



SEASONS GREETINGS SPECIAL
Section • AA

briefs

Santa rides fire truck in P'burg

Times Staff Report
Santa Claus will make his annual ride through Prestonsburg on Christmas Eve. The Prestonsburg Fire Department will escort the Jolly Saint Nick aboard a fire truck Wednesday evening, beginning at 5 p.m.

Meeting scheduled

Times Staff Report
The Floyd County Schools' Sick Leave Committee will be holding a meeting Dec. 30. The meeting will begin at 5 p.m. at Opportunities Unlimited in Martin. The public is invited to attend.

inside

Local News

Odds and EndsA2
ObituariesA6
For the RecordA6

Sports

Raiders vs. RebelsB1
Fan of the WeekB2
ClassifiedsC4

Lifestyles

Through My EyesC1
PostscriptC1
School CalendarC2

2 DAY FORECAST

Today
Partly cloudy
High: 41 • Low: 22

Tomorrow
Rain, snow showers
High: 36 • Low: 33

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

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Former resident killed in Hyden

by **SHELDON COMPTON**
STAFF WRITER

HYDEN — A former Prestonsburg mines inspector died Tuesday in Leslie County from injuries sustained after his was assaulted at his home Nov. 29. John K. Slone, 60, of Hyden and formerly of Prestonsburg, was pronounced

dead at Hazard ARH Hospital from what medical examiners said was "blunt force trauma" to the head.

On Nov. 29 police were contacted and told that Slone had been assaulted at his residence in Hyden. At that time, authorities transported the former surface-mines inspector to Hyden Hospital and then later to the University of Kentucky Chandler

Medical Center in Lexington.

Medical examiners determined the cause of death following an autopsy a short time after his death. Slone's death from the injuries and results of that autopsy has prompted investigators to consider the possibility of an upcoming murder investigation.

However, authorities are careful to

point out that this focus is preliminary until final confirmation comes from the state medical examiner's office.

"We're only treating it as a murder because we don't have anything final from the medical examiner, yet" said investigating Det. Tony Watts. "We cannot release

(See **MURDER**, page three)



Officers with the Department of Vehicle Enforcement, Prestonsburg Police Department and fire department officials assisted in investigating the scene of this accident on Route 114 yesterday afternoon. Reportedly, the driver "blacked out" and his truck ran over an embankment, and ultimately landed in a ditch in the Middle Creek Battlefield area.

photo by Mary Music

Trucker walks away from wreck at Middle Creek

by **MARY MUSIC**
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — An Ohio man walked away from what could have been a devastating accident yesterday afternoon when the tractor-trailer he was driving ran over an embankment less than a mile away from the Mountain Arts Center.

Douglas Downing, 38, of Circleville, Ohio, was traveling

west on Route 114 when his flatbed truck ran over an embankment in the newly remodeled Middle Creek Battlefield area.

According to Dennis Hutchinson, investigating officer with the Kentucky Department of Vehicle Enforcement, Downing claimed to have "blacked out" before driving over the hill.

"He said the last he remembered was coming under the [US 23] overpass," said Kevin Henry,

Department of Vehicle Enforcement supervisor, who also assisted at the scene.

After tumbling over the embankment, the truck landed in a ditch where Prestonsburg police officers, fire department officials and ambulance workers attended the scene. Though the trailer on Downing's truck appeared to have sustained only minimal damage following the

(See **WRECK**, page three)

Local nabbed during raid at Ohio clinic

by **SHELDON COMPTON**
STAFF WRITER

DOVER, Ohio — A Floyd County man was taken into custody during a large-scale drug raid initiated by state police and assisting agencies in Ohio Tuesday.

Stephen Newsome, 31, of Prestonsburg, was arrested by state police during a raid on an Ohio pain management clinic and charged with carrying a concealed weapon.

Police arrested Newsome after he drove by the clinic during the raid, according to published reports.

The Prestonsburg resident was not charged with any drug-related offenses following his arrest, but reports indicate that state

police suspect he is a patient of the clinic, according to reports from the Ohio newspaper *The Times Reporter*.

Investigators raided the clinic, Professional Pain Management Inc., and confiscated boxes of patient files after receiving complaints claiming the office was actually functioning as a spot for illegal drug activity, and also included claims that more than 80 percent of the clinic's patients were from Kentucky.

In addition to Newsome's arrest, another Eastern Kentucky man was also taken into custody during the raid.

Of the 20 people the Times Reporter said were questioned during the raid,

(See **CLINIC**, page three)

Store manager says alcohol violation a 'setup'

by **MARY MUSIC**
STAFF WRITER

LACKEY — After being cited for selling alcohol to a minor by an agent with the state Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control, a Lackey convenience store manager says that they were "setup."

Though Deb Mullins,

store manager, says she wasn't in the store at the time of the transaction, she's reviewed videotapes that prove the customer in question did not appear to be underage because he was losing his hair.

For that reason, she says, Redhed Oil, the company

(See **ALCOHOL**, page three)

Scott urging Floyd County to 'get moving'

by **MARY MUSIC**
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — Floyd County Extension Agent Theresa Scott says it's the perfect time of year for Floyd Countians to begin rethinking their role in leading healthier lives and she has just the way to get them started.

Scott, who works with the Family and Consumer Sciences division at the Extension Office, is currently laying the groundwork for a new program, "Get Moving Kentucky," that will encourage people throughout the community to become more physically active by incorporating education, physical exercise and loads of fun.

In August, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ranked Kentucky as the least active state in the nation, a dubious distinction that Scott hopes will soon be attributed elsewhere.

(See **EXERCISE**, page three)



Theresa Scott, county extension agent for Family and Consumer Sciences, shows her excitement for the new "Get Moving Kentucky" Program, a physical activity initiative she hopes will help Floyd Countians lead healthier lives.

photo by Mary Music

Federal penitentiary receives \$42 million

by **SHELDON COMPTON**
STAFF WRITER

DEBORD — The United States Penitentiary Big Sandy will soon receive \$42 million in federal money to continue operations, following a recent announcement from Congressman Hal Rogers ensuring a total of \$135.2 million for law enforcement development across southeastern and Eastern Kentucky.

Of the seven law enforcement agencies receiving part of the newest portion of federal dollars, the U.S. Penitentiary Big Sandy will share the largest amount of \$42 million with another U.S. Penitentiary in McCreary County, said public relations officer Leslie Cupp.

The Federal Corrections Institution in Manchester

(See **PRISON**, page three)

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Odds & Ends

■ **APPLETON, Wis.** — Tourism promoters in Harry Houdini's hometown hope a rift over whether to demystify the magician's Metamorphosis trick will disappear.

Plans to disclose the secrets at the Outagamie Museum's "A.K.A. Houdini" exhibit due to open June 2 have upset the Houdini Club of Wisconsin. The club says it "more than likely" won't be holding its 2005 convention at the downtown Radisson Paper Valley Hotel.

"A lot of magicians in the club are terribly offended that something like that would happen in Appleton," club secretary Richard Pankow said. "If it happened in Vegas, you would almost expect it. But it wouldn't happen there because magicians would step in to stop it."

Disagreement over whether to share Houdini's behind-the-scenes secrets comes down to differing philosophies on what the museum's mission should be, says Terry Bergen, executive director of the museum.

"They perceive our museum role to be a shrine for Houdini," Bergen said. "We don't see ourselves that way. We see ourselves as an educational institu-

tion that explores local history."

"I can't say which side is right — I just know Houdini is important for tourism," said Lynn Peters, executive director of the Fox Cities Convention & Visitors Bureau.

The Metamorphosis trick, also known as the substitution trunk trick, involves a magician being placed in a sack and locked in a trunk by an assistant. Under a curtain and after a quick count, the assistant and magician switch places.

Houdini first performed it more than 100 years ago.

■ **NEW YORK** — A man and a woman charged with arranging several sham green card marriages to illegal immigrants apparently are in love and want to get married again — this time to each other.

Luis Narvaez, 40, already married seven times, and Evelyn Rivera, 48, who has been married eight times, applied for a license to marry each other while they were jailed, Manhattan District Attorney Robert Morgenthau said Wednesday.

Morgenthau said the pair and 11 women were charged with

perjury for lying on licenses for the bogus marriages from 1996 through last month. He said the 13 applied for 52 licenses to marry people from India, China, Egypt and other places.

Narvaez and Rivera met when she stood as a witness in at least two of his weddings, Morgenthau said. Their wedding plans were stymied by a routine check of their names at the city clerk's office, he said.

The frequent groom faces up to four years in prison if convicted of perjury, filing a false instrument and falsifying business records, Morgenthau said.

The habitual bride could face up to a year in jail if convicted of attempted perjury, attempted filing a false instrument and attempted falsifying business records, Morgenthau said.

Assistant District Attorney Leroy Frazer said that before the couple could get married, they would probably have to divorce the first people they married.

■ **CHARLESTON, W.Va.** — Xavier Imperiale never spent more than half his paycheck, socking away the rest in savings and stocks. Now, at age 72, he's uncovered a nest egg worth

more than a half-million dollars.

With frugal habits and no car or credit cards to drain his cash, the West Virginia native had no need for the dividends his stock portfolio began to generate in the 1950s.

Imperiale, a bookkeeper, moved to Florida in 1959 but kept his permanent address in Bluewell. When he found out in the 1980s that the dividend checks his sister had been forwarding from West Virginia

were being stolen from his mailbox, he told her to hang on to them.

Earlier this year, when Imperiale returned to Bluewell to settle his now-deceased sister's estate, he contacted the state treasurer's office to see what he could recover from more than two decades of uncashed checks.

On Wednesday, Imperiale celebrated his 72nd birthday by making his first trip to the state

Capitol, where he collected two checks worth a total \$633,909. One, for \$630,838, is the largest unclaimed property check in state history.

Imperiale didn't forget his growing pile of uncashed checks. He said he just never gave his unused wealth much thought.

"I've been working and always able to pay my way," he said.

(See **ODDS**, page three)

Today in History

The Associated Press

Today is Friday, Dec. 19, the 353rd day of 2003. There are 12 days left in the year. The Jewish Festival of Lights, Hanukkah, begins at sunset.

Today's Highlight in History: On Dec. 19, 1843, "A Christmas Carol," by Charles Dickens, was first published in England.

On this date:

■ In 1732, Benjamin Franklin began publishing "Poor Richard's Almanac."

■ In 1776, Thomas Paine published his first "American Crisis" essay.

■ In 1777, Gen. George Washington led his army of about 11,000 men to Valley Forge, Pa., to camp for the winter.

■ In 1907, 239 workers died in a coal mine explosion in Jacobs Creek, Pa.

■ In 1932, the British Broadcasting Corporation began transmitting overseas with its Empire Service to Australia.

■ In 1957, Meredith Willson's musical play "The Music Man" opened on Broadway.

■ In 1972, Apollo 17 splashed down in the Pacific, winding up the Apollo program of manned lunar landings.

■ In 1974, Nelson A. Rockefeller was sworn in as the 41st vice president of the United States.

■ In 1978, jury selection began in Salem, Ore., in the case of John J. Rideout, accused of raping his wife, Greta. (Rideout was acquitted; the couple divorced after the trial.)

■ In 1986, the Soviet Union announced it had freed dissident Andrei Sakharov from internal exile, and pardoned his wife, Yelena Bonner.

Ten years ago:

Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and senior PLO officials ended two days of closed-door talks in Oslo, Norway, in which they sought to break a deadlock over Palestinian self-rule in the occupied territories.

Five years ago:

President Clinton was impeached by the Republican-controlled House for perjury and obstruction of justice (he was later acquitted by the Senate). Two days after his confession of marital infidelity, Bob Livingston told the House he wouldn't serve as its next speaker. President Clinton halted airstrikes against Iraq after a fourth day of attacks.

One year ago:

Secretary of State Colin Powell declared Iraq in "material breach" of a U.N. disarmament resolution. After a prosecutor cited new DNA evidence, a judge in New York threw out the convictions of five young men in a 1989 attack on a Central Park jogger who had been raped and left for dead. Roh Moo-hyun won South Korea's presidential election.

Today's Birthdays:

Singer-songwriter Charlie Ryan is 88. Country singer Little Jimmy Dickens is 83. Actor James Booth is 73. Actress Cicely Tyson is 70. Rhythm-and-blues singer-musician Maurice White (Earth, Wind and Fire) is 62. Actor Tim Reid is 59. Paleontologist Richard E. Leakey is 59. Rock singer Alvin Lee (Ten Years After) is 59. Actress Elaine Joyce is 58. Musician John McEuen is 58. Singer Janie Fricke is 56. Actor Mike Lookinland is 43. Actress Jennifer Beals is 40. Actor Robert McNaughton is 37. Rock musician Kevin Shepard is 35. Actress Kristy Swanson is 34. Actress Amy Locane is 32. Actress Rosa Blasi is 31. Actress Alyssa Milano is 31. Actor Jake Gyllenhaal is 23. Actress Marla Sokoloff is 23.

Thought for Today:

"He who knows nothing, doubts nothing." — Italian proverb.

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Exercise

"We top the charts where, again, we prefer not to," Scott said, "and we need to do something about it."

The "Get Moving Kentucky" program was launched by UK President Lee Todd on Nov. 25 in Lexington, and Scott is now in charge of extending the benefits of the program into the community.

The eight-week program will utilize expansive UK research-based information regarding health issues and ways to

improve lifestyles through exercise and physical activity.

"The expanse of information at our fingertips is just mind boggling and phenomenal," Scott said.

The curriculum-based program will be centered around walking, said Scott, and focus on bringing the community together by encouraging families, friends and groups of people to work together as a means of support.

Scott says she hopes to work in partnership with entities like

the Floyd County Health Department, local hospitals, physicians, schools and churches throughout the community. A goal of the program is for these groups to become active, to meet, coach and support each other as they walk their way to better health.

The U.S. Surgeon General recommends 30 minutes of moderate physical activity five or more times a week, which can be accomplished easily through walking or everyday household chores such as vacuuming or waxing a car.

Most people become physically active only to lose weight, but Scott says this is a "huge misconception" because physical exercise such as walking provides extensive health benefits.

During an interview yesterday, Scott pointed out that regular physical activities can substantially reduce the risk of developing or dying from heart disease, diabetes, colon cancer and high blood pressure. Research has also linked regular physical activity to the prevention of breast cancer, stroke and osteoporosis.

According to a study through UK, Floyd County ranks in the fifth quintile — the highest compared to all Kentucky counties — in the number of deaths attributed to heart disease, cancer, chronic lower respiratory diseases, dia-

betes and cervical cancer.

Scott, whose mother, suffering from osteoarthritis, through knee replacement surgery and her husband, a diabetic, through heart bypass surgery, says she's learned a lot during the past two years about the importance of working to maintain a healthy lifestyle which includes physical activity.

She is currently organizing an initial planning meeting for "Get Moving Kentucky" through which she hopes to receive ideas from individuals in the community who wish to participate in the program. She expects to hold a countywide kickoff in March or April, when the weather is more permitting for participants. Scott says she will be looking to incorporate facilities that provide areas for walking within the community. Additionally, said Scott, a manual treadmill donated by a local resident will be available at the extension office for public use.

Those who participate in the eight-week program will be able to track their individual progress online and are invited to also take part in a recognition ceremony at the end of the session.

The program works alongside other programs in the Health Education Through Extension Leadership (HEEL) initiative,

such as "Heart and Soul," which focuses on cardiovascular disease, and "Wildcat Way to Wellness," focusing on ways of nourishing the body and soul.

Scott will be attending a two-day service learning session Jan. 29-30, to learn how to incorporate these and other programs throughout groups in the community.

Additionally, Scott said she will apply for a mini-grant, under the support of U.S. Sen. Mitch McConnell, to obtain additional funding for the program.

The Family and Consumer Sciences Division of the Cooperative Extension service works to provide programs in a variety of family issues such as parenting, food, nutrition, and home management.

Anyone interested in learning about this and other programs available from the Cooperative Extension office — most of which are free to the public — may contact Scott at (606) 886-2668, or online at <http://ces.ca.uky.edu/floyd/fcs/>.

Murder

anything until they contact us and we couldn't reach them today. He (Slone) was assaulted and it appeared to be blunt trauma to the head, so we've now upgraded from an assault investigation to a murder investigation at least for now, or maybe just an assault/murder investigation."

Although Watts said he was not present when Slone's body was discovered, Slone's sister, Mary Gibson, of Knott County, spoke to the press about her brother's death.

"It just looked like somebody had tortured him," she told the Associated Press.

Gibson said it appeared someone had bitten her brother several times on the hand, arm and face.

Allen Luttrell, commissioner for the state Department for Surface Mining, said Slone had worked for the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Cabinet for 21 years, including 14 1/2 years for the surface-mining agency.

Kentucky State Police officers at Post 13 in Hazard have not said if there are currently any suspects being seriously considered in connection to Slone's death and are asking anyone with information about the case to contact them at (606) 435-6069 or (800) 222-5555.

The Associated Press contributed to this story

Clinic

one of the few arrests resulting in drug charges was 22-year-old Jeremy L. Artrip.

Artrip, a resident of Louisa, was strapped with one misdemeanor charge of possession of drug paraphernalia following his arrest. Authorities have said there could be additional charges pending against him.

Wreck

incident, the cab received extensive damage, with the impact ripping the fiberglass casing and twisting it with the metal of the truck frame.

Hutchinson said that Downing, who was driving for Euro Trucking, was carrying an empty trailer and was in route from Lackey to Richmond, Ind.

According to Tim Johnson, assistant chief with Prestonsburg Fire Department, who was first on the scene, the driver was "awake and alert"

Mail thief to receive sentence next month

by MARY MUSIC
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — A Floyd County man charged with mail theft will be formally sentenced next month,

according to documents filed this week in Circuit court.

B.J. Woods, 23, Banner, indicted on two counts of mail theft in June for allegedly stealing two checks out of a mailbox belonging to a Tinker Fork resident, pleaded guilty to those charges following a pretrial conference in November.

Arresting officer KSP Trooper Chris Collins wrote in the arrest citation that Woods was walking on Tinker Fork on Dec. 15, 2001, when he took two checks out of Dorothy Schmidt's mailbox, one for \$200 and one for \$100.

According to the citation, Woods admitted to removing the checks from an envelope, sticking them in his pocket and

walking away.

Woods entered a guilty plea Dec. 12 in Floyd Circuit Court for both counts of mail theft following a pretrial conference in November with his attorney, Public Advocate Harolyn Howard and Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney Wayne Taylor.

Following the hearing, Woods agreed to accept a plea deal recommended by the commonwealth, according to an order filed on Nov. 18.

In return for a guilty plea to both of the charges, the prosecution offered Woods a sentencing recommendation of one year on each count of theft to run concurrently.

Woods will face formal sentencing Jan. 9.

Alcohol

that owns the Lackey Redmart, is challenging the citation that was filed against a store clerk this week.

"We've got video to back it up," she said. "If you'd seen it, you'd say that he was not a 16- or 18-year-old boy. That's why we've got the video to make sure that this doesn't happen."

According to a citation on file in Floyd District Court, Brandi R. Brentzei, clerk at Redi Mart in Lackey, allegedly sold a six-pack of beer to the 18-year-old, who was acting as an investigative aid with Agent Ghomer J. Prater of the ABC.

Prater, who denied Mullins' accusations, says the charges were filed after he observed Brentzei sell the beer to the boy during an "Operation Zero Tolerance" maneuver at the store Dec. 13.

"These people know how this works," he said. "We just don't go in there and write these people citations unless they are selling alcohol to minors."

According to Steve Payton, field supervisor with the ABC, the organization doesn't try to deceive the public.

"We always use young looking individuals," he said, "males with no facial hair, clean shaven, and they can't wear a baseball hat. We don't try to deceive the clerk in any way by making our investigative aids look older than they are."

Investigative aids range in age from 18 to 20, he said, are sons or daughters of police officers or are individuals interested in the law enforcement field.

Mullins says she's worked at RediMart since January and has never witnessed any clerk sell-

ing alcohol to any minor. It's store policy to check identification on every person under 30 who attempts to purchase alcoholic beverages, she said.

Prater, however, says he's had "complaints" on the store in the past.

Brentzei, who began her employment at the store two weeks ago, has been suspended, according to Mullins.

She is scheduled for arraignment Jan. 14 in District Court. According to Payton, she could face as much as a year in jail and a \$500 fine.

Redhed Oil Company has been cited administratively, Payton said, and is facing a hearing to determine their possible penalty.

Tom Asberry, regional manager for Redhed Oil Inc., refused to comment.

Odds

Imperiale is considering giving most of the money to West Virginia University, Marshall University, Concord College and Bluefield State College.

He said he would likely spend some — maybe on a vacation — with his brother, Frank, who plans to return to Bluewell from Ohio.

■ **CONWAY, N.H.** — A table for two and an order to go — to jail.

Two police officers were seated at a restaurant by their suspect, an alleged bank robber.

Police had been tipped that Michael Mahone, of Conway,

Prison

will see \$32 million in funding to continue operations, while four other agencies will finish out the rest of the funding.

Those agencies and their allotments will be:

■ \$8 million to Operation UNITE. Since February, \$16 million had been secured for this anti-drug program.

■ \$7 million to the Hal Rogers Prescription Drug Monitoring Program. This program, created in 2001, allows states that are either looking to create a monitoring program, or upgrade their current system, to apply for federal money to supplement state funding. Approximately \$16.5 million has been secured for this program in the past three years.

■ \$2.4 million to the Rural Law Enforcement Technology and Training Center in Hazard. Funding will be used, according to Cupp, for continuing operations and also to help purchase equipment for the center.

Ark., was working at a local restaurant. After police confirmed that a car Mahone was believed to have stolen was at the restaurant Friday, a detective and uniformed officer walked in and asked for a table.

Mahone, 26, was the perfect host, except that after seating the officers, he ran for the back door, police said.

Mahone was intercepted in the kitchen, and eight other officers and a police dog waited outside the door.

He was arrested on a fugitive warrant in the Nov. 19 robbery of the Gardiner Federal Credit Union in Maine.

BSCTC GED graduates

Friday, December 12, 2003 marked the Fall 2003 GED graduation of students from Big Sandy Community and Technical College. Graduation ceremonies were held in the Mayo Campus Auditorium. Graduates included:

Alison Cavins
Thealka, KY

Eileen Grim
Flat Gap, KY

Tina Jude
River, KY

Cora Sue McGinnis
Tomahawk, KY

Glen Newsome

McDowell, KY

Anthony S. Niece
Staffordsville, KY

Brenda Preston
Louisa, KY

Brittany Smith
Paintsville, KY

Chester Ronnie Spriggs
Meally, KY

Clinton Stalker
Salysersville, KY

Darla Stambaugh
Flat Gap, KY

Jerry Brad Ward
Williamsport, KY

In Memory of Robert and Irene Harris

God gave us the best parents anyone could have. Thank you, God, for the one's we had. They both belonged to a little church in Melvin, named Joppa.

Mom joined first, December 25, 1968. Then Dad joined later, August 3, 2003.

Our old homeplace in Melvin will never be the same without you both.

No other house could take its place. We love you both with all our hearts. You live inside us, though we part.

My mother was one of those quiet, gentle souls; We love her so much. Everyone must know.

It was December 20, 1994, when Mommy took her flight; She put out her hands, and stepped into the Light.

Daddy, Your smile was so pleasant, when you come into a room, Mommy must have known, you would be coming home soon. Daddy had a rainbow appear on his head,

two days before he died.

We knew then he had nothing to dread. God sent his angels after him September 26, 2003.

We were so sad, we didn't know what to do.

You no longer need that old wheelchair to get around, Oh, listen my children to that sound.

Mommy, what it must have been for you to see, Daddy, running and singing toward the light;

Oh, what a beautiful sight. They loved God, had faith so bright,

By the light they lived, they left alright. They are no longer with us, but we are not alone,

They live with us, in our hearts, and many songs. You are both together again, I know it is true

because the love you had for each other shined through. Imogene, Emogene, Bobby, June and Neil, are now not alone,

You are there with them, at your new home. I believe they saw the angels, as they took their new home.

So get ready children, go where they have gone. I hope you have seen all your family and friends,

because I know, life never ends. Their children and grandchildren have shed many tears,

Because we all miss their presence here. So look down from Heaven and you will see,

All your children remembering, how it use to be. You are still in our hearts. No one can take that away,

We hope to see you some sweet day. An angel among us, there is no doubt,

Watching from Heaven, and helping us out. Thank you, dear Lord, we had them to be,

Now we'll go on with our own memories.

Written by their broken hearted Children



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Viewpoint

Worth Repeating ...

"Hearts that are delicate and kind and tongues that are neither—these make the finest company company in the world."

— Logan Pearsall Smith

Amendment 1

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

Guest View

Editorial roundup

The Arizona Republic, Phoenix, on Saddam Hussein:

... If there is a guiding principle to be found when weighing the options regarding Saddam Hussein, it is this: He must be tried for his crimes by and before Iraqis.

While technical disagreements over the timing of Saddam's trial and the precise manner in which it is to be conducted must be worked out, the essential fact of a trial before Saddam's own citizens seems to be gaining widespread acceptance. As it should.

Saddam has much to answer for, obviously. And to lots of plaintiffs.

Saddam tried to assassinate the current president's father, George Herbert Walker Bush, while he was president. He provided training facilities for terrorists. For those and many other crimes, George W. Bush has a legitimate reason for seeking to try Saddam before an American tribunal. But, appropriately, the president says he is determined to defer this nation's judgment of Saddam to the Iraqis. ...

The resonating effect of Saddam's capture is spreading. Without a resolution of Saddam's fate, Iraq could not proceed beyond his shadow. It could not hold out hope of becoming a safe place. And with the Middle East's most destabilizing force still on the loose, that entire volatile region would remain in flux. His capture gives some semblance of peace there a chance. ...

Iraq remains a dangerous place, of course. But the capture of Saddam and the slow progress toward his legal disposition will help make it a safer, better place.

The Palm Beach Post, West Palm Beach, Fla., on flu vaccine problem:

This year's flu season promises to be especially severe, even if a new strain of the virus proves controllable. The insufficient number of vaccine doses — 83 million — coupled with revelations that the shot might not offer much protection make it harder for the health system to fight the common ailment that kills 36,000 Americans each year. ...

Florida has unique circumstances in dealing with the virus. The subtropical climate and late flu season — peaking in January and February — may give a false sense of security, especially when over-the-counter medications suggest that the flu is merely a "cold-plus." ...

The capricious nature of the virus makes it impossible for scientists to use more than an educated guess when designing the next season's formula. Without greater knowledge of the fickle flu bug, health officials will have a tougher time convincing the 185 million susceptible Americans of the vaccine's value.

As a result, demand will remain unpredictable. The federal government could pay manufacturers to ensure that they can handle unexpected demand. Also, the public health system should promote better hygiene and diet to strengthen natural immunity against conventional flu strains as well as immunizations to better protect against aberrations.



"Sorry. Toys I can do . . . flu shots, you're on your own."

Guest View

Environmentalist nonsense

by SCOTT MCPHERSON

The environmentalist movement has gone into overdrive over the newest trend in sport-utility vehicles (SUVs). The Hummer, from General Motors, Ford's Excursion, and now the Unimog from DaimlerChrysler are all driving our Green friends to distraction because they have attained a new low in "excessive" gas consumption.

Labeled "gas-guzzlers" and scathingly dishonored with the "Exxon Valdez Award for Environmental Destruction," large SUVs have become the most hated symbol of American affluence and of our alleged collective disregard for "delicate" Mother Earth. The crusade against SUVs has even taken on religious connotations with the "What Would Jesus Drive?" campaign. This is fitting, for a near-spiritual fervor certainly possesses the worshippers of the environmentalist movement.

So what exactly is the nature of the Greens' latest complaint?

It is that trucks such as the Hummer, Excursion and Unimog are being allowed to skirt the current Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) standards of 27.5 miles per gallon (mpg) that apply to other passenger vehicles, because they are so large that they are actually being regulated as light-duty trucks (LDTs). As a result, they must meet a lower standard of 20.7 mpg. Our friends in the Green squads want large SUVs to fall under the higher 27.5 mpg regulation.

It should be stated from the outset that, shallow as it is, our Green friends do make a valid point: Why should some automobile manufacturers get a pass on the fuel consumption rules that apply to everyone else? It isn't fair, they say, for car makers to be rewarded just because they've built something so big that it falls outside of normal vehicle regulatory guidelines.

Hear, hear. Of course, the Greens refuse to acknowledge the role that their own lobbying for CAFE standards had in creating a loophole large enough to drive a Hummer through.

And, truth be told, environmentalists aren't really that happy with the 27.5 mpg rule. If they had their way, it would actually be raised to somewhere in the neighborhood of 40 mpg, which would have us all driving cars the approximate size of a shoebox. Like their leftist allies

in the gun-control movement, however, they know better than to tip their hand too soon. Closing the LDT loophole and bringing SUVs under a tighter rein will suffice — for now.

But rather than expend energy complaining about the special treatment given to large SUVs, why do the Greens tolerate any CAFE standards at all?

Think of it: If it's bad to have a car or truck that uses more than one gallon of gasoline for every 27.5 miles driven, that can only be because driving is by definition bad. Burning gasoline is harmful to the environment — period — which is why environmentalists want you to do less of it.

Environmentalists, to be true to their cause, ought to have the courage to call it the way they see it. They want higher standards because, to them, every ounce of gas consumed over their arbitrarily set limit is an affront to every living species.

So they should oppose driving — period.

Well, they'll counter, we're not extremists! We just want sensible regulations that raise awareness and cut down on pollution.

Okay, but what's so special about the level — we'll go with the 27.5 mpg standard, for the sake of simplicity — that you yourselves have approved? Why not go ahead and push for a 40, 50, 60, or 100 mpg average for fuel consumption, effective right now?

Better yet, why not demand that no amount of pollution be allowed to emit from the tail pipe of any automobile?

According to the environmentalists' own rhetoric, the chief goal is to raise CAFE standards for all personal vehicles. This means that, for the Greens, the value that personal automobiles bring to human life is dependent on their using the lowest amount of fuel. That's why they have so perfected the high moral tone and knowing scowl that accompanies their most pejorative stamp: gas-guzzler.

If less fuel consumption is good, then no fuel consumption would be ideal. Why not ban driving altogether?

For a few on the radical fringe, the idea of banning cars is probably appealing, but more likely the Green movement opts for setting arbitrary economy standards because the thought of giving up driving is every bit as unrealistic for the rank-and-file environmentalist as it is for any proud owner of the Earth Destroyer 2000 with a built-in ozone-depletion system. It's far easier to drive a car that gets better gas mileage than your neighbor's — and sneer at him. This sure helps environmentalists to feel better about themselves, but it doesn't get us any closer to defining why we

bother with CAFE standards.

At the same time, the Greens wouldn't even think of placing these same regulations on commuter busses or tractor-trailer rigs. Why? Because these supposedly serve a "greater good," another subjective and indefinable standard. Buses carry "many" passengers, while big rigs transport food and other needed products. For them, then, a pass is allowed without protest.

Still, the same philosophical queries can apply. For example, how many people, exactly, does a bus have to carry to justify a (drastically) lower fuel economy, and more important, by what objective standard can we reach this conclusion?

If a bus is carrying only four or five people, that would make even the Hummer a model of fuel efficiency by comparison. Green types will say that buses supply a net benefit to the environment because they transport people who would otherwise drive, so that we have to compute the amount of fuel that would be consumed if each of those passengers were instead in a car.

The trouble is, people who take the bus are typically poor and can't afford a car — that's why they're riding the bus. Were it not for buses, then, they'd probably walk or ride a bike, consuming absolutely no gasoline whatsoever. Buses, it could be argued, might actually do more "harm" than "good."

Such examples of arbitrariness in environmental "standards" could be cited ad infinitum. They should be abolished immediately. We live in a country founded on the principle that government exists to protect individual rights — not set individual fuel consumption standards.

The proper role for government with respect to pollution is to provide the forum in which pollution concerns can be addressed, as they affect individual human beings, and to settle these disputes in a manner consistent with upholding the defined and definable rights of individual citizens. Of course, in an ideal world, there would be private ownership of roads, which, while still leaving externalities such as air pollution to be resolved, would make other matters currently subject to government regulation, such as seat belts and air bags, simply private matters between the owner and the consumer.

SUV hatred is not about fuel consumption — it's about hypocrisy, activism, envy and control, none of which offer a sound standard for establishing laws in a free society.

Scott McPherson is a policy advisor at The Future of Freedom Foundation. Send him email.

The Times

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

AT THE MOVIES:

'The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King'

by DAVID GERMAIN
AP MOVIE WRITER

With "The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King," Peter Jackson delivers a decent ending to his fantasy trilogy.

Unable to settle on a finale among the many farewells and epilogues in J.R.R. Tolkien's text, director Jackson decided to use them all.

The result is an endless parade of false endings that will give you a great lower back workout as you rise from your theater seat thinking things are finally over, then settle back in for the next prolonged addendum.

This is the main flaw to an otherwise rousing, action-packed closing chapter that began with 2001's "The Fellowship of the Ring" and continued with last year's "The Two Towers." The nine-hour theatrical epic (more like 11 hours, once the extended home-video version of all three flicks



"The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King," a New Line release, is rated PG-13 for intense epic battle sequences and frightening images. Running time: 200 minutes. Three stars out of four.

are out) winds up petering out in anticlimactic torpor.

Jackson does scale back greatly on the aftermath of the final good-against-evil battle, yet he preserves the main events to keep die-hard Tolkien fans happy.

So viewers are treated in some detail to such comparatively passive sequences as the survivors' return home; the

ascension of human warrior Aragorn (Viggo Mortensen) to the throne and his wedding to Elf hottie Arwen (Liv Tyler); the mystical fate of runty Hobbits Frodo (Elijah Wood) and Bilbo (Ian Holm), woolly wizard Gandalf (Ian McKellen) and Elf top dogs Galadriel (Cate Blanchett) and Elrond (Hugo Weaving); and the domestic bliss of Frodo's Man Friday,

Sam (Sean Astin).

That baggage makes "Return of the King" the longest of the trilogy by far, clocking in at 3 hours, 20 minutes.

There's far too much cool-down time for casual viewers but probably not enough to satisfy the hard-core Tolkien legions. So why not put Blanchett back in voice-over mode, let her narrate a Reader's Digest condensed montage of Jackson's interminable ending, and save the elongated conclusion for the extended home-video cut?

The movie opens with a flashback explaining how Smeagol (Andy Serkis) came to possess his "precious," the nasty ring of ultimate evil, and the first dark deeds that began transforming him into wizened computer-crafted fiend Gollum.

Then the action picks up where "Two Towers" left off, with Gollum plotting to regain his precious as Frodo and Sam trek toward Mount Doom, where they must destroy the ring to keep dark lord Sauron from enslaving Middle-earth.

Aragorn, Gandalf and the gang square off against Sauron's plug-ugly minions.

If you're looking for bigger and better battles than the first two chapters, "Return of the King" comes through. Jackson and his New Zealand crew, which filmed all three movies simultaneously, pile computer-generated props, sets and creatures as high as a Nazgul's eye to create the colossal combat scenes.

Bat-faced orcs ride gargantuan elephants into battle against humans on horseback. The adversaries engage in a very cool catapult duel that brings mountains of broken castle stone down on the warriors. Aragorn and pals Legolas the Elf (Orlando Bloom) and Gimli the Dwarf (John Rhys-Davies) charge into the fray at the head of a ghostly army.

Frodo's battle with a giant spider is one of the creepiest computer-animated sequences ever produced.

Like "Two Towers," "Return of the King" is more a bruising action movie than "Fellowship of the Ring," the best of the trilogy on the strength of the intimate interplay among its misfit heroes.

Hobbits Merry (Dominic Monaghan) and Pippin (Billy

(See RINGS, page six)

Time morphing sets 'Cold Case' apart from other crime shows

by BRIDGET BYRNE
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BURBANK, Calif. — Crew members retouch dirty patches of fake snow and wet down the pavement on a grimy urban back street.

A crane-mounted camera swings high above the scene as three people wrapped in winter clothing move slowly between tenement buildings, glancing side to side, up and down, their eyes searching.

The camera swings down for a shot of detectives Lilly Rush, Tom Stillman and Scotty Valens of the CBS series "Cold Case" (8 p.m. Sundays) as they check out the location of a crime committed many years ago.

Cut. Then the scene is repeated with exactly the same camera moves, but with a younger actor playing Stillman circa 1980. The match is excellent — the same slender build and body language, but with a touch more hair.

"I think they flattered me," series star John Finn says about the choice of guest actor Anthony John Crane to play a younger Stillman.

Crane praises Finn for teaching him the nuances of the part. "There is something very still about him, something that's not fully expressed. Yet he has a quiet kind of strength and sensitivity," Crane says of his character.

The realistic time-morphing seen on "Cold Case" has set it apart from the other crime investigation dramas currently cluttering the networks.

Each week, images of then

and now reveal not just the whys of a murder, but also the crime's impact on the survivors. The call sheet for this day's filming lists various roles that are dual cast for this purpose.

It's the first network series for casting directors Barbara Fiorentino and Rebecca Mangieri, and, says Mangieri, their first experience "having to age up and down in such a short amount of time every week."

There were 30 to 40 submissions for the role of the younger Stillman, with about 25 actors auditioning before a choice was made. The trick? To pick the physical feature that is the most important to match, then count on costuming and makeup to help viewers take it from there.

This episode focuses on a crime that Stillman was unable to solve in 1980, hence the need for Crane. It's a story line, Finn says, that "allows all the characters to look at each other in different ways, sometimes light-heartedly, other times with more gravity."

Today's filming on the Warner Bros. lot showcases many of the elements that have made this drama click with audiences: the dual casting, the feature film production values, and a keen attention to period detail, including the shooting of flashbacks using the film stock and style of the era. All that's missing on this set is period music, which will be added later.

Executive producer Jonathan Littman says a lot of money is spent to secure the rights for songs that establish the right tone for the times. "But we're getting the response we want.

It's like a great oldies station."

Cast members also point to human emotion as a reason for the success of "Cold Case."

"It's about people, not necessarily about physical evidence ... why people hold in things that they've done in the past for so long, and why they ultimately give them up," says Danny Pino, who plays rookie detective Valens. "It's interesting to watch why people confess, or not."

Kathryn Morris, who plays lead investigator Rush, says the show is not so much a whodunit as a why-they-did-it.

The show "hits an emotional chord, rather than an overly intellectual chord," she explains, picking her words with care as she unwinds in her trailer at the end of a long day.

"It still has the intrigue ... and the mystery-solving," she says. "However, the 'why' someone murders another is much more complicated, and provides an emotional through-line, because a murder touches so many people's lives, and time doesn't truly heal. It just changes perspective."

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Cinema Two • PG-13 STUCK ON YOU Mon.-Sun. 6:50-9:10; Fri. (4:10), 6:50, 9:10; Sat.-Sun. (1:50-4:10), 6:50-9:10	Cinema Seven • PG-13 OPENS FRIDAY, 12/19 MONA LISA'S SMILE Mon.-Sun. 6:50-9:10; Fri. (4:10), 6:50, 9:10; Sat.-Sun. (1:50-4:10), 6:50-9:10
Cinema Three • R BAD SANTA Mon.-Sun. 7:15-9:25; Fri. (4:25), 7:15-9:25; Sat.-Sun. (2:15-4:25), 7:15-9:25	Cinema Eight • PG-13 WED. OPENING 12/17 LORD OF THE RINGS Mon.-Sun. 7:45 only; Fri.-Sat.-Sun. (4:00), 7:45
Cinema Four • R LAST SAMURI Mon.-Sun. 7:45 only; Fri. (4:20), 7:45; Sat.-Sun. (1:30-4:30), 7:45	Cinema Nine • PG-13 SOMETHING'S GOTTA GIVE Mon.-Sun. 6:50-9:10; Fri. (4:10), 6:50, 9:10; Sat.-Sun. (1:50-4:10), 6:50, 9:10
Cinema Five • PG-13 LOVE DON'T COST A THING Mon.-Sun. 7:05-9:20; Fri. (4:20); Sat.-Sun. (2:05-4:20), 7:05-9:20	Cinema Ten CAT IN THE HAT PG-13 Mon.-Sun. 7:00; Fri.-Sat.-Sun. (4:15), 7:00 HONEY R.-Mon.-Sun. (9:15); Sat.-Sun. (2:00), 9:15

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 2001 Ford Explorer: XLT, 4x4, Auto., Loaded, CD, Tilt, Cruise, Alum. Wheels, 47,000 miles Was \$16,995 Now \$14,388	 2000 Pontiac Grand Am: Auto., 4-Door, Tilt, Cruise, Alum. Wheels, Low Miles Was \$6,995 Now \$5,877	 1999 Olds Intrigue: Auto., V6, Power Windows & Locks, CD, Tilt, Cruise, Alloy Wheels, Keyless Entry, 57,000 miles. Was \$8,995 Now \$6,995 or 48 mths. @ \$179.00 & you're still under \$200 per mth.	 2001 Chevy Impala: 4-door, Auto., Power Wind., & Locks, CD, Tilt, Cruise, Keyless Entry, One-Star Was \$7,799 Now \$6,955	 2002 Chevy Silverado: X-Cab, 271 p.c., Auto., CD, Tilt Cruise, Power Windows & Locks, Factory Warranty Was \$24,995 Now \$23,299
 1998 Dodge Avenger: Auto., Leather, Moonroof, CD, Tilt, Cruise, Alloy Wheels, Loaded, ES pkg. Was \$6,999 Now \$4,955	 1999 Mercury Cougar Auto., V6, Power Windows, Locks & Seats, CD, Tilt, Cruise Was \$8,999 Now \$6,995 or \$169.00 mth.	Christmas Special:		

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For the Record

Marriage

Licenses

Chasity Nicole Sizemore, 19, to Jimmy Dewayne Branham, 25, both of Prestonsburg.
 Alison Rae Layne, 21, of Prestonsburg, to Boonie Fletcher Jr., 31, of Inez.
 Linda Slone, 51, to Estill Thornberry Jr., both of Hippo.
 Sonya Nicole Shepherd, 22, of Langley, to Carl Brent Huff, 32, of Bevinville.
 Tammy Lynn Moore, 45, of Lackey, to Benjamin Franklin Crum, 43, of Debord.
 Angela Dawn Howell, 20, to Wesley Ryan Allen, 20, both of Prestonsburg.
 Deborah Darlene Meade, 21, to Jason Ross Slone, 23, both of Hippo.
 Carolyn Samantha Black, 38, to James Gregory Allen, 38, both of Banner.
 Brandy Dawn Mitchell, 18, Hi Hat, to Jeremy Edmond Lucas, 20, of Ligon.

Civil Suits Filed

Kimberly A. Parsley vs. Timothy E. Parsley, divorce.
 The interests of Baby Boy George vs. Anthony Stephens and Yvette Stephens; petition for temporary custody.
 Discover Bank vs. Jeffrey Hall; complaint.
 Jesse Green vs. Food City of Prestonsburg, doing business as K-VAT-T Food Stores; complaint.
 Kentucky Farm Bureau

Mutual vs. Harold D. Salisbury; complaint.
 Charles Collins vs. Heather Barnette; petition for child support and health care insurance.
 Marcella Kidd vs. Robert Mendes; petition for child support and health care insurance.
 Deidra Wagner vs. Morris Wagner; divorce.
 Shirley Newsome vs. Delores Bentley; complaint.
 Donald Branham vs. Dorothy Branham; complaint.
 Discover Bank vs. Ellen M. Akers; complaint.
 Teresa Fitzpatrick vs. Kelly E. Hunt; complaint.
 Kimberly Rowe vs. Carolyn Tackett; complaint.
 Sherry Jacobs vs. Kermit Murphy; petition for child support and health care insurance.
 Dusty James vs. Brett James; petition for health care insurance.
 Sherry Maxwell vs. Andrew Maxwell; petition for health care insurance.
 April Adkins vs. Alex Adkins; petition for health care insurance.
 Community Trust Bank vs. Everett Johnson; complaint.
 Pennie Dye vs. Cecil Thomas; complaint.
 Sherry Jacobs vs. Mary Murphy; petition for child support and health care insurance.
 Candy Little vs. Earnest Little; divorce.
 Kimberly Baxter vs. Elizabeth William; complaint.
 Brain Paige vs. Kayla Mosley; joint petition for annul-

ment.
 Capital One Bank vs. Geneva Gregory; complaint.
 Asset Acceptance vs. Timothy Stephens; complaint.
 Audrey D. Cox Mullins vs. James M. Mullins; divorce.
 Connie Stanley vs. Teddy Wayne Stanley; divorce.
 Sabrina Gail Hall vs. Roger Dean Hall; divorce.

Small Claims

Filings
 Triple M Credit vs. Dewey Rogers; debt collection.
 Marietta Bradley vs. McDonald's; collection for damages.
 Anita Collins vs. Ricky Hamilton; collection for damages.
 Linda's Carousel Day Care vs. Dawn Burke McCoy; debt collection.

Charges Filed

Barry E. Hunt, 38, Prestonsburg, driving under the influence on suspended license, operating a motor vehicle under the influence, failure to wear seatbelt, possession of open alcoholic beverage container in motor vehicle, no registration, no insurance, no plates.
 Danny McKenzie, 51, Prestonsburg, theft by unlawful taking.
 Donetta McKenzie, 29, East Point, theft by unlawful taking.
 Lisa D. Tackett, 24, Martin, theft by unlawful taking.
 Dalton K. Sammons, 22, Hippo, second-degree burglary, fourth-degree assault.
 Sabrina J. Bates, 26, Blue River, theft by failure to make required disposition of property.
 Jennifer Conn, age unlisted, Pikeville, theft by deception.
 Trenton M. Ward, 30, Martin, second-degree possession of a controlled substance, prescription in improper container, use or possession of drug paraphernalia, carrying a concealed weapon.
 Ricky A. Thomas, 26, Prestonsburg, alcohol intoxication, possession of marijuana, use or possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of an open alcoholic beverage container in motor vehicle.
 Kevin Howard, 33, Salyersville, alcohol intoxication.
 Andrew Parsons, 18, Mousie, theft by unlawful taking.
 Larry Turner, 52, Garrett, alcohol intoxication.
 Shawn Crum, 34, Martin, alcohol intoxication.
 David J. Cole, 25, Salyersville, alcohol intoxication.
 Kenneth Scott Kidd, 23, Prestonsburg, second-degree wanton endangerment.
 Danny Martin, 49, Drift, theft by deception.
 Cindy M. Rodriguez-Risner, 28, Martin, endangering the welfare of a minor.
 Stanley P. Ward, 44, Martin, criminal trespassing.
 Sandy Nickles, 47, East Point, harassment.
 Loretta Risner, 34, Martin, theft of services.
 Terry Moore, 43, Martin, theft of services.
 Cindy M. Rodriguez-Risner, 28, Martin, use or possession of drug paraphernalia.
 Johnny Ray Collins, 46,

Honaker, alcohol intoxication, disorderly conduct.
 Donald E. Leckrone, 44, Prestonsburg, alcohol intoxication.
 Anita Synder, 58, Garrett, fourth-degree assault.
 Sherman R. Poston, 45, Greenford, Ohio, alcohol intoxication, disorderly conduct, criminal trespassing.
 Glen R. Muncy, 48, Auxier, alcohol intoxication.
 Jerry Woods, 38, Harold, fourth-degree assault.
 Jeff K. Caudill, 44, Prestonsburg, criminal mischief.
 Brandi R. Brentzel, 35, Leburn, selling alcoholic beverage to a minor.
 Michael Case, 43, Banner, theft by deception.
 Sharon Kendrick, 25, Prestonsburg, harassing communications.
 Matthew Samons, 20, Martin, terroristic threatening.
 Elmer Blankenship, 41, Prestonsburg, theft by unlawful taking.

Inspections

Wells Mobile Home Park, regular inspection. Violations noted: Lots not numbered properly, some outbuildings do not meet proper placement standards. Score: 96.
 J&W Trailer Park, Allen, regular inspection. No violations noted. Score: 100.
 S&J Market, Beaver, regular inspection. Violations noted: Thermometers not present in all refrigeration and freezer units, food item stored on floor, proper hair restraints not in use, no soap in restroom. Score: Restaurant, 96; Store, 96.
 Hall's Market, Bypro, regular inspection. Violations noted: Thermometers not present in all freezer and refrigeration units, several food contact surfaces in bad repair, ceilings in disrepair, floors in bad repair, lighting not sufficient in walk-in cooler, several food items stored on floor. Score: 92.
 Hi-Lite Pizza, Minnie, regular inspection. Violations noted: Food item stored on floor in food preparation area, employee restroom has no self-closing door, light in food preparation area not properly shielded, proper hair restraints not in use. Score: 94.
 Tackett's Grocery, regular inspection. Violations noted: Display refrigeration unit has no easily seen thermometer, dog food stored on the floor, pizza boxes stored on the floor, walls in food preparation area in slight disrepair. Score: Restaurant, 98; Store, 97.
 Wal-Mart, Prestonsburg, regular inspection. Violations noted: Tray of cookies needs to be covered while cooling, counter tops in some disrepair, microwave found with food residue on ceiling, standing water on floor in back storage under distilled water, distilled water stored under and around bleach containers. Score: Restaurant, 94; Store, 94.
 Rite-Aid, Prestonsburg, regular inspection. Violations noted: Items stored improperly above food product. Score: Restaurant, 100; Store, 95.
 Quick Mart, Wayland, regular inspection. Violations noted: Unable to locate all thermometers in ice-cream freezer, some

products of food stored on floor, hair restraints not in use, ice-scoop should be in bucket or some type of holding container, microwave found with food residue, floors of walk-in found with spilled syrup, soap and towels missing from hand wash sink in food preparation area. Score: Restaurant, 90; Store, 90.

Property

Transfers
 Mack Little and Lila Little to Clinton Little and Eva Little, property located on Hen Pen Creek of Left Beaver Creek.
 Robert W. Roberts, Delilah

Meade to Carlos Devon Akers and Vanessa Akers, property located, Mare Creek.
 U.S. Bank, NA formerly known as Star Bank, NA to Dalton Howard, property located, Prater Fork, Hueysville.
 Anna Ray Turner and William A. Turner to Ruth Ann Hamilton, property located, Stillhouse Branch.
 Hayes Hall to Kim L. Hall, property location not listed.
 Brenda K. Goble to Edde Picklesimer and John Picklesimer, property location not listed.
 Earl Ray Slone et al. to Ann Hall, property location not listed.

Obituaries

Alta Woods Fields

Alta Woods Fields, 83, of Allen, died Tuesday, December 16, 2003, at the Riverview Manor in Prestonsburg.
 Born April 20, 1920, in Allen, she was the daughter of the late Joe and Mollie Smith Woods. She was a homemaker, and a member of the Allen First Baptist Church.
 She was preceded in death by her husband, Gordon Fields.
 Survivors include one daughter and son-in-law, Vickie and Clinton Ratliff of Allen; one brother, Jimmy Woods of Allen; and two grandchildren, Valerie and Kimberly.
 In addition to her parents, and husband, she was preceded in death by one brother, Carl Woods.
 Funeral services will be conducted Saturday, December 20, at 11 a.m., at the Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, in Martin, with Rev. Earl Waugh and Rev. Arnold Turner Jr., officiating.
 Burial will be in the Davidson Memorial Gardens, at Ivel, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.
 Visitation is at the funeral home. (Paid obituary)

Lottie P. Hall

Lottie P. Hall, 92, of Somerset, formerly of Allen, died Monday, December 15, 2003, at her residence.
 Born December 15, 1910, in Hueysville, she was the daughter of the late Morgan Patton and Susan Huff Patton. She was a homemaker, and attended the Southern Heights Christian Church of Somerset. Her hobbies were antiques and flowers.
 She married Ben Hall on April 15, 1929, in Prestonsburg.
 Survivors include one daughter, Charlene and (Owen) Park of Carmel, Indiana; two grandchildren, Margaret and (Phil) Gettum of Carmel, Indiana, and Dr. Ben H. and (Terr) Park of Zionsville, Indiana; and four great-grandchildren.
 She was preceded in death by one great-grandchild.
 Funeral services will be conducted Saturday, December 20, at 11 a.m., at the Chapel of Lake Cumberland Funeral Home, Somerset, with Rev. Joel Patton officiating.
 Burial will be in the Lakeside Memorial Gardens, at Somerset, under the direction of Lake Cumberland Funeral Home.
 Visitation is at the funeral home. (Paid obituary)

Sylvan Johnson

Sylvan Johnson, 83, of Melvin, died Tuesday, December 16, 2003, at the McDowell Appalachian Regional Hospital.
 Born February 17, 1920, in Floyd County, he was the son of the late Isador and Melissa Newsome Johnson. He was a retired coal miner, a member of the U.M.W.A., a U.S. Army and WWII veteran, and a member of the Joppa Old Regular Baptist Church at Melvin.
 He is survived by his wife, Reona Hall Johnson, of Melvin.
 Other survivors include one son, Rodney Johnson of Asheboro, North Carolina; three daughters: Carolyn Willett of Asheboro, North Carolina; Judy Tackitt of Huntington, Indiana; and Lynn Hall of Corbin; three brothers: L.A. Johnson of Melvin; and Virgil Johnson and James Napier, both of Somerset; three sisters: Stella Griffith of Allen; Beulah Johnson of Rockcastle; and Versie Mansfield of Cold Grove, Ohio; eight grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren.
 In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by one brother, Ira Johnson; and two sisters: Golda Hall and Thelma Wells.
 Funeral services will be conducted Friday, December 19, at 11 a.m., at the Joppa Old Regular Baptist Church, in Melvin, with Old Regular Baptist ministers officiating.
 Burial will be in the Davidson Memorial Gardens, at Ivel, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, Martin.
 Visitation is at the church. (Paid obituary)

Osie (Shepherd) Foley

Osie (Shepherd) Foley, age 71, of Prestonsburg, passed away, Wednesday, December 17, 2003, at Highlands Regional Medical Center in Prestonsburg, following a brief illness.
 She was born May 29, 1932, at Magoffin County, the daughter of the late Bee and Mary (Patton) Shepherd.
 She was preceded in death by her husband, Lemuel Foley.
 She is survived by two sons: James Foley of Prestonsburg, and Randall Foley of Winder, Georgia; five daughters: Wilma Foley, Brenda Harris and Glenda Foley, all of Prestonsburg, Mary Picklesimer of Winder, Georgia, and Judy Blair of Atlanta, Georgia; three brothers: Green Shepherd of Morehead, Elmer Shepherd of Blue River, and Bee Shepherd Jr., of Greenwich, Ohio; three sisters: Susie Shepherd of Ocala, Florida, Joyce Bradford of Morehead, and Leatha Shepherd of Salyersville; and two grandchildren.
 In addition to her husband, and parents, she was preceded in death by one sister, Opal Shepherd.
 Funeral services will be held Saturday, December 20, at 11 a.m., at the Burke Funeral Home Chapel, in Prestonsburg, with Roger Rowe officiating.
 Burial will follow in the Shepherd Family Cemetery, at Brushy Fork, in Magoffin County, under the direction of Burke Funeral Home.
 Visitation is at the funeral home. (Paid obituary)

Marlow's Country Christmas

Please donate
Food, Toys, Clothing, and Time

Marlow invites you to discover
the holiday spirit!







Sunday, December 21
12 noon at
Marlow's Country Palace

The largest giveaway
in Eastern Kentucky.

This message, courtesy of The Floyd County Times.

The MOVIES! at the Plaza

PAINTSVILLE, KENTUCKY
606-789-4500 • 606-789-6352
Week beginning Friday, Dec. 17, 2003

 <p style="font-size: x-small;">985003</p>	<p>Effective Wednesday Wed.-Fri., 8:00; Sat.-Sun., 4:00, 8:00 Rated PG-13</p>
 <p style="font-size: x-small;">985003</p>	<p>Effective Wednesday Wed.-Fri., 7:15, 9:15; Sat.-Sun., 3:15, 5:15, 7:15, 9:15 Rated PG</p>
 <p style="font-size: x-small;">985003</p>	<p>Effective Wednesday Wed.-Fri., 7:30, 9:30; Sat.-Sun., 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:30 Rated PG-13</p>
 <p style="font-size: x-small;">985003</p>	<p>Effective Wednesday Wed.-Fri., 6:50, 9:30; Sat.-Sun., 4:30, 6:50, 9:30 Rated PG-13</p>
 <p style="font-size: x-small;">985003</p>	<p>Effective Wednesday Wed. & Thurs. 7:00, 9:00 Rated R</p>
 <p style="font-size: x-small;">985003</p>	<p>Starts Friday, 12/19 Fri., 6:30, 9:00; Sat.-Sun., 3:45, 6:30, 9:00 Rated PG-13</p>

789-4500

Rings

Boyd) again play larger roles, but much of the original fellowship members are relegated to prancing in larger-than-life mode. Secondary characters step up to provide the final film's most intriguing interpersonal drama.
 Faramir (David Wenham), brother of the slain Boromir (Sean Bean), vainly struggles to gain the respect of his contemptible father, Denethor (John Noble). (If you have the chance, first watch the extended version of "The Two Towers," which includes an engaging flashback that adds texture to Faramir and Boromir's relationship with dear old dad).
 While Tyler's Arwen and Blannett's Galadriel again are

mere window-dressing, Miranda Otto's Eowyn soars to provide the most forceful female presence in the entire trilogy and arguably the strongest single moment in "Return of the King."
 Christopher Lee's evil wizard Saruman unfortunately is absent, though no doubt he'll be back in the extended home-video version. Though the trilogy's done, Tolkien fans still can look forward to that precious longer cut next fall.
 "The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King," a New Line release, is rated PG-13 for intense epic battle sequences and frightening images. Running time: 200 minutes. Three stars out of four.

Continued from p5

Community Calendar

Calendar items will be printed as space permits

Editor's note: To announce your community event, you may hand-deliver your item to The Floyd County Times office, located at 263 S. Central Avenue, Prestonsburg; or mail to: The Floyd County Times, P.O. Box 390, Prestonsburg, KY 41653; or fax to 606-886-3603; or email to: features@floydcounty-times.com. Information will not be taken over the telephone. All items will be placed on a first-come, first-serve basis as space permits.

NIGHTWATCH SERVICES

Freedom Bible Church will be having nightwatch services, December 31, starting at 8 p.m. Refreshments will be served. Everyone welcome.

SPECIAL SERVICE

Special services at Freedom Bible Church on Lower Johns Creek, December 21, featuring Frankie Bryant for 11 a.m., morning worship. Everyone welcome.

MIDDLE CREEK VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PROJECT

On December 17, and 19, at 7 p.m.-9 p.m., at the Middle Creek Volunteer Fire Department, there will be free used clothing, household items and toys. Everyone is welcome, so come out and be a part of it. The members of the Middle Creek Volunteer Fire Department wishes everyone a very Merry Christmas.

CHURCH CLOTHING GIVE-AWAY

The Town Branch Church will give away good used clothing (mostly adult sizes), on Friday's, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. All are welcome to participate.

4-H TEEN COUNCIL MEETING

Interested in meeting new friends? Trying new things? Teaching others? Being a role model for younger people? Then join the 4-H Teen Council this year! Anyone age 13-18 is invited to join. For more information, contact Chuck Stamper, 4-H agent, at 886-2668, or email to: cstamper@uky.edu.

HRMC COMMUNITY CALENDAR

■ Dec. 18 - Laryngectomy Support Group, Floyd Room, 5-7 p.m.
■ Dec. 19 - AARP Floyd County, Meeting Place B, 6-7 p.m.

FREE BODY RECALL CLASSES

Free Body Recall Exercise Classes will be held Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, at 9:30, at the Presbyterian

Church in Prestonsburg. Classes are held Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday, at 11 a.m. at the old R & S Building. Classes are offered by the Floyd County Health Department. Call the health department, 886-2788, for more information.

'EARN WHILE YOU LEARN'

The Big Sandy Area C.A.P. office is taking applications for its "Senior Training Program." You must be 55 or older to apply. In Floyd, call 886-2929; Johnson, call 789-6515; Magoffin, call 349-2217; Pike, call 432-2775; and in Lawrence, call 638-4067.

'LOOKING FOR A SUPPORT GROUP?'

■ Alzheimer's Association Care-giver Support Group - Meets on the second Tuesday of each month at the First Presbyterian Church (near Jerry's Restaurant), at 7 p.m. For more info., call Dana Caudill at 886-0265.

■ Alzheimer's Association, Eastern KY Regional Office - 24-hour Helpline, call 1-800-272-3900 for emotional support, local resources, and other information.

■ Fibromyalgia Support Group - Meets first Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m., at the Betsy Layne Senior Citizens Building, on the Pike-Floyd Hollow Road (just above the Betsy Layne Fire Dept.). For more info., call Sharon at 478-5224, or Phyllis at 874-2769.

■ MS Support Group - Meets third Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Seton Complex, Martin. Offers group support for MS patients and their caregivers.

■ Overeater's Anonymous (O.A.) - Meets each Monday, at 3:30 p.m., at the St. Martha Catholic Church, Water Gap Road. For more info., call 886-2513.

■ Domestic Violence Hotline - 24-hour Crisis Line manned by Certified Domestic Violence counselors. Call 886-6025, or 1-800-649-6605. Remember, "Love Doesn't Have to Hurt."

■ Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children - Free, confidential assistance for unplanned pregnancy concerns. Talk with someone who cares about you and your baby. Call 1-800-928-5242.

•Disabled? - You may be eligible for grant money to assist in your daily living. For an application or more information, call 886-4326.

■ A.S.K. (Adoption Support for Kentucky) - Support group for all adoptive parents (public, private, international, and kinship care), foster parents and all others interested in adoption. To meet the 2nd Thursday of each month, at Pizza Hut, in Prestonsburg. For more information, contact Nelva Skaggs, adoptive parent liaison, at Blueboy@foothills.net.

■ East Kentucky S.T.A.R.S. Homeschoolers - Will hold monthly meetings at the Paintsville Recreation Center. For more information, call Trudy at 889-9333, or 297-5147. Everyone welcome.

■ Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Each Wednesday, from 7-8 p.m., in the Atrium Conference Room, 2nd floor, May Tower, Pikeville Methodist Hospital. For more info., contact Chris Cook at 606-433-1119 or christopher-cook@hotmail.com.

AEP donation supports math, science education in KCTCS colleges

LEXINGTON - American Electric Power (AEP) is donating \$150,000 to the Kentucky Community and Technical College System (KCTCS) and three of its colleges to support math and science education in Eastern Kentucky.

The financial commitment, spread over three years, will establish the AEP Endowment for Math & Science Excellence. The donation will benefit middle school and high school students in the areas served by Ashland Community and Technical College, Big Sandy Community and Technical College, and Hazard Community and Technical College.

"This investment in the lives of students in the AEP service region will help to increase math and science literacy, aid in the achievement of math and science goals at the national and state levels, enhance the success of students entering postsecondary education, and prepare

the workforce to support economic development," said Michael B. McCall, KCTCS president.

The KCTCS Foundation Inc. received the AEP gift as part of the KCTCS Fulfilling the Promise Campaign, a multimillion-dollar private fund-raising effort. The major-gifts campaign will expand access to postsecondary education and workforce training across the Commonwealth by funding strategically targeted initiatives that address community and economic development needs.

The AEP Endowment for Math & Science Excellence will be created in the KCTCS Foundation as a permanently restricted endowment fund. Income from the endowment will be distributed equally among the three Eastern Kentucky colleges to support math and science initiatives that focus on middle and high school

(See AEP, page eight)

Dear Concerned Citizens:

Left Beaver Rescue Squad's Ambulance Service has served the Right Beaver Area of Floyd County, specifically the communities of Wayland, Estill, Garrett, Hueysville, Eastern, Maytown, and Martin, since it began operations in 1978. It is our hope and desire to continue to provide this life-saving service to this area.

Unfortunately, the owners of Respond and TranStar Ambulance Services are trying to stop Left Beaver Rescue Squad from providing ambulance service to the people of Right Beaver. The owners of these services were successful in 1998 in blocking Left Beaver Rescue Squad's Ambulance Service from receiving (911 Calls) in the Right Beaver Area, leaving the citizens of this area only one option to contact Left Beaver Rescue Squad, and that is for them to call the Squad's emergency phone number directly. For several years they have tried to get Mr. John Gray, the director of the State's Certificate of Need Office in Frankfort, to say that Left Beaver Rescue Squad's Ambulance Service is not licensed to cover the Right Beaver Area of Floyd County. To the contrary, in a letter dated: July 7, 1999, John Gray clearly stated that Left Beaver Rescue Squad's Ambulance Service is licensed to cover the Right Beaver Area of Floyd County. Nevertheless, the owners of Respond and TranStar Ambulance Services have continued to try and persuade Mr. Gray to hold a public hearing providing Respond & TranStar Ambulance Services further avenues to **STOP!** Left Beaver Rescue Squad from providing ambulance service to the people living in the Right Beaver Area. Since 1999, Mr. Gray has received several letters from Respond and TranStar's lawyer. Through their persistence, Mr. Gray has granted them a public hearing, scheduled on Friday, January 09, 2004, at 9:00 a.m., in the Auditorium, Health Services Building, 1st floor, 275 East Main Street, Frankfort, Kentucky.

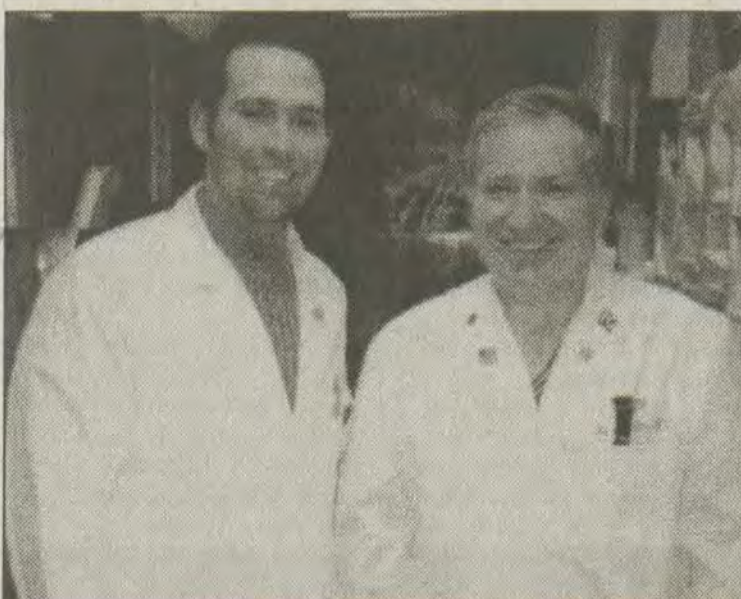
Therefore, I am asking all concerned citizens to support Left Beaver Rescue Squad in this matter. The public can assist us by writing letters of support, addressed to: Mr. John Gray, Director, Certificate of Need Office, Frankfort, KY. These letters need to indicate that Left Beaver Rescue Squad's Ambulance Service has served the Right Beaver Area for a specific period of years that you can attest to; any services that have been provided specifically to you and/or your family by Left Beaver Rescue Squad, and any comments about same, and most importantly what you feel the effects on you and the communities in question would be, if the State's Certificate of Need Office prevented Left Beaver Rescue Squad from providing ambulance services to the people of Right Beaver. These letters must include your name and address. Further, these letters must be returned to: Left Beaver Rescue Squad, P.O. Box 396, McDowell, Kentucky 41647, Attention: Daniel P. Gullett, by: December 30, 2003. It would also be most helpful for anyone able, to testify at the hearing on Left Beaver Rescue Squad's behalf. Anyone wanting to testify, please contact: Daniel Gullett at 377-6643 or 377-6773, by December 30, 2003. Transportation will be provided to Frankfort, KY, if needed.

I cannot stress the importance enough, for the people living in the Right Beaver Area of Floyd County to stand up and be heard on this matter. The future of emergency medical services in your communities is in your hands! Your silence may lead to Left Beaver Rescue Squad's Ambulance Service being unable to answer your **CRY FOR HELP!!!**

Sincerely,

**Daniel P. Gullett, EMS Director
Left Beaver Rescue Squad,
P.O. Box 396, McDowell, Kentucky 41647
Phone: 377-6773 or 377-6643**

UK med student returns to Floyd County for externship in Potter Clinic



Ryan Owens, left, a graduate of Allen Central High School, is currently enrolled as a first year medical student in the University of Kentucky's School of Medicine. Recently, Owens spent a week studying the practice of medicine under Dr. Ira Potter, right, of the Potter Medical Clinic, in Langley.

Joseph Ryan Owens, a first year medical student enrolled in the University of Kentucky's School of Medicine, recently spent a week with Dr. Ira Potter, of the Potter Medical Clinic, as a part of the school's primary care externship program for first year med students. During the week spent in Dr. Potter's clinic, Owens was able to observe first hand the day to day reality of working in the medical profession. Owens is the son of Joseph and Teresa Owens, of Garrett. He is the grandson of Margaret Conley, also of Garrett, and the late Virgil Conley, and Molly Owens, of Langley, and the late Ralph Owens. He has one sister, Tiffany. Ryan is a 1999 graduate of Allen Central High School and a 2003 graduate of the University of Kentucky.

'No Pass, No Drive' law declared unconstitutional

by CHARLES WOLFE
ASSOCIATED PRESS

FRANKFORT — A "no pass, no drive" law designed to use driving privileges to spur teens to stay in school and make passing grades was declared unconstitutional Thursday by the Kentucky Supreme Court.

In a 4-3 ruling, the court noted the law applied only to 16- and 17-year-olds in school districts with alternative education programs for students unable to succeed in a regular classroom. In other districts, students who dropped out or were academically deficient did not lose their licenses.

Thus, no-pass, no-drive "violates the basic and fundamental right to equal protection under the law," the court's majority said in an opinion by

Justice Martin Johnstone of Louisville.

In a dissenting opinion, Justice William Cooper noted that Kentucky law requires all of the state's 176 school districts to provide an alternative program — either an alternative school of their own or by contract with a neighboring district.

"The fact that some districts have not complied with the requirement ... does not amount to unlawful discrimination against students in complying districts," Cooper wrote.

The class-action case arose in Calloway County, where a female student whom the court identified only as M.F. lost her driver's license because of poor grades. She had a learning disability, and the district had an alternative program,

but M.F. was enrolled in the regular program at Calloway County High School.

M.F. sued in the circuit court, which declared that the law violated the 14th Amendment guarantee of equal protection. The Court of Appeals reversed. In reinstating the circuit court's ruling, the Supreme Court said there was "no rational basis" for making a legal distinction between students on the basis of geography — those in districts with alternative schools vs. those in districts without.

"There is nothing to indicate that an alternative education program adds anything to the existing statutory requirements that obligate local school districts to meet the unique learning needs of students with learning and other disabilities," Johnstone's opinion said.

The alternative education requirement in no-pass, no-drive "is a redundancy," the opinion said. Justices James Keller, Williams Graves and Janet Stumbo concurred.

In the dissenting opinion, Cooper said disabled students in "noncomplying districts" could argue that the statute discriminated against them because they had no recourse to alternative schools.

"The majority opinion turns that argument on its head and holds that learning-disabled students in complying districts are discriminated against because their districts have provided alternative education programs," Cooper wrote, joined by Chief Justice Joseph E. Lambert and Justice Donald Wintersheimer.

Defendants in the case included various state officials, the Transportation Cabinet, Department of Education and the state and local school boards.

The law applied to 16- and 17-year-olds because 16 is the minimum age for a driver's license and 18 is the age of legal adulthood.



Participants in the soil bioengineering workshop are shown installing soil blankets and layers of willow cuttings between the soil blankets.

Ten Commandments can't be displayed in public buildings

The Associated Press

PIKEVILLE — Wall displays that include framed copies of the Ten Commandments are unconstitutional and cannot hang in public buildings in three Kentucky counties, a panel of judges from the 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled Thursday.

McCreary and Pulaski counties had displays of the Ten Commandments in their courthouses. Harlan County had similar displays in its schools.

The appeals court upheld U.S. District Judge Jennifer Coffman's June 2001 order to remove the displays from public view.

Coffman said in her ruling that the purpose of displaying the Ten Commandments was "religious in nature." She said that the history of the Ten Commandments displays, which originally were posted separately at the courthouses and schools and then were displayed as part of a group of documents, "bolstered the reasonable observer's perception of the state endorsement of religion."

Big Sandy RC&D, Big Sandy Watershed Watch and Kentucky Waterways Alliance are hosts for a soil bioengineering workshop

PRESTONSBURG — The Mountain Arts Center and the Left Fork of Middle Creek were the sites for a Soil Bioengineering workshop held October 28-30.

Fifty five participants attended the workshop, which included a hands-on portion on the last day of the course.

The first two days of the workshop were in the classroom and covered the principals of bioengineering and working with nature. The workshop gave a persuasive presentation for using bioengineering and natural channel design. The basic idea is to allow the stream to adapt to its natural shape where it is most stable and biodiversity is at its highest potential.

Funding for the workshop was provided in part by a grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency under

319(h) of the Clean Water Act through the KY Division of Water to the Big Sandy RC&D council (Grant # C9994861.97)

The demonstration of bioengineering techniques in the Big Sandy watershed showed a lot of people the practicality of soil bioengineering.

Soil bioengineering is the use of live plant materials and flexible engineering techniques to alleviate environmental problems such as destabilized and eroding slopes, streambanks, and trail systems. Unlike other technologies in which plants are chiefly an aesthetic component of the project, in soil bioengineering systems plants are an important structural component. These imbedded plant materials act as: (1) soil reinforcements, (2) barriers to earth movement, (3) moisture wicks, and (4) hydraulic drains.

Benefits of soil bioengineering include:

- Projects usually require less heavy equipment for excavation. As a result, there can be less cost and less impact. In addition, limiting crews to one entrance and exit route will cause less soil disturbance to the site and adjoining areas.

- Erosion areas often begin small and eventually expand to a size requiring costly traditional engineering solutions. Installation of soil bioengineered systems while the site problem is small will provide

economic savings and minimize potential impacts to the road and adjoining resources.

- Use of native plant materials and seed may provide additional savings. Costs are limited to labor for harvesting, handling and transport to the project site. Indigenous plant species are usually readily available and well adapted to local climate and soil conditions.

- Soil bioengineering projects may be installed during the dormant season of late fall, winter, and early spring. This is the best time to install soil bioengineered work and it often coincides time-wise when other construction work is slow.

- Soil bioengineering work is often useful on sensitive or steep sites where heavy machinery is not feasible.

- Years of monitoring has demonstrated that soil bioengineering systems are strong initially and grow stronger with time as vegetation becomes established. Even if plants die, roots and surface organic litter continues playing an important role during reestablishment of other plants.

- Once plants are established, root systems reinforce the soil mantle and remove excess moisture from the soil profile. This often is the key to long-term soil stability.

- Soil bioengineering provides improved landscape and habitat values.

AEP

Continued from p7

students, that meet needs and opportunities in their geographic areas, and that build on partnerships with local school districts and universities.

In presenting the donation, Tim Mosher, state president of AEP for Kentucky, said: "The business community needs entry-level workers with the ability to learn, reason, think creatively, make decisions, and solve problems. It is critically important that all students develop math and science skills and that they start doing it at an early age."

The AEP Endowment for Math & Science Excellence will support the following initiatives:

- Ashland Community and Technical College — workshops and tools for students interested in participating in a regional Science and Technology Fair open to students in K-12. Such fairs have proven to be catalysts to encourage students to learn more about science, math and related disciplines.

- Big Sandy Community and Technical College — dual credit scholarships to help high school students earn college

credit by taking courses in science, mathematics and technology. The extra emphasis on science, mathematics and technology will prepare students for the workforce and improve economic development in the region.

- Hazard Community and Technical College — curriculum development, training of public school teachers, and additional equipment purchases at the Challenger Learning Center. The center offers programs developed around the NASA space program, which places a heavy emphasis on math and science, for fifth- and sixth-graders.

"Private support is key to the continued success of KCTCS in serving communities and employers and changing the lives of students," McCall said. "We thank AEP for partnering with us to support education and community development."

For more information on the Fulfilling the Promise Campaign, contact KCTCS Vice President Timothy R. Burcham, CFRE, at 859-246-3227, or Tim.Burcham@kctcs.edu

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American Heart Association

www.americanheart.org

PSA

SEASONS GREETINGS

inside....

Letters to Santa

Winter Poems



★ Letters to Santa ★

Dear Santa,
My name is Kaley. I go to Duff Elem. I have been a good little girl this year. So I want to know if I could have a Care Bear, some games, and play house. One other thing is Scooby-Doo van. I will leave you milk and cookies under the tree.

Love, Kaley Bates
Headstart
Duff Elem.

Dear Santa,
My name is Erica and I am in the third grade. I hope you have had a nice year. Here is the list of items I want for Christmas this year: Rebecca Lynn Howard CD, Hillary Duff CD, a DVD, an electronic drum set, a pair of high heeled boots, clothes. You can also bring me anything else you think I might want. Please take something nice to all our troops in Iraq. Have a safe trip around the world.

Your friend,
Erica Tackett

Dear Santa,
I have been a pretty good girl this year. I would like to have a new bike, a new Swan Lake doll, a doll house, 2 two new Barbies.

Tabitha Akers
Dana

Dear Santa,
My name is Kendra Nicole Newman. I have been a good little girl this year. Will you please bring me a baby doll, Barbie dolls, Barbie pony, bicycle, and some new clothes. I will leave you a special treat under the tree.

Love, Kendra

Dear Santa,
My name is Kimbra Dawn Akers and I've been a very good little girl. Please bring me a rocky horse, a baby doll, barbie dolls, a slushy machine, a leap

pad and some new rings. There will be cookies and milk under the tree for you.

Love,
Kimbra
P.S. Please bring my cat Maxipoo a new collar.

Dear Santa,
I have been a very good boy this year. I want a B.B. gun, motorcycle and a remote control 4-wheeler for Christmas. Please bring something nice for my Mom, Dad and brother also. Thank you.

Shawn M. Howard
Hueysville
P.S. Santa, Please bring a big dinner and toys for all the homeless people and kids. Thank you, Santa!

Santa,
This is Montana Breeze Adams. I am 5 years old. Santa, I want a Barbie jeep and a Dora doll for Xmas. Please Santa don't forget my Pawpa Lee New he in nursing home. My Pawpa Lee want a T.V. for Xmas. Most of all Santa my Pawpa want to come for Xmas so I can play with him again. My Pawpa got cancer. Santa pray for my Pawpa to get better so he can come home. I love my Pawpa.
Montana Adams
Prestonsburg

Dear Santa Claus,
First thing I would like to thank you for the Playstation I got last year. I play with it alot. This year I would like you to bring me a camera and film so I can take pictures of my family at Christmas. Santa, I know if you check your list you'll see how good I have been at school and home. Cookies and 7-Up will be waiting for you! And Reese Cups for your reindeer.

Lots of love,
Madison Howell
Grethel

Dear Santa,
Hello, my name is Gabriel Parsons. I am a year old and live at Grethel, Kentucky with my parents. I've worked really hard this year learning to crawl, sit up, hold my cup, walk and even feed myself. My mommy calls me her big boy. I think I deserve a good Christmas this year. I would like Hokey Pokey Elmo, Poohbear w/rattle, Tigger and Power Wheels tractor. If you've been watching me you know I love ripping up paper and playing with boxes. I also think that Elmo would do a better job singing the Hokey Pokey than my mommy (don't tell her that, it'll make her cry). Also bring my Mom and Dad something too, they have worked real hard to care for me. I will leave you cookies-n-milk under the tree (what you don't eat, I will). Thank you Santa for reading my letter. I love you mommy and daddy.

Love,
Gabriel

Dear Santa,
I have been a good boy. I want rollerskates and a skateboard. I love you Santa.

Zachary Salyer
age 5

Dear Santa,
This is Marvin Kreps III, I'm now 5 yr's old. I have Been Better this year, Not Quite Perfected, but helpful, loving and most of all try's to Listen to my Parents and even my teacher's too.

So can I please have:
1. Care bears
2. Care bears movies
3. Game for Playstation 1
4. Board games like checkers
5. twin sheets (I like Spiderman if I can)
6. Books - lots.
7. New Leap pad (5 yr. and up) and book that goes with it.
8. Santa Closs 1 & 2 movies
9. New shoes (2 size) and house shoes.

10. Cook Book for kids.
11. Block's = Lego's
12. Buzz Lightyear (toy)
13. Read along Books
14. Tape player too, and if possible a: Toy house (so I can play house or fort).

P.S. I will make some cookies for you; I will leave them on a tray. Ho, I will put out some Rander food for Rodoff and his Freind's. Pleace say Hi to the Eluff and to have a great Chrismess, and Pleace take your wife and kids some cookie's too Pleace!!

Thank you, Santa: I love you.
Marvin Kreps III
Honaker

Dear Santa,
Hi my name is Skyler Austin Wright. I am the 2 year old son of Misty Wright and Charles Perry of Town Branch & for Christmas this year I would like a Big Wheel, talkin Car and some new clothes & anything else you would like to bring me. Santa, I have been a good boy this year. Also Santa don't forget my Papaw Eddie & my Nanny Brenda Craft. Santa, I will leave you some milk and cookies under the tree Christmas eve so you won't leave hungry.

Love,
Skyler

Dear Santa,
Hi, my name is Destiny Hope Wright. I am the 3 year old daughter of Misty Wright & Charles Perry of Town Branch and for Christmas this year I would like a Baby that cries, a pair of Boots, some new clothes and anything else you want to bring me. Also Santa don't forget my Nannie Branda and Papa Eddie Craft and Santa I will leave you some milk & cookies under the tree Christmas eve just so you won't be hungry.

Love,
Destiny

Dear Santa,
My name is Megan and I am five years old. I have been a good girl this year. Here is a list of things you can choose to bring me: Care Bear Care-A-Lot Castle, Piano, Dora Bingo Game, Swan Lake Shoes, Swan Lake Crown, So Real Puppy, Dora Chair, Dora Tent, McDonald Drive Thru, Barbie Educational Center, Slushee Maker, and movies.

Love, Megan Stumbo

Dear Santa,
I've been a good boy this year and I want a sled, pogo stick, and a R/C airplane. I make good grades in school and my friends and I play kickball at recess. My favorite subject is math and science. I like my new teachers their names are Mr. Salisbury, Mrs. Hughes and Ms. Blair. I would also like to have a spy kit and two-way radios for dad and I.

Yours truly,
Nicholas Stumbo

Dear Santa,
This is my list. I want a real horse, crayon maker, brat dolly named Sasha, clothes, kite, baby dolly, a barbie dolly, Ya-Gi-Oh cards, make up, barbie house, purse, real telephone, go, go, my wakke pup.

Sarah Kidd

Dear Santa,
My name is Kirklin Collins. I am in Mrs. Wendy Blanton's 2nd grade class at Besty Lyane Elem. school. I have been very good this year. What I want for Christmas is a speedeez city. A mouse trap game. I want a stretch screamer and a Kurt Bush number 97 car. Bring my mamaw and mommy something nice too. I will leave you some milk and cookies under the tree.

Love, Kirklin

To Santa,
My name is Joshua Greene. I live in Martin, Ky. I live with my mamaw and papaw and for my wishes I would like to see my mom and brothers. My mom live in Ohio and if you see her tell her that I love her and miss her. And Santa I wishes that my mamaw gets better to. I don't need toys. I need my family this year. I love them. And I love you to.

Love,
Joshua Greene
6 years old
P.S. I will be good. I am good. I am a big boy.

Dear Santa,
Hi. My name is Meagan Brown. I just want to say I really enjoy Christmas. If you want to stop by my house I would put milk and cookies on my pretty brown table. I know I would meet you but when you come I am always asleep if you come to my house I hope you bring me a special wish that wish is to make my dad feel better because he is so sick he said he would rather lay down and die. I just want my Christmas wish to come true. If something was to happen to my dad I don't know what I would do. Well, if my wish comes true, I know who to thank I would thank Santa.

My name is Meagan Brown. I am from the 4th grade at James A. Duff Elementary

Dear Santa,
I want a big winter with lots of snow. I want a shaker maker, lots of suckers, a sticker book, snow bord, really, really, really, really super duper great fab-ulus clothes, the coolest jacket ever and my family.

Love,
Allison Rowe

Dear Santa,
My name is Ethan and I have a younger brother named Ryan.

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We both have been really good boys this year. We want a bunch of cool toys. I would like for you to bring me a remote control motorcycle, playstation 1, hot wheels playset and a very big tonka truck. My brother Ryan would like for you to bring him a remote control robot, playstation 2, monster truck, and a black puppy named Pooter!

Have a safe trip around the world Santa. We will leave you some milk and cookies.

Love,
The Spears Brothers
Ethan and Ryan

Dear Santa,
All I want for Christmas this year is for my family to be happy and safe. I do like Scooby doo and if you find it I would like a pair of PJ's with Scooby on them. I have been pretty good this year, nothing major bad.

Thank you,
Eric Stewart
age 7

Dear Santa,
I have been a very good girl this year. I like the big baby you got me last year, but my dog ripped it up. So could you please bring me another big baby. Thank you very much.

Sincerely,
Alexis C. Howell
McDowell

Dear Santa,
I love you Santa. I would like some video games and a t.v. have a safe trip.

Love,
Taylor Brooke Castle
P.S. Please bring me some movies.

Dear Santa,
I want Barbie jeep, bird-house, clothes, toys.

LaLa
age 3

Dear Santa,
I have been good all year long. I would like a new make-up set and a pair of new balance shor and Spongbod squarepants table & chair set, L'll bratz spring break Doll and Long-sleeve screen tees and cargo jeans and Santa please bring mom a new ring and Dad some

cologne. And my Little moma a ring, and my aunt Dede a bangle and my big moma a ring she lik ring and popa a new car and uncle Rick a new hunt jacket and Bobo a tuck for Christmas because Santa that been good all year to.

I love you Santa Claus
Love,
Whitney

Dear Santa,
My name is Barry Morrow. I am in second grade at John M. Stumbo Elementary School. I would like to have a remote control Grave Digger truck and a CD player.

Thank you Santa,
Barry

Dear Santa,
My name is Brandy Morrow. I am in first grade at John M. Stumbo Elementary School. I would like to have a Barbie video camera and a CD player.

Thank you Santa Claus,
Brandy

Dear Santa,
I've been a good boy. I go to school at G.F. Johnson Elementary. I am in kindergarten and my teacher's name is Mrs. Moore. I want a DVD player, movies, games, shoes and clothes. I love you, Santa.

Love,
Austin Hall

Dear Santa,
My name is Megan Branham. I am 6 years old. I go to John M. Stumbo Elementary. I have been a very good girl this year. I would like for you to bring me an art kit, beads to make a necklace, and make-up. I will leave you some milk and cookies. I love you Santa Claus. I would like to see you for the next three years.

Love,
Megan Branham

Dear Santa Claus,
My name is Taylor, and I am 7 years old. I have been a good Girl. Please bring me a Go-Go My Walking Pup, a C.D. Player, a Walking Kitty, Barbie dolls, clothes, shoes, and anything else you want to bring me. Santa, Please Bring my Brother Chris something really nice too. And

don't forget My Mom And Dad.
I love you, Santa
Taylor Caldwell

Dear Santa,
I have been a girl. This year I would like a Barbie doll for Christmas.

I love you, Santa.
Holly Lewis

Dear Santa,
My name is Alexis Marie Melton. I am 4 years old and I have been a very good girl. I would like a bike, a Strawberry Shortcake doll, Hulk stuff, care-bear doll, and I would like most of all for my family to get well and have a wonderful Christmas.

Love,
Alexis
P.S. I'll leave milk & cookies for you.

Dear Santa,
Hi, my name is Destiny Paige Compton. I am 4 years old and lives at Grethel. I have been a very good girl this year. I was wondering if you could bring me the Swan Lake Barbie & Ken doll, along with Shampoochie.

I have a baby brother named Brady, he is only 5 months old, he can't talk yet, so just bring him anything. He has been good this year also.

Your friends,
Destiny & Brady Compton
P.S. We will leave you some cookies & milk under the tree.

Dear Santa,
My name is Jonathan Tyler Jones and I am 3 years old. I have been a good little boy this year. Please bring me a john deere tractor, some cars and trucks, and a dinosaur movie. I will leave you some milk and cookies under the tree.

I love you,
Tyler

Dear Santa,
My name is Emily Verna Jones and I am 5 months old. I have been a good little girl this year. Please bring me a Care bear baby doll. I will leave you some milk and cookies under the tree.

I love you,
Emily

Dear Santa,
My name is Mary Katlyn Jones and I am 5 months old. I have been a good little girl this year. Please bring me a Bambi baby doll. I will leave you some milk and cookies under the tree.

I love you,
Katlyn

Dear Santa,
Hi, my name is Shy Hall. I am 3 years old. I've been a pretty good girl this year. For Christmas, I would like to have the Big Comfy Couch, a green ninja turtle, and Operation. I will leave you some cookies and milk beside the fireplace.

I love you, Santa.
Shy Hall
Beaver

Hi Santa,
I just wanted to tell you what I want for Christmas.

1. portable dvd player
2. Gameboy advance sp
3. Mr. Wonderful doll
4. A vidio karioky machine
5. A hit clip shaped like a radio

6. A cell phone, real
7. A September doll, Barbie Merry Christmas.

Signed,
Christi Rose
age 8

Dear Santa,
My name is Brian Rogers. I am 7 years old. I am in Mrs. Hall's Primary class at John M. Stumbo Elementary. I have tried to be a good boy this year. Please bring me a dirt bike for Christmas.

Signed,
Brian M. Rogers

Dear Santa,
My name is Jeremy Adkins. I am 5 years old. I am in Mrs. Hall's kindergarten class at John M. Stumbo Elementary. I have tried to be a good boy this year. Please bring me a Playstation 2 for Christmas.

Signed,
Jeremy Adkins

Dear Santa,
My name is Amanda McKinney. I am 5 years old. I am in Mrs. Hall's kindergarten class at John M. Stumbo Elementary. I have tried to be a good girl this year. Please bring me a trampoline for Christmas.

Signed,
Amanda McKinney

Dear Santa,
My name is Christopher Hall. I am 6 years old. I am in Mrs. Hall's kindergarten class at John M. Stumbo Elementary. I have tried to be a good boy this year. Please bring me a Playstation for Christmas.

Signed,
Chris Hall

Dear Santa,
My name is Summer Adams. I am 6 years old. I am in Mrs. Hall's kindergarten class at John M. Stumbo Elementary. I have tried to be a good girl this year. Please bring me a bike and a hamster for Christmas.

Signed,
Summer Adams

Dear Santa,
My name is Brianna Belle McKinney. I am 5 years old. I am in Mrs. Hall's kindergarten class at John M. Stumbo Elementary. I have tried to be a good girl this year. Please bring me a Barbie townhouse for Christmas.

Signed,
Brianna Belle McKinney

Dear Santa,
My name is Kaycee Collins. I am 5 years old. I am in Mrs. Hall's kindergarten class at John M. Stumbo Elementary. I have tried to be a good girl this year. Please bring me a bike for Christmas.

Signed,
Kaycee Collins

Dear Santa,
My name is Bradley Williams. I am 6 years old. I am in Mrs. Hall's kindergarten class at John M. Stumbo Elementary. I have tried to be a good boy this year. Please bring me a bike for Christmas.

Signed,
Brady Williams

Dear Santa,
My name is Chyna Akers. I am 6 years old. I am in Mrs. Hall's kindergarten class at John M. Stumbo Elementary. I have tried to be a good girl this year. Please bring me a My Size Barbie for Christmas.

Signed,
Chyna Akers

Dear Santa,
My name is Kristen Newsome. I am 5 years old. I am in Mrs. Hall's kindergarten class at John M. Stumbo Elementary. I have tried to be a good girl this year. Please bring me a Dora Bike for Christmas.

Signed,
Kristen Newsome

Dear Santa,
My name is Cole Hamilton. I am 5 years old. I am in Mrs. Hall's kindergarten class at John M. Stumbo Elementary. I have tried to be a good boy this year. Please bring me a Playstation 2 for Christmas.

Signed,
Cole Hamilton

Dear Santa,
My name is Shania Burchett. I am 5 years old. I am in Mrs. Hall's kindergarten class at John M. Stumbo Elementary. I have tried to be a good girl this year. Please bring me a bike for Christmas.

Signed,
Shania Burchett

Dear Santa,
My name is Brandon Hall. I am 5 years old. I am in Mrs. Hall's kindergarten class at John M. Stumbo Elementary. I have tried to be a good boy this year. Please bring me a airplane for Christmas.

Signed,
Brandon Hall

Dear Santa,
My name is Haley Sue Holbrook. I am 2 years old and I attend Dinosaur Playland Daycare. I have been a good girl "a whole bunch." For Christmas I want some books, Pat, some hair bows and some "sockies."

I love you, Santa,
Haley

Hi, Santa Claus,
My name is Dusty Tussey. I am 5 years old. I go to Prestonsburg Elementary School and also go to Dinosaur Playland Daycare. For Christmas I want a green 4-wheeler & a big green truck with remote control.

Bring my mommy "different stuff" bring my bubby another airplane truck. I'm not going to leave you anything under the tree cuz you you're gonna leave me presents.

Love,
Dusty

Hi, Santa Claus,
My name is Derrick Thomblin. I am 4 years old. I go to Dinosaur Playland Daycare. I have been "a little bit of a good boy."

For Christmas I want you to bring me a yellow 4-wheeler, some blocks, a play kitchen and some food for it too. I want some socks too.

Love,
Derrick

Santa,
My name is Elexus Endicott. I go to Dinosaur Playland Daycare. For Christmas I want some baby dolls, blocks, cars and some clothes.

Love,
Elexus

Dear Santa,
My name is Chloe McKenzie Mills. I am almost 2 years old. I go to Dinosaur Playland Daycare. For Christmas I want a Hokey Pokey Elmo ("Mo-Mo"), music, clothes & hair-bows.

Love,
Chloe

Dear Santa Claus,
My name is Madison Jervis. I go to Dinosaur Playland Daycare. I am 2 years old. For Christmas I want some socks, barbie dolls, new shoes. Under the tree I will leave you some lunch.

Love,
Madison

To Santa Claus,
My name is Wesley and I have been good this year and I wood like to have so many toys this year and one of them toys is a train, hulk toy, toy dinosures, blocks, airplanes and PS2.

Wesley Kilburn
Prestonsburg

Dear Santa,
I have been good! I hope you bring me an electriced scitter, bean bag. That is all and maybe some love!!!

Chelsea Dickerson
Prestonsburg

Dear Santa,
All I want for Christmas is my two front teeth, my two front teeth, see my two front teeth. All I want for Christmas is my two front teeth so I can wish you a Merry Christmas, Christmas, Christmas.

Shayna Newhouse
Prestonsburg
P.S. This is a funny letter I already have my two front teeth.

Dear Santa,
I have been pretty good. Can you bring me two baby dolls and blue jean pants? Please bring something for my brother Nick. I will leave you milk and reindeer cookies to eat.

I love Santa!
Love you,
Kateland McDonald & Nick McDonald

Dear Santa,
Hi, my name is Maronica Jervis. I go to Clark E. and I am in the 5th grade. I am 10 years old. I have been a very good girl this year. I would like for you to bring me a DVD player and some movies. A DVD called Santa Claus II.

A playstation 2 game and some porcelain dolls. I will leave some milk and cookies under the tree for you.

Love you,
Maronica

Dear Santa,
I have been a good girl this year. Can you please bring me & my little brother some toys for Christmas?

Thank you.
Love,
Alexa

Dear Santa,
My name is Summer Ousley, I am 7 years old. I live in Prestonsburg. I go to school at Prestonsburg Elementary, but I guess you already know that. I

McDowell ARH Hospital

*Wishes everyone a
Joyous Holiday Season.*

**May God bless your
home this holiday.**

Happy New Year to all.

Happy Holidays

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Alys Fraley

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would like a bratz doll for Christmas. I would also like a hat with my initial on it and an easy bake oven. I hope I have been good enough to get these. Please make sure everyone gets something nice and all children. And I do know what Christmas is really all about. Jesus and loving everyone. Please be careful. Oh, also bring my cousins Shayla, Tanner and Samantha something. And my big sister Ashleigh. I love you very much.

Love,
Summer Ousley

Dear Santa Claus,
I want power ranger stuff and a choo choo trainset. And I want a sponge bob thing that I can put on my puter. A red and a blue power ranger, I got the yellow one. My cat, Buster, needs a collar and leash. I want a spider man bouncy ball.

Phil Cornette
age 4

Dear Santa,
I want a game cube and a game.

Your friend,
C.J. Ousley
age 8

Dear Santa,
I hope that I get everything I want for Christmas. I know that it isn't about presents, so I want Everybody to be happy and glad every time they get to spend time with their family. When

they open their presents, they'll be glad that everybody's happy.
Elizabeth Collins
age 9

Dear Santa Claus,
I want 2 barbies and a Christmas tree.

And I want clothes for my barbies.

From Savannah McKendree
age 2

Dear Santa,
I want Arney Men and a jeep to go with it. I also want a soft bunny rabbit to sleep with. I want a soft chair to go in my room. I also really, really, want a Scooby-Doo doll and a puzzle.

From: Lucas Ross
age 3

To Santa Claus:
I want a baby doll and Wiggles toys. I want a barbie doll too.

From: Kassidy Griffith
age 3

Dear Santa Claus,
I want Army Men, Ninja Turtles, And I want a jeep to go with it.

From your friend,
Will Conley
age 3

Dear Santa Clause,
I really appreciate your work you for all the children in the world even China Town even though they look funny. And I really want a lizard for

Christmas that is the only thing I want for Christmas.

P.S. I do not want clothes so do not get me clothes.

P.P. S. I want some books too.

P.P.S.S. I want a gamecube too.

P.P.P.S.S. Do not forget the lizard.

Love,
Emily Ratliff

From Zachary,
Dear Santa. To Santa to the North Pole.

From,
Zachary

Dear Santa Clause,
I really appreciate your work

you do for all the children in the world. Even though I haven't been on my best behavior, I really tried and I'm sorry, well here's my list:

1. Studio time
2. real microphone
3. Straightner
4. New Harry Potter Book
5. clothes
6. And last a real keyboard player.

Well St. Nick that's all I want this year give me this and I will be very happy! Well t2y!

Love,
Stephanie Raileen Calhoun
P.S. Call me.

From: Zach
To: Santa Clause

1. gamecube
2. PS2 games
3. clothes

4. toys
5. books
that's all
Call me!
Love ya, c-ya, your #1!
Zachary Ratliff

Dear Santa,
My name is Alex Shepherd. I am 5 years old and am in kindergarten at Allen Elementary. I was wondering if you would bring me a PlayStation 2 for Christmas, and a Tony Hawk ProSkate 4 game. Please, I'd also like to have a new robe. And please leave something nice for my mommy and daddy. I'll leave you a present under my tree.

Love,
Alex Shepherd

Dear Santa,
I am five years old. I am going to send you chocolate. I want you to bring me some trucks that are large and small. I also want some cars that are large and small. I Love You, Santa.

Love,
Alex

Dear Santa,
I have tried to be a very nice and good girl this year. Every year since I was born I have been getting everything I've wanted! (Thank you, Santa!) How's Rudolph? How about the other raindeer? And what I want this year are the following Animal Ark books.....

- #23 Bears in the Barn
- #24 Foals in the Field
- #26 Horse in the House
- #33 Hound at the Hospital

I love you Santa! Please write back! MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Love ya,
Savannah Meade
P.S. If you can't find these books please get the Game Boy Advance Game about the show Rocket Power. (They are playing sports on the cover.)

Dear Santa,
Hi, my name is Seth Hall and I'm in the first grade at McDowell Elementary. For Christmas this year, I am wanting a real go cart and a real double barrel shot gun. I also want a T-Rex race track. Don't forget to bring my sister Emily

something nice, shes been a good girl this year. I will leave you cookies and milk under the tree.

Happy Holidays
Seth Hall

Dear Santa,
Hi my name is Emily Hall and I'm in the 4th grade at McDowell Elementary. For Christmas this year, I am wanting a Honda xp 60 in. dirt bike, a fib-finder extreme, & a dirt bike helmet. Don't forget to bring my brother Seth & my dog Thunder something. I will leave cookies & milk under the tree.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!!!!!!
Your Friend,
Emily Hal

Stumbo Elementary head start

My name is Daniel Rowe and I attend head start at John M. Stumbo in Ms. Renee's room. Please bring me a truck and remember all the children in the world.

My name is Jasmine Carroll and I attend head start at John M. Stumbo in Ms. Renee's room. Please bring me a Barbie doll and remember all the children in the world.

My name is Hunter Kidd and I attend head start at John M. Stumbo in Ms. Renee's room. Please bring me a Jeep and some Wiggles and remember all the children in the world.

My name is Ella Tackett and I attend head start at John M. Stumbo in Ms. Renee's room. Please bring me a Barbie doll and some doll clothes and remember all the children in the world.

My name is Evan Newsome and I attend head start at John M. Stumbo in Ms. Renee's room. Please bring me a big motorcycle and remember all the children in the world.

My name is Toshia Hamilton and I attend head start at John M. Stumbo in Ms. Renee's room. Please bring me some real makeup and a baby doll and remember all the children in the

world.

My name is Robert Bradley and I attend head start at John M. Stumbo in Ms. Renee's room. Please bring me a basket ball and remember all the children in the world.

My name is Kolby McGuire and I attend head start at John M. Stumbo in Ms. Renee's room. Please bring me a basketball and a truck and remember all the children in the world.

My name is Jenna Kidd and I attend head start at John M. Stumbo in Ms. Renee's room. Please bring me a Barbie Jeep, stroller and a Barbie and remember all the children in the world.

My name is Kaitlin Kidd and I attend head start at John M. Stumbo in Ms. Renee's room. Please bring me a Barbie Jeep and a Care Bear and remember all the children in the world.

My name is Dalton Kidd and I attend head start at John M. Stumbo in Ms. Renee's room. Please bring me some Wiggles toys and remember all the children in the world.

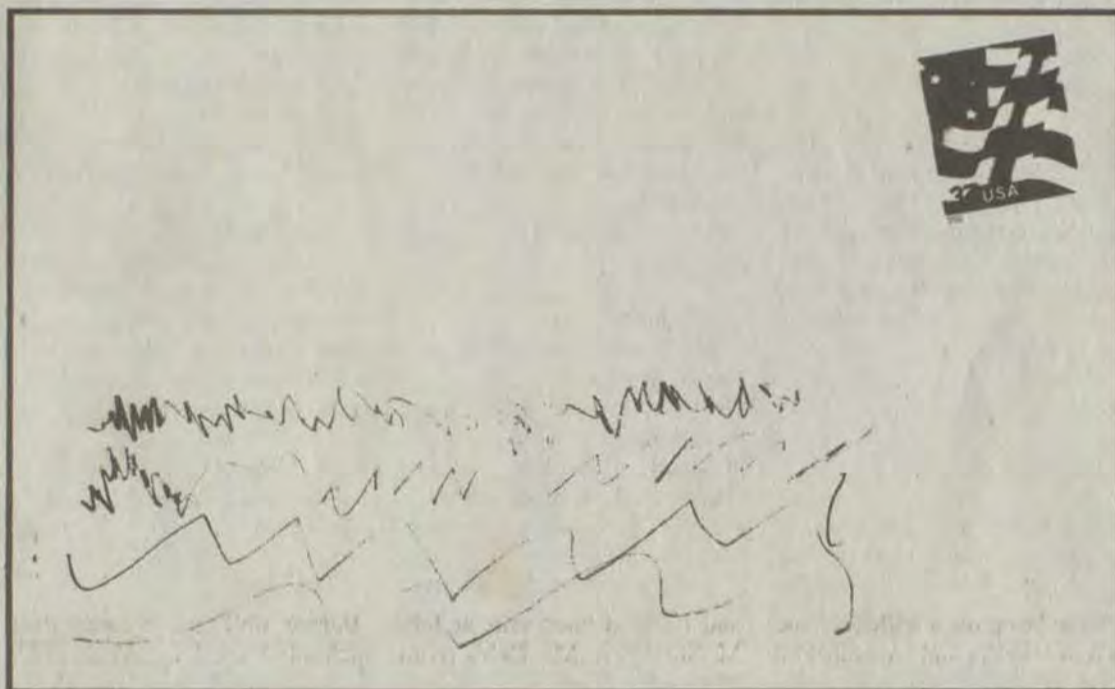
My name is Jordyn Conn and I attend head start at John M. Stumbo in Ms. Renee's room. Please bring me a Care Bear and remember all the children in the world.

My name is Reggie Stevens and I attend head start at John M. Stumbo in Ms. Renee's room. Please bring me a motorcycle and remember all the children in the world.

My name is Courtney Runyon and I attend head start at John M. Stumbo in Ms. Renee's room. Please bring me a baby doll and remember all the children in the world.

My name is Alexandra Sisco and I attend head start at John M. Stumbo in Ms. Renee's room. Please bring me a Lite Brite and remember all the children in the world.

My name is Colby Ray and I



With Best Wishes For a Happy Holiday

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.



**City of
Prestonsburg
Mayor Jerry Fannin
and
City Council
Members**

attend head start at John M. Stumbo in Ms. Renee's room. Please bring me a truck and remember all the children in the world.

My name is Kelsea Keathley and I attend head start at John M. Stumbo in Ms. Renee's room. Please bring me a doll and remember all the children in the world.

My name is Kaitlyn Sanders and I attend head start at John M. Stumbo in Ms. Renee's room. Please bring me a Care Bear bookbag and remember all the children in the world.

My name is Bethany Kimbler and I attend head start at John M. Stumbo in Ms. Renee's room. Please bring me a pink bike with a toy telephone and remember all the children in the world.

My name is Austin S. and I attend head start at John M. Stumbo in Ms. Renee's room. Please bring me a basketball and remember all the children in the world.

My name is Cameron Saddler and I attend head start at John M. Stumbo in Ms. Renee's room. Please bring me The Hulk and remember all the children in the world.

My name is Nathan Keathley and I attend head start at John M. Stumbo in Ms. Mary's room. Please bring me any and all toys you can and remember all the children in the world.

My name is Cody Hall and I attend head start at John M. Stumbo in Ms. Mary's room. Please bring me a bulldozer and a dump truck and remember all the children in the world.

My name is Deanna Hall and I attend head start at John M. Stumbo in Ms. Mary's room. Please bring me a doll, clothes and all good things to eat and remember all the children in the world.

My name is Shae Cole and I attend head start at John M. Stumbo in Ms. Mary's room. Please bring me a talking grill and a doll that cries and remember all the children in the world.

My name is Stephanie Gilliam and I attend head start at John M. Stumbo in Ms. Mary's room. Please bring me a four-wheeler and make up and remember all the children in the world.

My name is Tyler Hall and I attend head start at John M. Stumbo in Ms. Mary's room. Please bring me a go-cart and four-wheeler and remember all the children in the world.

My name is Sarah Akers and I attend head start at John M. Stumbo in Ms. Mary's room. Please bring me a Barbie Jeep and a bunch of Dora toys and remember all the children in the world.

My name is John Herbert Smith and I attend head start at John M. Stumbo in Ms. Mary's room. Please bring me Santa riding a motorcycle and vampire teeth and remember all the children in the world.

My name is Adam Williams and I attend head start at John M. Stumbo in Ms. Mary's room. Please bring me a dirt bike, a Corvette and a Lughead and remember all the children in the world.

My name is Milton Gahan and I attend head start at John M. Stumbo in Ms. Mary's room. Please bring me a motorcycle, a four-wheeler and a car and remember all the children in the world.

My name is Tyler Patchin and I attend head start at John M. Stumbo in Ms. Mary's room. Please bring me a racecar and other toys and remember all the children in the world.

My name is Lance Hall and I attend head start at John M. Stumbo in Ms. Mary's room. Please bring me Turbo Hawk motorcycle and other toys and remember all the children in the world.

My name is Brandon Blankenship and I attend head start at John M. Stumbo in Ms. Mary's room. Please bring me a truck, motorcycle and other toys and remember all the children in the world.

My name is Michaela Johnson and I attend head start at John M. Stumbo in Ms. Mary's room. Please bring me a cleaning set, a big Care Bear and others and remember all the children in the world.

My name is Keisha Hamilton and I attend head start at John M. Stumbo in Ms. Mary's room. Please bring me a baby doll, stroller and other toys and remember all the children in the world.

My name is Mikki Cantrell and I attend head start at John M. Stumbo in Ms. Mary's room. Please bring me three front teeth, a baby doll set and other toys and remember all the children in the world.

My name is Makayla Akers and I attend head start at John M. Stumbo in Ms. Mary's room. Please bring me Barbie Bath and Beauty and everything else and remember all the children in the world.

My name is Sarah Thomas and I attend head start at John M. Stumbo in Ms. Mary's room. Please bring me a white GoGo puppy and a Swan Lake Castle and remember all the children in the world.

My name is Hannah Thomas and I attend head start at John M. Stumbo in Ms. Mary's room. Please bring me a baby doll and a white kitty and remember all the children in the world.

My name is Tyler Slone and I attend head start at John M. Stumbo in Ms. Mary's room. Please bring me a bulldozer and a four-wheeler and remember all the children in the world.

My name is Elijah King and I attend head start at John M. Stumbo in Ms. Deb's room. Please bring me a dinosaur and racecar and remember all the children in the world.

My name is Elisa Kendrick and I attend head start at John M. Stumbo in Ms. Deb's room. Please bring me dinosaurs and remember all the children in the world.

My name is Matthew Hunt and I attend head start at John M. Stumbo in Ms. Deb's room. Please bring me a horse and remember all the children in the world.

My name is Braxton Stevens and I attend head start at John M. Stumbo in Ms. Deb's room. Please bring me trucks and remember all the children in the world.

My name is Brianna Paige Hall and I attend head start at John M. Stumbo in Ms. Deb's room. Please bring me GoGo, My Walking Puppy Dog and remember all the children in the world.

My name is Kameron B. Rice and I attend head start at John M. Stumbo in Ms. Deb's room. Please bring me Hot Wheels and remember all the children in the world.

My name is Stacey Rogers and I attend head start at John M. Stumbo in Ms. Deb's room. Please bring me Barbie Swan Lake and remember all the children in the world.

My name is Shelby Hall and I attend head start at John M. Stumbo in Ms. Deb's room. Please bring me Barbie Swan Lake and remember all the children in the world.

My name is Kitana Bentley and I attend head start at John M. Stumbo in Ms. Deb's room. Please bring me a Barbie and remember all the children in the world.

My name is Jonathan Frasure and I attend head start at John M. Stumbo in Ms. Deb's room. Please bring me a toy grill and a gas pump and remember all the

children in the world.

My name is Abigail Hamilton and I attend head start at John M. Stumbo in Ms. Deb's room. Please bring me a truck and sheets and remember all the children in the world.

My name is Brooklyn Newsome and I attend head start at John M. Stumbo in Ms. Deb's room. Please bring me a Barbie kitchen and remember all the children in the world.

My name is Dalton Hamilton and I attend head start at John M. Stumbo in Ms. Deb's room. Please bring me a truck and remember all the children in the world.

My name is Summer Johnson and I attend head start at John M. Stumbo in Ms. Deb's room. Please bring me Barbie Swan Lake and remember all the children in the world.

My name is Caleb Mitchell and I attend head start at John M. Stumbo in Ms. Deb's room. Please bring me a dirt bike and remember all the children in the world.

My name is Robert Keathley and I attend head start at John M. Stumbo in Ms. Deb's room. Please bring me toys and remember all the children in the world.

My name is Kelsey Hall and I attend head start at John M. Stumbo in Ms. Deb's room. Please bring me toys and remember all the children in the world.

My name is Jacob Akers and I attend head start at John M. Stumbo in Ms. Deb's room. Please bring me toys and remember all the children in the world.

My name is Shawn Slone and I attend head start at John M. Stumbo in Ms. Deb's room. Please bring me a four-wheeler and remember all the children in the world.

My name is Joshua Bentley and I attend head start at John M. Stumbo in Ms. Deb's room. Please bring me a choo-choo train and remember all the children in the world.

Osborne Elementary

Dear Santa, I've been a good boy this year. I would really like you to bring me a vacuum cleaner and some play dishes. I will leave you some milk and cookies under the tree.
Benji Patrick

Dear Santa, I've been a good girl this year, so please send me a vacuum cleaner, a baby doll and some new clothes. I will leave you some cookies and pop under the Christmas tree.
Cassie Hall

Dear Santa, I want a big racecar for Christmas! Santa, please bring me a big toy firefighter. Santa, bring my little brother lots of toys. And Santa, bring Mommy something, too.
Cody Huff

Dear Santa, I want Barbie dolls! Could you bring Mommy some baby toys so she can play with me? Please bring Possum a new real car. Possum is so nice. Every time he goes to training in Lexington, he brings me back a surprise. He brings me back lots of toys.
I love Sleeping Beauty and Snow White, so remember I have been such a good girl at school and at home.
Danielle Burke

Dear Santa, I want Beyblades, all kinds. I would like a new hamster and a new hamster cage. I would also want a remote control Beyblade. My sister wants a new Mary-Kate and Ashley game for her Gameboy.
Santa, could you bring Mom and Dad a TV for their bedroom.
I would also like a remote control airplane and a nightlight and a lamp. Please bring my friend Bub things he wants for Christmas. We both have been good boys.
Dalton Osborne

Dear Santa, I would like for you to bring me a Barbie Jeep, Barbie jacket and a Barbie Swan Lake, My

Size Doll. Please bring my mommy a red candle. Please bring Ms. Helen's dog "Rudie" a dog sweater and please, Santa, bring Ms. Helen a bracelet and a bring Buddy a big wrench. And bring my friend Dana a new sawmill. Santa, bring Mamaw a new what-not shelf. And Santa, bring Nanny Gloria someone to help her fix the water tank.
Cortney Jennings

Dear Santa, This year for Christmas I want a baby doll, a pillow that looks like you, Santa, and bring everyone in my family a soft, soft snowman pillow so they can get a good night's rest. I would also like some Christmas earrings, Barbie candy and baby doll things for my baby. What I want most of all is a Barbie computer.
Alison Tackett

Dear Santa, I would like a Santa pillow and stuffed puppy dog. A baby doll would be nice also. Please bring my sister a new pillow for Christmas.
If you can, please bring me a bell from the reindeers' sleigh, so all the world will believe in you, Santa.
Jonna Isaac

Dear Santa, I want a doll, a real cat and lots of diapers for my doll. Please bring me lots of toys. I promise I will share with all my cousins and friends. Please bring me an angel pillow, what-nots and lots of candy.
Most important, please bring my puppy Duke a short shirt like Spongebob's and my other dogs need shirts, too.
Candace Little

Dear Santa, I want a new scooter. I want a Playstation. This Christmas I wish and hope that Hunter gets a Playstation. I wish that Makayla gets whatever she wants.
I am going to leave the cookies and milk under the tree for Santa.
James Little

Dear Santa, I want Rugrats house shoes, a Barbie doll and Power Puff school shoes. I would also like a toy snowman, more lights to decorate my house and an angel to put on top of my Christmas tree.
Santa, I also want a baby doll. Could I have a toy bear and a toy pig?
Love,
Tieshia Hall

Mrs. Carlotta Jones' kindergarten class

Dear Santa, My name is Wesley Johnson and I am in Mrs. Carlotta Jones' kindergarten class at Osborne Elementary. I have been really nice and I have worked hard for my teacher. I would also like for you to bring me a remote control motorcycle, my mom a heart and Dad a four-wheeler I will leave you a piece of pie with milk beside the tree on Christmas Eve.
Your friend,
Wesley


Dear Santa, My name is Dalton Mullins and I am in Mrs. Carlotta Jones' kindergarten class at Osborne Elementary. I have been really nice and I have worked hard for my teacher. I would also like for you to bring me a truck, remote-control four-wheeler and bring my brother a choo-choo. I will leave you a note with cookies and hot chocolate beside the tree on Christmas Eve.
I love you Santa!
Your friend,
Dalton

Dear Santa, My name is Mark Gilliam and I am in Mrs. Carlotta Jones' kindergarten class at Osborne Elementary. I have been really nice and I have worked hard for my teacher. I would also like for you to bring me a truck, remote-control four-wheeler and bring my brother a choo-choo. I will leave you a note with cookies and hot chocolate beside the tree on Christmas Eve.
Your friend,
Mark

Dear Santa, My name is Sarah Carter and I am in Mrs. Carlotta Jones' kindergarten class at Osborne Elementary. I have been really nice and I have worked hard for my teacher. I would also like

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Wishing you
the gift of faith,
the blessing of hope,
and the peace of
His love at
Christmas, and always.
Happy Holidays!

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My name is Jacob. I am a first grade student at Osborne Elementary. I have been a good boy this year. For Christmas I would like 3 bikes, 2 pair of shoes and 2 stockings.

Your friend,
Jacob Meade

Dear Santa,
My name is Megan. I am a first grade student at Osborne Elementary. I have been a good girl this year. For Christmas I would like Dazey the doll, a scooter and a girl bike. And for my teacher, pretty new clothes.

Your friend,
Megan Bates

Dear Santa,
My name is Donovan. I am a first grade student at Osborne Elementary. I have been a good boy this year. I would like a Bee Bee gun and a street bike.

Your friend,
Donovan Collett

Dear Santa,
My name is JoAnna. I am a first grade student at Osborne Elementary. I have been a good girl this year. For Christmas I would like a TV

Your friend,
JoAnna Tackett

Dear Santa,
My name is Andrew. I am a first grade student at Osborne Elementary. I have been a good boy this year. For Christmas I would like a Play Station Two.

Your friend,
Andrew Tackett

Dear Santa,
I want a 4-wheeler, a bull dozer, and a coal truck. I'll leave you some milk and cookies under the Christmas tree. I love you Santa Claus.

Love,
Tyler Caldwell

Dear Santa,
My name is Tommy. I am a first grade student at Osborne Elementary. I have been a good boy this year. For Christmas I would like a Transformer he is real big and his name is Unikrod, and a transformer car that is blue.

Your friend,
Tommy Mosley

Mrs. Janice Hall's first-grade class

Dear Santa,
I have been good this year, so would you please bring me a Barbie. I love Barbie.

Love,
Jasmine Conn

Dear Santa,
I would like to have a doll, a dress, a new coat and a book.

Love,
Amy Curry

Dear Santa,
I love Yu-Gi-Oh cards. I love you, too, Santa Claus.

Love,
Kaitlyn Hill

Dear Santa,
I would like some toy cars, motorcycles and some Yu-Gi-Oh cards.

Love,
Isaiah Tackett

Dear Santa,
I would like to have a teddy bear, a Barbie car and a drum.

Love,
Shiann Hall

Dear Santa,
I have been good this year. I want a doll and a Barbie.

Love,
Olivia Branham

Dear Santa,
I have been good this year. I want a doll and a Barbie.

Love,
Sierra Hall

Dear Santa,
I have been real good this year. I would love some Yu-Gi-Oh cards.

Love,
Deven Newsome

Dear Santa,
I would like to have a horse, a dog, a cat and a bike.

Love,
Chloe Little

Dear Santa,
I would like a bike, Batman and Robin toys, and Yu-Gi-Oh cards.

Love,
Tyler Williams

Dear Santa,
I want a Transformer toy and a Power Ranger. I will leave you some cookies.

Love,
Jonathan Hall

Dear Santa,
I would like to have a King Nut Cracker and Yu-Gi-Oh cards.

Love,
Alex Tackett

Dear Santa,
I have been good this year, but today I have a pink eye, so I wish you would bring me a bear.

Love,
Samantha Helton

Dear Santa,
I want 10 packs of Yu-Gi-Oh cards, all three Egyptian god cards and Xodia.

Love,
Andrew Bailey

Dear Santa,
I want an army set, Yu-Gi-Oh cards and a real dozer.

Love,
Blake Johnson

Dear Santa,
I want 10 decks of Yu-Gi-Oh cards and a 3 Egyptian god cards.

Love,
Brett Daniels

Dear Santa,
I have been good this year. I want Yu-Gi-Oh cards and a ball.

Love,
Dylan Johnson

Mrs. Jeanice Allen's second-grade class

Editor's note: The following letters have not been edited to preserve their endearing qualities.

Dear Santa,
I would like to have a

Playstation Spongebob game. I love Spongebob so that would be cool. I would play it all day. Next year I might ask for a Monster Ink game for a Gameboy Advance and the year after that I want a new bicycle. If I been bad I'm sorry for what I did if I been bad. I bet I haven't been bad. I bet I have been a very good boy. I know where you can get a Spongebob Playstation game. You can get it at Wal-Mart. My brother doesn't believe in you Santa so I think you should bring him coal.

Love,
Joshua Lee Bates

Dear Santa,
I would like to have a flute and a Bratz skateboard with the helmet and 4 piece set. I would like a new set of PJ for my mom and a big bone for Rozi and a couple of race care placks for my dad. I will leave you some carmel filling cookies. I have been a good girl this year. I will leave you a present too. P.S. Merry Christmas.

Love,
Randi

Dear Santa,
My name is Joseph. I am 8 years old. I have been a good boy lately.

Please bring me a dirt bike X-box game. Bring mom a ring and dad a motor cycle and my brothers some cars.

Love,
Joseph

Dear Santa,
I want a new bike and a drum were I can play it and a new basketball and a lot of toys and big toys and a new Playstashen 2 game and I'm going to git milk for you and cookes.

Dear Santa,
I have been a girl. I want all of the Bratz. And the My Scene dolls and I will have choalate chip cookies. And put my name on my stuff. I want a piano like the one my uncle Major is. Is Mr. Mysterburger good? I want a lump of cole for Erika and bring it to her house. Juston needs some manners. And bring daddy some hair and mommy a car.

Love,
Diamond

Dear Santa,
Santa I have been very good. I want the Bratz Sizzlin Skateboard, Bratz helmet and the Bratz 4-pc protective gear. And leave my cusin something that looks like something golf because I want it for my cusin Jamie. For my mom I wants jewelery and dad wants lots of tools.

Love,
Kennady

Dear Santa,
I have been a good girl this year. And this is the things that I want.

1. A girlfriend for my brother Ryan.
 2. Stuff for my other brother Josh's apartment.
 3. Something for my mom.
 4. Something for my dad.
 5. Anything good for me.
- Santa I love you. And I hope

that you get me everything that I want.

Love,
Blair Johnson
P.S. Merry Christmas and a happy new year.

Dear Santa,
Santa I have been a good girl so far. Santa I want a dollhouse and clothers and a Doffie and a dog and a Harley Davidson gacket and a nother and my on house and mommy's house and a pare of gloves and a Barbe head and a pare of shoes and wen I grow up I want to get a job over Sykes and mery Chirmas to you Santa and me to and Bratz dolls for me and my sisters and I will leaf you some cockeys by the tree.

Love,
Erica

Dear Santa,
I have been good this year. I want a real dirt bike and a helmet and CDs and some tools for Dad and a X-box for brother and Bratz for my sister and new closes for my mom.

Love,
Dakota Ballenger

Dear Santa,
I want a diamond ring for my mamaw. And a dolphin clock for my mom because she collect clocks. And bring my nana a Christmas tree ornament. And maybe bring me a little something like a Flava and maybe a angel neckles and maybe give me a little something like a wish. Please get my mamaw better. Please give me that wish.

Love,
Brianna

Dear Santa,
I have been a good girl. I whit a Game boy and a ring for me and a Braze doll and Braze doll and Braze doll and a cover with Braze on it.

Love,
S a v a n n a h Newsome

Dear Santa,
I have been a very good boy this year. I want a Daredevil costume, Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles Micleangleo doll, Lenardo doll, Donatelo doll and Rofil doll, a donatello staff, Leonardo sword and a dictionary. Give my mom a ring and dad a Playstashen two. Give my sister a blanket. I will leev the milk and cookies in front of the tree.

Love,
Cameron

Dear Santa,
I want joy, clothes, shoes, another pair of shoes.

Love,
Shyenne Tackett

Dear Santa,
I have been good. I want a poodly skirt, a real puppy, a teddy bear, a beautiful ring for my mom, a hat for my dad. I want to enjoy Christmas with my family. I want a new big bike, a dress for my cousin Dessy, a bibble for my Aunt Lisha, a toy truck for my cousin Dacken, a vidoe game for my cousin Alexia, a Playstashen for my cousin Brenia, little t.v. for my cousin Chesy, a book for my Aunt Brida, a Old Navy shirt for my cousin Branden, a Old Navy truck for my Uncle Billy, a ring for my mamaw, a truck for my papaw.

Love,
Toni

Dear Santa,
I have a very boy. I want a big red Harley Davidson moder cycle. I want a big red remote control, car. I want a set of cars for my brother. And I want a doll for my sister and I want a set of hair bows for my sister. I want a ring for my mom and I want a nife for my dad.

Love,
Austin Hall

Dear Santa,
I want a boombox for Christmas. And a Barbie for Christmas. And I want my momy a ring.

Love,
Syrena

Dear Santa,
I want a drum set. And I want a Harley-Davidson bike. And I want a lot money. And I wish I had a littel puppy. And I mite get my mom and dad a moter-sikol. And I been a good girl.

Merry Christmas.
Love,
Latisha Moore

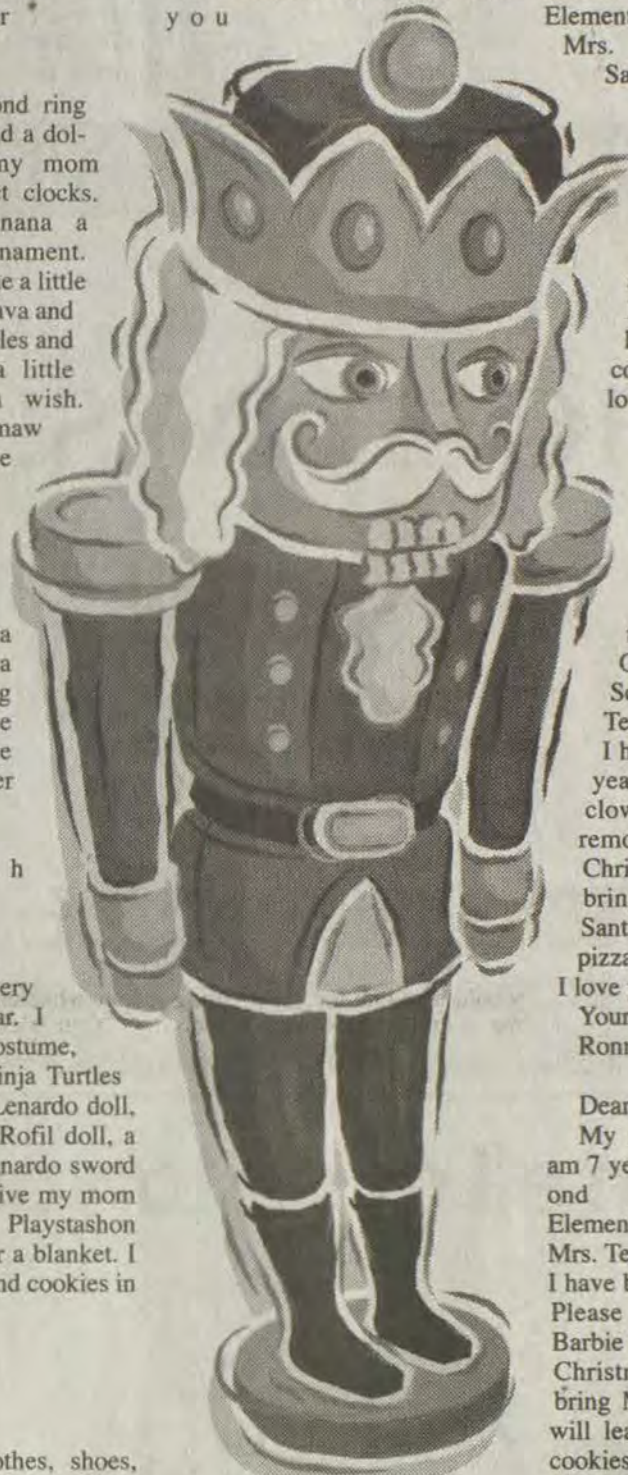
Dear Santa,
I have been such a good girl this year so will you bring me a Barbbie house, some Bratz dolls, a Flava doll. Will you get me a new bike and a lot of toys.

Merry Christmas Santa!!!
Your friend,
Zella

Dear Santa,
Christmas is coming soon. What kind of cookies do you like. I want a lot of books. Go to Tennessee, then go to Books-A-Million, then go to the place with the kids books, then go left. But, get Jonna some Dora the Explorer books. I want some Brat dolls and My Scene dolls. I want clothes too. Bring Mommy jewelry. And Daddy socks.

Love,
Joslyn Isaac

Dear Santa,
How are you. I have been a good girl. Can you give me a Hot Wheels set for Zackie. Can y o u



give me a Harle Davidson hat for Dad. And a drum for me, a dress for Mom, a knife for Dad, a CD player for Whitney. Happy new year, Santa. What cookes do you like.

P.S. Love,
Miranda

Mrs. Teresa Akers' second-grade class

Dear Santa,
My name is Anthony Ryan Johnson and I am 8 years old. I attend the second grade at Osborne Elementary School and I am in Mrs. Teresa Akers' room. Santa, I have been very good this year. Please bring me a racecar, wading boots and new clothes #3 Dale Earnheart for Christmas. Would you also bring my sister a baby doll.

Santa, I will leave you some milk and cookies under the tree. I love you, Santa.
Your friend,
Anthony

Dear Santa,
My name is Austin Mitchell and I am 8 years old. I attend the second grade at Osborne Elementary School and I am in Mrs. Teresa Akers' room. Santa, I have been very good this year. Please bring me a Bowflex 3000, a new bike seat and a dinosaur book for Christmas. Would you also bring Chasity some new makeup. Santa, I will leave you some pop and a cheese sandwich under the tree. I love you, Santa.

Your friend,
Austin

Dear Santa,
My name is Destiny Moore and I am 7 years old. I attend the second grade at Osborne Elementary School and I am in Mrs. Teresa Akers' room. Santa,

I have been very good this year. Please bring me a Barbie head, clothes and new shoes for Christmas. Would you also bring Jasmine a doll. Santa, I will leave you some milk and cookies under the tree. I love you, Santa.

Your friend,
Destiny

Dear Santa,
My name is Kerry Clemmons and I am 8 years old. I attend the second grade at Osborne Elementary School and I am in Mrs. Teresa Akers' room. Santa, I have been very good this year. Please bring me Blue's Clue notebook and Blue's Clue video for Christmas. Would you also bring Josh a game. Santa, I will leave you some cookies and milk under the tree. I love you, Santa.

Your friend,
Kerry

Dear Santa,
My name is Mack Little and I am 7 years old. I attend the second grade at Osborne Elementary School and I am in Mrs. Teresa Akers' room.

Santa, I have been very good this year. Please bring me a Fast & Furious tape, a Hummer and a street bike for Christmas. Would you also bring Breanna a Barbie doll. Santa, I will leave you some milk and cookies under the tree. I love you, Santa.

Your friend,
Mack

Dear Santa,
My name is Ronnie Johnson and I am 9 years old. I attend the second grade at Osborne Elementary School and I am in Mrs. Teresa Akers' room. Santa, I have been very good this year. Please bring me a clown kit, Batman and a remote-controlled car for Christmas. Would you also bring Dad a lot of toys. Santa, I will leave you some pizza and pop under the tree. I love you, Santa.

Your friend,
Ronnie

Dear Santa,
My name is Whitney and I am 7 years old. I attend the second grade at Osborne Elementary School and I am in Mrs. Teresa Akers' room. Santa, I have been very good this year. Please bring me clothes, a Barbie head and a baby doll for Christmas. Would you also bring Mommy a coat. Santa, I will leave you some milk and cookies under the tree. I love you, Santa.

Your friend,
Whitney

Dear Santa,
My name is Darren Tackett and I am 7 years old. I attend the second grade at Osborne Elementary School and I am in Mrs. Teresa Akers' room. Santa, I have been very good this year. Please bring me a Honda, a Yamaha suit and a remote-controlled Hummer for Christmas. Would you also bring Andrew two wrestlers. Santa, I will leave you some milk and cookies under the tree. I love you, Santa.

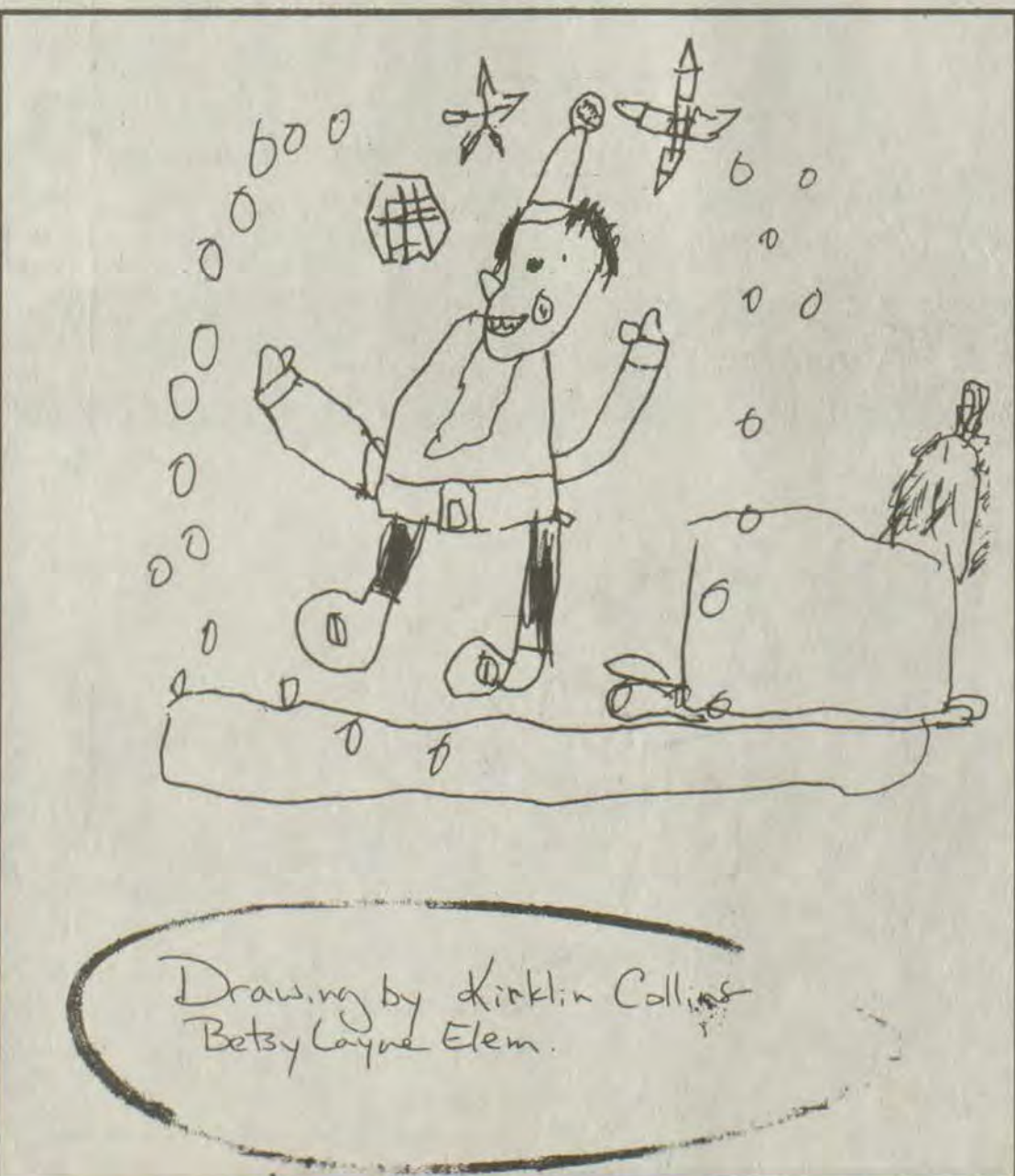
Your friend,
Darren

Dear Santa,
My name is Alexis Cotton and I am 7 years old. I attend the second grade at Osborne Elementary School and I am in Mrs. Teresa Akers' room. Santa, I have been very good this year. Please bring me a Bratz doll, a GoGo Walking Pup and a My Size Barbie for Christmas. Would you also bring Mommy some jewelry. Santa, I will leave you some milk and cookies under the tree. I love you, Santa.

Your friend,
Alexis

Dear Santa,
My name is Toby Tackett and I am 8 years old. I attend the second grade at Osborne Elementary School and I am in Mrs. Teresa Akers' room. Santa, I have been very good this year. Please bring me a Harley hat, Harley boots and Harley shirt for Christmas. Would you also bring Britashea a Harley pocket-book. Santa, I will leave you some milk and cookies under the tree. I love you, Santa.

Your friend,
Toby



Dear Santa,
My name is Amber Burke and I am 7 years old. I attend the second grade at Osborne Elementary School and I am in Mrs. Teresa Akers' room. Santa, I have been very good this year. Please bring me Harley boots, clothes and a toy truck for Christmas. Would you also bring Megan makeup. Santa, I will leave you some pizza and pop under the tree. I love you, Santa.

Your friend,
Amber

Dear Santa,
My name is Amberly Cook and I am 7 years old. I attend the second grade at Osborne Elementary School and I am in Mrs. Teresa Akers' room. Santa, I have been very good this year. Please bring me a Swan Lake Barbie doll, a Barbie head and a baby doll for Christmas. Would you also bring Austin a pair of boots. Santa, I will leave you some milk and cookies under the tree. I love you, Santa.

Your friend,
Amberly

Dear Santa,
My name is Jarrid Little and I

am 7 years old. I attend the second grade at Osborne Elementary School and I am in Mrs. Teresa Akers' room. Santa, I have been very good this year. Please bring me Harley boots, clothes and a toy truck for Christmas. Would you also bring Megan makeup. Santa, I will leave you some pizza and pop under the tree. I love you, Santa.

Your friend,
Jarrid

Dear Santa,
My name is Joshua Hall and I am 7 years old. I attend the second grade at Osborne Elementary School and I am in Mrs. Teresa Akers' room. Santa, I have been very good this year. Please bring me a toy truck, a race car game and Playstation 2 for Christmas. Would you also bring Little James a four-wheeler game. Santa, I will leave you some milk and cookies under the tree. I love you, Santa.

Your friend,
Joshua

Dear Santa,
My name is Taylor M. Johnson and I am 7 years old. I attend the second grade at Osborne Elementary School and I am in Mrs. Teresa Akers' room.

Your friend,
Taylor

year. Please bring me a Barbie head, clothes and shoes for Christmas. Would you also bring Markus a toy horse. Santa, I will leave you some milk and cookies under the tree. I love you, Santa.

Your friend,
Taylor

Dear Santa,
My name is Jasmine Chaffins and I am 7 years old. I attend the second grade at Osborne Elementary School and I am in Mrs. Teresa Akers' room. Santa, I have been very good this year. Please bring me makeup, shoes and pants for Christmas. Would you also bring Mommy a jacket. Santa, I will leave you some milk and cookies under the tree. I love you, Santa.

Your friend,
Jasmine

Dear Santa,
My name is Andrea Cicchetti and I am 7 years old. I attend the second grade at Osborne Elementary School and I am in Mrs. Teresa Akers' room. Santa, I have been very good this year. Please bring me a Barbie head, a Swan Lake Barbie and a half-size Bratz doll for Christmas. Would you also bring Andrea a

you some cookies and milk under the tree. I love you, Santa.

Your friend,
Andrea

Dear Santa,
My name is Kevin Redford and I am 7 years old. I attend the second grade at Osborne Elementary School and I am in Mrs. Teresa Akers' room. Santa, I have been very good this year. Please bring me a basketball game, a remote-controlled car and some wrestlers for Christmas. Would you also bring Aaron a toy car. Santa, I will leave you some milk and cookies under the tree. I love you, Santa.

Your friend,
Keiven

Dear Santa,
My name is Sarah Danielle Akers. I am 3 years old. I have been a very good girl this year. I have two older brothers, Joshua and Bobby. Most of the time they are pretty good, too. Santa, if you could, would you bring me a Barbie scooter for Christmas. Please bring Josh a new pair of fire boots (his other boots are too little). Bring Bobby lots of DVDs, Santa, because he is good to share them with Josh and me. Please bring my mommy, daddy and Mamaw Burke something nice, too. I love you, Santa.

Sarah Akers

Sabrina Hall's third-grade class

Dear Santa,
My name is Austin Bailey. I am in the third grade at Osborne Elementary. I have been a good boy this year. I hope you bring me a 22 rifle and bring me a new BB gun. I hope you bring my sister a basketball goal, a DVD, VCR, TV, and a new basketball. I hope you bring my mom a new ring!! That is all I want you to bring. But my teacher Mrs. Hall wants peace on earth. I hope you have a good Christmas.

Austin Bailey.

Dear Santa,
My name is Kaitlin Bates. I am in the third grade at Osborne Elementary. I have been very good this year, and it is getting close to Christmas. It is only sixteen days until Christmas and what I want for Christmas is a monkey to keep in the house and bars for it to go around on and a tree for it to swing on. The reason I want a monkey is because I collect them. plus I want a bull dog to keep in the house so when I get home I can fight with it.

by: Kaitlin Bates

Dear Santa,
My name is Baylon Branham. I am in the third grade at O.E.S. I have been good this year. I want a racing four wheeler, and a BB gun, a DVD player with DVD's and a dirtbike. My mom wants a new car. My Dad wants a new truck. I want an army set and my sister wants all clothes.

Baylon Branham

Dear Santa,

My name is Kristen Rowe. I am in the third grade at Osborne Elementary. I have been a good girl this year. My mom wants a DVD player. My brother wants an X-box and My sister wants a cat. Are you having a good time at the Northpole? Merry Christmas. Please bring Mrs. Hall some markers for her board—she really needs them!

Love,
Kristen Rowe

Dear Santa,
My name is Candace Tackett. I am in the third grade at Osborne Elementary. I have been good this year. I made the A honor roll. I want some bratz dolls and I want a scooter for Christmas. My brother wants some boxing stuff. I want some ear rings. I want some play station games and bratz games. Watch when you come over and be careful. I am getting my mom an angel and my dad a toolset—a big one! I hope my mom and dad and Wesley will like it.

Merry Christmas Santa,
Candace

Dear Santa,
My name is Mason Branham and I am in the third grade at Osborne Elementary. I have been pretty good this year and I hope that you could bring me a brand new dirt bike. I would also like a racing four-wheeler and a remote control car. Please bring my Mom a diamond ring and necklace. Be careful leaving the North Pole

P.S. Bring my sisters' some Bratz dolls and a bicycle.
Mason Branham

Dear Santa,
My name is Johnathan Newsome. I am in third grade. My school is OSBORNE Elementary and I want a army set, and a dirt bike, an air tank for my paint ball gun and some paint balls. My mom would like some jewelry and my dad would like a new scope for my black powder gun so we can go hunting with a scope that is good. Also could you bring me a tank of gas for my four-wheeler.

Johnathan Newsome

Dear Santa,
My name is Tyler Little. I am in the third grade at Osborne Elementary. Santa I have been a good boy. Santa I want for christmas is Tony Hawk Proskater 4. Then I want Tony Hawk underground. Then a True crime streets in L.A. I want a Goldberg wrestler then I want a Ric Flair wrestler. I will leave out some milk and cookies.

Merry Christmas
Tyler Little

Dear Santa,
My name is Austin Collins I am in the third grade at OSborn Elementary. I can't wait for christmas Because I Love Christmas. I want a BB gun for christmas. I will Leave you milk and cookies.

From your friend,

Austin Collins
Dear Santa,
My name's Shelly Slone. I am in the third grade at Osborne Elementary. I have been good This year. I hope you bring me a computer and that's all I want. But in my stocking I want some candy—that's all. Be careful leaving from the north pole and going up the chimneys and down the chimneys.

Shelly Slone

Dear Santa,
My name is Josh Clemons. I am in third grade at O.E.S. in Bevinsville, Ky. What I want for Christmas is a playstation 2 and kingdom heart, and the thunder and wind mega zords. You can bring my brother a nighttime notebook, and a glow in the Blue's Clues puzzle.

Your friend,
Joshua Clemons

Dear Santa,
My name is Jerry D. Newsome. I am in the third grade at Osborne Elementary. I have been very good. I hope you don't crash. I don't know what I want yet. But get my brother a spider man action figure and some hot wheels.

P.S. Bring my mom a beautiful ring. Merry Christmas!
Jerry D. Newsome

Dear Santa,
My name is Kelsey I am in the third grade at Osborne Elementary. Santa I want a DVD player and My Brother wants a BB gun. My sister wants a car for christmas too. I will lay down the cookies and milk for you santa. Don't forget my mom—she would like some skates.

Kelsey Akers

Dear Santa,
My name is Sydney Little and I am in the third grade at Osborne Elementary. How is the North Pole going? I would like some baby doll stuff from you and some Barbie dolls. My cousin would like to have a baby doll and some clothes for the doll. I would also like some perfume. Have a good trip!!

Sydney Little

Dear Santa,
My name is Diamond Hall. I am in the third grade at Osborne Elementary. I was wanting to tell you what I want for Christmas. I want some clothes, a necklace, a ring, and my mom wants me to get my ears pierced so I want some ear rings if I do get them pierced, please bring my mom a purple ring, my dad a truck, my sister a phone, a necklace with a smiley face charm on it and my baby sister a teething ring.


Ps. please watch over the troops.
your friend,
Diamond Hall

Dear Santa,
My name is Dakota Halbert. I am in The Third grad at OSborne Elementary and This is What I

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Big Sandy COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL COLLEGE

From all of us to you...



We appreciate and thank our great customers for their business!

Please join us for
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Tuesday, December 23, 2003
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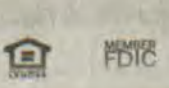
Special Appearances by
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Register for giveaways at any First Commonwealth Bank branch until Monday, December 22th.

Giving away two giant stockings for kids and cash for adults!

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Pikeville Branch (606) 437-1619
Morehead Branch (606) 780-0972



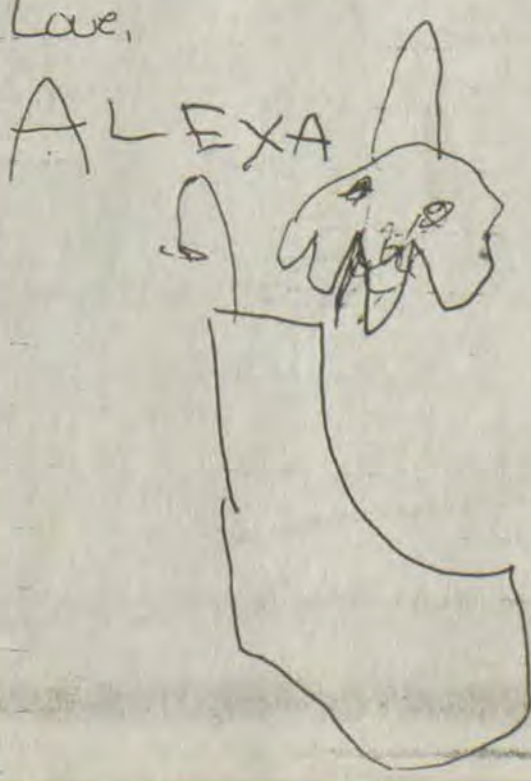
Dear Santa,

I have been a good girl this year. Can you please bring me + my little brother some toys for Christmas?

Thank you.

Love,

ALEXA



Want for this christmas. I want a motor Scooter and will you bring my nephew a Teddy bear? We will leave you some milk and cookies under the tree.

Merry CHRISTMAS Santa
Dakota Halbert

Dear Santa,

My name is Cody Hill and I am in the third grade at Osborne Elementary. I would like to have a dirt bike and a 22 rifle. I would also like to have some Hotwheel cars. I have been a good boy this year!

Cody Hill

Dear Santa,

My name is Teinna Hatfield. I am in the third grade at Osborne Elementary. I have been good so I hope I don't get a lump off coal for Christmas. I want a playstation 2, clothes, bratz, and baby doll stuff. My brother might want a BB gun, a big toy truck, shoes, and another playstation 1. So I hope I get every thing I wanted. Also I will leave you some milk with a lot of chocolate covered cookies.

Teiona Hatfield

Dear Santa,

My Name is Tylor Adkins. I am in the third grade at Osborne Elementary and I have been very good. Here's what I want for christmas—an xbox and some games and Nascr thunder 2004, smackdown here comes the pain, and smack Down shut your mouth.

your friend
tylor

Dear Santa,

My name is Phillip Newsome. I am in The Third grade at Osborne Elementary, and I want a BB gun and some cars, and DVD's and some Wrestlen doll's a big Tonka truck and a 4 wheeler.

Phillip

Dear Santa,

My name is Miranda Johnson. I am in the third grade at Osborne Elementary. I wish christmas was forevery because I have been good this year. Be careful coming down the chimney and bring me a 22 rifle and bring my sister a teddy bear. Bring my other sister a bunkbed. I hope you bring me every thing I asked for ok.

love Miranda

Ms. Judith Johnson's
Third Grade Class

Dear Santa,

I have been a very good girl this year. will you bring me thes present's for christmas the 24 of this month. I would like a bike for my dad's house, a for wheel-er, pair of boots a warm slepping bag and a tint. And for Kaylane and her babby sister Destiny to get the gifts they want this year. And I get a fish tank. I go to Osborne Elementary school I am in Ms. JJohnson class I am 8 years old.

Sarah Johnson

Dear Santa,

I've been a good boy this year I go to O.E.S. I've got the best teacher ever her name is Ms. Judith Johnson I want a computer with internet and games.

Jeremiah

Dear Santa,

I go to Osborne elementary School. I am in the 3rd grade. I have been a very good boy this year. I want a Lot of Yugiioh cards and the Yugiioh toys and just my family my brothers, whatever they want and my family whatever they want and thats all.

Weston

Dear Santa,

I have been a very good girl this year. So can I please have this. All I want for Christmas is my family. Because Christmas is not about toys its is about love and care. And not only about love and care it is about Jesus's birthday. If they had not brung gifts to him we probably woldd not have gifts today. I really dont want anything. All I want to say is Merry Christmas.

Aaliyah Antonelle Sanders

Dear Santa,

I have been a very good boy this year. I would like a dirt bike, xbox, play station 2, and Nintendo game cube. And bring my little couzin Taylor a barbie of swan lake movie. I go to osborne Elementary School. And I have the very best teacher Ms. Judy Johnson.

Matthew caudill

Dear Santa,

I have ben a very good girl this year. I doo't want that much this year. I want just want a few simple gifts. Like a make up kit would be nice. And may be a new barbie doll. But I want you to get my brother that game he has been wanting. ok. I will bake you lots of cookies

you friend
Sara Hall

Dear Santa,

I have been a very good boy this year, and I want a ninga virtual reality game. I live at Teeberry Kentucky.

Hunter Bailey

Dear Santa,

I have been a good girl. This year so. I think I should get a lot of Christmas gift. I would lik radio, cD's and some candy for Christmas. Also if you can get it I woUld want an art Set

Set

Dear Santa,

I have been a very good boy this year. I go to Osborne Elementary school. I am in Ms. Judith Johnson's class. I would like to have a dragon ball z buduki 2 game. Or a duelist of the rose game that comes with the three magnet warriors

Dakota Lee Justice

Dear Santa,

I have been a good girl this year. I go to Osborne Elementary School. I would like a snow board, power ranger movie, scooby doo and the moster of mexico, cothes, boots, fur coat, lizzie megire movie, and for my sister a snow board. And my mom some medicine. Dad some too for he's hand and shoulder.

Rachel Hall

**Ms. Akers
third-grade
class**

My name is Michael Collins, and I am nine years old. I am in third grade at Osborne Elementary. My Teacher is Mrs. Akers. I have been a very good boy this



Sara Cochran

Dear Santa,

I have been a very good girl This year. Will you bring me a bike for Christmas? I will be happy if you do. After Christmas is my birthday. And I will get 20 dollars. My mom is all ready getting me a kite. My birthday is january The 1st and Dad said he will buy me a ball To play with in The backyard. I want a folder like my sisters. I am in Judy johnson room I go to .O.E.S.

you friend
April

Dear Santa,

I have been a very good boy this year. and I want a snow board for Christmas and my brother a roli poli oli stuff animal. And I will Leave cookies and milk for you.

Your friend
Michael

P.S.I Love you Santa

Dear Santa,

I have been a good girl this year. I would love to these things for Christmas: A pair of high heel boots, and electronic drum set, clothes, and a Rebecca Lynn Howard CD.

Erica Tackett

Dear Santa,

I want a dirt bike, a 4-wheeler, a remote car and I want you to bring a gift for my mom.

Doug Herald

Dear Santa,

I have been a good boy this year. I want a bicycle. I hope I have a good Christmas.

Seth

Dear Santa,

I've been a very good boy this year, I go to OSborne Elementary. I've got the best teacher Ms. Judy Johnson. I want gooeey looey, operation, operation head, Boduki 2. Also I want the legacy of Goku 2.

Austin J.

Dear Santa,

I have been a good boy this year. Santa, I want a new Yugi oh cards. And a xbox and 1 game.

Jonathan

Dear Santa,

I have decided what I want for Christmas this year, so I am Writing you this letter. I want a bicycle a doll and a new Pocket book.

year. for Christmas please bring me . . .yo-gi-oh cards. And get the stuff I have picked out. Please bring the poor children a bunch of stuff and my family a million dollars and Mrs. Akers a hundred thousand dollars for Christmas.

Michael Collins

Dear Santa,

My name is Brtney Fogle. I am 8 years old. I am in the 3rd grade at Osborne Elementary. My teacher is Mrs. Akers.

I have been a very good girl this year. For Christmas bring me Mustang, red white, blue basket ball, a rabbit, computer, cell phone, pager, clock, flag, dog, four wheeler, makup set, gameboy, play station 1, playstation 2, x box, riden barbie car, CD player, barbie.

Britany Fogle

Dear Santa,

My name is Breylee Holbrook. I am 8 years old. I am in the third grade at Osborne Elementary. My teacher is Mrs. Akers.

I have been a good boy this year. For Christmas, I want you to bring me a lot of toys, like a playstation 2 and game like bicycle games, dirt bike games, and so care racing games. Plus I want you to bring me 1 million dollars for Mrs. Akers. And plus I want every body to be happy and spend time with their love ones.

Breylee Holbrook

Dear Santa,

My name is Janeal Brown and I am 9 years old. I am in the 3rd grade at Osborne Elementary. My teacher is Mrs. Jan Akers.

I have been a very good girl this year. For Christmas, please bring me a hipclip, and the poor children a house, and some, money, and I wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Merry Christmas!
Janeal Brown

Dear Santa,

My name is Blaine Little and I am 8 years old. I am in the 3rd grade at Osborne Elementary. My teacher is Mrs. Akers. I have been a very good Boy this year. For Christmas please Bring me a Play Station combo and a deer Hunting game, Tyco dirt bike remote control, and a gold eagle necklace. MY MOM and dad

say that I have been good. I Like Christmas because you get a lot of toy's and you get to spend time with your Family and get together to celebrate Jesus birth-day.

Blaine Little

Dear Santa,

My name is Jaimee Biley and I am 9 years old. I am in the 3rd grad at Osborne Elementary. My teacher is Mrs. Akers. I have been a very good girl this year. For Christmas/Please bring me.....computer, CS player, CDs, TV, VCR, Tapes, and the rest toys.

Merry Christmas
Jaimee Biley

Dear Santa,

My name is Leanna Moore and I am 8 years old. I am in the 3rd grade at osborne Elementary. My teacher is Mrs. Akers. I have been a very good girl this year for Christmas please bring me a Barbie cash register for christmas. I can't wait t get it from you, Santa. Thankyou. Have a Merry Christmas.

Leanna Moore

Dear Santa,

My name is Jazmin Mardis and I am 8 years old. I am in the 3rd grade at osborne Elementary. My teacher is Mrs. Jan Akers.

I have been a very good girl this year. For christmas bring me a CD player, a bike, the cheatah girls (cd) Hilary Daff (CD), a brats Doll, a brats game, a motor proof scooter, and that is what I would like. Could you bring it for me? If you can't, that is ok.

Jazmin Mardis

Dear Santa,

My name is Joshua Cody Allen. I am 8 years old. I am in the 3rd grade at Osborne Elementary. My teacher is Jan Akers.

I have been a very good boy this year. For Christmas please bring me a Playstation 2 and a Game Quib game. It is called Soul Calbor 2. I want you to bring my sister a Playstasin and my brother a bastet ball game for game Quib.

Joshua Cody Allen

Dear Santa,

My name is Jr Johnson, and I am 9 years old. I am in the 3rd grade at Osborne elementary. My teacher is Mrs. Akers.

I have been a very good boy this year. For Christmas, please bring me only one this this year a remote control hummer. Please bring the rest of my gifts you were going to give me to the poor. So I can feel happy about myself, and make some poor kids happy. And only one more things make all the kids in the world happy so I will to. Help some people that is sick and I will be very very very happy this year.

Jr Johnson

Dear Santa,

My name is Daniele Barnett. and I am 9 years old. I am in the 3rd grade at Osborne Elementary School. My teacher is Mrs. Akers.

I have been a very good girl this year. For Christmas, please bring me some rollerskates, a CD carrier, a computer, a play station 2 for my brother, a x box for me, some barbies for my sister, it doesn't matter what you get my mom She will take anything you give her. Bring my sister and brother and poor kids anything they like.

Daniele Barnett

Dear Santa,

My name is Jacob Crager, and I am 9 years old.. I am In the 3rd grade at Osbrone elementary. My teacher is Mrs. Akers.

I have been a very good boy this year. For christmas, please bring me a Play station combo with the cords and a green machine. Bring my sister diamond studs, Ty a diamond necklace, and my mom some uniforms for work.

Jacob

Dear Santa,

My name is Jimmy Helton, and I am 8 years old. I am in the 3rd grade at Osborne Elementary. My teacher is Mrs. Akers. I have been a very good boy this year, For Christmas please bring me a gamecube, and an invisible wars for it.

Also, bring me candy, a pair o' roller skates, and a desk so I ca do my homework. I would als like a computer and for my whole family to be together on Christmas Eve. I would like for my sister to get the presents she wants. And for my whole family to be happy.

Jimmy Helton

Dear Santa,

My name is Travis and I am 8 years old. I am in the 3rd grade at Osborne elementary. My Teacher is Mrs. Akers, I have been a very good boy this year. For christmas please bring me a playstation, bring me smack-down with it. Bring me a Model car. Bring me a phone. Please bring me a chair. Bring me a clock for Christmas. Bring me a watch. Bring me a motorcycle. Please bring me a gamecube with zelda. Bring me a playstation combo. Bring me a remote control racecar. Bring me a four wheeler.

Travis Hall

Dear Santa,

My name is Lucas Mullins, and I am 8 years old. I am in the 3rd grade at Osborne Elementary. My teacher is Mrs. Jan Akers.

I have been a very good boy this year. For christmas, please bring me ...a yugiioh toy mascot, my brother a play station 2, and all poor children to have what I have.

Lucas

Dear Santa,

My name is Tia young, and I am 8 years old. I am in the 3rd grade at Osborne Elementary. My teacher is Mrs. Akers. I have been a very good girl this year. For Christmas, please bring me a password journal, hit clip, gameboy, the aaron and nick carter game, my Mom and Dad some thing nice, my BaBy cousin Johnna a new outfit, my Baby cousin Lyndzy a new outfit. My cousin courtney a makup kit, my cousins girlfriend Liz Something nice. My cousin BaBBY something nice. Weson, Jarhett, Colby Brandon, all something nice.

Tia Young

Winter Poems

"Our Joyous Winter"

By: Lucas Stewart, Wesley Christian School, 4th grade

Winter is a time of greatness,
Winter is a time of joy,
Winter is a time to celebrate,
The birth of our great Lord.

"Snowman Dances"

By: Destinee Burbaugh, Duff Elementary, 3rd grade

The snowman dances
Under a sky full of snow.

We built him yesterday
When we went out to play.

We sang a song
And danced along.

Our favorite snowman
Who we named Sam.

"Winter Nights"

By: Tish Austin, Betsy Layne Elementary, kindergarten

Winter night is as the wind
blows

Blistering cold,
I fell its going to snow
And snow falls
Shinning like dimonds threw

the night
Twinkling alone
With the stars that look like
little lights

On toes cold winter nights.

"What is your favorite holiday tradition?"

Zak Key, 6th grade, Wesley Christian School:

My favorite holiday tradition is Thanksgiving because my family goes to Lexington, Kentucky, to my aunt's house.
Leandra P., 6th grade, Wesley Christian School: My favorite holiday tradition is when my whole family goes to Gatlinburg, Tennessee for a weekend. We always have a great time! It's fun when we're all together.
Bryan Thomas Stratton, 6th grade, Wesley Christian School: My favorite holiday tradition is

Christmas because I like to give presents rather than get presents. The one main thing I like is celebrating the birthday of Jesus Christ.

"What would you like to do more of in 2004?"

What would you like to have more of? What are your resolutions for the New Year?"

Leandra P., 6th grade, Wesley Christian School:

In 2004, I would like to spend more time with my pets and family. I'd like to read my Bible more. I'd like to spend more time doing all these things.

Bryan Thomas Stratton, 6th grade, Wesley Christian School: I'd like to ride my motorcycle more. Because I do not have anything to do. I would like to have more time playing video games. I would like to get taller than my sister before the New Year.

Happy Holidays

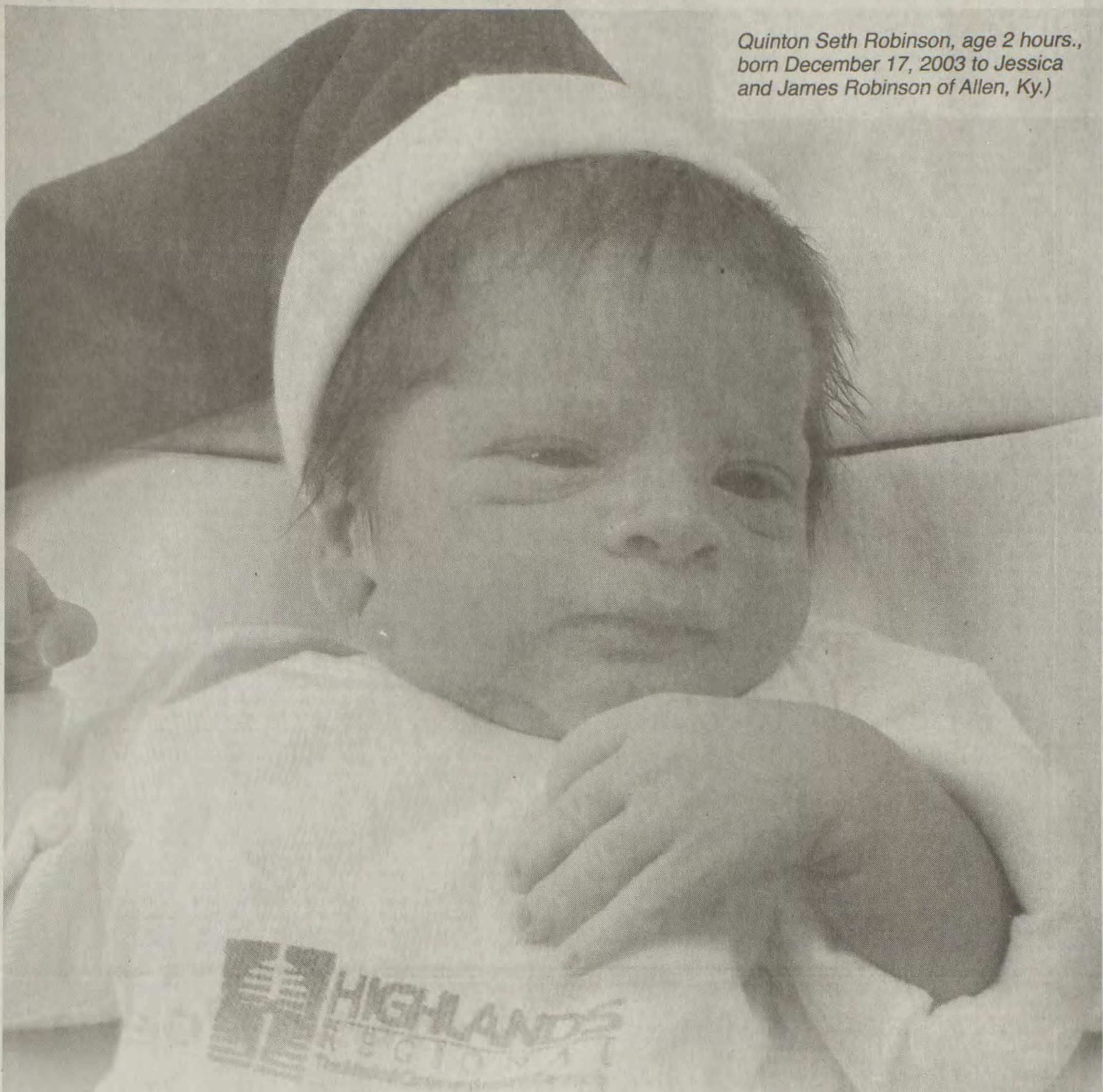
from

Kitchen Showcase Design Center

(606) 789-8337

982 Broadway • Paintsville, Ky.

Quinton Seth Robinson, age 2 hours.,
born December 17, 2003 to Jessica
and James Robinson of Allen, Ky.)



*During the Holiday Season more than
ever, our thoughts turn gratefully to those who
have made our progress possible. In this
spirit we say, simply but sincerely
Thank You and May You Enjoy
All the Blessings of the Holiday Season
and a Happy, Healthy New Year*



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SECTION

B

INSIDESPSPORTS

- Kentucky hoops • page 2B
- H.S. Scoreboard • page 4B
- iHigh.com poll • page 4B

YMCA announces adult basketball registration

Pikeville Family YMCA will hold registration for its adult basketball leagues through Jan. 10. There will be separate men's, women's and church leagues. For more information, contact Carl Johnson at 606/433-9622.

INSIDESTUFF

- Lifestyles • page 1C
- Poison Oak • page 1C
- Classifieds • page 5C

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COMMENTARY

Merry Christmas to all ...

by RICK BENTLEY
TIMES COLUMNIST

I'm a sports guy. Sports. It's who I am, it's what I do. God, I'm lucky. I love sports, and I live sports. Does it get any better? For me, no, it does not. I'm sure many of you have a passion. Perhaps you love music. Or fishing. Or eating - now there's something I love -

maybe that's it for you. If it is, I hope you can someday find a way to do it for a living.

I'm lucky. Of that there is no doubt. Oh, sure, I don't have everything I want. Maybe I don't have

(See COMMENTS, page three)

Webb brings ALC Basketball to many fans

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

PIPPA PASSES - Nathan "Clipper" Webb serves as the sports director at WWJD 91.7 in Knott County and keeps quite a busy schedule. He is the voice of the Alice Lloyd College Eagles and Lady Eagles. Webb brings Alice Lloyd College men's and women's basketball into the living rooms and cars of many. He is a Floyd Countian who hails from Drift.

Webb attended South Floyd High School in Hi Hat. He is majoring in social sciences.

His career plans are to go into social work and sports broadcasting.

"I enjoy doing the games because it helps Eagles fans to keep up with their team," said Webb. "I never would have imagined I would be a radio announcer here at Alice Lloyd. I also enjoy doing my radio show "Sports Talk" with Becky Adkins on Wednesdays at 6 p.m."

Webb said his hobbies are chatting on the internet and watching television. He says he enjoys working at the radio station. He is the son of Roxie Bentley.

(See WEBB, page two)

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Rio Grande hands Lady Bears loss

TIMES STAFF REPORT

PIKEVILLE - A solid shooting effort kept them in the game until half-time, but Pikeville College cooled late in the game and fell to the University of Rio Grande 70-59 Wednesday night.

The Lady Bears hit 11-of-22 in the first half and stayed within three, 34-31, at the break. The score was tied twice in the second half, the first at 40 after

senior Caitlyn Ryan scored six straight, and the second at 42 when freshman Heather Dillon scored inside with 14:27 remaining.

After that, however, things went south for the Lady Bears, who were outscored 28-17 and fell to 7-5 on the season.

Rio Grande (10-2), receiving votes in the NAIA Div. II poll, won despite shooting only 41 percent from the field.

Junior Tana Richey led the Redwomen with 13 points. Rio had eight players with seven or more points.

Junior Alkia Fountain added 12 and pulled down eight rebounds to lead the team.

Pikeville had three players in double figures, led by freshman Ramanda Music's 13. She also had six rebounds.

(See PIKEVILLE, page three)



Music

RAIDERS TURN BACK HOST REBELS



photos by Jamie Howell

South Floyd junior forward Burnett Little eyed a free-throw in the second half of his team's game against rival Allen Central. Little led South Floyd in both scoring and rebounding. Pictured looking on with his back to the camera is Allen Central junior Ryan Hammonds.

Little plays big, leads South Floyd

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

EASTERN - Burnett Little was back at work Tuesday night. Little, in his first season of varsity action, scored 19 points and pulled down 17 rebounds Tuesday night to lead his team, South Floyd, to a convincing 60-44 win over host Allen Central.

South Floyd head coach Henry Webb and team, by beating Allen Central, open up 1-0 in the 58th District. As with any 58th District game, Tuesday night's meeting offered up an exciting environment.

"It was a big win for us," said Webb. "We're a real young team with just three seniors. It was a

real good atmosphere for our kids to play in."

Webb was also again impressed with the play of Little. All of South Floyd's Raiders handled the Allen Central pressure well.

Sophomore Ryan Johnson added 10 points for the Raiders. Jack Slone scored six points and handed out three assists for South Floyd. Brian Meade had six points, six rebounds and four assists. Steven Stanley had the same line with six markers, six boards and four helpers.

Adam Tackett netted five points and Mason Hall and

(See BIG, page two)



Allen Central head coach John Martin and sharpshooter Justin Hall looked on during a pair of free throws in the second half.

H.S. FOOTBALL

P'burg's Jamerson named to BGP team

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

UNION - Add yet another honor to a long list of accolades bestowed upon Prestonsburg High senior Nick Jamerson, a versatile football player. Continuing its tradition of leadership in Kentucky high school sports information, news, and discussion,

(See BGP, page three)

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

ALC men done with '03 portion of schedule

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

PIPPA PASSES - An area men's college basketball team is looking forward to the new year. The Alice Lloyd College men's basketball team is finished with 2003. The first half and first semester of the 2003-2004 season didn't give ALC Coach Gary Gibson the results he would have liked. Alice Lloyd currently stands at 3-9 on the season. The Eagles



Daniels

(See ALC, page two)

BASKETBALL

Blackcats hold off David School

by JAMIE HOWELL
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

PRESTONSBURG - It was not easy by any means for the Prestonsburg Blackcat freshman/sophomore team on Wednesday evening. However, a win is a win and that is just what the Blackcats did

(See BLACKCATS, page two)



photo by Steve LeMaster

South Floyd's Courtney Blocker (42) and Allen Central's Jessica Isaac jumped ball to begin Tuesday night's meeting between the Lady Raiders and the Lady Rebels. Host Allen Central, after trailing at halftime, battled back to win by double digits.

H.S. FOOTBALL

AC girls pull away

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

EASTERN - The first 58th District/Floyd County Conference game of the season for the South Floyd Lady Raiders came on the road Tuesday night against Allen Central at J.E. Campbell Arena. Allen Central's Lady Rebels had to play four quarters of basketball Tuesday evening when

South Floyd visited. The host Lady Rebels trailed at the end of the first quarter and at halftime, before lining themselves out and flying straight to a win.

South Floyd led 16-15 at the end of the first quarter and 29-28 at halftime. Host Allen Central, trailing by as many as seven points in the third period,

(See AC, page three)

Rise in rankings no big deal for Kentucky

by MURRAY EVANS
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LEXINGTON — Kentucky is ranked No. 2 or No. 1 — depending upon the basketball poll of choice — but the lofty ranking is not something on which the Wildcats choose to focus, coach Tubby Smith said

Wednesday.

Smith said the Wildcats, who are No. 2 in The Associated Press rankings and No. 1 in the USA Today/ESPN coaches' poll, must focus on their next opponent — in this case, Indiana. Kentucky (5-0) will play the Hoosiers (4-3) on Saturday at the RCA Dome in

Indianapolis.

"There is a whole year left," Smith said. "We get (the players') attention the next day and every day by the way we practice. I congratulate them on being No. 1, but that's about as far as it goes."

The Wildcats moved up in the polls — including a six-spot

leap in the AP rankings — after beating Michigan State 79-74 last Saturday in Detroit.

"It doesn't mean anything," Kentucky guard Gerald Fitch said of the high ranking. "Teams are going to come after us even more, so we just have to be prepared."

Kentucky, coming off a 27.1 percent shooting outing in its previous game against UCLA, found its shooting touch before a world-record crowd of 78,129 at cavernous Ford Field. The Wildcats shot a season-best 60.4 percent from the field against the Spartans.

Smith said he still saw room for improvement.

"I don't know if it was our best (shooting game)," Smith said. "I hope that we haven't played our best game yet. Up to this point, I haven't been particularly pleased with any game we have played so far. I know we can play better, and we have to play better."

Indiana lost three of its first five games, including a 100-67 decision to Wake Forest. The Hoosiers rebounded with wins over in-state rivals Notre Dame (66-63) and Butler (62-50), but they've struggled in recent years against Kentucky, having lost eight of their last nine games against the Wildcats.

Kentucky will focus its defensive efforts on Indiana guard Bracey Wright. The sophomore from The Colony, Texas, is averaging 21.1 points per game, 12 points per game more than the Hoosiers' second-leading scorer.

"We are going to pay a lot of attention to him," Smith said. "He is talented enough to make you look at doing those types of things (playing gimmick defenses). I like to think of us as having good team defense, and I don't particularly think one guy (will primarily guard Wright). I am more in tune to doing what we do best and maybe making some adjustments out of what we do."

Smith hopes that experience will be a major factor in the game, as Kentucky starts three seniors, one junior and one sophomore, while the Hoosiers have three sophomores and two freshman starters. All of Kentucky's starters have double-figure scoring averages, led by Fitch, the reigning Southeastern Conference player of the week, who is averaging 20.4 points per game.

"There is no substitute for experience," Smith said. "Indiana is a very young team, and their kids are still learning to handle those (challenging

types of environments and situations. But when you have a player like a Bracey Wright, who can get his own shot and create off the dribble and also deliver the basketball to open people, it's only a matter of time before they gain that same type of confidence and play with the same type of confidence we're playing with."

Kentucky is in the midst of a stretch during which it is playing five marquee opponents (UCLA, Michigan State, Indiana, Louisville and North Carolina) on consecutive Saturdays.

"Every game is a big game on our schedule," Smith said. "We let (players) know that from the day they come to Kentucky. They understand that from the day I go into their home to recruit them. We don't take any games off. We realize how big the Indiana game is, because it's the next game."

Webb

Continued from p1

Webb will get a break from the ALC men's and women's basketball action now as both squads won't return to action until after the Christmas break.

FRESHMAN BASKETBALL

Allen Central frosh drop Blackcats

by JAMIE HOWELL
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — The Allen Central Rebels traveled to Prestonsburg on Wednesday evening for a freshman and junior varsity matchup with the homestanding Blackcats and

came away with a split of the two games.

In the first game of the night it was the Rebel freshman team that came out on top by a final of 44-33. Allen Central's Tyler Slone led all scorers with a game-high 18 points. Ryan Collins finished in double figures for the

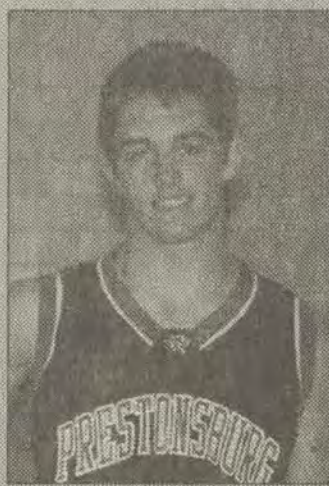
Rebels with 10 points.

Allen Central led 10-7 after the first quarter of play and 18-15 at the half. Chase Martin led the Prestonsburg attack with nine points. James Michael Lafferty added eight points for the Blackcats.

Allen Central began to pull away in the third quarter as the

(See FROSH, page three)

ATHLETES OF THE WEEK



Nick Jamerson, Prestonsburg, 23 points vs. Belfry



Jessica Isaac, Allen Central, 21 pts., 14 rebs. vs. South Floyd

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ALC

have only one conference win in eight attempts. Injuries have plagued the team. Senior point guard Tommy McKenzie was guaranteed to put up almost 20 points a game before he was lost for the season with a torn ACL. He would have also been one of the conference leaders in assists and free throw percentage. The biggest asset the Eagles miss from not having McKenzie in the lineup is his floor leadership. He had experience, he was battle tested. Sophomore Jeremy Daniels was showing Alice Lloyd fans the kind of talent he has before separating his shoulder against Brevard College on Dec. 6.

Daniels, who is a graduate of Betsy Layne High School, was averaging over 11 points and 6 rebounds a game. He was also hitting over 62 percent of his shots from the field and blocking 1.5 shots per game on defense. Daniels should be back to health by the new year. Tim Parks was giving Alice Lloyd solid minutes off the bench before injuring his ankle in practice. Parks hopes to return by the new year.

There were bright spots in the first half in the first half of the season. Senior point guard Ryan Shannon has stepped his game up this season. He has taken advantage of the starting spot and increased minutes he has received due to the loss of McKenzie. Shannon is averaging over nine points per game and has excited fans with some excellent passes and drives to the goal. Senior Matt Spencer has been his usual, solid self. He is leading the team in scoring and has taken on a big leadership role. Spencer is confident in his ability and wants the ball when the game is on the line.

Micah Oden has brought athleticism to the lineup.

Oden has the potential to put up some big numbers. He is currently averaging over nine points a game. He has thrown down some nasty dunks that Eagles fans haven't seen since the days of Jason Collins. Senior big man Jason Knott is making the most of his playing time. He is as fundamentally sound as any player on the roster. He always goes all-out and is a player who truly wants to win. Shannon Akers is a three point stroker. He takes and makes three-pointers from NBA-range.

Sophomore Jeremy Jackson is all out effort. Like Knott, Jackson gives 110-percent whenever he is on the court. The freshman have made their presence felt at times this season.

Chris Hurt (Johnson Central) has played solid and smart from

the point guard position. He runs the team smoothly and is only going to get better. Brandon Wheeler also from Johnson Central has shown a scorers mentality. He is confident in his ability on the court. Wheeler has the potential to be a big scorer for Alice Lloyd in the future. Jeremy Jones has stepped his play up as of late. He is athletic and has the ability to drive to the rack or shoot the rock.

The Eagles will play four conference games while on Christmas break. They will also play Central Bible College and participate in the College of the Ozarks Classic. The Eagles hope the new year brings not only better success in the standings but also better luck staying healthy.

Spencer having solid senior season for ALC men

Big

Continued from p1

Ethan Johnson netted three apiece.

Ervin Vance had two points for the Raiders.

Meade returned last week for the Raiders and has helped in each of his two games since returning from injury.

"We're much better with Brian Meade in there," said Webb. "He wasn't there for the first four games of the season."

South Floyd was able to get off many high-percentage shots.

"Our offense moved the basketball well," added Webb. "We

got some real high-percentage shots."

South Floyd and Allen Central traded baskets for most of the first half. The Raiders led 14-12 at the end of the first quarter and 28-25 at halftime. Allen Central pulled within one point at the end of the third quarter, trailing the Raiders 37-36. A slim fourth quarter for the Rebels saw South Floyd outscore Allen Central 23-8 en route to the victory.

The South Floyd defense tightened up in the second half and limited Allen Central's offense many times down the floor.

Senior Rossi Samons led Allen Central in scoring with 16 points. Austin Francis, another Rebel senior, netted 11. Junior Ryan Hammonds scored eight for the Rebels.

Allen Central's leading scorer for the season, Justin Hall, was bottled up for most of the night, scored seven.

Allen Central center Tim Griffith drew his third foul in the first half and got his fourth foul early in the third quarter, resulting in his sitting the bench for most of the second half. Griffith, a junior, finished with two points.

South Floyd is now off to Central Kentucky, more specifically Scott County, and then Lexington. The Raiders will take on Scott County tonight at the home of the Cardinals. Scott County is a top-10 team. South Floyd will take on Scott County as part of a tournament at Bryan Station High School in Lexington. The Bryan Station tourney guarantees South Floyd four games.

South Floyd was busy yesterday with a final practice.

"We're going to go down to win," Webb said, referring to his team's trip to Central Kentucky for the tournament. "Everyone is looking forward to the tournament."

Blackcats

Continued from p1

against a scrappy David School Falcon squad.

In a game that had several bright spots for both teams and several areas for each team to work on, the Blackcats had enough down the stretch to hold off a valiant bunch of Falcons. Prestonsburg jumped out to an early 8-3 lead behind the play of Jason Hall and Chase Martin, but the David School trimmed the lead to 8-5 after one quarter on a jumper from Justin Bohr.

Prestonsburg led 17-9 at the half and looked like they would put the game out of reach until Adam Meade heated up for the Falcons in the third quarter.

Meade tossed in 6 of his game high 16 points in the third quarter to help cut the Prestonsburg lead to 28-27 after three quarters of play.

Zack Ousley led Prestonsburg with 11 points and six of those points came in the final five minutes with the Blackcats nursing a three-point lead.

Seth Moore came off the Prestonsburg bench to score six points with all of the digits coming in the deciding fourth quarter.


Nathan Ousley drilled a trey form the right corner with 1:45 left in the game to cut the Blackcat lead to three points but four straight free-throws from Ousley put the game out of reach.

Patrick Henderson finished with seven points for the Blackcats and the trio of Bobby Hughes, Chase Martin and Jason Hall each netted three points in the win. Stephen Allen added three points for Prestonsburg and both John Michael Lafferty and Brooks Herrick finished with two points.


Adam Meade led the Falcon attack with his 16 points and Justin Bohr added eight in the short effort.

Nathan Ousley came off the Falcon bench to add 6 points and the trio of Josh Nelson, Jason Whitaker and Brandon Caudill all added a bucket for the Falcons.

David got the game to within three points in the final minutes but the four straight charity shots gave the Blackcats some breathing room and Prestonsburg pulled away with a hard fought 40-36 win over the visiting team.



SPORTS FAN OF THE WEEK



If you are the sports fan circled here... it's your lucky day!

Bring this photo to The Floyd County Times office at 263 South Central Avenue (down the street from the courthouse) to claim your Gift Certificate, which will entitle you to a free 8-inch ice cream cake of your choice, redeemable at **DAIRY QUEEN OF PRESTONSBURG**, and choice of a Times hat or coffee mug.



Family Medicine

By Martha A. Simpson, D.O., M.B.A.



Festive fruit salads a nutritious holiday treat

My predecessor, John C. Wolf, D.O., a number of years ago established a precedent of devoting one column each year at Christmastime to a holiday recipe. I'm proud once again to continue that tradition. Today, I won't talk about a human ailment or other health-care concern. Instead, this column is devoted to good - and, yes, nutritious - holiday eating!

One of my favorite holiday side dishes is a Waldorf Salad. This apple salad was first served at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in the late 1890's. The history of this recipe is interesting, especially since it was not developed by a Waldorf chef but by the maitre d'hotel - a Russian emigrant named

Oscar Michel Tschirky (1866-1950). In his time he was very famous and was known throughout the nation simply as "Oscar of the Waldorf." On one occasion, Oscar was introduced to one of the most important railroad men of the time, who later said, "I had rather meet that man than nine out of 10 of your so-called big men either here or in Washington."

Oscar's original salad was made of apples, celery and mayonnaise and served on a bed of lettuce. This tasty and nutritious salad has stood the test of time and is a regular at many holiday tables. My mother made this at Christmas every year.

For the last hundred years, this was

probably served because it was colorful, being made of apples. It is also full of nutrients that can only be obtained from fresh fruit.

The recipe for the classic Waldorf salad is:

- 1 cup tart apples chopped (e.g., Granny Smith)
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice (keeps apples from turning brown)
- 1 cup celery, chopped
- 1/4 cup mayonnaise
- Sprinkle apples with lemon juice after they are cut.
- Add all other ingredients.
- Toss to coat all pieces with mayonnaise.

My mother added about a 1/4 cup each of green and red seedless grapes, sliced in half, and walnuts, chopped. Some people add raisins, too.

I have seen a recipe with kiwi and pineapple as well.

While the Waldorf salad is fre-

quently a side dish, it can be a main dish if you add meat strips, like turkey, ham, chicken or even flaked fish.

You can keep the fat content down by using equal parts of low-fat yogurt mixed with low-fat mayonnaise for dressing.

This is a very versatile salad and is high in fiber, generally low in calories per serving, and should easily count for at least one of your daily fruit servings.

Another quick, tasty, colorful and nutritious holiday fruit salad is called Ambrosia. It is quickly assembled with

- 2 cans of mandarin oranges, drained
- 1 can pineapple tidbits
- 2 cups of coconut flakes
- 2 cups of fat-free whipped topping (e.g., Cool Whip Free®).

I strongly recommend the fat-free whipped topping, because it has no

calories from fat and only a total of 15 calories per two tablespoon serving. Made this way, Ambrosia fruit salad retains all of its nutrition and has very few calories. You want to refrigerate this before serving, but

in a pinch it could go straight to the table.

Happy Holidays!

Family Medicine® is a weekly column. To submit questions, write to Martha A. Simpson, D.O., M.B.A., Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine, P.O. Box 110, Athens, Ohio 45701. Medical information in this column is provided as an educational service only. It does not replace the judgment of your personal physician, who should be relied on to diagnosis and recommend treatment for any medical conditions. Past columns are available online at www.fhradio.org/fm.

Operation

Eyes

Continued from p1

their fundraising year with a special Valentine's Day fundraiser to be held this coming February. The fundraiser will consist of dinner for two and a show for \$20. Other fundraisers planned for 2004 will include a 4th of July performance and a roadblock that will be set up on Apple Day weekend.

"This whole thing, it's all about having a little fun and helping build a sense of community for our folks. It's just a nice way of giving back and spreading a little Christmas love," Music said.

Those participating in this year's Christmas show were: Randy Rice, Judy Rice, Holly Rice, Judy Hager, Ty Wright, Dustin Music, Charlie Music, The Powers Family, Amy Rice, Kady Rice, Laura Hager, Jamie Westbrook, Sanay Powers, Ethan Wright and Randall Wright.

I've heard others poke fun and make jokes about her - about her weight, her money, her empire, her non-traditional relationship with Stedman.

But through it all, Oprah remains indomitable. That's what I love about her. She has a strong sense of self that can't be destroyed by jokes or pettiness. Oprah knows what's important in this life and she steadfastly holds on to her principles and to her mission of not leaving this world without first doing everything in her power to make it a better place.

Unlike J. Lo, Oprah sees her riches as a means to making life a little happier for those who share this world with her. Whereas J. Lo spends vast amounts on making herself happier, Oprah shares her wealth with friends, family, and even strangers.

This week I watched as Diane Sawyer interviewed Oprah about her recent trip to South Africa to

do her part in bringing a little Christmas joy to orphaned, abandoned and poverty-stricken children and their families.

This Christmas season I've been feeling a little sorry for myself because I don't have a lot of money to spare for gifts. It seems like things have been tight from August on what with back-to-school, automobile taxes, insurance premium payments, electricity budget payment plan "catch-up" time, and so on.

Times are not exactly easy for any of us but single parent families are hit a little harder than most, especially at this time of year. Child support payments often fall short of even what is really needed for a regular month of expenses, so what's a parent to do when Christmas comes along?

Well, what this particular parent does is tell her children, over and over and over again, to "count your blessings." How can anyone not feel guilty about feeling sorry

for themselves when they have a warm home, clean beds, food, and most especially, love for one another? If you have it today, then take a moment to thank God for it because tomorrow it could all be gone.

As I watched "Oprah's children" tear away the wrapping from their gifts and scream with

Postscript

Continued from p1

disciplinatory problems.

Seldom do we hear of efforts to improve student scholarship.

What I would love to read about every week is stories of teachers, administrators and parents seriously discussing how they can all work together to make education a priority in our schools. And then doing it.

I'm at a loss every time I read that the economy is improving nationally. I'm certainly not an expert on economics, but I wonder how the economy can be getting better as the national deficit goes up, as individual debt continues to grow (including my own), and as companies nationwide continue to move

delight over a doll, a soccer ball, a new outfit of clothing, a new pair of shoes and a bag lunch, I thought about our own children in this country who will open packages containing such marvels as GameBoy X-boxes, PlayStation 2's, DVD players, designer clothing and multitudes more and not be nearly as excited as these chil-

dren who cannot believe their good fortune at coming to own their very own soccer ball.

A soccer ball, a warm bed, a bowl of popcorn shared with your family, whatever your Christmas joy, delight in it and remember always the greatest gift of all - that of love sent from above to be shared by all.

Continued from p1

ers make much less money and the company makes much more.

Now we learn that something's got to give with state retirement benefits or the state will be in even more serious financial trouble. We'll all surely have to pay for the shortfall.

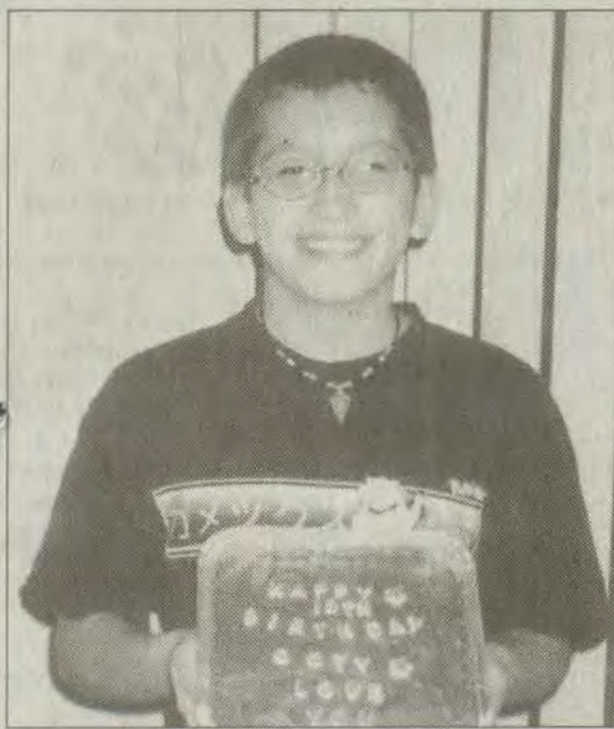
We can also expect other state services to decline - not just because we have a new governor, but because there is no money.

Still, "they" tell us things are getting better.

For whom?

Sorry to mimic the Grinch. This is the season to remember that hope remains. Have a happy holiday.

Birthdays



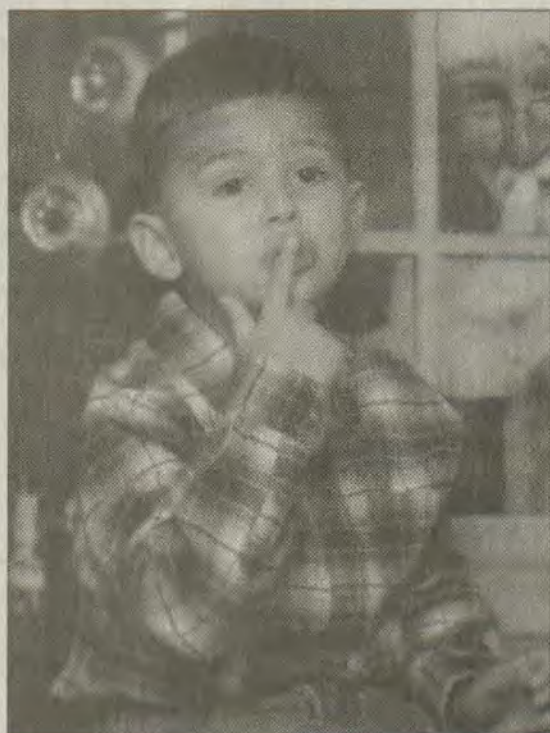
Coty is 13!

Coty Lee Stone celebrated his 13th birthday on November 25, 2003. Coty celebrated his special day with his family having dinner at Barren River State Park Lodge. Attending were his grandparents, Crandell Sr. and Wanda (Crisp) Slone, formerly of Allen and now of Shelbyville, his brother, Crandell Slone III ("C.J."), also of Shelbyville, and his parents, Crandell Jr. and Janis, of Glasgow. Coty received many gifts including a Game Cube system and games, a basketball goal, and shoes and clothing. Coty's grandmother baked him a chocolate swirl birthday cake. Coty is the great-grandson of Lottie (Pitts) Crisp, formerly of Allen and now residing in Mt. Washington, and the late Gomer Crisp. He is also the great-grandson of Nova (Slone) Conn, of Arkansas Creek, of Martin, and the late Miles Slone.



Chelsey is 6!

Chelsey Noel Couch will celebrate her sixth birthday on December 25, 2003. Chelsey is the daughter of Chris and Christine Couch. She is the granddaughter of Isabelle and Ray Parsons, Colson and Debbie Couch, and the late Delbert Prater. She is the great-granddaughter of Patty and Janon Coburn, Ruth Couch and the late James Couch. She is the great-great-granddaughter of Thelma Chaffins. Chelsey has one sister, Caitlin Abigail Couch.



Shh, Trevor Lee is 4!

Trevor Lee McKenzie, the son of Rodney and Lora McKenzie, of the Mountain Parkway, Prestonsburg, will celebrate his fourth birthday on Monday, December 22, 2003. He will be treated to a "Spiderman" theme birthday party at his home. Trevor Lee is the grandson of Robert and Lemozine Willis and James and Linda Trusty, all of the Mountain Parkway.

School

Continued from p2

Floyd County Health Dept. nurse at school every Wednesday. Services include Headstart physicals, kindergarten physicals, 6th grade physicals, WIC program, blood pressure checks, and more. Must call the FRC at 285-0321 for an appointment.

MCDOWELL ELEMENTARY AND FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER

School is currently collecting Food City receipts to assist in purchasing equipment for the school. Please donate your receipts by dropping them off at the school office or sending them with a student.

GED classes held in the library on Monday and Wednesday of each week, 8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Parent Support Group Calendar:

- Feb. 17 - Communication & Children.
- March 16 - Child Abuse awareness.
- April 15 - No meeting. All parents invited to attend "Give Yourself a Break Day" at the Mt. Arts Center.
- May 4 - Nutrition/Obesity.

Floyd County Health Department Nurse Joy Moore, is at the center each Monday to administer immunizations, T.B. skin tests, well-child exams, WIC, prenatal and post-partum services, and school physicals. Call 377-2678 for an appointment.

PRESTONSBURG ELEMENTARY AND FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER

The Family Resource Center is open weekdays 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

After School Child Care,

3-6 p.m., school days.

Call 886-7088 for additional information regarding the Prestonsburg Elementary Family Resource Center or its programs.

SOUTH FLOYD YOUTH SERVICES CENTER

Walking track open to public (except during special event).

The center has a one-stop career station satellite that is available to the community as well as students.

Anyone interested in Adult Ed may contact the center for information.

All new students and visitors, stop by the Center, located on the South Floyd campus, Room 232, and see Mable Hall.

For more information call 452-9600 or 9607 and ask for Mable Hall, ext. 243, or Keith Smallwood, ext. 242, or Donna Johnson, ext. 153.

STUMBO ELEMENTARY/MUD CREEK FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER

Resource Center hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Parents and community members are welcome to visit. For questions, call 587-2233 - ask for Tristan Parsons, Center Coordinator, or Anita Tackett, Assistant.

W.D. OSBORNE "RAINBOW JUNCTION" FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER

"Lost and Found" located in the Center. Parents need to pick up their children's items within two weeks. Any items not claimed within two weeks, becomes the property of the FRC.

Rainbow Junction Family Resource Center is located in the W. D. Osborne Elementary

School. Hours of operation - 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday, or later by appointment. Call 452-4553 and ask for Cissy or Karen. Parents/community members free to visit any time.

WESLEY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Dec. 19 - Christmas break begins, school will dismiss at 12 p.m.

Jan. 5 - First day back from holiday break.

FLOYD COUNTY ADULT ED CLASS SCHEDULE

Monday: McDowell Elem. - 8-11 a.m. - 377-2678; Wayland Comm. Ctr. - 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. - 358-3400; Wheelwright Comm. Ctr. - 12:30-4:30 p.m. - 452-2500.

Tuesday: Betsy Layne High School - 8-11:30 a.m. - 478-3389; Auxier Lifetime Learning Ctr. - 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. - 886-0709; Martin Adult Ed. Ctr. - 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. - 285-5111; PCC (Room J148) - 1:30-4:30 p.m. - 886-8374; St. James Episcopal Church - 5-8 p.m. - 886-8046.

Wednesday: McDowell Elem. - 8-11:30 a.m. - 377-2678; Wayland Comm. Ctr. - 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. - 358-3400.

Thursday: Betsy Layne High School - 8-11:30 a.m. - 478-3389; Auxier Lifetime Learning Ctr. - 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. - 886-0709; Martin Adult Ed. Ctr. - 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. - 285-5111; Wheelwright Comm. Ctr. - 12:30-4:30 p.m. - 452-2500; PCC (Room J148) - 1:30-4:30 p.m. - 886-8374; St. James Episcopal Church - 5-8 p.m. - 886-8046.

*All classes and materials free of charge. Feel free to contact any of the above numbers or the David School at 886-8374 for further information.

Floyd County Devotional Page

ASSEMBLY OF GOD

First Assembly of God, Martin: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Lorie Vannucci, Minister.
New Bethel Assembly of God, Burning Fork Rd., Salyersville: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m. Arthur (Sam) Smith, Minister.
Praise Assembly, 1 mile S. of Prestonsburg, intersection of Rt. 80 and U.S. 23: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.; Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.; J.M. Sloos, Minister.

BAPTIST

Allen First Baptist, Allen: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Arnold Turner, Minister.
Auxier Freewill Baptist, Auxier: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Thursday, 7 p.m.; Bobby Spencer, Pastor.
Benedict Baptist, Slack Rock Branch, Cow Creek: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Gordon Fitch, Minister.
Betsy Layne Free Will Baptist, Betsy Layne: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Tracy Patton, Minister.
Bonanza Freewill Baptist, Abbott Creek Road, Bonanza: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Jimmy D. Brown, Minister.
Brandy Keg Freewill Baptist, Corn Fork: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Roger Music, Minister.
Calvary Southern Baptist, Betsy Layne: Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Doug Lewis, Minister.
Community Freewill Baptist, Goble Roberts Addition: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Paul D. Coleman, Minister.
Cow Creek Freewill Baptist, Cow Creek: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Nathan Lafferty, Minister.
Daniels Creek Baptist Fellowship Church of God, Banner: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 7 p.m.; Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.; **Drift Freewill Baptist, Drift:** Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 6:30 p.m.; Thursday, 6:30 p.m. Randy Turner, Minister.
Endicot Freewill Baptist, Buffalo: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; James H. Smith, Pastor.
Faith Freewill Baptist, 1/4 mile above Worldwide Eapt. on Rt. 1428: Sunday Service, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m. Buddy Jones, Minister.
First Baptist, Garrett: Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Randy Osborne, Minister.
First Baptist, Martin: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. Sunday Evening Service 7 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Greydon Howard, Minister.
First Baptist, 54 S. Front St. (Irene Cole Memorial): Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Dr. Floyd Price, minister.
Fitzpatrick First Baptist, 2656 West Mt. Parkway, Prestonsburg: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Jennings West, Minister.
Free United Baptist, West Prestonsburg: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.
Free United Baptist, West Prestonsburg: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.; Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.
Grethel Baptist, State Rt. 3379, (Branchman's Creek Rd.): Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.; Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.

Facts About The BIBLE BY JOHN LEHTI

THE CONSCIENCE OF A PEOPLE
 WHENEVER KINGS AND PRINCES IN THE BIBLE SEEMED TO DEVIATE FROM THE TRUE PATH OF UPRIGHTNESS AS PRESCRIBED BY MOSEAN LAW, INVARIABLY A PROPHET WOULD COME CHARGING FROM THE HILLS, OR FROM THE FAR-FUNG REACHES OF THE WILDERNESSES, TO REMONSTRATE AND AWAKEN THEM TO THEIR SACRED OBLIGATION TO THEIR CREATOR. THUS SAITH THE LORD, "I RANG THROUGH PALACE, COURT-YARD, AND TEMPLE TO SEND CHILLS OF APPREHENSION THROUGH ALL WITHIN HEARING DISTANCE. SAUL WAS DECEIVED BY AN INFURIATED SAMUEL. KING DAVID WAS ADMONISHED BY A STERN NATHAN, AND JEZEBEL AND AHAZ FOREBODINGLY THREATENED BY A WRATHFUL ELIJAH. NO MATTER HOW MIGHTY A KING, JUST LET HIM GET OUT OF LINE AND AN OUTSPOKEN PROPHET WOULD APPEAR ON THE SCENE TO BLAST HIS SELF-SATISFACTION! THEY WERE TRULY 'THE CONSCIENCE OF THE PEOPLE!'"



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This devotional and directory is made possible by these businesses who encourage all of us to attend worship services.

Highland Avenue Freewill Baptist: Sunday School, 9:50 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; David Garrett, Minister.
Jack's Creek Baptist, Bevinville: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Jeff Barrett, Minister.
Katy Friend Freewill Baptist, 2 miles up Abbott: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Jim Price, Minister.
Lackey Freewill Baptist, Lackey: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Johnny J. Collins, Minister.
Lancor Baptist Church, 71 Cooley St., Prestonsburg: Sunday School, 10:00 a.m. Morning Worship, 11:00 a.m., Evening Worship, 6:00 p.m., Wednesday Prayer Meeting and Bible Study, 7:00 p.m.; Pastor Bobby Carpenter.
Liberty Baptist, Denver: Sunday Service, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 6 p.m.; Merle Little, Minister.
Ligon Community Freewill Baptist, Ligon: Worship Service, Sunday, 11:00 a.m. Thursday, 7 p.m.
Martin Branch Freewill Baptist, Estill: Sunday Service, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11:15 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; James (Red) Morris, Minister.
Martin Freewill Baptist, Martin: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; John L. Blair, Minister.
Maytown First Baptist, Main St., Maytown: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Bob Vamey, Minister.
McDowell First Baptist, McDowell: Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Hany Hargis, Minister.
Middle Creek Baptist, Blue River: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Eugene Cook, Minister.
Lighthouse Baptist, 2194 KY Rt. 1428, Prestonsburg: Sunday Service, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Donald Crisp, Minister. home phone 285-3385
Pleasant Home Baptist, Water Gap Road, Lancor: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Mark Tackett, Pastor.
Prater Creek Baptist, Banner: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Gary Fish, Minister.
Prestonsburg Community College Baptist Student Union, J 102: Wednesday, 11:30 a.m.; French B. Harmon, Director; Ella C. Goble, President; 874-9468/478-2978.
Rock Fork Freewill Baptist, Garrett: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Wendell Crager, Minister.
Rock Fork Regular Baptist, Garrett: Worship Service, 9:30 a.m.; Earl Stone, Minister; Jerry Manns, Assistant Minister.
Salt Lick United Baptist, Salt Lick, Hueysville: Worship Service, 10:30 a.m.; 4th Sunday, Thursday, 6:30 p.m.; Pastor, Chester Lucas.
Sammy Clark Branch Freewill Baptist, Dana: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.; Pastor, Robert Shane Powers.
Stephens Branch Missionary Baptist, Stephens Branch: Sunday Service, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Wednesday, 6 p.m.
The Third Avenue Freewill Baptist: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.
Tom's Creek Freewill Baptist, U.S. 23 (north of Layne Brothers): Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Chuck Ferguson, Minister.
Tom Moore Memorial Freewill Baptist, Cliff Road: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Youth Service, 5:00 p.m.; Evening Service, 6:00 p.m.; No Service the 1st Sunday of each month; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Jody Spencer, Minister.
Trimble Chapel Freewill Baptist, Intersection of U.S. 23 and KY 80, Water Gap: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Morning Worship Service, 11 a.m. and Evening Worship Service 6 p.m.; Wednesday Bible Study, 7 p.m., Youth Services 7 p.m.; Everyone Welcome.
United Community Baptist, Hwy. 7, Hueysville: Worship Service, 2 p.m.; Friday, 7 p.m.; Carlos Beverly, Minister.
Wheelwright Freewill Baptist, Wheelwright Junction: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Louis Ferrar, Minister.
Mother's Home Church, Toler Creek, Harold: 9:30 the 2nd Saturday and Sunday of every month. Moderator, Kermit Newsome.

Upper Toler Church of Christ, 3.5 miles up Toler Creek on right: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Tommy Dale Bush, Minister.
Weeksbury Church of Christ: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 10:45 a.m. and 6 p.m. Mike Hall, Minister.

CHURCH OF GOD
Betsy Layne Church of God, Old U.S. 23: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Judith Caudill, Minister.
Community Church of God, Arkansas Creek, Martin: Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Friday, 7 p.m.; Bud Crum, Minister.
First Church of God: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 10:45 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Steven V. Williams, Pastor.
Garrett Church of God, Garrett: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Donald Bragg, Minister.
Landmark Church of God, Goble Roberts Addition: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11:10 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Kenneth E. Prater, Jr., Minister.
Little Paint First Church of God, 671 Little Paint Road, East Point: Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Charles Heater Jr., Minister.
The Church of God of Prophecy, Hi Hat: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Don Fraley, Jr., Minister.

EPISCOPAL
St. James Episcopal: Sunday Service, 9:45 a.m.; Holy Eucharist 11:00 a.m. Wednesday Study Group 6:00p.m., Holy Eucharist & Healing 7:30 p.m. Father Johnnie E. Ross, Rector.

LUTHERAN
Our Savior Lutheran, Sipp Bayes Room Carriage House Motel, Paintsville: Sunday Service, 11 a.m.; WKLV (600 am) 12:05 p.m.; Roland Bentrup, Minister.

METHODIST
Auxier United Methodist, Auxier: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Wednesday, 6 p.m.; Doug Lawson, Minister.
Betsy Layne United Methodist, next to B.L. Gymnasium: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Randy Blackburn, Minister.
Christ United Methodist, Allen: Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Kenneth Lemaster, Minister.
Community United Methodist, 141 Burke Avenue (off University Drive and Neeley St.): Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Steve Pescosoldo, Minister.
Elliott's Chapel Free Methodist, Rt. 979, Beaver: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Philip T. Smith, Minister.
Emma United Methodist, Emma: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Wednesday, 6 p.m.; Paul Aiken, Minister.
First United Methodist, 256 South Arnold Avenue: 9 a.m. Contemporary Service; Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; Worship Service, 10:55 a.m. and 5 p.m. UMYS Service; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Mark D. Walt, Pastor.
Hom Chapel Methodist, Auxier Road, Auxier: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 6 p.m.; Garfield Potter, Minister.
Martin Methodist: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Roy Harlow, Minister.
Maytown United Methodist, Langley: Sunday Service, 11 a.m.; Worship Service, 9:30 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 6 p.m.; Roy Harlow, Minister.
Salsbury United Methodist, Printer: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Bobby G. Lawson, Minister.
Wayland United Methodist, Rt. 7, Wayland: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Wednesday, 6 p.m.; Brad Tackett, Minister.
Wheelwright United Methodist, Wheelwright: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Bobby Isaac, Minister.
Drift Pentecostal, Drift: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, Saturday/Sunday, 7 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Ted Shannon, Minister.
Free Pentecostal Church of God, Rt. 1428, East Point: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.; Thursday, 6:30 p.m.; Buster Hayton, Minister.
Free Pentecostal Church of God, Weeksbury: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 7 p.m.; Wednesday/Saturday, 7 p.m.; John "Jay" Patton, Minister.
Free Pentecostal Deliverance, Ext. 46 off Mt. Parkway at Campton: Worship Service, Saturday and Sunday, 7 p.m.; Patricia Crider, Minister.
Free Pentecostal Holiness, Rt. 122, Upper Burton: Sunday School, 11 a.m.; Worship Service, 6 p.m.; Friday, 7 p.m.; Louis Sarlan, Minister; David Pike, Associate Minister.
Goodloe Pentecostal, Rt. 850, David: Worship Service, 6 p.m.; Malcom Stone, Minister.
Parkway First Calvary Pentecostal, Floyd and Magoffin County Line: ; Worship Service, 6:30 p.m.; Mike D. Caldwell, Minister. 297-6262.
Trinity Chapel Pentecostal Holiness, Main St., Martin: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 7 p.m.; 2nd Saturday, 7 p.m.; Thursday, 7 p.m.; Ellis J. Stevens, Minister.

PRESBYTERIAN
Drift Presbyterian, Route 1101, Drift: Worship Service, 11 a.m.
First Presbyterian, North Lake Drive: Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; George C. Love, Minister.

SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST
Seventh-Day Adventist, 5 miles West on Mountain Parkway: Sunday School, 9:15 a.m.; Worship Service, 10:30 a.m.; Gary Sheph, Minister.

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints; Relief Society/Prethood/Primary: 9:30 a.m.; Sunday School, 10:30 a.m.; Sacrament Mtg., 11:20 a.m.; Wednesday, 6 p.m. Church Meeting House address, Hwy. 80, Martin, KY 41649; Meeting House telephone number: 285-3133; Ken Carriere, Bishop.

OTHER

Pastor Atha Johnson welcomes everyone to attend services at the **CHURCH OF GOD OF PROPHECY TRAM KENTUCKY.** Sunday school 10 a.m., Worship service 11 a.m.
Drift Independent, Drift: Sunday, 11 a.m.; Thursday, 6:30 p.m.
Dwale House of Prayer, Dwale: Worship Service, 7 p.m.; Sunday, 6 p.m.; Woodrow Crum, Minister.
Grace Fellowship Prestonsburg (next to old flea market), Sunday School, 10 a.m. Worship, 11 a.m. Bill Stukenberg, Pastor 889-0905.
Faith Bible, Martin: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 6 p.m.
Faith Deliverance Tabernacle, West Prestonsburg: Sunday School, 10:30 a.m.; Thursday, 7 p.m.; Don Shepherd, Minister.
Faith Revelation Ministry, 1/4 mile above Worldwide Equipment: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Randy Hagans, Minister.
Faith Worship Center, US 460, Paintsville: Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Thursday, 6 p.m.; Buddy and Maude Frye, Minister.
Full Gospel Community, (formerly of Martin) moved to Old Allen: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Sunday evening, 6:30 p.m.; Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.; Lavonne Lafferty, Minister.
Lighthouse Temple, Main St. and Hall St.: Worship Services, 12 p.m. and 7 p.m.; Wednesday/Friday, 7 p.m.; Roy Cosby, Minister.
Martin House of Worship, Old Post Office St.: Worship Service, 7 p.m., Saturday/Sunday.
Old Time Holiness, 2 miles up Arkansas Creek, Martin: Sunday School, 11 a.m.; Worship Service, 7 p.m.; Friday, 7 p.m.; John W. Patton, Minister.
Spurlock Bible (Baptist), 6227 Spurlock Creek Rd., Prestonsburg: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Dan Heintzelman, Minister.
Town Branch Church, Sunday School 10 a.m. except for first Sunday in each month: Worship Service, Sun. morning 10:00 a.m.; Evening 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 6 p.m.; No Sunday night services on first Sunday of each month. Tom Nelson, Minister.
The Father House, Big Branch, Abbott Creek: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 6 p.m.; J.J. Wright, Minister.
Youth Fellowship Center, Wheelwright: Monday-Tuesday, 6 p.m.; Thursday, 7 p.m.
Zion Deliverance, Wayland: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday/Saturday, 7 p.m. Prayer Line: 358-2001; Darlene Amett, Pastor
aylor Chapel Community Church, formerly the old Price Food Service building, located 1/4 mile above Worldwide Equipment, Rt. 1428: Sun. Bible Study, 10 a.m.; Sun. Morning Service, 11 a.m.; Sun. Evening, 6:30 p.m. Kenny Vanderpool, Pastor.
International Pentecostal Holiness Church, 10974 N. Main St., Martin: Rev. Ellis J. Stevens, Senior Pastor.
Rising Sun Ministries, 78 Court Street, Allen, Ky.: Sunday, 10:30 a.m.; Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. Pastor: D.P. Curry.
Church of God of Prophecy, Sun. School 10 a.m., worship Service 11 a.m., Sunday Night - 6:00 p.m., Wednesday Night - 6:00 p.m. Pastor Glenn Hayes. West Prestonsburg.

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SCHOOLNEWS

- Allen Elementary • page 2C
- PES • page 3C
- John M. Stumbo • page 3C

INSIDESTUFF

- Anniversary • page 2C
- This Town That World • page 2C
- Happy Birthday • page 3C

FAMILY MEDICINE

"Nutritious holiday treat"
-PAGE 3C

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POSTSCRIPT

Good with the bad

One of the best pieces of news I've seen on these pages in a long time was in last Sunday's paper.

It involved the decision by the site-based decision-making council at Prestonsburg High School to look at ways to improve students' academic achievement.



Pam Shingler
 contributing writer

One of my wishes for the new year is that every council in the county — make that in the region — will make a commitment to find solutions to the overall low achievement.

We hear of teachers upset with the hours they are required to work. We hear incessantly about athletic endeavors. We hear about

(See POSTSCRIPT, page two)

THROUGH MY EYES

Counting Christmas blessings

About a week ago, a friend emailed me one of those little fun question and answer surveys designed to help you learn more



Kathy Prater
 Lifestyles editor

about one another's personalities. She emailed the list of questions to me along with all of her answers. My job was to read her answers, delete them, type in my own answers

and email them back to her.

One of the questions asked, "Of all the famous people you know, whom would you most like to meet?". Although initially my mind clicked into hyper-drive as I began to frantically search through a mental checklist of celebrities and politicians, it was only a few seconds before I knew the answer. Oprah Winfrey.

I love the way Oprah refuses to allow herself to be boxed in by self-imposed or societal limitations.

(See EYES, page two)

photo by Kathy J. Prater
 Handing out sweaty scarves and breaking tender hearts was the show's star performer, Elvis Presley (a.k.a. Randy Rice).



photo by Kathy J. Prater
 Judy Rice, Auxier volunteer firefighter, busy mom, wife of Randy, and local hair stylist, is also, we now know, a pretty good Dolly Parton impersonator, too.

Operation North Pole

by Kathy J. Prater
 FEATURES EDITOR

Elvis Presley, Dolly Parton, Wynonna Judd - the stars all came out to shine last Friday evening at the Auxier Volunteer Fire Department. Or rather, some mighty good celebrity impersonators, that is.

According to Fire Chief Charlie Music, the fire department holds an annual Christmas show, as well as other shows throughout the year, in order to raise money for Christmas gift bags that they distribute to the families of their service community.

"It takes a lot of money to give away about eight to nine hundred gift bags," he said. "But we don't want Christmas to go by without knowing that everyone has gotten a little something. We especially try to take care of the elderly and shut-in's, and of course, the children."

Music and his volunteer firefighters leave from their fire station mid-morning each Christmas Eve and don't

return until some hours past sunset. "Last year I don't think we got back until after eight o'clock in the evening," said Judy Rice, one of the station's volunteers. "But, we got everybody. We want to make sure that no one gets left out."

The volunteer firefighters call their project "Operation North Pole" and they work all year round to raise the needed \$6-7,000 necessary to carry it out. The firefighters use the funds to fill gift bags with candy, toys, mittens, socks and other holiday and personal items. They then distribute the bags to homes located within their service area, and to patients at the Highlands Regional Medical Center.

"All money raised goes to Operation North Pole," Rice said. "Every penny."

In addition to the popular Christmas show that the volunteers staged this past weekend, they are already planning for Christmas 2004 by beginning

(See OPERATION, page three)



photo by Kathy J. Prater
 These children were all eager to let Santa know what they hoped to receive on Christmas morning. From left to right are Brady Hitchcock, Cody Harless, Trevor Wright, Santa (a.k.a. Randall Wright), and Sanay Powers.

SPECIAL FEATURE

Things to Ponder: Grief, no holiday Spirit

Since the holiday spirit and grieving both consume a high level of psychological and physical energy, it makes sense that the two tend not to be compatible. The state of "grief" and "celebration" are at such opposite ends of the continuum of emotional feelings that it seems just impossible to bring them together to a balanced position. Sometimes, the situation is influenced by where the grieving person "is" in regard to the stage of grieving and the factors contributing to the need to grieve. Because grieving can

be so draining, it contributes significantly to how an individual will deal with the expectations of "having the holiday spirit." Although this topic is certainly not one that is desired at this time of year, the reality is that at least one person and/or family you know is being affected by this being "the first holiday season without—a loved one." Perhaps, by your being more sensitive to those who have had significant loss during the past year, you can give a much-needed gift of love, understanding and support to grieving

friends and neighbors.

The impact of loss and grieving was personalized recently for me since Granny Jo passed away last week. Even though she had technically been my "ex-mother-in-law," we had a very unusual relationship that was extremely different from the typical expectations of such circumstances. We were sincerely friends who loved and respected each other. By no means does that equal us always seeing eye-to-eye, and doing everything exactly the same. We both recognized,

talked about, and agreed on the goals for our future relationship in the beginning, that is after her son and I divorced many years ago. Our joint interest and focus was on what was best for a 6-1/2-year-old boy, my son and her grandson. We also agreed that, after all, the divorce involved two people and not the whole family. It was truly remarkable how the bond and attachment were created over time, about 38 years, among my "ex-in-



Mable Rowe Lineberger
 Ph.D.

(See PONDER, page two)

School Happenings

ADAMS MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH SERVICES CENTER

School is currently collecting Food City receipts! Please send them in now through March.

■ The AMS Youth Services Center is open all year to assist students and families in need. Please drop by or call the center at 886-9812 for more information on any of the above activities, or to request assistance with a family need. Center is open from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., and later by appointment. Center coordinator, Michelle Keathley, Assistant coordinator, Sheila Allen. Center offers services to all students regardless of income.

ALLEN CENTRAL MIDDLE SCHOOL

NOTICE School is now collecting Food City receipts. Students may bring receipts to homeroom teachers, or parents/community members may drop off at office.

■ ACMS Youth Service Center distributes school activity calendars on the first school day of each month to all students. Parents should be advised to watch for these informative materials as a means to staying informed on school happenings.

■ The ACMS Youth Service Center is open each day from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., or later by appointment. For more information about the center or any listed activities, call

LaDonna Patton, coordinator, or Marilyn Bailey, assistant, at 358-0134.

ALLEN ELEMENTARY AND FAMILY RESOURCE YOUTH SERVICE CENTER

■ Call Allen Elementary Youth Service Center at 874-0621 to schedule your child's Hepatitis B vaccination, immunizations, and WIC appointment.

BETSY LAYNE ELEMENTARY

■ The Family Resource Youth Service Center provides services and referral services to all families regardless of income. The center is located in the middle building of the Betsy Layne Elementary School. Office hours are Mon. -

Fri., 8 a.m. until 3 p.m.

■ Open enrollment for After School Child Care is available through the Family Resource Center. Service hours are 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

■ Contact the center at 478-5550. Contact persons are Brian Akers and Charlotte Rogers.

CLARK ELEMENTARY

**Each Wednesday, 3:15 p.m., "Fit Club" for 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades.

■ We are currently scheduling Hep B immunizations and physicals for 5th grade students. Also scheduling appointments for WIC services. These services are available to anyone in the community.

■ The Clark Elementary Family Resource Center provides services for all families regardless

of income. We are located in the Clark Elementary School building and can be reached by calling 886-0815.

DUFF ELEMENTARY

**School is now collecting Food City receipts. Please help our school receive new computers and technological equipment through the "Apples for Students" program. Children may turn receipts in to their homeroom teachers. Community members may also turn receipts in to the school office.

■ Floyd County Health Dept. is at the school each Tuesday. Services include 6th grade school entry physical; Kindergarten, Head Start and Well-Child physicals; T.B. skin test; T.D. boosters; and WIC services. Please call

358-9878 for appointment if you are in need of any of these services.

■ The J.A. Duff Elementary Family Resource Center provides services for all families regardless of income. We are located in the tan metal building at the rear of the school. Please call or stop by to see us in our new location. Contact persons are Judy Handshoe, coordinator, and Ruby Bailey, assistant.

MAY VALLEY ELEMENTARY

■ Parent Lending Library is available to parents for video check-outs. A variety of topics are available.

(See SCHOOL, page three)

Ponder

laws" and myself. They became family in the true sense for me. Needless to say, in my opinion it was the best of both worlds for my son.

Granny Jo was 86 years old, and had a very significant medical history from birth, so that she had fought many battles and won. However, a tumor in her lumbar spine was diagnosed and treated almost two years ago. As a result, she was unable to walk afterward. Another significant problem for her was that her short-term memory seemed to have gone, even though she was still her "bright" self otherwise. She had been well known for her creativity and doing for others through the church and the "helping" organizations to which she belonged. Unable to be cared for at home, Granny Jo went directly from the hospital to the nursing home. Whenever we visited with her great grandson, she would repeatedly mention how she wished that he would be told about his "family roots." An impression was that, after about a year in the nursing

home, she started to display, indirectly, small signs of "giving up," but she never acknowledged being depressed. Granny Jo started slowly deteriorating this fall without the physicians being able to document any possible "physical" bases. Although it is not always easy to accept, her loved ones were able to begin grieving her potential passing, in a sense, as she quietly slipped away. Of course, that does not mean that her loved ones do not grieve for themselves the loss of her presence. Typical of such situations, the reality created during the graveside service was extremely difficult for those who loved Granny Jo. She was a dear friend and confidant, that will always be missed.

Even though death of a loved one is never easy, a guess is that, relatively speaking, having some preparation of an impending death can be "helpful," if used effectively. But, there are pros-and-cons for each position—know in advance versus quick, unexpected, or accidental

fatal events. The dear friend, who went with me to Granny Jo's funeral in North Carolina this weekend, is still grieving the death of her husband this summer. She talked about the emotional difficulties she was having at times, and the dread she felt of going through the "first Christmas without him." This friend had been in the "knowing in advance" group, since her loved one had terminal cancer, and for over a year she had cared for him.

There has also been a client this fall that placed "some" within the two groups, of knowing and not knowing, regarding a likely death. Her 20-something-old son was born with a critical birth defect and always had significant health problems all of his life. Even though the known risks of the operation had been explained to her, her husband, and her son, her son was not expected to have untreatable surgical complications. Thus, it was a shock when her child did not survive the operation, "died on the table." Who really

knows, but a sense was that this mother dealt with her child's death "better," because she knew as many facts as possible beforehand. She seemed able to accept that no one had been able to control all factors, and no one or thing was to blame. Everyone involved had done the best they could.

Several mothers have sought services within the past month or so, due to intense grieving of their child's death, that was unexpected. The cases have similarities in that the children were in their 20's, and the deaths occurred about four to six months ago. Another important similar aspect of the cases was that the mothers are so focused on the "reason" why the child died, such as: (1) drug overdose and "why didn't their (child's) friends do something to stop it?" (2) killed by an unknown person/persons and "why can't the crime be solved and justice be done?" and (3) killed by an unknown person/persons and "why can't the crime be solved and justice be done?" and (3) attempts for mental health services were not successful, "why didn't someone do what was needed?" An impression was that the mothers had "managed somewhat," until the holiday season was really obvious. It also seemed that they just could not tolerate the coming together of the pain of their loss and the so-called need for a holiday spirit. These mothers are "caught" in some of the significantly, emotionally painful stages of grief at the same time—shock, anger, guilt, and preoccupation with the details of what happened.

Besides, the typical depressive symptoms, these mothers have other likely symptoms of intense grief, such as wanting to "run away," not wanting to socialize, and not wanting to do that which is expected.

They signify the importance of using all resources—family, neighbors, and professional services. Loved ones might need to accept and tolerate the mothers' need to not have "Christmas as usual," perhaps going away for the weekend and having dinner in a very different place. Although doing differently does not "cure it all," it is nice to have relief as much as possible for a short period. Being able to do for the other person, as needed, is a sign of love and caring. Enjoy your holidays in the best way possible.

Continued from p1



photo by Kathy J. Prater

Spreading Christmas cheer

Tiny Miss Haley Dove Fitzpatrick, age 3, was the recipient of a giant Christmas stocking, given away by SNOOP (Spay and Neuter Organization of Prestonsburg). Shown presenting Haley with her gift is Rita Brock, of the Floyd County Times advertising team. Brock registered for the Christmas stocking at the SNOOP Pet Photos with Santa Claus event, held recently in Prestonsburg, and upon learning that she had won a child's Christmas stocking filled with gifts for a little girl, decided to present the stocking to Haley. Haley was very excited and pleased to learn that the gifts were all for her. Haley is the daughter of Bambi Baisden and Jeff Fitzpatrick.

Anniversaries

Celebrate 66 years of marriage

Mr. and Mrs. Troy and Stella Branham Hall, of Allen, will celebrate their 66th wedding anniversary on December 23, 2003. The couple were married on this date in 1937 by the Rev. John Nelson, a Church of Christ minister, at Dwale. Mrs. Hall's brother and sister-in-law, John and Lura Branham, stood in as witnesses for them. Mr. Hall is the son of the late Riley and Florence Hall, formerly of Allen. Mrs. Hall is the daughter of the late John Polk and Nancy Lafferty Branham, formerly of Dwale. Mr. and Mrs. Hall have eleven children: Troy Jr. (Mary Alice), of Monticello; Janelle (Kenneth) Conn, of Somerset; Ruby (Morgan) Ratliff, of Prestonsburg; Helen (Ernest) VanHoose, of Mason Neck, Virginia; Phyllis (Randall) Burchett, of Louisville; Barbara Meeks, of Richmond; James (Christene), of Louisville; Patricia (Wendell) Eichenberger, of Louisville; William Michael (Stacia), of Bardstown; and Monroe and Denzil (Karen), both deceased. They have 16 grandchildren (one deceased) and 22 great-grandchildren. Mr. and Mrs. Hall reside at Somerset.



65th Wedding Anniversary

Woodrow and Clarice Horne, of Lackey, celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary on November 29, 2003. The happy couple were joined in celebrating their special day by their six children, Jennings (Faye) Horne and Georgia (Troy) Miller, all of Kokomo, Indiana, Donald (Freedra) Horne and Roger (Brenda) Horne, all of Lackey, Woodrow (Brenda) Horne II, of Ashland, and SaRonda (Leo) Gayheart, of Richmond, Ky., 14 grandchildren and their spouses, 17 great-grandchildren, and several other family members and friends. The couple enjoyed a wonderful day filled with memories, laughter and love.



50th Wedding Anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. John E. Leckrone, of the Mountain Parkway, Prestonsburg, will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary with a reception that will be held on Saturday, December 20, 2003, from 2-5:00 p.m., at the Tom Moore Freewill Baptist Church, in Cliff. The Leckrones extend an open invitation to all family members and friends to join them in celebrating this special time in their

This Town, That World

Editor's Note: For years, Floyd County Times founder and former publisher Norman Allen wrote a weekly column that looked at Floyd County through his eyes. His columns are being reprinted due to request.

Cheer up—it won't be long till December 26, and more than 300 shopping days till Christmas.

WANTED...WATER FOR A LAKE

Come January 1, if there's rain, Dewey Lake will become a lake again. As of this date, it's an expanse of mud-flats. Why the fisheries boys wanted to wait till January 1 to fill 'er up again, since nothing is being done since the last five feet went downriver, isn't exactly clear to us. We don't mean to be unkind to anybody—the Division of Fish has worked hard on this lake—but we wish they would just leave it alone for a while.

HE REMEMBERED

S. C. Allen, who died at Northern, last week, was one of those quiet men about whom the public hears little. But his kindness was never forgotten by at least one person.

In 1913, when the railroad was being driven up Right Beaver Creek, a Negro was employed by one of the contracting firms. While he was so employed, or perhaps after the job ended, he began working for Mr. Allen. Finally he returned to Picayune, Mississippi, where he still resides. Every year, before Christmas, he wrote a letter to his former employer at Northern, expressing, in his own humble way, the fond wish that he might see "my old boss-man" again. The last of these letters, we are told, was received this year, only a few days before Mr. Allen died.

IT'S A JOKE SON

I've been associating again with that fellow who propounds what he calls fourth-grade jokes. This week he wanted to know what it is that's gray, has four legs and a trunk.

No, not a nauseated elephant. Why, it's simple—it's a mouse on vacation.

It is my considered opinion—I've been long enough voicing it to call it considered—that the new Christmas lights here are a real improvement over the old.

TRY ONE THAT LONG!

Fellow was hoping, the other day, the days would hurry by till they become longer and the nights shorter. I reminded him that he and I were at the time of life when any old day was O.K. by me. Then I recalled the story I had read of a court in Greenland in which an Eskimo stood accused of murder. "I would like you to tell me," said the judge, "what you were doing the night of October 11 to April 3."

MODERN VERSION

This, too, I read not long ago, and I think it a splendid modern-day version of the Biblical story of the Pharisee and the publican:

A wealthy man and a poor teacher stood in the sanctuary of a great church of which both were members. Said one:

"I am a leader in this church, I tithed, my money largely built this magnificent building, I thank thee, God, that I am unlike this poor teacher."

Then the other prayed: "God, forgive me, a sinner—I was that man's teacher!"

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For information contact: 1-800-525-3456, or www.trustforlife.org



PSA

Jack's pack off to solid start

by ED TAYLOR
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

Prestonsburg's new girls head basketball coach has shown that he still knows something about the game with his team off to a 3-2 start in 2004.

Coach Jack Pack, who hasn't coached for the past five years,

has brought a new philosophy to the Lady Blackcats that has resulted in victories over Jackson City, Pikeville and Phelps. I am glad for Coach Pack and the Lady Blackcats. I hope they have a winning season.

What can you say about the job Henry Webb has done at

South Floyd? Year after year he keeps turning out a winner. But I knew that was the way it would be once he was named head coach for the Raiders. The man just knows how to coach.

Also, Tony Isaac has the Lady Raiders of South Floyd running at 3-2 and had a three winning streak until Allen Central posted a win last Monday night.

They own victories over Shelby Valley, East Ridge and Sheldon Clark and only lost by three points to regional power Johnson Central in their season opener. Tony is a student of the game and doing a great job.

When the high school basketball season begins I can't help but think of Denzil "Hoss" Halbert and the great teams for the Martin Purple Flash.

What memories of Hoss. He coached the eighth-grade basketball team, the junior varsity team, the varsity, baseball, golf, track and field, and if we had a football team, he probably would have coached that also.

A lot of our younger generation knows nothing or very little

of those great days when we had 10 high schools in the county. What rivalries we had. The gyms were packed (of course they were the size of a cracker box) and the fans were excitable.

Great players came out of those small schools. "King" Kelly Coleman, Wah Wah Jones, Porter Powers, Larry Hall, Lowell and Paul Phillip Hughes and the list goes on and on.

Student/athletes have too many distractions today and are not as dedicated to the game as the bygone years. But again, there are some who are very dedicated.

SPRING TRAINING - The weather across the nation is anything but pleasant but the Cincinnati Reds released their spring training schedule recently and the Grapefruit League will begin play March 5 against the Toronto Bluejays at Sarasota.

Of course the pitchers and catchers will report the second week of February and when we

(See **START**, page four)

JUNIOR VARSITY BASKETBALL

P'burg JV rolls past Allen Central

by JAMIE HOWELL
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

PRESTONSBURG - In a game in which both teams failed to light up the scoreboard it was Prestonsburg who would come away with a 40-22 win over the Allen Central Runnin Rebels on Wednesday evening.

Prestonsburg's Michael Stephens led all scorers with 13 points, and Lewis Barnette added six for the Blackcats. Prestonsburg junior varsity coach Bobby Hackworth was the first to admit his team was not at full strength.

"We struggled at times and we had Brooks Herrick just coming back from an injury and Nick McGuire had just returned from an illness," said Hackworth.

Prestonsburg led 6-4 after one quarter of play and 13-6 at

the half.

Josh Martin led Allen Central with 8 points on the night and Nick Music tossed in five for the Rebs.

The third quarter proved to be the turning point in the game as Prestonsburg would outscore Allen Central 14-5 in the quarter to take a 27-11 lead after three quarters of play. Nathan Collins finished with four points for the Rebels and Ryan Collins added two on the night for Allen Central.

Stephen Allen tossed in four points for Prestonsburg and Zack Ousley added five for the winning team.

Mike Crum finished with four points and Chase Martin added three for the Blackcats. Allen Central finished the game five of 10 from the line and Prestonsburg ended the game five of 16 from the line.

Frosh

Rebs outscored Prestonsburg 14-3 in the quarter.

Patrick Henderson netted all of the Blackcat points in the third quarter as Henderson would finish the game with seven points total.

Allen Central led 32-18 after three quarters and Prestonsburg could not mount a rally. Josh Martin tossed in eight points for Allen Central and the tandem of Justin Robinson and Steven Slone netted three points for the Rebels.

Ethan Conley rounded out the scoring for the winners with

two free-throws. Bobby Hughes finished with three points for Prestonsburg with those points coming on a three pointer late in the game. Seth Moore, Michael Lackey and Mike Crum all totaled two points each for Prestonsburg. Allen Central had its lead trimmed to six late in the game, but the Rebels hit on five of seven free-throws down the stretch to pull out the victory.

Allen Central finished the game 13 of 20 from the line and Prestonsburg ended the game five of 13 from the stripe.

BGP

BluegrassPreps.com announces the first All-BluegrassPreps.com Football Team and Jamerson is a member of the first-ever squad. Jamerson was named to the team as an athlete.

BluegrassPreps.com is honoring the state's top 36 players, starting with the best players at 12 offensive and 12 defensive positions. As a special feature, the All-BGP team recognizes 12 players whose versatility and all-around contributions on offense, defense, and special teams embody the spirit of high school football.

The inaugural team follows.

ALL-BLUE-GRASSPREPS.COM FOOTBALL TEAM

OFFENSE
QB - Brian Brohm, Trinity, Senior
RB - Joe Casey, Paducah Tilghman, Senior
RB - Steve Chaney, Ballard, Senior
RB - Kevin Bramblett, Oldham County, Junior
WR - Lonnell Dewalt, Warren Central, Senior
WR - Mario Urrutia, Fern Creek, Senior
OL - Sean Sester, Highlands, Senior
OL - Micah Jones, Mayfield, Senior
OL - Aaron Miller, East Carter, Senior
OL - Gary Williams, Seneca, Senior
OL - Josh Cullop, Belfry, Senior
K/P - Aaron Pettrey, Raceland, Senior

DEFENSE

DL - Jason Leger, Rockcastle County, Senior
DL - John Belcher, Pulaski Southwestern, Senior
DL - Earl Heyman, Ballard, Junior

DL - Ian Young, Boyle County, Senior
DL - Alex Temple, Trinity, Senior
LB - Matt Bell, Madison Central, Senior
LB - Dan Bick, Saint Xavier, Senior
LB - Mike Idol, Middlesboro, Senior
DB - Marcus McClinton, Fort Campbell, Senior
DB - Chris Fountain, Paducah Tilghman, Senior
DB - Justin Deeley, Saint Xavier, Senior
DB - Clint Eakles, Bowling Green, Senior

ATHLETES

ATH - Brad Cloud, WR/DB, Boyle County, Senior
ATH - Jordan Nevels, RB/DB, Highlands, Junior
ATH - Curtis Pulley, QB/DB, Hopkinsville, Junior
ATH - Jeff Wera, QB/DE, Beechwood, Senior
ATH - Nick Jamerson, WR/TB/CB/KR/PR, Prestonsburg, Senior
ATH - Dustin Grutza, QB/DB, Mason County, Senior
ATH - Myron Pryor, OL/DL, Eastern, Senior
ATH - Jarrod Lawson, RB/LB, Corbin, Senior
ATH - Chris Lofton, WR/DB, Mason County, Senior
ATH - Spencer Fain, WR/CB/KR/PR, Lafayette, Senior
ATH - Charles Penix, RB/LB, Danville, Senior
ATH - Gabe Wallace, RB/TE/LB, Fort Campbell, Senior

PLAYER OF THE YEAR:

Brian Brohm, Trinity

COACH OF THE YEAR:

Lonnell Oldham, Seneca

BOYS' BASKETBALL ROUNDUP

Johnson Central nips Sheldon Clark in OT

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

Four different players scored in double figures to lead Johnson Central to a 54-52 overtime win over Sheldon Clark. It was the first loss of the season for the Cards (4-1).

Kyle Rice led Johnson Central in scoring with 12 points. Mike Walters and Nick Music netted 11 points apiece. Tony Hatfield flipped in 10.

Brandon May paced Sheldon Clark with a game-high 20 points.

Johnson Central led 27-13 at halftime, but struggled in the second half.

Johnson Central outscored Sheldon Clark 9-7 in the extra session to post the victory.

Pikeville 53, Paintsville 33: Paintsville trailed Pikeville (2-3) 14-6 through the first quarter, 26-15 at halftime and never recovered.

Jesse Parrish and Robert Shurtleff led Pikeville in scoring with 14 points apiece.

Eighth-grader J.D. VanHoose was the leading scorer for Paintsville (1-3) with 12 points.

Paintsville came into the game following a win over 57th District rival Magoffin County.

Hazard 73, Perry County Central 68: Following a battle Friday night with the nation's No. 1 team, Oak Hill, Hazard returned to local action Tuesday night. The host Bulldogs made 18 of 23 free-throw attempts in the fourth quarter as they held off rival Perry Central.

Senior guard Parker Carter went 10-for-12 from the line and scored 22 points for the Bulldogs (1-2).

Lamar Williams and Steven Sizemore added 14 points each for Hazard. Williams pulled down 12 rebounds and had four steals. Sizemore added nine rebounds.

Al Holland scored 16 for Perry County Central (4-2).

Belfry 56, Phelps 46: Belfry recorded its first win of the season, beating Phelps by 10.

Zane Smith led Belfry in scoring with a game-high 20 points.

The Pirates trailed Phelps 10-8 at the end of the first period, but led after every quarter after that initial frame.

Shelby Valley 63, Magoffin County 47: Magoffin County found itself tied at 27 at halftime with Shelby Valley, but couldn't build on the even slate in the second half. Shelby Valley outscored Magoffin 19-8 in the third period on its way to the win. Kelsey Friend paced

Shelby Valley (5-0) with a game-high 20 points. Seth Kiser pushed in 16 and Kris Bentley, a transfer from Prestonsburg, added 10. All three players are juniors.

Blake Jenkins tossed in 17 points to lead Magoffin County (0-4).

Morgan County 46, Russell 40 (OT): Morgan County edged Russell in double-overtime. The Cougars (4-1) used a decisive 13-7 spurt in the second overtime to pick up their second victory over Russell in 10 days. The Red Devils lost leading scorer Jonathan Vanhose, who finished with 13 points, to fouls at the end of the first OT period.

Morgan County took an early 3-2 lead and would not be in front again until the early seconds of the second overtime. The Cougars were led by senior guard Whitney Perry with 11 points while Ryan Phipps and Davin Barnette scored 10 points apiece.

Chase Schweitzer scored 11 points for Russell (3-2).

All above games were played on Tuesday night.

Comments

everything I need. But I know my passion. It's pretty clear.

Would I try something else? Absolutely, if the right opportunity came along. But to this point, it hasn't.

What is your passion? Mine? Sports.

And writing. I love writing. I could write anytime, all the time. People don't understand. Students, those I work with every day at the college, they don't get it.

How do you write all the time, they ask. How can you do that.

Simple, I explain to them. They write. In college, you write a lot. Rarely do you find an instructor who can't figure out a way to incorporate a term paper into their class. English? Easy. History? No problem.

Math? It can happen.

I tell them that when they ask.

Robbie Royalty asked, Robbie was a student my first few years at the college. A good one, too. Robbie played basketball for Roy Cutright. His wife, the former Melody Sturgill, was such a player that in January she'll be inducted into the athletics hall of fame at the school.

And in his final year, just for kicks, Robbie decided to join John Kitchen's men's tennis



photo by Jamie Howell

Allen Central junior center Becky Thomas went up against the defense of South Floyd's Ashley Johnson (20) and Tab Trammel (23). Thomas finished the game with 10 points.



photo by Steve LeMaster

Allen Central senior Sharee Hopkins was introduced Tuesday night as part of the Lady Rebel starting five. Hopkins played the previous three seasons at South Floyd High School.

AC

Continued from p1

outscored South Floyd 25-15 in the third period and 22-7 in the final stanza to post a 60-44 victory in a game that was much, much more closer than the final score would indicate.

Senior forward Jessica Isaac paced Allen Central with a game-high 21 points and 14 rebounds. Senior point guard Terri Mullins followed with 16 points. Junior center Becky Thomas netted 10.

Lady Rebel seniors Tab Caudill and Sharee Hopkins, a transfer from South Floyd, finished with nine and eight points, respectively.

Megan Ousley tossed in 15 points and dished out nine assists to lead South Floyd. Brandy Anderson scored 11 for the Lady Raiders. Amanda Jo Johnson flipped in eight points and Tab Trammel seven. Tab Tackett and Ashley Johnson finished with three points and senior Ashley Johnson, who has

battled back courageously from a knee injury suffered last season, chipped in two. Johnson was forced Tuesday night to sit the bench with foul trouble.

Allen Central's win over South Floyd evened its 58th District record to 1-1. The Lady Rebels began play in the district with a loss to defending 15th Region Champion Betsy Layne. Allen Central is the defending 58th District champ.

South Floyd off to Berea tourney, AC to JC event

South Floyd will take on Woodford County, one of the state's top 20 teams, tonight at 7:30 p.m. in a game as part of the annual Berea Holiday Classic.

Allen Central won't have as far to travel as it will begin play this weekend in the Lady Eagle Holiday Classic at Johnson Central High.

Continued from p1

team. For his efforts, he got to go to the national tournament. We were on that drive to Boca Raton when he asked.

"How can you stand writing all the time?"

So I explained it to him. "See, Rob, when you write, you're doing a term paper on some guy who was the king of France in 500 AD. You have to have sources, notes, bibliography, so many words, all like that."

"Me? I write about sports."

There it is. I write about sports. And I love it.

I love sitting down in front of my computer each Wednesday night after watching Ed or Wednesday Night Baseball on ESPN and looking at the blank screen. I love knowing that over the next 30, maybe 40 minutes, I'll come up with 750 or so words to fill it.

And that on Friday, for better or worse, you'll get the chance to read it.

Sometimes I do ok. Not always. I'd even argue it doesn't happen often. Sometimes it's not very good at all.

But sometimes, on occasion, it's pretty good.

Sometimes I get the chance to tell you about some of the nice people I get to meet in my journey. Sometimes I tell you about people like Paul Hunt, or

Steve Mickey, or Brad Lockard or Marty Casey.

Sometimes I mention the regulars. Brad, he was one. Jason Blanton is another. Jimmy Raines finds his way her a lot. And my dad. He has to love it when his oldest son tells about our (mis)adventures with the grill.

But each Wednesday night, I get to sit down in front of the computer, mute the television and write. About sports. Maybe it's football, or basketball or baseball. Maybe it's UK, or East Ridge or South Floyd.

But it's sports. It's my passion.

I hope you have one. I'm sure you do. I hope you realize what it is, and every day, at some point, you take time to enjoy it.

Me? I watch SportsCenter. I read sports sections online. I watch Pardon the Interruption. I call friends and we talk football.

I hope you have a passion, and I hope you take a few minutes out of each day to enjoy yours.

I hope you realize how short life is, how precious it is, and you spend a little time each day trying not to survive it, but trying to fulfill it.

I hope you dance.

And I hope you have a Merry Christmas.

Kyle Busch to drive in six Cup races

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Hendrick Motorsports owner Rick Hendrick Wednesday announced that 18-year-old Kyle Busch will attempt to qualify for six NASCAR Nextel Cup Series races in 2004 with support from primary sponsor Carquest Auto Parts, the official auto parts supplier of Hendrick Motorsports

since 2002. "The folks at Carquest have been wonderful partners and we are excited about their expanded role with us in 2004," Hendrick said. "This is going to be a great chance for Kyle to gain some valuable experience by racing with and learning from the best drivers in NASCAR. I think it's really going to benefit his development."

In conjunction with its support of Busch in the No. 84 Chevrolets (formerly the No. 60), Carquest will become a major associate sponsor of the No. 25 Nextel Cup team of driver Brian Vickers. Carquest backed Vickers and the championship-winning No. 5 NASCAR Busch Series team as a major associate in 2003.

"All of us at Carquest Auto Parts are proud to continue our association with Hendrick Motorsports as their official auto parts supplier," said Art Lottes III, president of Carquest. "Hendrick Motorsports is a world-class organization and we look forward in 2004 to continued success with Brian Vickers and our new relationship with Kyle Busch."

Busch will aim to qualify for his first-ever Nextel Cup event at his hometown track of Las Vegas Motor Speedway in March, followed by efforts at Texas Motor Speedway in April and Lowe's Motor Speedway over Memorial Day weekend in May.

During the second half of the season, the No. 84 Carquest team

will enter races at New Hampshire International Speedway in July, Michigan International Speedway in August and California Speedway on Labor Day weekend in September.

In addition, Busch will attempt to make the field for the NASCAR Nextel All-Star Challenge, a non-points event at Lowe's Motor Speedway in May.

"I appreciate the opportunity Carquest and the Hendrick family have provided," said Busch, who will also run a full-time Busch Series schedule in 2004. "Learning first-hand from my teammates and the other Cup drivers is going to be great experience. I'm just looking forward to being on the race track with them."

With seven career Busch Series races under his belt, Busch has posted a pair of runner-up finishes, three top-10 showings and five top-10 starts. He also earned two victories and trio of pole positions in 2003 ARCA Series competition.



photo by Jamie Howell
South Floyd High head coach Tony Isaac gave instructions during a timeout Tuesday night.

BRIEFS: Favre to return next season

FOOTBALL
GREEN BAY, Wis. — Brett Favre said he will return to the Green Bay Packers next season, putting off any thoughts of retirement.

ASHBURN, Va. — Washington Redskins receiver Laveranues Coles said he has

played nearly the entire season with a stress fracture in his foot. The injury, which has bothered Coles since September, has made it painful to run routes. He leads the Redskins (5-9) with 69 catches for 1,023 yards.

— The Associated Press

Bengals playoff tickets, jerseys in demand

by JOHN NOLAN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

CINCINNATI — The Cincinnati Bengals, of all teams, are selling tickets for a possible playoff game.

Fans are caught up in the excitement. Merchants report brisk sales of jerseys and other team paraphernalia.

It's a startling change in Cincinnati, where the Bengals haven't had a winning record since 1990 — the last time they made the NFL playoffs. Their fortunes plummeted after team founder Paul Brown died in August 1991 and his son, Mike Brown, took over.

Even diehard Bengals fans are somewhat dazzled by the team's turnaround this season under first-year head coach Marvin Lewis.

"It's real exciting, that's for sure. I don't think anybody expected this," said Jim Foster, a Cincinnati insurance agent who heads the Bengals' fan club and has regularly attended games during the last 12 losing seasons.

"They get to the playoffs, anything can happen. Anything can happen," Foster said.

Cincinnati is tied at 8-6 with the Baltimore Ravens for the lead in the AFC North. The Bengals could win the division and make the playoffs if they win both remaining games — even if Baltimore wins both of its games — because the Bengals hold the

advantage in tiebreakers. The Bengals finished with a franchise-worst 2-14 record last year before firing coach Dick LeBeau and replacing him with Lewis.

Bengals fans were ready when the team put tickets on sale to the public Wednesday for a possible home game in the playoffs.

Tickets for a possible game on Jan. 3 or Jan. 4 were nearly gone by late Wednesday, Bengals ticket manager Tim Kelly said. The tickets were sold for \$65 to \$75, prices set by the NFL.

Kelly declined to say how many tickets had been sold. They might be all gone Thursday, he said.

"The response was nothing short of tremendous," Kelly said. Season ticket holders were given the first shot at playoff tickets several weeks ago.

Fans have been eager to buy Bengals jerseys and other orange-and-black items.

"It's selling like hotcakes — anything that's got Bengals on it," said Arlene Fischesser, office manager at Koch Sporting Goods, a downtown Cincinnati store.

Department store managers said they, too, had brisk sales.

Foster said the pro shop at Paul Brown Stadium was packed Saturday, as opposed to this time last year.

"Last year, they were trying to get rid of some things," he said.

GIRLS' BASKETBALL

Lady Eagle Holiday Classic on tap

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

PAINTSVILLE — Girls' basketball will take center stage this weekend at Johnson Central High School. The annual Lady Eagle Holiday Classic basketball tournament gets underway Saturday at Johnson Central.

Three 57th District teams are in the tourney, including Johnson Central, Paintsville and Magoffin County.

Other 15th Region teams include Allen Central and Pike Central.

Fleming County, Rowan County and Apollo rounds out the eight-team field.

The tournament is a pool play format with two pools of four teams. In pool number one, Fleming County will face Magoffin County to tip things off at 2 pm. tomorrow after-

noon. Paintsville will battle Allen Central in the following game.

In pool number two, Apollo will meet Pike Central at 5 and Johnson Central will entertain Rowan County in the nightcap.

The tournament continues on Sunday at 2 p.m. Monday and will end on Tuesday.

The winner of each pool will play in the championship game at 8 p.m.

Tuesday night. The second place team in each pool will meet and so on.

The host Lady Eagles bring a 1-5 record, losing five straight games after an opening night win over South Floyd. The Lady Eagles first opponent, Rowan County, is 1-2 on the young season. The Lady Vikings have lost to East Carter and West Carter but defeated Raceland. They are a contender for the 16th Region

crown. Apollo stands at 3-2 out of Region 3. They're averaging 55 points a contest.

Pike Central (3-1) has wins over Magoffin County, Prestonsburg and Phelps.

The Lady Hawks lost to a good Leslie County team in the season opener.

The Paintsville Lady Tigers are 2-2 after consecutive wins over Johnson Central and Morgan County.

The Lady Tigers will face Allen Central (3-3) which is led by center Becky Thomas. Thomas, a junior, leads the team with 23 points per game and 11 rebounds per contest. Senior point guard Terri Mullins led the Lady Rebs to win over district rival South Floyd with 16

points Tuesday. Mark Martin is in his first season as head coach of the Lady Rebels.

Magoffin County began the season 0-3 but beat Johnson Central earlier this week. They played South Floyd last night. The Lady Hornets are favored to win the district and advance deep into the region. The Magoffin girls bring a fast-paced type game into the tournament.

Fleming County, coached by Paintsville High graduate Christy (Ward) Orem, is a 10th Region contender this season. Orem returns three starters and has the Lady Panthers off to a 4-1 start. Fleming County is winning by an average of almost 30 points per game. Their only loss came to East Carter.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

ALC Lady Eagles to focus on second half of season

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

PIPPA PASSES — The 2003 portion of the 2003-2004 is over for Alice Lloyd head women's basketball coach Tim Rice and his team. Rice, a Floyd County resident, has seen his team experience many ups and downs.

Most of the time during the first half of the season the team shoot the ball well and were exciting to watch on offense. When Delores Jenkins gets hot on the court she is almost unstoppable. Erica Webb comes to win and always plays hard. She plays hard on both ends of the floor. She is probably the most versatile player on the team. Jenkins and Webb are the only two seniors on the team.

Belicia Mullins has been a pleasant surprise for the Lady Eagles with her outstanding play.

Mullins has improved her all-around game.

Betsy Layne alumnus Devon Reynolds, Bridget Smith,

Jessica Justice, Kristina Thompson and recently Rhonda Adams and Kayla Combs have all had their moments this season. Lack of defense and rebounding has been their undoing.

The Alice Lloyd women have been outrebounded severely in the first part of the season. With two seniors and no juniors, Rice, in his second season as head coach, still fields a young team.

Rice hopes his young players continue to improve and show more consistency in the second half of the season. The ALC women are still eyeing a post-season run and hope to come out and play better in 2004.



photo by Jamie Howell
Three basketball games, none of which were varsity, were played at Prestonsburg High School Wednesday night.

iHigh.com H.S. girls' basketball poll

The opinions expressed in the following poll are solely the views of iHigh.com and its voting panel, and do not, in any way, reflect the opinion of the Kentucky High School Athletic Association (KHSAA). 1. Sacred Heart (2-1); 2. Christian County (4-0); 3. Newport Central Catholic (3-0); 4. Rockcastle County (3-0); 5. Henderson County (5-0);

6. Elizabethtown (5-0); 7. Lexington Catholic (2-3); 8. Jackson County (3-1); 9. Mercey (4-1); 10. Clinton County (5-0); 11. Russell (6-0); 12. Muhlenberg North (3-1); 13. Butler (2-2); 14. Mercer County (2-1); 15. East Carter (5-1); 16. Woodford County (5-0); 17. Assumption (2-2); 18. Henry Clay (4-0); 19. Scott County (5-0); 20. Wayne County (2-0); 21. Boyd County (2-2); 22. Marshall County (6-0); 23. Franklin-Simpson (5-0); 24. Central (5-1); 25. Washington County (2-1).

H.S. BOYS' BASKETBALL SCOREBOARD

Tuesday's scores		
Barbourville	62	Evarts 60
Belfry	56	Phelps 46
Berea	55	Lynn Camp 52
Boyd County	63	Lawrence County 49
Clay County	78	McCreary Central 52
East Carter	55	Greenup County 48
East Ridge	75	Pike County Central 55
Elliott County	68	Bath County 53
Fleming County	66	Nicholas County 48
Haysi, Va.	68	Jenkins 46
Hazard	73	Perry County Central 68
Jackson City	51	June Buchanan 43
Johnson Central	54	Sheldon Clark 52 (OT)
Knox Central	95	Jackson County 69
Lewis County	62	Fairview 48
Mason County	60	Ashland Blazer 47
Menifee County	100	Riverside Christian 39
Middlesboro	68	Harlan 64
Montgomery County	69	Estill County 54
Morgan County	46	Russell 40 (2OT)
Pikeville	53	Paintsville 33
Powell County	75	Lee County 51
Rockcastle County	66	Oneida Baptist Institute 62
Rowan County	60	West Carter 57
South Floyd	60	Allen Central 44
Whitley County	45	Williamsburg 35
Wolfe County	74	Owsley County 64

Wednesday's scores		
Cordia	72	Fleming-Neon 52
(Jenkins Holiday Classic)		
Morgan County	73	Bath County 3 2

Start

Continued from p3

think of that, it makes us feel a little warmer, until we step outside of course.

The Reds open their 2004 season on April 4 against the Chicago Cubs. The Cubs will have the best starting rotation in the national league central.

Mark Pryor, Kenny Woods and company will be hard to beat. The Cubs have gone out to make sure they are a strong favor to win the central division again.



photo by Jamie Howell
The David School boys' basketball team returns to the court this season under the guidance of head coach Ned Pillersdorf. Team members include, pictured in no order, Brandon Powers, Josh Nelson, Jason Whitaker, Paul Mullins, Brandon Brown, Nathan Ousley, Adam Meade, Justin Bohr, Brandon Caudill, Nick Castle and Joe Tiller. Ryan Allison (not pictured) assists Pillersdorf.

The Floyd County Times Classifieds

Classified Rates: for 20 words or less
Sunday, Wednesday, Friday, only \$12.00
Sunday, Wednesday, Friday & Shopper \$13.00
 An additional charge of .25 per word for every word over 20
 Classified Manager: Tammy Conn, ext. #19

DEADLINES:

- **Wednesday Paper, Noon Mon.**
- **Friday Paper and Shopper, Wed. 5 p.m.**
- **Sunday Paper, Thurs. 5 p.m.**

CONTACT US AT: (606) 886-8506



(606) 886-3603

100 - AUTOMOTIVE

- 110 - Agriculture
- 115 - ATV's
- 120 - Boats
- 130 - Cars
- 140 - 4x4's
- 150 - Miscellaneous
- 160 - Motorcycles
- 170 - Parts
- 175 - SUV's
- 180 - Trucks
- 190 - Vans

200 - EMPLOYMENT

- 210 - Job Listings
- 220 - Help Wanted
- 230 - Information
- 250 - Miscellaneous
- 260 - Part Time
- 270 - Sales
- 280 - Services
- 290 - Work Wanted

310 - Business Opportunity

- 330 - For Sale
- 350 - Miscellaneous
- 360 - Money To Lend
- 380 - Services

400 - MERCHANDISE

- 410 - Animals
- 420 - Appliances
- 440 - Electronics

445 - Furniture

- 450 - Lawn & Garden
- 460 - Yard Sale
- 470 - Health & Beauty
- 475 - Household
- 480 - Miscellaneous
- 490 - Recreation
- 495 - Wanted To Buy

500 - REAL ESTATE

- 505 - Business

510 - Commercial Property

- 530 - Homes
- 550 - Land/Lots
- 570 - Mobile Homes
- 580 - Miscellaneous
- 590 - Sale or Lease

600 - RENTALS

- 610 - Apartments
- 620 - Storage

Office Space

- 630 - Houses
- 640 - Land/Lots
- 650 - Mobile Homes
- 660 - Miscellaneous
- 670 - Commercial Property
- 680 - Wanted To Rent

700 - SERVICES

- 705 - Construction

710 - Educational

- 713 - Child Care
- 715 - Electrician
- 720 - Health & Beauty
- 730 - Lawn & Garden
- 735 - Legal
- 740 - Masonry
- 745 - Miscellaneous
- 750 - Mobile Home Movers
- 755 - Office
- 760 - Plumbing

765 - Professionals

- 770 - Repair/Service
- 780 - Timber
- 790 - Travel

800 - NOTICES

- 805 - Announcements
- 810 - Auctions
- 815 - Lost & Found
- 830 - Miscellaneous
- 850 - Personnel
- 870 - Services

The FLOYD COUNTY TIMES does not knowingly accept false or misleading advertisements. Ads which request or require advance payment of fees for services or products should be scrutinized carefully.

AUTOMOTIVE

130-Cars

1992 CHEVY CORSI-CA for sale. If interested call 889-0872 or 226-0062.

160-Motorcycles

1998 YAMAHA YZ80 New tires, pro-circuit pipe. \$1600. Call 452-9599 for more info.

FOR SALE: 1999 Black Fat boy, bike includes smokey windshield, leather saddlebags and lots of chrome accessories. 15,000 miles. Interested inquires call at 886-2030.

FOR SALE: 1996 Ultra Classic, low mileage 14,000 mls, black/green motorcycle with lots of accessories. Interested inquires call at 886-2030.

180-Trucks

FOR SALE 1996 Blazer, excellent condition, fully loaded. Call 886-0824.

FOR SALE: 88 Chevy 4X4, automatic, loaded. Asking \$4000. Call 874-2879.

Subscribe & Save! Call Patty Today! 606-886-8506

EMPLOYMENT

When responding to Employment ads that have reference numbers, please indicate that entire reference number on the outside of your envelope. Reference numbers are used to help us direct your letter to the correct individual.

205-Business Oppt.

FOR SALE: Laundrymat located in Salyersville. Business & equipment only you assume lease on building. Only one in town, great location. Price \$30,000. Phone 606-886-1915 after 5 p.m.

210-Job Listings

THE CITY OF MARTIN is hiring a part-time office assistant. Approximately 15 hours a week \$7.00 an hour. Must have a high school diploma or GED equivalency. Must be able to be bonded, experience necessary. Send resume to Mayor **Thomasine Robinson, City of Martin, P.O. Box 749, Martin, KY 41649.** Resumes will be taken until December 22, 2003.

HOSPICE OF BIG SANDY, INC. Join a team of health professionals caring for the terminally ill in the Home. Practice your art as never before. Visit the office and make make out an application. 1520 Ky. Hwy. 1428, Hager Hill, Ky. 41222 606-789-3841.

AVON
 Earn your own money. \$10.00 sign up fee. Free gift. Call Jancy at 886-2082.

220-Help Wanted

HELP WANTED: Warehouse workers needed for day shift. Apply in person. Monday thru Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Big Sandy Wholesale, Harold, Ky.

PART-TIME MAINTENANCE POSITION

The City of Martin is hiring a part-time maintenance worker. Starting pay is \$6.00 per hour. Must have a high school diploma or GED equivalency. Must have a valid drivers license, experience necessary. Applications may be picked up at Martin City Hall, Monday thru Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. applications will be taken until December 22, 2003.

TAXI CAB DRIVERS WANTED: Must pass drug, criminal & driving test. \$6.00 per hour, over 40 hours \$9.00 per hour. Alternate nights & week ends. Paid weekly. 285-3140 Appalachian Transportation, Inc.

EARN HOLIDAY INCOME! \$200-\$500 weekly assembling sing-a-long greeting cards. For more information send a self addressed stamp envelope to **Holiday Greeting Cards, P.O. Box 612290, Miami FL., 33261.**

WANTED: Full-time teacher for grades K-5, 5-8, or K-8, for a small private school located in Prestonsburg, Ky. Please call Dr. Khattab at 606-789-5541 or fax 606-789-9445 for details.

Classified Ads Work! Call 606-886-8506

MERCHANDISE

440-Electronics
FOR SALE: PIONEER HOME STEREO Includes CD player, cassette player & recorder, 2 large speakers, turntable and stand. reduced to \$250 but will negotiate. 874-4604 after 5:30 p.m.

445-Furniture

ALMAR FURNITURE
 Big selection of living room, bedroom, dining room, refrigerators, stove, washers and much more. **606-874-0097**

FOR SALE: Queen Anne chair & table. Chair is blue in color, table is cherry finish. Excellent condition. Also, Bow Flex machine. Call 886-8685 if no answer leave message.

ALLEN FURNITURE ALLEN, KY
 Furniture, used appliances, living / bedroom suits, bunkbeds, and lots more!
Call 874-9790.

RAY'S BARGAIN CENTER
 New & Used Furniture & Appliances @ unbelievable prices. Come in today for incredible savings. Shop At The Little Furniture Store & Save!! **RT. #122, McDowell. Call 606-377-0143.**

480-Miscellaneous

FOR SALE: 3/4 karat diamond ring, Asking \$500. Call 874-4981 or 791-2167.

FOR SALE: Home exercise equipment: AB/lower back machine and Stepper machine. \$100 each or \$150 pair. Call 789-8380 after 6 p.m.

FOR SALE: Paintball gun. 2003 Core Sharc semi-automatic, black and chrome, 12" barrel. \$130 (OBO) Call 886-8506 and ask for Kathy (day). 789-8380 evening.

FOR SALE: Give that special someone a "golden" gift that will last all year 'round! For sale now: Tanning bed-brand new bulbs. \$600. Call 874-0467.

FOR SALE: Kimball piano. Call 285-9696 or 377-2393 after 8 p.m.

FOR SALE: 8 ft' refrigerated deli case, \$1000, small pizza oven, \$400, small juice cooler, \$150, washer & dryer, \$150 pair. Call 886-2367.

FOR SALE: 8 ft' deli cooler, \$950 and Gas conduction oven, \$450. Call 886-2367.

FOR SALE: Home Interior Items, full size comforters & curtains to match, Avon collectible items, collection of novels. Call after 4 p.m. 886-3326.

KAY'S WALLPAPER 205 DEPOT RD. PAINTSVILLE, KY
HUNDREDS OF PATTERNS OF WALLPAPER & BORDERS All under \$10.00. Open Tuesday-Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Closed Sunday & Monday. 789-8584.

REAL ESTATE

510-Commercial Property

FOR SALE: Newly renovated commercial building located in Goble Roberts Addition. Approximately 2,400 sq. ft. ready for immediate use. Call 889-0969.

530-Homes

FOR SALE: House at Wheelwright 1801 Main St., 2 BR, separate dining room, fenced yard, new furnace. Includes second lot. Call 606-452-4168 or 859-527-7646.

HOUSE FOR SALE: Allen area. 3 BD, 2.5 BA. Call 606-435-2391.

HOUSE FOR SALE 109 Main Street, Dwale. 3 BR, large kitchen & bath. Asking \$38,500 Call 734-483-3665 or 606-874-2446.

550-Land/Lots

FOR SALE: Almost 1 acre near Long Bow Boat docks at Cave Run Lake. Asking \$6500. Call 606-886-3836.

570-Mobile Homes

FOR SALE 12X60 Mobile Home. Underpinning & steps included, needs repairs, excellent for parts or storage, \$1000 OBO. Call after 5:30 874-4604.

590-Sale or Lease

FOR SALE OR LEASE: 16000 sq. ft. building, more or less w/apt. attached. 2 BR, 1 BA. Separate metal bldg. 40x50 & 2 + 1/2 acres of land. Large road frontage. Between Allen & Martin. close to WMDJ Call 859-512-6812.

Your ad could be here!

FOR SALE OR LEASE: Large home, newly remodeled, 5 BR, 2 1/2 BA, central h/a, 2 fireplaces & adjoining 2BR apartment, newly remodeled, new appliances. Large yard, outside pets only. Call 886-8366.

RENTALS

610-Apartments

FOR RENT: 1 BR apartment in Prestonsburg. New furniture & appliances, new carpet. References required, utilities furnished. No pets. Call 886-8366.

2 BR DUPLEX FOR RENT central h/a, on US 23, 1 mile N. of Prestonsburg. Call 886-9007 or 889-9747.

1 BR APARTMENT FOR RENT \$250 + electric. Located in Martin area. Call 285-9976.

2 BR BACHELOR APARTMENT near Prestonsburg and J.W. Lake, A/C, private, clean. Not suitable for more than 2 people. Call 606-886-3941.

1 EFFICIENCY APARTMENT, \$300 mo. + \$250 dep. Lease and references required. Utilities paid. 886-3154.

FOR RENT: 1 room furnished efficiency apartment. Utilities paid, tv & w/d provided, suitable for single adult. No pets. \$325 mo. \$150 dep. Call **Winchester Apartments 874-5577.**

Move into your new home by Christmas

Prestonsburg-Part Place Apartments. **Immediate occupancy for qualified applicants.** 1 Br/\$305 mo. 2 Br/\$25 mo. Call 886-0039 **EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY**

GREETINGS FROM LIGHTHOUSE MANOR, Terry & Sharon Smith. We have apartments for rent that are efficiency apartments, all utilities paid. For more info call 606-886-2797.

FURNISHED 1 BEDROOM APARTMENTS:

Central heat & air. Rent starting at \$350 month, + \$300 deposit. Located near HRMC. 889-9717.*

630-Houses

2 BR HOUSE, equipped kitchen, near schools. Prestonsburg area. References required. Call 886-0825 before 5 p.m.

OIL FIELD COMPANY has openings for hard working responsible drivers. Must be of age 21 or older. Must have CDL and good driving record, and some mechanical aptitude. Please apply in person.

UNIVERSAL WELL SERVICE INC.
 5252 Route 1428
 Allen, Ky. 41601
606-874-3487
 Call Monday thru Friday, 8:00 a.m. thru 4:00 p.m.

WANTED CADD (Draftsperson)

Mining engineering firm seeks computer drafting technician, proficient in Autocad & Survcadd. Experience with EXCEL, WP & MS Word helpful. 40-50 hrs/wk., BC-BS Health Ins., Delta Dental, Pd. Vac., Pd. holidays. Work would include all maps for mining permits. Pay based upon qualifications, opportunity for advancement. Walturn Eng. office, located at Hueysville, near Garrett. Call 606-358-4481 or 9127, for more information.

Big Sandy Health Care, Inc. seeks candidates for **PSYCHOLOGIST** or **LCSW**
 Performs assessments, provides individual, group or family therapy to patients with emotional or mental illness and alcohol or drug addiction.
 Qualifications include Masters or Doctorate degree in Psychology and current licensure in Kentucky or Masters degree in Social Work and licensure as a Licensed Clinical Social Worker.
 Beginning salary up to \$60,000 depending upon qualifications and experience.
 Please send resumé to:
Human Resources
Big Sandy Health Care, Inc.
 1709 KY Route 321, Suite 3
 Prestonsburg, KY 41653
 Fax (606) 886-8548
 Email: hr@bshe.org
 Equal Opportunity Employer

Presbyterian Child Welfare Agency
Case Manager Big Sandy Treatment Foster Care Program
 Must be willing to work with emotionally behaviorally disturbed youth in community programs in the Floyd and Pike County area. Responsible for developing the treatment plan, directing and providing services, and overall case management guidance. May require some on-call/after hours work. Requires B.A. degree in the human services field.
 To apply, send resumé and letter of intent to:
 Melissa Slone
 Treatment Foster Care
 308 Maple Street
 Hazard, KY 41701
 606-487-1023
 606-435-2496 (FAX)
EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY NURSING OPPORTUNITIES
 Highlands Regional Medical Center is recruiting for the following position:
LPN
 HRMC, a good place to work, offers a competitive salary, and a generous benefits package including:
 • Nine (9) Paid Holidays
 • Retirement Plan
 • Medical/Dental Insurance
 Interested applicants may apply to the Human Resources Department, HRMC, 5000 Ky. Rt. 321, Prestonsburg, Ky. 41653 (606) 886-7530
 Fax (606) 886-7534
 E-mail: tclark@hrmc.org
 HRMC Job Line: (606) 886-7510
 Highlands is an equal opportunity employer. Please visit Highlands web site at www.hrmc.org
"Think Healthy, Think Highlands!"

RENOVATED 2 BR HOUSE FOR RENT
located in residential section of Martin. \$375 mo. Call 285-3025 or 285-9812, for appointment.

HOUSE FOR RENT:
Left Fork of Little Paint Creek. 3 BR, 2 BA, about 25 minutes from Federal Prison. If interested call 874-0307.

FOR RENT OR LEASE: Large house located on US 23 between Prestonsburg & Pikeville. 3-4 BR, 3 BA, garage, no indoor pets. Great for business offices. \$600 mo. Call M. Tackett 874-1700.

FURNISHED HOUSE FOR RENT:
Just outside city limits, suitable for 2 people. Call 886-2474. (

2 BR HOUSE FOR RENT Furnished kitchen. In Prestonsburg, \$350 mo. \$300 deposit, references & lease required. Call 886-3154.

650-Mobile Homes

FOR RENT: 1 BR mobile home. Call 874-9790.

FOR RENT: 2 BR mobile home, completely furnished. \$300 mo, \$125 deposit & utilities. Call 886-8961.

3 BR, 1 BA MOBILE HOME FOR RENT.
Newly renovated, \$425 mo plus utilities & sec. dep. Call 606-874-2802.

TRAILER FOR RENT: \$250 mo. Rte 7, Salt Lick. Call 358-4524.

FOR RENT: 14X70 2 BR mobile home. Call 886-3541 Cell 791-3727.

670-Commercial Property

FOR RENT: MODERN SECOND FLOOR APARTMENT Approx. 900 sq. ft. Furnished kitchen. Will also consider renting apartmet for office space. Located 1 mile south of Martin on Rte 122 across from the Floyd County Technology Center at Garth. \$500 per mo. plus utilities. Call 285-3625 or 285-9112.

Subscribe & Save! Call 886-8506

SERVICES

705-Construction

ALL TYPES: Remodeling & additions, garages, decks, etc. Also concrete work. Robie Johnson, Jr., call anytime, 886-8896.

NOTICES

805-Announcements

HELP THE KIDS IN THE COMMUNITY.
We are looking for donations for new & used computers to distribute to the kids community facilities. For pick up call Scott 889-9551 and to deliver call Scott 889-9551.

812-Free

FREE PALLETS:
Can be picked up behind The Floyd County Times.

FREE FILL DIRT right fork of Bull Creek. call 606-874-2444.

900-Legals

NOTICE OF BOND RELEASE

Pursuant to Application Number 898-4217

In accordance with the provisions of KRS 350.093, notice is hereby given that Central Appalachia Mining, L.L.C., P.O. Box 2827, Pikeville, Kentucky 41502, has applied for a Phase III Bond release of permit number 898-4217, for increment 1, which was last issued on September 11, 2003. The application covers and area of approximately 34.38 surface acres, located two (2) miles northeast of level, in Floyd County. The permit area is approximately 1 mile

north from U.S. 23 junction with Ivy Creek Road, and located 1 mile north of Levisa Fork. The latitude is 37°36'04", The longitude is 82°38'56".

The bond now in effect for increment 1, is a surety bond for five thousand five-hundred dollars (\$ 5 , 5 0 0) . Approximately one-hundred percent (100%) of the original bond amount of (\$5,500) is included in this application for release.

Reclamation work performed includes: backfilling, final grading, seeding, and mulching, completed in Fall 2003.

Written comments, objections, and requests for a public or informal conference, must be filed with the Director, Division of Field Services, #2 Hudson Hollow, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601, by January 30, 2004.

A public hearing on

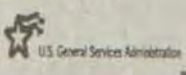
the application has been scheduled for February 2, 2004, at 10 a.m., at the Department for Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement's Pikeville Regional Office, located at 121 Mays Branch Road, Pikeville, Kentucky 41501. The hearing will be canceled if no request for a hearing or informal conference is received by January 30, 2004.

People know Pueblo for its...



Famous Hot Salsa?

In Pueblo, the free government information is also hot. Dip into the Consumer Information Center web site, www.pueblo.gsa.gov. You can download all the information right away.



STOP!

You've cleaned out your attic, your basement, your garage and now you're ready to host a garage sale. Before you proceed, follow these signs for placing the type of classified ad that will help turn your event into a best-seller.

Be sure to include in your Garage or Yard Sale ad...

1

WHAT.

Describe the type of sale you're hosting. Is it mostly household goods? Nursery furniture? Apparel?

2

WHEN.

Give dates and time of sale, and rain date information.

3

WHERE.

Where the sale will be held, with directions or phone number for directions.

4

WHY.

Reason for sale, especially if it is a "moving" sale, since these tend to attract more customers.

Let one of our "ad-visors" help you with your ad. Call 886-8506

The Floyd County Times

Be an Angel.

Become a Kentucky organ & tissue donor.

For information contact:

1-800-525-3456, or

www.trustforlife.org

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

General Assignment Reporter

The Floyd County Times is currently accepting applications for general assignment reporters, either full-time or part-time. The ideal candidate will possess strong writing skills, dedication to the principles of journalism, strong people skills and a go-getter attitude. Experience is preferred, but applicants with the right mix of education and ability, will be considered. The ability to work flexible hours is a must. Benefits include a competitive salary, health insurance, vacation, 401k and mileage, for full-time employees.

If you would like to advance or continue your career in the field of journalism, you may submit your resumé and writing samples to

Managing Editor Ralph B. Davis
The Floyd County Times
P.O. Box 390, Prestonsburg, KY 41653
or
via email to web@floydcountytimes.com

Do you have Something to Sell? Let us help you out!!!

If you are an individual needing to place an item for sale in our Classified Section, now you can do it

FREE!!!

You can place 1 item valued at \$100 or less in our Classified Section for 1 week

TOTALLY FREE OF CHARGE!

Come in today & let us help you move these items!

Contact Tammy Conn, Classified Department

606.886.8506

email: fctclass@bellsouth.net

Service IS OUR BUSINESS

To place your service ad call Tammy or Charlotte at 606-886-8506

J&M Seamless Guttering & Siding
Located at Weeksbury, Ky.
14 Years Experience
Free estimates, call anytime
606-452-2490 or 606-424-9858

Aiken Technology LLC
Commercial & Residential HEATING, COOLING AND ELECTRICAL
We do it right the first time!
Above-Code Work
Call 606-874-2516

Now Open Mill Branch Horse Boarding Stables
Located 5 miles up Kentucky 114, on Mill Branch Road.
For information, call: 606-889-9362

Mine Safety & First Aid Training
Newly Employed 24 hr. Class (surface) 40 hr. (underground) 8 hr. refresher (surface & underground) Also Electrical Classes
285-0999
Train at your convenience.

FOR ALL YOUR BUILDING NEEDS!
New homes, remodeling, roofing, patios, block, concrete or siding. Have 30 years experience.
Call Spears Construction, Romey Spears (606) 874-2688.

TRIPLE R EXCAVATING
Minnie, Kentucky
606-377-2323 • Cell: 791-6083
ANY TYPE CONSTRUCTION WORK
• Septic System • Brushing • Concrete Work
• Pond Cleaning • Home Remodeling • Block Work
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