

# The Tin

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THE SUNDAY Times Herald

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## Study of the human genome on KET

— Section AA

### briefs

#### Egg hunt Saturday at Jenny Wiley

Jenny Wiley State Resort Park will hold its annual Easter egg hunt on Saturday.

The hunt will be held at the Jenny Wiley State Report Park campground, beginning at 2 p.m.

In addition to the thrill of hunting for eggs filled with candy, youngsters will also compete to find a limited number of prize eggs.

The event is reserved for children age 12 and under.

Anyone needing more information can call (606) 886-2711.

#### College plans ice cream social

Prestonsburg Community College will host a "Partnering for the Future" family ice cream social/open house on the Prestonsburg campus on Thursday, April 26, from 3-7 p.m.

Families throughout the Big Sandy region are invited to attend and to tour the college's facilities. Information in regard to scholarships, financial aid and other services will be available.

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#### 2 DAY FORECAST

##### Today



High: 70 • Low: 48

##### Tomorrow



High: 72 • Low: 50

For up-to-the-minute forecasts, see floydcountytimes.com



All that remains is an empty stone structure as an awning along the side of the Bypro Post Office building threatens to break away as flames extend from an upstairs window.

photos by Sheldon Compton

## Fire destroys Bypro post office

by SHELDON COMPTON  
STAFF WRITER

A landmark building in Wheelwright fell victim to a devastating fire early Thursday morning as the United States Post Office of Bypro became nothing more than a shell of block filled with destructive flames and black smoke.

Well after noon Thursday, workers were still struggling to bring the flames under control without any information about how the fire might have started.

The post office, which stands as one of the oldest buildings within the city limits of Wheelwright, was a two-story monument to the city's once impressive period of growth as a successful mining town.

The upstairs section of the building housed two apartments, only one of which had been occupied.

The single occupant, Jack Mullins, was not home at the time the fire began.

According to Scottie Ray, a Wheelwright firefighter, the Wheelwright Fire Department was made aware of the fire at 4:36 a.m. Thursday morning.

This early hour resulted in no one being present in the building at the time the fire began.

"There were already firefighters here when I got here," Ray said. "When I got here it was fully engulfed. Fire and smoke were coming out of the windows and the roof."

Concerns for the mail and other items that may have been within the structure and also what was to be done now that previous customers of the post office had no place which to patronize was evident as citizens roamed about the scene.

"You read about post offices getting closed lately," Paul Bailey, a longtime resident said. "It makes you wonder if we'll get one back in its place."

On hand at the scene was Diane Ousley, postal assistant

(See FIRE, page two)



Flames left the interior of the Bypro Post Office in shambles as portions of the collapsed roof dripped with burning ash covering what was once the front office.

## Board challenges union decision in court

by SHELDON COMPTON  
STAFF WRITER

The Floyd County Board of Education filed suit Tuesday seeking to vacate an award proposed by a United Steelworker's Union arbitrator.

The school board's legal rejection of the proposed award provided former school board employee Patricia Julian and her union arbitrator, Joe M. Harris,

with little hope of progress of soon regaining her position of employment with the school board.

Julian, who worked for eight years as a bus driver for Floyd County schools before being terminated March 9, 2000, began her protest against the decision by filing a grievance less than a week later.

Superintendent Paul Fanning wrote a letter to Julian dismissing her from

her post following an incident which occurred February 4, 2000.

On that day, Julian had been called to her bus route early following a sudden snowstorm which forced school to be canceled. According to quotes gathered by Harris in Julian's defense, the circumstances of that day were "hectic" and during the process of running

(See BOARD, page three)

## Collins: Bus trip was unsupervised

by SHELDON COMPTON  
STAFF WRITER

Developments continue to extend from an April 7 incident in Wise, Va., involving one teacher, one other parent, both of whom could be facing charges, and a bus load of Prestonsburg High School students, several of whom were arrested or held in custody after five enforcement agencies confiscated approximately 100 bottles of liquor, several bags of marijuana and two bottles of unmarked prescription pills from their charter bus during a stop at a shopping complex.

Parents, police and the trip organizers alike are still feeling the effects.

According to Donna Collins, an Allen Elementary first-grade teacher and one of the two organizers of the trip, the parents of six of the students detained in Wise sent their children to Florida by various means to continue their trip as scheduled "in an act of faith."

Collins, who phoned The Times from Florida Wednesday evening, said she feels the parents' decisions display a confidence which afford her and the other organizer, Susan Hicks, a certain amount of "credibility."

"I think the reaction to this makes this whole thing look bad," Collins said. "When we checked on the students, many of them seemed to be sleeping or laying over in the seat and we didn't see the need to disturb them ... Something everyone should realize is that we are not chaperones on this trip."

"It only took us an hour and a half to get to Wise from Prestonsburg. Who's to say some of those kids weren't in that condition when they got on the bus?"

Collins stressed that they were merely charter

(See TRIP, page two)

## Women charged with giving pot, pills to teenager

by SHELDON COMPTON  
STAFF WRITER

Two Martin residents were arrested and charged last week in connection with an alleged transaction with a minor involving prescription medication and marijuana.

Diana L. Sparks, 47, and Kimberly Sparks, 26, both residents of the Pageant Hills Apartment Complex in Martin, were arrested and charged with two counts of first and second degree unlawful transaction with a minor.

According to reports, Kimberly Sparks was arrested at Stone Coal at approximately 11 a.m. on the morning of April 6 by Floyd County Sheriff's Deputy Bobby Hackworth. Later that same day at 2:30 p.m., Martin police officer Estil Newsome arrested Diana L. Sparks in Martin.

In complaints filed against the two women, Rhonda Cole claims that the women allegedly gave Cole's 16-year-old son pills and marijuana.

Each woman is being charged with one count of first-degree unlawful transaction with a minor and one count of second-degree unlawful transaction with a minor.

Diana Sparks was released from the Floyd County Detention Center on a \$10,000 surety bond three days after her arrest pending a court date to answer to the charges brought against her.

Kimberly Sparks was also released on April 9 following payment of a partially-secured bond in the amount of \$1,000. She is scheduled to appear in district court on April 17.

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**CORRECTION**  
 The Wright Lumber Company advertisement appearing in the Wednesday, April 11 edition of The Floyd County Times listed incorrectly 7/16" CSB Plywood as \$8.49 per sheet. The correct price should have been \$6.49 per sheet. The Times regrets any inconvenience to Wright Lumber customers.

*A Moment To Reflect Upon Times of Past Generations*



West Prestonsburg residence of Daniel Wheeler Spurlock (1882-1937) and his wife Jane Salisbury Spurlock. When this house burned down in 1932, their son, Burl, was able to build them a new one, even though he was only eighteen years old.  
 —Photo courtesy of Betsy Spurlock Lambert.

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photo by Ralph B. Davis  
 Prestonsburg police and fire units were called to the scene of the Floyd County Juvenile Detention Center Thursday afternoon to respond to a fire alarm. The incident turned out to be a false alarm, as someone pulled two alarms in the building.

**Trip**  
 customers on the bus and nothing more. When asked if the trip was, then, without chaperones, Collins agreed and emphasized that the parents of the students who went had signed waivers saying the same.  
 One of those parents was Brenda Ratliff. According to Ratliff, she never signed a waiver of any kind but did provide a receipt during an interview on Thursday, bearing the

**Fire**  
 coordinator, who watched the firefighters work diligently while awaiting the arrival of her supervisor. Ousley explained the steps to be taken to ensure that service would still be available.  
 "Temporarily, the mail will be worked out of the Melvin post office," Ousley said.  
 The move to Melvin was made effective immediately as Georgie Smith, the postmaster at the Bypro post office, was not on scene to comment. Smith was busy sorting mail at the Melvin location. Prestonsburg postmas-

signature of "D. Collins" for a "Senior Trip" in the amount of \$270.  
 "I'm not pleased at all," Ratliff said, after informing The Times that she was given a call asking her not to speak about the incident to anyone. "I never signed a waiver. Not everybody signed a waiver. Both of my sisters each had sons who are in Florida with Donna now and they never signed a waiver, but

ter Edith Risner, who was on scene and had spoken with Smith, explained that the loss, in terms of customers' mail, should not prove to be severe.  
 "The postmaster did say there wasn't a great deal of mail," Risner said. "The mail had been picked up just yesterday."  
 As Ray and others continued to harness the flames so that entry could be made to inspect damages, Bill Johnson, manager of post office operations, arrived and began his wait to gain entry for inspection.  
 "Our concern now that we know no one was injured," Johnson said, "is for the sanctity of the mail in the post office. We have to determine when we can get in and retrieve it and then we'll sort and dry out what remains and get it to the customers."  
 The cause of the fire had not been determined. However, the age of the building was certainly a factor in the rapid progress of the fire, said residents.  
 "With this old of a building, I'd say that old wood caught like gasoline," said Tivis Johnson, a Wheelwright resident who helped secure the area. "This block wall on the far side of the building is tilting and about to fall in. When these things fall you never know where the debris is going to fall."  
 Hopes of seeing another post office go in as a replacement grew dimmer as Bill Johnson explained the result of such damages to the building.  
 "The facility is beyond service," Johnson said. "We'll be suspending service at this location and be setting up at the Melvin Post Office."  
 The cause of yesterday's fire is still under investigation.

some parents are just afraid to talk right now because they're afraid of what's going to happen to their kids."  
 The possibility of charges being filed against Collins and Hicks will be determined and made clear as Wise Chief of Police Tony Bates continues with his investigative efforts.  
 "We are still trying to sort through a lot of this," Bates said on Thursday, stating that the attention the incident had been given was keeping him busy answering calls. "We're progressively trying to move along. We had gathered most of the facts that day and now we just need to sort through them."  
 There were no blood samples taken during the arrests and a blood-alcohol level was not required, Bates said, but did add that one of the juveniles was arrested and then taken to the hospital. Then, after being released from the hospital, the teen's condition worsened during processing at the office.

Bates said, which resulted in a trip back to the hospital for further treatment.  
 The group is scheduled to return Saturday as scheduled.  
 Collins, meanwhile, said she believes the entire incident has been blown out of proportion.  
 "We just want to enjoy the rest of our trip," Collins said.

**Correction**  
 Wednesday's story concerning the bus trip incorrectly identified an adult student who was taken to the hospital due to fears that his blood-alcohol content was dangerously high.  
 The story reported that Johnathon B. Holbrook, 19, of Prestonsburg had been taken to the hospital, but he was not. Michael D. McDonald, 19, of Martin was the student who was actually taken to the hospital, according to Chief Bates.  
 Both students were charged with possession of alcohol by a minor, as originally reported.  
 The Times regrets the error.

*Card of Thanks*  
 The family of Cosby Wiler sincerely thanks each of you for your prayers, support, and for sharing in our grief for the loss of our mother, grandmother, your beloved friend and neighbor.  
 We deeply appreciated the many expressions of sympathy, which included cards, flowers, food, prayers, comforting words and cherished memories.  
 We extend and offer a special thank-you for Pastor Bobby Isaac, Wheelwright Methodist Church and their choir; Brother Greg White, Long Fork Freewill Baptist Church; Brother Teddy Honaker, Old Regular Baptist Church, Little Creek (Yeager); Brother Monroe Jones, Old Regular Baptist Church, Robinson Creek, Ky., and their special singing.  
 A special thank-you to Abbie Charlene Potter for presenting the eulogy; for the pallbearers, Allen Brent Potter, Jeremy and Mike Henry, Truman and Randy Akers, Thomas Bentley, and Levi Johnson Jr.  
 Also thanks to the Jones Funeral Home and staff for their kind and efficient help; and to the Pike County Sheriff's Department for their assistance in traffic control.  
 We will always remember the kindness each of you showed us. May God bless you.  
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# Governor Patton kicks-off the first farm family education summit

Governor Patton gave words of welcome and encouragement to participants in the first Governor's Family Farm Education Summit held today in Frankfort. The meeting of educational professionals and agricultural representatives was intended to identify current educational assets, reveal gaps, and find ways to build working partnerships for the benefit of

Kentucky's farm families. The Governor's Commission on Family Farms, created by Governor Patton in July 1998, conceived the idea of an educational summit to develop a forum to address the educational needs of farm families.

"From the time I took office, education has been the top priority for my administration," Governor Patton told the group yesterday. "Now we are faced with the dubious task of making the proper use of the Agricultural Development Fund to redirect and retool Kentucky's agricultural

economy. Today's meeting will produce some critically important information about the educational needs unique to our farm families."

Governor Patton's Commission on Family Farms is the first agricultural advisory group comprised primarily of family farmers to focus exclusively on the interests of Kentucky's farms families and rural commu-

nities. Today, the Commission continues to play a key role in advising Governor Patton on issues such as marketing assistance, entrepreneurship development, farm diversification, farm labor assistance, urban / rural partnerships and education.

This summit was intended to be the first step in a long-term effort that will require the coordination of the unique capabilities and resources of each of the par-

ticipating agencies, institutions, and universities to develop educational materials and delivery systems that assist Kentucky's farm families during this time of transition. Participants represented Kentucky's public universities, educational entities, the Governor's Office of Agricultural Policy, the Kentucky Department of Agriculture, the Cooperative Extension Service and farm families from around the state.



Zebulon Lodge  
To Host



## PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Zebulon Lodge No. 273, F&AM, the Masonic Lodge in Prestonsburg, will host a pancake breakfast for the church community on Easter Sunday morning, April 15, from 7-10 a.m., at the lodge hall, above Alys Fraley Photography on Court Street.

This is a community service of the lodge, and there will be no charge for the breakfast. All are welcome!

PSA

### Board

Continued from p1

her regular route, Julian made the mistake of dropping off two students, ages 6 and 8, at a house where no longer lived.

The children's father, Doug Holbrook, and his then-soon-to-be wife, Norma Lewis, who Julian knew personally as she was also a school bus driver, had just moved with the children to another home and Julian was aware of the move, but claimed to have simply forgotten.

According to the arbitration, Julian remembered later into her route and realized the mistake she had made. As Julian remembered the change of residence, she called Debora Cecil, the school bus dispatcher, to report the situation.

Lewis overheard the conversation over the radio and contacted Julian to discuss the situation. That conversation resulted in Lewis going back for the children after Julian had informed her that she would go back after finishing her route, which, according to the arbitration, would have continued for about 15 more minutes.

Harris stressed throughout the course of the arbitration that this incident was not done intentionally to harm or cause the children discomfort in any way. In addition, Harris rebuked the school board's contention that Julian had "refused" to get the children.

The arbitration effort, and the means by which the subject was handled by Harris, resulted in the school board's action on Tuesday.

The response maintains that Harris "erroneously concluded that the decision made by the grievant (Julian) in this case, standing alone, formed the basis for exacting the ultimate penalty available to management, discharge," and also states that Harris "erroneously concluded that Mr. Jody Sword was the ultimate decision maker in the board's decision to terminate Ms. Julian's employment."

Finally, concluding the matter within the last paragraphs of the application, the suit reads that Harris' efforts to support his award on behalf of Julian, the background and discussion information "were not supported by substantial evidence" and that they were "contrary to the evidence and to the law."

The school board has asked that the award be vacated and that a hearing be scheduled before a new arbitrator chosen as provided in the contract.

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# Viewpoint

Worth Repeating ...

"Success seems to be largely a matter of hanging on after others have let go."

— William Feather

*Amendment 1*

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

## Our View

### Lessons learned, lessons lost

From our perspective, it is hard to imagine to ever writing a story more bizarre than the one which unfolded last weekend in Wise, Va., when police detained 14 occupants of a bus of Prestonsburg High School students headed to Florida for spring break.

Is it bizarre that police found alcohol and drugs among a group of students heading for a "last blast" vacation? Not in the slightest.

Give a group of children — and that is basically what we are dealing with in this circumstance — unsupervised freedom for a few days and some are bound to push the limits. It does not make them evil. It does not mean they cannot go on to be productive, contributing members of society. It is certainly not a reason to persecute the teens involved.

All in all, the incident tells us that a large group of kids made a dumb mistake. Simple as that.

No, what is truly bizarre about the situation — appalling, in fact — is the complete unwillingness of anyone else to accept any measure of responsibility for allowing things to get to the point they did.

The official response from the school system is that the incident is lamentable, but since it was not a school-sanctioned trip, there is not much they can do.

One of the two parents who accompanied the children on the trip says that the adults were not on the trip as chaperones, just merely as fellow travelers.

Some of the parents who stayed behind say they were under the impression their children would be supervised and they point the finger elsewhere.

Other parents say they knew ahead of time there would be no supervision, but no one has said it was perhaps a mistake to send teenagers out-of-state into a party atmosphere for a week. In fact, several parents sent their children on to Florida after picking them up from the police station.

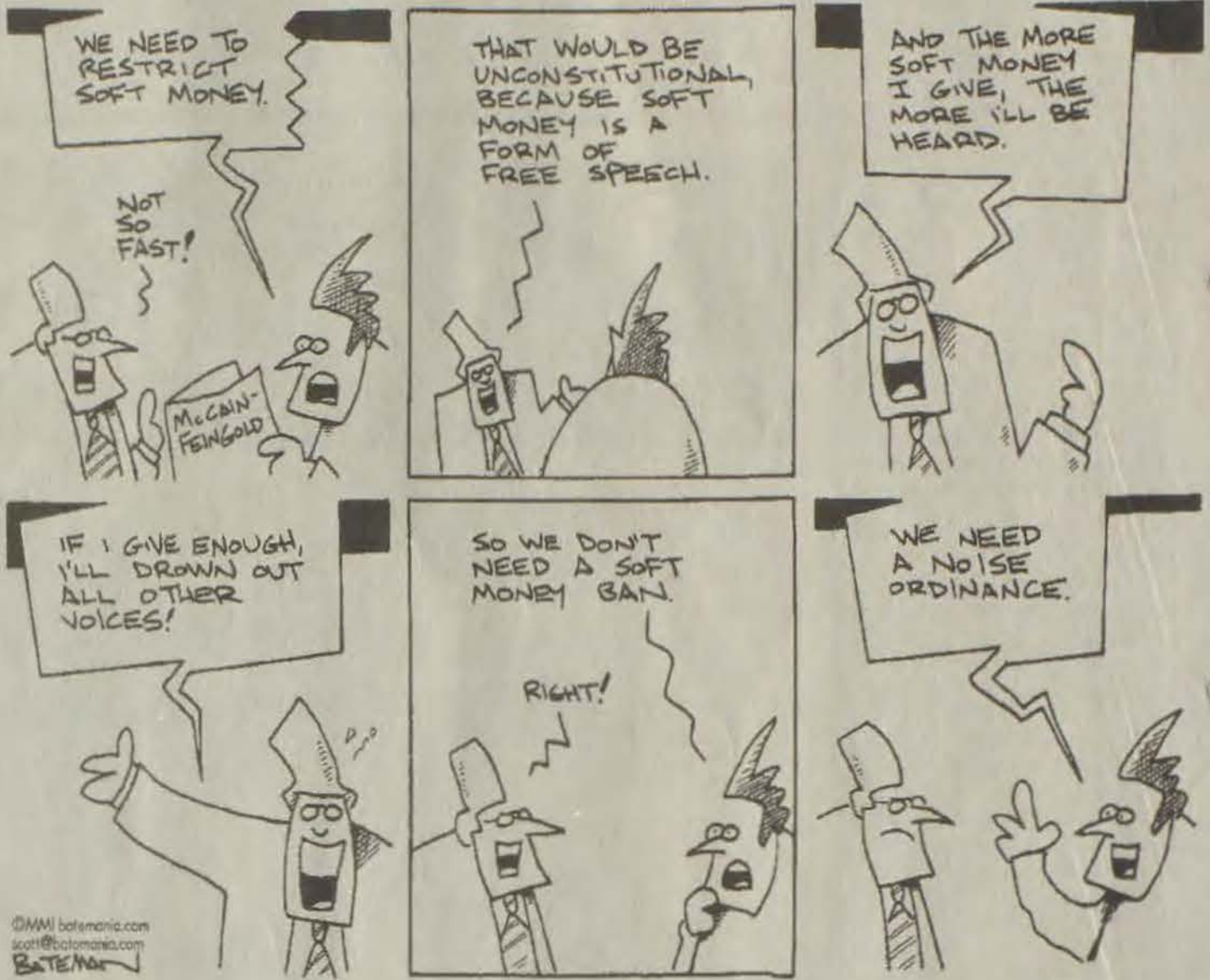
And maybe everyone is right. Maybe, strictly speaking, no one should be held accountable — not the school, not the school board, not the parents, not the adults who went along for the ride. Maybe this was all just some cosmic event which took place in a vacuum.

So, everyone is blameless, everyone is innocent, everyone is spotless. Does that somehow make us feel better about ourselves?

The tiniest of silver linings in this lingering dark cloud is that all of the students on the bus learned an important lesson from this episode — that freedom does not negate responsibility.

Let us just hope that we, as adults, do not completely undermine the lesson of this incident by our actions afterwards.

— The Floyd County Times



## Think About It

### Apologies, apologies

President Bush used the word "stalemate" officially in respect to the now-concluded detainee situation and then nearly a heartbeat later, the problem is solved as the United States issued a formal apology for a plane crash that resulted in the death of a Chinese pilot and consequently resulted in 24 U.S. crew members being held in China awaiting an apology or perhaps a random act of sensibility on China's part so they might return home.

A fairly substantial amount of attention was given to Bush's use of the word because it falls in line with a potentially volatile position — after all a stalemate indicates that no more moves can be made. Yet, there was another move.

The apology will be supported by several people who felt the entire episode to be childish in approach, but there will be just as many who will feel

uneasy about the decision. The uneasiness stems from a sense of weakness that is left, residually, from our reaction.

I do support this view in many ways. However, the apology was, it seemed, the only way to get our crew home. But how will China react to "getting what they wanted"? I realize that even as I write that phrase, it seems childish, but often very complicated situations can be broken down into such simple forums.



SHELDON COMPTON

China outnumbers us in population by such a huge amount I shudder to even type the statistics. Let's just say that they've got manpower to spare.

Why am I talking as if there is a war on the horizon? Let me tell you — because now that we have given China an inch, one must be prepared if the extra mile is demanded.

It has been said by folks much sharper on politics than I happen to be that war is the natural extension of politics. The people, that is U.S. and Chinese citizens, were not the parties making the decision, making the demands, bending to anyone's will ... it was the politicians. We Americans continued to jerk Chinese

products off American shelves so fast our credit cards actually melted in the process and Chinese citizens continued to shovel our American hamburgers down their gullets without even considering the potential of what our leaders were doing.

How close were we to war? Who knows, but one thing is for sure, with words like "stalemate" being uttered by our own leader and words such as "hostages" floating around on television and in communities across our nation, it would have made more sense than fighting over oil prices.

There was no stalemate, but there was a tie. China got what they wanted, the apology, which will never bring back their lost pilot and we got what we wanted, our crew back. So everybody's happy.

But still I have to wonder, what if there is a next time?

What if they ask for more than an apology?

Maybe we should have gone to war with China over this thing. I can't think of a better thing to fight for than the return of American citizens being held against their will to their own country, once again given the freedom their forefathers fought so proudly for.

God knows we've fought over a lot less.

## Letters

### Cartoon was in poor taste

I recently viewed a cartoon in your fine paper that I found to be in poor taste and very inappropriate. The cartoon suggested that the National Rifle Association and our president, Charlton Heston, are somehow responsible for the tragic school shootings that have occurred here in the United States or that the association somehow supports school-age children being armed. That assumption is anything but the truth.

The National Rifle Association is an organization that is over 125 years old that has supported target practice, education in safe and legal firearms use, and has come to the aid of not only this nation but other nations threatened for that 125-year period.



Portion of the offending cartoon.

As best as I can interpret the school-shooting situation, it is directly related to the disappearance of morals, respect and proper child rearing, a crisis that currently faces this society. Firearms are inanimate objects, tools made for lawful purposes and, if used in criminal acts, the only responsibility lies with the person pulling the trigger (or, in the school-shooting cases, poor parents and lack of ade-

quate security measures at our schools). Firearms have been around for centuries. How have they now become criminal? The criminality is in the hands of our society.

The media should look inward to see the responsibility they hold for the morals crisis. They produce, for profit, video games that are of the most violent nature, programs like MTV and pornography, all of which are detrimental to our society, have no healthful, legitimate use, and their production and distribution is protected under the First Amendment of the United States Constitution. You legitimize "publishers" like Hugh Hefner and Larry Flynt and publications like "High Times," and then attack a good man like Charlton Heston. Shame on you!

What surprises me about the current media hype that is

predominately negative towards the association and legal, responsible firearms owners and users, is that the media does not apparently recognize the relationship between their beloved (and essential) First Amendment and the Second Amendment. Our Founding Fathers were very wise men indeed. They lived the fact that any society that is truly free must be armed and the Second Amendment was written to guarantee the longevity of the First. The Second Amendment is in our constitution to enable us to always be free — free from any tyrant, from without or within. The Second Amendment is not about duck hunting; it is about freedom and constitutional liberty. As Americans, we are empowered with the ability to remain free. Our

(See LETTERS, page six)

### Letter Guidelines

Letters to the Editor are welcomed by The Floyd County Times.

In accordance with our editorial page policy, all letters must include the signature, address and telephone number of the author.

The Times reserves the right to reject or edit any letter deemed slanderous, libelous or otherwise objectionable. Letters should be no longer than two type-written pages, and may be edited for length or clarity.

Opinions expressed in letters and other voices are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the newspaper. Send letters to: The Editor, The Floyd County Times, P.O. Box 391, Prestonsburg, Ky. 41653.

# The Times

Published Sunday, Wednesday and Friday each week

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Letters

Continued from p4

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Sneaky Web Site? (www.pueblo.gsa.gov)



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U.S. General Services Administration

Obituaries

Hall pallbearers listed

Serving as pallbearers for the funeral of Hester Hall, were Adam Roberts, John David Hall, Brandon Combs, Willie Stewart, John Hall, Donnie Akers, Micheal Akers, Josh Hamilton, and Chris Ryan.

Litton pallbearers listed

Serving as pallbearers for the funeral of Josephine Litton were Charles Cole, Jay Teeter, Steven Goble, Lenzie Goble, Joe Mullins, and Charles Ray Hunter.

Doffie Henderson

Doffie Henderson, 51, of Craynor, died Tuesday, April 10, 2001, at Pikeville Methodist Hospital, following an extended illness.

Born on June 12, 1949, in Floyd County, he was the son of Henry Henderson of McDowell, and the late Girlie Howell Henderson. He was a disabled coal miner, and a member of the Little Rosa Old Regular Baptist Church of the New Salem Association.

He is survived by his wife, Burlene Hall Henderson.

Other survivors include one son, Jamie Henderson of Craynor; two daughters, Thedia Hamilton of Lenoir, North Carolina, Joella Newsome of Beaver; two brothers, Don Henderson of Josephine, Texas, Eddie Henderson of McDowell; one sister, Deloris Blevins of McDowell; and two grandchildren.

Funeral services will be conducted Friday, April 13, at noon, at the Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, Martin, with ministers of the Old Regular Baptist Church officiating.

Burial will be in the Henderson Family Cemetery, at Craynor.

Joe Edward Ball

Joe Edward Ball, 66, of Lexington, died Monday, April 9, 2001.

He was born in Prestonsburg on December 15, 1934, the son of John Elder and Mae Bailey Ball. He served in the United States Armed Forces in Fort Hood, Texas, from 1957-1959. He was actively involved in coaching and teaching the youth for Southeastern Bambino Baseball.

He was employed for 18 years as a sales representative for Louisville Chemical Company, in Lexington, and retired in 1999, and returned to part-time employment for Transylvania University Physical Plant Department that same year.

He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth Ann Daniels Ball.

Other survivors include one daughter, JoAnna Brooks Ball of Lexington and one son, Bill Ball of Nicholasville, and a brother, Sidney E. Ball of Lincoln Park, Michigan and two grandchildren.

Funeral services will be conducted Friday, April 13, at the W.R. Milward Mortuary Southland, with Reverend Jack Hughes Robinson officiating.

Ray pallbearers listed

Serving as pallbearers for the funeral of Okel Ray, were Tim Stiltner, Cleve Tackett, Mark Tackett, Timothy Cook, J.R. Moore, Wendy Cook, and Eric Hammond.

Stewart pallbearers listed

Serving as pallbearers for the funeral of Thomas "Tom" Spencer Stewart were Michael Stewart, Spencer Stewart, Thomas Stewart, William Stewart, Ben Stewart, Allan Halbert and Eddie Stewart.

Honorary pallbearers were Patrick Tallent, Bob Tallent and Eddie Clark.



Laura Hamilton

Laura Hamilton, 95, of New London, died Wednesday, April 11, at her home.

She was born December 5, 1905, in Floyd County, the daughter of the late Ireland and Nan Robinson Boyd. She had lived in New London since 1952. She was a member of the First Baptist Church of New London.

She is survived by four daughters, Mae Williams of New London, Carlie Jarrell of Sterling Heights, Michigan, Nancy Harris of Ashland, and Juanita Case of Fremont; two sons, J.D. Hamilton and Edward Hamilton, both of New London; 35 grandchildren, 78 great-grandchildren and 22 great-great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be conducted Saturday, April 14, 10 a.m., at the First Baptist Church of New London, with Alan Seaborn and Hershel Case officiating.

Burial will be in the Ashland County Memorial Park, under the direction of Eastman Funeral Home.

Ralph Caudill

Ralph Caudill, 75, of Melvin, died Wednesday, April 11, 2001, at the McDowell Appalachian Regional Hospital, following an extended illness.

Born on December 25, 1925, in Pennsylvania, he was the son of the late Johnny and Maxie Lawson Caudill. He was a retired coal miner, a member of the U.M.W.A. Local No. 5899 at Wheelwright, a member of the Light House Temple at Wheelwright, and a World War II veteran of the United States Navy.

He is survived by his wife, Reva Fitzpatrick Caudill.

Other survivors include one son, Glennis Caudill of Melvin; four brothers, Eddie Edward Caudill of Price, Jack Caudill of Mt. Vernon, Illinois, Bennie Caudill of Columbia City, Indiana, Jim Caudill of Caledonia, Mississippi; four sisters, Dixie Mullins of Columbia City, Indiana, Dorothy Hand of Eden, North Carolina, Mary Hamilton of London, Maudie Osborne of Hi Hat; and two grandchildren.

Funeral services will be conducted Saturday, April 14, at 11 a.m., at the Church of God of Prophecy, at Hi Hat, with Don Frale Jr. and Roy Cosby officiating.

Burial will be in the Harris Cemetery, at Melvin, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, Martin.

Life member National Rifle Association Prestonsburg

Common sense has gone the way of the 10-cent call, coffee or news

It happens in Frankfort. It happens in Washington D.C. It even happens in local forums. Where have respect, decency and common sense disappeared to? How have we lost the art of communication, understanding and compromise? It boggles the mind to see so

(See LETTERS, page eight)

Ref. John Hunters Funeral "The Happy Host on the Hill"

I want to thank all those who were so good for my dad both before he died and during his funeral. So many people cared. He touched a lot of lives.

Novella Hunter and her husband, John Paul, and their children and their neighbors were always there for him. She did everything for him and he trusted her completely.

He lived with them a year prior to his death. The teenagers where he lived were so giving. They deserve a big thank you.

To his sister, Nancy Kidd and her husband, Tommy, for first providing a delicious meal after the funeral and second for providing the final resting place for him as he requested. May he now rest in peace.

To Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home—you did a great job. Dad would have liked the way you handled everything and all the compassionate services you provided.

To all the ministries and singers who officiated, thank you for your caring words and the glorious singing. Walker Hall sang a beautiful hymn at dad's grave. The sun broke through the clouds momentarily just as he finished. God was listening.

To the Sheriff's Departments who helped in every way to assure everything went smoothly, you did a great job. Thank you.

To all of you who sent flowers—thank you. Daddy loved flowers.

We should all be lucky enough to walk in his shoes. They are hard to fill.

In Loving Memory from Darlene H. Mitchell

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Advertisement for Thacker Memorial featuring a monument illustration and contact information for 4964 Chloe Road, Pikeville, KY 41501.

Advertisement for Bunker Cycle featuring a motorcycle rider and a \$300 offer on accessories and/or apparel.

Advertisement for 'Funny Faces' featuring a 'Your Clue' puzzle and a 'Last Week's Winner' announcement.

Large advertisement for Kentucky's Saturday Powerball Lottery featuring a jackpot of \$83 million and the 'K Play Responsibly' logo.



Letters

Continued from p6

# EASTER SPECIAL

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much that could be done that isn't for petty or partisan reasons.

I realize that the Republicans and Democrats alike want to snag the power and glory for their party. I understand that the conservatives and the liberals differ on issues. When it comes to the good of the people, though, the stalemates and time wasted achieving them are not in the public good.

In Kentucky, we could not arrive at a decent plan to clean up the state and pick up its trash. A half-cent charge on throwaway containers at restaurants was considered "excessive." There's no way we could think about charging deposits on beverage containers, even though I grew up paying a nickel every time I bought a pop. Later, it was a dime on larger bottles. If we could afford it in the 1960s, why in this land of plenty was that ridiculous to consider now? Many northern states have charged deposits for years. They have mandatory recycling, as well. It has not hurt any industry, nor has it caused folks to drink less of their favorites refreshments.

We try to get mandatory garbage pickup, which sounds like a reasonable idea in a civilized land, but the goobers say it's too much trouble. I work all over this state and I cannot believe some of the things I see. A pig would not live on some folks' property. There's no reason or excuse for it. What kind of state are we leaving to our children?

The tree huggers would not let any power plants be built or allow any fuel exploration during Clinton's years. Now we have an energy crisis. The conservatives say let's drill for more oil, build more power plants and mine more coal. People who have lived through the trashing of different parts of our nation when we went whole-hog doing this kind of thing before are scared. But, just as scary is a nation that doesn't have enough energy to heat our homes or light the kitchen. Can't some sort of intelligent compromise be worked out?

I have no problem with mining, logging, plant construction or drilling, as long as it's done with common sense and the people who live nearby in mind. Sadly, in Appalachia, that has not been the case for decades. I say go ahead

and mine, drill gas wells, etc. all you want, but before any new work begins, the state and feds must ensure you clean up your old mess. There are mine structures, equipment and barrels lying all over Eastern Kentucky at closed-up mines. Most of this land is owned by today's big mining companies. Besides reclamation, maybe a bond should be required so that all the junk will be hauled off when the mine closes. The same with logging — charge an excise tax per board foot or tree that would be put back into replanting good hardwoods so the industry can stay viable in the future.

We need to quit bickering and work together to come up with middle-of-the-road answers to these and other issues. I am sure industry can work and make money while still doing it right. We in Appalachia must insist in there is a new mining boom that the folks on the low end of the totem pole get a little help, too. If spot coal is selling for \$50 a ton, there's no way a trucker who is making \$7 an hour should haul it for the same rate he did when it sold for \$20 a ton. The industry has been tight and work has been sporadic. Now, folks who have taken the hit in order to just survive should get a cut of the new profit-taking out-of-state coal companies receive. Without our people, the coal would

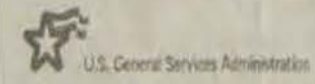
not be mined, nor would it be transported. A portion of the new profits should go into developing filters that would allow coal to be burned more cleanly, as well. That way, we are taking care of everything, and not just the corporate CEOs.

We've known since 1973's oil embargo we needed to develop other energy sources. Whatever happened to solar power, hydroelectric power and fuel from corn and grain? We put them on the back burner as soon as the fuel problem subsided, and now we pay the price. I could come up with ideas all day long, but unless our elected officials do the same thing, as well as work together, it doesn't matter much.

Charles E. Scoville  
Ivel

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...free federal information. You can download it right away by going into the Consumer Information Center web site, [www.pueblo.gsa.gov](http://www.pueblo.gsa.gov).



**Faith Bible Church**

You are invited to attend a 3-day series of Bible messages given by Grover Dean, at the Faith Bible Church of Martin, Kentucky, on April 15th, 16th and 17th. Sunday Morning, 11:00 a.m. Sunday, Monday and Tuesday Evening, 7:00 pm.

# FRIDAY THE 13TH

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Weird

Continued from p1

Bodily Essences in the News

In February, tennis star Boris Becker admitted that he is the father of Russian model Angela Ermakova's year-old baby girl; just a month earlier, newspapers in Germany were reporting that he had accused the model of impregnating herself with his sperm in an extortion plot engineered by Russian gangsters.

Can't Possibly Be True

Officials in the tiny Silicon Valley town of Woodside, Calif. (population 5,600), recently debated compliance with a state law requiring that town to have at least 16 "affordable housing" units (maximum rent for a one-bedroom apartment, \$870) in that otherwise-high-end real estate market.

Miguel Castillo was finally freed from prison in Illinois in January after having served 11 years for a murder despite having an airtight alibi. At Castillo's trial, the medical examiner said the murder occurred "before May 11 (1988)," and lab tests later fixed the day as May 7, 8 or 9, but Castillo was in jail on other charges during that time.

Frankfurt University researchers, according to a January issue of New Scientist, found that ants living in bamboo stems in Malaysian rain forests keep their nests dry by drinking any water that seeps in, then exiting the nest, urinating, then returning to the nest, repeating the process over and over until the nest is dry.

Unclear on the Concept

A December recommendation by the Canadian Transportation Safety Board (after investigating the 1998 crash of Swissair Flight 111) urged airlines to drastically shorten the checklist for cockpit detection of onboard fires.

Specially commissioned Braille posters with the theme of equal treatment for the blind were on display this winter at the Truro Leisure Center (Truro, England) and the University of Alberta (Edmonton, Alberta) human resources department.

People Different From Us

In March, a Norway, Maine, man (unnamed) in a police report in the Oxford County Advertiser Democrat was arrested for indecent exposure just after he waited in line and made a purchase at a convenience store with his zipper down and his genitals in plain view.

Thinning the Herd

A 19-year-old college student was killed in March when she crashed into a parked trailer while joy-riding inside a garbage can down what is believed to be the world's steepest street, in Dunedin, New Zealand.

Also, in the Last Month ...

Incumbent Mark Andrew Kern was re-elected mayor of Belleville, Ill., over challenger Mark Alan Kern (with not one voter so far expressing Florida-style confusion over the ballot). A Maryland state agency reported that the No. 1 cause of death of pregnant women for the years 1993-98 was homicide.

Stuart Robert McPherson's confession when he called up a victim just to taunt him about his "stuff (being) crap."

(Send your Weird News to Chuck Shepherd, P.O. Box 18737, Tampa, Fla. 33679 or Weird@compuserve.com, or go to www.NewsoftheWeird.com.)

Toddling Twosome at the MAC



photo by Kathy J. Prater

This toddling twosome recently attended a performance of "The Little Mermaid" at the Mountain Arts Center. Since both girls had a definite idea of where they wanted to go, it seemed a good idea that their steps were monitored.

Table with columns for TV channels (TBS, NBC, PBS, etc.) and time slots (9:00, 9:30, 10:00, etc.) for Saturday Morning/Afternoon on April 14, 2001.

Table with columns for TV channels and time slots for Saturday Evening on April 14, 2001.

Table with columns for TV channels and time slots for Sunday Morning/Afternoon on April 15, 2001.

Table with columns for TV channels and time slots for Sunday Evening on April 15, 2001.

Table with columns for TV channels and time slots for Weekday Morning/Afternoon on April 15, 2001.



BASIC AND PREMIUM CHANNELS

- 1. TVN Previews (Digital only)
2. WSAZ 3 - Huntington, W.VA
3. HBO
4. WCHS 8 - ABC Charleston, W.VA
5. Cable Ch. 5 - West Van Lear
6. CHN
7. WTBS - Atlanta
8. WPKY - KET Pikeville, KY
9. WPSY 33 - PBS Huntington, W.VA
10. WYMT 57 - CBS Hazard, KY
11. WVAH 11 - FOX Hurricane, W.VA
12. ESPN
13. WOVK 13 - CBS Huntington, W.VA
14. ESPN2
15. VH-1
16. QVC
17. The Family Channel
18. TNH
19. Lifetime
20. The Disney Channel
21. USA
22. Cinemax
23. USA
24. CNN Headline News
25. TNT
26. The Discovery Channel
27. MTV
28. Country Music TV
29. Nickelodeon
30. So-Fi Channel
31. Trinity Broadcasting Network
32. Cartoon Network
33. AMC
34. WGN - Chicago
35. The Learning Channel
36. The Weather Channel
37. TV Land

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Table with columns for Channel, Cable Subs, and Choice Package Available. Includes channels like QVC, WSAZ, WKPI, WPRG, WYMT, WTVQ, WCHS, C-SPAN, SCI-FI, WVAH, TBN, WOVK, ESPN, CNN, TNT, USA, GAC, ESPN2, NICKELODEON, CINEMAX, HBO, WGN, WTBS, CARTOON, WEATHER CH, TNH, FAM, AMC, VH-1, A&E, HISTORY, DISCOVERY, DISNEY, FX NETWORK, MSNBC, OUTDOOR CHANNEL, MTV, PAY PER VIEW, PPM-1 DIGITAL, PPM-2 DIGITAL, PPM-3 DIGITAL, PPM-4 DIGITAL.

CHANNEL GUIDE

Table with columns for Channel, Name, and Location. Includes Limited Basic (02 Fox Family Channel, 03 WSAZ, 04 C-Span, etc.), Premium Channels (14 HBO, 15 HBO 2, etc.), and Cablevision Tier (29 The Disney Channel, 30 Discovery, etc.).

CHANNEL GUIDE For DIRECTV Subscribers

Table with columns for Channel, Name, and Location. Includes ABC, NBC, CBS, FOX, and other networks available to DIRECTV subscribers.

Anchored in love: The Carter Family story

A new four-part Radio documentary series premiered Monday, April 9, on WMMT FM, Whitesburg, and on radio stations across the country. The Carter Family legend began in 1927 when A.P. Carter, his wife Sara, and her cousin Maybelle—the Original Carter Family—walked into a makeshift recording studio in Bristol, on the Virginia-Tennessee border, to record a half dozen songs.

Local group to tour Ireland, Scotland and England, June 15-26

An intergenerational community group will be traveling through Europe, June 15-26. Anyone who is in good health and can stand the rigors of travel, including vigorous walking, is invited to join the group. Organized and led by Dr. Donald Barlow of Prestonsburg Community College, this group will travel through Ireland, Scotland and England.

ACCU WEATHER 7-DAY FORECAST FOR PRESTONSBURG



UV Values indicate the sun's ultraviolet rays. The higher the UV index the greater the need for eye and skin protection. 0-1, minimal; 2-3, low; 4-6, moderate; 7-9, high; 10 or above, very high.



Regional Cities and County Outlook tables. Regional Cities table shows weather for cities like Abingdon, Beckley, Bristol, etc. County Outlook table shows weather for counties like Boone, Boone, Boone, etc.

Smile Awhile

Thanks for the memories

My mother, like many mothers the world over, kept everything she ever bought or that anyone ever bought for her: souvenir shot glasses from Branson, Missouri; postcards from Hot Springs, Arkansas; the grandkids' hand-prints; T-shirts from every major city in the United States; and small, now odorless, sachets — all priceless to her and precious to us.

The Kentucky Derby kicks-off in Washington

The Greater Louisville Convention & Visitors Bureau will host nearly 200 association executives at the Kentucky Derby D.C. Luncheon in Washington, D.C., on April 18. This event, held at the National Press Club, will be the official Kentucky Derby kick-off in the nation's capital where more than 80 percent of association offices are headquartered.



















**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Richard G. Price, mailing address 550 West Minister Street, Prestonsburg, KY 41653 hereby declares intention(s) to apply for a Restaurant Liquor and Wine by the Drink and Mall Beverage license(s) no later than April 13, 2001. The business to be licensed will be located at 1332 North Lake Drive, Prestonsburg, KY 41653, doing business as Rich's Place. The Owner(s) are as follows: Owner, Richard G. Price of 550 West Minister Street, Prestonsburg, KY 41653. Any person, association, corporation, or body politic may protest the granting of the license(s) by writing the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control, 1003 Twilight Trail, Suite A-2, Frankfort, KY 40601, within 30 days of the date of this legal publication.

The USDA, Rural Utilities Service has received an application for financial assistance from the Southern Water & Sewer District. As required by the National Environmental Policy Act, the Rural Utilities Service has prepared an Environmental Assessment that evaluated the potential environmental effects and consequences of the proposed project. This notice announces the availability of the Environmental Assessment for public review and comment.

The proposed project consists of adding approximately 30 miles of 4" and 6" diameter water distribution lines, to serve approximately 461 new households in Southern Floyd County. Also, install a telemetry system, replace two existing water storage tanks and pumping stations and replace the existing high service pumps at the existing water treatment plant. After consultations with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and the Kentucky State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) it has been determined that no important farmland, endangered species, wetlands or cultural resources will be adversely affected.

In order to avoid or minimize any adverse environmental impacts, the Rural Utilities Service will require the applicant to incorporate the following mitigation measures into the proposed project's design.

- The Letter of Conditions will require the applicant to comply with the requirements of the Kentucky State Clearinghouse Agencies as detailed by letter (And Successive Letters) to Ms. Holly Nicholas, PDR Engineers, Inc., dated January 10, 2001 and signed by Mr. Ronald W. Cook.
- The Letter of Conditions shall require the applicant to comply with the requirements, if any, of the US Fish and Wildlife Service as requested by letter dated October 23, 2000, and signed by Lee A. Barclay, Ph.D., Field Supervisor.
- Standard mitigation measures regarding protection of Prime Farmlands, Cultural and Historic Resources, and Floodplains will remain as conditions within the Letter of Conditions.

Copies of the Environmental Assessment are available for review at USDA/Rural Development, 220 West First Street, Morehead, Kentucky 40351. Telephone (606) 784-8447. For further information contact Joseph C. Frazier, Rural Development Manager. Any person interested in commenting on this proposed project should submit comments to the address above within 30 days from the date of publication.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Pursuant to KRS 231.040, application for a permit to operate a place of entertainment, has been made by Fred Haar of Box 798, West Van Lear, KY 41268. The name of the proposed business of entertainment is Top Cat Billiards & Catering. The nature of the business will be Game Room, Camping, Archery and Tobacco Barn. Pursuant to KRS 231.070, the Floyd County Attorney shall investigate whether the applicant lacks good moral character, or whether the applicant will obey the laws of the Commonwealth in the operation of the business, or whether the applicant, within the last two (2) years prior to the date of filing the application has been convicted in Kentucky of maintaining a public nuisance. Pursuant to KRS 231.080 any person desiring to oppose the permits shall file with the County Clerk no later than April 19, 2001 in writing, allegations that show cause as to why the application shall not be granted. Said written information shall be signed, dated and reflect the current address of said person providing the information.

Pursuant to KRS 231.080, a hearing has been scheduled for April 19, 2001, at the hour of 2:30 p.m., or as soon thereafter as same can be heard before the Floyd County Judge/Executive at the Floyd County Justice Center, 2nd Floor in Prestonsburg, Kentucky. The Floyd County Judge/Executive shall hear evidence in support of or in opposition to the granting of the permit.

**PUBLIC NOTIFICATION FOR INFORMING THE PUBLIC OF THE AVAILABILITY OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**

Southern Floyd Water and Sewer District

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