Sunday, December 22, 2002 • 75¢



Eric C. Conn "A SOCIAL SECURITY/SSI LAWYER" 1-800-232-HURT

Attorney

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County, Appalachian Wireless working on deal

by SHELDON COMPTON STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG - In the past year, the Floyd County Fiscal Court has taken strides to develop a large portion of land in Ivel as an industrial site. Those efforts have included having water and sewage run across U.S. 23 to the site, as well as some moves to attract potential companies to the site, while those moves were a small part of a larger plan to bring better water and sewer to the county as a whole.

Knott .

Court officials took one more step in that direction Friday, authorizing the submission of an application that, if accepted, would qualify the county to offer tax breaks to companies agreeing to locate in Floyd County.

"This is to help us bring industry into Floyd County," said Judge-Executive Paul Hunt Thompson. "In the next three years or so we'll

before that we had to have infrastructure before we county, but through rebate of taxes by the state," could attract businesses into the area.

The tax incentive would afford incoming companies half of all start-up costs and work to pay half of the rent costs included for the first decade of

"If this happens, Floyd County will be one of only four counties in the state of Kentucky to have this designation," said Frankfort economic advisor

have the water and sewage projects finished. I said Steve Carter. "This will come at no cost to the

The application will be sent out to the Kentucky Economic Development Finance Authority sometime next week and, according to Carter, the chances of Floyd County being certified are better

"I've never seen them turn anyone down for

(See DEAL, page three)

briefs

Destruction spree nets charges for patient

by JARRID DEATON STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG - A patient at Community Connections in Prestonsburg was charged with criminal mischief on Thursday.

Luther Ray Turner, 20, of Prestonsburg, allegedly destroyed or damaged property belonging to the organization when he ran his fist through a fax machine, punched a hole in a wall and a door and destroyed a fan.

A bond of \$1,000 was set for Turner and he is not to engage in any destructive behav-

Community Connection is a metal health organization that is located in Prestonsburg.

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3 DAY FORECAST



High: 47 · Low: 19

Tomorrow



High: 39 · Low: 20

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



The Floyd Circuit Courtroom was occupied by several attorneys representing those accused of criminal syndicate charges on Friday, as five of them were on the docket. Stephen Owens, representing Donald Quillen, and Harolyn Howard, representing Columbus Quillen, will go to trial, while Gerald Derossett, representing Teressa Lynn Jackson, and Jeff Lovely, representing Ernest Little, are out of it due to their clients taking pleas. Yet another, Kristi Gray, representing Burnett Little doesn't know if her client will plead or go to trial.

Members of alleged syndicate appear in court

by LORETTA BLACKBURN STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG - Floyd County's first criminal syndicate charges against alleged drug traffickers were addressed in circuit court on Friday, where a trial date was set for two charged in the scheme, while two pleaded guilty to lesser charges and agreed to testify for the common-

A fifth defendant was granted a continuance for a pre-trial conference.

Six people were indicted on May 16, in connection with the landmark case, which claims the defendants participated in organized crime by committing, attempting to commit or acting as an accomplices in the commission of an offense of a type in which a criminal syndicate engages on a continuing basis.

According to Title L of the Kentucky Penal Code, KRS 506.120, the commonwealth was able to prosecute the alleged drug dealers because of their participation in activities wit-

(See SYNDICATE, page three)

Wilkins pleads guilty to sodomy

by LORETTA BLACKBURN STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG - In exchange for entering a guilty plea to three counts of sodomy against two boys, William Henry Wilkins, 54, received a recommendation from the commonwealth for seven-and-a-half years. Wilkins entered the plea in Floyd

Circuit Court on Friday, at which time the commonwealth recommended the sentence and amended the charges to five class B felonies to class Cs.

Wilkins was originally charged with three counts of first-degree

sodomy and two counts of unlawful transaction with a minor. Wilkins admitted to sodomizing the two boys, who were 13 and 14 at the time. between the months of June and August 2000.

(See SODOMY, page three)

Alleged abusers

by LORETTA BLACKBURN STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG - A couple charged with 29 counts of criminal abuse signed a waiver of dual representation on Friday, agreeing that they both want to be represented by the same lawyer.

Ansel and Georgia Hall, both of Galveston, appeared with their new legal representation, Stephen Owens of Pikeville, in Floyd Circuit Court on Friday, at which time Owens filed motions for bond reduc-

After the couple signed the waiver, which assures them that Owens can't legally favor one over the other when representing them, he presented a motion requesting that the \$100,000 bond be reduced on the basis that Ansel Hall was a life-long resident of Floyd County and the alleged victim was in the protection of the Department of Social Services.

Judge Danny P. Caudill took the motion into consideration and later overruled the motion.

As previously reported, the Halls were charged with a combined total of 29 charges of first-degree

(See ABUSE, page three)

Homicide convict sent back to jail

by LORETTA BLACKBURN STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — A Hazard man who pleaded guilty to charges of reckless homicide on Oct. 4 in exchange for a three year sentence with a pre-trial diversion, appeared in Floyd Circuit Court on Friday to face charges of a probation violation after being on supervised probation for one month.

As previously reported, Bradley Combs, 28, was charged with reckless homicide stemming from a May 22, 2001, traffic accident that claimed the life of Paula H. Mitchell, 48, of Grethel. Combs was indicted on the charges on Feb. 27, as a result of the accident that occurred at Harold, where he drove through a red light and struck Mitchell's vehicle, which was exiting Route 979 onto U.S. 23.

(See REVOKED, page three)

Family facing blue Chirstmas

by LORETTA BLACKBURN STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG - While Christmas is characterized as a merry event, it is not always the case for children who spend it knowing that a parent is in jail and can't be with them.

Such is the case for the three Horner children who will spend this Christmas without their mother, Tabitha Bentley Horner, because they can't come up with the \$820.56 bail to

get her out of jail.

According to Eugene Horner, the children's father, his wife had been in Columbus, Ohio, at Riverside Hospital with her mother, Marilyn Southerly, when he was arrested on a bench warrant in connection to a small claims

Tabitha Horner returned to Floyd County to be with her 11-year-old, 12-year-old, and 15-year-old and spent what little money they

(See CHRISTMAS, page three)



Abbott Creek in Prestonsburg appeared to be a location out of Wild Kingdom on Friday with ostriches roaming loose in the yards of residents. From where the birds escaped could not be ascertained at press time.

photo by Jarrid Deaton

Denzil Allen, Agent

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Odds and Ends

After The Post-Crescent of

Appleton ran a story on the

theft Tuesday and area televi-

sion stations reported on it, the

Waupaca County Sheriff's

Department called the Rev.

Todd Jerabek to say the person

who took the statue wanted to

The statue and attached

return it.

EAU CLAIRE, Wis. Mary Berg plans to attend her daughter's graduation ceremony this weekend at the University of Wisconsin at Eau Claire. She's going not as a spectator, but as a participant.

Both women have earned bachelor's degrees in business administration with a major in management-human resources.

They took far different paths to graduation.

Mary Berg, 47, took one class a semester for more than 13 years. She had expected to complete her degree before her daughter, Amanda, finished high school, but that didn't hap-

Her daughter, now 22, went full-time for four years.

"I always worried about when we would be graduating, and that it would steal her thunder a little bit," said Mary, who works at Hutchinson Technology Inc. as a materials lead worker.

The family plans to hold a joint graduation party for the two in mid-January, with more than 100 friends and relatives.

■ JACKSON, Tenn. — What would you like on your burger? Lettuce? Mayo? Pickles?

Perhaps some bat?

A Lexington teenager faces up to six years behind bars for placing a dead bat on a bun as a joke and giving it to a man who took a bite, thinking it was a burger, police said.

The girl, whose identity is being withheld because she is a juvenile, will be charged with violating a new law that prohibits tampering with someone's food and giving it as a gift, according to Lexington Police Investigator Donna Hetherington.

"It appears to be a practical joke that went very bad. She just wasn't using a whole lot of common sense," Hetherington said Thursday.

Timothy Gooch, 21, went to a local hospital's emergency room after biting into the bat Tuesday night. He was not injured and the bat tested negative for rabies, state Health Department spokeswoman Diane Denton said Thursday.

ran over it and that the teen had never seen one before. "She thought this would be funny, but it wasn't," Hetherington

■ EMBARRASS, Wis. — Whoever stole the baby Jesus from a church nativity scene in this central Wisconsin community apparently was too embarrassed by news reports to keep

SHOT

President Roosevelt.

manger, a single unit that had been screwed to the floor of the nativity set outside Zion Lutheran Church, were delivered Tuesday evening. The identity of the thief wasn't made clear. Jerabek, pastor of Zion Lutheran, said the church did not plan to pursue the case with the sheriff's department, making any legal charges unlikely. He said the theft was "a bit dis-

"Some people were really disappointed," he said. "They wondered why would somebody do this, especially with Christ in front of a church."

concerting to many people."

They'll likely hear about it. When asked if the incident would be the topic for his holiday services, Jerabek smiled and said, "I don't want to give my sermon away."

MOMER, Mich. Michigan's smallest city is getting even smaller, after a vote to detach one disgruntled family's

Upset by the lack of water service, Cheryl and Kevin Perry and her parents asked to have their land transferred out of the city of Omer and into surrounding Arenac Township

in Arenac County. The two communities agreed to put the request to a vote Tuesday. And by an 82-58 margin, the public gave the split its blessing.

The township vote was 54-20 for the de-annexation, while the city vote was 38-28 against. Michigan law says the combined results determine the out-

Omer, with 337 residents, is Michigan's least populous city. It is about one mile square and about 120 miles north of Detroit.

"We are so happy," Cheryl Perry said. "It was definitely worth going this route. We got rid of what we think is an unjust tax."

(See ODDS, page five)

Today in History

The Associated Press

Today is Sunday, Dec. 22, the 356th day of 2002. There are nine days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On Dec. 22, 1944, during the Battle of the Bulge, U.S. Brig. Gen. Anthony C. McAuliffe reportedly replied "Nuts!" when the Germans demanded that the Americans surrender.

On this date:

■ In 1775, a Continental naval fleet was organized in the rebellious American colonies.

■ In 1807, Congress passed the Embargo Act, designed to force peace between Britain and France by cutting off all trade with Europe.

■ In 1864, during the Civil War, Union Gen. William T. Sherman sent a message to Hetherington said the bat President Lincoln: "I beg to prehad been killed when someone sent you as a Christmas gift the city of Savannah.

■ In 1894, French army officer Alfred Dreyfus was convicted of treason in a court-martial that triggered worldwide charges of anti-Semitism. (Dreyfus was eventually vindicated.)

In 1941, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill arrived in Washington for a wartime conference with

In 1971, the United Nations General Assembly voted to ratify the election of Kurt Waldheim to be secretarygeneral. ■ In 1984, New York City

resident Bernhard Goetz shot four black youths on a Manhattan subway, claiming they were about to rob him. In 1989, Romanian

President Nicolae Ceausescu, the last of Eastern Europe's hard-line Communist rulers, was toppled from power in a popular uprising.

■ In 1989, playwright Samuel Beckett died in Paris at age 83.

In 1991, the body of Lt. Col. William R. Higgins, an American hostage murdered by his captors, was found dumped along a highway in Lebanon.

Ten years ago:

President-elect Clinton chose Warren Christopher to be his secretary of state, and tapped Les Aspin as defense secretary. A Libyan Boeing 727 jetliner crashed, killing 157 people.

Five years ago:

During his visit to Bosnia, President Clinton thanked American troops and lectured the nation's three presidents to set aside their differences. Gunmen attacked an Indian village in southern Mexico, killing 45 people. Actress Hunter Tylo, whose pregnancy got her fired from steamy TV soap "Melrose Place," was awarded \$4.9 million by jurors who agreed she'd been wrongfully terminated.

One year ago:

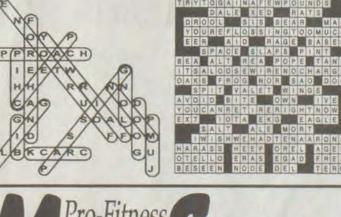
Richard C. Reid, a passenger on an American Airlines flight from Paris to Miami, tried to ignite explosives in his shoes, but was subdued by flight attendants and fellow passengers. (Reid, who later pleaded guilty, is to be sentenced next month.) Hamid Karzai was sworn in as prime minister of Afghanistan.

Today's Birthdays:

Lady Bird Johnson is 90. Former House Speaker Jim Wright is 80. Actor Hector Elizondo is 66. Country singer Red Steagall is 64. Baseball Hall-of-Famer Steve Carlton is 58. ABC News correspondent Diane Sawyer is 57. Rock singer-musician Rick Nielsen (Cheap Trick) is 56. Baseball All-Star Steve Garvey is 54. Actress Lynne Thigpen is 54. Singer Maurice Gibb is 53. Singer Robin Gibb is 53. Golfer Jan Stephenson is 51. Actress BernNadette Stanis is 49. Rapper Luther Campbell is 42. Country musician Chuck Mead (BR549) is 42. Actor Ralph Fiennes is 40. Actress Lauralee Bell is 34. Actress Dina Meyer is 34. Actress Heather Donahue is 28.

Thought for Today:

"A thousand probabilities do not make one fact." - Italian









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photo by Loretta Blackburn

Georgia Hall appeared along with her husband, Ansel Hall, in Floyd Circuit Court on Friday. The two signed a waiver of dual representation to enlist the services of Stephen Owens, who will defend them against 30 felony charges connected to the alleged torture of a 12-year-old boy.

Abuse

criminal abuse and Ansel Hall was charged with first-degree wanton endangerment.

The charges stem from allegations that the Halls tortured a 12-year-old boy in their custody with different devices over a sixmonth period between July 2001

and January 2002.

Ansel Hall was arrested on Feb. 1 at his home in Galveston by Kentucky State Police Trooper Joey King, while KSP Trooper Chris Collins arrested Georgia Hall a few hours later at McDowell ARH Hospital.

Syndicate

■ Continued from p1

■ Continued from p1

nessed by undercover agents of the Kentucky State Police. As previously reported,

Commonwealth's Attorney Brent Turner said that as far as he knew this was the first time that a case like this has been tried in Floyd County.

The first to appear before Judge Danny P. Caudill was Burnett Little, who was not present when Caudill called the docket. Caudill issued a bench warrant for him, but was sympathetic to his tardiness.

"I'm in the Christmas spirit or you would be staying with us today," said Caudill.

Caudill granted Little a continuance of a pretrial conference because his attorney, Kristi Gray, said she had not been able to get tapes from the commonwealth, which she considered vital when considering a plea agreement. Little is charged with second-degree trafficking and first-degree trafficking in cocaine, as well as the criminal syndicate charge, which carries a 10 to 20 year sentence.

Columbus Quillen, 59, of Dwale, who appeared to schedule a trial date, and his son Quillens and was granted a recence, were both given a trial probated 24 months.

date of June 16 to 19. Columbus Quillen will also face charges of first-degree trafficking, seven counts of second-degree trafficking, and second-degree persistent felony offender, as well as the criminal syndicate charge. Along with the criminal Tyler Joseph received a plaque from the U.S. Marine Corps for syndicate charge, Donald Quillen is also charged with first-degree trafficking in cocaine and persistent felony offender.

Later Friday afternoon, join to help 'Toys for Tots' Ernest Little, 36, of Martin, pleaded guilty to possession of a controlled substance and agreed to testify on behalf of the commonwealth against the Quillens. In exchange for his plea the commonwealth amended the class B felony criminal syndicate charge to the possession charge and recommended a 12month sentence to be suspended and probated 24 months.

Teressa Lynn Jackson, 28, of Prestonsburg, also pleaded to with Paintsville Independent possession of a controlled substance, which was an amended charge from the criminal syndicate charge against her. She agreed to testify against the erwise received. Donald Quillen, 32, Dwale, who ommended sentence of 12 appeared for a pretrial confer- months to be suspended and

Sodomy

■ Continued from p1

June 14, Wilkins claimed that he had illnesses including cerebral palsy and bipolar disorder that inhibited his ability to

During his arraignment on enter the plea. It appears that Mitchell was pronounced dead at the evaluation made by the the scene, while Combs was Kentucky Correctional Psych- treated and released from iatric Center found him compe- Pikeville Methodist Hospital.

Christmas

■ Continued from p1

had left to get their father out of

According to court records, Tabitha Horner was arrested pursuant to a bench warrant in connection with the same small

claims case on Dec. 13. She is being held on the relatively small bail, but the Horners say they cannot come up with the money and will have to spend

Continued from p1

this," Carter said Friday, adding that one county which had successfully applied had already begun work on their proposed project.

The decision to apply for such designation will come just in time, as one company has already expressed solid interest in putting the Ivel site to use.

East Kentucky Network LLC controller Michael Huffman told court officials Friday that his company, better known as Appalachian Wireless, would be very interested in locating a headquarters and other operations at the Ivel site.

"What we'd like to do is set up headquarters at Ivel, a warehouse and a call center," Huffman said.

The fiscal court agreed to sell the development site to Appalachian Wireless for a total cost of \$330,000, and, pending certification from KEDFA, apply the tax incentives for the fiber-optic based company.

An initial fee of \$5,000 for a 90-day lease will be given, after which point, Appalachian Wireless then has the option to

Christmas without her.

buy at the total cost. Carter said the economic repercussions from the deal could bring even more companies into the area.

"Because of their fiber-optic loop, East Kentucky Network will be able to provide a muchneeded business need to other companies that could locate here," said Carter.

Appalachian Wireless provides a fiber-optic "loop" which enables companies to continue service without interruption. If a line is cut off at one point along the line, the service will simply circle around the loop and continue without interference, something Carter said all businesses seek out for their company's operations.

"Being here in the mountains, we have to have an extra incentive," Thompson said, explaining the reasons for submitting the application and planning to offer Appalachian Wireless a chance to benefit from the move. "It just gives us an extra tool to convince companies to locate in Floyd County."

Road projects for 2003 outlined

by SHELDON COMPTON STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG - The enormous workload from 2002 had not yet fully passed into the books and already the Floyd County Fiscal Court was looking ahead to 2003 during its last regular meeting of the year

Frank Castle, director of the state Rural Road Secondary Program, proposed a number of county road projects for the upcoming year.

Castle told Judge-Executive Paul Hunt Thompson and attending court members Friday

his work with the Toys for Tots program.

the surrounding area will receive

an extra nice Christmas thanks

to the goodwill of a few con-

Once again Perkins Job

Corps partnered with the U.S..

Marine Corps and Paintsville

Elementary to collect "Toys for

Job Corps, and Tyler Joseph,

Schools, teamed up to bring

smiles to several young faces by

providing them with a toy

which they would not have oth-

with the Perkins staff and area

businesses in collecting toys

and making a list of children in

The commonwealth made an

oral motion to void the diversion

program due to violations in

which Combs allegedly had contact with convicted felons and

used a controlled substance.

Combs stipulated to the later accusation, admitting that he had

taken OxyContin, according to

Combs' attorney, Harolyn

Howard, asked that the diversion program be continued on the basis that Combs admittedly had

a substance abuse problem at the

time he entered into the program

and had not yet been able to

obtain treatment. She proposed

that the court postpone the deci-

sion and hold Combs in custody

until he had completed a treat-

ment program, pointing out the

ponement, stating that Combs

was given an opportunity and the

"insulting thing" was that only

one month after being on super-

vised probation he had tested

Taylor objected to the post-

seriousness of addiction.

revocation.

science."

say about addiction.

Attorney Wayne Taylor.

Assistant

Continued from p1

Commonwealth

Revoked

Carroll worked diligently

Teresa Carroll, with Perkins

cerned citizens.

Job Corps, Paintsville student

This year, youngsters from the area who were in need of a

Christmas.

Christmas present. She said that

the program was well received

Technical College, Morehead

State Big Sandy Campus and

First Commonwealth Bank for

allowing her to place Toys for

Joseph, an active humanitar-

to aid his fellow man and spear-

headed a campaign throughout

his school and encouraged his

fellow classmates to participate

by giving instead of receiving. The fifth-graders eagerly took

several presents for this year's

were at Perkins Job Corps and

Paintsville Elementary on Dec.

16 to present Carroll and Joseph

with plaques of appreciation

and to pick up the boxes of

donated toys and distribute them

throughout the community.

Marine Corps personnel

that his department is prepared destroyed last year. to approach Frankfort with project plans upon the court's approval, adding that some projects would be put on hold during the course of the year until money could be secured for

Of that, Castle said an estimated \$564,000 will be set aside exclusively for maintenance, with much of that consisting of work still needing to

of our money from the 22.2 percent of motor fuel taxes," said Castle. "That means that we'll have \$1,025,000 to work with."

be done to correct what floods

"As you know we get most

Some of the projects that will be presented for approval will be projects on Route 2030 at Spurlock, which Castle said was in the worst need of attention, Route 3385 at Buffalo and Endicott Road, Route 680 at McDowell, as well as work to be done on Turkey Creek just

In addition to these projects will be work on Route 1750 at Lick Fork, Route 1086 at Wayland and 2029 at Salt Lick.

Roads will not be the only aspect of the county's secondary roads, however. Castle said a good deal of work needed to be done on guardrails throughout the county.

Various guardrail projects are to be proposed for the county. Castle said the state usually accepts one or two of those projects, and other floodplain projects await purchases of right-

"For the floodplain projects we still need to buy right-ofways and we just don't have quite enough money to do that right now," Castle said.

Other business conducted during Friday's meeting includ-

Fiscal court members approved the county revenue bond of \$200,000, the sheriff's budget for 2003 and a state advancement for that office.

Adopted 14 new roads into the county system, including, Linda Conley Layne at Prestonsburg, Newcastle Lane and Best Street Road at Cliff, the Daniel's Creek Subdivision and Jake Jervis Road located at Daniel's Creek, Cornett Branch Road, Heather Lane and Howell Branch Road at Spradlin Branch, Right Fork Road at Howard Branch, Old County

Road at Ligon Camp, Mud Creek Development at Grethel, Ellis Drive off Route 23, Missy Lane at Slick Rock and Carrie's Lane at Goebel Branch.

Issued final payment of \$4,000 to Randall Burchett for construction to the Floyd County Community Center at Martin and an additional \$20,000 to operations for that center.

Reappointed Southern Water and Sewer District Commissioners Paula Johnson and Bert Layne.

All members of the fiscal court were in attendance for Friday's meeting.

NOTICE OF MEETINGS

County. 911 Floyd Executive Board will begin quarterly meetings, starting at its next regular meeting, January 9, 2003. Meetings will be held in the Fiscal Court Room, at 149 S. Central Ave. (Old Courthouse), at 1 p.m.

Meeting Dates for 2003. are as follows:

Janurary 9 (2nd Thursday) April 10 (2nd Thursday) July 10 (2nd Thursday) October 9 (2nd Thursday)

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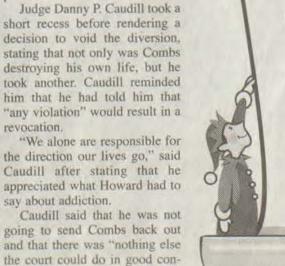
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pression

Freedom of the press is not an end in itself but a means to the end of [achieving] a free

Felix Frankfurter

Guest View

Morriss did a good job

Alas, the Guy Morriss era at the University of Kentucky has proved to be an all-too-brief one. After just two seasons, the UK football coach has departed for Baylor University, where he will more than double his salary and have every bit as much of a challenge in turning around a hapless program as he did in Lexington.

Morriss was named UK coach after Hal Mumme resigned in February 2001 amid internal and NCAA investigations. The former 15-year lineman in the NFL did little to gain the confidence of UK fans when he led the Wildcats to a second straight 2-9 season in his first year at the helm, and with UK losing scholarships and being placed on probation by the NCAA, few were expecting much improvement during Morriss' second year.

However, the Wildcats were the surprise of the SEC this year, finishing with a 7-5 record.

As any fan will quickly tell you, UK could just as easily have been 9-3 or even 8-2 except for a few bad breaks, including a loss to LSU on the final play of the game. The only games where they were clearly outplayed were against Georgia (and only in the second half) and Tennessee.

For his part in turning the Wildcats around, Morriss was given an extension to his contract, and fans assumed he would remain in Lexington through at least the 2007 season. But when Baylor came knocking with a promise to double his pay, the Texas native opted to return to his home

Five months ago, Morriss wasn't on anyone's short list of candidates for a vacant coaching job. What a difference a rare winning football season at a "basketball" school can make.

Here's hoping UK quickly fills its coaching vacancy and next year's seniors quickly adjust to their third head coach in four years.

- The Daily Independent, Ashland



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-Jim Davidson

The courage to say 'no'

To have courage in the face of adversity is one of the greatest of all human virtues. The dictionary defines courage as That quality of mind or spirit enabling one to meet danger, or opposition with fearlessness, calmness and firmness." The late Winston Churchill, former prime minister of Great Britain, summed it up this way, "It is the quality which guarantees all others.

As the topic of courage relates to your own life, here is a question I would like for you to think about: Do you want the best life has to offer? I'm confident most people will answer "yes" to this question. It's just human nature to want the best.

However, in many cases we settle for far less than it's possible for us to achieve. The only way any person can have the best life has to offer is to learn how to say "no" at the right time and in the right way. Most of our obstacles to having and living the best life are brought about when we don't have the courage or intestinal fortitude to say "no."

Almost from the time we are born and come into the world, life is made up of one decision after another. For those of us who are fortunate enough to have had

loving parents, to have received a good education and to have made some positive choices, we began our journey through life with a lot going for us. Of course, for those who were not so lucky, there is always hope they will encounter enough positive influ-

ences to make a real difference.

In your own life, can you think of problems that were created, because you didn't have the courage to say "no"? In my personal life, I can think of a thousand cases where I would have been better off if I would have just had the courage to say "no." Here are some

examples where the simple word "no" would make a big difference in a person's

No to premarital sex; no to drugs; no to smoking; no to alcohol; no to profanity; no to crooked or unethical business practices; no to breaking the law; no to cheating on your mate. No! No! No! It's a powerful word when it's used in the proper way and at the proper time.

Please don't think for a moment that I'm setting myself up as a perfect example of someone who has had the courage to say "no" to each of these life-changing decisions. In fact, there are only a few things on this list where I can truthfully say I've said no to in every case. Based

on my years of experience, knowing what I know now, my list of things I would say "no" to would definitely be longer.

If we are wise, we will make these kinds of decisions in advance, so when we are confronted with a choice of this

> type, it will already be settled. I believe you will agree we do need a standard to live by, and something we can depend on to be right in every possible situation. We hear a lot these days about positive thinking and no is not a positive word, but a negative word. When we say "no" in a group environment, it shuts off fellowship, and who wants to be a wet

In most cases the lack of courage comes from fear. The word fear, in this case, can be seen in the acrostic, "False Evidence Appearing Real." In the vast majority of cases, we are afraid because we don't know enough or because we are acting on information that is untrue. When it comes to life-changing and life-altering decisions, I hope you will give some serious thought to what I'm saying and have the courage to say "no," which is the only way to have the best life has to offer.

Jim Davidson is a motivational speaker and syndicated columnist. You may contact him at 2 Bentley Drive, Conway, AR

- beyond the beltway

Lott reveals Republicans' inner feelings

by DONALD KAUL

Trent Lott took the wrappings off the other day. The Mississippi senator, speaking at the 100th birthday party of Sen. Strom Thurmond of South Carolina, said:

"I want to say this about my state. When Strom Thurmond ran for president, we voted for him. We're proud of it. And if the rest of the country had followed our lead, we wouldn't have had all these problems over all these years either."

Now that, I submit, is an exceedingly odd thing for a Senate Majority Leader (which Lott was) to say. Forget the fact that for the past decade or two Thurmond has been a senile old fool unable to understand, let alone perform, the duties of his office. Neither senility nor foolishness has ever been a barrier to service in the U.S. Senate. The thing is, in 1948, when he ran for

the presidency on the States' Rights, or "Dixiecrat," ticket, Thurmond was a young vigorous fool who was even then unfit for

The Democratic Party had broken apart at the '48 convention on the issue of a strong civil rights plank in the platform. That was unacceptable to hard-core Southerners and Thurmond, then the governor of South Carolina, led a walkout, after which he formed his own party to defend

the "right" of states to maintain legal segregation and discriminate against whom they pleased. He got more than a million votes and nearly cost Harry Truman the election.

That's the Strom Thurmond that Lott is so enthusiastic about.

He has since apologized for making the remark — twice. It seems that the remark didn't mean that Lott was endorsing segregation, perish the thought. He was merely giving the old man a warm send-off.

Except, it was later revealed, that Lott said pretty much the same thing in the same words 20 years ago after a Thurmond speech at a Ronald Reagan campaign rally.

And it was Lott, remember, who was forced to apologize for laudatory remarks he

made to the Council of Conservative Citizens — a descendant of the viciously racist White Citizens Council - a few

No, friends and neighbors, we have to face facts. The Republican leader of the Senate of the United States is a racist

Selected Democrats and black leaders are calling for his resignation but I don't know why. Having a guy like that oppose you is much better than having a closet racist against you. You can always see where he's coming from.

The people who should be calling for his resignation are Republicans. Lott is one of the defining faces of the Republican Party. Why are they not offended that their representative is a racist?

Don't bother searching around for an

answer, I'll tell you. It's because the Republicans have become the party of racism in America. Yes, the party of Lincoln, and the party of civil rights though much of the first half of the 20th century. has become the anti-civil rights party, its leaders almost all drawn from the former Confederacy.

That must be a bitter pill for progressive Republicans to swallow, but both of them

seem to be managing it. Not that the Democrats are any great shakes as a civil rights party, but at least they don't sing "Dixie" at the dinner table and yearn for the good old days when everybody knew his place.

The only thing I find in Mr. Lott's favor, actually, is his mother. I mentioned the senator in a piece about the South a while back and received a note from the lady:

"You name my son, Sen. Trent Lott, as one of the dumb ones in the North or South. You called him a 'yokel.' May I name you as one of the dumbest nuts I've ever run across? So keep your dumb opinions to yourself. My son is much smarter than you. I am sure most people agree with me." - Iona W. Lott.

A man whose mother will stand up for him like that has to have some saving graces. They just aren't public.

Donald Kaul recently retired as Washington columnist for the "Des Moines Register." He has covered the foolishness in our nation's capital for 29 years, winning a number of modestly coveted awards along the way. For more information, email: donaldkaul@aol.com.

Faith Extra

Young Catholic creates program for homeless youth

by LIZ SIDOTI ASSOCIATED PRESS

COLUMBUS, Ohio - As a child, Angela Lariviere bounced among temporary housing, rundown hotels and other people's couches 39 times in a search for stability - the only constant in life being religious faith.

With a single mother battling mental and physical illnesses. Lariviere and her four siblings at times did not know where their next meals or next beds would be.

"I never thought anyone else lived like I did," said Lariviere, who was dubbed "the gypsy" by schoolmates.

But after getting a job through AmeriCorps with the Coalition on Homelessness and Housing in Ohio, Lariviere realized that she had been homeless as a child and that little had changed in her home state since then.

That discovery prompted her to form the coalition's Youth Empowerment Program in 2000. Throughout it, Ohio's homeless children advocate for changes in state laws, school policies and shelter rules affecting them.

Because of her work, the 30year-old Lariviere was the 2002 recipient of the Catholic Campaign for Human Development's Cardinal Bernardin New Leadership Award, given to a young Catholic who has fought poverty and

Lariviere attended various churches as a child and converted to Catholicism so she and her husband could raise their children in one faith. She is a bright spot in a difficult time for the church as the clergy sex abuse scandal drags on.

"I focus on the parts of the church that I agree with - the faith, the religion, the commitment to the community,' Lariviere said, explaining that the church's troubles have not shaken her belief in God or her mission

Both remain central to her life at work and at home.

If she is not leading community service projects with the cessfully lobbied for a state law empowerment program's homeless youth, she is working on similar efforts in her parish. St. Ladislas in Columbus, with her husband, Charles, and their two children.

"It's just what I do," Lariviere explained matter-of-factly, shrugging off any notion that her life is extraordinary.

Lariviere credits the success of the empowerment program to the 700 young people whose input determined the issues the group would address and how the organization would be structured.

"They wanted to be involved in something. They wanted respect," Lariviere said. "They wanted to see changes happen and they have.'

Funded mostly by grants, the program is for homeless children and young adults ages 10 to 24 who serve on seven youth-run councils across Ohio that represent the interests of the state's 35,000 homeless children.

Last year, the councils sucthat protects the rights of homeless children to get an education. They also persuaded shelters to drop rules that barred boys aged 13 and older from staying with their families.

Kevin Blackledge, an AmeriCorpsVISTA worker who works with the program, said that while the effort is driven by young people, it would not have been possible without Lariviere's

"The kids trust her. For a lot of them, she's their mother. She supports them, and gives them a chance to do something about their situation, to help change it." Blackledge said.

The teenagers - most of whom are not orphans or street kids but rather in community shelters and transitional housing with their families - call Lariviere a leader, a friend, a sister, and, most of all, an equal.

"She's been in the same situations," said 14-year-old Nick Molina. "So many people don't understand us. She does because she's one of us."

Thirteen-year-old Sasha Bowers said Lariviere treats young people in the program as

"She knows we're old enough to understand what's gone on in our lives, and she knows that we have more responsibilities than other kids our age because she did, too," Bowers said.

The youth tell stories about how Lariviere drives them to meetings or projects no matter



m Continued from p2

The Perry family of four pays a \$40 yearly water tax, though it gets no water service in return. Cheryl Perry's parents next door also get no city water.

Omer officials told the family the city was not obligated to extend its water line and not financially able to do so.

it's minutes or hours away. She lets them do laundry and hang out at her home; she feeds them and gives them money if they need it. Most of all, they say, they can count on her to take them in if they would otherwise have to sleep on

"That's more than her job," said Burhan Dahir, 19, a Somalian immigrant in the program since its

where they are staying, whether inception. "That's just who she

Mark Huddy, vicar for Catholic Charities and Social Concerns in the Diocese of Columbus, calls Lariviere a sign of hope.

"It's her faith commitment and her own experience that have given her both the power and the passion to do this kind of work." Huddy said. "That's a quality that not everybody has,"

Casey appointed to national rural health committee

HAZARD - Baretta Casey, M.D., of the University of Kentucky Center for Rural Health in Hazard, has been appointed to the American Academy of Family Physicians Committee on Rural Health. This national appointment will place Dr. Casey in a leadership position to advance the issues affecting family practice doctors.

The American Academy of Family Physicians is the national association of family doctors. It is one of the largest national medical organizations, with more than 93,500 members in 50 states, Washington, D.C., Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands and Guam.

Dr. Casey is very active in organized medicine. She is a member of the American Medical Association, on which she is serving as a delegate to the House of Delegates for the Kentucky Medical Association. Dr. Casey is also a member of the Kentucky Medical Association and will be serving as the chairwoman for the board of trustees for the 2002-03 year. She just completed a oneyear term as chairwoman of Kentucky Educational and Political Action Medical Committee. She is a member of

the American Academy of Family Physicians and the Kentucky chapter of AAFP. Dr. Casey is serving as the speaker of the House of Delegates for the 2002-03 year for the Kentucky Academy of Family Physicians. She has received the Kentucky Victims Coalition, Inc., award for outstanding service on domestic violence. She is a member of the American Diabetes Association and the Rotary Club in Pikeville.

Dr. Casey joined the UK Center for Rural Health on Oct. I as the vice-chair for the UK Family Practice East Kentucky Campus and director for the East Kentucky Family Practice Residency program. She is a native of Pike County and received her bachelor of arts degree from Pikeville College and her medical degree from the University of Kentucky College of Medicine, in 1991. She received her specialty training at the Trover Clinic Family Practice program Residency Madisonville and is board certified in Family Practice.

Dr. Casey previously was in private practice in Pikeville and served as the director of Rural Training Tracks for the University



Dr. Baretta Casey

of Kentucky Department of Family Practice from March 2001 to August 2002. She will continue overseeing the Rural Training Tracks, along with acting as director for the residency pro-

Dr. Casey is married to Charles Michael Casey and has three children; Aaron, Joshua, and Jessica, and two grandchildren, Brennen and Morgañ.

To learn more about the UK Center for Rural Health and its programs, contact Public Relations Director David Gross at (606) 439-3557 ext. 283.

Security Systems



St. Martha Catholic Community Lancer-Water Gap Road, Prestonsburg, Ky.

Christmas Schedule

Tuesday, December 24 5:00 p.m. Mass

11:30 p.m. Mass

Wednesday, December 25 10:00 a.m., Mass at St. Luke Salyersville, Ky.

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Regional Obituaries

Floyd County

Goldie Evans Adkins, 79, of Grethel, died Saturday, December 14, at the Pikeville Methodist Hospital. Funeral services were conducted Tuesday, December 17, at the Pilgrims Home Old Regular Baptist Church. Burial was in the Evans Cemetery, Grethel, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Sadie Bakay, 85, of Weeksbury, died Tuesday, December 17, at Highlands Regional Medical Center. Funeral services were conducted Friday, December 20, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Stacia Paige Collins, 2, of Betsy Layne, died at the Pikeville Methodist Hospital, Thursday, December 12, of injuries sustained in an auto' accident. Funeral services were conducted Monday, December 16, at the Little Dove Old Regular Baptist Church at Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Nora Holton, 37, died Friday, December 13, at the McDowell A.R.H. Hospital. Funeral services were conducted Monday, December 16, under the direction of Burke Funeral Home.

Della Lizziebeth Kidd, 80, of Honaker, died Tuesday, December 17, at her residence. Funeral services were conducted Friday, December 20, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Cordellia Marie Morris, 57, of Prestonsburg, formerly of Wednesday, Inez, died December 19. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, December 21, under the direction of Phelps & Son Funeral

Palestine (Newsom) Newsome, 75, of Carpenter Road, Ashtabula, native of McDowell, died unexpectedly, Sunday, December 15, at Ashtabula County Medical Center. She is survived by her husband, Chester Newsome. A service was held Wednesday, December 18, at the Lily of the Valley Old Regular Baptist Church, S.R. 84 and Kiwanis Park Drive, Geneva. Burial was in Ridgeview Cemetery, Ducro Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Joe Wheeler Stanley, 69, of Prestonsburg, died Monday, December 16, at the Riverview Health Care Center in Prestonsburg. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, December 19, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral

Pike County

Linda Adkins, 53, of Greasy Creek, died Friday, December 13, at Pikeville Methodist Hospital. Funeral services were conducted Monday, December 16, under the direction of Lucas and Hall Funeral Home.

Dorothy Adams Bentley, 87, of Kimper, died Friday, December 13, at Mountain View Health Care Center, Elkhorn City. Funeral services were conducted Sunday, December 15, under the direction of Bailey Funeral Home.

Freddie Bentley, 54, a Pike County native, died Thursday, December 12, at his home. He is survived by his wife, Yvonda Ratliff Bentley. Funeral services conducted Sunday, December 15, under the direction of Bailey Funeral Home.

George Washington Bentley, 91, of Georgetown, Ohio, native of Pike County, died Thursday, December 12, at Brown County General Hospital. Funeral services were conducted Tuesday, December 17, under the direction of Hall & Jones Funeral Home.

James Ed Branham, 79, of Pikeville, died Saturday,

December 14, at Pikeville Methodist Hospital. He is survived by his wife, Blanche Justice Branham. Funeral services were conducted Tuesday, December 17, under the direction of Thacker Memorial Funeral Home.

Alpha May Bryant, 62, of Pikeville. died Saturday, December 14, at her home. Funeral services were conducted Tuesday, December 17, under the direction of Lucas & Hall Funeral

Nell Crabtree, 77, of Belcher, formerly of Sundusky, Ohio, died at Mountain View Health Care Center, Elkhorn City. Funeral services were conducted Sunday, December 15, in the Lick Creek Holiness Church. Arrangements were under the direction of J.W. Call & Son Funeral Home.

Walta Mae Duncan, 82, of Pikeville, died Thursday, December 12, at Pikeville Health Care Center. Funeral services conducted Saturday, December 14, under the direction of J.W. Call & Son Funeral Home.

Elsie Ferrell, 94, of Phelps, formerly of Freeburn, died Thursday, December 12, at South Williamson Appalachian Regional Hospital. Funeral services were conducted Sunday, December 15, under the direction of R.S. Jones & Son Funeral

Mary Francis Fields, 61, of Chattaroy, West Virginia, died Wednesday, December 11, at St. Mary's Hospital, Huntington, West Virginia. Funeral services conducted Sunday, December 15, under the direction of Hatfield Funeral Home.

Elnor Fuller, 51, of Grundy, Virginia, formerly of Steele, died Tuesday, December 10, at Buchanan General Hospital, Grundy. Funeral services were conducted Friday, December 13, under the direction of Bailey Funeral Home.

Eugene Kirkpatrick, 63, of Detroit, has died. He is survived by his wife, Betty Jean Kirkpatrick of Phelps. Funeral arrangements are under the direction of Phelps Funeral Services.

Elsie Greer Sowards, 91, of December 10, at Pikeville Methodist Hospital. Funeral services were conducted Friday, December 13, under the direction of J.W. Call & Son Funeral Home.

Lawrence County

Beatrice Mae Branham, 80, Lawrence County native, died Tuesday, December 10, at Highland Regional Medical Center. Funeral services were conducted Friday, December 13, under the direction of Phelps & Son Funeral Home.

Johnson County

Ruth Mae Kelly, 78, a native of Elna, died Wednesday, December 11. She is survived by her husband, Nelius Kelly. Funeral services were conducted Saturday. December 14, under the direction of George C. Martin Funeral

John Stambaugh, 70, of Sitka,

died Monday, December 16, at Paul B. Hall Medical Center, Paintsville. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, December 18, under the direction of Preston Funeral Home.

Martin County

Beatrice Mae Branham, 80, of Inez, died Tuesday, December 10, at Highlands Regional Medical Center, in Prestonsburg. Funeral services were conducted Friday, December 13, under the direction of Phelps and Son Funeral Home.

John Stambaugh, 70, of Sitka, died Monday, December 16, at Paul B. Hall Medical Center, Paintsville. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, December 18, under the direction of Preston Funeral Home.

Melvina Colvin Stepp, 96, of Tomahawk, died Tuesday, December 10, at Tomahawk. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, December 14, under the direction of Phelps and Son Funeral Home.

Johnson County

Rodney Cantrell, 47, Johnson County native, died Friday, December 13, at U.K. Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, Mable Williams Cantrell. Funeral services were conducted Monday, December 16, under the direction of Magoffin County Funeral

Lora Louise Carpenter, 40, died at her West Van Lear residence on Friday, December 13. Funeral services were conducted Tuesday, December 17, under the direction of Burke Funeral

Delby "Hardtimes" Kestner, 63, of Flat Gap, died Wednesday, December 11, at Paul B. Hall Medical Center. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, December 14, under the direction of Preston Funeral Home.

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Walter Nelson

Obituaries

Walter Nelson, 67, of Prestonsburg, died Wednesday, December 18, at the Highlands Regional Medical Center, Prestonsburg.

Born April 27, 1935, at Coley, he was the son of the late Homer Nelson Sr., and the late Pearlie Jane Hackworth Nelson. He was a retired auto body mechanic, and a member of Third Avenue Freewill Baptist Church at Prestonsburg.

He was twice married; first to Roberta Adams Nelson, and later to Mary L. Blankenship Nelson. Both preceded him in

Survivors include one son, Don Nelson of Prestonsburg; one daughter, Dian Music of Prestonsburg; two brothers, Johnny Wayne Nelson and Ronnie Dean Nelson, both of Prestonsburg; three sisters, Eva Adams of North Manchester. Indiana, and Geneva Whitaker and Vickie Poe, both of Prestonsburg; seven grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren; and a special friend, Virginia Ratliff of Banner.

In addition to his parents, and his wives; he was preceded in death by two brothers, Homer Nelson Jr., and Rebel Nelson; and two sisters. Shelby Jean Prater and Deloris Nelson.

Funeral services were conducted Saturday, December 21, at 1 p.m., at Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home Chapel, in Martin, with Manford Fannin and Richard Crisp officiating.

Burial was in the Nelson Family Cemetery at Richardson Branch in Prestonsburg, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Visitation was at the funeral

(Paid obituary)

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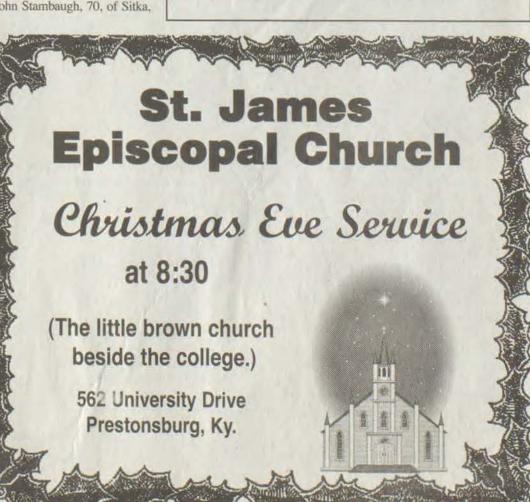
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Letters to

Dear Santa,

My name is Jessica Danielle Hall. I live in Prestonsburg, and am 6 years old. I have tried very hard to be a good girl this year. For Christmas I would like to have a Baby Born doll, a Rapunzel Barbie doll, a bean bag chair, a Ken doll, and anything else you would like to bring me. I will leave you a treat by the Christmas tree. I will also leave something for the reindeer. Thank you, Santa.

Love, Jessica

Osborne Elementary

Dear Santa,

I am in 3rd grade at Osborne Elementary. I want some Yougioh cards, Pokemon cards. I will leave you some snacks under the tree. Love you Santa. Kiana Shanice Hall

Merry Christmas Santa: I am in Mrs. Jeanice's Allen's 2nd grade class at Osborne Elementary, This year for Christmas I would like anything you would like to bring me. I have been a good girl this year. I love Santa.

Santa, I will leave you a snack under the tree. Have a safe trip and don't forget to buckle

Your friend, Candace Brook Tackett

Merry Christmas Santa: I am in Mrs. Jeanice Allen's 2nd grade class at Osborne Elementary. This year for Christmas I would like X box, 4 wheeler, play station 2, Dragon Ball Z toy, movies, VCR, TV, and games.

Santa, I will leave you a snack under the tree. Have a safe trip and don't forget to buckle

Your friend, Cody Johnson

Merry Christmas Santa: I am in Mrs. Jeanice Allen's 2nd grade class at Osborne Elementary. This year for Christmas I would like X box, deer hunter 3 for my computer, hunting clothes, so I could stay warm on my hunting trips, a super soaker water gun would be nice under the tree.

Santa, I will leave you a snack under the tree. Have a safe trip and don't forget to buckle

Your friend, Johnathan Newsome

Merry Christmas Santa: I am in Mrs. Jeanice Allen's 2nd grade class at Osborne Elementary. This year for Christmas I would like a new bike, hit clip, computer, with a CD to go with it.

Santa, I will leave you a snack under the tree. Have a safe trip and don't forget to buckle

Your friend, Daniele Barnett

Merry Christmas Santa: I am in Mrs. Jeanice Allen's 2nd grade class at Osborne Elementary. This year for Christmas I would like anything that you would like to send me. I have been a good girl.

Santa, I will leave you a snack under the tree. Have a safe trip and don't forget to buckle

Your friend, Michelle Johnson

Merry Christmas Santa: I am in Mrs. Jeanice Allen's 2nd One more thing a Bratts boys in Mrs. Jeanice Allen's 2nd grade class at Osborne Elementary. This year for Christmas I would like cotton candy maker, Sassy stable, keyboard, gummy bird maker, Barbie chair, new outfit. Santa, most of all, I would like World

Santa, I will leave you a snack under the tree. Have a safe trip and don't forget to buckle

Your friend. Sara Hall

Merry Christmas Santa: I am in Mrs. Jeanice Allen's 2nd grade class at Osborne Elementary. This year for Christmas I would like Dragonball Z figers, plays station 1 and 2 and Z games to go with it. CDs, CD player, X box, DVD player, DVD movies, Jasen X movie, Scooby-Doo movie, Santa Clause two movie, yu-gieah cards.

Santa, I will leave you a snack under the tree. Have a safe trip and don't forget to buckle

Your friend, Brady Johnson

Merry Christmas Santa: I am in Mrs. Jeanice Allen's 2nd grade class at Osborne Elementary. This year for Christmas I would like yu-gi on deck with a game boy advance

with geku legtare. Santa, I will leave you a snack under the tree. Have a safe trip and don't forget to buckle

Your friend,

Merry Christmas Santa: I am

grade class at Osborne Elementary. This year for Christmas I would like yoguh packs. I want Tony Hawk proskater 4 and I want a yoguh games and X box and a computer and a TV thing for game Boy

Santa, I will leave you a snack under the tree. Have a safe trip and don't forget to buckle up...

Your friend, Dakota Justice

Merry Christmas Santa: I am in Mrs. Jeanice Allen's 2nd grade class at Osborne Elementary. This year for Christmas I would like 5 dolls, dollhouse and I would like a chalkboard and a pack of markers and some books and some outfits, and a new book bag.

Santa, I will leave you a snack under the tree. Have a safe trip and don't forget to buckle up...

Your friend, Shelly Slone

Merry Christmas Santa: I am in Mrs. Jeanice Allen's 2nd grade class at Osborne Elementary. This year for Christmas I would like Yugi-Oh deck with exotia cards, X box, a game boy advance with goku legusee tape, a play station two

Santa, I will leave you a snack under the tree. Have a safe trip and don't forget to buckle up...

Your friend, Austin Johnson

Merry Christmas Santa: I am in Mrs. Jeanice Allen's 2nd grade class at Osborne Elementary. This year for Christmas I would like a hit clips and what you want to get me.

Santa, I will leave you a snack under the tree. Have a safe trip and don't forget to buckle up...

Your friend, Ciara Danielle Jones

Merry Christmas Santa: I am in Mrs. Jeanice Allen's 2nd grade class at Osborne Elementary. This year for Christmas I would like Kelly dall, Barbie jeep, Boble hed, glow in the dark super ball, lab top, Teddy bear, a doll that looks like me.

Santa, I will leave you a snack under the tree. Have a safe trip and don't forget to buckle up... Your friend,

Terianne K. Heart

Merry Christmas Santa: I am in Mrs. Jeanice Allen's 2nd grade class at Osborne Elementary. This year for Christmas I would like a baby doll and a bull dog and a baby brother and a real monkey and a play station and a little CD player and a tape play-

Santa, I will leave you a snack under the tree. Have a safe trip and don't forget to buckle up...

Your friend, Kaitlin Bayes

Merry Christmas Santa: I am in Mrs. Jeanice Allen's 2nd grade class at Osborne Elementary. This year for Christmas I would like a dirt bike, race track, remote controlled car, special toy that nobody knows about and a lot of very very special toys.

Santa, I will leave you a snack under the tree. Have a safe trip and don't forget to buckle up...

Your friend. Matthew Caudill

Merry Christmas Santa: I am in Mrs. Jeanice Allen's 2nd grade class at Osborne Elementary. This year for Christmas I would like Vice City and Dragonball Z both for Play

Station 2. Santa, I will leave you a snack under the tree. Have a safe trip and don't forget to buckle up...

> Your friend, Dylan Hall

Merry Christmas Santa: I am in Mrs. Jeanice Allen's 2nd grade class at Osborne Elementary. This year for Christmas I would like an "X" box and the game holo for X box and a lab top a yugioh cards set

Santa, I will leave you a snack under the tree. Have a safe trip and don't forget to buckle up...

Your friend, Gary "Jr." Johnson

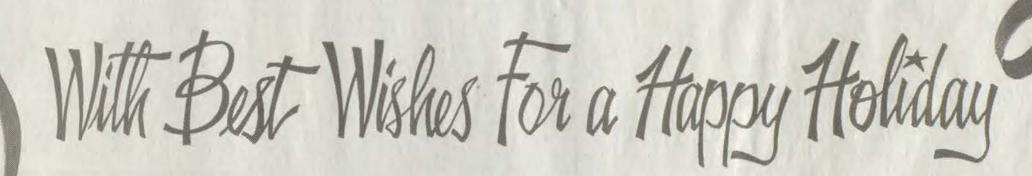
Merry Christmas Santa: I am in Mrs. Jeanice Allen's 2nd grade class at Osborne Elementary. This year for Christmas I would like an X box with every game. And every yugioh card.

Santa, I will leave you a snack under the tree. Have a safe trip and don't forget to buckle you...

Your friend, Hunter Bailey

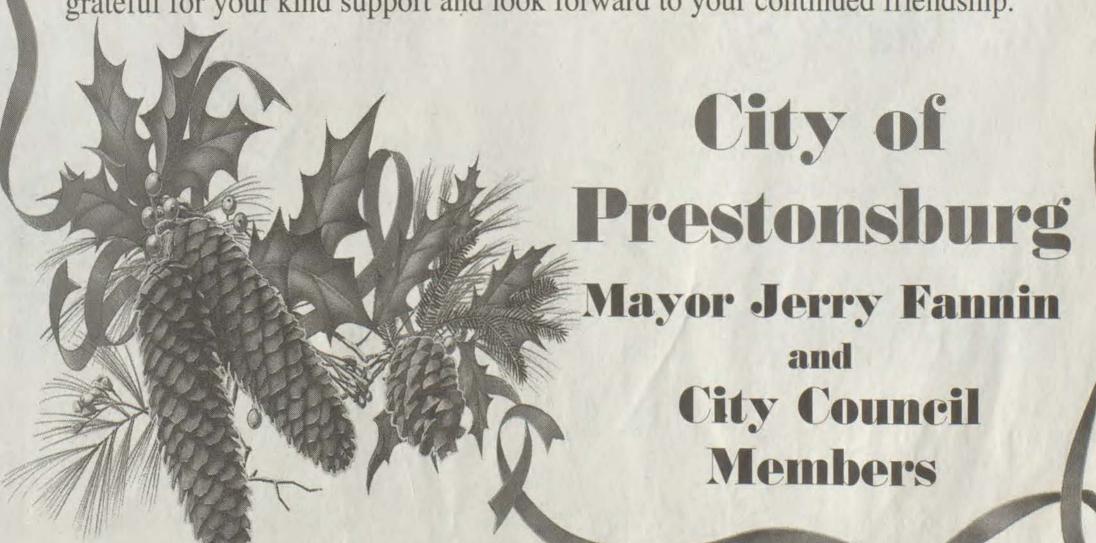
Merry Christmas Santa: I am in Mrs. Jeanice Allen's 2nd grade class at Osborne Elementary. This year for Christmas I would like computer CD player, CD's, ring, deckiace, doll, real pony a dog, cat Neyac dolls, Xbox, DVD player, Play Station 2, thats all Santa. I love

Santa, I will leave you a snack



May the meaning of Christmas be deeper, its friendships stronger, and its hopes brighter, as you and your loved ones revel in the magic of the holiday season.

It's been a privilege and a pleasure serving you this past year. We're really grateful for your kind support and look forward to your continued friendship.



under the tree. Have a safe trip in Mrs. Jeanice Allen's 2nd up. and don't forget to buckle you... Your friend,

Sadie Renee Slone

Merry Christmas Santa: I am in Mrs. Jeanice Allen's 2nd grade class at Osborne Elementary. This year for Christmas I would like a Play Station 2 and I want a motorcycle and a TV and things like a war and a remote and a Timmy Noe Train movie and a dirt bike.

Santa, I will leave you a snack under the tree. Have a safe trip and don't forget to buckle

Your friend. Tylor Adkins

MERRY

CHRISTMAS

Daddy, Grammy,

and Uncle Trae.

I love you

very much!

Colby Fugate

grade class at Osborne Elementary. This year for Christmas I would like a bb gun and I would like a truck.

Santa, I will leave you a snack under the tree. Have a safe trip and don't forget to buckle

Your friend, Tyler Hall

Merry Christmas Santa: I am in Mrs. Jeanice Allen's 2nd grade class at Osborne Elementary. This year for Christmas I would like Dragonball Z, Dragonballs. Pizza, and toy woody.

Santa, I will leave you a snack under the tree. Have a safe Merry Christmas Santa: I am trip and don't forget to buckle

the Best to Our Customers!

Absher

Enterprises

from

STRAND TWIN, Prestonsburg, 886-2696

RIVERFILL 10, Pikeville, 432-2957

Farrin

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& Electric

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Your friend,

Ronnie Johnson

Dear Santa, My name is Latisha. I will leave you some cookies and milk by the Christmas tree. Latisha

Dear Santa, My name is Erica and I have been nice this year. Please bring me jewelry and hogel doll. I will leave you some by the Christmas

Your Friend, Erica

Dear Santa,

My name is Dustin and I have been nice this year. Please bring me cars, trucks and toys for Christmas. I will leave you some cookies and milk by the Christmas tree.

Your Friend, Dustin Kidd

Dear Santa, My name is Dakota and I have been nice this year. Please bring me a remote control car, Harley shirt. I will leave you some cookies and milk by the Christmas trees,

Your Friend,

Dakota

Dear Santa,

My name is Mack and I have been nice. This year please bring me a truck, computer and play station. I will leave you some cookies and milk by the Christmas tree.

Your Friend Mack

Dear Santa,

My name is Toby. I have been nice this year. Please bring me a motorcycle, games and game boy advance. I will leave you some by the Christmas tree.

Your Friend. Toby Tackett

Dear Santa,

My name is Tyler and I have been nice this year. Please bring me a bike. I will leave you some cookies by the Christmas tree.

Your friend,

Tyler Dear Santa,

My name is Savannah and I have been good this year. Please bring me something. I will leave

Your Friend, Savannah

Dear Santa,

My name is Amber and I have been nice this year. Please bring me jewelry, Rapunze doll and crossroads movie. I will leave you some cookies and milk by the Christmas tree.

Your Friend. Amber

Dear Santa,

My name is Daniel and I have been nice. Please bring me a Jeep. I will leave you some coke.

Mrs. Jone's kindergarten

Dear Santa,

My name is Trey Little and I am in Mrs. Carlotta Jone's kindergarten class at Osborne Elementary. I have been really nice and I have worked hard for my teacher. I would like for you to bring me Mustang, coal truck, and

I will leave you card and peach pie beside the tree on Christmas

Your friend, Trey

Dear Santa.

My name is Alex Tackett and I am in Mrs. Carlotta Jone's kindergarten class at Osborne Elementary. I have been really nice and I have worked hard for my teacher. I would like for you to bring me puppet pengrin toy Santa Claus, and elf too. I will leave you milk and Santa shape cookies and I will leave reindeers food too, beside the tree on Christmas Eve.

Your friend,

Dear Santa,

My name is Joey Little and 1 am in Mrs. Carlotta Jone's kindergarten class at Osborne Elementary. I have been really nice and I have worked hard for my teacher. I would like for you to bring me motorcycle, spider web, glove, and truck.

I will leave you chocolate cookies and milk beside the tree on Christmas Eve.

Your friend,

Dear Santa,

My name is Donovan Collett and I am in Mrs. Carlotta Jone's kindergarten class at Osborne Elementary. I have been really nice and I have worked hard for my teacher. I would like for you to bring me Play Station 2, bulldozer, and monster truck.

I will leave you orange juice and chocolate cookies beside the tree on Christmas Eve.

Your friend. Donovan

Dear Santa,

My name is Jamie Henderson and I am in Mrs. Carlotta Jone's kindergarten class at Osborne Elementary. I have been really nice and I have worked hard for my teacher. I would like for you to bring me truck, play mouse and bike (brown).

I will leave you milk and chocolate cookies beside the tree on Christmas Eve.

Your friend,

Jamie

Dear Santa,

My name is Ethan Spears and I am in Mrs. Carlotta Jone's kindergarten class at Osborne Elementary. I have been really nice and I have worked hard for my teacher. I would like for you to bring me b.b. gun, remote control truck, monster truck that plays

I will leave you cookies with icing and chocolate milk beside the tree on Christmas Eve.

Your Friend.

Dear Santa,

My name is Olivia Branham and I am in Mrs. Carlotta Jone's

you something by the Christmas kindergarten class at Osborne Elementary. I have been really nice and I have worked hard for my teacher. I would like for you to bring me Barbie doll, Barbie truck, and Barbie Popcom box.

I will leave you cookies and milk beside the tree on Christmas

> Your Friend, Olivia

Dear Santa.

My name is Aaron Carr and I am in Mrs. Carlotta Jone's kindergarten class at Osborne Elementary. I have been really nice and I have worked hard for my teacher. I would like for you to bring me Play Station game cube and motorcycle for my brother.

I will leave you Oreo cookies beside the tree on Christmas Eve.

Your Friend,

Aaron Carr

Dear Santa,

My name is Casey Rackey and I am in Mrs. Caroltta Jone's kindergarten class at Osborne Elementary. I have been really nice and I have worked hard for my teacher. I would like for you to bring me cat (real), and a real bunny, and Barbie

I will leave you milk and chocolate chip cookies beside the tree on Christmas Eve.

Your Friend,

Casey

Dear Santa,

My name is Candi Mullins and I am in Mrs. Carlotta Jone's kindergarten class at Osborne Elementary. I have been really nice and I have worked hard for my teacher, I would like for you to bring me gold ring, necklace, and pants and shirt.

I will leave you some slippers and sandwich beside the tree on Christmas Eve.

Your Friend, Candi

Dear Santa,

My name is Samantha Helton and I am in Mrs. Carlotta Jone's kindergarten class at Osborne Elementary. I have been really nice and I have worked hard for my teacher. I would like for you to bring me hip clip, cd player, and Karaoke machine.

I will leave you a sandwich and cookies and milk beside the tree on Christmas Eve.

Your Friend, Samantha

Dear Santa,

My name is Andrew Tackett and I am in Mrs. Carlotta Jone's kindergarten class at Osborne Elementary. I have been really nice and I have

bunny rabbits, new bike (red) and I will leave you milk and chee-

worked hard for my teacher. I

would like for you to bring me

rios and cookies beside the tree on Christmas Eve. Your Friend,

Andrew

Dear Santa,

My name is Chloe Little and I am in Mrs. Carlotta Jone's kindergarten class at Osborne Elementary. I have been really nice and I have worked hard for my teacher. I would like for you to bring me cat (real), train (santa), and Kangaroo.

I will leave you and elfs a present beside the tree on Christmas

> Your Friend, Chloe Little

Dear Santa, My name is Tyler Caldwell

and I am in Mrs. Carlotta Jone's kindergarten class at Osborne Elementary. I have been really nice and I have worked hard for my teacher. I would like for you to bring me yellow coal truck. I will leave you hot cocoa, cookies and white milk beside the tree on Christmas Eve.

> Your friend, Tyler Caldwell

Dear Santa,

My name is Danielle Burke and I am in Mrs. Carlotta Jone's kindergarten class at Osborne Elementary. I have been really nice and I have worked hard for my teacher. I would like for you to bring me diamond ring, Barbie, and toys.

I will leave you chocolate milk and cookies beside the tree on Christmas Eve.

Your Friend,

Danielle Burke

Dear Santa,

My name is Jeremiah Keens and I am in Mrs. Carlotta Jone's kindergarten class at Osborne Elementary. I have been really nice and I have worked hard for my teacher. I would like for you to bring me blue bike, football, and basketball.

I will leave you gingerbread and strawberry milk beside the tree on Christmas Eve.

Your Friend, Jeremiah Keens

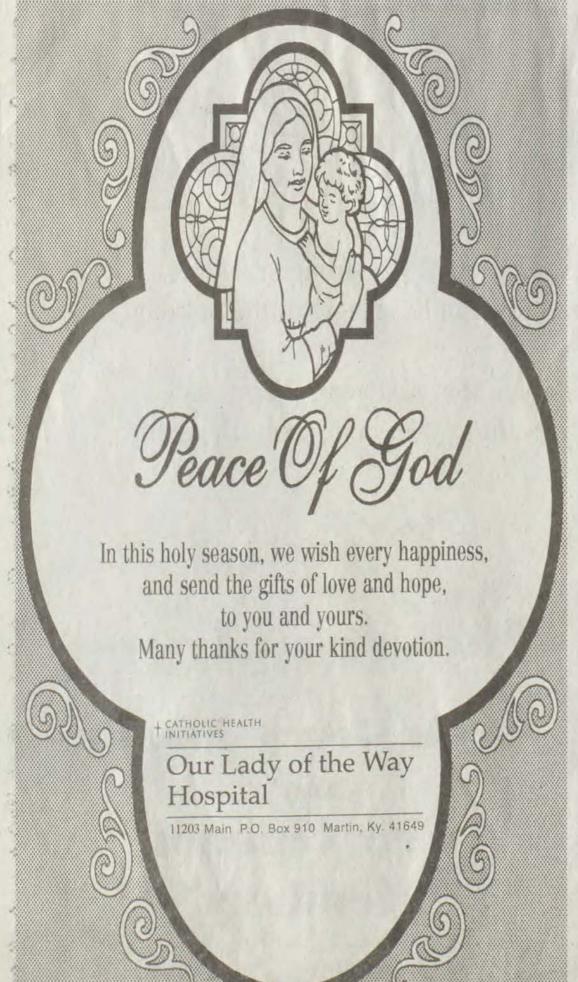
My name is Taylor Berger and I am in Mrs. Carlotta Jone's kindergarten class at Osborne Elementary. I have been really nice and I have worked hard for my teacher. I would like for you to bring me choo choo train, baby doll, and playhouse, and Coca-Cola stuff for Sissy.

I will leave you frosted animal cookies and white milk beside the tree on Christmas

Your Friend,

Dear Santa,

My name is Dwane Day and I am in Mrs. Carlotta Jone's kindergarten class at Osborne Elementary. I have been really nice andd I have worked hard for my teacher. I would like for you to bring me black mustang, (a







real one), monster truck and fishing pole and a game cube.

I will leave you Oreo cookies beside the tree on Christmas

Your Friend, Dwane

Linda's Carousel Day Care

Dear Santa,

I would like three things from you this year. 1, thing is that Gee and Papa's job gets better. 2. I want Nana's job to turn out real good. 3. I would like the Diablo gift set with the 3 games in it, Diablo 1, Diablo 2 and the expension pack.

Thanks a lot.

Love, Shane

Dear Santa,

My name is Annelise Small and I am four years old. I am in Ms. Melinda's Preschool Class at Linda's Carousel Day Care. I have been a good girl and been on my best behavior. Santa, I am

going to leave you milk and cookies in my kitchen. Santa I want you to bring me a snowboard and lots of baby dolls. I would also like a doll house. Santa, please put my presents underneath my Christmas tree.

> Love. Annelise

Dear Santa,

My name is Aaron Martin and I am three years old. I am in Ms. Melinda's Preschool Class at Linda's Carousel Day Care. I have been a good boy this year. Santa, please bring me some presents and a fish. I will put something under the tree for

Love. Aaron

Dear Santa,

My name is Haley Wright and I am three years old. I attend Ms. Melinda's Preschool Class at Linda's Carousel Day Care. I have been a very good girl all year, so Santa, please bring me a lot of presents. Santa bring me some finger paint and a microphone so I can sing to my Mommy. I would also like a ball, so my brother, Cameron, and I can play catch. Last but not least. I would like a pogo stick. Santa I will leave you and Mrs. Claus milk and cookies.

Haley

Dear Santa,

My name is Tabitha Collins and I am three years old. I attend Ms. Melinda's Preschool Class at Linda's Carousel Day Care. For Christmas I would like to have a present. Anything is fine.

Tabitha

Dear Santa.

My name is Mary-Hixson Small. I attend Linda's Carousel Day Care and Ms. Melinda is my teacher. I have been a very good girl and I want lots of toys and presents. Santa, please bring me a rocking chair, so I can rock my baby dolls to sleep. I want an orange ball so me and my sister,

doll house for my baby dolls. Santa, I will leave you some milk and cookies.

> Love. Mary-Hixson

Dear Santa,

My name is Niah Andueza and I just turned three years old. I go to Ms. Melinda's Preschool Class at Linda's Carousel Day Care. I have been a good girl this year. Santa, please bring me a Barbie and put it under my Christmas tree at home that my Mommy put up. Bring a sponge Bob for Daddy and Mommy, and a Pageant Prince for my bubby. I will leave you some milk and cookies under the tree.

Love, Niah

Dear Santa,

My name is Hackworth and I just turned three years old this month. I am

Annelise can play, I also want a in Ms. Melinda's Preschool Class at Linda's Carousel Day Care. I have been a pretty good boy this year. I would for you to bring me toys, an airplane, and a chair. I will leave some milk and cookies in a Christmas box, and a picture of me and Daddy under the Christmas tree. I love you, Santa!

> Love. Justin

Dear Santa,

My name is Erica Blanton and I am three years old. I am in Ms. Melinda's Preschool Class at Linda's Carousel Day Care. I have been a real good girl this year. Santa bring me some clothes, a baby doll, a train, and a Barbie Jeep. I will leave you some candy under the tree. Also, bring something for my Mommy, Daddy, and Sissy. I love you Santa.

Love, Erica

Dear Santa,

My name is Courtland Flanery and I am three years old. I am in Ms. Melinda's Preschool class at Linda's Carousel Day Care. Santa would you bring me some toys to play with. There will be cookies under the tree for you.

> Love, Courtland

Dear Santa,

My name is Brandi Carroll and I am three years old. I go to Ms. Melinda's Preschool Class at Linda's Carousel Day Care. I would like for you to bring me a book, a baby doll, some crayons, and some cars.

Love.

Brandi

Subscribe a and Save

A White House Christmas with birds and pets

by JENNIFER LOVEN ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON - First Lady Laura Bush asked Americans to "remember other people during this Christmas" as she unveiled a White House dressed up in an elegant red-and-gold decor made whimsical by papier mache recreations of the pets of presidents past.

"I wish for peace," said Mrs. Bush when asked for her wish for the season. "I hope that all Americans will remember other people during this Christmas, ask

senior citizens in, visit with people who are lonely, that they'll work in their food banks, that they make sure that they use their good fortune to help others who are less

The first lady also asked that the families of those serving in the military - "deployed around the world right now defending our freedoms" - would get thanks and support. And she reminded that the sting of last Sept. 11 will still be smarting this season for those who lost a loved one in the terrorist attacks.

The weather helped out for the annual preview of the gussied-up executive mansion that will serve as a backdrop for 19 holiday parties - for lawmakers, state officials, staff, friends, the media and others. A blast of wintry weather dumped a blanket of snow that lent a festive air from outside to the twinkling lights, gilded decorations and elaborate confections inside.

The Bushes' official holiday entertaining season got under way Wednesday, with a Hanukkah gathering and a reception for the artists and decorators that brought the decorations to life. Late Thursday, the president and first lady were hosting the pageant of peace in which the national Christmas tree on the National Mall is lit.

The theme — "all creatures, great and small" — had papier mache likenesses of a Noah's Ark of animals that have played a role in White House life, whether as companions or beasts of burden, protruding from nearly every nook and cranny. The lineup includes George Washington's horse, Nelson, up through Spotty, Barney and Willie, the Bushes' two dogs and cat that earned a special spot on the mantle in the grand entry

The traditional gingerbread house, about a month in the making by pastry chef Roland Mesnier, this year features a large lawn to make room for dozens of tiny marzipan pets - including a goldfish in a bowl, a snake, two raccoons, and a rooster. But though former President Clinton's cat Socks made the menagerie, his beloved late dog Buddy did not.

Mesnier meant no offense, just noted there were "already quite a few dogs,"

Nearly every available inch of the centerpiece 18-foot Noble fir, gracing the oval Blue Room, is covered with birds. The White House enlisted the governors of every state to recommend artists

(See PETS, page ten)

Merry **Gkristmas**

To Our Mom and Dad Kelli and Stephen Allen

Love you, Taber and Kison Allen







Ciara Dawn Chafin and

Steven Graham Chafin

"Mom" - Lana B. Chafin

Thank you for everything that you have done for us. We have been through some difficult times, and with your love and support you have filled our Christmas with peace and hope.

In Loving Memory of Our Daddy Eddie Chafin



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"MERRY CHRISTMAS" "Papaw"- Ernest G. Burchett

May God Bless Your Home This Holiday Season Wherever you live, may you be visited by faith, love and good fortune in the year to come. We feel blessed to have so many good customers and friends. Thank you for visiting us. The Associates and Management at the Prestonsburg WAL-MART

Little town's post office booms around Christmas time

by JOHN BIEMER ASSOCIATED PRESS

BETHLEHEM, Md. - The Eastern Shore's little town of Bethlehem lies still most of the year, another rural village tucked between the poultry farms and comfields.

But the town is forever linked to its namesake in the Holy Land, where Christians believe Jesus Christ was born. So each December, Caroline County's Bethlehem comes to life - particularly Monday, which the U.S. Postal Service predicted would be the busiest day of the year.

From miles around, people tote their mail to the town's tiny post office, just to collect a postmark with a Biblical name. They can also use a rubber stamp, known as a "cachet," to imprint a red image of three wise men riding camels toward a distant star.

"The only thing we handle is Christmas cards," said Karen Durham, the Bethlehem postmaster. "The bills go to Easton. That's the season and that's the reason."

The post office measures volume in feet, she explains as she hand-stamps postmarks onto stacks of colorful envelops. Each foot, she says, holds about 230 letters. On an average day throughout most of the year, Bethlehem will process about one foot of mail. On Monday, it had processed about 12 feet by noon.

Nationwide, average daily mail volume is 680 million items, including about 100 million cards and letters. But postal officials predicted that would increase by as many as 200 million extra cards and letters on Monday.

People come from all over Maryland and nearby Delaware to get the postmark and the cachet in Bethlehem. Some even mail a box full of letters to the post office, so they can be opened up and sent out from there, Durham said, holding up a package from Keyser, W.Va.

The holiday surge in business is crucial to the post office's survival. The town has only a couple of hundred residents - a littler town even than the original.

There's just one other business nearby - the Bethlehem Country Traders, which shares space with the post office. The general store also sells a new pewter Christmas tree ornament each year bearing the town's name.

The cachet dates to 1938, when a high school girl from nearby Preston thought the city should do something to celebrate its name, explains June Wagner, 59. The former postmaster volunteers to help Durham and the one other part-time worker at the post office each December.

About 1946, Wagner says, the town settled on the design of the Magi - the three wise men who traveled from the Orient to Bethlehem 2,000 years ago to offer their gifts to the baby Jesus.

Other Bethlehems around the United States - including those Pennsylvania, Hampshire, Georgia Kentucky - also offer Christmas cachets, Wagner said. So do other towns with yuletide names, such as Santa Claus, Ind., and Christmas, Fla.

On Monday, Diane Webster, 58, brought more than 40 holiday cards from nearby Federalsburg, even though her town has its own post office. One of the cards is going to a neighbor one street

"I like being able to put the stamps on it to remind them what Christmas is all about," Webster





extends best wishes to you and your family for a happy,



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Man's legacy of Christmas lights still continues

The Associated Press

BOWLING GREEN - One Christmas after Richard and Geneva Cassady were married, they placed two candles in a window of their house.

It was a simple expression of their love for Christmas, But for the Cassadys, it didn't stop there.

After that winter of 1945, Richard began illuminating the house with electric lights, streaming them across the lawn, running them up and down trees and around a lake in their yard.

But this Christmas the outside is bare. Richard died in October at age 78. Across town in the Bowling Green Gardens cemetery, however, a Santa figurine sits on top of Richard's headstone. Behind his grave, 800 white lights are woven in and out of the branches of a small tree. It's just the way Richard wanted it.

A few years ago, shortly after J.C. Kirby and Son Funeral Home opened the cemetery, Richard told the funeral home's president, Kevin Kirby, that he wanted to be buried in Bowling Green Gardens.

Kirby, who was a big fan of the Cassadys' decorations, had fond memories of going to the Cassady house as a child - and as an adult

who would contribute a favorite

Mrs. Bush said her favorite was the enormous turkey resting on a low branch. Also on the tree were a small framed painting of a pelican, a mockingbird from her home state of Texas, an owl and "lots of cardinals" that fit perfectly with the red

The theme this year was partially inspired by Mrs. Bush's love of

bird-watching and by the Bush

family's own devotion to their pets.

clad in a bright red two-piece dress,

as she went from room to room.

But Spot, an English Springer Spaniel, was decidedly more obedient than Scottish Terrier Barney,

who wandered busily on his own

observed Rodriguez, Mrs. Bush's spokes-

And Willie cat - "just too shy," Mrs. Bush said - stayed out of sight. "The cat doesn't do

The real-life Bush dogs dutifully followed Mrs. Bush, who was

■ Continued from p9

Pets

theme, she said.

agenda.

with his children - to see the displays at Christmas time.

The lights were so powerful they needed their own fuse box. Nativity scenes. Candy canes.

Active in the community for most of their lives, Richard and Geneva helped organize Bowling Green's first Little League in 1955. Richard coached baseball for 20 years and worked at basketball games as a referee for

Starting around 1976, he donned a Santa suit and beard, waiting for children to show up so he could sit them on his lap and listen to their wish lists.

By the 1980s, the Cassadys had to hire local high school boys to park cars, because so many people showed up to see Santa. His act moved from the garage to the porch to a building he made just so visitors would be warm.

Richard grew up in a family of six children in Rich Pond. Christmas was never really a big thing in his childhood home. Geneva said.

So after he had his own house, Richard worked tirelessly to make holiday shine. Thanksgiving, he would plug everything in, and, in the process, light up the hearts of his neighbors. People of all ages came from miles around to see Santa.

Some years, Geneva would keep count of how many candy bars they gave to visitors who stopped by. The count for 1979:

In 1987, a sign in the yard read: "Christmas lights will not be on this year."

Richard Cassady was in the hospital for one of many visits that troubled him throughout his 60s and 70s. The lights were sporadic for the next few years and after 1996, when Richard had open-heart surgery, they disappeared forever.

Around the same time, Kirby made Richard a promise.

"When something happens to you, I'll put lights on the tree behind you," Kirby told him.

Geneva took care of him in their home for the last two years of his life when he was unable to walk. Christmas was always the saddest time. But Geneva would make it bet-

ter by taking her husband for a drive in the car, looking at lights and decorations. When it came time to put the

lights up for Richard, Kirby called Geneva. They talked about what he would like and agreed on all white lights.

"I just thought white would be a nice solid glow," Kirby said. "Representative of him."

tappy Holiday

Prepare yourself for a wonderful time!

6 tablespoons friends

Mix well and serve.

We loved serving you, all through the year!

8 cups family

1 large tree 1 stack of gifts



Highlands Regional Medical Center healthy Holiday Season.



Bethany



Evan



Kennedy



The Floyd County Times

wants to encourage and acknowledge excellence in the Floyd County Area. The Floyd County Times is conducting its annual ballot of readers so they can let us know whom they consider to be best in the county. Winners receive a certificate suitable for framing and will be featured in a SPECIAL SECTION in March titles...

Reader's Choice

BEST IN FLOYD COUNTY

Area Attraction
Church
Civic Club/Organization
College
Community Festival Event
Dining Atmosphere
Elderly Care Facility
Elementary School
Entertainment
High School
Hospital/Medical Facility
Local Band
Middle School
Place to camp out
Place to lose weight
Place to meet friends
Place to spend Saturday night
Place to take out of town guests
Place to work

BEST FOOD

Barbecue	
Biscuits	
Brand of Soft Drink	
Burgers	
Catering	
Chicken	
Chili	
Chinese Food	
Decorated Cake	
Desserts	
Donuts	
Fish and Seafood	
French Fries	
Fresh Meat for Grilling	
Home Cookin'	
Hot Dogs	
lce Cream	
Kid's Meal	
Mexican Food	
Onion Rings	
Pizza	
Roast Beef Sandwich	
Salad Bar	
Sandwiches	
Shakes/Malts	
Steaks	1 21

BEST PEOPLE

Accountant	
Attorney	
Bank Teller	
Employed at	

Barber
Employed at
Boss
Employed at
Building Contractor
Bus Driver
Car Salesperson
Employed at
Chiropractor
City Employee
Club President
Coach
Employed at
Dental Hygiene
Employed at
Dentist
Electrician
Employed at
EMT/Paramedic
Firefighter
Funeral Home Attendant
Employed at
Furniture Sales Person
Employed at
General Physician
Hairstylist
Employed at
Heating/Air Service Room
Employed at
Insurance Agent
Employed at
Jeweler
Law Enforcement Officer
Loan Officer
Mechanic
Employed at
Nurse
Employed at
Optometrist
Employed at
Painter
Paper Carrier
Employed at
Pastor/Priest
Pastor of
Pharmacist
Photographer
Physical Therapist
Employed at
Plumber
Employed at
Politician
Principal
Employed at
Radio Announcer
Employed at
Real Estate Agent
Employed at
P. 1 A. P. 1

School Teacher

Secretary		11/2
Employed at		
Store Cashier		
Employed at		
Sunday School Teacher		
Teaches at		
Surgeon		
Employed at		
Sunday School Teacher		
Teaches at		
Surgeon		
Employed at	18	
Waitress/Waiter		
Employed at		
Veterinarian_	1	
Employed at	1 191	15

BEST PLACE TO PURCHASE

Athletic Shoes
Auto-Body Repairs
Bath Towels
Bed Linens
Cabinets
Carpet
Dairy Items
Dress Shoes
Film Developing
Frozen Foods
Health & Beauty Aids
Home Health Care Needs
Home Mortgage Loan
Kids Clothing
Men's Clothing
Perm
Pet Supplies
Produce
School Supplies
Seafood items
Shoe Repair
Snack Food
Stereo
TV-VCR Repair
Used Automobiles
Vinyl
Women's Clothing

BEST BUSINESS

Antiques/Collectibles	
Appliances	
Artwork/Framing	
Athletic Supply	
Auto Parts	
Bait/Tackle	
Beauty Salon	
Bookkeeping/Tax	
Building Supplies	

-	
	Car Dealership
	Car Wash
	Commercial Printer
	Concrete
	Construction/Remodeling
	Convenience Store
	Crafts
	Daycare Center
	Deli
	Dry Cleaners
	Electrical Supplies
	Electronics
	Exterminating
	Farm/Agriculture
	Financial Institutions
	Financing
	Floor Coverings
	Florist
	Funeral Home
	Furniture
	Garage
	Gas Station
	Gifts
	Grocery Store
	Guns/Ammo
	Hearing Aids
	Home Decorating
	Insurance Agency
	Janitorial Service
	Jewelry
	Landscaping
	Laundromat
	Manufacturing
	Manufacturing Mine Supply
	Mining Company
	Mobile Home
	Motel/Hotel Motorcycles/ATV
	Music Store
	Newspaper
	Office Supplies
	Oil Changes
	Pawn Shop
	Pharmacy
	Plumbing
	Real Estate Agency
	Rental Items
	Restaurant
	Retail Store
	Security
	Sewing/Alterations

Ballot Rules:

- Only ballots from the Floyd County Times will be counted. No copies accented.
- Businesses nominated have to be in the Floyd County area and individuals nominated have to live and work in Floyd County.
- Entries may be mailed to The Floyd County Times, P.O. Box 390, Prestonsburg, KY 41653 (Please allow 7 days for mail
- delivery) or drop off at our office at 263 South Central Avenue.

 4. All entries must be at The Floyd County Times by Wednesday, February 12, 2002 (mailed or delivered)
- Limited to 5 copies per person available for sale at front desk, up to normal press run copies. No extra forms will be printed.

YOUR VOTE COUNTS!!!

Tanning Salon____

Truck Dealership _______Upholstery ______

Tire Store ___

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HERALD Email: hazardherald@setel.com

Regional ORTS

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Lady Bears drop two in Florida

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. -Shooting woes hampered No. 23 Pikeville College on a stop in Florida

The Lady Bears made only one-third of their shots in a 71-61 loss to Palm

Beach Atlantic (Fla.) College, and made fewer than that in the second half of a 70-67 overtime loss to No. 7 Montana-

Pikeville (11-4) will be off until after Christmas, traveling next weekend to Owensboro to play Brescia University on Saturday, Dec. 28, and will stay to play Kentucky Wesleyan on Sunday. The next home game is Thursday, Jan. 2, when they host Oakland City (Ind.) University.

Palm Beach Atlantic 71, Pikeville College 61: In addition to making only 18-of-54 field goals, the Lady Bears sank only 1-of-13 from the arc in a loss to the host of the Tripp Sports Cruzin'

PBA went 15-of-30 in the first half to

build a 39-24 lead at the break. The Lady Bears played their way to within five late, but were unable to get any

(See FLORIDA, page two)



MIDDLE SCHOOL

Adams entertains Osborne

TIMES STAFF REPORT

PRESTONSBURG - In the first game on Thursday night, before the C-Team game, the Adams fifth-grade team won an exciting game over the Osborne Eagles. Adams opened the game with five quick points by Wil Allen, including a three-point field goal, and led 5-4 after the first quarter. The Blackcats eventually scored a win, 19-14.

The Blackcat offense then became sluggish, as Adams didn't score in the 2nd and 3rd quarters and trailed 10-5 after three quarters of action. Adams trailed 12-7 in the fourth quarter before tying the game at 12-12 and trailed 14-12 with less than 30 seconds left before an Allen jumper tied

(See ADAMS, page two)

Rijo, Hamilton reject arbitration

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CINCINNATI - Pitchers Jose Rijo and Joey Hamilton have rejected salary arbitration, the Cincinnati Reds said Thursday.

If the players are not re-signed by Jan. 8, the Reds cannot sign them until May 1.

Last season, Rijo was 5-4 with a 5.14 earned run average in 77 innings spanning 31 appearances, including nine starts. Hamilton was 4-10 with a 5.27 ERA in 124 2-3 innings over 39 games, including 17 starts.

The Reds didn't offer arbitration to pitchers Brian Moehler or Shawn Estes.

The six Reds players still eligible for arbitration are pitchers Bruce Chen, Ryan Dempster, Danny Graves and Scott Williamson, infielder Aaron Boone and catcher Jason LaRue.

Tickets available for UK games in

new year TIMES STAFF REPORT

LEXINGTON - Tickets are only available to the following Kentucky men's basketball games: Alcorn State (Jan. 2), Ohio (Jan. 4) and Auburn (Jan. 22). The Tennessee State, South Carolina and Notre Dame games are all sellouts. The Alcorn State game is part of a doubleheader at Rupp Arena with the UK women, who will battle Marshall in a 5 p.m. matchup.

The upper arena seats for the Alcorn State and Auburn games are \$17 each and can be purchased online at by clicking the 'Tickets' link at the top of the page, by phone at 1-800-928-2287 or 859-257-1818, or at the Memorial Coliseum ticket office from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. Tickets for the Ohio game in Cincinnati are \$30 each and available through Ticketmaster.

- LADY REBELS BASKETBALL -



Lady Rebels outlast Shelby Valley



photos by Steve LeMaster

Tabatha Caudill looked on during a teammate's free throw attempt. Caudill finished with four points.

by STEVE LeMASTER SPORTS EDITOR

EASTERN - Following a win on the road over rival South Floyd on Tuesday night, the Allen Central Lady Rebels returned to home hardwood Thursday night for a game against Shelby Valley.

Coach Cindy Halbert's Lady Rebels came out shooting well in the first quarter, taking a 20-10 lead out of the first quarter. Foul trouble on various Allen Central players slowed the Halbert's team down in the second quarter. Shelby Valley, guided by veteran coach Bobby Spears, ran back to outscore Allen Central 25-13 in the second quarter to take a lead into the half. Trailing 35-33 at the

(See REBELS, page two)

NFL

Will Saints stumble over the stumblebums?

by JOE KAY ASSOCIATED PRESS

CINCINNATI - The New Orleans Saints' path to the playoffs was paved with lastplace teams.

There were the Minnesota Vikings, who had lost 16 straight regular-season road games. Then, the Cincinnati

Bengals, who had won only once, period. Last, the Carolina Panthers, another bottom-dweller.

With such an easy closing schedule, the Saints expected a neck-and-neck race with Tampa Bay for the NFC South title. It's not turning out that

(See SAINTS, page two)

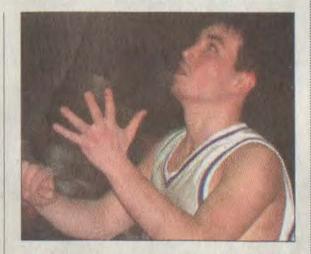


photo by Steve LeMaster Senior Bobo Hamilton and the rest of the Betsy Layne Bobcats head south this week to play in a tournament in Florida.

AUTO RACING

Little time for offseason rest for Gordon

by JENNA FRYER ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHARLOTTE, N.C. - A makeup artist leaned over Jeff Gordon, touching up his cheeks and hair. A director then walked him through his marks on a sound stage while a small group of sponsor representatives huddled behind a monitor watching it all unfold.

Sometimes being a Winston Cup star isn't so glamorous, with the worst of those days happening



Gordon

ing the socalled twomonth offseason. Instead of lounging on a

now - dur-

beach or relaxing in front of the television, Gordon and other drivers spend countless days in front of cameras film-

ing sponsor commercials, or standing for hours with a frozen smile for pictures that end up in press kits, hero cards and the rest of the souvenirs that teams must sell.

"If I had my choice, sure I want to be in the car driving the race car." Gordon said. "But you get used to this time of year, this being

(See GORDON, page two)

AUTO RACING

Mears settling in to new Winston ride

by JENNA FRYER ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHARLOTTE, N.C. - It's been a whirlwind month for Casey Mears, NASCAR's newest Young

After an up-and-down rookie season in the Busch Series, the 24year-old Mears was weighing a few new Busch offers and heading



Mears

off for a trip to Europe when he got an offer he couldn't refuse: the chance to drive a Winston Cup car for one of the very best teams. Mears

agreed Dec. 5 to drive the No. 41 Dodge for Chip Ganassi Racing. The next day he was off to Indianapolis for some sponsor requirements, back to Charlotte for meetings, then to Alabama last week for a two-day manufacturer test in his brand new ride.

"I think before I even realized what had happened, I was on the way to Indy for a photo shoot," Mears said. "I haven't really had a chance yet for it to sink in that, 'Hey, I am going Winston Cup racing next year with a great sponsor and a great team.' It's all pretty unbelievable."

And way ahead of schedule for Mears, the nephew of four-time

(See MEARS, page two)

Not getting along with the neighbors

ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHICAGO - For most of the last century, the people who owned Wrigley Field only had to know how to do three things.

Open the gates. Count cash.

Get along with the neighbors. Still no problems with the first two, but lately No. 3 has become a struggle. A recent brouhaha between the Cubs, the city and Wrigley's neighbors has become a reminder why the late newspaper columnist Mike Royko once suggested changing



Marquita Smith was recently crowned Jenkins High School Basketball Homecoming Queen. She is the niece of Joyce and Lowell Parker and Stephanie and "Bobcat" Jackson, all of Wheelwright. She is the cousin of Clarissa, Kenny, and Jasmine Parker and Chantra Jackson.

Chicago's motto from "City in a Garden" to "Where's Mine?"

The customers who made the turnstiles spin day after day, season after season, rooted for the Cubs but behaved like lambs. They were there for the open-air party. The beauty of the joint is such that on a warm summer afternoon it made cheering for lousy teams feel like a birthright.

Cubs fans didn't demand competitive teams, let alone World Series titles, so long as the sun was shining and a gentle breeze was blowing in off the lake. For some, even a contact high was good enough; they'd drag barbecue grills, coolers and portable TVs up to the roof of the apartment buildings flanking Wrigley Field, never really see a single play and yet feel like they hadn't missed a thing.

Mathematically eliminated by August? Cub fans would swear that simply meant one less thing to keep track of. Too many stairs and not enough bathrooms? Who counted, so long as the beer taps were open.

There weren't even lights until the late 1980s, when some numbers-crunchers at the Tribune Co., figured out the extra attendance at night games would more than offset the cost of the bulbs. There were assorted nips and tucks down through the the neighborhood is what made years, some luxury boxes shoehorned in and the players' locker rooms modernized.

But in terms of real changes on the field and off - that was pretty much it.

Then, sometime before the start of last season, another numbers-cruncher began calculating how much more money the ballclub could make with a few more seats, a few more night games and kickbacks from the owners of the rooftop clubs. Wrigley hasn't been the same peaceful place since.

Between then and now, the Cubs put up windscreens blocking the view from some of the rooftops and the neighbors, backed by their alderman and Mayor Richard Daley, have moved to block any expansion

On Monday, the empire struck back. Just days after the city began proceedings to designate Wrigley Field a national landmark - a move that would limit the Cubs' ability to make changes to the 88-year-old ballpark - the Cubs turned around and slapped a copyrightinfringement lawsuit on the rooftop clubs. The team asked a federal court judge for a permanent injunction, plus compensatory damages and a bite of the clubs' estimated \$10 million in annual profits.

That may not seem like a way to make friends, but using threats to influence people is practically a Chicago tradition.

"We're going to deal with the issues separately," Cubs president Andy MacPhail said. "Some get carrots. Some get sticks."

There was a time when the idea of the Cubs going after the people who owned the rooftops would have pitted a powerful corporation against handful of ragtag fans huddled around a grill. The reality, though, is that the rooftop clubs now seat nearly 1,000 fans and collect between \$50 and \$200 from each

Where MacPhail used to look around and see ambiance, he now sees dollar signs. Rooftop owners, whose patrons spent the 2002 season staring at the green windscreens, now see red.

"They can't attack the community, so they chose us, but they're going to embarrass themselves in the long run," said Jim Murphy, who owns Murphy's Bleachers.

'They don't understand that

Wrigley Field what it is. It's not the team's playing ability."

That may be the only uncontested issue in the whole mess.

Jim Litke is the national sports columnist for

The Associated Press. Write to him at jlitke (at)ap.org

Mears

Indianapolis 500 winner Rick Mears and son of off-road racing

star Roger Mears. No one doubted he had talent, but his background was in an open-wheel racing - four years in the Indy Lights series, followed by appearances in CART and the IRL

He spent just one season in stock cars, finishing 21st this year in the Busch Series with two Top-10 finishes. Winston Cup racing was in his future, but at least another year or two

But when Ganassi fired Jimmy Spencer last month, the team had to scramble for a driver and is now taking a gamble on Mears.

"We've known Casey a while, we gave him his first test in a Cup car two years ago and have had an eye on him ever since," said Ganassi team manager Andy Graves. "We think he's a promising young talent and has a work ethic to succeed at this level."

The Ganassi team has gambled before. Earlier this year, it tabbed then-unknown Jamie McMurray to drive a Cup car even though he'd never even won in the Busch series.

The hiring of McMurray turned out to be brilliant - he set a NASCAR record by winning in his second start as an injury replacement for Sterling Marlin and followed it up with consecutive Busch Series wins.

But McMurray's quick success could raise the level of expectations for Mears, making his jump a risky career move.

Ganassi is well-known for demanding results and having very little patience for on-track struggles. He fired Jason Leffler after his rookie season for not producing, and Spencer, a veteran, also lasted just one season.

Mears, whose father worked at one time for Ganassi's Cup operation and once discussed becoming a developmental driver for the car owner, wasn't deterred.

"You only get so many opportunities in a lifetime, some people get two or three, but some only get one and this is one that you have to take," Mears said. "There was some contemplation - 'Is this the right time? Is this the right team?' But at the end of the day, it was the right decision."

Continued from p1

Now he's hopeful he'll have a steep learning curve, which started this month with the Dodge test at Talladega. It will take him time to catch up to his teammates - Marlin ran the fastest laps in the test session and McMurray, with six Winston Cup races under his belt, was right behind him.

But Mears is confident he can catch up under the watchful eye of Graves and new crew chief Jimmy Elledge.

"In a perfect world, you would get a good couple of years of Busch under your belt, but a good driver is a good driver if you get the right people behind you," Mears said. "All the people at Ganassi, with their experience and depth, it raises my level just being around them.

"And everybody realizes what they are taking on here. Everybody wants results ... but they are being realistic because this is somewhat of a big step for

His addition to Ganassi gives the team two young drivers to groom as they aid Marlin in his quest for a Winston Cup cham-

It also gives the team an unprecedented two candidates for Rookie of the Year, an award that's taken on greater meaning since Tony Stewart, Matt Kenseth, Kevin Harvick and Ryan Newman put together a string of successful first seasons.

And after the stirring battle between Newman and Jimmie Johnson last season for the title, Mears and McMurray will be expected to follow.

"It's the first time a car owner has had two drivers battling for top rookie and we think it's going to be pretty exciting," Graves said. "Hopefully we'll have the type of year we think we are going to and Jamie and Casey will finish 1-2 in the voting.

Gordon

the routine ... the photo shoots, the commercials, all that."

Drivers can choose when they want to do all this work, but like most, Gordon tries to knock it all out during the offseason so he's not bothered with it when he should be focusing on the car. So that's what brought him

out to a Charlotte studio last week for an eight-hour commercial shoot for sponsor DuPont.

Fulfilling these responsibilities meant Gordon, one of the greatest race car drivers in the world, had to switch gears and become an actor.

He had a 10 a.m. call and a handful of scripts to learn. This ad was for a DuPont StormRoom with Kevlar, a safety room designed to protect people from tornadoes.

So Gordon stood stage left, a huge microphone in his face, repeating his lines over and over get them down pat. Then he had to pick what tone they'd be delivered in.

"Now here's something to protect you and your family," he said softly, changing the part of

half, Allen Central bounced

back to outscore visiting Shelby

Valley 44-32 in the second half

Thomas, a player who sat out

most of the second quarter, led

Allen Central in scoring with

18 points. Junior Terri Mullins

finished with 14 points and

Amber Scott added 13. Tiffany

Turner had one of her best

offensive performances in the

early season, scoring 10 points.

Jessica Isaac scored seven

Sophomore center Becky

to go on for the win.

Rebels

the sentence he needed to emphasize.

His first try with the cameras running was flawless, but the director spotted a shadow behind Gordon's head.

Gordon left out a word on the second take, delivered the third take seemingly perfectly, stopped himself in the middle of the fourth take when he jumbled some words, and finally seemed to nail it on about the sixth try.

"The attitude was good on that one," the director said. "Yep, absolutely," the spon-

sor chimed in. This segment was a wrap.

But his day was just beginning. Next it was off to another part of the studio to film a public service announcement, then over to a barren stage to act like he was ducking flying objects during an actual tornado.

The filming goes on all day, ith a short break for lunch.

"When you see the final product, it's a little more glamorous looking," he said. "They make it look like a really cool piece, which it is, but it's weird

points and Megan Harris

flipped in six. Jaclyn Martin

and Tabatha Caudill rounded

out the scoring for Allen

Central with five and four

Fleming paced Shelby Valley

with 15 points. Junior Beth Hall

netted 14 and Kristi Taylor

added 12. Jerrica Dye finished

points, respectively.

this week.

Eighth-grader

■ Continued from p1

to see how much really goes

"It's like you do a minute of shooting things that takes 15 minutes to set up. And then, of course, you do it over and over and over again. It's not near as glamorous as you see."

This side of the business is perhaps the most tedious in an action-packed schedule that has drivers on the road at least 40 weekends a year.

The additional work is part of the contract the driver works out with the sponsor, which in Gordon's case means at least 15 appearances a year for DuPont, at least one commercial shoot and another photo shoot with an added on autograph session.

But Gordon also is teamed with Pepsi, an associate sponsor, which also means a heavy workload of commercials, appearances and autograph ses-

"This is the time of year when the sponsors put all their marketing to work," Gordon said. "I'm at the point in my career where I am used to it.

"But when I was a rookie first getting started, it was really overwhelming. In addition to the racing and the testing schedule, there was so much else, and it can all come crashing down on you. Then I learned to accept it and work it into my schedule and now it's just part of the business.'

the game at 14-14 just before

Saints

way at all.

The Saints are stumbling over the stumblebums.

New Orleans (9-5) blew a chance to clinch a playoff spot last Sunday when Minnesota's Daunte Culpepper threw a touchdown pass with 5 seconds

left, then fumbled the snap on the 2-point conversion, but still

> 32-31 win. Instead of celebrating as expected, the 67,851 fans at the Louisiana Superdome lapsed into silence and stunned players realized they'd learned some-

made it into the end zone for a

thing the hard way. "We've learned that we can't take anybody lightly," defensive end Willie Whitehead said. "Look at the teams we've lost to. We've got to take every game like a championship game

This week, they're up against the undisputed champs of cha-

The Bengals (1-13) have yet to beat an established team their only win came over expansion Houston - and will set a franchise record for losses in a season with their next defeat. A loss to the Saints would leave them winless at home for the first time - they've dropped both preseason games and their seven regular-season games at Paul Brown Stadium.

One of those preseason losses came against the Saints, who won 31-24 on Aug. 24 in front of 41,636 fans. They're likely to have a substantially smaller crowd for the rematch Sunday, despite the city's campaign to give unwanted tickets to underprivileged kids.

Who wants to watch this? Even the players realize there's not much reason to go on.

"We're 1-13 and winning two more games is really not a strong point," receiver Chad Johnson said. "But we would just have something positive to build off going into next year."

There's only one footnote giving the Bengals any hope for an elusive victory Sunday: The NFL's worst team almost always ■ Continued from p1

Cincinnati is 17-3 in its final home game since 1982. Since 1991, when the Bengals began their run as the league's worst team, they've gone 9-2 in their final home game.

wins its last game at home.

That track record is their best hope for an upset Sunday.

"Lord knows we certainly need to win at home, so there's going to be a lot of energy,' coach Dick LeBeau said. "We'll match their energy, I'm sure of that. Our guys will play hard."

That's what the Bengals have in their favor. Everything else favors the Saints, who will clinch a playoff berth if they beat the Bengals and the Giants lose or tie.

New Orleans, which has scored the second-most points in the NFL, is matched against the league's most generous team. The Bengals are giving up more than 29 points per game, most in the league.

Plus, the Saints tend to do well on the road. Since Jim Haslett took over as head coach in 2000, New Orleans has the NFL's second-best road record at 16-7.

"I wished I could figure it out, because I'd bottle it up and take it at home," Haslett said. "Our guys like playing on the road. They have a good feeling, for some reason. We just enjoy being on the road."

Every visiting team has enjoyed itself at Paul Brown Stadium this season. The Saints should, too - as long as they don't get a little too cozy.

The loss to Minnesota should take care of that.

"On any team in the NFL that is not going to the playoffs, there are guys with reason to play," receiver Joe Horn said. "They all have something to

Florida

closer. Twenty-five turnovers

hampered the comeback effort. Four Lady Bears were in double figures, led by senior Amanda Collins who poured in 16 points and also had four steals. Freshman guard Jessica

Lovell scored 15 points, hand-

ed out four assists and had two

steals. Senior Courtney Mercer turned in a double-double from her guard position, scoring 13 points while pulling down 10 rebounds. Teccoa Gallion had 12 points, nine rebounds and

five steals. PBA (6-5) was led by Alexis Balkman who scored 25 thanks to 11-of-17 shooting, and had 13 rebounds. She also blocked four shots. Daniella Rosset followed with 16 while Laura Lewis added 11.

Montana-Western Pikeville College 67, OT: The seventh-ranked Lady Bulldogs missed only one of eight free throws to overtime to pull out a three-point win in a contest between ranked NAIA Div. I

Continued from p1

The Lady Bears hit 48.3 percent from the floor and made 4of-10 three-pointers to build a 39-32 lead at the break. But in the second half, the shooting cooled off across the board the Lady Bears were only 28.6 percent from the field, missed all four three-point tries and sank only 4-of-12 from the line as Montana-Western came back to tie the game for over-

Gallion carded a doubledouble with 28 points and 11 rebounds in the game. Collins followed with 12 points while junior Caitlyn Ryan followed with 10. Lovell, a freshman from Belfry, had six points, six rebounds, six assists and three

Pikeville was done in by Bobbi Suhr, who made 9-of-13 from the floor, half of her four from the arc and all seven of her free throws to finish with 27 points. In addition, she pulled down 10 rebounds.

Jennifer Roberts came off the bench to add 12 points and five rebounds.

■ Continued from p1

Esther

the end of regulation to force Allen Central will play in a overtime. In the fourth quarter tournament at Ryle High School comeback, the Blackcats scored nine fourth quarter points as Allen lead the way with seven points and Josh Craynon scored two points in the quarter. Josh Blackburn, James Sturgill, Andrew Skeens, Bradley Stanley, Robbie Grigsby and Austin McKinney all played strong defense in the fourth quarter comeback.

Adams

In the overtime period, McKinney scored three points while Allen and Skeens each added a free throw to seal the win, 19-14. Allen finished with 13 points,

McKinney scored three points, Crayon ended the game with two points and Skeens scored one. Ray Cody scored four points for Osborne while Moe Tackett, Andrew Vance, Walter Hall, Cody. Little and Justin Johnson

all scored two points each to

round out the scoring for

The Fifth-Grade Blackcats improved to 4-1 on the season.

In the C-Team game, the Blackcats rolled early with 16 first quarter points and led 16-5 on the strength of 10 points by Jody Tackett, including a threepoint field goal. Tackett scored all of his game high "? points in the first half as the Blackcats held a 29-20 lead at the half.

■ Continued from p1

Austin Gearheart and Chris Schoolcraft dominated the board for Adams. Gearheart also had a strong offensive game with 10 points, eight of which came in the second half. Schoolcraft finished with four points.

Although hampered by early foul trouble and playing fewer minutes than usual, Seth Setser had a strong defensive game and finished with two points. Allen Craynon played another scrappy defensive game and finished with eight points. Luke Sturgill and Kyle Hall played aggressive defensive for the Blackcats and contributed greatly to the win even though neither scored in the

Billy Robinson and Chris Bostic rounded out the scoring for Adams as each scored two points during the final fourth quarter run.

Osborne was led in scoring by Brandon Tackett who played a very strong game and scored 13 points, including a three-point field goal. Jordon Moore added eight points, Morgan Mullins scored three points on a threepoint field goal, Devin Adams scored three points, while

The Adams improved to 7-2 on the season and 4-1 in regular season Floyd County games.

Desmond Watts and Walter Hall

each scored two points to round

out the scoring for Osborne.

Williams' daughter drops legal challenge H.S. BASKETBALL SCOREBOARD

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

INVERNESS, Fla. - Ted Williams' eldest daughter dropped a challenge Friday to her siblings' decision to have their father's body permanently frozen.

Bobby-Jo Williams Ferrell dropped her objections after a judge agreed that a \$645,000 trust will be distributed equally among Ferrell and Williams' youngest children, John-Henry Williams and Claudia Williams. The trust had been written so that no money would have been distributed until 10 years after the Hall of Famer's death last July 5.

"She will take no further legal action regarding the disposition of her father's body," said Bob Goldman, an attorney for John-Henry and Claudia Williams.

Ferrule sued to have the court

decide whether her father's ashes should be scattered in the ocean off Florida, as he declared in his 1996 will.

John-Henry and Claudia Williams have maintained that they signed a handwritten pact with their father in November 2000 agreeing that their bodies would be frozen.

John Henry had his father's body moved to an Alcove Life Extension Foundation facility in Arizona shortly after his death of cardiac arrest at age 83.

Supporters of cryonics believe that bodies might one day be thawed and brought back to life if a cure can be found for whatever caused their death. Most experts say that is highly unlikely.

The siblings had been in negotiations during the past several months, and hearings on the issue were twice postponed.

Under the original terms of the trust, written in 1986, the William's children could get up to one-third of their share of the trust after turning age 40, no more than half of their share after turning 45 and the full amount after reaching 50.

Both John-Henry and Claudia William's are in their 30s, while Ferrell is in her 50s.

The trust made arrangements to provide for Louise Kaufman, Ted Williams' longtime companion, should he die before she did. Kaufman died in 1993. The trust also arranged payments to be made to Williams' children, with approval from trustees, for their "reasonable comfort, support, benefit and education."

The 1986 trust represents only a portion of Williams' wealth. The value of his estate has not been made public.

Thursday's games (King of the Bluegrass)

(King of the Bluegrass) Barren County 61Lincoln County 50 (A&W/Long John Silvers Invitational) Bethlehem 74Livingston Academy, Tenn. 58 (Papa John's Classic) Bryan Station 39Sheldon Clark 38 (Dairy Queen/Pepsi Holiday Tournament) Ohio 69Boyd County 54 (Eighth Annual Eagle Bank Classic) Cumberland 72Fleming-Neon 46 (Jenkins Holiday Classic) Dawson Springs 65 Providence 48 DuPont Manual 56Butler 54 East Ridge 58Campbell County, Tenn. 52 (Smoky Mountain Tournament) Estill County 65 Montgomery County 57 (82 Food Mart Classic) Franklin County 88 Harlan 47 (Dairy Queen/Pepsi Holiday Tournament)

Gallatin County 63Eminence 60 Graves County 50 Lucasville Valley, Ohio 46 (Ford Furniture's Holiday Classic) Hancock County 64 Cannelton, Ind. 53 Hart County 74Trigg County 70 (A&W/Long John Silvers Invitational) Hazard 71Jackson County 53 (82 Food Mart Classic) Hopkinsville 86 Fairdale 61

(Jenkins Holiday Classic) 7, Muhlenberg North 7, Apollo 6, Daviess Co. 5, Lexington Catholic 79 Poinciana, Fla. 59 Christian Co. 4, West Jessamine, Red Bird 3, Lou. (Great Florida Shoot Out) St. Xavier 3, Simon Kenton 2, Johnson Central 2, Mason County 95 North Hardin 81 Lex. Tates Creek 2, St. Henry 1, Clay Co. 1, (King of the Bluegrass) Mem. Chr. Brothers, Tenn. 62 . Highview Baptist 43 (WAVE Holiday Classic)

Muhlenberg North 57 Russellville 45 (Best Western/Greenwood Holiday Tournament) Muhlenberg South 59 Greenwood 55 (Best Western/Greenwood Holiday Tournament) Nelson County 67Valley 63 (Papa John's Classic) New Madrid Central, Mo. 68 St, Mary 52 (Paducah Tilghman Christmas Tournament) Newport Cen. Cath. 62 . Holy Cross (Louisville) 49

(Papa John's Classic) (Best Western/Greenwood Holiday Tournament) Oneida Baptist Institute 54 Cawood 9

(Dairy Queen/Pepsi Holiday Tournament) Owsley County 77 Lee County 47 Paducah Tilghman 50 Ballard Memorial 46 (Paducah Tilghman Christmas Tournament) Pendleton County 67 Newport 58

Perry County Central 60 . Cimarron-Mem.I, Nev. 30 (Holiday Prep Classic) Pineville 65 Thomas Walker, Va. 46 Pleasure Ridge Park 86Carson, Calif. 64 (Holiday Prep Classic) Powell County 74Casey County 52 (Dairy Queen/Pepsi Holiday Tournament) Shipley School, Pa. 65 Christian County 51 (Boca Raton News Classic) South Laurel 67Scott 42 Eighth Annual Eagle Bank Classic (Papa John's Classic) Tanner, Ala. 85June Buchanan 54 (A&W/Long John Silvers Invitational) (King of the Bluegrass) Todd County Central 64Pulaski County 56 (A&W/Long John Silvers Invitational) University Heights 44Somerset 43 Ford Furniture's Holiday Classic Warren Central 60Ryle 57 (Ford Furniture's Holiday Classic) Warren East 74 Metcalfe County 71 Wayne County 72East Carter 71 (Eighth Annual Eagle Bank Classic) West Jessamine 87Eastern 85 (King of the Bluegrass) Western 70Fern Creek 57

Thursday's games

Allen Central 77Shelby Valley 67 Ashland Blazer 67Russell 51 Assumption 80Central 46 (Male Holiday Tournament) Bell County 56 Knox Central 47 (Bowman Invitational) Berea 90Franklin County 57 (Berea Holiday Classic) Beth Haven 60 Orlando Orangewood, Fla. 54 (Northside Shootout)

Carlisle County 46St. Henry 41 (OT) (People's Security 12 Games of Christmas) Central Hardin 61 Elizabethtown 58 (OT) Christian Aca.-Louisville 54 Nelson County 39 (Male Holiday Tournament) Corbin 53Harlan 35 (Bowman Invitational)

Dayton 64Heritage Academy 58 DuPont Manual 49 Butler 48 Elliott County 50Menifee County 44 Evarts 48Pineville 39 (Bowman Invitational)

Fort Campbell 59 Christian Fellowship 40

Frankfort 70 Nicholas County 52

(People's Security 12 Games of Christmas)

(Kreull Classic)

Franklin-Simpson 66Russellville 48 Garrard County 57West Jessamine 28 (Berea Holiday Classic) Greenup County 45 Fairview 24 Henry Clay 54Tampa Technical, Fla. 45

Johnson Central teams climb in polls

TIMES STAFF REPORT

LOUISVILLE - Basketball teams from Johnson Central High School received votes in each of the Associated Press polls this past week. The new poll will come out Monday afternoon. At press time, both the Johnson Central boys' and girls' basketball teams remained undefeated on the

The top teams in the Kentucky Associated Press high school basketball polls, with first-place votes, records, total points and previous rankings:

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п	(Q)	uю	OH	ņ	83	w	v

LIGHT STATE OF THE	LEA	nou	330	
1. Lex. Catholic	(11)	3-0	119	
2. Lou, PRP	(1)	4-0	109	
3. Lou, Male	2-1	62	3	
4. Warren Central	3-1	48	7	
5. North Hardin	2-1	45	4	
(tie) Rose Hill	3-1	45	6	
7. Lou. Ballard	2-2	43	8	
8. Scott Co.	3-1	42	5	
9. Mason Co.	2-0	31	10	
10. Highlands	2-0	27	10	

Others receiving votes: North Laurel 23, Elizabethtown 11, Hopkinsville 7, Rockcastle Co. CIRIS

GINLS				
Rank-School	FPV	Rod	TP	Pvs
1. Lou. Sacred Heart	(12)	1-0	120	1
2. Christian Co.		3-0	92	3
3. Clinton Co.		5-0	89	4
4. Lex. Catholic		2-2	68	2
5. Jackson Co.		3-1	53	6
6. Shelby Co.		4-0	38	8
7. West Carter		3-1	37	- 5
8. Lou. Mercy		2-1	30	7
9. Muhlenberg North		2-0	28	9
10. Lou Manual		4-0	22	

George Rogers Clark 1, Frankfort 1.

Others receiving votes: Newport Central Catholic 10, Johnson Central 8, Russell Co. 8, Elizabethtown 6, Cawood 5, Central Hardin 5, Webster Co. 5, Lou. Butler 5, Perry Co. Central 5, Hopkins Co. Central 5, Knott Central 4, Henderson Co. 4, Apollo 3, Whitesburg 3, Harrson Co. 2, Scott Co. 2, Woodford Co. 2, Lex. Henry Clay Iva with on semicons use him to no

From Baja California to the French Alps,

we pick eight perfect places

to spend your winter holiday...

-November 2002 MONEY® magazine

MONEY magazine called the Trail courses "stunningly beautiful and well maintained."

"For courses of this quality, the golf is strikingly inexpensive."

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One of them might surprise you.

Val D'Isere, France (French Alps)

Alta, Utah

The Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail, Alabama

Phoenix, Arizona

Sanibel and Captiva Islands, Florida

Antigua, Guatemala

Martinique

Baja California, Mexico

ALABAMA'S ROBERT TRENT JONES
GOLF TRAIL

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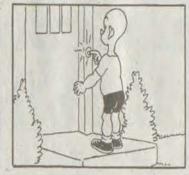






















ANYTHIN!

EXCITIN

NO.

















HENRY BOLTINOFF

Super Crossword

5 Olympic

award

hound?

9 Sniggled

10 From the

11 Bow part

13 -- garde

the -

15 Middle

16 Author

17 Dist.

Earth

14 "Revenge of

('84 film)

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Grafton

19 Entertain

27 Bouquet

term

34 Caviar

28 Geometry

29 Spout like

Cicero

33 Turn blue?

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top

7 Rock

8 Claim

6 Harmon or

Dickinson

WISHFUL THINKING

ACROSS

1 Velvety burrower 5 Welcome item?

8 Belfry sound 12 Most rational

18 In the course of 19 Actor

20 Betting setting 21 "Electric --"

('83 hit) 22 Sitarist Shankar 23 TV's "The

- of Night" 24 Toast topper

25 Elastic band 26 My doctor told me . .

30 Chip's chum 31 Made one's

mark 32 Cry of disgust

33 Salivate 36 Slangy sib 37 Burn **39 AAA** handout

42 My dentist told me 48 Ending for "auction" 49 Pitch in

63 Bishop of Rome 68 MV

51 Stationed

52 It's out of

55 Clouts a

57 Milk mea-

58 Arthur or

Pons

61 Cockpit fig.

cad

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surement

mechanic told me. 73 Thousand -, CA

74 Jeremy Fisher, for one 75 Scand.

nation 76 - Tome 77 Giovanni or Rickles

78 Rotisserie part 80 Jeeves' profession 82 Sitcom

set in Nantucket 84 Shun 86 Quick snack 87 Hold the

title 88 "- Gotta Be Me"

91 My accountant told me

97 Switchboard abbr. 98 Smidgen 99 Med. test 100 Bald bird

101 Cold-war accord 103 Pub order 62 Stephen of "The Crying 104 Comic Sahl 12 Southwest-106 My sor

teacher told me 65 Summer top 114 Pester 116 Dickens

villain 117 Turgenev's birthplace 118 Screen-

writer James 119 Verdi opera 120 Ages

121 "Good gracious!" 122 Liberate

123 "Children should 124 Bump 125 Dover's st.

center

3 Roman

historian

4 Correct a

35 Yours and 126 Semester mine 36 Turf DOWN 1 Shopping

37 Food fish 38 Urges 39 Sandwich 2 Actor Epps

spread 40 Sleeve contents?

41 Third

43 Element 86 Gravy 44 Speak with ingredient 87 Assoc a forked 89 Cubic tongue 45 Roth -

closer

54 High up

55 Make a

57 Pie nut

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58 Jacket info

59 Letter from

Athens

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69 "A Dandy

('68 film)

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83 Perform in

"Parsifal" 84 Backer

82 1914-18

71 Plant

date

62 Henley

66

Singer Cled

meas. 90 Lady 46 Kimono of the lea 47 Devilfish 53 Good buddy

92 "Without You" singer 93 Backslide

94 Got by, with 95 Announce

96 Birmingham bye-bye 101 Marshy lowland

60 Invites on a 102 Usher's beat 103 Winning

happening 64 Model's job 104 Highway sign 105 Ron of 67 He's a doll

"Superfly" 106 Infuriates 107 Impatient interroga-

70 Communist tive 108 Architect Saarinen 109 — the line

72 Grab all the (obeyed) goodies 79 Ms. Lupino 110 Huck's

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-do-well 113 Appear to

114 Elf 115 Gobbled

ANAGRAMS MAGIC MAZE • OF STATES

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ODAORLOOCIASARQ

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions -

A hut Ant moan Base rank Cool road For a lid Go Reno Ham icing la gorge

forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

I aid Nan I own gym If Carolina Know rye ©2002 King Features, Inc.

Men or tv

Oil is nil

Sin in cows

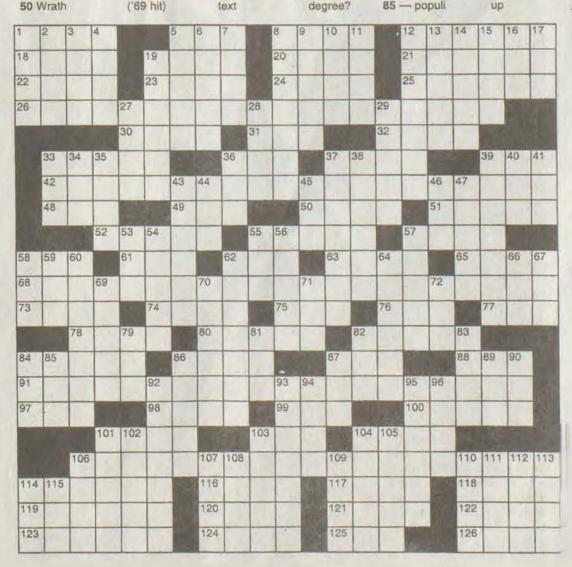
HOCUS-FOCUS

Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Dress has no polika dots. 2. Palm leaves are missing. 3. Dress collar is black. 4. Man has no glasses. 5. Cheffs apron bib is gone. 6. Bread basket is missing.

Answers to Crossword Puzzle and Magic Maze can be found on page A2



Inside

➤ Campus Connection · C1

➤ House Reading · C1

➤ Sunday & Home · C4 ➤ Kids at Play · C8

TIMES Email: web@floydcountytimes.com



Loftus attends Butler University conference

Dr. Bill Loftus recently attended an Association of American Colleges and Universities Conference held at Butler University in Indianapolis provided through a Competitive Faculty/Staff Development Funds allocation. The

Conference titled "Faculty from a "Liberal Education" per-Work and Student Learning: Meeting New Challenges of a World in Transition" provided an excellent means for him to understand many of the rising issues facing Academe and focused on many of the issues

spective, which though slightly different from ours at the Community College still have applications and implications.

Perhaps the greatest outcome of the Conference was his ability to interact with other profes-

sionals attempting to renew and inform their instructional practice and give direction to future directions regarding "Faculty Work" beyond the usual quantifications often used to measure effective practice.

Major topics covered were

Classroom Assessment and Accountability; Communities and Service Learning; Faculty Workloads, Trust, and Rewards; First Year Experiences; Advising; and

(See BUTLER, page three)

Faulkner keeps in step

What's Love Got To Do With It" was a hit song in the eighties by pop star Tina Turner. Now, almost twenty years later, John Faulkner, aerobics instructor at Prestonsburg Community College is singing a new tune, "What's AGE Got To Do With It." Faulkner is 65 years old and is still kicking up his heels. "I began doing aerobics eight years ago right here at PCC and Ishave been hooked ever since." said Faulkner.

Faulkner's life style changed dramatically as his energy level was boosted and his weight began to drop. "I lost 45 lbs total but that's not what kept me doing aerobics. I was amazed at how my energy level increased with the more exercise I did." Faulkner began aerobics as a preventative method to heart disease. "Heart disease runs in my family and I think that being inactive has played a large role in my family."

After three years of taking aerobics he decided that he loved it so much that he began to teach it himself. "We have a lot of fun in my class, and the students aren't only exercising their bodies but they are able to relieve their day to day stress.

(See STEP, page three)

HONORS

Alice Lloyd College Receives Grant

Alice Lloyd College has announced that they have received a grant of \$24,000 from the Algernon Sydney Sullivan Foundation to be used for financial aid. Students with financial need who have demonstrated a commitment to service above self and service to the community are eligible. Additionally the Foundation has made a grant of \$7,500 to the Algernon Sydney Sullivan Endowment at Alice Lloyd College. This endowment was established in 1998 to provide support in perpetuity for Sullivan Scholars at ALC.

The Algernon Sydney Sullivan Foundation, now located in Oxford, Mississippi, was chartered in New York State in 1934. Its purpose is to promote service to others and service to the broader community, values exemplified by Algernon and Mary Mildred Sullivan, the parents of the organization's founder.

In addition to providing support for financial aid to small private colleges located primarily in the Appalachian region, the Sullivan Foundation also collaborates with 53 southeastern colleges and universities in presenting awards in memory of Algernon and Mary Mildred Sullivan. These awards recognize exceptional qualities of service and are presented each year to a graduating senior and to a non-student member of the college community.

CONCERT.



Christmas Concert held at Alice Lloyd College

The Alice Lloyd College Community Chorus offered a fine performance at the annual Christmas Concert held Sunday in the college's Campbell Arts Center Auditorium on the Pippa Passes campus.

House reading set for Feb. 6 at HCC



House at HCC

Author Silas House will present a reading on Thursday, February 6 at 7 p.m. in the Stephens Library at the Hazard Campus of Hazard Community College. The Millennial Gathering of Writers at Vanderbilt University named House one of the ten "Emerging Writers of the South". (Photo by Judy Hensley).

Hazard Community College will present a reading by Silas House, one of the region's most exciting young writers, on Thursday, February 6, at 7 p.m., in the Stephens Library at the Hazard Campus.

Named one of the ten "Emerging Writers of the South" by the Millennial Gathering of Writers at Vanderbilt University, House is the author of two acclaimed novels, "Clay's Quilt" and "A Parchment of Leaves," both published by Algonquian Books of Chapel Hill.

Sharyn McCrumb has called House "one of the most promising new writers" of the Appalachian South, and has called "A Parchment of Leaves," published in October, "an eloquent and moving novel." In a starred review, Kirkus Reviews called the novel "Breathtaking both for its beauty and its pain...a superb combination of wonder and suffer-

"A Parchment of Leaves" takes place during World War I and is set in the Kentucky mountains. The narrator is a beautiful Cherokee woman named Vine who leaves her family and home at Redbud Camp to marry into the Sullivan family. She finds her life turned upside down when her husband goes off to work timber to support the war effort.

(See HOUSE, page three)

Chamber learns about **Kentucky School of Craft**



The Hazard Perry County Chamber of Commerce learned about The Kentucky School of Craft in Hindman. Shown above, from left, are Dr. Jay K. Box, president of Hazard Community College; Tim Glotzbach, director of the Kentucky School of Craft; and Tony D. Whitaker, president of the Chamber and First Federal. Glotzbach told the crowd how the School of Craft offers studio and business training for people interested in developing a sustainable business in the craft industry. Each student will enroll in business classes that include offerings in accounting, writing a business plan, developing markets, self-promotion, etc. In addition, students enroll in numerous studio and design classes in any of five media areas-jewelry/metalsmithing, wood, ceramics, blacksmithing or fibers. These courses provide the essential design and technical skills to begin working as master artisans.

CAMPUS CONNECTION

Youth leadership event a success

by RACHELLE BURCHETT

PRESTONSBURG - On Dec. 13, the Big Sandy Community and Technical College District, Prestonsburg Campus was host to the first ever Big Sandy Regional Youth Leadership Institute. The event was a tremendous success.

The purpose of this institute was to



sow the seeds of regional leadership among juniors from local high schools. In this case, five students were selected for a scholarship to this event from 11 of the 12 area high schools in the Big Sandy region. In all for

this first event, 55 students were in attendance. Schools participating included Allen Central, Belfry, Betsy Layne, Johnson Central, Magoffin County, Paintsville, Pike County Central, Pikeville, Prestonsburg, Shelby Valley and South Floyd.

The institute began with a general session that featured noted Appalachian artist and speaker Mitchell Tolle, as well as setting the tone for the day.

Following the general session, the students were then divided randomly among four work groups representing four categories of discussion. Those categories included building civic capacity, education issues, economic issues and cultural

(See CAMPUS, page three)

HCC Who's Who students honored

A total of 42 Hazard Community College students from the Hazard Campus have been named to Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges. The 2003 edition will include the following names:

Robert Burton of Hazard; Jessica L. Slone of Kite; Carrie M. Simpson of Hazard; Joshua R. Raleigh of Vicco; Mollie Lane of Busy; Kathy Michele Ritchie of Hazard; James Hall of Stanton; JoAnn Richardson of Whitesburg; Robetta Baker of Talcum; Matthew R. McDaniel of Avawam; Tonya Short Mullins of Hindman; Crystal Wireman of Pikeville; Mary Boggs of Wooton; Brenda Asher of Warbranch; Amy Cook of Whitesburg; Steven Rogers of Jackson/Frenchburg: Joe Surmont of Morehead; Gary James Oney of Salt Lick; Dilliard New of Parkers Lake; Cody Stephens of Pine Knot; Jessica Wells of Wooton; Melissa L. Hamilton of Yeadiss; Sheila Bowling of Mousie.

And, Kristy Creech of Emmalena; Jerry Ritchie of Bulan; Rhea Chapman of Jackson; Beverly Combs of Jackson; Ronald Combs of Jackson; Brenda Young of Happy; Melissa Combs of Pinetop; Etta Draughn of Ary; Mytrle Shepherd of Viper; Deborah Marcum of Hazard; Christopher John Combs of Viper; Chrishina Rene Wooton of Hyden; Franklin D. Fugate of Bulan; John Stephen Lindon of Hazard; Oscar B. Minks of Jeff; Shannon N. Begley of Hazard; Douglas Scott Gross of Jackson; Rebecca J. Thorpe of Jackson; Jolene Combs of Busy,

The students were chosen based on their academic achievement, service to the community, leadership in extracurricular activities and potential for continued success.

Hazard Community College offers associate in arts, associate in science and associate in applied science degrees, as well as diplomas and certificates in 35

Inside

➤ Chamber Notes • C2

➤ Medicare and You • C2
➤ Bankruptcy Filings • C2

➤ Classifieds • C6

League of citys supports expanded gambling

City officials and community leaders have identified the need for more flexibility in developing revenue sources as the number one problem they face. Cities are the hearts of education, culture and job creation. They are where citizens of the Commonwealth reside or depend for

essential services. To that end, our cities' officials are deeply concerned about budget shortfalls that affect nearly every aspect of life at the local level.

In addition, cities and their communities across the state are finding it increasingly difficult to maintain and upgrade their infrastructure, to pay competitive salaries to police and fire-fighters, and to finance cultural and recreational projects important to quality of life. Additionally, new costs associated with homeland security and the effects of a weakened economy are costing

cities in ways that have never before existed.

"Most of our cities have had to make hard choices or have already instituted cuts in service to citizens," said Mayor Bill Nighbert, Mayor of

(See SUPPORT, page three)

Medicare AND YOU



Donna R. Morton Medicare Beneficiary Outreach Coordinator AdminaStar Federal

Last week's column included question and answers on the Medicare Advance Beneficiary Notice. This column is a continuation to more fully explain the notice.

What is an Advance Beneficiary Notice (ABN)?

An ABN is a written notice that you may receive from physicians, providers, or suppliers, before they furnish a service or item to you. The ABN notifies you!

■ That Medicare will probably deny payment for that specific service or item in your case.

The reason the physician, provider, or supplier expects Medicare to deny payment.

That you will be personally and fully responsible for payment if Medicare denies payment.

An ABN also gives you the opportunity to refuse to receive the service or item.

If I receive an Advance Beneficiary Notice (ABN), does that mean I should not accept the service or item?

No, not necessarily. You need to make a choice. An ABN means that your supplier, physician, or providers expects that Medicare will not pay. Medicare does not pay for all of your health care costs. Medicare only pays for covered items and services when Medicare guidelines are met. The fact that Medicare may not pay for a particular item or service does not mean that you should not receive it. There may be a good reason your doctor recommended it. It is up to you to decide whether to receive it.

Am I protected from having to pay if I did not receive an Advance Beneficiary Notice ABN) or if there is something wrong with the ABN that I received?

Generally, yes, you are protected. If a physician, provider, or supplier fails to give you an ABN, or gives you a defective ABN, you probably will be protected from financial liability for the cost of the service or item. However, if your supplier,

(See YOU, page three)

CHAMBER NOTES



Attending the ribbon cutting ceremony for downtown Prestonsburg's Country Deli & More were, from left: Ken Carriere, Greg Wilson, Kathy Stumbo, David Tackett, Beth Ann Walker (owner), Regina Becknell, Carmalee Cramer, and Deborah Allen.

Country Deli & More holds open house

By Regina Becknell, Executive Director, Floyd County Chamber of Commerce

On December 10th, County Deli & More held a ribbon cutting and open house ceremony. Located at 135 Court Street, downtown Prestonsburg, this deli gives customers more. Country Deli & More features a salad, soup and potato bar each day along with a daily special of homemade favorites. Now home to the Krispy KrEme

Donut for those interested in a sweet breakfast treat, Country Deli & More has cozy booth seating, excellent for both business or pleasure dining. Let them serve you; come in, take out or delivery service. Call today for a menu (606) 886-6305.

The Floyd County Chamber extends a warm welcome to Ms. Beth Ann Walker and Country Deli & More as a new member and participant in our Chamber Bucks Gift Certificate Program. Stop by and

welcome Beth, but take time to enjoy the friendly staff and good food.

Any business interested in learning more about the Floyd County Chamber of Commerce and how we can help you promote your business, or assist with your own ribbon cutting and open house, call the Chamber office (606) 886-0364 or check out our website at HYPERLINK "http://www.floyd-countykentucky.com" www.floyd-countykentucky.com.

Bankruptcy Filings

The following is a list of bankruptcy cases filed with the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Kentucky in Lexington from Dec. 13 to 20.

Pikeville Division Chapter 7

Under Chapter 7 bankruptcy, a court-appointed trustee sells assets and the debtor is discharged of debts.

Robert D. Walker and Wendy L.

Walker, of McRoberts. Misty A. Walters, of Blackey.

Robert G. Baker Jr. and Denise G. Baker, of Whitesburg.

Michael J. Tyree Sr. and Deborah L. Tyree, of Whitesburg. Jimmy Lee Thacker, of Shelbiana.

Brian McKinney, of Kimper.

Lois Coleman, of Shelbiana.

Jason Andrew Gwinn and Lori

Pikeville.

Denise Gwinn, of Hager Hill, G.V. Goble and Opal Goble, of

Jessie I. Bentley, of Jackhorn.

Chapter 13

Under Chapter 13 bankruptcy, the debtor arranges to repay debt. Blake Hunt and Rita Hunt, of Mouthcard.

Dent Cole and Vera Cole, of Pikeville.

BANKRUPTCY NEW

Liquidator loses round in case of bankrupt insurer

by CHARLES WOLFE ASSOCIATED PRESS

FRANKFORT — The Kentucky
Court of Appeals on Friday ruled against
the state insurance commissioner in a
pair of cases from the long-running liquidation of a once-notorious health
insurer.

The court overturned a circuit judge's rulings in the commissioner's favor in both cases and sent them back for trial.

The cases involved National Benefit Administrators Inc., which ran National

Business Association Trust, a Kentuckybased health plan that went bankrupt in 1990.

By the time the state froze the trust's assets, customers in 20 states had been stuck with \$13 million in unpaid medical bills. The Department of Insurance eventually ordered dozens of agents who sold the company's health plans to pay the claims.

The rulings Friday came in appeals by Michael Glogower, a former employee of National Benefit Administrators, and Elaine Glogower, who had loaned the company \$65,000.

As liquidator of the company, Insurance Commissioner Janie A. Miller is trying to collect \$6,000 the company loaned to Michael Glogower and avoid having to pay the debt to Elaine Glogower.

Michael Giogower claimed his loan includity was advance payment of a promised bonus and that he has evidence of an oral agreement to that effect.

Elaine Glogower contested the com

(See INSURER, page three)

COMMENTARY

Dr. Ana Rinaldini / joins Shelby Valley Clinic staff

Big Sandy Health Care, Inc. is proud to announce that Dr. Ana Rinaldini has joined its staff. Dr. Ana is a physician specializing in internal medicine.

Dr. Ana obtained her M.D. degree from Cordoba University Medical School, Cordoba, Argentina. Dr. Ana has been in



Dr. Ana Rinaldini

Kentucky for 10
years. She completed an internal medicine residency at the University of Kentuckyis Chandler Medical Center in 1995 as well as a fellowship at the University of Kentuckyis Division of Geriatrics in 1997.

Dr. Ana practiced in Carlisle, (Nicholas County), Kentucky from 1997 until her arrival at Shelby Valley Clinic. Since completing her training, Dr. Ana has practiced as a traditional internist. She also has experience in emergency departments and nursing homes. She was associated with Hospice of the Bluegrass located in Cynthiana, Kentucky.

Dr. Ana is a compassionate physician, who takes great pride in caring for her patients. Dr. Ana is currently accepting patients at the Shelby Valley Clinic, just south of Pikeville. To make an appointment with Dr. Ana, call (606) 639-3135.

Big Sandy Health Care, Inc. has a proud tradition of providing access to quality health care.

ARH Employee of the Month

The November Employee of the Month for McDowell ARH is Patty Hopkins. Patty has been employed at McDowell ARH for over 12 years. She works in the Admissions Department.

Patty resides in Minnie. She and her husband, Barry, are the parents of two sons, Chris and Justin. They are also the proud grandparents of three: Damon, Gavin and Grace.

Patty is a member of the First Assembly of God Church, Martin.



Dec. 14 was the date of the first Crafty Christmas Bazaar at Prestonsburg Community College. Sponsored by the Sandy College Educational Foundation Inc. and the Community and Economic Development Department of the Big Sandy Community and Technical College District, the show was a considerable success. Twenty-two vendors participated in the show that highlighted area craftsmen. All proceeds from table rentals benefited the scholarship fund of the BSCEF Inc. and netted over \$400 for scholarships, numerous toys and nonperishable food items for area needy



New at the Tech campus

The Technical Campus of Hazard Community College Has added five new instructors to their faculty. From left are: Neil Watts, Youth Build Instructor; Jerry Michael Combs, Math/Computer Instructor; Jesse Campbell, Related Instructor; and Tony Back, CAD (Drafting) Instructor. Not shown is Jeanna Cornett, Targeted Instructor.



American Woodmark donates to HCC

American Woodmark's human resource manager Keila Young, left, donates \$500 on behalf of the company to Hazard Community College. Julia B. Mitchell, right, vice president for Community and Resource Development, accepts the check on behalf of the college. "We are very appreciative of the great working relationship we have with American Woodmark and we thank them for this gift," Mrs. Mitchell said.

House

House's first novel was published in 2001. It tells the story of coal miner Clay Sizemore who, having at the age of four witnessed his mother's violent death, finds himself as an adult returning to that pivotal moment in order to make sense of his place in the world. Now available in paperback, Booklist called Clay's Quilt "A lovely and accomplished literary

debut," and Southern Living called the novel "A long love poem to the

House is also a contributing writer to "No Depression," a magazine covering the alternative country music scene. He has recently written features on Delbert McClinton and Lucinda

■ Continued from p1

The public is invited and there's no admission charge.

For more information about the reading, contact Tim Dunn at 606-436-5721 or 800-246-7521, 8035 Tim.Dunn@kctcs.edu



John Faulkner keeps in heart-healthy shape through aerobics exercise.

Step

■ Continued from p1

Faulkner says that exercise is for everyone and it should be included in our daily routines. "It doesn't have to be aerobics as long as it is some type of exercise. Don't let your age keep you from enjoying life. Get up, get out and exercise.'

You

■ Continued from p2

physician, or provider accepts assignment on your Medicare claim you could be liable. This applies on an assigned claim if there is any other proof that, before the services or items were furnished to you, you knew or should have known that Medicare would not pay. The most likely case in which this could happen is if you received the same (or closely similar) service or item before and Medicare denied the payment. In this case, the earlier denial from Medicare can be considered as "notice" to you that Medicare will not pay for the service or item. This does not apply to claims that are not assigned. On non-assigned claim, if you do not receive an ABN you are protected from having to make payment.

Have questions about Medicare? Call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227), TTY/TDD 1-877-486-2048 (toll free for the hearing impaired), or visit www.medicare.gov on the



Students from 11 area high schools took part in the Youth Leadership Institute at Prestonsburg Community College. In all, 55 students attended.

Campus

issues which have impacted the economic and social growth of

Facilitating the individual areas were Linda Gavheart, of Gayheart and Associates, Ewell Balltrip, executive director of the Kentucky Appalachian Commission, Dr. Wallace Campbell, of Pikeville College, and Bruce Hopkins, of Pike County Schools.

In the morning session the facilitators provided background on their respective subjects, and initiated discussion. In the afternoon session student were then presented with a specific issue and were asked to develop solutions.

The closing session then allowed each group to report to the assembly as a whole. From the students reports it was quickly quite evident that these students not only were able to identify with the issues, but presented some remarkable fresh ideas that have considerable merit in solving some of these

important issues. It is our hope that there can be some follow-up with these students to encourage and promote their interest and involvement in improving the economic climate of the area.

As with any ambitious endeavor, the success of the event is a reflection of those involved. In this case, the students themselves were absolutely fantastic in their participation. We found their comments to be frank, candid and unencumbered by the skepticism that can often act as a barrier in this type of program.

Ultimately however, this event would not have succeeded without the able assistance of

Jackie Bowling, Harold Burton, Eugene Blackburn, Mylinda Burris, Karen Houston, and Virginia Williamson of the Community and Economic Development Departments of PRECC and MTC, John Herald, and most importantly Don Montgomery and the M&O staff here at PRECC.

■ Continued from p1

Of course, we gratefully acknowledge the assistance of the administrators, counselors, teachers, and transportation departments of the respective school districts. Without their interest and willingness to work with us absolutely none of this could have been possi-

Support

III Continued from p2

President of The Kentucky League of Cities. "And, they face even more cuts in the months ahead." To avoid raising taxes, cities are struggling to find new and innovative sources of revenue as they are working diligently to be even more efficient in providing our citizens with the kind of services they need and deserve.

KLC strongly urges that cities be given their fair share of any new revenue sources created during the 2003 Legislative Session in order to finance the many vital services hey provide. KLC also urges the consideration of the important issue of tax reform at both the state and local levels. The KLC Executive Board of Directors recently voted to support several legislative proposals. As the voice for Kentucky cities, KLC supports measures that allow all cities to responsibly expand opportunities for revenue.

Expanded Gaming: The state of Kentucky recognizes that it is losing hundreds of millions of dollars in revenue to border states that have permitted gaming. To prevent further loss of dollars spent by Kentuckians in other states on gaming, measures are being considered that would keep those dollars in state and local coffers. In the event that measures on gaming are enacted, KLC strongly believes that they should:

Enhance Kentucky's sig-

nature equine industry; Provide equitable revenue sharing opportunities for cities across the Commonwealth; and

■ Be developed based on a designation by the Legislature

Williamsburg and the Board of a limited number of sites suitable for gaming, thus avoiding a proliferation of gambling across Commonwealth.

Increased Cigarette Tax: KLC acknowledges that our Commonwealth and its localities are in dire need of increased revenues. Kentucky's cigarette tax is among the lowest in the nation and far below our surrounding neighbors. The KLC Executive Board voted to support up to a 15-cent per pack increase in the state cigarette tax.

Expanded Restaurant Tax Authority: Currently Kentucky, only cities of the 4th and 5th class have authority to enact a local restaurant tax and the rate of the tax may be no greater than 3%. Revenues generated must be used for tourism related projects, with the revenue earmarked for the local tourism commissions. Cities receive no revenue even though they are the ones who must enact the tax and accept responsibility. KLC supports expanding the restaurant tax authority (at the 3% level) to all classes of cities, with the cities directly receiving the revenue, and allowing the revenues to be used for a wider range of community enhancement projects such as recreational development projects (little league ball fields, community swimming pools or bike trails) and green spaces.

"Cities don't close and they serve everyone," said Neil Hackworth, KLC's Deputy Executive Director, "Whatever we support legislatively must be sustainable and in the best long term interest of all cities and citizens.

insurer

Continued from p2

missioner's assertion that the company was insolvent by the time it repaid \$15,250 of her loan. Tens of thousands of dollars in attorney fees and court costs also are at stake in the cases.

Michael Glogower is the brother of Andrew Glogower, who was chief executive officer and majority shareholder of National Benefit Administrators. The appellate opinions did not explain Elaine Glogower's relationship.

Judge Joseph Huddleston of Bowling Green wrote both opinions, joined by Judges Daniel T. Guidugli of Newport and William Knopf of Louisville.

IN OTHER CASES, THE COURT:

■ Upheld a contempt citation and one day in jail for a lawyer

who was defending a juvenile in a theft case in Hart County District Court.

Attorney Sally Wasielewski disagreed with Judge James Bondurant's order for the juvenile to answer certain questions from the prosecutor. She "repeatedly failed to abide by the orders of the district judge" and instructed her client to do likewise, the appeals court said.

■ Upheld dismissal of a lawsuit by business owners in Shepherdsville who sought refunds of occupational taxes.

The city collected the money under a 1990 ordinance that was struck down in court in 1993. The business owners did not sue until 2000. The court said that exceeded a five-year statute of limitations.



Graduates of "Leadership East Kentucky," class of 2002.

Register Jan. 8-10 at Hazard **Community College**

Hazard Community College will hold Spring 2003 registrations Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, Jan. 8-10 at all campus locations. The Hazard Campus will hold an additional registration on Saturday, Jan. 11 from 9 a.m. to noon.

HCC classes will begin Monday, Jan. 13.

Hazard Community College offers associate degrees in arts, science, and applied science. The applied science areas include: Nursing, Radiography, Physical Therapist Assistant, Early Childhood Education, Automotive Technology, Fire/Rescue Science Technology, Forest and Wood Technology, Human Services, Business Technology and Information Technology. Four year degrees are available through area cooperating universities; the offerings include: Law Enforcement, Nursing, Social Work, Elementary Education, and Business Administration.

The Technical Campus programs include: Air Conditioning Technology, Auto Body Repair, Automotive Technology, Business Technology, Carpentry, Cosmetology, Computer Aided Drafting, Diesel Technology, Electrical Technology, Electronics Technology, Heavy Equipment Operations, Industrial

Maintenance Technology, Practical Nursing, Survey and Mapping Technology, and Welding.

Butler

New/Adjunct Faculty Faculty Preparations and Development. Perhaps the most interesting idea for Dr. Loftus was the concept of Student Colloquia and the importance of student inclusion as an integral

piece to larger "shared governance" realities. Dr. Loftus hopes to work through Phi Theta Kappa to begin such an effort Prestonsburg here at Community College this coming

m Continued from p1

American Heart Association.

Fax: (606) 886-3603

www.floydcountytimes.com ERALD Email: hazardherald@setel.com



Inside

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➤ Biscotti • C4

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family fun by Donna Erickson

Make and give quick 24-hr pickles

No matter the menu or theme, every holiday table includes pickles! So get ready to pucker up and taste this variation that you and your kids can easily prepare in your own kitchen to give to friends and to enjoy at your holiday

There's no canning and waiting for weeks with this recipe. Your pickles will be ready to eat in 24 hours. Once you've prepared the pickling liquid, set up the ingredients assembly-line fashion and give



everyone in the family a responsibility of slicing, filling the jars or decorating them with ribbons and tags.

PICKLING LIQUID

Combine in a medium saucepan:

- 1 cup rice vinegar
- 1 cup water 1/3 cup white wine vinegar
- 3 tablespoons sugar I tablespoon kosher salt
- 1. Simmer for a few minutes, set aside and let cool.
- 2. Quarter lengthwise 1 pound of standard cucumbers, or slice in 1/4-inch rounds. Set slices in a colander, sprinkle with salt and let stand for 10 minutes Fill a clean 26-to-32 ounce-size glass canning or spaghetti-sauce jar with salted cucumbers, pickling liquid, 2 cloves of garlic peeled and halved, 1/4 teaspoon dill seed, 1/2 teaspoon mustard seed and a bay leaf. Save room in the jar to tuck in 2-3 small, parboiled carrot spears for taste and color, if you wish. For spicy pickles add a dried or fresh chili pepper.

3. Screw lid on tightly. Refrigerate for 24 hours before eating. Makes 1-2 jars.

For gift-giving, double or triple the recipe and use smaller jars if you prefer. Decorate them with ribbons and a colorful label with your family's name and the directions: "Keep refrigerated. Use within 2 weeks."

Write Donna with your questions and ideas at www.donnasday.com. Donna's newly released book, "Donna Erickson's Fabulous Funstuff for Families," is now available in bookstores nationwide.

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Keep this biscotti under lock and key

Biscotti are by no means a Christmas goodie. They are enjoyed all year, dipped into coffee or tea, or simply munched any time. Here's an unusual one rich with chocolate, almonds, cranberries, cinnamon and nutmeg. The combination sends off such alluring scents that you'll need to hide them until you're ready to serve them. Thank the American Spice Trade Association for this delectable version.

The second recipe is Speculaasjes, or Spice Cookies, a Scandinavian traditional Christmas cookie.

CHOCOLATE CINNAMON BISCOTTI

1 1/4 cups flour 3/4 cup plus 1 teaspoon sugar,

- 1/4 cup cocoa 1 tablespoon ground cinnamon
- 3/4 teaspoon baking powder 1/4 teaspoon ground nutmeg
- 1/8 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 cup butter or margarine, soft-
 - 3 egg whites, divided
 - 1/2 teaspoon almond extract 1/4 cup sliced almonds, toasted
 - 1/4 cup dried cranberries
- 1. Preheat oven to 350 F.
- 2. Grease a large baking sheet; set aside. In a large mixing bowl combine flour, 3/4 cup sugar, cocoa, cinna-

mon, baking powder, nutmeg and salt. Using an electric mixer on medium speed, beat in butter until mixture resembles coarse crumbs. Add 2 egg whites and almond extract; beat until a soft dough forms, about 1 minute. Stir in almonds and cranberries. On a lightly floured board, shape dough into a 15-by-2-inch log; place on prepared baking sheet. In a small bowl, lightly beat remaining egg white; brush over log; sprinkle with remaining I teaspoon sugar. Bake until log is firm but slightly pliable, 30 to 35 minutes. Using two spatulas, remove to wire rack; set baking sheet aside. Cool until

log can be handled, about 10 minutes.

3. Reduce oven to 325 F. Transfer log to cutting board; using a serrated knife, cut into 1/2-inch-thick diagonal slices. Place cut-side-down on baking sheet; bake until crisp, about 15 minutes. Remove from baking sheet to wire rack. Cool completely before storing in a tightly covered container. Yield: 1 1/2 dozen.

SPECULAASJES

(Spice Cookies)

- 2 1/4 cups all-purpose flour
- 2 teaspoons ground cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon ground nutmeg 1/4 teaspoon ground cloves
- 1/4 teaspoon ground ginger
- 1/4 teaspoon baking powder

(See BLOCK, page five)

Made fast

by JoAnna M. Lund

What's a holiday without a few holiday goodies - not too festive, that's what! This ultra-easy cookie should brighten things up.

Comfort foods Holiday goodies

PEANUT BUTTER CHOCOLATE CHIP COOKIES

by Philomena

Corradeno

1/2 cup cold water

1 1/2 cups nonfat dry milk pow-

Granular sugar substitute to equal 1/2 cup sugar, suitable for

- 3/4 cup reduced-fat peanut butter 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 2 cups reduced-fat baking mix 1/4 cup mini-chocolate chips

1. Place cold water in a 2-cup glass measuring cup. Stir in dry milk powder until mixture makes a smooth paste. Cover and microwave on HIGH (100 percent power) for 45 to 60 seconds or until mixture is very hot but not to the boiling point. Add sugar substitute. Mix well to combine. Cover and refrigerate for at least 2 hours. (What you've just

(See FOODS, page five)

Dear Diane... lending money,

TIMES Email: web@floydcountytimes.com

I agree totally with your advice concerning lending money to relatives: Consider it given and there will be no hard feelings.

We have lent money to so many relatives, including our children, and they did not repay us - either forgetting about it or financially unable to pay it back.

We finally considered it as given to them, so now we don't look for it to be paid back.

The Bible says in Luke 6:35 to do good and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, etc. Also, Proverbs 19:1 says he who is gracious

to a poor man lends to the Lord, and He will repay him for his good deeds. I didn't know if you knew your answer was

biblically based, but it is. I enjoy your column when we get the paper it

Leona F., Canyon Lake, Texas

DEAR LEONA:

Thank you for your wonderful letter. I had no idea my advice was rooted in scripture. I must have an angel looking over my shoulder when I write!

DEAR DIANE:

My husband, "Earl," is a nincompoop. I ask him to wash the dishes and he does them out of order - he actually washes the glasses LAST! I get to the point where I feel it's not worth the trouble asking him to do anything, so I do them myself. But then I get angry and resentful. What

VERNA IN VALDOSTA

DEAR VERNA:

What you need to do is walk him through the process. Write a list and tack it above the sink. Make Earl follow the directions to the letter.

Getting a man to do chores correctly is a lot like paper-training a puppy. It takes time, patience and positive reinforcement. Good luck.

Send letters to Diane c/o King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475. Or e-mail her at DearDianeV@aol

Most cholesterol comes from liver, not diet

DEAR DR. DONOHUE:

I couldn't lower my cholesterol by eating an almost completely vegetarian diet. The doctor has put me on Zocor. After using the medicine, the doctor had me go to the lab to check my blood for liver "enzymes." They were a bit higher than they should be. I was instructed to continue taking the drug

and have my blood checked again in two months. I am

having second thoughts about using this medicine. Is it safe for me to continue in the face of abnormal blood tests? - I.K.



ANSWER:

Zocor is one the statin drugs, so named because their generic designations end with "statin." Zocor, for example, is simvastatin.

All the statin drugs lower cholesterol by reducing the liver's production of it. People are surprised to learn that most cholesterol comes not from the diet but from our own liver manufacturing it.

The statin drugs are among the most potent cholesterol-lowering medicines available. They all have the potential for harming liver cells. A rise in blood levels of liver enzymes indicates liver cell damage.

If the rise in liver enzymes is less than three times normal, it is quite safe for a per

(See HEALTH, page five)

Chicken Soup for the Soul: Turning the page

Jan Coleman (FROM "CHICKEN SOUP FOR THE SINGLE'S SOUL")

Coleman. (c)1998 Jan Coleman. I first met Jeanne on moving day. She appeared sometime after the furniture was unloaded, with brownies in hand, to

Reprinted by permission of Jan

welcome me to the neighborhood. There was something about her I instantly liked: her attitude, her enthusiasm for life. Recently single again, I was forced to move from my country dream home to a small duplex in town, and my spirits were about as high as the grass in the front yard. I detested the word "single." It was meant for slices of cheese or those old records I collected as a teenager.

Singleness was a mystery to be solved

before the channel changed, not a

lifestyle to claim for very long.

But Jeanne was doing it well, and her zest was contagious. She soon had me camping, mounting biking, playing marathon Scrabble on Saturday nights. We liked the same movies, read the same kind of books and chuckled at the same things. Every year I hung out with her, the more I laughed

and the less I thought

about the past and how it

hurt and robbed me. She

Singleness wasn't so bad after all. In fact, I was content. My children stopped rebelling. I had a good job, a ministry to singles in my church and a hest friend

became the sister I never had, my

who inspired me to live each day grateful for the blessings.

Then it happened. I met Carl. I didn't plan to fall in love, but I knew, after 10 years of being single, that

he was the right man for me. I prayed for a husband for Jeanne, so we could make the transition together, but it didn't happen. She shared my hopes and dreams with me, and helped me plan

the wedding, but I could see the hurt as she readied herself to go solo. The weekend before the wedding, she kidnapped me for a mountain getaway,

our last jaunt as single sisters. As we sat

in front of the roaring fire, gazing at the

snowcanned neaks, we finally shed some

tears. I told her how bittersweet it was for me, that I couldn't enter into a new life with Carl without a twinge of sadness at how things will change. Nobody but us could understand that though our friendship would remain as deep and faithful, it would never be quite the same. She wouldn't be popping over in her pajamas anymore, or calling me at five in the morning, or planning a last-minute card game and leaving a message to tell me what time to be there.

Ending a chapter in your life is never easy. Through all the years of romantic yearnings about being married again, I never imagined it might come attached to an ache like this. It was as if that part of my life I once spurned was now so cherished. But it was time to turn the page.

The night before I walked down the aisle again. I wrote leanne a long letter

full of memories of all the special things we did together, and how she would always be my best friend and have a place in my heart that no one, not even my husband, could claim. Life has seasons, and we must change with them as best we can.

It's been four years now, and Jeanne hasn't found Mr. Right, but she's not sitting around waiting. She's been on a missionary trip to the Philippines. She makes every day count, and she motivates me to do it, too.

We have to work harder at staying close now, but Jeanne doesn't feel awkward anymore about popping in for a game of Scrabble. Carl always smiles and slips away to his office. I set up the board while Jeanne's feet slide snugly into her slippers. It might be a very long

Books: "The Encyclopedia of Planting Combinations"

"The Encyclopedia of Planting Combinations" by: Tony Lord Photography by Andrew Lawson (Firefly Books, \$59.95)

Reviewed by Clark James

Winter can be a depressing time for gardeners. The brown landscape, barren trees and frozen earth make even the promise of spring seem light years away. But there's a way to transport yourself from the

gloom of winter to those glorious days of late spring and summer, when the days are long, warm rains fall and the garden is ablaze with color - just open "The Encyclopedia of Planting Combinations.'

Don't be put off by the dull title. The photography is stunning, with almost 1,000 full-color photos. And these aren't just any photos, they're photos of multiple plants, from two to almost a dozen, whose colors and textures complement each

gardeners face is what goes with what. Everyone has their favorite plants, but what can be planted alongside them to bring out their best? Too often we make the wrong choices, with disappointing results. As author Tony Lord says, "Contrasts of form are easy to achieve, harmonies are harder."

This book can help. With more than 4,000 plant combinations and 1,000 detailed plant descriptions, there's inspiration here for everyone, from begin-

One of the biggest problems ning gardeners to landscape professionals. The 416-page book includes sections on shrubs and small trees, climbers, perennials, bulbs and annuals. For rosarians, more than 40 pages are devoted to roses.

Thumb through a copy at your local bookstore and see if you don't take it home with you. And if there's a gardener on your holiday gift list, here's a book they'll treasure for years to

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Sam & Dave

explain it all to you

by Samantha Weaver and Dave Smith

DEAR SAM & DAVE:

My boyfriend, "Bruno," and I have been living together for nine months. I work a full-time job and also am a full-time college senior majoring in business administration. Bruno is a semiprofessional skateboarder and currently has no real job, except for the occasional check from skate tournaments. Last week, Bruno decided he would do me a favor and do my laundry. Like any man, he took all my dirty clothes and dumped the whole stack into one load, added BLEACH and washed everything in hot water. You can imagine the disaster. More than \$300 worth of clothes were ruined. Bruno said he would pay to replace my clothes, but honestly, he'll never be able to come up with that kind of mon-

Dumping the skater boy, Bruno

ey anytime soon. I am so furious leeching off of you. His doing with him, I'm thinking about kicking him to the curb. What should I do?

- NEARLY NAKED IN NASHUA

DAVE SAYS:

Yes, you should dump Bruno. The sooner the better. And not because he ruined your clothes. You should dump him because he's a slacker loser and you need to trade up, sister. You've got a full-time job, and after graduation, you'll probably want to pursue an MBA. While you're on the fast track to a great, grown-up, professional life, Bruno will be hanging around the apartment doing jello shots off his pet ferret (or whichever exotic-pet losers these days use to define their coolness). You don't need a doofus like that weighing you

If Bruno really wanted to do you a favor, he would've gotten a real job and ponied up his end of the living expenses instead of the laundry was an admission of his guilt for - and cognizance of - taking advantage of you. He knows he's got a good thing, and he just thought he'd do the bare minimum amount of work to keep you off his back - until next month's bills show up.

Scrape Bruno off your shoe and move on, Nashua. You deserve better.

SAM SAYS:

Before dumping Bruno in a fit of pique, sit down and take stock of your situation. Why are you mad at him? You don't seem to be too terribly angry that for nine months he's been living with you while you've been busting your butt at work and school. If you don't mind supporting him and his skate habit, that's your business - all kinds of inequitable relationships can work as long as both partners are OK with the situa-

If the only reason you're mad at him is that he ruined your laundry, then deal solely with that issue. Keep in mind that he had good intentions and was trying to do you a favor, albeit ineptly and with disastrous results. I don't mean, however, that you should let him off the hook. He needs to pay you for the clothes he ruined, and it's his responsibility to figure out how. Help him out by looking through the classifieds and circling any job he might be quali-

If he refuses to get a job to pay for his colossal screw-up, then he's an irresponsible loser who expects the world to take care of him. If that's the case, get rid of him and thank your lucky stars that you found out his true nature before anything more serious than ruined clothing came up.

Send letters to Sam & Dave in care of King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475. Or email them at asksamanddave@mindspring.com.

Fitness back-up plan

Setting a realistic fitness schedule is one of the most important elements in developing a successful fitness and nutrition routine.

It is equally important to remember that each day may not work out exactly as we had planned. Emergencies, family priorities and lastminute appointments can all put a wrench in the most carefully planned fitness regimen.

Establishing a fitness backup plan can eliminate the stress or guilt that can occur from the inability to follow your fitness routine completely. The key is to remain active and look for opportunities to squeeze alternative activities into your day.

Here are some tips:

Stretch. Take several minutes out of your day to stretch your whole body. Stretching your shoulders, neck, back, arms and legs can help you relax and promote blood flow to areas of the body that may otherwise remain sedentary and tense all

■ Take the stairs! Walk the stairs instead of using the elevator. Climbing a few flights of stairs several times a day will increase your heart rate slightly and help burn extra calories.

Park the car and walk. Don't keep driving around the parking lot looking for a close-in space to become available. The extra few feet you may have to walk to reach your destination is a great way to stimulate your muscles.

Eat breakfast. Starting



your day with a well-balanced meal is extremely important to kick-start your metabolism and prepare your body for the day's activities.

Take a walk. You may have missed your favorite aerobic class at the gym, but you can still complete your aerobic workout. Taking a walk or cycling are great alternatives that can be done almost any-

■ Drink plenty of water. Staying hydrated is always important. Water helps the functions of your muscles and tissues, and can act as an appetite suppressant.

Play with the kids. Running around with (or after) the kids is a fun way to exercise. The constant moving, bending and reaching incorporate all of the components of most fitness pro-

While these fitness back-up tips cannot replace the benefits of a dedicated fitness routine, they are a healthy alternative to doing nothing when your fitness program gets sidetracked.

Andrea Renee Wyatt, M.S.S., C.S.C.S., is a personal trainer with an extensive background in strength and conditioning as well as therapeutic recreation. If you have a fitness or training question, e-mail

Andrea at letters.kfws@hearstsc.com or write her in care of King, Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475.

by Samantha Weaver & Amy Anderson

Just in time for another round of exhausting holiday air travel, here are some interesting notes and diversions from Harriet Baskas' book "Stuck at the Airport."

■ The observation deck at the Albany, N.Y., airport is located on the 3rd floor. To help keep track of the planes, you can listen chatter from the control tower, provided via radio.

Atlanta's Hartsfield International Airport houses an art collection worth more than \$1 million. Most of it is in Concourse E, the international concourse.

The Austin (Texas) Bergstrom International Airport has a landscaped dog walk area with a pooch-size drinking fountain. It is located just outside of baggage

Chase those "Stuck at the Airport" blues

■ Baltimore/Washington International's interactive exhibits in the uppermost level of the observation tower include: a disassembled Boeing 737-200 plane, a flight simulator, Federal Aviation Administration monitoring equipment and a weather observation station.

■ Take a golf break while departing or laying-over in sunny California. The PGA Tour shop in the Burbank Airport has a

Missed your chance to gamble or just looking to get lucky? There are 1,200 slot machines scattered about the McCarran International Airport in Las Vegas. In 1999, a man returning to Alaska won \$1.5 million while waiting for his flight.

Rent a DVD player and movies while waiting in the airport, or take it with you and return it later, at In Motion Pictures vendors located in 18 different airports. The Jetback Special is only \$19.95 for a portable DVD player, movie, headsets and UPS postage back to its original rental location. You just watch the movie and drop it off. For more

information, check out www.inmotionpic-

Finally, proving that you REALLY never know what you might be witnessing at the airport: the story of Charlotte, N.C.'s, Gifford Cordova and Vernon Smith.

In the atrium of the Charlotte airport, there sits a piano, the site of regularly scheduled entertainment on Thursday and Friday evenings. Other days, it is up for grabs to any would-be pianist. Cordova and Smith were two baggage handlers who made use duets. According to the book, they "became so popular that they recorded a CD and, under the name Ten2Ten, joined Lou Rawls on tour

Baskas' book covers close to 50 domestic airports and some international destinations. It's well worth a look.

Write to Your America in care of King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475, or e-mail youramerica@hotmail.com.

of the piano on lunch breaks - to play jazz

Monopoly is the most popular game in the world

■ The aircraft carrier U.S.S. Enterprise is the biggest warship ever built - it even has its own zip code. Its amenities include a bank, a daily newspaper, its own radio and TV stations, bakeries, a health club, a fire department and a museum.

■ Tony Bennett once earned \$15 per week working as a singing waiter.

A Slovenian company has developed a line of sophisticated jumpsuits for skydivers that actually inflate (the suits, not the skydivers). The suit forms an aerodynamically efficient wing, generating enough lift to slow the parachutist's descent while enabling him or her to move horizontally through the air like a glider. The company, called BirdMan, says that suit-wearing jumpers have been tested to fall as slowly as 18 mph! No one has yet volunteered to try landing in the suit without wearing a para-



chute, however.

Studies on projected population growth estimate that by the year 2050, China will have approximately 1.48 billion

■ Before his death, George Custer had 11 horses killed under him, but he was only wounded once.

According to the Guinness Book of World Records, Monopoly is the most popular board game in the world.

England and Spain once fought a conflict called "The War of Jenkins' Ear." France and England participated in "The War of the Whiskers," and Greece and Macedonia fought "The War of the Stray

Groucho Marx's real first name was Julius.

■ In 1944 at Bastogne, the Germans demanded that the enemy surrender. The one-word answer left no room for debate:

Thought for the Day:

"The trouble ain't that people are ignorant; it's that they know so much that ain't so." -- Josh Billings

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I like my home appliances stupid

One of the many decisions a person makes when they are building a house is what appliances to install. Do you want the energy-efficient front-loading washer or the classic top-loading, albeit less expensive, washer? Do you want the fridge with the freezer on the bottom or on

It seems appliance buyers have enough to think about without appliance makers adding high-tech features that just don't belong. The "Internet refrigerator" is still alive and kicking, yet I have yet to hear a single person express any inter-

In case you missed it the first

time, Internet fridge from LG is simply a fridge with an Internetready kiosk-style flat screen monitor stuck on the front.

When you break it down, the cost of the \$6,000-plus ice box seems rather excessive, considering a similar fridge - sans Internet — costs around \$2,000. I say, save the extra four grand and buy yourself a good portable laptop to stick in the corner. Can't afford the counter space, you say? Come on, you were about to pay six grand for a fridge, so the size of your

kitchen must be obscene. Another example of this

the over-the-top marketing is the Electrolux Washy Talky, a washing machine that weighs the wash load and suggests a cycle. Even if it were front-loading, and even if it were available outside of India, I think I'd still

It's not that I don't like technology - it's just bad economics. The computer on the refrigerator is certain to become obsolete before the fridge is even a year old, and then you're stuck with a novelty.

And why a computer and a fridge? Can't you make a sandwich and then check your e-

Practicality aside, what if the

voice controller on the washing machine malfunctions and suddenly starts talking dirty to me? OK, so I may not mind, but my pride is on the line: Do consumers enjoy being talked to by a condescending washing machine?

Give me a gadget that does a few things well, and save the ridiculous combinations for a comedy routine. Now that's what I call inno-

Comments? Questions? Contact InfoLink at kfsinfolink@aol.com.

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m Continued from p4

made is fat-free and sugar-free sweetened condensed milk!)

2. When ready to make cookies, preheat oven to 375 degrees. In a large bowl, combine cooled milk mixture, peanut butter and vanilla extract. Add baking mix. Mix well to combine. Stir in chocolate chips. Shape into 36 (1inch) balls. Place balls on an ungreased baking sheet. Flatten each ball with a fork. Bake for 6 to 8 minutes. Remove cookies from baking sheets and cool on wire racks.

servings. ■ Each serving equals: 203 calories, 7 g fat, 8 g protein,

Makes 12 (3 cookies each)

27 g carb., 349 mg sodium, 1 g fiber; Diabetic Exchanges: 1 1/2 Starch, 1 Meat, 1 Fat. Visit JoAnna's Web site at www.healthvexchanges.com or call 1-800-766-8961 for more information about her

"common folk healthy recipes. (c) 2002 King Features Synd., Inc.

Block

Foods

■ Continued from p4

1/8 teaspoon salt 1 1/2 cups butter or margarine, softened 1 cup firmly packed brown

3 tablespoons milk I egg, lightly beaten Sliced or slivered almonds

Sift flour with cinnamon, nutmeg, cloves, ginger, baking powder and salt. In a large mixing bowl cream butter and sugar. Beat in milk and egg. Add flour mixture, 1/2 cup at a time, beating well after each

addition. Dough should be stiff and easy to handle. Roll to 1/8-inch thickness between sheets of waxed paper. Cut into desired shapes. Decorate with almonds. Place on greased cookie sheets and bake in a preheated moderate oven (375 F) 8 minutes or until brown and firm. Cool on cookie sheets. Store in tightly closed container. Keeps well for several weeks. Yield: about

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Health

Continued from p4

son to continue the drug and have a repeat blood test in a matter of months. For most people, enzyme levels stabilize, and they can continue their statin treatment. Cholesterol questions pop

up with great frequency. The recently published cholesterol pamphlet provides most answers to these common questions. Readers can obtain a copy by writing: Dr. Donohue - No. 201W, Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475. Enclose a check or money order (no cash) for \$4.50 and the recipient's printed name and address. Please allow 4 weeks for delivery.

DEAR DR. DONOHUE:

I am a 59-year-old man with good cholesterol numbers except for a low HDL cholesterol. Mine is 30. How can I get it to go up? - H.S.

ANSWER:

HDL cholesterol is the good kind. It siphons cholesterol and fatty buildup from artery walls and trucks it to the liver for disposal. The higher the HDL cholesterol reading, the better off a person's arteries are. A normal reading should be at least 40 mg/dL (1.04 mmol/L). A superb reading is one of 60 (1.6) or greater. Such a reading indicates healthy arteries and a lessened chance for having a heart attack.

Exercise, weight loss (if applicable) and quitting smoking raise the HDL number. If a person has other important risks of having heart disease (a family history of having heart attacks at a young age, for example), his or her doctor can prescribe medicines that elevate HDL cholesterol. Niacin happens to be one of those drugs.

Dr. Donohue regrets that he is unable to answer individual letters, but he will incorporate them in his column whenever possible. Readers may write him or request an order form of available health newsletters at P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475.

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Bridges Project

Mountain Comprehensive Care Center's Bridges Project currently has two full time and one part time school-based positions available.

The first is a Behavior Intervention Specialist at John M. Stumbo Elementary, Grethel, Ky. Minimum Qualifications: Master's Degree in Psychology, Social Work or a closely related field and must have experience working successfully with children. Experience working in a schoolbased setting is preferred. Special Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities: Must demonstrate knowledge of functional behavior assessment, and development and implementation of behavior management plans. Must demonstrate knowledge of human development and behavior theories and practice, must be sensitive to the Appalachian culture, sensitive to family needs, must be creative, energetic and most importantly must like children.

Also, two Student Service Coordinator positions, (1) a full time split position at May Valley Elementary, Martin, Ky. and John M. Stumbo Elementary, Grethel, Ky. (2) a part time position at Salyersville Elementary, Salyersville, Minimum Qualifications: Bachelor's Degree in

Behavioral Science or Special Education and one year of professional experience working with children or one year of experience performing case management services.

Special Knowledge, Skills and Abilities: Must demonstrate skill in written and verbal communication, including facilitation, mediation and negotiation. Must demonstrate an ability to work collaboratively in a team. Must demonstrate a knowledge of community resources and services, a sensitivity to the Appalachian culture and family issues, must be optimistic, personable, creative, and energetic, and again must like children.

MCCC offers a competitive salary, medical and dental insurance, Kentucky Retirement, tuition assistance and

generous vacation time. Applications can be obtained through the personnel department at Mountain Comprehensive Care Center, located at 104 South Front Avenue, Prestonsburg, Ky. Or for further information contact the Bridges Project E.OE at 606-886-4337.

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220-Help Wanted

MOUNTAIN MANOR OF PAINTSVILLE is taking applications for a LPN (7 p.m.-7 a.m. shift) Excellent salary benefits. Apply in person at 1025 Euclid Ave. Paintsville, Ky. Monday thru Friday between 8:00 a.m. to

4:00 p.m.*

WANTED: room HELP dealership Prestonsburg, KY. needs experienced a technician /tower climber. Pay equal to experience. Good benefit package. Only those with experience & referes need anniv Must also have clean driving record. Call 606-886-3181 (800)-445-3166 inquire. *

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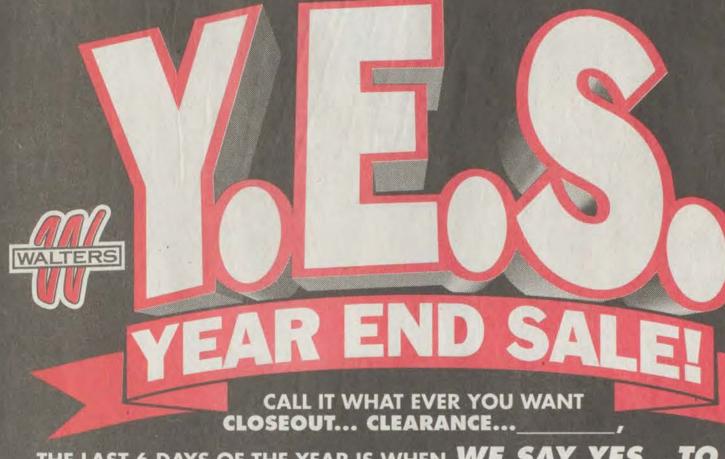
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Total Due At Signing: \$667°

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2003 Toyota Camry LE Pwr win/mirror/locks/seats, tilt, cruise, AM/FM/cass/CD. Dual air bags, keyless entry, plus much morel

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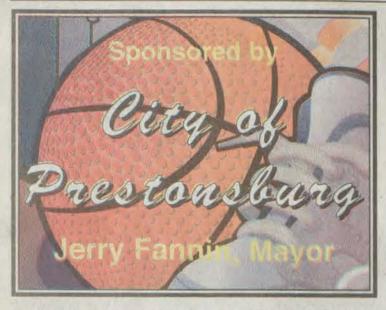
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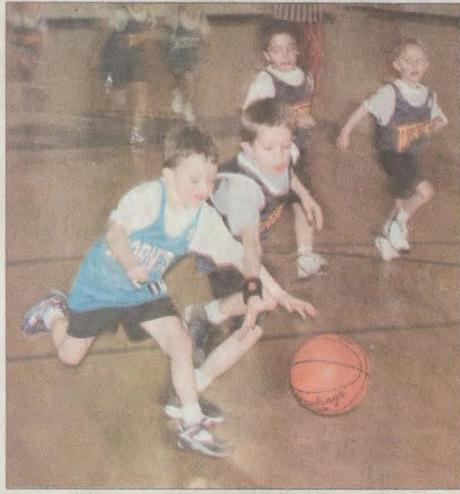
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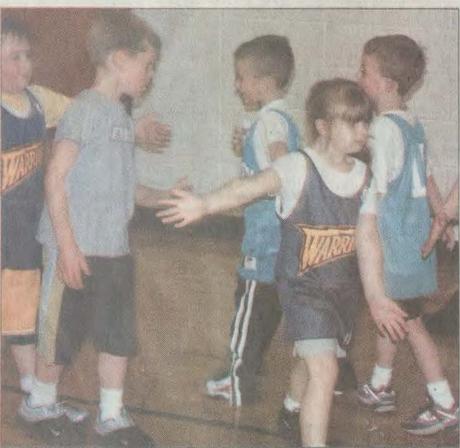
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637 N. Lake Drive, Prestonsburg, Kentucky.





Tate Goble drove to the basket against the Hornets on Saturday at Adams Middle School.



The Warriors and Hornets shook hands during following a fun game for both teams.

KIDS AT PLANT

Prestonsburg Junior Basketball

Haley Howell looked to score against the Warriors.



Jordan Marcum took a break from action in a recent Prestonsburg Junior Basketball game.



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