bus, or for one count which encompasses all people on the bus.

"Because it was children, and because we wanted to make sure everyone was listed, it was listed with each individual count for each person on the bus," said Turner. "For plea purposes, given what the sentence was, we merged all of that into one count."

Prior to his arrest,

officers received a complaint about Prater being disruptive at an ARH clinic in Wayland, Turner said.

"He was leaving that place, going toward Martin, and he drove upon the median and went by a school bus in the adjacent lane," said Turner. "He came close to actually hitting the bus, but he didn't."

Turner said Prater was arrested after he wrecked his vehicle. The Martin Police Department charged Prater with driving under the influence. Turner said the officers were not aware of the school bus incident at the time. The bus driver reported the incident, which prompted a separate case.

Prior to Thursday, Prater had already resolved the DUI case in Floyd District Court.

Prater was sentenced Thursday to five years in prison, which was probated for five years under certain conditions. Those conditions include drug and alcohol testing during his supervised probation.

TEACHER Continued From Page 1A

possession of a controlled substance.

Cain was arrested on Jan. 25 following a random K-9 search of the school. Upon being drawn to Cain's vehicle by the

K-9 unit, Martin Police Chief Michael Napier said, officers located particles of marijuana, or "shake," in the floorboard, a straw with a light colored residue on the end, which Napier said was suspected to be a controlled substance.

Cain pleaded guilty to the theft charge. The possession charge was diverted by Floyd District Judge Eric D. Hall. Cain will be ordered to serve a 12-month prison sentence, which will be probated for 24 months, under the condition that she completes drug court.

Floyd County Assistant County Attorney Tyler Green said the prosecution wanted to give Cain a chance to get her life in order and to become a productive member of society.

"We provided (Cain) with the opportunity to get help with her addiction while also providing a higher level of supervision," Green said



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Kentucky Power seeks new hearing

PSC miscalculated tax savings, other aspects of case, company claims

**AN APPALACHIAN
NEWSPAPERS
STAFF REPORT**

In cases that would have increased revenues for Kentucky Power and its customers, the Kentucky Public Service Commission issued orders last month to reduce customer bills by four percent.

Now, Kentucky Power and an intervenor in the rate case, the Kentucky Industrial Utility Customers, are asking for a rehearing.

Both of them filed motions for rehearing of this case on Feb. 7.

In its motion, the KIUC asks the PSC to lower Kentucky Power's rate increase by \$1.31 million to reflect a reduction in the federal taxes it will owe for the Rockport power plant.

The KIUC filed a complaint with the PSC on Dec. 20, 2017, seeking a reduction in rates from four investor-owned electric companies in the state, including Kentucky Power, and that case is ongoing.

In the request filed last week in the Kentucky Power rate case, the KIUC references the PSC order, which stated, "due to the economic conditions in Kentucky Power's service territory, the

Commission believes that the impact of the federal corporate income tax reduction on rates should be put into place...In addition, the lower rates should serve as an impetus for economic development through recruiting new businesses as well as maintaining existing business customers."

The PSC reduced Kentucky Power's proposed revenue requirement by \$19.4 million in that Jan. 18 order, but the KIUC believes it should be reduced by another \$1.31 million because federal tax savings for the company's Rockport plant were not included in the PSC order.

Kentucky Power's request for a rehearing, however, comes because the company believes its revenue requirement should be more than what the PSC ordered.

In its motion, Kentucky Power said the PSC rate case order and an order issued in another Kentucky Power case on Jan. 18 was "in large part supported the bargain struck" in a settlement agreement that most intervenors agreed with.

Kentucky Power argues that the rate case order understated the company's revenue requirement by more than \$2.3 million, and asks the PSC to amend its order to reflect that revenue increase.

It argues that the PSC's calculation of its federal tax savings understated its revenue requirement by \$765,000 and other calculations understated a tariff by more than \$1.15 million and its accounts receivable financing by nearly \$392,000. It also seeks the rehearing and clarification for costs associated with the Rockport facility.

Kentucky Power asserts that its savings from the federal tax cut law, which cut corporate taxes from 35 to 21 percent, was miscalculated by the PSC.

"Kentucky Power joins the Commission in its desire to provide the Company's customers with the net benefits of Tax Cuts and Jobs Act as quickly as possible," the company asserted. "Nevertheless, those benefits must be correctly calculated."

It explained that the federal tax was enacted after the PSC hearing in the case, and the PSC "lacked the opportunity to develop a record concerning the effect" of the tax cuts on Kentucky Power's cost of service.

On the Rockport issue, Kentucky Power asserts that the approved deferral of the Rockport expenses, allowed "lower bill impacts for customers in the near term in exchange for the promise of later recovery" by Kentucky

Power. The approval of that deferral reduced Kentucky Power's base rate revenue requirement by \$15 million, as it planned to defer \$50 million to recover at a later date.

The PSC order was contingent on Kentucky Power not renewing the Rockport Unit Power Agreement, Kentucky Power argues, and that could impact the company's credit rating. It asks that the company be allowed to recover the Rockport deferral regardless of other aspects of the case.

Kentucky Power also asserts that the PSC erred in finding that the company acted unreasonably in its accounts receivable financing. The PSC ruled that selling receivables but maintaining the bad debt "places and undue burden" on Kentucky Power customers, but the company argues that

requiring the company to "bear the expense" associated with its bad debt "does not prejudice Kentucky Power, or its customers, or impose costs different from what it would otherwise bear."

Closing its motion, Kentucky Power claims that making these adjustment would not change "customer bill impacts" the PSC previously ordered for the company's customers.

It reported that the PSC has

the option through another case, in which the federal income tax cuts are being considered, to "correct" Kentucky Power's revenue requirements "while maintaining the benefit of the specific customer bill impact ordered" in the rate case.

The Kentucky Power rate case garnered more than 500 public comments last year—more than one PSC officials said had been filed in rate cases in his 16 years with the agency.

Kentucky Power initially sought \$60 million in increased revenues, and, after refinancing debt, the company reached a settlement with some of the parties of the case, agreeing to lower its revenue request to \$31.8 million. PSC order decreased that amount to more than \$12 million.

The PSC discontinued nearly all of Kentucky Power's demand side management programs, eliminated monthly charges customers paid for the company's economic development programs, ended a school tariff, and, among other things, reduced the amount Kentucky Power sought in returns to its shareholders. The PSC issued an order late last month to correct some calculations in that ruling.

Job Corps seeks vendors for college/career day

**A FLOYD CHRONICLE AND
TIMES STAFF REPORT**

Carl D. Perkins Job Corps Center is seeking vendors for its annual College and Career Day, which will be held on March 1.

The event is open to vendors from across the state. There is no charge to participate, and the center will provide breakfast for all vendors at 8 a.m. as

well as free lunch.

The college and career day event will last from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on March 1, and high school students from Floyd and surrounding counties are expected to participate. The event is open to the general public as well.

For more information about participating, call Jimmie Wilson at, (606) 433-2265, or email her at, Wilson.Jimmie@jobcorps.org.

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Sacred Six

Big Sandy RIDA to partner with Jenny Wiley park for overnight elk tours

By JOSH LITTLE
STAFF WRITER

The possibility of overnight elk tours in Prestonsburg is under consideration.

At Monday's meeting of the Big Sandy Regional Industrial Development Authority (BSRIDA), the commission was present-

ed with the possibility of a partnership with the Jenny Wiley State Resort Park to offer overnight elk tours.

Trinity Shepherd, park naturalist at Jenny Wiley State Resort Park, attended the meeting to discuss the idea with the board. Shepherd would lead the overnight tours,

which he has done in the past in Knott County. He said that the elk tours at Jenny Wiley have been ongoing since 2002 and have been successful, drawing people from different states and countries. He said since 2002, there has never been an incident on one of the tours.

"We're always trying to keep up with the times. We're always trying to offer unique experiences," said Shepherd.

He said that the Big Sandy Regional Airport and the business district located nearby are great places to see elk. The partnership would include the BSRIDA allowing Shepherd and the park to camp in that area during the tour. Shepherd proposed an annual

event with maybe one or two overnight tours per year. He said the tours would likely be limited to 20 people each tour.

"We're very proud of our elk tours," said Shepherd. "It's a way to get people to come into our area hopefully to spend much needed funds. And, also, to showcase our area."

He said the tours are noninvasive to the area. All trash is collected and

no fires will be started on the ground. The area will be left the way it was found, Shepherd said.

Jim Booth, the board's chairman, said the board's attorney would be working on some documentation for legal purposes. Another board member mentioned notifying the business owners in the business district.

Marshall Tucker Band to perform at MAC

A FLOYD CHRONICLE AND
TIMES STAFF REPORT

The Marshall Tucker Band will perform at the Mountain Arts Center in Prestonsburg at 8 p.m. Saturday, May 19.

The Marshall Tucker Band records on its own record label — RAMBLIN' RECORDS — and continues to release new and previously unreleased material. The group is still led by founding member

and lead vocalist Doug Gray.

Gray is quick to credit the band's current dynamic members with carrying on the timeless essence of the Marshall Tucker Band sound, according to a statement released by Big Spring Entertainment on Monday. Current members include the highly respected drummer B.B. Borden, a former member of both Mother's Finest and The Outlaws, multi-instrumentalist Marcus Henderson of Macon, Georgia, plays flute, saxophone and keyboards in addition to lead and background vocals, Pat Elwood on bass guitar, and Rick Willis on lead guitar and vocals, both of Spartanburg, South Carolina, are disciples of the Caldwell Brothers. Acclaimed lead guitarist and vocalist Chris Hicks recently rejoined the band after

a two-year absence, the statement said. "Together they present a powerful stage presence as they continue to tour the country and continue to be powerful force in the world of music," the statement said.

The band's hit singles include: "Heard It In a Love Song," "Fire On The Mountain," "Can't You See" and "Take The Highway." They earned seven gold and three platinum albums while they were on the Capricorn Records label.

Presale tickets will be available from 10 a.m. until 10 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 15, using the code "MTBMAC." Tickets will be available Friday at the Mountain Arts Center Box Office, online at, www.macarts.com, or by phone, at, 1-888-MAC-ARTS. Tickets range from \$34-\$54, additional fees may apply.

SHOOTER

Continued From Page 1A

ing at a residence on McKenzie Branch near Volga. The call, Price said, came from the alleged shooter's 19-year-old son, who had fled the scene when the shooting began and was able to make it to a local shop to reach authorities.

At the residence, Price said, he and the deputies found Arlene and Wayne Nickell deceased in the kitchen, and contacted Kentucky State Police Post 9.

Law enforcement officers with both agencies, as well as Paintsville City Police, began attempting to locate a black Toyota Camry believed to be the shooter's vehicle, according to a statement from the Johnson County Sheriff's Office. They located the vehicle following a 911 tip reporting it on Mill Street in Paintsville. Inside a nearby apartment, the statement said, police found three more dead: The alleged shooter, Joseph Nickell, as well as Nickell's girlfriend, Lindsay Vanhooe, and Vanhooe's mother, Patricia Vanhooe.

"I have worked in law enforcement for 34 years. This is one of the most disturbing acts of violence I have ever

seen," Price said in a statement.

Price also thanked his deputies, Paintsville Police officers, and the Kentucky State Police for their professional cooperation.

"... It makes a difference to work as a team," Price said.

At one of the scenes, investigators also found a note believed to have been written by Nickell.

"Out of respect to the families, we can't say what was in the note, but it was trying to explain his actions," Price said.

Last year, Nickell's older sister, Rebekah Lynn Nickell, passed away.

Price likened the killings to those of Willie Blanton in 2013, another Johnson County man who killed his parents.

"The scenes are never the same but the chilling outcome is always heart wrenching. No matter how many deaths you have seen or how many scenes you have been on, it never gets easier. As officers, one of our first concerns is for the surviving family members. Our intent is to honor them with as much privacy as possible during their time of grief. Please remember these families in your prayers," Price said.



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EDITORIAL:

Allen annexation a bad idea

City officials need to become real 'leaders,' get grip on existing city before taking on more responsibility

In the world of government, there are only two ways to deal with economic issues: Raise revenue or cut expenses.

Neither is a popular option, but it's a reality that government agencies cannot run without a sustained budget which focuses on covering expenses with its revenues. Government agencies cannot operate in the "red."

With that in mind, we can understand the things which influenced the City of Allen to consider annexing properties that include several nearby businesses.

In many cases, that would be not only an acceptable idea but an encouraged one. After all, even though the businesses would face increased taxes and regulations, ideally, there would also be the payoff of receiving better services and representation.

However, this is not the ideal situation.

Allen, for all intents and purposes, is struggling, and it's not

just an economic struggle. The city's very identity is at stake. Officials expressed during a recent meeting that they may not even know how much money the municipality has on-hand or coming in at any given time.

To not even know the most elementary of facts about the community is concerning for the existing community. To then tack on the possibility of added area of responsibility when the city officials have not expressed enough concern to know its finances is absolutely chilling.

There's also the matter of the city's lack of filing even the most basic of economic paperwork with the state, a move which has prevented the city from accessing road funds that could help improve the quality of life for the city's residents.

Even further, during recent meetings, two commissioners threatened to resign because they couldn't hire a cousin of

one of them without approving a resolution to create the position, amending the budget to accommodate his salary or opening the position to the public. These are legally required tasks that must be undertaken to hire an employee, as they learned again last week.

Allen has been working to fix its financial reporting deficiencies with the state since 2016, and it has taken positive steps in that regard, even though some of them did not work out. But after all of this time, if the commission still doesn't have a handle on how much money the city has, there are still major issues to be resolved.

But with all of the misstatements, misunderstandings and lack of knowledge about city filing requirements and other matters, we'd argue that perhaps it would be best if every single Allen official receives training before going forward with an annexation pro-

cess. Governing is a complicated thing and the laws that govern a city's ability to govern are not always easy to understand. All local government leaders should get the training they need so they know what they're doing, what's legally required of them, and how best they can represent the people they serve.

Allen officials can start with its partner, the Kentucky League of Cities. That agency offers troves of advice, information and resources online, a free training for new city officials and a "City Official Training Center" in which city officials may receive training on a per-training fee.

The KLC website even offers a sample ordinance that Allen could adopt so that city officials who receive this training can earn incentive payments of between \$100 and \$500.

Another good starting-point for Allen leaders is the Kentucky

Municipal Statutory Law, a booklet published by the Legislative Research Commission. It details everything city leaders need to know and it's available free online.

The commission could even host its own workshop and invite city officials from elsewhere to help them comb through the basics — something Wayland Mayor Jerry Fultz volunteered to do for them last year, it was reported.

City Attorney Beth Shortridge is doing a good job letting the commission know about the legal requirements they have, but it's time for Allen commissioners to stop relying solely on her and take it upon themselves to learn a few basics about operating a city government.

It's time for Allen leaders to lay a foundation so that the idea of annexation is not a concern but a given. It's time for Allen leaders to step up to the plate and lead.

LETTERS:

Infrastructure investment needed in Kentucky

Each year Kentucky's roads, rails, rivers and airports carry more than \$500 billion in freight to, from and through our economy. Our employers such as UPS, Toyota and Ford require a reliable and efficient transportation system, as do some forty-five hundred manufacturers and their nearly quarter-million employees spread across the Commonwealth. Infrastructure is the most essential, broad-based service that our tax dollars fund. But we are falling behind — in maintenance, in capacity,

and behind our neighboring states as we compete for economic investment, job and wage growth and a better quality of life.

Kentucky is blessed with three global shipping centers, 20 interstates and major highways, major railways, barge traffic on two large rivers and more than 65 commercial and regional airports. But Kentucky also has almost twice the number of narrow rural roads compared to the U.S. average, as well as more than 1,100 structurally deficient bridges — 19th in the nation — and

more than 3,100 functionally obsolete bridges.

We are fortunate to have a competitive edge in logistics due to our geographic location. If we are to maintain that edge, we must continue to invest in our transportation systems. Our economic development and job creation initiatives rely on a strong transportation infrastructure that is funded at a level capable of maintaining the current system and growing with the future.

As we continue to grow our economy, we place additional stresses on an al-

ready stressed transportation network because our traffic growth is outpacing the funding mechanisms in place to repair, replace and build new. Additional investment is needed to keep our commonwealth strong and support its continued growth. The time to act is now. Delays will drive up costs and put us further behind our competitor states, many of which — like Indiana and Tennessee — have already increased their investments in infrastructure.

We lost \$200 million dollars, or 27 percent, to

the road fund in 2015 from the motor fuels user fee. The motor fuels user fee is the primary funding mechanism to maintain Kentucky's roads and bridges and expand our transportation infrastructure. It is calculated on the average wholesale price of gasoline, so as the price of gas goes down, so does the user fee. The user fee dropped by 6.5 cents per gallon in 2015.

The Kentucky Infrastructure Coalition (KIC) was formed by Kentuckians for Better Transportation, a transportation advocacy

group. The KIC is composed of a group of local chambers of commerce, county officials, transportation industry trade associations, Kentucky Aviation Association, Kentucky Waterways Association, Kentucky Transit Association, Kentucky Farm Bureau and individual businesses across the Commonwealth. The group was formed to advocate, restore and increase the road fund to provide for sufficient funds to maintain and expand our current transportation systems. We can do that this year and KAM urges our policymakers to consider passing transportation infrastructure funding reforms this legislative session.

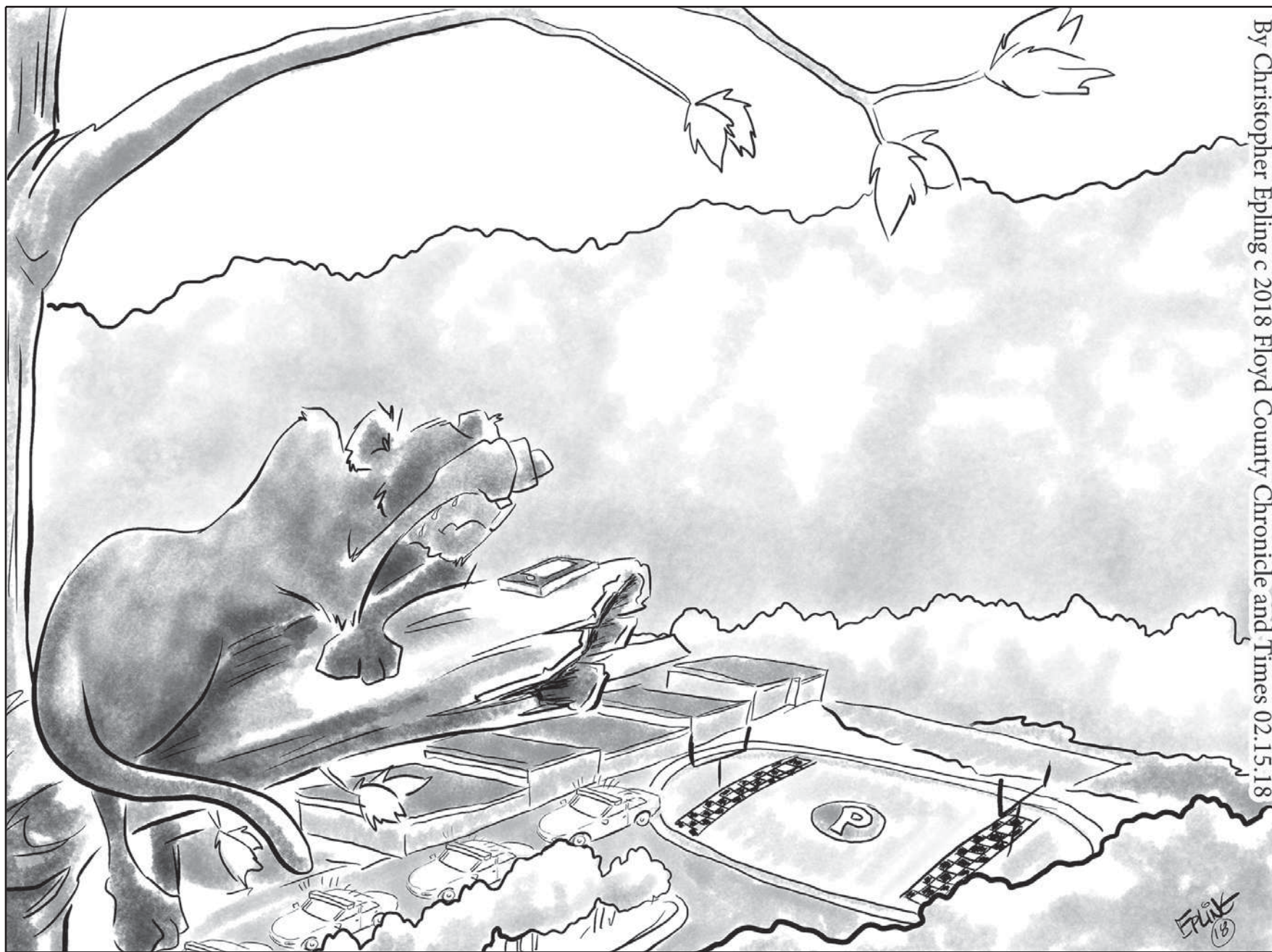
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By Christopher Epling c 2018 Floyd County Chronicle and Times 02.15.18

"AJ" Case Jr.

Alan "AJ" Case Jr., 24 of Owington, died Sunday, Feb. 11, 2018.

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

"Roe" Evans

Kennis "Roe" Evans, 90, of Grethel, died Saturday, Feb. 10, 2018.

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

Denver Hall

Denver Hall, 70, of Morehead, died Wednesday, Feb. 7, 2018.

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

Paul Horn

Paul Bryan Horn, 78, of Prestonsburg, died Saturday, Feb. 3, 2018.

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

Ruthene Howell

Ruthene Hall Howell, 85, of McDowell, died Saturday, Feb. 10, 2018.

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

Robert Mahaska

Robert Mahaska, 66, of Martin, died Friday, Feb. 9, 2018.

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

Glenda Newsome

Glenda Osborne Newsome, 56, of Teaberry, died Thursday, Feb. 8, 2018.

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

Billy Osborn Jr.

Billy Gene Osborn Jr., 41, of Ivel, died Monday, Feb. 12, 2018.

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

Beacher Shepherd

Beacher Shepherd, 86, of David, died Thursday, Feb. 8, 2018.

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

Mary Spradlin

Mary Elizabeth Spradlin, 52, of Tutor Key, died Thursday, Feb. 8, 2018.

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

"Lucian" Stephens

James "Lucian" Stephens, 70, of Prestonsburg, died Sunday, Feb. 11, 2018.

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

Blake Waugh

Blake Edward Waugh, 31, of Clay City, died Friday, Feb. 9, 2018.

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

Tyler Booth talks music, upcoming performance at MAC

By JOSH LITTLE
STAFF WRITER

Eastern Kentucky native Tyler Booth will be performing at the Mountain Arts Center with Josh Martin at 7:30 p.m. on March 23. Booth, who is from Campton, said he is excited to get on the MAC stage, a place he used to frequent.

Booth, a country singer, enjoys classical country music.

"I really like classic artists like Merle Haggard and Waylon Jennings," said Booth. "I'm a big fan of George Strait and Alan Jackson and more recently I really love Sturgill Simpson, Chris Stapleton and Tyler Childers. I really like the way Luke Combs twists meanings too."

As for people who inspired his musical journey, Booth said he has many, but his biggest inspiration is his dad.

"My Dad is by far my biggest influence," he said. "He believes in me when even I don't. Without him I sure wouldn't be where I am right now."

Booth's uncle, Gene, sang in a rock band — Stitch Rivet. Two of the members from that Stitch Rivet are members of his band, the Asphalt Outlaws.

His inspiration stretches to Nashville.

"Phil O'Donnell in Nashville has really helped me figure out who I am and has taken me under his wing," he said. "Phil is like family now. Moose Brown and Don Sampson sure do mean a lot to me too."

Booth said people from Eastern Kentucky like to use music to tell stories, and he is no different.

"I think we all know people that like to tell tall tales, so storytelling in songwriting is kind

of natural for me and really anybody who plays an instrument from this area," he said.

His single, "Hank Crankin' People," tells a story. He said it's still surreal to him to hear people singing that single to him.

"People sing my songs back to me and that's something that usually takes a lot of shows and miles on the highway to have happen," he said. "Just been really blessed honestly. I love Eastern Kentucky and all the people here."

Although he likes performing at Austin City in Lexington, he said his favorite performance was close to home.

"The most fun I've had was a hometown show that we put on with Jimmy Yeary in Campton," he said. "It was just so great to see so many people that believed in me and I really appreciated the love from

everyone. I hope we can that again soon. Seemed like the community really liked it too."

Performing at the MAC will be an interesting experience. Booth said he has been to many shows at the center always sitting in the audience, until now.

"I've been going to shows there for most of my life, so it's sort of crazy when I sit back and think about it," he said. "I probably shouldn't think too much about it. I'd probably make myself nervous. It'll be a lot of fun though."

He said his family and friends have already purchased their tickets for the show.

Performing at the MAC marks a milestone for Booth, but he hopes this is only the beginning.

"Really I just want to make music a career," he said. "Everybody dreams of being a big

country singer or just famous, and I wouldn't mind it myself, but if I can survive by making music that's really what I'd like to do. If that don't work out, I may go back to Morehead (State University) or maybe join the military. It's just good that I've got options really, but I'd sure like to have a music career."

Booth's single, "Hank Crankin' People," had more than 14,000 Youtube views as of Monday afternoon. For more information about Booth, find him on FaceBook, or go online at, www.tylerboothmusic.com.

Tickets for the show can be purchased at the Mountain Arts Center Box Office, online at, www.macarts.com, or by phone, at, 1-888-MAC-ARTS.

What's happening at the library?

A FLOYD CHRONICLE AND TIMES STAFF REPORT

February consists of a full month of events taking place at the Floyd County Public Library's two branches. Events from craft classes to parties, will be offered, and they are all free.

The following events will be hosted at the Floyd County Public Library's Prestonsburg Branch:

- Mommy & Me Sewing Class (Prestonsburg) — This sewing class meets every Monday at 3:30 to work on a monthly project. Children of all ages are welcome to attend with an adult (it doesn't have to be a mother!). Basic sewing skills are taught to both

adult and child. Currently, the class projects are all done by hand, with no sewing machines used. No registration is required, and new students may join the class at any time. The class is offered until May 7.

- Morning and afternoon story times (Prestonsburg) — Afternoon story time begins at 2 p.m. each Wednesday until May 9. Morning story time begins at 10:30 a.m. each Thursday until May 10. The event features stories, songs and crafts.

- Design Your Own Doll Shirt (Prestonsburg) — Thursday, Feb. 8 beginning at 4 p.m.: The library will provide a white shirt to fit an 18-inch doll

that may be decorated with fabric markers and other embellishments. Space is limited and shirts will be given on a first come, first served basis. All materials will be provided.

- Valentine's Cookie Decorating (Prestonsburg) — Tuesday, Feb. 13 beginning at 5 p.m.: Heart-shaped sugar cookies will be prepared, and patrons may decorate them as desired with icing and sprinkles. All materials will be provided. No registration required.

- After School Family/Teen Craft class (Prestonsburg) — Wednesday, Feb. 14 beginning at 3:30 p.m.: Supplies will be available for interest-

ed attendees to create a heart-shaped pillow. The event is first-come-first-served.

- Trolls and Treasure Chests (Prestonsburg) — Saturday, Feb. 17 from 11 a.m. until 5 p.m.: Family treasure hunt. Seek out trolls and treasure chests for a fun mystery, riddle solving ride. Sign up is required and can be completed via Facebook or by calling the library at, (606) 886-2981. Space is limited to 14 families.

- Tai Chi Class (for beginners) (Prestonsburg) — This is a video driven class. The classes meet each Wednesday and Friday from 6:30-7:30 p.m. from March 7 until June 29.

- Dr. Seuss Birthday

Party and Magic Show (Prestonsburg) — Tuesday, Feb. 27 beginning at 5 p.m.: To celebrate the birth of Dr. Seuss, the Floyd County Public Library will host a birthday party with a special magic show. Games, crafts and cupcakes will also be available. The magic show begins at 6 p.m.

The following events will be hosted at the Floyd County Public Library's Eastern Branch:

- Story Time (Eastern) — Story Time is held at 1 p.m. each Wednesday.

- Family Game Time (Eastern) — Friday, Feb. 9 beginning at 4 p.m.: Board games and cards will be provided by the library. Families are en-

couraged to attend.

- Legos (Eastern) — Tuesday, Feb. 13 beginning at 4 p.m.: Play and build with lego blocks provided by the library.

- What's Cookin'? (Eastern) — Tuesday, Feb. 13 beginning at 10:30 a.m.: This class is instructed by the University of Kentucky's Cooperative Extension Service. Learn new healthy, budget-friendly recipes at this class. Recipes will be sampled.

For more information about upcoming events at the Floyd County Public Library, find them on FaceBook or contact the library by phone at, (606)886-2981.



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Front Porch Pickin' returns to the MAC

SPECIAL TO THE FLOYD CHRONICLE AND TIMES

The Original Front Porch Pickin', one of the Mountain Arts Center's (MAC) house productions, will return on Friday, Feb. 23 with Appalachian Wireless stepping up as the official sponsor once again for the 2018 season. This will be the local telecommunications company's second year as the

presenting sponsor.

MAC Executive Director Clayton Case said he is thrilled about the continued support.

"We are extremely excited about this sponsorship that will enable us to continue this programming to, and for, our local musicians and patrons," he said. "We can continue to offer this local event that highlights our wonderful talent in the region. It shows Appalachian

Wireless's commitment of our community."

Ashley Litteral, Marketing Manager for Appalachian Wireless, said they are glad they could step up again.

"We are very proud to be the presenting sponsor for Front Porch Pickin'," he said. "The talent in our region is a huge part of the culture of Appalachia. We feel like this is a great way to aid the local arts

and music scene, and invest in our community."

Front Porch Pickin' is an open-mic format that regularly hosts bluegrass, folk, acoustic and gospel musicians. Members of the MAC house band lead groups of musicians and vocalists through old favorites and originals. Anybody that wants to perform, will need to arrive early and write their name down along with the

song they have chosen, on the sign-up sheet backstage.

The first show of 2018 will begin at 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 23. For more information and the schedule for the rest of the year, call the Mountain Arts Center at, (606) 889-9125 or visit, www.macarts.com.

Saint Joseph Martin to host 'Go Red for Women' luncheon next week

SPECIAL TO THE FLOYD CHRONICLE AND TIMES

As part of the national effort to increase awareness of cardiovascular disease in women, Saint Joseph Martin, part of KentuckyOne Health, is partnering with the

American Heart Association to host a Go Red for Women Lunch and Learn event this week.

The free luncheon will take place from noon to 1 p.m. on Thursday, February 15 at the Wilkinson Stumbo Convention Center, located in Jenny Wi-

ley State Resort Park in Prestonsburg.

John Triplett, DO, of KentuckyOne Health Primary Care Associates, will discuss the signs, symptoms and prevention of heart attacks in women. Complimentary lunch will be provided.

The month of February marks American Heart Month, a time to help spread awareness about how to prevent heart disease, and to encourage people to live heart healthy lives. According to the American Heart Association, heart

disease is the top killer of women, and a staggering 90 percent of women have one or more risk factors for developing heart disease or stroke. Statistics show that 80 percent of heart disease and stroke events in women may be prevent-

ed by lifestyle changes and education.

For details or to RSVP, call, (606) 285-6401, or, (606) 285-0002. Registration closes on Feb. 12. For more information, visit, kentuckyonehealth.org.

PROGRAM

Continued From Page 1A

Prestonsburg Utilities, which serves thousands of customers in the city and in neighboring counties and communities, has 18 certified operators for its Class IV water plant. This apprenticeship will help it find new operators and it will shorten the time it takes for them to earn certification, officials said.

Prestonsburg Mayor Les Stapleton said city officials have been working with the college and state agencies for two years to establish the apprenticeship. He said the need for the program arose during a Rural Water Association meeting in which an official pointed out that most water treatment operators in attendance were older.

"We've actually got a

situation now where we can have people that are getting trained and getting their certifications quicker so they can go right into the workforce," he said, later pointing out that "the fact that city utilities has taken it upon themselves to be a leader in it is awesome."

Prestonsburg City Utilities Superintendent and CEO Turner E. Campbell said the commission has considered establishing a training program for years. He said it will be a "tremendous plus" for the agency.

"We were on board from day one," he said, "for the reason that our workforce is aging. We're thinking down the road, that, hey, we better be getting some people coming through who are learning how to be treatment operators. For us, we were all for it. We were ready on day one."

Dr. Sherry Zilka, president of BSCTC, said the program is a "win-win" for the college, the utilities commission and the community." It's one of several workforce programs the college offers.

"It's important to develop a workforce that can stay here and earn a livable wage and not have to move away," she said. "By offering this locally, we can have people that can upgrade their skills or feed into the pipeline and not have to leave. We're hearing that the jobs are going to be needed, so in order to do that, we wanted to step up to the plate and meet the demands of the workforce to help fill that need."

Tracy Osborne-Clay, program coordinator for the Kentucky Department of Workplace Standard's apprenticeship division, said the "earn

while you learn" program will be a "wonderful pipeline for the youth and for the community."

"We're hoping to keep people in the area and to grow the area," she said.

Donald Compton, manager of the city's water and wastewater treatment plants, and employee Tim Goble, a Class IV operator at Prestonsburg Utilities, agreed that the program will shorten amount of time it takes people to become certified operators. They both earned certification with

on-the-job training.

"It's a stable job and it's not going out of business," Goble said. "Everybody is going to need drinking water and it's always going to increase, especially in this area."

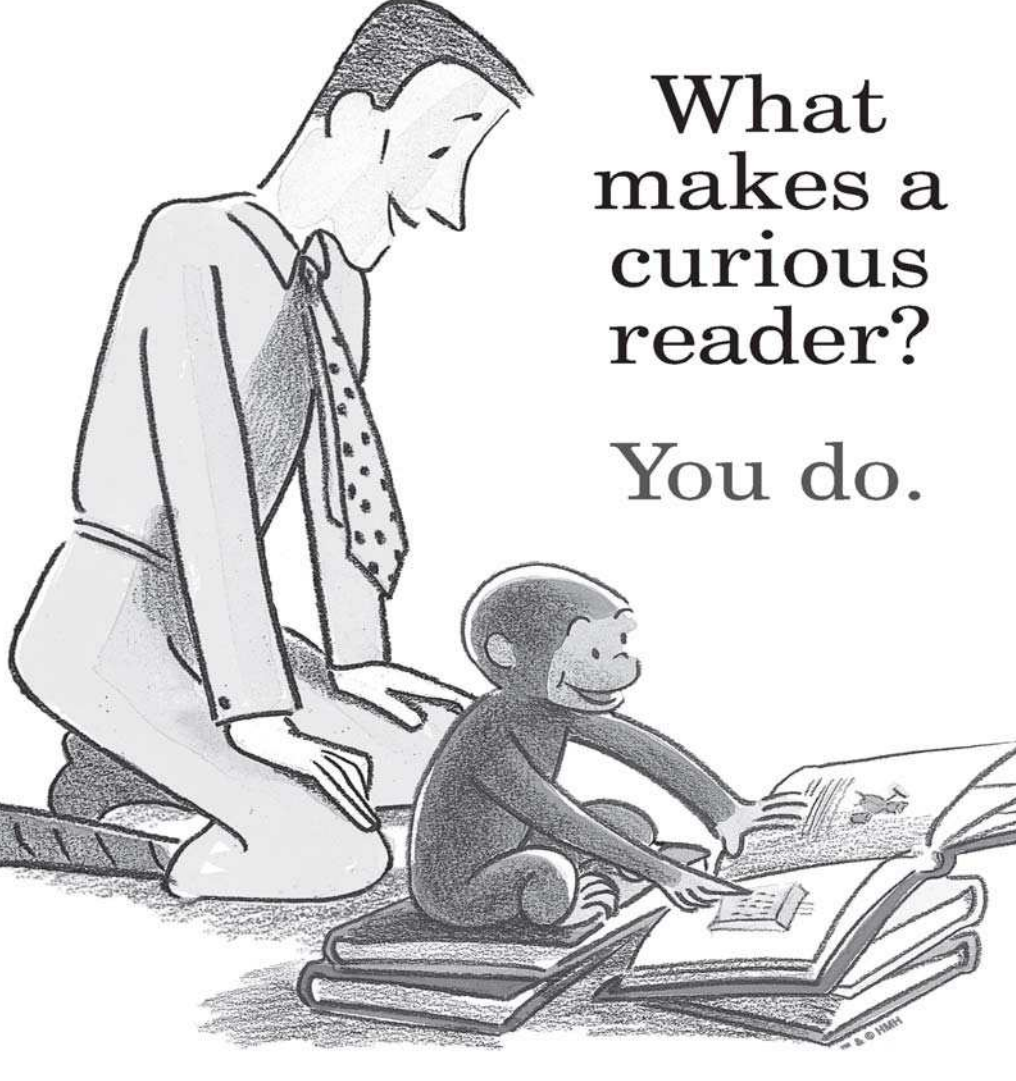
Kentucky has had apprenticeship programs for decades, but Nemes and Kentucky Labor Cabinet Secretary Derrick Ramsey started pushing to expand apprenticeships in recent years to increase the number of skilled workers available in the state.

Apprenticeships are

available in numerous types of industries and the agency also launched a Justice to Journeyman program to train inmates as well as another program to help foster children get the skills they need to get a job.



"It's exciting," Nemes said, talking about how apprenticeships are improving the state's workforce.

BSCTC officials said the college hopes to expand the water and wastewater treatment operator program to other counties in the future.




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FLOODING
Continued From Page 1A

Service reported that the Levisa Fork of the Big Sandy River crested at 38.54 ft. — above the flood stage — in Pikeville, but it remained below the flood level in Prestonsburg. The agency reported the river crested at 35.42 feet at 11 a.m. on Feb. 12 in Prestonsburg — more than four feet shy of the river's flood stage, which is 40 ft. It dropped to 29.6 ft. at 7 a.m. on Feb. 13, and was expected to continue to decline.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers reports that Dewey Lake was swelled to 660.5 ft. on Feb. 13— still well above the winter pool of 645 ft.

Hale and Floyd County Emergency Management Director Tim Fields said officials are conducting a preliminary assessment of damages this week. Hale said county officials temporarily fixed roads to re-open them and he expects more work to be required in some areas.

Fields said areas of Wayland and Garrett were the hardest-hit in the weekend storms, and there were reports of

flooded basements, drain problems, roads closures and downed power lines throughout the county. The Floyd County School District cancelled classes on Monday and Tuesday.

Magistrate Randy Davis said his crew worked Sunday in David to remove mud and debris from roadways. On Monday, he and his team were in Allen, where Oklahoma Hollow was closed because of flooding, and on Plummer Fork in Slick Rock, which was damaged.

Hale said Oklahoma Road, Plummer Fork and Stratton Branch probably had the most damage, reporting that repairs will likely require drilled steel and cribbing in these areas.

Several Oklahoma Hollow residents walked the railroad track to get out of their homes on Feb. 12.

Resident Jake Poston said that road hasn't flooded like that since he moved there for years ago. His family was stranded on Sunday, he said.

Hale reported that the county needs at least \$145,000 in damages in order to qualify for any type of assistance, if a

state or federal emergency is declared. Statewide, he said, \$6 million in damages must be reported before an emergency is declared.

If the county does not meet that \$145,000 threshold, all repairs will be funded by the county. Otherwise, federal funding may be available.

"Hopefully, we'll meet the threshold, and hopefully he state will meet its threshold," he said.

Hale said there were reports of flooded basements in Wayland, Garrett, Maytown, Tom's Creek and Right Beaver. He encourages all residents who received any type of damage to report it.

"Anyone who received some property damage or have a loss of anything, right now, the best thing for them to do is to call our emergency manager, Tim, and let him know," Hale said.

If a disaster is declared, Hale explained that there may be funding assistance available to individuals who received property damage or loss during the storm.

To report property damage or loss, call Fields at (606) 205-1767.

Duff-Allen Central student wins essay contest

SPECIAL TO THE FLOYD CHRONICLE AND TIMES

Duff-Allen Central Elementary student Lauren Gearheart won first place in the Veterans of Foreign War's Patriot's Pen Essay Contest, interim Superintendent Steve Trimble announced this week.

Gearheart will advance to represent Kentucky in national competition.

The annual Patriot Pen Essay Contest is sponsored by the local VFW Post and gives students the opportunity to write about different patriotic themes. This year's theme is "America's Gift to My Generation."

Trimble said in a press release, "The board team and I are so proud of Lauren on being the first Floyd County Schools student to win first place in the state and to represent Kentucky this fall in Washington D.C.! Lauren has been invited to attend the State Convention in Louis-

ville in June where she will receive her award and read her essay. She will find out more about national competition at that time."

The first level of competition begins locally with the Walter Karr Bowling VFW Post 5839 in Prestonsburg. From there, the top three winning essays move on to the VFW district level which houses 11 VFW posts. Gearheart's essay will now advance to the national level.

In addition to the expense paid trip to Louisville, she will receive \$1,000 for being the state winner. She will also receive an all-expense paid trip to Washington D. C. for herself and a parent or guardian where she will receive at least another \$500 for her essay.

She has already been awarded \$800 for first place at the local VFW post and for her first place at the VFW district level. She is the daughter of Tommy and Nikki Gearheart of Minnie.



Submitted photo
Duff-Allen Central eighth grade student Lauren Gearheart won the VFW's Patriot's Pen Essay Contest on the local and state level. She is the first Floyd County student to win this competition on the state level.



Floyd Chronicle photo by Mary Meadows
A structure was washed off its foundation after flooding on Oklahoma Hollow in Allen this weekend. A mobile home near this location was surrounded by water on Feb. 12.



Floyd Chronicle photo by Mary Meadows
Jake Poston of Oklahoma Hollow in Allen carries his granddaughter Kaylee Pratt for about one-half mile to his car after flood waters closed his road on Feb. 12. He said it's the first time in his the four years of residence there that the road was closed because of flooding.

Community calendar

- Feb. 14-15; 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.: Big Sandy Community & Technical College, Pikeville, to host underground mine re-training. (606) 218-1228
- Feb. 14; 3:30 p.m.: Prestonsburg library to host after school family/teen craft.
- Feb. 14; 5 p.m.: Wheelwright city meeting cancelled. Special meeting expected to be called for Feb. 21; 5 p.m.
- Feb. 15, 10 a.m.: The Big Sandy Elder Abuse Council, open to any person who is interested in helping senior citizens in Floyd, Martin, Magoffin and Pike counties, meets on the third Thursday of every month at the Big Sandy Area Development District. (606) 886-2374.
- Feb. 15; 11 a.m.: Mountain Comprehensive Care Center to host ribbon cutting for Dogwood Apartments, 1416 South Lake Drive, Prestonsburg.
- Feb. 15; 12 p.m. to 1 p.m.: Saint Joseph Martin to host a free "Go Red for Women" Lunch and Learn event at Wilkinson-Stumbo Convention Center, Jenny Wiley State Resort Park. Registration ends on Feb. 12. (606) 285-6401 or (606) 285-0002
- Feb. 15; 6 p.m.: Floyd County Farmer's Market meets, Floyd County Extension office.
- Feb. 16; 10 a.m.: Floyd County Fiscal Court meets
- Feb. 16; 7 p.m.: Big Sandy Trail Riders meet, Floyd County Extension Office.
- Feb. 17; 3:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.; 6 a.m. to 10 a.m.: Jenny Wiley State Resort Park hosts elk tours. \$30 per adult; \$15 for children; free for kids age 12 and under. (606) 889-1790
- Feb. 17; 8:30 a.m.: Dewey Lake Fish & Game Club to host hunter safety class, Stratton Branch.
- Feb. 17; 7 p.m.: East Kentucky Science Center to host Laser Genesis, Prestonsburg
- Feb. 19-Feb. 28; 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.: Big Sandy Community & Technical College, Pikeville, to host initial surface mine training. (606) 218-1228
- Feb. 19; 5 p.m.: Floyd County Soil & Water Conservation meets. (606) 889-9800
- Feb. 19; 6 p.m.: Prestonsburg City Council meets. (606) 886-2335
- Feb. 20; 3:30 p.m.: Mountain Arts Center Board of Directors to meet. (606) 889-9125
- Feb. 20; 5:15 p.m.: Jenny Wiley Chapter of the AARP meets at Highland Terrace, Prestonsburg.
- Feb. 20; 6 p.m.: Prestonsburg Utilities Commission meets, utilities office
- Feb. 22; 11:30 a.m.: Carl D. Perkins Job Corps Center, Prestonsburg, to host community relations council meeting. (606) 433-2265
- Feb. 22; 5 p.m.: Highlands Health to host Diabetes Support group in meeting rooms A & B. (606) 886-7490

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Local students shine at district Governor's Cup

SPECIAL TO THE FLOYD CHRONICLE

Floyd County Superintendent Steve Trimble announced results for elementary schools that competed in the Kentucky Association for Academic Competition Governor's Cup competition.

The meets for District 131 and District 132 were held Saturday, Feb. 10, at Prestonsburg Elementary and John M Stumbo Elementary.

Trimble said, "The board team and I congratulate May Valley Elementary and South Floyd Elementary for being District Governor's Cup champs and Quick Recall champs! Duff-Allen Central and South Floyd placed first in their districts in Future Problem Solving. We wish these kids and their teams the best of luck in regional competition in March hosted by Allen Elementary and we thank their coaches for being so dedicated to these bright students."

Future Problem Solving and English Composition competitions will be Feb. 26, and all other written assessments and quick recall competition will be March 3 at Allen Elementary.

District 131 Team and individual scores

Final Overall

- 1st May Valley
- 2nd Prestonsburg

Future Problem Solving

- 1st Duff-Allen Central
- 2nd May Valley

Quick Recall

- 1st May Valley
- 2nd Prestonsburg

MATH

- 1st Briana Paige (MVES)
- 1st Olivia McKinney (MVES)
- 3rd Carolyn "Gracie" McDavid (DACE)
- 4th Brody Brown-Vickery (PES)
- 5th Alex Harris (PES)

SOCIAL STUDIES

- 1st Grace Miller (PES)
- 2nd Braxton Howard (MVES)
- 3rd Emery Bartrum (DACE)
- 4th Kate Moon (AES)
- 5th Kailee McGuire (DACE)

LANGUAGE ARTS

- 1st Sara Springer (PES)
- 2nd Ethan Walls (PES)
- 3rd Ruthie Dillion (AES)
- 4th Carleigh Frazier (MVES)
- 5th Jada Wright (MVES)

ARTS & HUMANITIES

- 1st Brock Horne (MVES)
- 2nd Sara Springer (PES)
- 3rd Lindsey Marshall (MVES)
- 4th Luke Hall (AES)
- 5th Ruthie Dillion (AES)

COMPOSITION

- 1st Coleton Laferty (MVES)
- 2nd Kailee McGuire (DACE)
- 3rd Mileigh Kilburn (MVES)
- 4th Paisley Akers (PES)
- 5th Alexis Osborne (PES)

District 132 Team and individual scores

Future Problem Solving

- 1st South Floyd Elementary
- 2nd John M Stumbo Elementary

Quick Recall

- 1st South Floyd Elementary
- 2nd Betsy Layne Elementary

MATH

- 1st Dylan Boyd (SFES)
- 2nd Caleb Akers (JMS)
- 3rd Nicholas Hall (SFES)
- 4th Alivia Hamilton (JMS)
- 5th Harlyn Slone (JMS)

SCIENCE

- 1st Logan Chaffins (SFES)
- 2nd Noah Watts (JMS)
- 3rd Brice Fleenor (BLES)
- 4th Braden Harvel (SFES)
- 5th Caleb Akers (JMS)

SOCIAL STUDIES

- 1st Isabella Newman (SFES)
- 2nd Brice Fleenor (BLES)
- 3rd Logan Chaffins (SFES)
- 4th Ethan Lance (SFES)
- 5th Carson Campbell (BLES)

LANGUAGE ARTS

- 1st David Mullins (SFES)
- 2nd Allie Hamilton (BLES)
- 3rd Taylor Stumbo (SFES)
- 4th Harlyn Slone (JMS)
- 5th Kylie Conway (BLES)

ARTS & HUMANITIES

- 1st McKenzie Mullins (SFES)
- 2nd Kylie Conway (BLES)
- 3rd Elijah Little (SFES)
- 4th Zoey Myers (SFES)
- 5th Alivia Hamilton (JMS)

COMPOSITION

- 1st Madison Sullivan (SFES)
- 2nd Taylor Stumbo (SFES)
- 3rd Jayla Slone (BLES)
- 4th Madison Robinette (BLES)
- 5th Allison Hamilton (JMS)

BLES student earns state crown

A FLOYD CHRONICLE AND TIMES STAFF REPORT

A Betsy Layne Elementary School student took home a state title in beauty pageant recently.

Third grade student Taylor Rayne Moore, daughter of Trish Moore, earned the 2018 USA National Miss Kentucky Princess title during the USA National Miss Kentucky pageant, held Feb. 3 in Covington.

Moore earned first place in the inter-

view, Miss Photogenic and best dress at the competition.

She now qualifies to compete for the National USA title in July at Disney World.

She's no stranger to the pageant stage. She's competed at the Jenny Wiley Festival Pageant for years, and earned honors there as well.

In September, she was crowned Little Miss Jenny Wiley in that competition and also earned first place for most photogenic, prettiest hair and best talent.



Submitted photo

Betsy Layne Elementary student Taylor Moore earned the 2018 USA National Miss Kentucky Princess title recently and now qualifies to compete nationally.



Submitted photo

Academic team students at May Valley Elementary earned top honors in the District 131 Governor's Cup competition.



Submitted photo

Academic team students at South Floyd Elementary earned the top honor in the District 132 Governor's Cup competition.

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Lady Blackcats defeat Magoffin County, Piarist School

By **STEVE LEMASTER**
SPORTS WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — The Prestonsburg Lady Blackcats notched back-to-back wins at home on Thursday and Friday, defeating both former 15th Region champion Magoffin County and the Piarist School.

More on Prestonsburg's back-to-back wins follows.

Prestonsburg 81, Magoffin County 65

Alivia Slone poured in a team-high 31 points to lead Prestonsburg past visiting Magoffin County 81-65 in a girls' high school basketball game at the Fieldhouse on Thursday night.

Prestonsburg featured three scorers in double figures as Reesce Endicott posted 25 points and Nicole Burchett contributed 11 points.

Burchett recorded a double-double for the Lady Blackcats, pulling down a game-high 16 rebounds.

Prestonsburg shot 49.1 percent (28 of 57) from the field. The Lady Blackcats were six of 19 (31.6 percent) from three-point range.

Prestonsburg shot 55.9 percent (19 of 34) from the free-throw line.

The Lady Blackcats

See **DEFEAT**, Page 13A



Floyd Chronicle and Times photo by Steve LeMaster

Lady Blackcat Alison Campbell lofts a shot on Friday night.

Blackcats fall to East Ridge, top Piarist

Cornett scores game-high 28 points in Senior Night victory

By **STEVE LEMASTER**
SPORTS WRITER

More on each game involving the Blackcats follows.

PRESTONSBURG — Prestonsburg split a pair of late-season boys' high school basketball games played Thursday and Friday.

Host East Ridge pulled away to beat the Blackcats 56-46 on Friday.

But Prestonsburg worked its way back into the win column one day later.

On Friday, host Prestonsburg, playing in front of a home crowd on Senior Night, topped the Piarist School 82-46.

East Ridge 56, Prestonsburg 46

After notching back-to-back wins, Prestonsburg slipped into the loss column on the road at East Ridge. Cameron Hess scored a game-high 15 points to lead host East Ridge past Prestonsburg 56-46 on Thursday night.

East Ridge shot 44.2 percent (19 of 43) from the field. The Warriors were seven of 17 (41.2 percent) from

See **BLACKCATS**, Page 13A



Floyd Chronicle and Times photo by Steve LeMaster

Phil Cornett scored a game-high 28 points to lead Prestonsburg past the Piarist School.

Rash leads Belfry over Betsy Layne

Frazier scores 30 points in Lady Bobcats' loss



Floyd Chronicle and Times photo by Steve LeMaster

Megan Frazier (3) poured in a game-high 30 points in the Lady Bobcats' loss to visiting Belfry on Friday night.

By **STEVE LEMASTER**
SPORTS WRITER

BETSY LAYNE — Kailee Rash scored 20 points and grabbed six rebounds to lead Belfry past Betsy Layne 55-49 on the Lady Bobcats' senior night at the D.W. Howard Fieldhouse on Friday night.

Betsy Layne dropped to 8-16 with the loss.

With the win, Belfry improved to 14-12.

Each 15th Region team owned multiple leads in the late-season girls' high school basketball game. However, Belfry excelled the most, especially late in the contest.

Belfry shot 42.6 percent (20 of 47) from the field. The Lady Pirates were

See **LAYNE**, Page 13A



Floyd Chronicle and Times photo by Cory Vance, FILE

Betsy Layne's Morris Adkins makes a block against Prestonsburg during the 15th Region All "A" Classic.

Bobcats suffer single digit losses to Belfry, Lynn Camp

By **STEVE LEMASTER**
SPORTS WRITER

BETSY LAYNE — Betsy Layne dropped back-to-back games Friday and Saturday, suffering single-digit losses to 15th Region rival Belfry and 13th Region squad Lynn

Camp.

Belfry managed to beat Betsy Layne 76-67 at the D.W. Howard Fieldhouse on Friday night.

On Saturday, when Betsy Layne hosted its annual Hall of Fame ceremony at the D.W. Howard Fieldhouse, Lynn Camp

prevailed 65-60 over the Bobcats.

Belfry 76, Betsy Layne 67

Betsy Layne shot 51.9 percent (27 of 52) from the field, but couldn't

See **BOBCATS**, Page 13A

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BLACKCATS

Continued From Page 12A

three-point range.

East Ridge shot 64.7 percent (11 of 17) from the free-throw line.

Four East Ridge players reached double figures in the scoring column as Jacob Chaffins and Dalton Wellman added 13 points apiece and Hunter Damron posted 12 points.

Kane Taylor led East Ridge on the backboards, grabbing a game-high 12 rebounds.

Prestonsburg shot only 30.6 percent (15 of 49) from the field. The Blackcats were three of 15 (20 percent) from three-point range.

Prestonsburg shot 65 percent (13 of 20) from the free-throw line.

Adam Slone paced Prestonsburg with 14 points.

Drake Nunnery was the only other Prestonsburg player to reach double figures in the scoring column, registering 10 points. Nunnery narrowly missed registering a double-double, pulling down

a team-high nine rebounds for the Blackcats.

Graham Justice finished one field goal short of reaching double figures for the Blackcats, adding eight points.

Prestonsburg 82, Piarist School 46

Prestonsburg returned to the win column on its senior night, topping visiting Piarist School 82-46 on Friday night.

With the win, Prestonsburg improved to 11-16

Piarist School slipped to 3-22 with the loss.

The Blackcats led 43-20 at halftime and remained in control throughout the second half, adding to their lead in the game's final two quarters.

Phil Cornett scored a game-high 28 points to lead Prestonsburg to the victory on Senior Night. Cornett, who scored 20 points in the first half, drained six three-point field goals.

Adam Slone scored 11 points and Graham Burchett added 10 points

for the Blackcats in the win.

The other scorers for Prestonsburg were Drake Nunnery (five points), Kaleb Jarvis (five points), Grant Justice (five points), Gunnar Williams (five points), Alex Osborne (four points), Dalton Trusty (four points), Greg Slone (three points) and Chandler Nelson (two points), an inspirational leader who scored the first basket of the game for the Blackcats. Nelson is sidelined following a season-ending knee injury and will miss the rest of the current campaign.

Nathaniel Kumar paced Piarist School with 17 points. Kumar connected on a team-high eight field goals for the Knights.

Skylar Williams accompanied Kumar in double figures and recorded a double-double, scoring 15 points and securing 12 rebounds for the Knights.

Piarist School shot 45.5 percent (15 of 33) from the field. The Knights shot 65.2 percent (15 of 23) from the free-throw line.

BOBCATS

Continued From Page 12A

keep up with visiting Belfry offensively as the Pirates prevailed 76-67 on the Bobcats' senior night at the D.W. Howard Fieldhouse on Friday night.

Isiah Roblee led Belfry with a game-high 23 points. Roblee drained four three-pointers for the Pirates in the victory.

Belfry featured five scorers in double figures as Devin Varney netted 17 points, Koleston Blankenship contributed 12 points and Wilson Harris and Ryan Jessie added 10 points apiece. Blankenship recorded a double-double, pulling down 11 rebounds for the Pirates.

Belfry shot 57.4 percent (27 of 47) from the field. The Pirates were eight of 13 from three-point range, shooting 61.5 percent beyond the arc.

Belfry was 14 of 26 from the free-throw line.

Inside, Belfry outrebounded Betsy Layne 30-25.

Dezmon Roblee rounded out the Belfry individual scoring, finishing four points.

Betsy Layne shot 51.9 percent (27 of 52) from the field. The Bobcats were seven of 17 (41.2 percent) from three-point range.

Betsy Layne shot 46.2 percent (six of 13) from the free-throw line.

Bryon Hammond paced Betsy Layne with a double-double, scoring 18 points and grabbing 11 rebounds.

Grant Orsborn finished directly behind Hammond in the Betsy Layne scoring column, posting 17 points.

Zach Bentey netted 12 points, Jordan Frazier flipped in 11 points and Morris Adkins added nine points for the Bobcats in the setback.

Narrowly missing a double-double, Adkins grabbed nine rebounds.

Lynn Camp 65, Betsy Layne 60

Betsy Layne owned a double digit lead in the first half, but faltered after intermission as visiting Lynn Camp battled back to win 65-60 in a late-season boys' high school basketball game at the D.W. Howard Fieldhouse on Saturday.

With the loss, Betsy Layne slipped to 11-4.

Lynn Camp improved to 20-4 with the win.

Max Burd led Lynn Camp with 21 points.

Tanner Boggs joined Burd in double figures for Lynn Camp, scoring 20 points.

Flirting with double figures, Jacob Bundy chipped in nine points for the Wildcats in the victory.

Betsy Layne shot 46.2 percent (24 of 52) from the field. The Bobcats were four of 17 (23.5 percent) from three-point range.

Betsy Layne shot 47.1 percent (eight of 17) from the free-throw line.

Morris Adkins led Betsy Layne with a game-high 22 points.

Byron Hammond delivered another double-double for the Bobcats, scoring 20 points and pulling down 11 rebounds.

Accompanying Adkins and Hammond in double figures in the Betsy Layne scoring column, Zach Bentley tossed in 12 points.

Jordan Frazier and Grant Orsborn rounded out the Betsy Layne individual scoring, posting three points apiece.

LAYNE

Continued From Page 12A

10 of 23 (43.5 percent) from three-point range.

Belfry won despite finishing five of 15 (33.3 percent) from the free-throw line.

Rash led a trio of Belfry scorers in double figures. MacKenzie Maynard scored 16 points and Ariel Mounts added 13 points for the Lady Pirates in the victory.

Linzee Phillips and Lyndsey Miller rounded out the Belfry individual scoring, chipping in four points and two points, respectively.

Betsy Layne shot only 30.9 percent (17 of 55) from the field. The Lady Bobcats were three of nine (33.3 percent) from three-point range.

Betsy Layne shot 50 percent (12 of 24) from the free-throw line.

Megan Frazier poured in 30 points and grabbed 15 rebounds for Betsy Layne in the setback. Frazier led all players in both scoring and rebounding.

Destiny Compton joined her teammate in double figures and delivered a double-double of her own for Betsy Layne, scoring 12 points and grabbing 12 rebounds.

Caroline Ariaz and Katie Kidd rounded out the Betsy Layne individual scoring, chipping in four points and three points, respectively.

Both Belfry and Betsy Layne are headed into the postseason.

DEFEAT

Continued From Page 12A

dominated inside, outrebounding Magoffin County 39-21.

Alison Campbell scored seven points, Celina Mullins chipped in three points and Faith Lazar and Madison Rainey added two points apiece for Prestonsburg in the impressive win.

Accompanying Burchett in double figures in the rebounding column, Rainey reeled in 13 rebounds.

Magoffin County was limited to 36.4 percent (24 of 66) shooting from the field. The Lady Hornets were 8-of-21 (38.1 percent) from three-point range.

Magoffin County was 9-of-12 (75 percent) from the free throw line.

Alexis Montgomery led Magoffin County with a game-high 24 points. Magoffin County featured two scorers in double figures as Kennedy Stacy contributed 14 points.

Aiding the Lady Hornets' attack, Morgan Damron added eight

points and a team-high nine rebounds.

Prestonsburg 71, Piarist School 29

Prestonsburg remained in the win column on its home floor on Friday night, pulling away to defeat former Floyd County Conference/58th District rival Piarist School 71-29 in a late-season girls' high school basketball game at the Fieldhouse.

The Lady Blackcats prevailed on Senior Night.

With the win, Prestonsburg improved to 10-

15.

The Piarist School dropped to 4-19 with the loss.

Reesce Endicott led Prestonsburg with a game-high 21 points.

A pair of Lady Blackcats reached double figures in the scoring column as Nicole Burchett added 17 points.

Narrowly missing double figures for the Lady Blackcats, Alivia Slone netted nine points.

Celina Mullins scored seven points, Maddy Rainey six points, Alison Campbell four points and

Faith Lazar and Alexis Beatty two points apiece for Prestonsburg in the convincing victory.

Kylie Tackett paced the Piarist School with 18 points. Tackett was the only player from the Piarist School to reach double figures in the scoring column.

Lauren Wright chipped in eight points while Kennedy Bowen contributed three points for the Lady Knights.

Wright led the Piarist School on the backboards, grabbing 12 rebounds.



Alivia Slone dishes off a pass for host Prestonsburg during its senior night game versus the Piarist School.

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