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— Section B

briefs

Florida man dies in Magoffin

by JARRID DEATON
STAFF WRITER

SALYERSVILLE — A Florida man was killed on Tuesday in an accident three miles west of Salyersville on the Mountain Parkway.

According to the police report, Ramon N. Fernandez, 21, was a passenger in a vehicle driven by Kristopher Lomax Rose, 22, when Rose lost control of his car on the icy road and struck a flatbed truck.

Fernandez was pronounced dead at the scene by Magoffin County Coroner Jerry Dunn.

Rose was transported to the Paul B. Hall Medical Center, then later to Cabell Huntington Hospital.

Both Rose and Fernandez were ejected from the vehicle. The driver of the flatbed truck, Bobby Overbey, was not injured.

The accident is still under investigation by Kentucky State Trooper Darren Stapleton.

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2 DAY FORECAST

Today

Scattered flurries

High: 20 • Low: 4

Tomorrow

Partly cloudy

High: 20 • Low: 15

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



photo by Sheldon Compton

Firefighters worked quickly to bring a house fire under control Wednesday morning along University Drive in Prestonsburg. The occupant of the home, 80-year-old Rita Blackburn, was brought to safety by an unknown Corn Fork resident, who called to report the incident before leaving the scene.

Elderly resident saved by unknown rescuer

by SHELDON COMPTON
STAFF WRITER

Department looking at surge in fires

by SHELDON COMPTON
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — The winter season always brings an increase in the number of structure fires, with people turning more often to heating equipment as a means of staying warm at home, but in the last few weeks Prestonsburg firefighters have found themselves busy even for this time of year.

The Prestonsburg Fire Department

(See FIRES, page three)

PRESTONSBURG — Eighty-year-old Black Bottom resident Rita Blackburn couldn't have imagined that Wednesday morning would find her huddled in a pickup truck outside her burned and water-soaked home along University Drive, but at approximately 10:30 a.m. that's where Prestonsburg firefighters found her.

According to Blackburn's son, Curt Blackburn, his mother called him at about 10:15 a.m. and said she had heard a loud popping sound and then noticed smoke in the house.

By the time her son arrived, along with members of the Prestonsburg Fire Department, Blackburn had been helped from the smoke-filled house by a passerby.

Blackburn's rescuer, who left the scene shortly after calling for help and whom authorities could

only identify as a Corn Fork resident named "Jeff", was passing Blackburn's home when he noticed smoke, officials discovered later.

"A boy from Corn Fork was going by, saw smoke coming out of the top of the house and stopped and got her out," said Curt Blackburn. "We're not sure who he is, but we sure appreciate what he done."

Blackburn, who was brought from the home without injury, was alone in the house when smoke began to fill the kitchen and bathroom, the rooms fire officials say took the brunt of the damage.

According to Prestonsburg Fire Chief Larry Adams, the fire actually began in the bathroom of the home, Blackburn used an electric space heater which sat on the carpeted floor of the bathroom, according to Adams, and was covered with throw rugs.

"This is pretty typical," Adams

(See SAVED, page three)

Turner blasts early releases

by SHELDON COMPTON
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — Gov. Paul Patton's decision to grant early releases to nonviolent felony offenders to help cure budget concerns was not something prosecutors accepted to begin with.

Many have said the release of inmates should have never been looked to as an option when turning an eye to curing the budget crisis. These misgivings were made clear after Patton's first batch in December and have only increased with his second group of releases announced this past Tuesday.

Two of those felons were set free from the Floyd County Detention Center in Prestonsburg, but may not have been the best candidates, according to the commonwealth's attorney's office.

(See TURNER, page three)

Nursing home could lose funding

by JARRID DEATON
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — A Prestonsburg nursing home is in danger of losing Medicare and Medicaid reimbursements after a survey of the home determined that it was not in compliance with the requirements of participation.

Riverview Health Care Center was notified that its agreement with the Secretary of Health and Human Services as a Medicare provider would be terminated effective Feb. 1.

According to Joyce Lang, spokesperson for the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, a survey of the facility conducted on Jan. 9 showed that Riverview was not in compliance with the requirements of participation.

(See NURSING HOME, page three)

Man arrested after crashing into deputy

by LORETTA BLACKBURN
STAFF WRITER

GARRETT — A David man was arrested on a bench warrant for failing to appear at arraignment after the vehicle he was riding in hit a Floyd County Sheriff's department vehicle.

According to court documents, Howard was arrested on Tuesday, at 1:30 p.m. on West Garrett Road by Deputy B.J. Caudill, after the vehicle he was riding in was involved in an accident with a sheriff's department vehicle.

The document shows that a

bench warrant was served on Howard for not appearing at arraignment on an alcohol intoxication charge. It states that he was again charged with alcohol intoxication, as well as third-degree assault on a police officer, resisting arrest and disorderly conduct.

The arrest warrant states that Howard was yelling when Caudill attempted to place him under arrest and would not stand on his feet. It also states that Howard was talking to himself with slurred speech.

Caudill reported that the driver of the vehicle was driving under the influence.



photo by Loretta Blackburn

Julie Paxton took part in the swearing in ceremony for Mickey McGuire on Thursday at Prestonsburg Elementary, where he became a member of the Floyd County Board of Education. McGuire disclosed his motivation for seeking the seat and vowed that he "will go in with dedication" and "sincerely hoped that in his contribution, he could make things better."

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Odds and Ends

■ **CHARLESTON, W.Va.** — Spelling isn't a high priority for several candidates in city elections.

A handful of candidates misspelled their party affiliation on the official filing forms in the city clerk's office.

Four Democrats erroneously spelled their party name either as "Democrat" or "Democrate."

Two GOP members transposed their party name to "Republican" and "Repucican."

"I was kind of rushed," said Al Carey, a Republican challenger in the 8th Ward, who spelled his party "Republican."

Democrat Dana Griffith attributed his misspelling to a tight time frame and a dash of carelessness.

"I was rushed," said Griffith, a City Council candidate in Ward 18. "I was trying to beat the deadline; I didn't even pay any attention to it. I was in a big hurry."

Misspelling hasn't yet proved to be a candidate's political undoing.

Four years ago, Fred Pettry spelled his party name "Democrat," and went on to win

a seat on City Council as a representative from Ward 7.

He repeated his gaffe this year.

■ **STEWARTVILLE, Minn.** — An adult entertainment store's sign offering a "clergy discount" has drawn the wrath of its churchgoing neighbors.

A double-sided sign stands outside Pure Pleasure in view of people entering and leaving Midwest Baptist Church.

People driving toward the church, read: "And God said go out into the world and have great sex. God's gift to women. Amen and amen."

People leaving see: "No need to mail order. Gay videos in stock. Clergy discount. Have good sex. Hallelujah!"

"This sign shows me that he's not only thumbing his nose at the laws of the township, he's thumbing his nose at the laws of God," said the Rev. Joseph Grimaldi, who heads the church. "I just hope I'm not too close when the lightning strikes."

Malcolm Prinzing, who owns the land where the sign was placed and the building that

houses Pure Pleasure, did not return a telephone call seeking comment.

■ **HOWELL, Mich.** — A man who wrote obscenities on a check he used to pay a traffic fine apologized but refused to plead guilty or no contest to a contempt of court charge.

District Judge John Pikkariainen has refused to dismiss the case. After Eric Wilmoth met with Pikkariainen in his chambers, the judge scheduled a Jan. 24 evidentiary hearing that could include arguments and testimony from witnesses.

Wilmoth, 26, of Howell, was ticketed after accidentally backing into another car. He paid the fine with a check and wrote two vulgar words on the memo line, prompting Pikkariainen to charge him with contempt in October for "improper use of language."

"It is my understanding that the language that I used on that check may have offended you. For this I am deeply sorry, and genuinely remorseful," Wilmoth said in a letter filed Friday with the court. "I did not intend to trouble any of the court staff with my choice of language."

Wilmoth's attorney, Ron Plunkett, is trying to have the case dismissed, arguing the contempt charge violates his client's First Amendment free speech rights.

If convicted, Wilmoth could face 30 days in jail and a \$250 fine.

Pikkariainen sentenced another Howell man to two days of community service for writing a vulgar insult on the memo line of a check he used to pay a traffic fine last year.

■ **BISMARCK, N.D.** — The North Dakota Heritage Center has had a brush with the past.

A pair of 3-inch oiling brushes from a World War I German machine gun display disappeared in 1962. Forty years later, the center has received a box in the mail containing the brushes and an apology.

"I humbly apologize for my prior indiscretion, and hope these can be returned to their proper place," the man who stole the brushes wrote.

He said he was visiting his brother in Bismarck when he took the brushes, and recently found them in a shoe box in his garage. The brushes were mailed from Minnesota.

"The gentlemen happened to be visiting and decided to help

himself to those brushes," said Jenny Yearous, curator of collections for the State Historical Society of North Dakota.

Yearous said the brushes would help the Heritage Center better interpret the artifact.

Yearous said that in 1962 the machine gun was on display in the open where people could touch it, making it easy to steal the brushes.

Now, it is much harder to walk off with items from the Heritage Center. Yearous said security guards, cameras and other measures make it nearly impossible to steal anything.

■ **CLINTON, Iowa** — They're talking trash about the environment at Clinton High School.

That's because the trash compactors in the lunchroom broadcast audio messages whenever someone opens the panel of the mechanism to throw away garbage.

"Thank you for helping us keep the environment clean," the trash can says. "Thank you for dining with us; we look forward to serving you again."

The new cans are among cafeteria improvements made after the school adopted a new policy that requires students to stay in the building at lunch, Principal William Cornelius said.

Students who toured Davenport North High School's cafeteria last year saw similar compactors and liked the talking trash cans, said Jeff Weaver, food service director for the school.

Cornelius said there's a "noticeable difference" in the amount of trash students leave behind at lunch. He thinks some students use the compactors more often to see what message they'll hear.

The four trash compactors cost \$4,500 each.

Although some students enjoy using the new cans, some wonder why the school spent so much on them.

"I don't think the talking trash cans make a difference, but if that is what they want, that's OK," said Rohini Ramnath, a member of the student council.

■ **HOLLIDAYSBURG, Pa.**

— A couple looking to tie the knot was ordered to stand trial on charges they allegedly faked the man's divorce papers so they could get married more quickly.

Scott Alan Hite, 40, and Patricia Palmer, 38, now face a

formal Blair County Court arraignment - on Valentine's Day.

An investigation began shortly after the couple allegedly filed a document in October that purported to confirm Hite's divorce.

Police said a Blair County clerk noticed an odd coincidence: The chief judge in Frederick County, Va., whose signature was on Hite's divorce decree, had the same name as a Blair County judge: Thomas G. Peoples Jr.

That prompted Blair County Prothonotary Carol Newman to check with Virginia officials, who said they had no record of Hite's divorce, and that the judge there was not named Peoples.

Because Palmer is also divorced, Blair County officials looked up her file and found Peoples was the judge who signed her decree, police said. Court officials, and later police, determined the signature on that document allegedly matched the signature on Hite's divorce decree, authorities said.

The couple were charged with forgery and false swearing.

The couple's attorney, Richard Behrens, said Tuesday his clients "are not guilty of any crime. Explanations will be forthcoming."

■ **PENSACOLA, Fla.** —

The idea for a smoke detector that lets parents record a message to tell young children what to do when there is a fire came in a dream, one of its inventors says.

Eddie Fray was one of four inventors of the KidSmart Vocal Smoke Detector who shared an award last week at the International Consumer Electronics Association's 36th annual show in Las Vegas.

"I dreamed there was a fire in the house and the smoke alarm told the kids to get out," said Fray, a 42-year-old father of three. "I almost went back to sleep, but I decided to get up and write it down."

Today in History

The Associated Press

Today is Friday, Jan. 17, the 17th day of 2003. There are 348 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On Jan. 17, 1961, in his farewell address, President Eisenhower warned against the rise of "the military-industrial complex."

On this date:

■ In 1706, Benjamin Franklin was born in Boston.

■ In 1893, the 19th president of the United States, Rutherford B. Hayes, died in Fremont, Ohio, at age 70.

■ In 1893, Hawaii's monarchy was overthrown as a group of businessmen and sugar planters forced Queen Liliuokalani to abdicate.

■ In 1945, Soviet and Polish forces liberated Warsaw during World War II.

■ In 1945, Swedish diplomat Raoul Wallenberg, credited with saving tens of thousands of Jews, disappeared in Hungary while in Soviet custody.

■ In 1946, the U.N. Security Council held its first meeting.

■ In 1977, convicted murderer Gary Gilmore, 36, was shot by a firing squad at Utah State Prison in the first U.S. execution in a decade.

■ In 1991, in the first day of Operation Desert Storm, U.S.-led forces hammered Iraqi targets in an effort to drive Iraq out of Kuwait; a defiant Iraqi President Saddam Hussein declared that the "mother of all battles" had begun.

■ In 1994, a 6.7 magnitude earthquake struck Southern California, killing at least 61 people.

■ In 1995, more than 6,000 people were killed when an earthquake with a magnitude of 7.2 devastated the city of Kobe, Japan.

Ten years ago:

The United States, accusing Iraq of a series of military provocations, unleashed Tomahawk missiles against a military complex eight miles from downtown Baghdad.

Fray said he believes such a detector, with a message in a familiar voice recorded on it, will be less confusing to a child than a standard smoke alarm.

Fray and business partner Dale McCarthy teamed up with two other men, Brent Routman and Larry Stults, who also had patented a talking smoke alarm.

Routman and Stults received their patent first but agreed to partner with the two Pensacola men in a single company, Smart Safety Systems Inc., Routman said.

He said young children often panic and hide when they hear a conventional smoke alarm, sometimes fearing they have done something wrong to set it off.

■ **SAN FRANCISCO** — Residents here have redefined their relationship with man's best friend.

The San Francisco Board of Supervisors passed an ordinance Monday that changes the city's health code to make pets' owners the animals' guardians.

City health officials last November urged the board to change the law so pets would be considered animals, instead of someone's property.

"We're really trying to get to the heart of trying to treat animals more humanely and promote guardianship," said Matt Gonzalez, the board's president and chief sponsor of the ordinance.

Supervisor Gavin Newsom said the proposal could cause confusion among pet owners and veterinarians. He also noted the words "owner" and "guardian" have different legal definitions and could open up the city to frivolous lawsuits.

Other localities that have passed similar ordinances are Berkeley, West Hollywood, Boulder, Colo., and Rhode Island.

The ordinance needs the signature of Mayor Willie Brown to become law.

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Bill would remove statute of limitations on sex abuse lawsuits

The Associated Press

LOUISVILLE — A bill pending in the state Senate Judiciary Committee would lift the statute of limitations on child sexual abuse lawsuits, allowing plaintiffs to sue decades after alleged abuse might have occurred.

Although it would apply to all abuse cases, the bill was aimed at lawsuits alleging sexual abuse of children by clergy, said Sen. David Karem, one of the bill's co-sponsors. Sen. R.J. Palmer II said he filed the bill as a way to hold churches and other organizations accountable.

"I think its just time we sent a message — at least in the state

of Kentucky — that we're not going to tolerate harboring a molester," Palmer said.

If approved, the retroactive bill could impact the 200 sexual abuse lawsuits pending against the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Louisville. Some of the suits date back to the 1950s, but plaintiffs skirted the statute of limitation by suing the church and accusing its officials of covering up knowledge of abuse.

"What is so vitally important in this legislation is that it eliminates the need to establish that there was knowledge about a particular priest that was not reported to the police in order to overcome the statute of limitations issues," said attorney William McMurry, who represents more than 175 plaintiffs suing the diocese.

Current state statutes permit alleged victims of child sexual abuse to sue the accused perpetrators within five years after turning 18. Alleged victims also may sue the alleged abusers' employers within one year after turning 18.

The bill also would make it easier to sue alleged abusers individually, clearing the way for some plaintiffs to also file suit against the priests and church employees named as

(See ABUSE, page three)

Funny Faces

Can you guess who is pictured? Each caller who guesses correctly will have their name entered in a drawing for a weekly prize.

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Winner must pick up certificate at Floyd County Times office to receive free pizza.

CBS backing away from revival of 'The Beverly Hillbillies'

by DAVID BAUDER
AP Television Writer

"Beverly Hillbillies" out to California may be sputtering. Under pressure, CBS is dampening expectations for "The Real Beverly Hillbillies,"

a reality series in the works that borrows its premise from the hit 1960s sitcom. This time, the network planned to use a real family instead of a fictional

one. An advocacy group, the Center for Rural Strategies, placed a second round of newspaper ads protesting the series in newspapers on Wednesday.

There is still no schedule for when, or if, the series will get on the air, CBS President Leslie Moonves said.

"It's a show that's still very, very much in the discussion stages," he said. "We have not even located a family."

Many residents of rural states have complained that the show will perpetuate a stereotype of them as hicks; the advocacy groups claims thousands of e-mails in support. Casting is being conducted in West Virginia, Kentucky, Virginia, Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia.

"When you're dealing with reality — and it's happened with the bulk of reality (shows) — ideas come from all over the place," Moonves said. "And sometimes you're pushing the envelope, and sometimes ... it may appear you're pushing it too far."

The show's purpose, he said, "was to question social mores."

"It wasn't our intent to offend everybody," he said. "I'm sorry if we have."

Moonves also pointed out

that the biggest buffoon in the original sitcom was the rich guy next door.

"He's back-pedaling," said Dee Davis, president of the Whitesburg, Ky.-based Center for Rural Strategies. While Davis was encouraged by Moonves' comments, he said Wednesday he would continue the ad campaign.

Advertisements are running in Los Angeles, Chicago and Nashville, he said.

"If we just packed it in and

quit right now, who's to say they won't turn around and put it on the air?" Davis said.

Meanwhile, Fox is working on a new reality series that might make Davis happy. Called "The Simple Life," the network wants to send two young celebrities to a farm for six weeks of feeding chickens, milking cows and washing dishes.

Producers have been searching for a location in Louisiana.

Big Sandy ADD elects officers

by JARRID DEATON
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — A meeting of the Big Sandy Area Development District on Thursday was filled with new faces as elections were held for the appointment of board members.

The nominating committee, which consisted of five county-judge executives, adjourned for about an hour before returning

with the results of the election.

Floyd County Judge-Executive Paul Hunt Thompson was elected as the chair of the board, Johnson County Judge-Executive Tucker Daniel was elected as the vice chair, Martin County Judge-Executive Kelly Callahan was elected as the second vice chair, Frank Justice was elected as secretary, Doris Barnett was elected as treasurer and Susan Howard was elected as the original low income representative.

The judge-executive appointees were Phillip Hunt, Floyd County, Lillian Wheeler, Johnson County, Donna Adams, Magoffin County, Sara Callahan, Martin County, and Kitty White, Pike County.

The citizen members that were elected were Burl Spurlock, Floyd County, Paul Williams, Johnson County, Doris Barnett, Magoffin County, Craig Preece, Martin County, and Mickey Anders, Pike County.

Paul Hunt Thompson was elected to the KCADD Legislative Committee and Bill Deskins was elected as the second member.

James Whited presented a financial report at the meeting saying that they would adopt a defensive posture in response to possible cuts by the state. Whited said that the organization had a \$19,000 surplus of funds.

The meeting adjourned after an announcement of the County Budget Workshop which will be held on Feb. 11.

Nursing Home

Continued from p1

"We found some conditions in the facility that were identified as putting the health and safety of the residents in immediate jeopardy," Lang said.

The notice of termination of the agreement does not mean that

Riverview will not have a chance to correct the violations. According to Lang, Riverview can submit a plan of correction that will be reviewed by the Centers for

Medicare and Medicaid to keep the services.

"If the plan of correction is accepted, another survey will be conducted," Lang said. "Most nursing homes will do whatever it takes to correct the problem."

Riverview Health Care Center directed calls to their corporate office in Florida. A representative from the office said that they were not aware of the termination notice.

Man sues over inability to visit child's grave

by JARRID DEATON
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — A Grethel man has filed a lawsuit claiming that his ejection from a parcel of land located in Hi Hat has unjustly kept him from being able to visit the grave of his child on the property.

Toney Newsome has filed the complaint against Ruby Mae Newsome claiming that he has suffered mental anguish and has incurred living expenses that would not have happened if he had not been ejected from the property.

According to the lawsuit, Ruby Mae Newsome and her husband, Robert Junior Newsome used money belonging to Toney Newsome to purchase a home for him. Because Toney Newsome was a minor at the time of the purchase, the deed for the property placed in the names of Ruby Mae Newsome and Robert Newsome until he became an adult or if he got married.

According to the suit, Robert Newsome removed his name from the deed on Aug. 5, 1996, and the property was transferred to Toney Newsome and his wife, Jamie Newsome. The suit claims that Ruby Mae Newsome refused to remove her name from the deed.

On Aug. 28, 2002, Ruby Mae Newsome ejected Toney Newsome and his family from the property and has converted the

property to her own use in alleged violation of both state and federal law. Toney Newsome claims that as a result of his ejection from the property, he has been unable to visit his child's grave.

Toney Newsome is asking for judgment against Ruby Mae Newsome, ordering her to remove her name from the deed to the property. Newsome is also asking for compensation for the harm he has suffered because of the incident and past moving expenses and future moving expenses.

Correction

Floyd County School Board employee Linda Rice was incorrectly referred to as the school board's director of pupil personnel in a related article Wednesday. Rice is actually the school board's attendance supervisor.

Abuse

Continued from p2

alleged abusers in the diocese lawsuits.

Lawmakers supporting the legislation say they expect debate on the bill but believe some form of it will pass.

The Catholic Conference of Kentucky, the church's lobbying arm, likely won't oppose lifting the statute of limitations. But the organization, which represents that state's four dioceses, has objections about some sections of the bill.

One would require clergy to report to civic authorities any confession of child sexual abuse made by other clergy members, breaking the sacrament's confidentiality.

"That obviously goes against our faith," said Vincent Senior, the conference's executive director.

Turner

Continued from p1

Floyd County prisoners Matthew Perkins and Thelma Quillen were both serving sentences for drug-related offenses when orders came through Tuesday to let them go.

Perkins — jailed for burglarizing a Martin drugstore of nearly 3,000 prescription pills and set to be released on May 20 — walked nearly four months before his sentence would have been completed.

Arresting officers said Perkins had thousands of OxyContin, Lorcet, Xanax, Vicodin and Percocet tablets stuffed into his pockets when taken into custody. An estimated street value for Perkins' bounty was between \$11,000 and \$12,000, officials said.

Convicted last year for drug trafficking charges, Quillen would have remained in custody until June 21.

With the addition of the 328 being released starting today, Patton has now shortened sentences for 895 felons in hopes of alleviating pressure from a crippled state budget. In December, 567 felons were set free from jails across the commonwealth.

One of the prosecutors questioning the validity of the early release plan is Floyd County Commonwealth's Attorney Brent Turner, who says his office has problems accepting the idea of releasing convicted felons purely due to budget concerns, even before turning his attention to faults in the plan.

"We would rather not see any people released simply because of budget concerns. That's bad enough," Turner said. "But we have had no input whatsoever in determining who's going to be released."

Turner said his office has not been contacted at all in relation to the early release of inmates in the county and wasn't made aware that Perkins and Quillen had even been considered for release until probation and parole officers brought it to their attention.

"What had been stated before was that they would carefully consider each case," said Turner. "And it was my understanding

Saved

said. "People who have them don't think about carpeting or throw rugs or clothing getting very close to it."

Blackburn's home, which rests in a pocket with several other timeworn rental properties along University Drive, are also more susceptible to fire, department officials said.

Due in most part to a quick response to the early morning fire, Blackburn's home was outwardly saved from any damage. Still, fire and smoke damage within the home forced firefighters to toss numerous household items from a back window and could soon have the 80-year-old Prestonsburg resident looking for another place to live, officials

said.

Once the fire was fully under control, fire officials then worked quickly to shut down a set of gas meters between Blackburn's home and an adjacent residence to avoid threats of a line explosion.

With no physical injury, other than a few singed hairs, Blackburn watched firefighters and police officers bring the fire under control from the warm confines of a running pickup truck near her house.

On-scene medical technicians said Blackburn turned down offers for medical treatment and complained only of shortness of breath, most likely from smoke inhalation.

Fires

Continued from p1

has responded to six structure fires just in the last few weeks, beginning, according to fire chief Larry Adams, with the large fire at Layne Brothers and ending only a couple of days ago with a house fire on University Drive.

"Typically in the winter months you usually see a rise in structure fires due to heating equipment," said Adams, "but this is not the case this year."

Adams said that most of the half-dozen fires his department has responded to recently have not been related to heating equipment.

"We've had fires, but it's not necessarily related to weather," said Adams.

Since the large fire at Layne

Brother's Ford at Ivel, Prestonsburg firefighters have been called to only a couple fires related to the cold time of year.

One of those was Wednesday at the home of Rita Blackburn, whose home was damaged after a floor heater caught fire in her bathroom.

Adams, who is currently working on a comprehensive investigation into the surge of structure fires in Prestonsburg, says he cannot, at this early stage, say exactly why structure fires have skyrocketed.

"I'm working right now and getting some information together," said Adams. "Then maybe pretty soon we can get a better look into this."

Tourism team votes to spend money on marketing

by JARRID DEATON
STAFF WRITER

The Country Music Highway Corridor Team held a videoconference meeting with the Southern and Eastern Kentucky

Tourism Development Association (SEKTD) on Wednesday.

According to Van Back, director of community development, the corridor team has \$129,385 in funds to spend on whatever projects they deem necessary.

The team voted to spend \$24,000 on a promotional video for the area and \$6,000 for a media kit.

National Tourism Week, which runs from May 10-18, was also discussed at the meeting. The SEKTD staff recommended that the corridor team start thinking about activities that they could promote.

The next regular scheduled meeting of the Country Music Highway Corridor Team will be Feb. 19.

IT'S BACK

'THE TIMES' will reprint a pictorial history of our area entitled
Our Yesterdays
— A Pictorial History of Floyd County, Kentucky

The book is an exact reprint that contains about 350 photographs in 128 pages. This book will be digitally printed on 70# text paper and perfect bound with a attractive soft laminated cover, making it a high quality book. You will want a copy, not only for yourself, but for your loved ones as well. What a great gift idea for those who call Floyd County home.

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Viewpoint

Worth Repeating ...

"No great man lives in vain. The history of the world is but the biography of great men."

—Thomas Carlyle

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 San Diego Union-Tribune, on bringing back the draft:

The first thing to be said about New York Rep. Charles Rangel's proposed legislation to reinstate military conscription is that it is going nowhere. ...

Rangel and co-sponsor Michigan Rep. John Conyers know this. What they do hope to achieve is a public and political discussion that plays to their themes. ...

How and by whom the price for war is paid is a fit subject for debate, most especially as a possible war in Iraq looms.

Rangel and Conyers are liberal Democrats and African-Americans. Both are Korean War veterans. ... Both perceive the current burden of any U.S. military action as falling disproportionately on racial and ethnic minorities.

For starters, the all-volunteer military is working superbly, and has for three decades. ...

On ... battlefields of the future, the Rangel-Conyers army of short-term, inadequately trained and only partially willing conscripts would be as out of place as British redcoats.

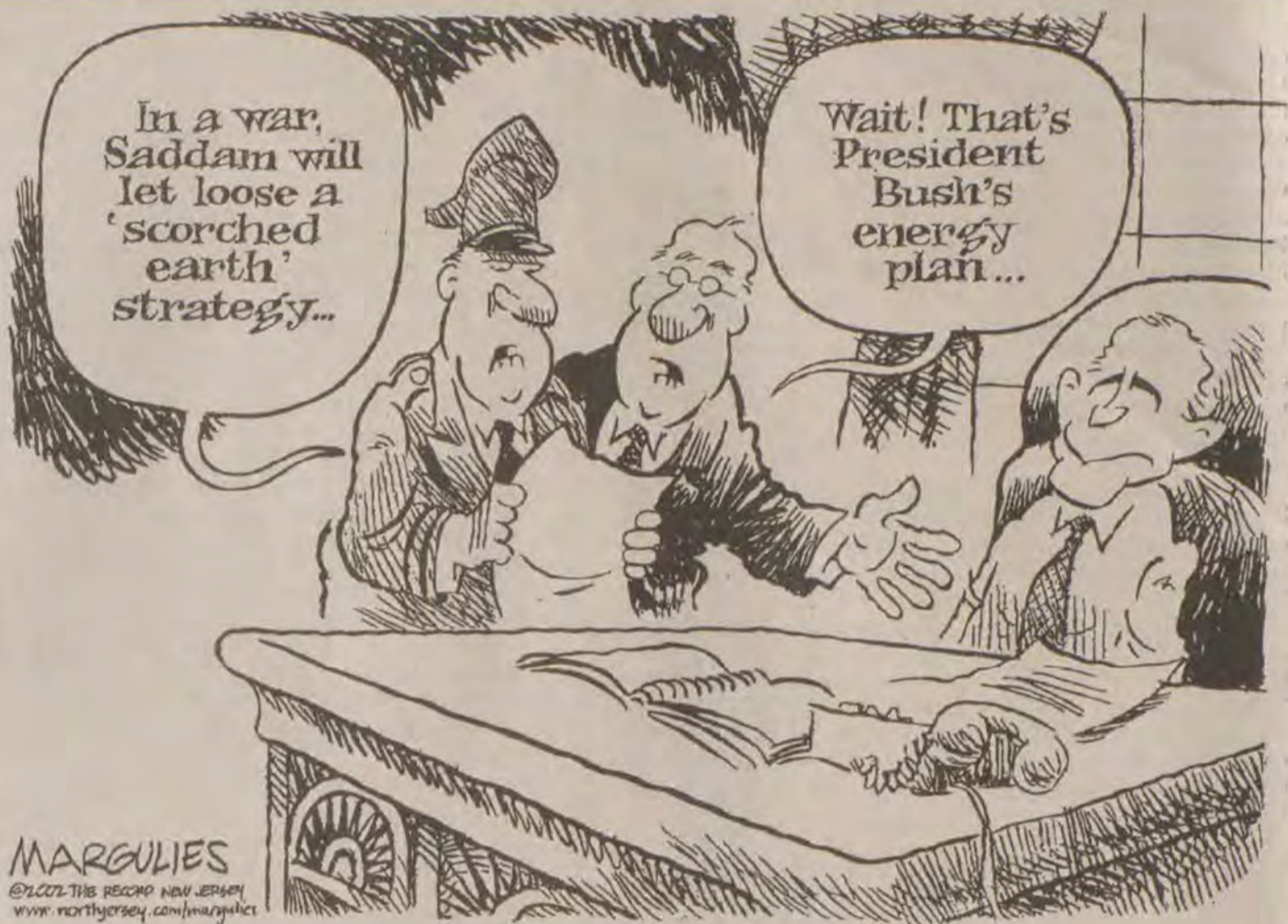
As for proportional sacrifice, it's true some racial and ethnic minorities are disproportionately represented in today's all-volunteer force. ... But, then, African-Americans, Hispanics and everyone else join the military today for all the right reasons: opportunity, excellent training, pay nearly comparable with civilian occupations, travel, adventure, the matchless camaraderie of service life, and, of course, the chance to serve their country. ...

The Daily Times, Farmington, N.M., on North Korea: ... North Korea's "Great Leader," Kim Il Sung, believes the best way to negotiate with the rest of the world is through escalation of threats. ...

Kim is enigmatic, isolated, and paranoid but he is not dumb. His timing has been impeccable. He created the current crisis when the Bush administration was focusing on a possible war with Iraq. He exploited the anti-American attitude of the new South Korean president. And he is playing off the United States against the probable reactions of China and Russia. ...

Nuclear power is the only real poker chip Kim has. It is his leverage in dealing with the most powerful country in the world. And as demonic and irrational as Saddam sometimes appears, Kim is even more dangerous.

The United States cannot fix this problem alone. But it must provide leadership by working with the United Nations, and especially with neighboring South Korea, Japan, China and Russia, in order to defuse this crisis and, most importantly, develop programs to bring North Korea out of its Stalinist isolation and into the world community.



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In the moment

Death — What is after "life"

I have heard a lot about death lately and have had a variety of perceptions concerning the afterlife shared with me. I have been mulling these over and I don't really know what to surmise as to what is beyond life except that I don't know.

Some fear it because they don't have an internalized belief of what lies beyond and can't achieve curiosity about the unknown, while some are confident in their belief that they are going to a better place. I have heard those who believe they are going to heaven and those who fear going to hell, as well as those who believe we simply become a part of the

earth. I don't particularly care for the latter because it doesn't give one much to look forward to. However, I respect an individual's right to believe whatever he or she chooses.

I will admit that I am somewhat afraid of dying, because I don't know what that entails. But really, who does know? All we have is our beliefs, which is not proof but faith.

I don't believe in a hell for me, because I really think that we make our own hell while we live. In turn, heaven must be the feeling one gets when they are following their heart and are relying on the guidance of a higher power. To know that you are where you need to be and accept that with gratitude is a slice of heaven in my opinion.

As far as what happens after "life," I choose to believe that it is a death much like the many we experience while we are living. Because, if you are growing, there will be many things in life that must die so that something new can begin. In this process a person can find an appreciation for the uncomfortable fear of the unknown that accompanies those changes. It would be just as easy to appreciate the fear of death. It could very well be that this is just one more process in which something dies, only this time it is the body. Maybe this time will be as before and we will find something wonderful is born as a result. Maybe it is eternal and then again, maybe it is just the next phase. This perception makes the fear beside in me and death doesn't seem so frightening after all.



LORETTA BLACKBURN

Letter

Caring people make Kentucky

Recently I had a bout with pneumonia and phlebitis. I want to take this means of saying "thank you" to my wonderful neighbors and friends. To those who brought me food, Shannon and Stef Shepard, Mr. and Mrs. Lonnie Allen, Luke Misadoques, and also the Betsy Layne Senior Citizens (Center). My thanks to Hershel and Mary Lou Spradlin for taking care of my mail. The caring people, that's why I love Kentucky. May God bless you all. Faye Dingus Maynard Betsy Layne

Are you a spiritual seeker?

Randall Reno's letter, "Not much difference," in last week's paper struck a chord within which made me ask myself, "What is spiritual growth? What does that mean?"

How does one go about advancing in matters of spirit? Do not all spiritual seekers proceed and grow from a foundation of spiritual knowledge, understanding and practice? Our teachers or spiritual

resources may differ, but aren't we all seeking peace of mind, harmony, healing? It would be wonderful to hear of others' spiritual habits, pursuits and measures for achieving progress spiritually.

Of course, the Scriptures offer multitudinous directives for growing spiritually, such as, "What doth the Lord thy God require of thee, but to fear the Lord thy God, to walk in all His ways, and to love Him, and to serve the Lord thy God with all thy heart," (Deuteronomy 10:12). The spiritual seeker would ask, "What does that mean? How do I apply this statement here and now?" We must acquire an understanding of God to know whom and what we serve and how to walk.

How do we know we're progressing? "By their fruits ye shall know them," (Matthew 7:20). In other words, we should see evidence that our prayers, our spiritual efforts are effective. Are our prayers in or out of church for ourselves and others leading to healing? Do we really know how to pray? Is our spiritual practice "leading us into all truth," as it says in John — leading us to a better understand and proof of truth — God's goodness and promises expressed? A spiritual explorer of the

19th century, Mary Baker Eddy, whose work spiritually interprets scripture, wrote extensively on the subject of spiritual growth in her book, *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*. This book is available at any local public library, as well as online at spirituality.com. These spiritual resources continue to inspire me to look to Spirit (a name for God) for answers to life's pressing questions. And as I humbly listen and follow, I find healing that is evidence of spiritual growth. Martha E. Risner Staffordsville

Coal is destructive

"From time to time, Appalachian coal operators have warned that they were about to be destroyed by (A) union demands, (B) health and safety laws, (C) oppressive taxes, (D) interfering outsiders, (E) local troublemakers, (F) return-to-contour edicts, (G) air pollution standards, (H) the broad form deed amendment, (I) production west of the Mississippi, (J) all of the above, and (K) all of the above plus anybody else who presumes to criticize.

You name it and the coal industry claims it will shut down the mines. But when push comes to shove (that's what it always comes to in dealing with Big Coal), operators usually find a way to keep mining."

The above is taken from an editorial in the Louisville Courier-Journal and is as true as coal is.

Mountain range removal is destroying Appalachian mountains, forests and streams. Hundreds of miles of Kentucky and West Virginia streams have been annihilated and left useless for future generations.

Thousands of jobs have been lost to huge machines. Homes and communities are gone. Thousands of families have had their drinking water damaged or destroyed. Flooding is becoming more frequent and more severe.

Until citizens realize alternative energy sources also give jobs, without massive destruction, coal companies will continue to take advantage of us.

A flight over the mountains gives you the full impact of what is happening. It is sickening, equal to the nausea brought on by the Massey TV ads.

Patty Frasher Wallace Louisa

Letter Guidelines

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

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

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

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

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Rod Collins, Publisher

MANAGING EDITOR

Ralph B. Davis ext. 17
web@floydcountytimes.com

FEATURES EDITOR

Kathy J. Prater ext. 26
features@floydcountytimes.com

SPORTS EDITOR

Steve LaMaster ext. 16
sports@floydcountytimes.com

PRODUCTION MANAGER

Johnie Adams ext. 30

CIRCULATION MANAGER

Patty Wilson ext. 19

ADVERTISING MANAGER

Kim Frasure ext. 12
Rita Brock, Edu. and Special Sections
advertising@floydcountytimes.com

COMPOSING MANAGER

R. Heath Wiley ext. 29
composing@floydcountytimes.com

CLASSIFIED MANAGER

Jenny Ousley ext. 15

DISTRIBUTION

Theresa Garrett ext. 31

BUSINESS MANAGER

David Bowyer ext. 20

At the Movies:

'Kangaroo Jack'

by CHRISTY LEMIRE
AP ENTERTAINMENT WRITER

"Kangaroo Jack" isn't so much a movie that merits serious criticism as it is an opportunity to sit in the dark for an hour and a half and think up one-liners.

And so, slogging through this mindless muck, one wonders, how did producer Jerry Bruckheimer go from "Black Hawk Down" to, as the Australian ditty goes, "Tie Me Kangaroo Down?"

That's what Brooklyn hairdresser Charlie (Jerry O'Connell) and his best friend, Louis (Anthony Anderson), try to do when an obviously computer-generated kangaroo steals the \$50,000 they're supposed to deliver in Australia as an assignment from Charlie's mob-boss stepfather (Christopher Walken).

While trekking through the Outback in a Jeep (with Men at Work's "Down Under" blaring from the stereo, natch), they hit a kangaroo, think they've killed it, then have a little fun with the carcass by

sticking Louis' lucky red jacket on it and taking Polaroid pictures with it. Then the kangaroo regains consciousness and hops away wearing the jacket, with the cash stuffed



geous. And because Charlie is white and Louis is black, they are racially mismatched buddies, of which they constantly remind us.

After schlepping through

And he has a terrier named Waffles, who shows up in early scenes to give director David McNally (who also directed the 2000 Bruckheimer extravaganza "Coyote Ugly") something cute to cut away to when there's nowhere else to go.

Everyone in the movie makes fun of Charlie's profession, the source of several lame jokes about whether he's gay.

The paltry laughs that "Kangaroo Jack" kicks up come mainly from Walken, whose talents are woefully squandered here as a gangster who tries to improve his vocabulary through an audio tape course but still confuses "anathema" with "plethora."

More often, "Kangaroo Jack" feels like an extended episode of "The Amazing Race" — the CBS series that Bruckheimer also produces — with its whiplash aerial shots of Australian tourist spots that appear to have been edited together by a koala on crack. It's a slick, shiny beer commercial of a movie, but it also tries to appeal to kids with jokes about flatulent camels.

And then there's the kangaroo himself, who's so awkward and fake-looking, and so obviously not inhabiting the same space as his human co-stars, that he's the Jar-Jar Binks of the marsupial world. And he only talks once. So if you looked forward to seeing a talking kangaroo movie, you'll be seriously disappointed.

"Kangaroo Jack," a Warner Bros. release, is rated PG for language, crude humor, sensuality and violence. Running time: 88 minutes. One and a half stars out of four.

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One and a half stars out of four.

inside one of the pockets.

Charlie and Louis go on a series of allegedly wacky misadventures to find the kangaroo, with the help of Jessie (the lifeless Estella Warren), a wildlife conservationist who happens to be drop-dead gor-

the desert, the rotund, ram-bunctious Louis fantasizes about chicken and grits. He repeatedly refers to that fateful day on the beach 20 years earlier, when he saved Charlie, a poor little white kid, from drowning.

Fifth Harry Potter book to be published June 21

by SUE LEEMAN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LONDON — Muggles mania has arrived with the publication date of J.K. Rowling's fifth book about wide-eyed junior wizard Harry Potter.

Within hours of Wednesday's announcement that "Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix" would be in bookstores on June 21, the book hit No. 1 on Amazon.com's best-seller list.

Much anticipated, and somewhat delayed, "Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix" is 768 pages long, and by word count one-third longer than its predecessor, "Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire."

That's just about all that was revealed in a joint statement

Wednesday from Britain's Bloomsbury Publishers and Scholastic Children's Books in the United States. Details of Harry's latest adventure remain as secret as the whereabouts of Diagon Alley, where Harry buys his wizard supplies.

But young fans were delighted.

"I am so excited - it has been much too long since the last one," said 10-year-old Phillip Weekes, who heard the news as he came out of his primary school near Bishop's Stortford, 30 miles north of London. "I'll buy it as soon as it comes out."

"It's about time there was another one," said 10-year-old Oscar Nisbet, who has read the first four Potter adventures.

The plot remains a mystery, but the publisher did reveal how

the book begins: "The hottest day of the summer so far was drawing to a close and a drowsy silence lay over the large, square houses of Privet Drive. ...The only person left outside was a teenage boy who was lying flat on his back in a flowerbed outside number four."

And youngsters will have a few months to ponder what Hogwarts headmaster Albus Dumbledore means when he tells Harry, some pages on, "It is time ... for me to tell you what I should have told you five years ago, Harry. Please sit down. I am going to tell you everything."

Harry will be 15 in the new book. He was 11 in the first volume, "Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone" - released in the United States as "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone." It was published in 1997. "Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets" and "Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban" followed over the next two years, and the fourth, "Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire," appeared in July 2000.

Rowling's books have served as rebuttals to those who predict the death of reading. Kids anticipate a new Potter book the way teenagers once hurried out to buy Beatles records.

Fans have pestered book sellers and obsessed on Web sites about the next installment. Hunger for news about Potter No. 5 drove an American collector to pay more than \$45,000 last month for a card full of clues about the plot. It contained 93 words, including "Ron," "broom" and "sacked."

Kids aren't alone in celebrat-

(See POTTER, page ten)

Pot bust results in 17 indicted on federal charges

The Associated Press

LONDON — Seventeen people accused of growing nearly 4,000 marijuana plants have been indicted on federal drug charges.

U.S. Attorney Greg Van Tatenhove of the Eastern District of Kentucky said Wednesday that the indictments show that he and law enforcement agencies are serious about cracking down on the "most widely used illicit drug in America."

"We're still in the midst of the battle," Van Tatenhove said at a news conference to announce the indictments.

The two-day roundup of suspects that ended Wednesday resulted in nine drug busts in seven counties — Breathitt, Knott, Knox, Pulaski, Rockcastle, Wayne and Whitley.

The largest bust turned up more than 1,300 plants in Knox County.

The defendants each face up to 40 years in prison and a \$2 million fine if convicted of manufacturing in excess of 100 marijuana plants.

The announcement was made at the London headquarters for the Appalachia High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area office, a federal and state task force that battles illegal drug trafficking in the region.

Frank Rapier, deputy director

of the task force, said the confiscated plants weighed a total of 176 pounds and had a total value of between \$350,000 and \$500,000.

According to the Drug Enforcement Administration, marijuana is the leading cash crop in Kentucky, West Virginia and Tennessee. The states comprise only 4 percent of the U.S. population but produce 28 percent of the nation's marijuana.

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| CINEMA 2 | <p>MAID IN MANHATTAN Mon.-Sun. 7:00, 9:10; Fri. (4:10), 7:00, 9:10; Sat.-Sun. (2:00, 4:10), 7:00, 9:10</p> | CINEMA 7 | <p>JUST MARRIED Mon.-Sun. 7:15, 9:15; Fri. (4:15), 7:15, 9:15; Sat.-Sun. (2:15, 4:15), 7:15, 9:15</p> |
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| CINEMA 5 | <p>HOT CHICK Mon.-Sun. 7:00, 9:10; Fri. (4:10), 7:00, 9:10; Sat.-Sun. (2:00, 4:10), 7:00, 9:10</p> | CINEMA 10 | <p>GANGS OF NEW YORK Mon.-Sun. 7:30 ONLY Fri. (4:05), Sat.-Sun. 2:05, 4:05</p> |

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SERVING TIME: 4 P.M. TO 8 P.M.
ADULTS: \$15.95, CHILDREN AGE 12 AND UNDER: \$7.95

ACTIVITIES:

6 a.m. — **ELK TOUR:** Let's go exploring for elk. This trip may be early, but the viewing time for elk occurs in the morning hours. There is a cost of \$10.00 per person for the trip. Pre-registration is required! Please sign up early by calling the park naturalist at (606) 886-2711 or email at rvanover@setel.com

6 p.m. — **ROB McNURLIN IN CONCERT:** The cowboy singer is back! Enjoy the rich pleasant vocals of this talented entertainer. Everyone, young and old, enjoys the music of Rob McNurlin.

7 p.m. — **JEFF HATMAKER:** Jeff explores the music, religion, and dance of the Cherokee Indian Nation. Jeff will be in Chief Cherokee attire and will provide music and dance demonstrations in his program.

8 p.m. — **SQUARE, FOLK & COUNTRY LINE DANCING:** Kick up your heels with some dancing in Meeting Room #3. No experience necessary as all dances are easy and will be taught.

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OUTSTANDING SENIORS

Wayland Area Senior Citizens



Wayland Area Senior Citizens offers a variety of activities for our senior citizens. Once a month our seniors go to Prestonsburg shopping and they eat lunch. Twice a month a local pastor comes to the center and we have great discussions. We have Bingo games with special prizes throughout the month. We have door prizes twice a month and once a month we have a gift for the senior who attends the

center the most that month. Every three months we have a trip to Pike County or to Perry County. We send out meals to home bound seniors and we try to send information to them that may be of interest to them. We also refer them to other agencies that may possibly be of help to them. Please come visit us at the Wayland Area Senior Citizens Center.



Mud Creek Senior Citizens Center

The Mud Creek Senior Citizens have a beautiful home away from (their homes), to come and gather for daily activities, or simply enjoy one another's company.

Mud Creek's "outstanding seniors" may take part in the many activities provided such as, bingo, Uno, checkers, horseshoes and many more. Cardio Aerobics exercise is provided on Mondays at 12:45 p.m. instructed by Carl Johnson of the Pikeville YMCA. An exercise room full of equipment is provided for daily use.

Crafts are another enjoyment of the seniors especially quilt making.

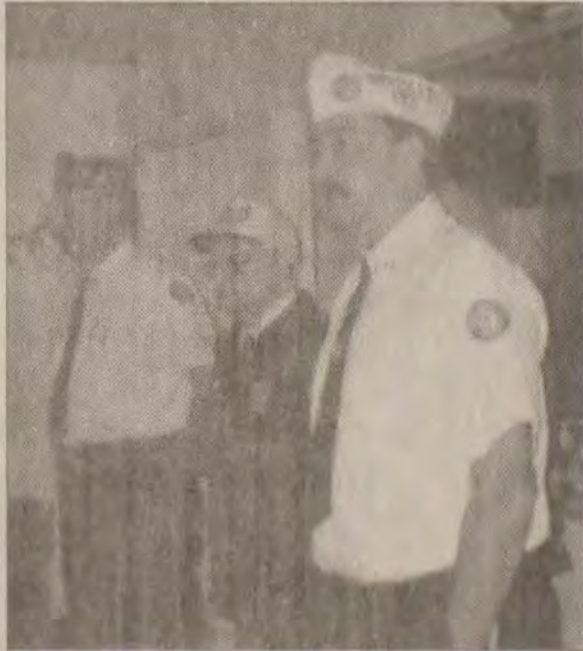
A walking track is another favorite for the entire communities use. Park benches for relaxing, and a large shade tree provides for a nice summer break. Twenty-two seniors have joined the Governor's Pacesetters walking program. They keep track of

their miles recorded in a book, which makes them eligible for nice gifts and a Governors Luncheon.

The annual Floyd County Senior Citizen Christmas Prom sponsored by Floyd County Judge and Fiscal Court is held at the Wilkinson-Stumbo Convention Center. Crowned King was Mud Creek Senior Citizen Hubert Hall. Mud Creek Queen Ovene Sloan was crowned at the Thanksgiving potluck dinner, where poinsettia presentations were presented to every senior.

Traveling rates tops with Mud Creek Seniors, and they've enjoyed such trips as Florida, Virginia Beach, Branson, Walton's Mountain, Niagara Falls, Renfro Valley and the Smokey Mountains, to name a few.

Director Loretta Bentley would like to invite any senior in the area who would like to come to the center and join in on all the fun to drop by or call 606-587-2507.



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Wheelwright Senior Citizens Center

The Wheelwright Senior Citizen Center provides "good, old-fashioned get-togethers" every day. Exercise is another daily provision at the center. Transportation is provided three days a week, as well as trips to the bank on the third of each month. The center has home delivery for

meals provided five days a week, as well as congregation of meals in the center each day.

Lois Curry reigns as director of the Wheelwright Senior Citizen Center. The Center is open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

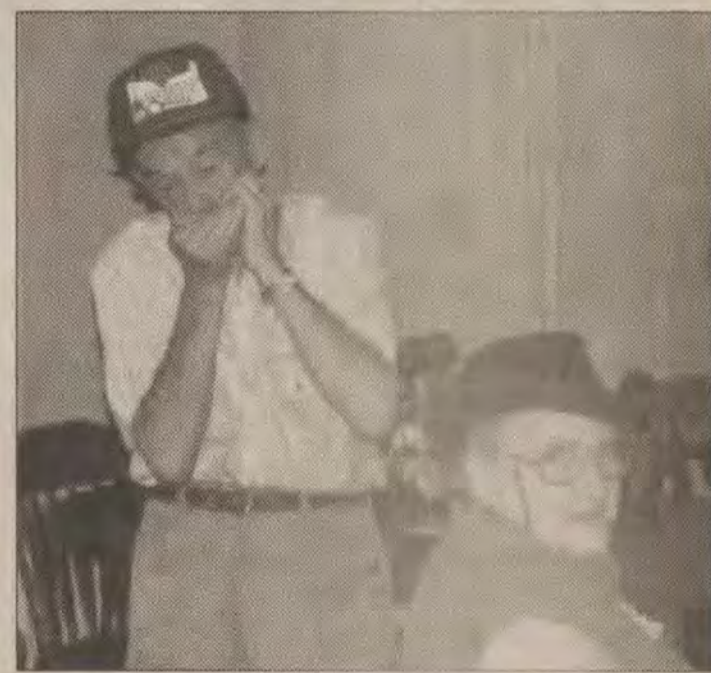
Prestonsburg Senior Citizens Center

The Prestonsburg Senior Citizens Center hosts a multitude of activities for their "outstanding seniors".

From aquatic exercising to the most unique hat competition, Prestonsburg's seniors are enjoying their Center daily.

If you or your loved one would like to become apart of this extraordinary group of individuals contact Director Al Gunter at the Prestonsburg Senior Citizens Center.

Activities Director for the Center is Cathy Neeley. Cathy also serves as PACE Instructor, and Water Aerobics Instructor. Secretary for the Center is Christina Reed. Come visit the Prestonsburg Senior Citizens Center today!



Betsy Layne Senior Citizens Center

Betsy Layne Senior Citizens Center is located at Pike and Floyd Hollow Road at Betsy Layne. Always with our doors open, for anyone to come in

for a great meal, serious game of rook, or a fun game of pool. The center opens at 8 a.m. through 4 p.m., Monday thru Friday. An estimated 25-to-30 "outstanding

seniors" enjoy the everyday activities, a day of shopping, or maybe a trip to a doctor's visit, or to visit a sick friend. The Center has a potluck dinner the last Friday of

each month. This is the day where every senior can bring in their special and favorite food they themselves prepare. The trading of recipes and enjoyment of one another's company is most

enjoyed at the Center. In the summer we enjoy a cookout and horseshoes, as well as volleyball games. Three exercise classes are available

as well as a track. Director Nannette Yaiter, wishes to invite everyone 60 and older to come visit everyone at the Betsy Layne Senior Citizens Center.

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The Floyd County Times

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

Reader's Choice

BEST IN FLOYD COUNTY

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

BEST FOOD

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

BEST PEOPLE

- Accountant _____
- Attorney _____
- Bank Teller _____
- Employed at _____

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

- Secretary _____
- Employed at _____
- Store Cashier _____
- Employed at _____
- Sunday School Teacher _____
- Teaches at _____
- Surgeon _____
- Employed at _____
- Sunday School Teacher _____
- Teaches at _____
- Surgeon _____
- Employed at _____
- Waitress/Waiter _____
- Employed at _____
- Veterinarian _____
- Employed at _____

BEST PLACE TO PURCHASE

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

BEST BUSINESS

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

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

Ballot Rules:

1. Only ballots from the Floyd County Times will be counted. No copies accepted.
2. Businesses nominated have to be in the Floyd County area and individuals nominated have to live and work in Floyd County.

3. Entries may be mailed to The Floyd County Times, P.O. Box 390, Prestonsburg, KY 41653 (Please allow 7 days for mail delivery) or drop off at our office at 263 South Central Avenue.
4. All entries must be at The Floyd County Times by Wednesday, February 12, 2002 (mailed or delivered).
5. Limited to 5 copies per person available for sale at front desk, up to normal press run copies. No extra forms will be printed.

YOUR VOTE COUNTS!!!

Schools, Churches, Clubs...anyone...do all you can do, see that your favorite people and places win! It's part of the fun! Remember, vote as many times as you wish using an original ballot. No copies of this ballot will be accepted. **Winners to be in the Wednesday, February 26, edition of the Floyd County Times.**

For the Record

Marriage Licenses

Glenda Ann Hall, 20, to Chad Edward Lovely, 28, both of Wayland.
 Angela Marie Brimmer, 19, to Ricky Lee Hunter Jr., 20, both of Prestonsburg.
 Sheila Swafford, 27, to Brian David Boleyn, 32, both of Garrett.
 Felicia Jill Elliot, 40, to Robert Howard Solley, 48, both of Printer.

Civil Suits Filed

Ida Matilda Cole vs. Robert George Cole Jr.; divorce.
 Danny Hamilton vs. Tammy Hamilton; divorce.
 Hackie Hall, as guardian for Lonnie Ray Hall III, a minor, vs. Cathy Tackett; leaving a child on a school bus.
 Ohio Causality Insurance

In Loving Memory of our Grandfather

Paul Ward Thompson
 October 26, 1910-January 18, 2001

Granddaddy it is so hard to believe that you have been gone two years. You never said "goodbye", you were gone before we knew it, and God only knows why.
 In life we loved you dearly, in death, we love you still, in our hearts you hold a special place, no one can ever fill.
 It broke our hearts to lose you, but you didn't go alone, for a part of us went with you, the day that God called you home. We miss you and will love you forever.
 "Who shall separate us from the love of God which is in Jesus Christ?... We are more than conquerors through Him Who loves." (Romans 8:35, 37).
 Sadly missed by your family.

Group vs. Ralph Lewis Jr.; debt collection.
 Becky Marie Poe vs. William Ashland Poe; divorce.
 Pamela M. Shepherd vs. Joe D. Shepherd; petition for health care insurance.
 Gwendalou Shepherd vs. Richie O. Shepherd; petition for health care insurance.
 Crystal D. Prater vs. Justin D. Slone; petition for health care insurance.
 Jeana H. Vance vs. Michael R. Vance; petition for child support and health care insurance.
 Kala Webb vs. Keith Webb;

Potter

ing Wednesday's news. Publishers, too, are elated. The industry endured its slowest holiday season in years, with many complaining about the lack of a "must-have" book to get shoppers in stores. Few books are more "must-have" than a Harry Potter story.
 "It's an emotional lift, something to drive business and put books back in the news," said Carl Lennertz, publisher and program director of BookSense, a national marketing campaign for independent bookstores in the United States.
 Some fans may have to squint through the "Order of Phoenix." One reason for all those pages is that publishers have used a smaller type. "The last book was pretty chunky, and we wanted to prevent this one from being too big," said Bloomsbury spokeswoman Rosamund de la Hey.
 When the book failed to make it into print last year, as expected, there was speculation that Rowling was suffering from writer's block. She denied it, but the book has taken far

petition for child support and health care insurance.
 Kimberly P. Yielding vs. William E. Yielding; petition for child support and health care insurance.
 Evelyn B. Newsome vs. Ralph G. Newsome; petition for health care insurance.
 Renee L. Rogers vs. Chad Rogers; petition for health care insurance.
 Nancy A. Webb vs. Bobby E. Webb; petition for child support and health care insurance.
 Tonya Ross vs. Shannin Ross; petition for health care

insurance.
 Kimberly A. Robinson vs. Bradley C. Robinson; petition for child support and health care insurance.
 Linda Smith vs. Brent M. Smith; petition for health care insurance.
 Nettie M. Marshall vs. Steven J. Spradlin; petition for health care insurance.
 Teresa L. Suver vs. Earl E. Suver; petition for child support and health care insurance.
 Susan R. Slone vs. Silas Slone Jr.; petition for health care insurance.
 Ladonna S. Shepherd vs. Clyde Shepherd; petition for health care insurance.
 Belinda K. Greer vs. Anthony W. Greer; petition for child support and health care insurance.
 Lona Calhoun vs. Herman S. Hall; petition for health care insurance.
 Walter Fick III vs. Linda L. Jarrell; petition for health care insurance.
 Toney Newsome vs. Ruby Mae Newsome; property dispute.
 Rogers Petroleum Services vs. Comfort Mining; debt collection.
 S&P Capital Investments vs. Kaye Gallion; debt collection.
 Greenpoint Credit vs. Donald L. Tackett; debt collection.

Small Claims Filings

James F. Halash vs. Harold Williams and Alltech Heating and Cooling; reimbursement for check.
 Prince Albert Stables vs. Charles and Cheryl Prater; debt collection.
 East Kentucky Tire vs. Robert Skeans; debt collection.
 Worldwide Equipment vs.

Delmer Fletcher; debt collection.
 Ronald Frasure vs. Tonda Patton; collection of rent.

Charges Filed

Michael H. Gastiger, 42, Louisa, alcohol intoxication.
 Rodney Dan Yates, 35, Prestonsburg, alcohol intoxication.
 Robert D. Gregory, 28, Paintsville, alcohol intoxication.
 Brandon Hoover, 21, Eastern, possession of marijuana.
 Margaret R. Albright, 21, Prestonsburg, fourth-degree assault, disorderly conduct.
 Michael Gastigel, 42, Prestonsburg, use/possession drug paraphernalia, violation of EPO.
 Billy D. Stumbo, 35, McDowell, public intoxication, disorderly conduct.
 Johnny Dwayne Fitch, 32, Betsy Layne, menacing.
 Leta J. Griffith, 32, Betsy Layne, third-degree criminal trespassing, fourth-degree assault.
 Angel Thacker, age unlisted, Betsy Layne, assault fourth-degree.
 Julie Hall age unlisted, Harold, two counts of parent failure to send child to school.
 Kim Hall, age unlisted, Harold, parent failure to send child to school.
 Lorretta Lewis, age unlisted, Langley, parent failure to send child to school.
 Wendy Stanley, age unlisted, Minnie, parent failure to send child to school.
 Bobbie Murphy, age unlisted, Martin, parent failure to send child to school.
 Lydia M. Spradlin, 36, Blue River, terroristic threatening, harassment, wanton endangerment second-degree.

Cindy Hagans, 32, Langley third-degree, criminal trespassing, harassment.
 Earl Slone, 35, McDowell, first-degree criminal trespassing, assault fourth.
 Gary Little Jr., 25, Melvin, harassing communications.
 Dana Bevins, age unlisted, Hurley, Va., theft by deception.
 Lucinda A. Kidd, 76, Martin, fourth-degree assault.
 Edgar Kidd, 83, Martin, fourth-degree assault.
 Gary Tackett, 37, Beaver, alcohol intoxication.
 Jimmy Ray Castle, 38, East Point, fourth-degree assault.
 Stephanie Tackett, 33, Betsy Layne, fourth-degree assault.
 Chris T. Jenkins, 25, Hueysville, fourth-degree assault.
 Alex Solar, 29, Harold, fourth-degree assault.
 Mark C. Stanley, 22, Blue River, alcohol intoxication.
 John Terry, age unlisted, Wayland, harassing communications.
 Johnny Gillam, 50, Wheelwright, terroristic threatening, third-degree criminal trespassing.
 Kevin Calhoun, 30, Prestonsburg, fourth-degree assault.
 Cheryl Davis, 33, Hi Hat, theft by unlawful taking.
 Elizabeth Spears, 44, Pikeville, theft by deception.
 Toby Mack Akers, 26, Martin, receiving stolen property.
 Alexandra Johnson, 29, Prestonsburg, theft by deception.
 Ricky James Hall, 19, Wayland, theft by deception, first-degree criminal mischief.
 Paul L. Dotson Jr., 43, Wayland, theft by deception.
 Joyce Hall, 56, Galveston, theft by failure to make required disposition.
 Steve W. Howard, 41, David, third-degree assault, resisting arrest, disorderly conduct, alcohol intoxication.
 Shon Hall, 32, Wayland, public intoxication.
 Jamie Gibson, 26, Sayersville, falsely reporting an incident, theft by unlawful taking.
 Matthew Moore, 22, Martin, alcohol intoxication.
 Jeffrey Lee Stanley, 28, Blue River, alcohol intoxication.
 Kermit Hall, 53, Hindman, alcohol intoxication.
 Jimmy Chaffins, 35, Vest, alcohol intoxication.
 James D. Alley, 42, McDowell, entry on land without consent.
 David Knox, 45, Denniston, harassment.

Obituaries

Bill "Crush" Dingus

Bill "Crush" Dingus, age 69, of Prestonsburg, formerly of Martin, passed away Tuesday, January 14, 2003, at his residence.
 He was born November 7, 1933, in Martin, the son of Hazel Taylor Robinson, at Salyersville, and the late Arthur Dingus. He was a former East Kentucky Transportation Liaison for the Governor's Office, a graduate of Martin High School and Pikeville College, and a member of the Salyersville First Baptist Church, in Salyersville.
 Survivors include two sons, Bobby Sherman Dingus and Billy Dingus, both of Martin; one daughter, Diane Dingus Spurlock of Allen; two stepdaughters, Carla Felty and Jammie Martin, both of McDowell; one sister, Florence Arnett of Madisonville, five grandchildren, Bobby Sherman Dingus II, David Cline, Traci Dingus, Gina Justus, and Kellie Dingus Spurlock; and three great-grandchildren, Brandon Daniel Justus, Hannah Grace Dingus, and Connor Graham Spurlock.
 Funeral services for Bill Dingus will be conducted Friday, January 17, at 11 a.m., at the Hall Funeral Home Chapel, at Martin, with Clergyman Arnold Turner Jr., officiating.
 Burial will follow in the Dingus Cemetery, at Martin, under the professional care of the Hall Funeral Home.

(Paid obituary)

Elsie Chaffins Craft

Elsie Chaffins Craft, 84, of Garrett, died Monday, January 14, 2003, at her residence.
 Born October 28, 1918, in Floyd County, she was the daughter of the late Kelse and Ollie Coburn Chaffins. She was a homemaker and a member of the Freewill Baptist Church.
 She was preceded in death by her husband, Bert Craft.
 Survivors include two daughters, Bonnie Shipley of Garrett, and Madonna Craft of Portage, Indiana; four grandchildren, Brion Keith Shipley, Teresa Baldrige, Gregory C. Wireman, and Kimberly Payne; and six great-grandchildren, Michael Baldrige, Nicholas Gray Wireman, Nicole Payne, Kaleb Payne, Shayna Baldrige, and Dylan Shipley.
 In addition to her parents, and husband, she was preceded in death by one daughter, Madeline Craft; two brothers, Hiatt Chaffins and Clayton C. Chaffins; and five sisters, Seatta Foster, Hazel Reed, Gertrude Chaffins, Annis Bailey and Velma Collins.
 Funeral services will be conducted Saturday, January 18, at 1 p.m., at Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, in Martin, with Clinton "Buddy" Jones officiating.
 Burial will be in the Tom Martin Cemetery, in Garrett, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.
 Visitation is at the funeral home.

(Paid obituary)

Denver Spurgeon

Denver Spurgeon, age 70, formerly of Bypro, KY died at the OSU Hospital in Columbus, Ohio, on January 8, 2003, after a brief illness.
 He was preceded in death by his mother, Montana Spurgeon Henley and stepfather, Clarence Henley. He was a long-time member of the Pentecostal Church of God, before moving to Michigan, and later resided in Marion, Ohio.
 He is survived by six sisters, Opal Young of Marion, Ohio, Gennette Thacker of Youngstown, Ohio, Joyce McCain of Caledonia, Ohio, Loretta Gilliam of Flat Rock, North Carolina, Sue Thomas of River Rouge, Michigan, and Ann Miller of Wyandotte, Michigan; two brothers, Warnie Spurgeon of Hager Hill, and Elmer Henley of Applegate, Michigan.
 In addition to his mother and stepfather, he was preceded in death by a brother, Virgil Spurgeon, and two sisters, Maxine Ratliff, and Clara Spurgeon.
 Funeral services were held on Monday, January 13, and interment at Marion Cemetery, in Marion, Ohio.






(Paid obituary)

Property Transfers

Helen B. Hamilton to Charles T. Hamilton, property located, Hwy. 979.
 Freddie Jervis and Nancy Jervis to Stanley Jervis, property located, Short Fork of Tom Branch.
 Edward Ousley and Peggy Ousley to James M. Osborne and Margie N. Osborne, property located on Spurlock Fork of Middle Creek.
 City of Prestonsburg to Henry O. Hackworth and Edith Hackworth, property located in Crestwood Subdivision.
 Wayne Wright to Henry Harvey, property located, Fisher Hollow, Printer.
 Frances K. Henson and Clayton E. Teel to Courtney Henson and Brittany Henson, property location not listed.
 Deed of Master Commissioner: Phylliss Ann Jarrell to Russell Warren Jarrell, property location not listed.
 Clarence Kidd to Sherry Ann Ray, property location not listed.
 Steven D. Parsons to Elmer Parsons, property located, Rt. 1428.
 Teddy Akers and Janice Akers to Shawn Combs and Kevin Prater, property located on Big Mud Creek.
 Burl Wells Spurlock and Jeanne C. Spurlock to Spurlock Holdings, LLC, property located, in Richmond Subdivision II.
 Deed of Master Commissioner: Phylliss Ann Jarrell to Russell Warren Jarrell, property location not listed.

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FLOYD COUNTY Sports

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B

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- Gragg resigns • page 2B
- Boxing • page 2B

H.S. GAMES ON TAP

| | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Girls': Tonight | South Floyd Prestonsburg | Johnson Central Macon County |
| Allen Central Betsy Layne | June Buchanan Fleming-Neon | June Buchanan Fleming-Neon |
| Morgan County Rowan County | Boys': Tonight | Matewan, W.Va. Beltry |
| Pikeville East Ridge | Allen Central Betsy Layne | Perry Central Breathitt County |
| Red Bird Leslie County | Cordia Hazard | South Floyd Prestonsburg |

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COMMENTARY

Ex-Cat Macy forges ahead

by **BILLY REED**
 TIMES COLUMNIST

Kyle Macy, the beloved floor leader of the University of Kentucky's 1978 NCAA champions, probably won't be in Rupp Arena Saturday afternoon to join his former teammates in a 25th reunion celebration at half-time of the nationally-televised UK-Notre Dame game.



Billy Reed
 Columnist

"They're having a breakfast and I'm going to that," Macy said earlier this week, "but I doubt if I'll be able

to stick around for the half-time ceremony because my team will be starting its shoot-around about then in Richmond."

And there, in a nutshell, you have the essence of Kyle Macy. It's so typical that he would pass up individual glory for the sake of his team — the

Morehead State Eagles in this case. At 8 p.m. Saturday, the Eagles will play rejuvenating Eastern Kentucky in Richmond's McBrayer Coliseum. With Macy, missing festivities in Rupp Arena isn't a sacrifice as much

(See REED, page three)

BENTLEY'S COMMENTS

More sports oddities

by **RICK BENTLEY**
 TIMES COLUMNIST

It's sunken to this, ladies and gentlemen: A man has gotten busted for — get this — trying to fix a fishing tournament.

O bother.

That's right. In an effort to keep you the reader informed and fill my weekly quota of words that I provide to this very publication, I scanned the depths of the internet this week and found, well, I found out there's not a lot of entertaining, humorous stuff on there when it comes to sports.

That's what I found.

I mean, when a high school senior playing with a remote-control car passes for sports humor, we've got ourselves a slump here.

(See BENTLEY, page three)

HORSE RACING

Road to Kentucky Derby open for business

by **RICHARD ROSENBLATT**
 ASSOCIATED PRESS

It's the time of year when trainers hang over the rail, stop-watches in hand, with an eye on more than just the fastest work-out of the day. They're searching

(See DERBY, page four)

Paintsville takes lead in 57th

by **STEVE LeMASTER**
 SPORTS EDITOR

PAINTSVILLE — In a game which pitted two of the state's fiercest rivals, visiting Johnson Central trailed rival Paintsville at the end of each quarter before tying the game and sending it into an overtime period Monday night. Brandon Wheeler hit on a short shot and

then, with his team trailing by only one point, went to the free-throw line and ties the game at 62 to force the overtime. Paintsville before the game went into overtime had a shot to win at the end, but a shot attempt came up short. Peyton Conley scored the first two points of the overtime for Paintsville as the Tigers outscored the Eagles 8-3 in the extra session to post a 70-65 victory.

Paintsville, coached by 15th Region veteran mentor Bill Mike Runyon, led 17-16 at the end of the first quarter and 33-31 at the half. Paintsville again outscored the visiting Golden Eagles, coached by Les Trimble, 14-12 in the third period.

Johnson Central played well enough

(See LEAD, page three)



photo by Steve LeMaster

Allen Central guard Tiffany Turner and the Lady Rebels are scheduled to host Betsy Layne tonight.

— SOUTH FLOYD WHIPS BETSY LAYNE —



photo by Jamie Hall

Justin Hall (dribbling) was caught up by Betsy Layne senior Brent Newsome.

RAIDERS REMAIN PERFECT IN 58TH DISTRICT

by **STEVE LeMASTER**
 SPORTS EDITOR

BETSY LAYNE — If South Floyd had any leftover aggression following two losses in the WYMT Mountain Classic, it was taken out Wednesday night on the road against Betsy Layne. The Raiders remained perfect in the 58th District, pounding Betsy Layne 78-59.

Coach Henry Webb's Raiders did trail at one point against the host Bobcats. South Floyd, after trailing midway through the first quarter went on a huge run. South Floyd led 15-13 at the end of the first quarter before it blew the game open in the second quarter, outscoring the Bobcats 25-7 en route to a 40-20 halftime lead.

Brian Meade came in off the

bench for South Floyd, giving the Raiders a spark. Meade finished as the game's leading scorer with 17 points, 13 of which came in the second quarter, thanks in part to a pair of three-point field goals. Michael Hall, after being limited somewhat in the WYMT tourney, scored 15. Tyler Hall finished with 14 and Jack

(See DISTRICT, page three)

SCOREBOARD

SOUTH FLOYD (78) — Mi. Hall 15, T. Hall 14, Ray 4, Slone 10, Meade 17, Tackett 2, Stanley 6, R. Johnson 2, Ma. Hall 1, J. Hall 5

BETSY LAYNE (59) — Hamilton 13, J. Kidd 6, N. Newsome 12, B. Newsome 3, B. Hall 10, Howell 6, B. Kidd 5, Bryant 2, Case 2.

H.S. BASKETBALL

David to host Prestonsburg frosh in first-ever home game

TIMES STAFF REPORT

MARTIN — The David School, in its inaugural season of playing high school basketball, will host its first-ever home game on Saturday at the Mountain Christian Academy Gymnasium in Martin. In a game scheduled to tip off at 2 p.m., the David Comets will host the Prestonsburg High freshman team. The David School invites all friends of the school including all former alumni and parents to the groundbreaking event. The David School team has been organized this season and has been playing road games throughout Eastern

(See DAVID, page three)

Knott standout signs with Pikeville

TIMES STAFF REPORT

HNDMAN — One of the top players in the 14th Region has signed to play basketball at Pikeville College. Knott County Central product Tonya Amburgey is the third member of next year's freshman class to sign with the Lady Bears.

Amburgey, a 5-7 senior who can play either point or shooting guard, averages 16 points a game for the Lady Patriots this season.

"Tonya is very versatile, and that is always helpful on the college level," said Pikeville College Coach Bill Watson. "She's been very productive for Knott Central, creating opportunities for not only herself but for her teammates. We think Tonya has a bright future ahead of her."

(See KNOTT, page three)

H.S. BASKETBALL

Ladycats flex muscle, beat South Floyd

by **STEVE LeMASTER**
 SPORTS EDITOR

BETSY LAYNE — Betsy Layne continued its hold on the 58th District girls' basketball race Wednesday night with a 59-37 win over visiting South Floyd. The two teams hooked up shortly after 5 p.m. in a game that was postponed and

played one day later because of snow which hit Eastern Kentucky earlier this week.

Betsy Layne, the defending 58th District champ, got off to a slow start, but eventually straightened things out to hold a 14-10 lead at the end of the first quarter. The

(See LADYCATS, page four)

photo by Steve LeMaster

Junior Lady Raider Sharee Hopkins looked to get the ball in during the third quarter Wednesday night.



S P O R T S B O A R D

Highland captures JCEAA basketball title

TIMES STAFF REPORT

PAINTSVILLE — Highland Elementary is the 2002-03 Johnson County Elementary Athletic Association Champion in boys' basketball. The Wildcats defeated W.R. Castle 61-40 in the championship game of the

JCEAA Tournament last Friday night at the Johnson Central High School Fieldhouse. Chase Richardson led the way for the victorious Wildcats with 17 points. Tyler Isaac added 16 points and Mike Conley tossed in 13. Jared Murray scored six and Jared Meade finished with four.

Zach Hughes and Casey Brown finished with three and two points, respectively. W.R. Castle sharpshooter Ian Welch led all scorers with 24 points, Nathan Dillon added 12 and Dennis Dillon finished with four points for the Tomcats. Meade Memorial took the consolation game with a 29-20 triumph over Porter.

The Floyd County grade school boys' basketball season, like many other grade school campaigns in surrounding counties, has temporarily been put on hold due to the recent winter weather. At press time, signups for the 2003 Johnson County Buddy Basketball season were slated and scheduled to take place on Saturday at Porter Elementary,

just outside of Floyd County. **COACHES REMINDER:** If you are a coach and/or parent and would like to have your team's scores and game information published in The Times, call 606/886-8506; fax 606/886-3603 or email sports@floydcountytimes.com.

ACHS Basketball Homecoming set for Saturday

by **STEVE LeMASTER**
SPORTS EDITOR

EASTERN — Allen Central High School will hold its basketball homecoming ceremonies on Saturday. The Runnin' Rebels will host Buckhorn in a varsity boys' basketball game. The homecoming ceremony with the crown of a queen will begin at approximately 7 p.m.

Candidates for the 2003 ACHS Basketball Queen will be selected from the seven following senior candidates.

■ **Brittany Erin Combs** of Wayland, the daughter of Donnie Combs and Connie Martin Combs. She will be escorted by Oliver Kilgore.

■ **Heather Danielle Deaton** of Hueysville, the daughter of Julian and Alberta Deaton. Her escort for the night will be Paul David Francis.

■ **Shellie LeAnn Hayes** of Langley, the daughter of Keith and Elaine Hayes. Hayes will be escorted by Kyle Webb.

■ **Kari Hicks** of Hueysville, the daughter of Craig and Della Hicks. Her escort for the night will be Austin Francis.

■ **Jaclyn Faith Martin** of Drift, the daughter of John and Sherrie Martin. Martin will be escorted by Brad Pack.

■ **Amber Rose Scott** of Martin, the daughter of Beverly Scott of Martin, and Anthony Scott of Prestonsburg. She will be escorted by Rossi Samons.

■ **Tiffany Turner** of Garrett, the daughter of Lee and Brenda Turner. Mike Slone will serve as her escort.

This year's junior representative is **Whitney Jade Hayes** of Hippo. She is the daughter of Carla and Charlie Rose. Her escort for the night is Wilfredo Dominguez.

The sophomore representative is **Amanda Varia Tackett** of McDowell. She is the daughter of Dr. Dicky and Cathi Tackett and will be escorted by Andrew Prater.

The freshman representative for this year's basketball homecoming is **Samantha Suzanne Bailey** of Wayland, the daughter of Susan Stumbo of Wayland and David Bailey of Lancer. Nathan Lafferty will serve as Bailey's escort.



Amanda Tackett



Amber Scott



Brittany Combs



Heather Deaton



Jaclyn Martin



Kari Hicks



Samantha Bailey



Shellie Hayes



Tiffany Turner



Whitney Hayes

— 58TH DISTRICT BASKETBALL —

photo by Jamie Howell

Charles Ray (41) went up for a shot against the Betsy Layne defense. Ray, a senior, finished with four points in South Floyd's win. The Raiders remain perfect in the 58th District. Betsy Layne's **Brandon Hall** and **Brent Newsome** (30) are pictured looking on.



photo by Steve LeMaster

Valerie King dove for a loose ball for South Floyd in the Lady Raiders' loss to Betsy Layne Wednesday night.



photo by Steve LeMaster

In a mismatch of sorts, **South Floyd** point guard **Megan Ousley** went up against Betsy Layne center **Tabetha Witt**. Looking on is Betsy Layne's **Tiffany Meade** (35). Betsy Layne also still perfect in 58th District play. The Betsy Layne boys' and girls' basketball teams are scheduled to travel to Allen Central tonight.



BOXING

Pennington plans boxing gym

by **SHAWN HOPKINS**
APPALACHIAN NEWS-EXPRESS

PIKEVILLE — The lights are out in the cluttered yellow storage building off By-Pass Road. Through the gloom one can

make out stacked signs and other items, stained floors and a low ceiling. But Mayfield Pennington sees more.

Mayfield's Boxing Gym will have a boxing ring, he said, and arm wrestling tables and weights.

It will be a place to train, for kids to come and "toughen up" and occupy themselves with something that will keep them too busy for drugs and, he hopes, a place

(See **BOXING**, page four)



photo by Steve LeMaster

South Floyd Middle School eighth-grader Heather Dean was included on an all-tournament team over the weekend. The tournament was a freshmen girls' tournament.

YOUTH BASKETBALL

Prestonsburg Junior Basketball — Games played Saturday, Jan. 11

Lakers 36, Grizzlies 11
Josiah Reno led the Lakers past the Grizzlies with 10 points in the contest. Bobby Hughes and John Michael Turner finished with 8 and 9 points respectively. The Lakers led 22-0 at the half and went on to win. The Grizzlies were led by Katie LeMaster and Matt

(See **JUNIOR**, page four)

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Basketball teams continue upward movement

TIMES STAFF REPORT

Both the Bears and Lady Bears moved up in the NAIA Div. I basketball polls, released today from the headquarters in Olathe, Kan.

The men moved up one slot to No. 9 after a three-win week, while the Lady Bears climbed two positions to No. 13.

For the men, the votes were tallied prior to their 83-74 setback to Mountain State (W.Va.). The Cougars, who lost their only game last week, slipped from No. 11 to No. 14.

The Lady Bears continue their move up the charts, improving two spots to No. 13. This comes off a week where the team won its only game, a 65-55 win over Milligan (Tenn.) College.

The women moved past Mobile (Ala.) and Wayland Baptist (Texas) in the ratings. Just

(See **MOVEMENT**, page four)

COLLEGE VOLLEYBALL

Gragg to coach at Tusculum

TIMES STAFF REPORT

The only volleyball coach in Pikeville College history has been selected as the new coach at Tusculum College.



Missy Gragg, who has posted back-to-back winning seasons with a program only four years old, informed Director of Athletics **Ron Damron** of her decision Monday morning.

"It was a very difficult choice for me, because I have developed a love for Pikeville College and the people here," said Gragg, who doubled as the school's softball coach. "I believe this is a tremendous opportunity for me, and one I couldn't pass on. But I will always love Pikeville College, and always be a Pikeville College Bear."

"Obviously, we had to see Missy leave us," said Damron. "She has been a valuable member of our college community, as well

(See **GRAGG**, page four)

Mountain State holds on for win over Pikeville

TIMES STAFF REPORT

BECKLEY, W.Va. — Mountain State University outscored visiting Pikeville College, 51-37, in the second half en route to an 83-74 victory Monday at the Raleigh County Armory.

Senior **Jason Robinson**, who was named as the Mid-South Conference's Player of the Week for the second consecutive week, led three Pikeville players in double figures with 22 points. **Charles Sanders** followed with 19 and **Michael Thomas** chipped in 10.

The Bears controlled the game early and went ahead 37-32 at the half, before later faltering.

Mountain State landed four players in double figures. **Zach Moss** fired in a game-high 27. **Kortaa Hall** followed with 17. **Zane Gilliard** and **Raynardo Curry** each added 11.

Pikeville College (15-3) will host OSU-Marion tonight in a game scheduled for a 7 p.m. start

BEARS' SCORING:

Pikeville (74) — **Teon Knox** 2-3 0-0 4, **Jason Robinson** 9-18 1-1 22, **Charles Sanders** 7-16 2-2 19, **Kevin Gaines** 3-8 0-0 6, **Jarius Michael** 0-3 2-2 2, **Greg Davis** 2-4 0-0 5, **Joe Mirus** 3-4 0-0 6, **Michael Thomas** 4-9 0-0 10.

Reed

as it's a matter of priorities. Macy, the coach, is more important right now than Macy, the legend. His many Big Blue fans will be disappointed that No. 4 won't be there to receive his due, but they'll understand. On a different level, Macy is still competing as hard as a coach as he did as a player.

When Macy quit his cushy job as Ralph Hacker's sidekick on the UK radio network to become a rookie head coach at Morehead, his sanity was questioned throughout the commonwealth. He won't last long, the thinking went. Once he gets a taste of life in the OVC, Morehead will be in his rear-view mirror.

After all, at every step of his career — Peru High in Indiana, Purdue, UK, the NBA, overseas — Macy had always gone first class. He didn't know any other way. So how was he going to be happy coaching players who were rejected or overlooked by the big-time programs? How would he like riding buses instead of chartered flights, eating hamburger instead of steak, working in small arenas where half the seats were empty?

The answer is that Macy now is in his sixth season at Morehead, a far longer tenure than anyone expected. His current team is leading the OVC

and has a legitimate shot to be the sixth Morehead team to make the NCAA tournament and the first since Coach Wayne Martin's 1984 team.

The Eagles will take a five-game winning streak and a 9-5 record into their game against the Colonels, who are coach by ex-UK point guard Travis Ford.

But they've been toughened up by a non-conference schedule that has included losses on the road to Arizona State (59-56), Wright State (80-74), Ohio State (74-60), and former No. 1 team Alabama (82-64).

In 6-foot-4 junior forward Ricky Minard, who was 10th in the nation last season in scoring average, Macy arguably has the OVC's best player. Heading into this season, Minard was the nation's leading junior returnee in career points and career scoring average. He also was fourth among returning juniors in steals per game, seventh in rebounds per game, and ninth in most three-point field goals per game.

"In my personal opinion," said Macy, "he's the best player in our conference. He may not score the most points, but he does a lot of other things. He's still got a little growing up to do, but he's fun to coach."

But defenses can't gang up on Minard because he's far from

a one-man team.

His solid supporting cast proves how Macy has widened the scope of Morehead's recruiting. The Eagles have more players from Europe (one each from France, Spain, and England) than from Kentucky (senior Chez Marks of Paris and freshman Quinton Smith of Radcliff).

Reflecting the traits that made Macy so popular in his UK days, the Eagles last season led the nation in free-throw shooting (Macy is UK's all-time leader in free-throw percentage), were seventh in field-goal percentage (Macy was a deadly outside shooter), and tied for 29th in assists per game (Macy is sixth on UK's career assists

list).

In 1977-78, as a 6-3 redshirt sophomore who had transferred from Purdue, Macy was the final piece to UK's puzzle. The Cats had relentless inside scoring from Rick Robey and Mike Phillips, both 6-11; outstanding perimeter shooting from Jack "Goose" Givens and Truman Claytor; and game-changing subs in James Lee, Jay Shidler, Lavon Williams, and Freddie Cowans.

But the man who ran the show, who operated as Coach Joe B. Hall's alter ego, was Macy, the cool coach's son who never seemed to get ruffled or make a stupid mistake. In the 1978 Mideast Regional champi-

onship game against Earvin "Magic" Johnson's freshman team at Michigan State, Macy calmly made eight free throws down the stretch to secure UK's 52-49 victory.

"Kyle was one of the best clutch players to ever play at UK," wrote Cawood Ledford in his 1992 autobiography. "I don't know of any player I would choose ahead of him to take the last shot or go to the free-throw line with the game on the line."

So now that Macy has proven he can recruit and win without the advantages enjoyed by the UKs and North Carolinas of the basketball world, only one ques-

tion remains: Why isn't Macy No. 1 on everybody's list of who should replace Tubby Smith if and when UK and Smith ever part company?

If the Wildcats don't go deep into the NCAA bracket this year, the grumbling about Smith may get so loud that Smith will either leave in disgust or be fired by Athletics Director Mitch Barnhart, who's not reluctant to pull the trigger.

It would be a shame if either event happened. But if it does — and who knows what surprises lurk in the Big Blue soap

(See REED, page four)

David

Kentucky.

The team consists of 12 players who have had no prior experience playing organized basketball. The team is led by Brian Conn, a 6-3 senior who is a multi-talented player and has been averaging 16 points a game for the David squad. Also joining Conn in the starting lineup is shooting guard Michael Tussey, a player who has been averaging 14 points a game for the Comets.

David is led in rebounding by freshman Brandon Caudill and James Garrett, who share the center position for the team. The team also features point guards Brandon Brown, Johnny Justice, Nathan Bentley, Nathan Caudill and three-point specialist Nathan Ousley. The shooting guard is Jason Conn. In addition, Paul Mullins has contributed, starting several games at center for David.

The Comets are coached by Prestonsburg attorney Ned Pillersdorf, David School

teachers Erica Ash and Tiffany Colon, and former Millard High School basketball star and current Pikeville College freshman Jarrod Adkins.

The David School is a private non-denominational tuition free school located in David in Floyd County. The school provides individualized academic and vocational curriculum for area youth in grades 8-12. The school has an enrollment of 75 students and has been in operation for 30 years.

WMDJ announcer Dale McKinney has agreed to be the celebrity public address announcer for Saturday's contest. The game will be telecast on a tape-delay basis by WPRG of Harold, a division of Inter-Mountain Cable.

There will be no charge for admission to the game, and the David School would publicly like to thank Mountain Christian Academy for allowing it to use the facility.

Bentley

But I continued to search, because no amount of work is too much when it comes to providing you with Friday-morning entertainment (or me with column fodder), and I found out about our buddy ... what's his name again?

Oh, yes. Danny Engleking. It seems Mr. Engleking entered himself into a bass-fishing tournament back in August, and in an effort to win the \$300 grand prize, planted a crate in the lake containing a prized fish. A few minutes into the event, he made his way to the secluded area in which he'd hidden the fish, retrieved it and claimed the prize.

However, what Mr. Engleking wasn't expecting was that someone ... well, I think I'd better let our friends at The Associated

Press handle this part:

"The White County Sheriff's Department set up the camera after a passer-by reported seeing the sunken cage in a secluded tributary of the lake."

Where's my friend Chris Altman when I need him? All of this begs several questions. I shall now name several of them.

■ How is it that this happened way back in August and we're just now finding out about it? As my friend Missy Gragg would say, "I mean, seriously." August was ... carry the three ... divide by ... well, it was a long time ago, and somehow this is just now being brought to light? How does this happen!

■ Is there so little crime in the beautiful little hamlet that is Monticello, Ind., that the author-

Boxing

where champions in boxing, bodybuilding and arm wrestling might get their start.

"All I can do is try to get it off the ground," he said.

The 52-year-old Pikeville native started his professional boxing career when he was 26. His scrapbook is stuffed with yellowed newspaper clippings detailing his more than 30 professional fights in Pikeville, Louisville and South America.

Pennington became interested in boxing watching it on television with his grandfather. At 16 he was boxing people in the neighborhood and working out with a duffel bag filled with sand.

"At night, I'd go to this rock, right up on the By-Pass Road, and start praying 'God, I want to be a boxer. Please help me. Make a way for me,'" Pennington said.

Pennington's prayers were answered when he found a benefactor to support his career and correspondence that got him in touch with Muhammad Ali. Ali sent him a letter directing him to his old trainer in Louisville, and Pennington's career started from there.

"All them fighters (at the

gym in Louisville) beat me up, they beat me bad," Pennington said. "(But) in a couple months I was beating all of them."

Pennington had a rocky start as a heavyweight, he said, but did better as a middleweight. He met boxing notables such as Ali and Joe Frazier, beat champions such as former world middleweight champ Emile Griffith in 1977.

Since returning to Pikeville six months ago, Pennington said he's seen a need for something like his planned gym.

"I come back home and notice all this stuff that's going on," he said. "I feel like I want to be a trainer now. And be a role model for the kids with the youth program."

He said he might even talk to some local judges about letting problem kids serve some probation at the gym.

Currently, Pennington has been talking to friends from his past in Pikeville, such as local attorneys and others who have pledged to buy equipment and help him furnish his gym. The people of Pikeville had always been supportive of him in the past, he said, and they seemed to be willing to help him now.

Knott

Amburgey is a solid shooter, hitting 47.3 percent from the floor. Included in that is 38.3 percent shooting from the three-point stripe.

The senior puts up solid numbers across the board. In addition to her scoring, she is aver-

aging 4.1 assists, 3.5 rebound and 2.0 steals per game this season.

As of press time, she had scored 1,243 points in her career.

Amburgey will join Johnson Central's Ashley Wireman and Magoffin County's Amanda Shepherd in Pikeville College's freshman class next year. That group was expected to expand yesterday when the Lady Bears were to sign Kim Helton, a guard from Greenup County High School.

Lead

in the third period to put 19 points up opposed to Paintsville's 15.

Senior Stuart Rutledge led Paintsville in scoring with 20 points. Conley and senior Adam Rice each had 14 points for the Tigers.

Senior Brandon Wheeler led Johnson Central with 21 points. Mike Walters scored 15 and senior point guard Chris Hurt added 11. Sophomore Nick Music, who now starts for Johnson Central, chipped in 10.

The win gives the Tigers a leg up in the 57th District race. Both Paintsville and Johnson Central are expected to contend for not only but a 57th District championship, but also a 15th Region title. Johnson Central is the defending 57th District champ, while Paintsville finished runner-up in both the district and the region last season.

head coach of the Golden Eagles, this season has the most talent he's ever had on a team on the high school level. Trimble came to the Johnson Central High program after a successful coaching stint in the middle school ranks at Johnson County Middle.

Each team is scheduled to return to action tonight. Johnson Central is set to host Magoffin County. Paintsville is scheduled, weather permitting, to travel to Martin County to play Sheldon Clark.

JOHNSON CENTRAL (65) — Wheeler 21, Walters 15, Hurt 11, Music 10, Woods 6, Stapleton 2.

PAINTSVILLE (70) — Rutledge 20, A. Rice 14, Conley 14, Jarrell 8, Collins 6, Simpkins 5.

Records—Johnson Central 8-4, Paintsville 8-2.

District

Slone chipped in 10 for the Raiders.

Steven Stanley scored six, Justin Hall added five, and starting center Charles Ray netted four in the South Floyd victory.

Adam Tackett and freshman Ryan Johnson each had two points apiece.

Mason Hall, a freshman to come to South Floyd John M. Stumbo, went one-of-two on free-throw attempts in the fourth quarter, giving him one point in the game.

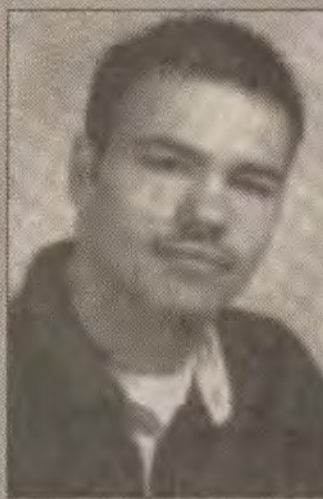

Senior guard Bobo Hamilton led Betsy Layne in points with 13. Nathan Newsome scored 12

and BBrandon Hall tossed in 10. Point guard Jordan Kidd was held to six points. Wes Howell, coming in off the bench, also added six.

Brandon Kidd, a freshman reserve for the Bobcats, scored five points in the third quarter. Brent Newsome checked in with three points and Ryan Bryant and Derek Case each had two points apiece to round out the scoring for Betsy Layne.

Both Floyd County teams were due back in action tonight — Betsy Layne at Allen Central; South Floyd hosting Prestonsburg.

ATHLETES OF THE WEEK


Brian Meade, South Floyd

Whitney Lykens, Betsy Layne

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SPORTS FAN OF THE WEEK



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LOOK AT SPORTS

No Penny for the Reds but Wilson finds home

by ED TAYLOR
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Cincinnati Reds struck out in their efforts to obtain Brad Penny from the Florida Marlins but they did wangle a way to ink free agent Paul Wilson, former Tampa Bay right hander.

That should excite Reds fans. I mean we are getting a pitcher

who was 6-12 last season with a 4.09 ERA. What! That doesn't excite you? What do you mean we had plenty of that kind of pitching in the past? Come on!

Well maybe it isn't like getting a 20-game winner but who has any of those to give away. The Reds are so desperate for starting pitchers they would give Dale McKinney or myself a try out if they thought we could get the ball up to the plate.

Well, despite any pitching or not, I am looking forward to the start of spring training then the major league season. I am not a Ken Griffey, Jr. fan but I hope he returns to the old form he had at Seattle. Adam Dunn needs to find his stroke at the plate again and Austin Kerns, hopefully, will pick up where he left off last year after coming off the disable list.

Boone at second base makes

some sense to me, allowing Brandon Larson's bat to be in the lineup more this season. I like Todd Walker there but he is gone to the Red Sox. Sean Casey is expected to be healed up after surgery cut his season short last year. Barry Larkin may not be able to hit with consistency anymore but he still has a good glove at short. He is just not worth the money the Reds are dishing out for him. I say this will be his

last year in a Reds uniform. However, he contends he is wanting to sign a new contract with the Reds after his ends. I don't know. Maybe, if he will play for free.

CANNOT STAND PROSPERITY

I, like many others, have been quick to wonder what is wrong with UK once they mount a big lead? The Cats look good against South Carolina, rolling out to a 21 point advantage, only having to beat off the Gamecocks in the final minutes in securing their second conference win of the season.

I blame Tubby Smith for the let down. I think the players are just not comfortable playing for him. He seems to be so quick in jawing a lot with both Keith Bogans and Gerald Fitch, while others make the same mistakes. Bogans is having a great season and if it were not for the senior guard, they would be below 500 in wins and losses this season. Fitch has always been a rebel for UK.

When Saul played at UK, I never noticed much jawing between coach and player when he made his multitude of mistakes. But that is another subject.

NOTES:

■ What about the 'Dores of Vanderbilt and knocking off fourth ranked Alabama at home? The SEC is going to be one tough conference to play in this basketball season. The Auburn Tigers are for real and a team not to be overlooked.

■ Saturday, Kentucky will host the fifth best team in America when Notre Dame comes to town. Oh dear! This is should be a good one.

■ I caught the Lady Cats on the tube Sunday afternoon and I was impressed with the play of a very young Kentucky women's team. I look for good things from this squad, winning some ball games. However, for the women's coach to keep her job after this season, she had better come up with more than one SEC win. The Lady Cats won only once against SEC opponents last season. They already own a win over Alabama.

■ Here in Florida, they are still replaying the controversial call in the Miami-Ohio State game. Let it go!

Until Sunday, good sports everyone and be good sports!

Junior

Doyle each with 4 points.

Wizards 40, Sixers 39

Logan Grindstaff poured in 22 points to help lead the Wizards over the Sixers in a thriller. Seth Moore scored 6 of his 9 points in the overtime for the Wizards. Amber Whitaker led the Sixers with 13 points in the game, Elizabeth Chaffin pitched in 8 points for the Sixers.

JUNIOR VARSITY

Bulls 26, Jazz 17

Tosha Wallen tossed in a game high 15 points to power the Bulls past the Jazz. The Bulls led 12-2 after one quarter and never looked back. Vincent Hayes added 7 points for the winners. Wesley Hall led the Jazz with 11 points on the night.

Spurs 28, Lakers 7

D.J. Ousley led all scorers with 20 points as the Spurs ran past the Lakers. The Spurs held the Lakers to only 2 second half points on the way to victory.

Devin Clifton paced the Lakers effort with 4 points in the game. Storm Roop added 2 points for the Lakers.

TRAINING LEAGUE

Bulls 15 Lakers 11

Wil Allen scored 6 points and helped lead the Bulls past the Lakers. A 6-0 run in the second quarter gave the Bulls the lead for good. Brian Branham added 4 points for the Bulls. The Lakers were led by Caleb Petry with 6 points.

Sonics 23, Raptors 10

The Sonics defeated the Raptors behind a strong outing from Shawn Burkett who finished with 14 points. Marisa Sammons added 4 points for the winners. Alex Griffith paced the Raptor effort with 8 points and Adam Griffith added a bucket.

Knicks 20, Hawks 5

Thomas Skeens tossed in 12 points to help the Knicks defeat the Hawks. Tyler Keans netted 3 points for the winners. Evan Hayes and Bryson Williams

both pitched in 2 points each for the Hawks. The Knicks led 15-0 at the half and coasted to the win.

Warriors 40, Hornets 4

Erica Meade and Nathaniel Fraley combined to score 34 points as the Warriors raced past the Hornets. Brandon Quillen led the Hornets with 3 points on the night. Meade finished with 16 points for the Warriors, while Fraley added 18.

PEE-WEE

Pacers 12 Raptors 2

Madison Wright and Tyler Honeycutt tossed in 6 points each as the Pacers beat the Raptors. John Cooksey had the 2 points for the Raptors.

Bulls 18, Hornets 9

Billy Holiday scorched the nets for 14 points as the Bulls defeated the Hornets. Grant Martin added 3 points for the Bulls. Haley Howell pitched in 5 points for the Hornets and Allyson DeRossett added 2. Jessica Hall added a basket for

the Hornets.

Warriors 14, Knicks 6

Tate Goble, Dustin Bartrum and Coty Shortridge scored 4 points each as the Warriors beat the Knicks. Tyler Bays had all of the 6 points for the Knicks.

Celtics 15, Jazz 4

Owen Caudill led the Celtics with 5 points and Kelsi Tackett added 4 for the winners. Braxton Tibbs tossed in 4 points for the Celtics, in the game as well. Steven Perry netted all 4 Jazz points in the contest.

Derby

for that elusive something in a horse that can carry him all the way to the Kentucky Derby.

"We're all looking for the spark in our athletes that might wind up being the fire that can take them 1 1/4 miles the first Saturday in May," said John Ward, who trained 2001 Derby winner Monarchos and has a top contender this year in Sky Mesa. From California to Florida to New York, last year's promising juveniles are ready to take their first 3-year-old steps on the road to the Derby, the world's most glamorous horse race. Some will earn a trip to Churchill Downs on May 3, but most will stumble along the way for a variety of reasons.

With that goal in mind, the traditional prep races along the Triple Crown trail become even more compelling.

"It adds spring to your step and makes it fun to get up in the morning and do your job," said Ken McPeck, whose Derby favorite Harlan's Holiday finished seventh last year. The trainer won the Belmont Stakes with 70-1 shot Sarava.

Let the preps begin. On Saturday, McPeck will send out two Derby hopefuls — Powerful Touch and Not for Profit — in the Holy Bull Stakes at Gulfstream Park.

"Now is the time to see how good they are. This is the first test," said McPeck, who plans to run another prospect, Ten Cents A Shine, in the Fountain of Youth on Feb. 15.

The West Coast has a prep, too — Saturday's Santa Catalina Stakes at Santa Anita, home base of Derby-crazed trainer Bob Baffert, who has three Derby winners in the last six years.

Baffert, of course, has a 3-

year-old in the 1 1-16th-mile Santa Catalina: Domestic Dispute, who finished second in the Hollywood Futurity. So does four-time Derby winning trainer D. Wayne Lukas, who plans to send out unbeaten Scrimshaw.

Last week, another Lukas 3-year-old — Ozzie Cat — was second in the Golden Gate Derby.

Derby fever is back. The Breeders' Cup World Thoroughbred Championships said goodbye to many of last year's top 3-year-olds in October, including Baffert's Derby and Preakness winner War Emblem. But as always, there's a slew of new stars ready to enter the starting gate.

Picking them out is the tough part, although the early Derby favorites have been established.

Baffert's unbeaten Vindication tops the list because of his impressive victory in the Breeders' Cup Juvenile. Vindication worked a half-mile in an easy 49.60 at Santa Anita on Sunday, but Baffert has yet to decide when the colt will race next.

Ward's unbeaten Sky Mesa is next. The colt missed the BC Juvenile with an ankle injury, but has been training well in Florida and is a likely starter for the Fountain of Youth.

Tocet is high on the list, too. Trained by John Scanlan, Tocet won the Hollywood Futurity for his third straight stakes win since a ninth-place finish in the BC Juvenile. A winner in six of eight career races, Tocet is set to take on Sky Mesa in the Fountain of Youth.

The underlying allure of the prep races, however, is unearthing that "undiscovered

Continued from p2

jewel" of a 3-year-old who could wind up winning the whole thing.

At this time in 2001, for instance, Monarchos had yet to win a race. Last year, War Emblem was losing at the Fair Grounds under the care of Bobby Springer.

Here are a few others to watch:

■ Bull Market, Kafwain: Both trained by Baffert, both capable of reaching the Derby. In the BC Juvenile, Kafwain was second, Bull Market fourth. Kafwain finished second in the Hollywood Futurity last month, but was DQ'd to fourth because of interference. Bull Market, though, hasn't worked since November.

■ Whywhywhy: Trained and co-owned by Frenchman Patrick Biancone, the colt was a disappointing 10th in the BC Juvenile. But he's worked twice at Santa Anita, including a half-mile breeze in 47.1 Wednesday.

■ Hold That Tiger: Last seen finishing a solid third in the BC Juvenile, the Aidan O'Brien-trained colt is back in Europe and probably won't show up in the United States again until Derby week.

■ Soto: Undeclared in three starts, including a victory in the Kentucky Jockey Club Stakes in November.

■ Empire Maker: Finished third in the Remsen at Aqueduct in November for trainer Bobby Frankel. Training at Hollywood Park, with his 3-year-old debut set for the Sham Stakes on Feb. 7.

■ Added Edge: The Canadian 2-year-old champion is 4-for-4, including a win in the Nashua at Aqueduct in November. Set to run in Saturday's 1 1-16th-mile Holy Bull.

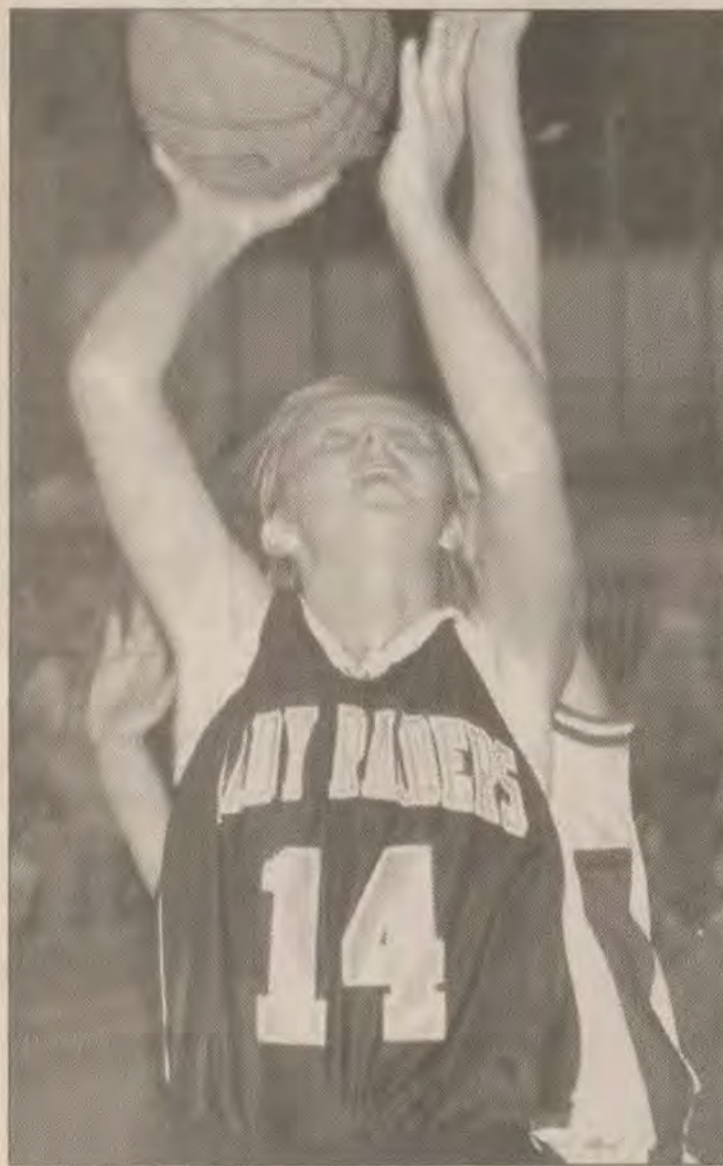


photo by Steve LeMaster

Brandy Anderson (14) went up for two points in South Floyd's loss to Betsy Layne. The South Floyd girls came into Wednesday night's game following a close loss at home Monday night against Pike County Central.

High School Basketball

Boys' Paintsville 70 JCHS 65 (OT)
Russell 55 East Carter 40
Spring Valley 48 ... Ashland Blazer 40
Whitesburg 81 Jenkins 75
June Buchanan 66 Buckhorn 42

Girls': Wednesday's game
Betsy Layne 59 South Floyd 36



Movement

ahead of them are Dillard (La.) and North Georgia at 12 and 11, respectively. One Mid-South

Conference team, Campbellsville, is ahead of the Lady Bears. The Lady Tigers

moved up one spot to No. 4.

Cumberland College is 20th, while Georgetown College is tied for 26th.

"We're very pleased to be 13th right now," said Bill Watson, coach of the Lady Bears. "We want to continue doing what we're capable of and take care of our business, and if we do that we'll be in good shape."

The men moved up when Science & Arts (Okla.) lost, falling from fifth to 11th. Fellow MSC school Georgetown took over the top spot with a 1-1 record, gaining eight of the 12 first-place votes.

The Tigers and Bears are the only two MSC teams in the Top 25. Lindsey Wilson is 26th, missing the Top 25 by only one point. Cumberland College is 29th.

"We've got a very tough stretch of our schedule right now, and it'll tell us a lot about what we're doing right now," said Randy McCoy. "We're very pleased with what we're doing right now. We just need our guys to keep working hard and doing the right things on and off the court, and we'll be alright."

Ladycats

Continued from p1

Ladycats, playing on their home court just two days after beating Pikeville on the road, outscored South Floyd 17-8 in the second quarter to lead 31-18 at halftime. The final two quarters of the game also saw Betsy Layne enter and leave with scoring advantages.

The hard-to-handle tandem of Whitney Lykens and Natasha Stratton again got things done for Betsy Layne. Lykens scored a game-high 20 points and Stratton finished with 12. Guard Kim Clark and center Tabetha Witt each had eight points apiece for the Ladycats.

A total of eight different Betsy Layne girls scored against South Floyd.

South Floyd, which struggled against Betsy Layne's pressure defense, only had only player score over eight points in the contest. Junior Megan Ousley

paced South Floyd with 14 points. Ashley Johnson, also a junior, followed with eight. Tabitha Trammell came in off the bench to score seven for the Lady Raiders.

At press time, both teams were scheduled to be back on the hardwood tonight, weather permitting, of course. Betsy Layne was to take to the road, going to Allen Central. South Floyd is scheduled to host Prestonsburg.

SOUTH FLOYD (37) - Skeens 4, Ousley 14, Anderson 4, Johnson 8, Trammell 7.

BETSY LAYNE (59) - Lykens 20, Stratton 12, Clark 8, Meade 1, Witt 8, Daniels 4, Newman 2, Akers 4.

Records-South Floyd 3-10, Betsy Layne 11-2.

Reed

Continued from p3

opera? — Macy definitely should be on the short list of possible successors, ahead of Florida's Billy Donovan, South Alabama's John Pelphrey, Michigan State's Tom Izzo, or anybody else you want to name.

But it this era of bombast and bragging, he could be hurt by the fact that he's a quiet, self-effacing, reserved man who doesn't like to toot his own horn. He's not a schemer, a political animal, or a self-promoter. He doesn't plant ideas with statewide newspaper columnists or loud-mouth national TV commentators.

Just as he learned to shoot free throws while playing under his father in Peru, so did Macy learn to let his work speak for him. On UK's 1978 title team, he wasn't the first player whom the media surrounded for quick quotes and one-liners. Robey, Givens, and Lee all were more outgoing.

A quarter of a century later, he hasn't changed much. "I'll bet I have more hair than he does," Robey said recently. He's right about that.

However, in style and temperament, Macy is just as he was when Robey knew him at UK. He's a far cry from Dick Fick, the former Morehead coach who drew national attention to himself with his sideline antics. He's about poise more than passion, although you can bet that Macy hates to lose as much as anybody who had ever drawn up Xs and Os.

If Macy were to change his mind and attend Saturday's festivities in Rupp

Arena, it wouldn't be because of his ego. It would be because he might be able to get some national exposure on CBS that could help him with his recruiting at Morehead.

But even that isn't as important to Macy as his obligations to his players.

"I'd like to be there," Macy said, "but this is a big conference road game for us. I don't really thing I have a choice. My team is the most important thing to me right now."

To contact Billy Reed send e-mails to BReedII@aol.com

Gragg

Continued from p2

as our athletics staff. Missy has built our volleyball program from scratch, and now we feel as if we can compete with anybody in the country. We thank her for her time and wish her nothing but success."

Tusculum College is an NCAA Div. II school located in Greeneville, Tenn. Gragg will inherit a team that was 8-26 last year and 2-12 in the South Atlantic Conference.

Gragg came to Pikeville College after graduating from Clinch Valley College (now called U.Va.-Wise) in 1998. After coaching a club team for one year, the Lady Bears moved to varsity play in 1999.

In four varsity seasons, Gragg's club has posted a 59-43 record. They were 17-9 last year after a 2001 season that saw the Lady Bears go 23-6 and qualify for the NAIA Region XI tournament for the first time.

Gragg, who is also director of two resident's halls on campus, has coached the Pikeville College softball team for two seasons.

Features Editor
 Kathy Prater
 Phone: (606) 886-8506
 Fax: (606) 886-3603

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FLOYD COUNTY Lifestyles



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THROUGH MY EYES

Fairy dust and Disney dreams

I remember it like it was yesterday. Lying belly-down on the floor of my parent's living room, watching, mesmerized, as Tinker Bell introduced the "Wonderful World of Disney" on lazy Sunday evenings.



Kathy Prater
 Lifestyles editor

No matter what the offering, whether it be "The Legend of Daniel Boone,"

"Old Yeller," "Pollyanna," or one of those wildlife adventure shows that my father so dearly loved, I knew that, without a doubt, a treat was in store. It was Disney, after all.

And although I especially loved it when the night's offering highlighted the Disney theme park in California (Florida's was still a dream), even the scenes

(See EYES, page two)

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. The following column was written in 1961.

Tyrone Power used to cut quite a figure, but we'd say, in view of the urge folks now have to quit smoking, that Will is the big boy in the family now.

.....

SKID ROW—just about any street or road you travel, these days.

.....

This column is accepting contributions to a fund to be used for the purchase of a jug of dye for Ray Howard's fast-sprouting goatee.

.....

BLESS THE YOUNG'UNS!

Traffic was stalled, business at a standstill. Older folks complained, but the youngsters drowned out their gripes.

Water pipes froze, and thawed, and flooded the floors. Older folks shivered and wondered when relief

(See WORLD, page two)

"Bowl for Kids' Sake" fundraiser event

The Big Brothers Big Sisters of Big Sandy will hold a "Bowl for Kids' Sake" fundraiser event in the upcoming weeks at the following locations: In Floyd County - Prestonsburg Pin Zone, February 22, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. In Johnson County - Sparetime Bowling

Lanes, Paintsville, March 1, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. In Pike County - Mark III Classic Lanes, Pikeville, March 8, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. In Knott County - On the Alice Lloyd College campus, March 15, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For more information on how you can

help Big Sandy kids by participating in the "Bowl for Kids' Sake" fundraising event, contact the Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Big Sandy office at (606) 886-1211. Event is open to the public and fee lanes and shoes will be provided free of charge. Stop by anytime during the post-

ed hours. Anyone raising \$55 or more for the kids of the Big Sandy region will receive a free t-shirt. Please help Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Big Sandy continue their work for the children of our region by pledging your support to the "Bowl for Kids' Sake" event.

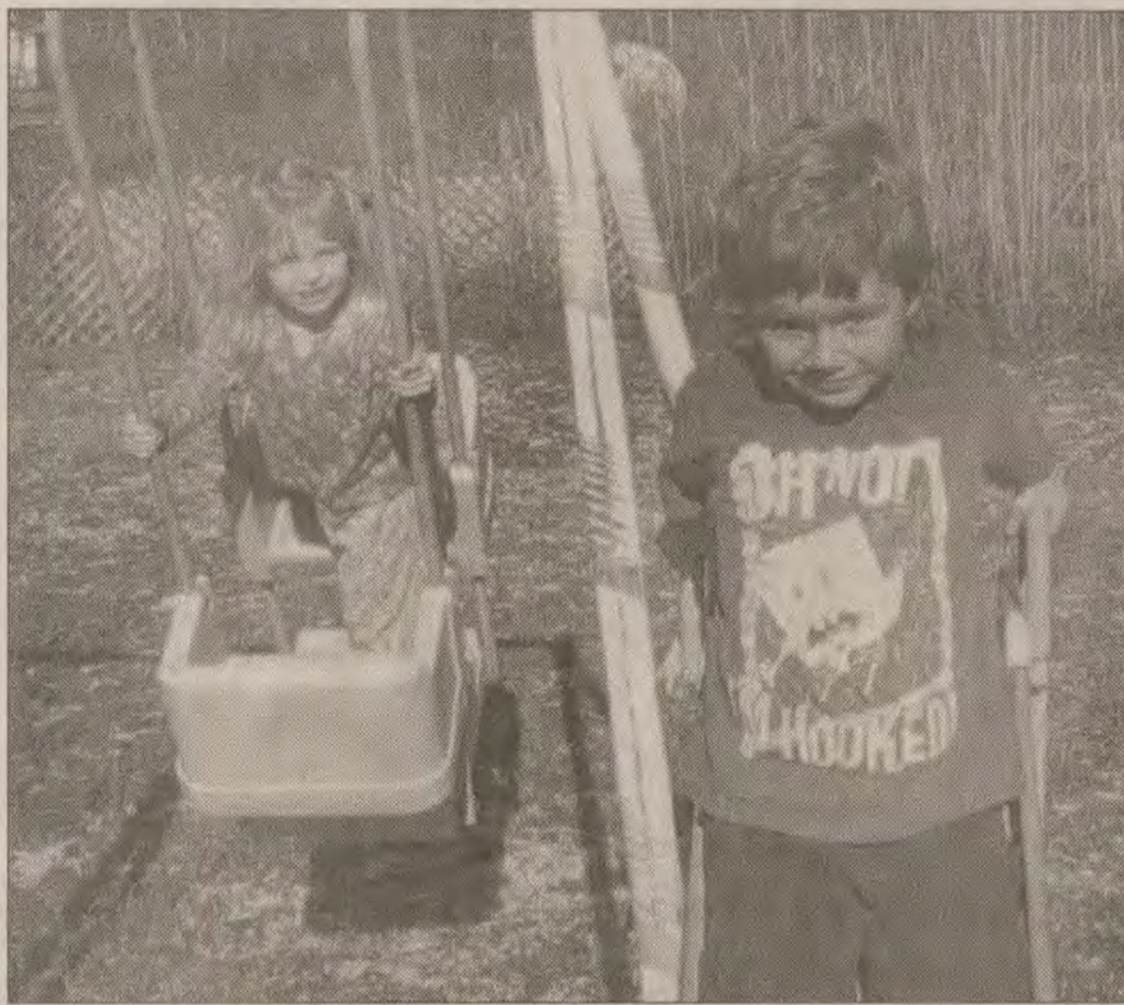


photo by Kathy J. Prater

Daniel, right, was excited about his audition for an upcoming Disney feature film, but not too excited to take a break to play outside for a few moments with his younger sister, Hannah, age 4.

POSTSCRIPT

What hath Bell wrought?

According to legend, the first words spoken over a telephone were, "What hath God wrought?"

More than a hundred years later, I'm wondering the same thing, but not in such a positive manner.

No offense, Mr. Bell, but telephones tend to aggravate me. Many years ago, in a land far away, my then boss was a true night owl and a micro-manager. He had a habit of calling those of us on his cabinet at midnight and later. He didn't come into the office until 10 or 11 a.m., but we were expected to be at our posts by 8.

Sometimes the calls were to chew us out for what was usually a minor infraction or a misunderstanding — guaranteed to ensure we didn't sleep the rest of the night. Other times, he'd say he just wanted to run an idea by us. He never apologized for calling so late. I don't think it even occurred to him that we might be asleep already.

This was in the days before answering machines and caller ID were available to ordinary people. So we either answered the phone or ignored it. I learned after a year or so of my boss' insomnia to ignore the ringing of a telephone. I got to the point where I did not get up to answer the phone and could sleep, read, eat or whatever without even the remotest urge to pick up the receiver.

That boss and I eventually went our separate ways, and I generally don't ignore the phone these days. But I still don't much like telephones. I pretty much consider them a necessary evil.

My primary communicative peeve nowadays is the cell phone. I concede their value. Traveling in these hills is certainly less frightening when you have a cell phone (assuming you can get a clear signal). Plus, many of the calling plans make it cheaper to call long distance by wireless, rather than with home phone services. Then, there's the added benefit for parents to keep in touch with children.

What I don't understand is what so many people find to talk about

(See POSTSCRIPT, page three)

DANIEL IN THE 'DISNEY DEN'

by KATHY J. PRATER
 FEATURES EDITOR

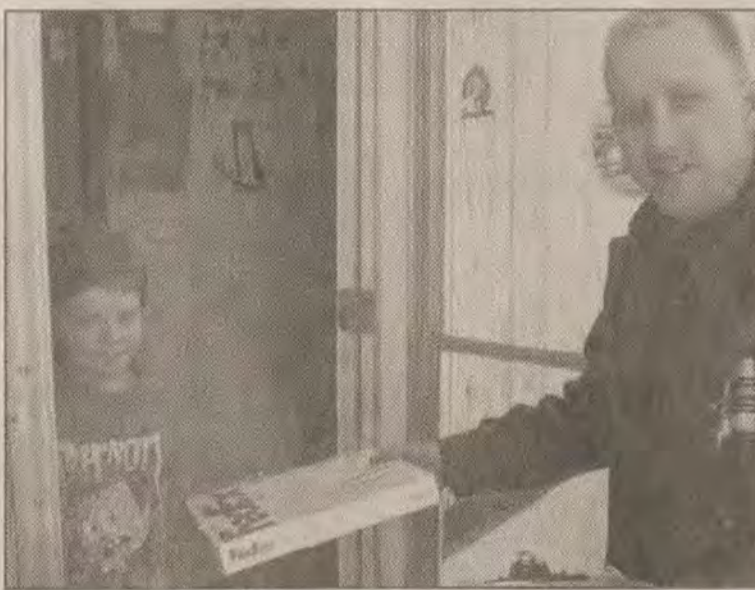


photo by Kathy J. Prater

Young Daniel Halbert was eager to meet "the FedEx man," Tony Dalton, at his door Wednesday afternoon. Dalton was hand delivering a package from Disney Studios outlining details of Daniel's audition for the folks at the Magic Kingdom.

Children all over the world love Disney films and their characters and five-year-old Daniel Halbert is no exception. So, when the opportunity to read for the part of an animated Disney character arose right in his own backyard, so to speak, Daniel was eager to give it a whirl.

Daniel, and approximately 187 other children from around the surrounding region, showed up in mid-November at an open casting call from Jennifer Rudin, casting senior manager, Walt Disney Feature Animation, Disney Studios, Burbank, California, to audition for an upcoming Disney feature film. The auditions were held at Prestonsburg's Mountain Arts Center, where, said Rudin, "a massive turn-out" of children took place.

"We actually had many more children show up than we expected," Rudin said during a telephone interview. "The turn-out was very

(See DISNEY, page two)

Things to ponder: I'm just so tired all the time!

A couple of really good friends and I were having dinner the other evening and the interaction of mind and body came boldly to mind.

In the reciting of what had happened during the week, why it had not been a good choice to overreact to everything, and how each of us were coping at the end of the work week, one dear friend gave the same response she has given for the more-than-10 years that I have known her. "I'm just so tired all

of the time, I just can't do anything, but go to work, after work eat the dinner my husband has fixed, and go to bed. I just exist!" She has had some episodes of health problems in the past, but there are supposedly none known presently. Similar to many of us within the "mature" stage of life, she has had significant on-going family difficulties, of which she is well aware that she has no control.

My dear friend attempts to

do what she can for the individuals involved and then tries to accept the situation. However, like the rest of us, her efforts to "let them go," often end up in her continuing to fret, worry, and fix things. So often, for my dear friend and others, the restrained mental stress builds up so that eventually the body is overwhelmed and "alerts" the person in some way "things are not working well, during the present arrangements. Do something!"

Scientific investigation has consistently supported what primary care physicians, have known for some time; that is, there is a close relationship between depression, and somatization (having to do with complaints of the body). It is common knowledge that there is a high rate of major depression, and that it is a major cause of disability.

The World Health Organization has predicted by 2020, depression will be second

only to ischemic heart disease in terms of disability. It is also known that depression intensifies the impact of physical diseases, in that depressed patients after a heart attack are more likely to die. Research has found that depression and chronic pain share some of the same chemical components of the central nervous system.

Sometimes physical "chemical" imbalances can have the

(See PONDER, page two)



Mable Rowe Lineberger, Ph.D.

School Happenings

ADAMS MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH SERVICES CENTER

Center distributes school activity calendars and newsletters on the last day of each month to all students. Parents please be advised to be watching for these informational materials as a way of staying informed with your school's happenings.

Health Records Update: Parents who have health records to bring in to the school may bring them to the Youth Services Center any weekday between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Homework Hotline - 886-9314 - Homework information available from 4 p.m. to 7 a.m. Updated each day after 4:00 p.m.

Center is open each day from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. or later by appointment. For more information about the center or any

listed activities, call 886-9812. Center coordinator, Michelle Keathley. Assistant coordinator, Sheila Allen. Center offers services to students regardless of income. Center telephone: 886-9812.

Jan. 27 - PTO meeting, 6 p.m.

School is collecting Food City receipts. Receipts may be given to any AMS student or staff member, or dropped off at the Youth Services Center.

ALLEN CENTRAL MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH SERVICE CENTER

Jan. 21 - Eating Disorders presentation, 8th grade.

Each Monday, 8:30-9:25 a.m. "Respect Class," for 7th grade girls.

Collect Food City receipts and turn them in to home room teachers.

ALLEN ELEMENTARY AND FAMILY RESOURCE YOUTH SERVICE CENTER

Call Allen Elementary Youth Service Center at 874-0621 to schedule your child's 6th grade entry physical, Hepatitis B vaccination, immunizations, and WIC appointment.

G.E.D. classes offered-FREE-each Friday, beginning 8:30 a.m. and lasting through 11:30 a.m. Instructor: Linda Bailey

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

A nurse from the Floyd County Health Dept. is in the center weekly. Please call to schedule an appointment. The center is currently scheduling Hep B immunizations and physicals for students who will enter the 6th grade in the upcoming school year, kindergarten entrance exams and TD boosters for sophomores. Also scheduling appointments for WIC services. These nursing 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 collecting Food City receipts that will be used toward receiving free computers and other educational items. Please send your receipts to school with your child or drop them off at the Family Resource Center, or the school's front office. Any help with this valuable school project is very appreciated.

MAY VALLEY ELEMENTARY

Floyd Co. Health Dept. is at the school each Wednesday. Services include 6th grade physicals and immunizations; WIC; well-child physicals;

Kindergarten and Head Start physicals; blood pressure checks; and more. Must call the FRC at 285-0321 for an appointment. Donna Samons-Bartrum, FRC Director.

MCDOWELL ELEMENTARY AND FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER

School is collecting Food City receipts. Have your students turn receipts in to their homeroom teachers. Community members may also turn receipts in to school office. Help McDowell Elementary receive computers, audio visual equipment, etc. through the "Apples for Students" program.

SBDM Council meets on the 3rd Tuesday of every month.

FRC Advisory Council meets first Thursday of each

(See SCHOOL, page three)

Organizations



Mrs. Bea Ratliff, left, and Mr. Donald Akers, right, were chosen as Floyd County's Senior Christmas Queen and King at the annual senior citizens Christmas party.

Seniors enjoy Christmas party

Floyd County seniors were treated to a Christmas party on December 18, by Floyd County Judge-Executive Paul Hunt Thompson. The party was held at the Wilkinson-Stumbo Convention Center.

Present and representing the Betsy Layne Senior Citizens Center as Christmas Queen and King were Bea Ratliff and Donald Akers.

Chosen by drawing to represent Floyd County as Christmas King and Queen were, again, Bea Ratliff, of Betsy Layne, and John



Senior sisters celebrated dual birthdays this month at the Betsy Layne Senior Citizens Center. Toda Tackett, left, turned 85 while her sister, Novella Compton, turned 91.

Senior sisters share birthdays

Betsy Layne Senior Citizens held an exciting New Year's party where they enjoyed good food, games, pool and Rook. Also on this day, the birthdays of two senior ladies were celebrated - Mrs. Novella Compton's 91st

Turnley, of Martin. Approximately 200 Floyd County seniors attended the event and were treated to a delicious Christmas feast and as well as an afternoon of entertainment.

Also attending the senior Christmas party were Donna Thompson, wife of the Judge-Executive, and Chris Waugh.

The seniors of Floyd County wish to express their gratitude to all who helped make the wonderful event possible.

Disney

impressive."

According to Rudin, the call was for "a young boy with an authentic Eastern Kentucky, or Southern, accent." Rudin said that she recorded the voices of 187 children from which young Daniel, a kindergarten student at McDowell Elementary, was chosen to fly to Disney Studios in Orlando, Florida to meet with and audition for Barry Cook, the director of the upcoming feature film which, according to Jay Carducci, also of Walt Disney Feature Animation, is "still in developmental stages." Disney fans will remember the 1998 film, "Mulan," about a Chinese girl who went to battle in her father's stead. Cook was co-director of that film.

When asked about how he felt about his upcoming trip to Orlando to meet with Cook, Daniel replied, "Well, I'm pretty excited."

Daniel, a soft-spoken, easy-going, diminutive red-head was pretty laid back about all the commotion but did say that he thought it would "be pretty good" to be the voice of an animated Disney character.

"It's all happened pretty fast," said Teresa Halbert, Daniel's mother. "We got a call last Tuesday, a week ago, and we're leaving for Florida on Thursday. It'll be a quick trip but we hope to get a few hours in at Disney World before we head home."

Halbert says that no matter the outcome, she is "thrilled for Daniel to have this opportunity."

"When I was able to call Daniel's mom and tell her that Daniel had been chosen to audition for the part in Florida, it made me just really happy. This is my favorite part of my job, when I get to

call people with happy news. Daniel is adorable and we wish him the best of luck," Rudin said. "And I'm very happy to have made such a great contact as the Mountain Arts Center. I had a great time in Prestonsburg and I wish I had had time to do more things, like visit Loretta Lynn's birthplace, but, maybe next time."

In the meantime, young Daniel Halbert can rest assured that all of us back home in Floyd County will be wishing him the very best of luck with his audition as well as praying for his safe return.

Daniel will be accompanied to Florida by his mother and grandmother while his father, Penny Halbert, and his sister, Hannah, will remain at home, cheering him on from afar.

Continued from p1

Continued from p1

World

would come. Through it all the laddie-bucks chortled gleefully. School was out, and they cared not how long the snow and ice and miseries stayed with the rest of us.

WE APOLOGIZE

A friend from Huntington sends us a newspaper clipping which, he says, should impel us to apologize to Lennie Moore for some reference we may have made, at some time, to his driving.

It tells of a 15-year-old there who, in a drive of only one block, struck four parked cars, a utility pole, a gasoline pump, a house and ran through two service stations.

When asked what happened, the boy gave with a classic in the line of understatement:

"I can't drive too well."

POOR RICHARD'S EPITAPH

And this in the mail from a friend nearer home:

"Re: the epitaph of Thomas Jefferson in the December 19 edition of the FLOYD COUNTY TIMES—did you know that another Founding-Father, Ben Franklin, composed his own epitaph, also? He did, and gave it to his good friend Sam Morris, August 31, 1776. It is reproduced below.

"The body of B. Franklin, Printer, like the cover of an old book, its contents torn out, and strip of its lettering and gilding, lies here, food for worms.

"But the work shall not be lost. For it will, as he believed, appear once more in a new and more elegant edition, corrected and improved by the Author."

GOSSIP TOWN

Somebody once wrote the verses which follow. The name of the author has

(See WORLD, page three)

Eyes

Continued from p1

from the "Pirates of the Caribbean" were no match for the thrill I received when I realized that what Disney was bringing to me this week was an animated film.

Just watching "Tink" flit around all over the screen each week, scattering those twinkling bits of fairy dust behind, was enough to get me dreaming about all sorts of magical adventures.

And speaking of magical adventures, I'm wishing five-year-old Daniel Halbert a wonderful one this week as he arrives in the Magic Kingdom for his first visit to the enchanting wonderland. I know that Daniel's trip will be a whirlwind of activity, and that he is being afforded the chance of a lifetime in being asked to audition for Barry Cook, the director of an upcoming animated Disney feature film, but I also hope that he gets the time to experience the wonders of "flying" through the air with Peter Pan and singing along with all those "Small World" children from around the world.

I met Daniel this past Wednesday afternoon and let me tell you, he is a real sweetie. Listening to his soft-spoken little boy voice, it was easy to see why he had received the call-back from Burbank.

Daniel's mom says that she once heard that if a cat shows up at your house, it means that good luck will come to your household. A tiny kitten with a couple of extra toes showed up at Daniel's house this past New Year's Day. Just a few days later, Daniel received a call from the Disney Studios requesting his presence this week in Florida. Daniel and his family have named their new household addition, "Lucky Kitty."

Lucky boy, we say. Have fun, Daniel, and check in with us when you return.

Ponder

Continued from p1

person thinking that he has a "nerve problem," when actually it is the body not working correctly, such as the thyroid not functioning properly. A recent study reported in the New York Times told how researchers have identified other circumstances where the depression was treated first and a physical "cause" was contributing to the symptoms. This was in reference to a Harvard study, considered preliminary, suggesting that men whose depression does not respond to medication, should have their testosterone levels checked. A previous study had indicated that about 10 percent of depressed men had low or borderline testosterone levels. Besides suggesting a possible link between testosterone and the functioning of antidepressants in men, an opinion was that low levels of testosterone might be more common than thought among men who did not respond to treatment.

It is wise for physicians to explore if there is "something" physically wrong, before treating a person's mental health symptoms. There are different types of physical problems voiced by depressed individuals. A frequent group of complaints given by clients pertains to the gastrointestinal system—nausea, vomiting, diarrhea and/or constipation, and stomach pains. As discussed other times, irritable bowel syndrome has been shown to occur at a higher rate in depressed than non-depressed individuals. Depressed clients also usually report experiencing "some

type" of pain, such as headache, back pain, or non-specific musculoskeletal ones, inconsistent, vague aches and pains. In fact, the results of one research project emphasized the importance of paying attention to complaints of back pain and nonspecific musculoskeletal pain in that they could be significantly predictive of depression. 43 and 39 percent respectively. It is not unusual for clients to have "bad" chest pain with a high level of anxiety that is typically associated with depression. If patients and physicians keep focusing attention on these physical complaints, the diagnosis of depression can be delayed or missed altogether. The researchers found that, when

(See PONDER, page three)

New Arrivals

Highlands New Arrivals

- Dec. 28, 2002
A daughter, Chelsey Ray Endicott, to Sonya and Justin Endicott
- Dec. 30, 2002
A son, Blayden Michael Kole Sexton, to Tasca and Kevin Sexton
- Dec. 30, 2002
A daughter, Alexandria Brooke Fannin, to Brittane and Mathew Fannin
- Dec. 30, 2002
A son, Jacob Tanner Sifers, to Joey Suzanne and Zeth Sifers
- Dec. 31, 2002
A son, Tristian Caleb Markus Rose, to Misty Dawn and George Rose
- Jan. 02, 2003
A daughter, Kylee Lynn Ratliff, to Terry Lynn and Nathan Eric Ratliff

- Jan. 02, 2003
A son, Collin Pierce Bently, to Jessica Courtney and Ricky Vason Bently
- Jan. 03, 2003
A son, Robert Bailee Ratliff, to Stacey and Robert Ratliff Jr.
- Jan. 03, 2003
A daughter, Kylie Paige Whitt, to Rebecca Ann and Johnny Lloyd Whitt Jr.
- Jan. 03, 2003
A son, Matthew Scott Shepherd Jr., to Amanda Swich
- Jan. 04, 2003
A daughter, Harley Marie Crider, to Rachel Dee and Shaunish David Crider
- Jan. 04, 2003
A son, Mason Garrett Smith, to Shawna and David Smith
- Jan. 04, 2003
A son, Jacob Michael Smith, to Shawna and David Smith
- Jan. 04, 2003
A daughter, Katelin

- Elizabeth Ann Compton, to Teresa and William Compton
- Jan. 04, 2003
A daughter, Shelby Leigh Ann Shepherd, to Traci Bolden
- Jan. 07, 2003
A daughter, Keaira Elizabeth Nicole Conn, to Christa and Ricky Conn
- Jan. 07, 2003
A son, Jordan Scott Collins, to Jennifer and Wendell Collins
- Jan. 08, 2003
A daughter, Kaylee Lane Hammond, to Annette Melissa and Billy Jack Hammond
- Jan. 08, 2003
A son, Jeremy Andrew James Barnett, to Heather and Shawn Barnett
- Jan. 09, 2003
A son, Donovan Shane Poulter, to Lucy Ann and Bryan James Poulter
- Jan. 10, 2003
A son, Kyle Andrew Burns, to Christy and Tony Burns



Family Medicine

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



Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine

Hot flash - The jury's still out on the safety of black cohosh

My wife has several friends who are taking black cohosh to reduce the symptoms of menopause — particularly hot flashes. All these women say that it works, but one of them has been bothered by headaches since she started taking this herbal product. I'm wondering if black cohosh is really safe, in case my wife decides to take it.

First let me give you a little background on this herb. The sale of black cohosh, also spelled cohosh, in the United States is not controlled by the Food and Drug

Administration because it is classified as a dietary supplement rather than a drug. Currently, as your wife's friends have said, its most popular use is for controlling hot flashes and menopausal symptoms. Over the past several hundred years, though, it's been used as a medicinal herb to treat a wide variety of human ailments.

North American Indians used black cohosh for malaise, gynecological problems, kidney disorders, mild joint pain and sore throats. They also used it to enhance milk production in lactating females. In the 1800s it was a popular home remedy for fever and joint pain. It

was also used at that time as a diuretic and to bring on menstruation.

The contemporary use of black cohosh — often sold under the name of Remifemin — is primarily as a treatment for hot flashes and other menopausal symptoms. Although the few studies that have been done are encouraging, the National Center for Complementary Medicine (NCCAM) says that it can't yet recommend the use of this herb in treating menopausal symptoms. On the other hand, in 2001 the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists — primarily based on the experiences of its members with their patients — approved a statement that said that black cohosh may be helpful for short term use (less than six months) in the treatment of women with menopausal symptoms.

The mechanism of action of black cohosh is not known, and many studies have produced contradictory results. It is believed to have estrogen-like activity.

Because black cohosh in this country is sold as a dietary supplement without FDA assurances of quality, there is no guarantee that the product you buy is pure and contains the amount of the herb that's stated on the label.

There have been some side effects reported with the use of black cohosh. Headaches, as you mentioned, as well as stomach discomfort and weight problems were the most commonly reported. It might be a good idea for your wife's friend who was suffering from headaches to stop taking the black cohosh and see if the headaches go away.

I strongly recommend that women who are pregnant or who have had breast cancer not take this herb. We need to know a lot more about its biochemistry before we can be sure it is safe for these women.

Personally, I would recommend against any woman using this drug to

control hot flashes until the results are in from rigorous ongoing studies currently being funded by NCCAM. But, if your wife does choose to use it, she should let her doctor know. It's a common misconception that herbal preparations aren't drugs. They are. That's why it's important to include herbs like black cohosh anytime a doctor, dentist or other health-care practitioner asks what drugs you are taking. Herbs can and do interact with other over-the-counter drugs and prescription medications.

"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. You can also email Dr. Simpson at simpsonm@ohio.edu. Past columns are available online at www.fhradio.org/fm.

Weddings

Wagoner-Blackburn

Michelle Renee Wagoner and Ronald Dean Blackburn are pleased to announce their engagement and forthcoming marriage. Michelle is the daughter of Wayne and Ruby Wagoner, of Paris. She is a graduate of Paris High School and is employed by Prime Finish, LLC, of Paris. Dean is the son of Edna Blackburn, of Prestonsburg, and Ron and Pam Blackburn, of Winchester. He is a graduate of Anderson County High School and the Louisville Electronic Institute. He is employed by Diebold, Inc., of Lexington. The couple will wed in a ceremony that will take place on Saturday, February 15, 2003, at 1:30 p.m., at the Holly Rood Clark Mansion, in Winchester. A reception will immediately follow. All friends and family are cordially invited to attend.

School

month in FRC office at 5:30 p.m.

■ GED classes are held in FRC each Monday and Wednesday from 8-11:30 a.m. Classes are FREE. Please bring paper and pencil. Instructor, Teresa Allen, David School.

■ Parents of fifth-graders should call now to have their child scheduled for school physicals and immunizations. A series of three HEP B vaccines are required for entry into sixth grade next fall. Students should begin the series now in order to be ready by next fall. Call 377-2678 for appointment.

■ 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

■ *PES is collecting Food City receipts. Have your child turn in receipts to their homeroom teachers. Community members may also turn in receipts to the school office or Family Resource Center.*

■ MCCC services available at the center. Call for additional information.

■ 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

■ Jan. 21 - Nutrition classroom presentations.

■ Jan. 24 - Genetics and Heredity classroom presentations.

■ Jan. 28 - Peer pressure/conflict resolution classroom presentations.

■ Jan. 31 - Drugs and Addiction Prevention & Awareness classroom presentations.

■ Walking track open to public (except during special event)

■ Center has a one-stop career station satellite station 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.

■ The center is located on the South Floyd campus in room 232. 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

■ Jan. 21 - Advisory Council Meeting (school library) - 4 p.m.

■ Jan. 23 - "What is it Made Of?" program, 2nd and 3rd grades - 8:30 a.m.

■ Jan. 28 - "Rain Forest," K-1 - 8:30-10:30.

Ponder

complaints of depression with a high level of physical ones were given, the depression was missed more often than when just significant histories often related to depression was given.

Although many folks think they are well aware of the signs and symptoms of depression, the following is the criteria for major depression, according to the American Psychiatric Association. The emotional symptoms are: sadness and tearfulness; loss of interest in the usual activities;

anxiety and/or irritability; hopelessness; concentration difficulties; guilt; and suicidal ideation. The physical symptoms are: tiredness and/or fatigue; sleep disturbances; headaches; changes in energy levels; gastrointestinal disturbances; appetite changes; and body aches and/or pains. Needless to say, people can present a complex set of overlapping symptoms in varying degrees of severity.

It goes without saying, I asked my dear friend if she might be depressed.

One could tell by her facial expression that she would never believe that she was depressed. It seemed that she had probably been struggling with her state of affairs for so long that it seemed like a "normal" way of life for her. The possibility of her being depressed was nowhere on her list. Are you or someone you know depressed? Could the "things" you complain of, all of the time, be the tip of the iceberg of depression. It is important to remember, that anyone with symptoms out of proportion to the "typical" findings or situation, would benefit from a screening for

depression. Physical symptoms to listen for, are chronic or "functional" pain, irritable bowel syndrome, disequilibrium, "hypoglycemic" episodes of undetermined cause, "hormone imbalances," and fibromyalgia.

As discussed earlier, it is important to get a physical clearance, due to the possibility there are other causes for the somatic complaints. In addition to relieving all parties concerned that "nothing physically is wrong," a more definite case is made for the importance of obtaining appropriate mental health services.

Postscript

constantly on their cell phones in their cars. I don't care to tell you it scares the you-know-what out of me sometimes.

Look around, particularly at an intersection. Every other driver you see is holding a phone to his or her ear with one hand. That leaves just one hand for the wheel and to gesture with, as many of us tend to do. It also means the driver's attention is divided.

What I wonder about — outside the obvious dangers — is whether people are actually communicating, despite all the talking. Has the cell phone replaced the dining room table and the front porch? Or are we replacing conversation with mere chitchat — Whatcha

doin'? Have you seen my green tie? How did Bubba like your hair? Did you hear Daisy Mae got herself pregnant?

I wonder, too, if our recreational use of the cell phone indicates that we cannot bear to be alone with ourselves. It appears some of us can't drive a mile without grabbing the phone to call someone, can't endure a few minutes of solitude and reflection.

I suppose I'm somewhat peculiar, but I cherish those times when I can just drive without anyone invading my space. I can listen to music, or I can replay an incident or plan out my day. In a world of unsolicited noise, the time spent in my car or walking along the road is precious.

THE DAVID SCHOOL

■ Adult Education Class Schedule - Fall 2001:

■ Monday

-McDowell Family Resource Center, 8:30 - 11:30 a.m. Call 377-2628. Instructor: Theresa.

-Betsy Layne Youth Service Center, 8:30 - 11:30 a.m. Call 478-3389. Instructor: Chrissy.

-MSU Prestonsburg Campus, 12:30-3:30 p.m. Call 886-2405. Instructor: Chrissy.

■ Tuesday

-Allen Elementary Family Resource Center, 12:30-3:30 p.m. Call 874-0621. Instructor: Chrissy.

-St. James Episcopal Church, 5-8 p.m. Instructor: Chrissy.

-Auxier Family Learning Center, 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. Instructors: CAP.

■ Wednesday

-McDowell Family Resource Center, 8:30-11:30 a.m. Call 377-2628. Instructor: Theresa.

-Betsy Layne Youth Service Center, 8:30-11:30 a.m. Call 478-3389. Instructor: Chrissy.

-MSU Prestonsburg Campus, 12:30-3:30 p.m. Call 886-2405. Instructor: Chrissy.

■ Thursday

-Allen Elementary Family Resource Center, 12:30-3:30 p.m. Call 874-0621. Instructor: Chrissy.

-St. James Episcopal Church, 5-8 p.m. Instructor: Chrissy.

-Auxier Family Learning Center, 1-4:30 p.m. Instructors: CAP.

WESLEY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

■ School is participating in Food City "Apples for Students" program. Please send your register receipts to school with your student, or drop them off or mail them in to school office at: P.O. Box 454, 103 Methodist Lane,

Allen, KY 41601.

■ Weekly Chapel Services, each Wednesday morning, 10 a.m.

W.D. OSBORNE RAINBOW JUNCTION FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER

■ Jan. 21, 22, 23 - Hygiene program.

■ TBA - Recycling program, all grades.

■ "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.

World

been lost to us. It isn't great poetry, but we like the thought it expresses so much that we break a long-standing policy of rejecting any and all verse submitted for publication. They call it "Gossip Town," and its lines run, as follows:

Have you ever heard of Gossip Town

On the shore of Falsehood Bay

Where Old Dame Rumor,

with rustling gown,

Is going the livelong day?

It isn't far to Gossip Town

For people who want to go;

The Idleness Train will take you down.

In just an hour or so,

The Thoughtless Road is a popular route

And most folks start that way,

But its steep down-grade, if you don't look look out,

Will land you in Falsehood Bay.

You glide through the Valley of Vicious Talk,

Turn into the Tunnel of Hate,

Then, crossing the Add-To-Bridge,

You walk right into the city gate.

The principal street is called, They Say,

And I've Heard, is the public well,

And the breezes that blow from Falsehood Bay

Are laden with Don't You Tell.

In the midst of the town is



Winner "Math-a-thon" event

Jazmin Mardis, a second grade student at Osborne Elementary, recently won her grade level's "Math-a-thon" competition for the month of December. Jazmin is the daughter of Sherry Huff Mardis, of Bevinsville, and Ron Mardis, of Florence. She is the granddaughter of Ruth Huff, also of Bevinsville. Jazmin's family is very proud of her accomplishment.

Telltale Park,

You're never quite safe while there;

For its owner is Madam Suspicious Remark,

Who lives on the street, Don't Care.

Just back of the park is Slander Row—

"Twas there that Good Name died,

Pierced by a shaft from Jealousy's bow,

In the hands of Envious Pride.

From Gossip Town peace long since fled,

But trouble and grief and woe

And sorrow and care, you'll meet instead,

If ever you chance to go,

But it is not healthy in Gossip Town.

And I would not follow you there—

I would rather live on Thanksgiving Street,

In the house that is called All Prayer.

NECROLOGY

For the last 29 years Russell (Buck) Layne, of Prestonsburg, has compiled a year's end list of deaths of Prestonsburg citizens. He lists these 1963 deaths:

Wilson Stepp, 65, died Jan. 6; Ella Anderson Sammons, 84, Jan. 8; Sam P. Hale, 69, Jan. 16; James Estill Marcum, 24, Jan. 19;

Virginia Allen, 20, Jan. 30;

Virginia N. Stephens, 62, Feb. 4;

Martha Hughes Burchett, 79, Feb. 8;

Marion J. Taylor, 69, Feb. 11;

Thelma Ellis Bunting, 64, Feb. 17;

Stirling Sweeney, 67, Feb. 24;

Darcus Hurst Hubbard, 68, March 1;

Gertrude Callihan McWherter, 50, March 7;

Ralph B. Davis, 58, March 24;

Sarah Mildred Garrett O'Dell, 99, March 24;

Ruby L. Kirk, 28, March 30;

Nina Phipps, 75, March 30;

Anna Reffett Marsillett, 66, April 2;

Lula Harris, 83, April 2;

Ernest Baldrige, 46, April 9;

Dave Patrick Osborn, 91, April 14;

Julia Clifton Spradlin, 85, April 24;

William J. Vaughan, 70, April 26;

Winnie Preston Archer, 69, May 2;

Ollie Wallen, 54, May 4;

John W. Hensley, 69, May 28;

Merida Brown, 75, June 8;

Sam Hale, 76, June 16;

James Harvey Howard, 64, June 21;

Marvin Scott George, 64, June 22;

Dr. John Sizemore, 92, July 14;

Martin Luther Osborne, 72, July 31;

J. E. (Elza) Conley, 65, Aug. 5;

Mary King, 92, Aug. 8;

Lillie Newsome Vanhooze, 45, Aug. 9;

Walter Pennington, 71, Aug. 15;

Garland Rush Harris, Oct. 25;

Nicie Elizabeth Kenney, 86, Nov. 11;

Jack Poe, 64, Nov. 15;

Rebecca Montgomery, 51, Nov. 19;

Dr. Martin J. Leete, 74, Nov. 30;

Millard P. Goble, 78, Dec. 1;

Perry Crider, 76, Dec. 1;

Elizabeth White, 83, Dec. 1;

Lyda Nunnery Preston, 64, Dec. 17.

The Floyd County Times

Classifieds

Weekly Rates: (4 line minimum)
 \$1.75 per line for Wednesday and Friday Paper
 \$2.25 per line for Wednesday, Friday and Shopper
 \$3.25 per line for Wednesday, Friday, Sunday & Shopper
 \$10.00 per line for Wednesday, Friday, Sunday, Shopper & Internet

DEADLINES:
 ▶ Wednesday Paper, Noon Mon.
 ▶ Friday Paper and Shopper, Wed. 5 p.m.
 ▶ Sunday Paper, Thurs. 5 p.m.

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| 110 - Agriculture | 210 - Job Listings | 330 - For Sale | 450 - Lawn & Garden | 530 - Homes | 630 - Houses | 715 - Child Care | 770 - Repair/Service |
| 115 - ATVs | 220 - Help Wanted | 350 - Miscellaneous | 460 - Yard Sale | 550 - Land/Lots | 640 - Land/Lots | 720 - Health & Beauty | 780 - Timber |
| 120 - Boats | 230 - Information | 360 - Money To Lend | 470 - Health & Beauty | 570 - Mobile Homes | 650 - Mobile Homes | 730 - Lawn & Garden | 790 - Travel |
| 130 - Cars | 250 - Miscellaneous | 380 - Services | 475 - Household | 580 - Miscellaneous | 660 - Miscellaneous | 735 - Legal | 800 - NOTICES |
| 140 - 4x4's | 260 - Part Time | 400 - MERCHANDISE | 480 - Miscellaneous | 590 - Sale or Lease | 670 - Commercial Property | 740 - Masonry | 805 - Announcements |
| 150 - Miscellaneous | 270 - Sales | 410 - Animals | 490 - Recreation | 600 - RENTALS | 680 - Wanted To Rent | 745 - Miscellaneous | 810 - Auctions |
| 160 - Motorcycles | 280 - Services | 420 - Appliances | 495 - Wanted To Buy | 610 - Apartments | 700 - SERVICES | 750 - Mobile Home Movers | 815 - Lost & Found |
| 170 - Parts | 290 - Work Wanted | 440 - Electronics | 500 - REAL ESTATE | 620 - Storage | 705 - Construction | 755 - Office | 830 - Miscellaneous |
| 175 - SUV's | 300 - FINANCIAL | | 505 - Business | | | 760 - Plumbing | 850 - Personnel |
| 180 - Trucks | | | | | | | 870 - Services |
| 190 - Vans | | | | | | | |

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

110-Agricultural

685 Case International Farm Tractor, w/ new loader, 1700 hrs. like new, 886-8366.

130-Cars

'99 TOYOTA CAROLLA: 37,000 miles, auto., AC, one owner, has warranty. \$7,950. 606-523-6227.*

87 OLDSMOBILE ROYALE, red, 4 door, fair condition. Call after 6 p.m. 606-874-9143.*

Do You Have A Business, Service, Or Product You Would Like to Advertise in 4.5 Million Households With Only One Phone Call?
The American Community Classified Advertising Network
 1-800-821-8139

DISPATCHER NEEDED

Sandy Valley Transportation Services, Inc. (SVTS), is seeking qualified applicants for the position of a Dispatcher. Familiarity with the area's roads and previous dispatching experience is preferred, but not required. Must pass DOT drug test. Health, dental, life, retirement, holidays, sick and vacation days available. Phone 1-800-444-RIDE / 7433, for an application for employment and more information. SVTS is an equal opportunity employer M/F/D/V.

The Housing Authority of Martin is now accepting applications and/or résumés for the position of Office Assistant

This position is responsible for general housing authority office activities, i.e. filing, phone, typing, computer input, applications, etc. All applications/résumés must be presented to The Housing Authority of Martin, P.O. Box 806, 109 Raymond Griffith Dr. #1101, Martin, KY 41649, and received by 2 p.m., January 24, 2003, with "RESUME" on the outside of the envelope. You may call (606) 285-3681 for more information. The Housing Authority of Martin does not discriminate in employment on account of race, color, creed, religion, sex, national origin, age, familial status or disability.

POSITION AVAILABLE

Big Sandy Area Development District is accepting résumés for the position of Director of the AmeriCorps Appalachia Self-Sufficiency Program. The individual selected will be responsible for the implementation of the program. The director will serve as the overall Program Supervisor and will be the cohesive link for all program components. Management and extensive reporting requirements, case file experience required. Members are placed throughout a 17-county area in which the director is expected to travel. The incumbent will solicit, select, coordinate and supervise AmeriCorps members and volunteers. Individuals with a college degree preferred, but not required. Applicants with previous experience and/or working knowledge of AmeriCorps/Kentucky Works/Community Based Service's program management will take precedence and is required. Salary commensurate with experience. Applicants must submit a letter, résumé, and list of references to Terry Trimble, by January 20, 2003. The Big Sandy Area Development District is an equal opportunity employer.

140-4x4s

2000 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE 4X4. Loaded, 1 owner, 29,000 miles with warranty. \$15,950 606-523-6214.*

2002 NISSAN EXTERRA, 4x4, 13,000 miles. \$14,900. excellent condition. 606-478-5808.*

190-Vans

2000 TOYOTA SIENNA, XLE, 1 owner, has warranty, loaded. 39,000 miles. \$16,950 606-523-6214.*

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 Opport.

INCREASE YOUR INCOME! Control Your hours! Home-based Business! full Training. Free Booklet. www.upervisions.com 888-373-5174.*

210-Job Listings

LEAD WEBMASTER NEEDED at progressive Central/East Kentucky firm, attractive benefits package, salary commensurate with experience. Design Functionality with emphasis on programming curial. Submit resume with website portfolio references to: helpwantednow2003@yahoo.com

\$\$\$ TOP QUALITY SALES PERSONNEL \$\$\$

Does recognition of your efforts and the potential for an extremely high income with a financially secure, rapidly growing company motivate you? We are West Virginia's largest retail manufactured housing sale organization, consisting of 11 retail operations in West Virginia and Kentucky, Virginia and Kentucky locations. If you are The Best & want to be The Best, send resume to the Home Show-Central Office-2720 Penn Ave. Chas. WV. 25302.*

AVON

Make your own money, sign up for \$10. for limited time. Call Jancy at 886-2082.

220-Help Wanted

PART TIME DENTAL ASSISTANT: Experience preferred. 25-30 hrs. per week may lead to full time. Send Resume to: Dental Assistant c/o P.O. 390, Prestonsburg, Ky 41653. *

HAIR DRESSER NEEDED: Apply in person at Pro Hair located in Prestonsburg Village.

MOUNTAIN MANOR OF PAINTSVILLE is taking applications for a LPN (7 p.m.-7 a.m. shift) Also RN needed. Excellent salary benefits. Apply in person at 1025 Euclid Ave. Paintsville, Ky. Monday thru Friday between 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.*

HELP WANTED: Motorola two-way dealership in Prestonsburg, KY, needs a experienced radio technician /tower climber. Pay equal to experience. Good benefit package. Only those with experience & references need apply. Must also have clean driving record. Call 606-886-3181 or (800)-445-3166 to inquire.*

LPN: A POSITION OPEN FOR LPN in busy office; part-time with opportunity for full-time. Three days a week can guarantee 30 hrs. salary commiserate on experience. Please fax resume to 606-437-6243 or mail to Office Manager P.O. Box 2380 Pikeville, Ky 41502.*

UNDERGROUND CONTRACTOR NEEDED- Elkhorn #3 coal seam located in Floyd County. Continuous miner section preferred. Call American Engineering, LLC for bid information (606) 886-1062.*

FINANCIAL

380-Services

BECOME DEBT FREE! Cut payments without new loans. It's easy! 1 hr. approval. Call 1-800-517-3406.

MERCHANDISE

410-Animals

CKC POMERANIANS first shots and wormed, \$250 each. 358-2175.*

445-Furniture

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 & Savall! RT. #122, McDowell. Call 606-377-0143.

450-Lawn & Garden

SIMPLICITY WALK-BEHIND SNOW BLOWER, self propelling chains. Good shape, 874-2408.*

Advertise.. it pays 886-8506

480-Miscellaneous

DON'T PAY HIGH STORE PRICES, 75% OFF Genuine leather Black coats, Now \$35. Size Med, Large, XX Large, XXX Large. Also kids leather coats \$25 size 6-16. Call Ray VanCleave & Son Distributors. 606-743-3053.*

Tem Star Natural Gas Heater, 1 year old. 125,000 BTU downflow, 606-886-3914 or 793-0421.*

FOR SALE: HOME INTERIOR PICTURES \$5.00 each, full size comforter & matching curtains \$25. Men's dress slacks size 42-30 \$5.00 pair. Football starter jackets size large \$10.00 each. Call 886-3326 after 5 p.m.

ANTIQUES FOR SALE: also queen size bed with frame. 2 working juke-boxes including records. Also lap-top computer in excellent condition etc. 606-454-0817.* (12/22 all)

FIREWOOD FOR SALE: Call 886-8350.

TAN AT HOME Wolff Tanning Beds Flexible Financing Available Home Delivery **FREE Color Catalog** Call Today 1-800-939-8267 www.np.etstan.com

495-Want to Buy

Want To Buy-40-50 acres or more, 4-5 acres level land with or without house. In Prestonsburg or Paintsville Area. 606-642-3388.*

REAL ESTATE

530-Houses

FOR SALE OR RENT: 2400 sq. ft. house, 4 Bedroom, 2 full baths, new carpet, central Heat & air. New kitchen appliances, with full size basement & garage. call 859-806-2188 for more information.*

3 BEDROOM HOME: on 60x150 lot at 419 South Central Avenue Prestonsburg, 2 full bath, great room, utility room, breakfast nook. Large porch, blacktop drive way, 2 car carport. \$115,000 886-9407 or 886-0701 ask for Phillip. *

550-Land & Lots

MINERALS ONLY: 50 ACRES, Coal and Gas. Located on Laurel Fork of Quick Sand in Knott Co. 260-347-0259.*

570-Mobile Homes

1996 14x50, 2 bedroom, furnished, 2 miles from Morehead campus. 606-784-2320 or 946-2877. *

610-Apartments

TOWNHOUSE, 2 bedroom, 2 full bath. 538 Arnold Ave. Prestonsburg. Furnished kitchen, with washer & dryer, 859-608-0605*

630-Houses

2 BEDROOM HUD APPROVED, located near Jacks Creek. \$365 month, 285-3504.*

12X65 TRAILER: 3 BEDROOM, 1 1/2 bath, new plumbing, 2 nice covered porches, good condition. \$3,750. Call 889-0087.*

12X60 3 BEDROOM 1 bath, \$1400. 13x65 2 bedroom, 2 bath \$1000. Must move yourself. 285-0539.*

3 BEDROOM 2 BATH, 1995 14x70 Mobile Home \$9000 firm. excellent condition. 946-2833. Possibly help with financing.*

590-Sale or Lease

FOR LEASE LARGE LOT FOR BUSINESS will build to suit. Rt. 80 close to Mtn. Enterprise. 886-8366.

RENTALS

610-Apartments

APARTMENTS FOR RENT Available Immediately 1 & 2 BR apts. Free processing fees **PARK PLACE APARTMENTS** Rt. 114, Prestonsburg Section 8 welcome. Call (606) 886-0039 E.H.O

NEW 2 BEDROOM DUPLEX AT LANCER KY. \$550 month. \$550 deposit 1 year lease. 886-8781.*

1 BEDROOM FURNISHED APARTMENT: all utilities paid, washer & dryer, No pets. \$150 dep. \$395 rent. 874-5577 or 226-0999. Available Feb. 1st.

GREETINGS FROM LIGHTHOUSE MANOR, Terry & Sharon Smith. We have apartments for rent that are efficiency apartments, all utilities paid. For more info call 606-866-2797.

FURNISHED APARTMENT: utilities paid in Prestonsburg, references required. 886-8366.*

630-Houses

2 BEDROOM HOUSE also 3 Bedroom doublewide, both in excellent condition, references & deposit required. No pets. 886-9007 or 889-9747.*

HOUSES, APARTMENTS, & TOWNHOUSES, Call **B&O Rental Properties** 606-886-8991.

2 BEDROOM HUD APPROVED, located near Jacks Creek. \$365 month, 285-3504.*

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.

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Service
IS OUR BUSINESS

IF YOU ARE STARTING A NEW BUSINESS OR RELOCATING IN PRESTONSBURG WE HAVE THE PRIME LOCATION.
 Rent starting, \$300 month, plus utilities.
Call 886-8366

J&M Seamless Guttering & Siding
 Located at Weeksburg, Ky.
 14 Years Experience
Free estimates, call anytime
 606-452-2490 or 606-424-9858

Come One, Come All To CANTRELL'S AT RED BUSH, KY.
 For the best used late model Mobile Homes in Ky 2001, 28x60, 3 B.R. 2 Bath, with fireplace, like new, \$32,900 All mobile homes delivered and set up FREE
 For the best used cars & trucks around 1995 S-10, nice, \$4,495. 1996 Taurus, nice, \$4,995.
24-hour Wrecker Service
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 Train at your convenience.

Emergency Home & Mobile Home Service & Repair
INCLUDES:
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LITTLE'S MOBILE HOME MOVERS
 INSURED
 27 years experience.
 Move single and doublewides.
 Full setup and fast service.
285-0633
285-5116

Mother Goose Playland
 A Christian, Non-Denominational daycare center, is now taking applications for part-time substitute positions. We re also taking applications for part-time/full-time enrollment.
 Contact Missy 886-0868 or 886-8648

DUMP TRUCK, BACK HOE FOR HIRE
 Certified Septic Tank Installer
 Bridges, Culverts, Concrete Driveways
 Complete Home Remodeling and Repair
 Carports, Decks, Room Additions
Golden "H" Construction Co. Inc.
 478-3039

TRIP'S MINE TRAINING & TECHNOLOGY INC.
 • Teaching Newly Employed 24 Hour
 • Annual 8-Hour Refresher Classes
 • Mine Medical Technician Instructor
 • American Heart C.P.R. and First Aid
 Phone 606-358-9303 (Home) 606-434-0542 (Mobile) Garrett, Kentucky Terry Triplett, Instructor

Tree Trimming
 Hillside, lawn care and light hauling.
 Garage and Basement Cleaning.
886-8350

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.

To place your ad call Jenny at 886-8506

650-Mobile Homes

3 BEDROOM MOBILE HOME: at Banner, \$400 plus deposit, very clean, 874-0267.

TRAILER LOT FOR RENT in Martin area, \$150 per month, 285-3625 or 285-9112.*

MOBILE HOME FOR RENT: 2 Bedroom, stove & refrigerator, total electric, on private lot. No pets. 886-3709. No HUD.*

2 B.R. MOBILE HOME: total elect. Located between Pburg & Paintsville. No pets. 889-9747 or 886-9007.

2 B.R. 2 BA. Mobile Home, located at Minnie. Appliances included. \$375 rent, \$375 dep. **Also Two, 2 B.R. 1 BA. Mobile Homes,** \$350 rent, \$350 dep. 606-478-5173.*

1 & 2 B.R. TRAILERS. VERY CLEAN suitable for 2 working men. Private, AC, & Cent heat. Near P'burg. No Pets. 886-3941.*

670-Comm. Property

FURNISHED BEAUTY SALON FOR RENT: Located in Martin area 285-3625 or 285-9112.*

SERVICES

705-Construction

ALL TYPES: Remodeling & additions, garages, decks, etc. Also concrete work. Robie Johnson, Jr., call anytime. 886-8896.

714-Elderly Care

NEED SOME ONE TO STAY with 2 elderly people, Daytime, 2 days a week on Fri. & Sat. 7a.m.-5p.m. References required. 874-2937 or 874-2371.*

765-Professionals

TURNED DOWN FOR SOC. SECURITY/SSI? Free consultation. Call 1-888-582-3345. No fee unless we win your case.

Great new rates on hospitalization, major medical, Medicare supplements, cancer plans, disability (even for coal miners) and great rates on life insurance.
Call Billy R. Maynard, ph. 478-9500 or 478-4105.

770-Repair/Services

Repair/Service Need Computer Support??? Available evenings & weekends. Call for an appointment. 424-4886.

NOTICES

812-FREE

FREE PALLETS: Can be picked up behind The Floyd County Times.

LEGAL
JAY C. STEINBERG, Legal Representative
Phone: (606) 886-8300
or Fax: (606) 886-3603

NOTICE OF SALE OF AN ELECTRIC FRANCHISE

Notice is hereby given that the City Commission of Allen, Floyd County, Kentucky, at a regular meeting held on the 6th day of January, 2003, directed me,

the undersigned, to advertise for sale an electric franchise and,

THEREFORE, pursuant to Order and Ordinance of said Commission, and in accordance with the terms and provisions of the same,

Notice is hereby given that I, City Clerk of Allen, Floyd County, Kentucky, or in my absence, Sharon S. Woods, Mayor of the City will, at the front door of the City Building, in City of Allen, Floyd County, Kentucky, on the 3rd day of February, 2003, at the hour of 7:00 p.m., Allen Time in the City of Allen, offer for sale an electric franchise, in accordance with the terms and conditions of the aforesaid ordinance of said City Commission, and subject to conditions of said Ordinance, which Ordinance and conditions are as follows, to-wit:

SECTION NO. 1
That there be sold at public auction to the highest and best bidder, the franchise, privilege, right and authority to acquire, maintain, construct and operate in, above, under, across, and along the streets, thoroughfares, alleys, sidewalks, bridges, public ways and other public places (as the same now exists or may hereafter be laid out) of the City of Allen, Floyd County, Kentucky, lines, poles and equipment for the distribution of electric energy, either by means of overhead or underground conductors, with all the necessary or desirable appurtenances for the purpose of supplying electric energy to said City and the inhabitants thereof, and persons, and corporations beyond the limits thereof, for light, heat, power, and any other purpose or purposes for which electric energy is now or may hereafter be used, and for the transmission of same within, through, or across said City.

SECTION NO. 2
Said lines and appurtenances shall be constructed so as to interfere as little as possible with the traveling public in its use of the streets, thoroughfares, alleys, sidewalks, bridges, public ways and public places.

SECTION NO. 3
The franchise, privilege, right and authority shall be in full force and effect for a period of twenty (20) years from the date of the passage of the ordinance granting it.

SECTION NO. 4
The grantee of this franchise shall save the City harmless from any and all liability arising in any way from negligence of the grantee in the erection, maintenance, or operating of said lines and appurtenances.

SECTION NO. 5
The grantee of this franchise shall have the right and privilege to take up such portion or part of any pavement and make such excavation in the streets, thoroughfares, alleys, sidewalks, bridges, public ways and other public places of the City of Allen, as may be deemed necessary for the construction and maintenance of its lines, wires, or cables, but whenever the grantee of the franchise shall begin the erection of any lines or other equipment, it shall promptly

and diligently prosecute the work until completion and leave the streets, thoroughfares, alleys, sidewalks, bridges, public ways and other public places where such work is done in as good condition of repair as before such work was commenced.

SECTION NO. 6
Wherever in this franchise either the City of Allen or the grantee thereof is referred to, it shall be deemed to include the respective successors and assigns of either, and all rights, privileges, and obligations contained in this franchise shall be binding upon, and inure to the benefit of, the respective successors and assigns of said City and said grantee, whether so expressed or not.

SECTION NO. 7
The grantee of this franchise to be offered for sale may make such rules and regulations, covering the furnishing of said electric energy, as may be fair and reasonable and consistent with the standard practice of the grantee. Said grantee may charge such rates for electric services as shall be fair and reasonable. The said grantee shall render service under said franchise of like quality, that is, adequate, efficient and reasonable, to that now being rendered to said City.

SECTION NO. 8
The consideration paid by the successful bidder for the franchise, privilege, right and authority provided for herein shall be complete compensation and consideration for the sale of said franchise, privilege, right and authority and for the use and occupancy of the streets, thoroughfares, alleys, sidewalks, bridges, public ways and other public places of the City, in lieu of any street or alley rental or of any charge for the use and occupancy of said streets, thoroughfares, alleys, sidewalks, bridges, public ways, or other public places of the City, and in lieu of any pole tax or meter tax.

SECTION NO. 9
City Clerk of the City of Allen, Floyd County, Kentucky, is hereby appointed City Commissioner to sell said franchise, privilege, right and authority hereby ordered sold, and said Special Commissioner is directed to offer said franchise for sale at public auction and shall sell same to the highest bidder at the front door of the City Building in Allen, Floyd County, Kentucky, at 7:00 p.m., on February 3, 2003, after he/she has advertised the same, terms, conditions and place of sale, pursuant to law by inserting a notice of sale in the Floyd County Times Newspaper of general circulation in Allen, Floyd County, Kentucky, once a week for three (3) consecutive weeks prior to the date of said sale, said advertisement to include this Ordinance.

SECTION NO. 10
Each bidder for the sale of said franchise, privilege, right and authority, shall file, as a part of his bid, a certified copy of his bid a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity from the Public Service Commission of Kentucky, issued under the authority of KRS

278.020(3).
SECTION NO. 11
Bids and proposals for the purchase and acquisition of the franchise, privilege, right and authority hereby directed to be sold shall be in writing and shall be delivered to the Mayor or the City Clerk upon the date and at the time fixed by the Clerk and/or Mayor in said advertising for receiving bids. Thereafter, the Clerk and/or Mayor shall report and submit to the City Council, at the time and place to be fixed by it, said bids and proposals for said Commission's approval, and said City Commission reserves the right for and on behalf of the City of Allen to refuse any and all bids for said franchise, privilege, right and authority. In the event the bids reported by the Clerk and/or Mayor shall be refused by the said City Commission, it may direct, by resolution or ordinance, said franchise, privilege, right and authority to be again offered for sale from time to time, until a satisfactory bid therefor shall be received and approved. Each bid shall be accompanied by a deposit and each bidder shall post bond in accordance with the provisions and requirements of KRS 96.020. However, such deposit and bond need not be made by a corporation or person already owning, in or adjacent to the City of Allen, Floyd County, Kentucky, a plant and equipment sufficient to render the service required by this resolution.

SECTION NO. 12
This Ordinance granting this franchise shall be accepted by the grantee thereof within sixty (60) days from the date of its passage.

Done by a Resolution of the City Commission of the City of Allen, Floyd County, Kentucky, entered at its meeting held on the 6th day of January, 2003.
WITNESS MY HAND, this the 6th day of January, 2003.
Bill Parsons
City Clerk of the City of Allen, Floyd County, Kentucky.

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS FOR THE PROJECT TITLED: MOUNTAIN TOP RECREATION PARK IRRIGATION SYSTEM

The City of Prestonsburg will receive sealed bids for the Irrigation Project, until 2:00 p.m., Local Time, January 29, 2003, at the office of the Mayor, 200 North Lake Drive, Prestonsburg, Kentucky

PROJECT DESCRIPTION
The Project consists of installation of all athletic field irrigation systems as indicated on the plan documents prepared by REED Engineering Company, Inc., dated January 3, 2003. The project work will consist of one (1) bid package.

Bidding Documents may be examined at the following place:
REED Engineering Co., Inc. - 259 North Arnold Avenue, Prestonsburg, KY 41853, Phone: 606-886-7884.

Bidding Documents may be obtained upon a non-refundable deposit of \$60.00 per set, cash or check, made payable to REED Engineering Co., Inc. There will be an on-site pre-bid meeting at 11:00 a.m., Local Time, January 22, 2003. All bids shall be submitted, in duplicate originals, on the Bid Form included in the Project Manual. Submission of a bid shall be construed as confirmation that the bidder has visited the site and satisfied themselves as to the extent of the work required. No changes to the contract will be considered, based on misunderstandings of the scope of the work, if such misunderstandings could have been addressed by a site visit. Any bid received later than the time specified for receipt of bids, or any bid

experience properly installing irrigation systems of comparable size. All prospective bidders must also provide references of your last five irrigation systems of comparable size with this bid proposal.

Bids must be submitted, in duplicate originals, on the Bid Form included in the Project Manual. Submission of a bid shall be construed as confirmation that the bidder has visited the site and satisfied themselves as to the extent of the work required. No changes to the contract will be considered, based on misunderstandings of the scope of the work, if such misunderstandings could have been addressed by a site visit. Any bid received later than the time specified for receipt of bids, or any bid

which is not submitted in the proper form, shall not be considered.

The Owner reserves the right to reject any and all bids, or to waive any formalities in the bidding process. Bids received after the scheduled closing time for the receipt of bids will be returned unopened to the Owner.

may be withdrawn for a period of thirty (30) days subsequent to the opening of bids, without consent of the Owner.

ACCEPTING SEALED BIDS

The Floyd County Board of Education is now accepting sealed bids on surplus technology items. Technology items include:

- * MONITORS * KEYBOARDS
- * PRINTERS * COPIERS
- * C P U'S * PROJECTORS

For a more detailed description, contact Gina Amos at 606-886-2354, ext. 508. Bids will be opened on January 24, 2003, at 2:30 p.m., at the central office, located at 106 North Front Avenue, Prestonsburg Kentucky. Bids will be accepted until 2:00 p.m., January, 24, 2003. All bids will be subject to board approval at the January 27, 2003, board meeting. On January 28, 2003, payment and pick-up arrangements can be made.

Classified Ads Work!
Call Jenny
886-8506

BANKRUPTCY AUCTION

Pursuant to Court Order entered December 24, 2002 in Lodestar Energy, Inc. Case No. 01-50969 United States Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Kentucky, the following items are to be sold at auction on January 30, 2002 at 10:00 a.m. EST. Interested parties should contact Ellen Arvin Kennedy, Fowler Measle & Bell, LLP (859) 252-6700 for a bid package no later than January 21, 2003. Initial bids and deposits are due on January 24, 2003 by 4:00 p.m. EST.

- | | |
|--|--------------------|
| 1998 CHEVY BLAZER | 1GNDT13W3W2281634 |
| CHEVY PICKUP | 2GCEK19T6X1276345 |
| 1989 FORD F450 CAB CHASSIS | 1FDXF46SXXEB87995 |
| 1997 HOMESTEAD | 5HABA1215V1001524 |
| 1998 CHEVY BLAZER | 1GNDT13WOT2124400 |
| 1996 CHEVY BLAZER | 1GNDT13WXT2180540 |
| 1998 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE | 1J4GZ48S8WC356151 |
| 1995 CHEVY TAHOE | 1GNEK13KXSJ459155 |
| 1994 CHEVY BLAZER | 1GNDT13W9R0127350 |
| 1993 CHEVY BLAZER | 1GNEK18K0FJ353801 |
| 1993 CHEVY TRUCK | 1GCFK24H2PZ222206 |
| 1996 CHEVY TAHOE | 3GNEK18R2TG111892 |
| 1971 INTERNATIONAL WATER TRUCK | 416360H143880 |
| 1976 FORD | U8ODVB89218 |
| 1985 OFFICE MASTER | 952019 |
| 1978 INTERNATIONAL | AA185JHA17836 |
| 1971 MACK | DM863SX1431 |
| 1988 MACK | 1M2P19OC4JA001086 |
| MAGNUM MTT-10 WATER TRUCK | 95-631 |
| 1990 MECHANIC TRUCK | 1GBL7H1P3L1200389 |
| 1993 INTERNATIONAL MECH TRUCK | 1HTSSDPPN4PH480453 |
| 1984 AUTOCAR GREASE TRUCK | 1WBRCJJ2EU096271 |
| CAT 773B W/10,000 GAL TANK | 63W00585 |
| 1999 CHEVY 1/2 TON PICKUP | 1GCEK19T8XE128342 |
| MECHANIC TRUCK | 1HTAR18E4DHA18496 |
| 1974 MACK OIL TRUCK | DM685SX22649 |
| 1986 AUTOCAR | 1WBUCJG2GU301301 |
| 1996 MACK | 1M2P278CXTM001956 |
| 1987 FORD F750 | 1FDNF70HBHVA63333 |
| 1976 INTERNATIONAL FLEET STAR LUBE TRK | D1327FGC15749 |
| 1998 CHEVY PICKUP | 1GCGK29R4WE227550 |
| 1998 CHEVY PICKUP 4WD | 1GCGK24R8WZ234159 |
| 1982 MACK FUEL TRUCK | 1M2B145C6CA001101 |
| 1995 CHEVY TAHOE | 1GNEK13K9SJ444023 |
| 1988 DODGE POWDER TRUCK | 1B9MW455JS642635 |
| 1992 GMC MECHANIC TRUCK | 1GDL7H1J3NJ524139 |
| 1986 POWDER TRUCK | 1WBUCJG2GU301301 |
| 1994 CHEVY CK15 | 1GCEK14K7R2208967 |
| VOLVO ROCK TRUCK | A25V5564 |
| 1981CAT CONVERTED TO WATER TRUCK | 63W00633 |
| 1985 GMC 7000 | 1GDG7D1F4FV520908 |
| 1999 CHEVY 1/2 TON PICKUP | 1GCEK19TXXE135180 |
| 1994 INTERNATIONAL FUEL TRUCK | 1HTGD0005RH604194 |
| 600 R MACK CAB/CHASSY TRUCK | 4510 |

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO MINE

Pursuant to Application Number 836-0295 Amendment No. 1

In accordance with KRS 350.070, notice is hereby given that Frasure Creek Mining, LLC, 1051 Main Street, Suite 100, Milton, West Virginia 25541, has applied for an amendment to a permit for a surface coal mining and reclamation operation, located at Craynor in Floyd County. The amendment proposes to add 74.08 acres and delete 2.52 acres of surface disturbance, and add 28.10 acres and delete 21.21 acres of auger area for total of 288.28 acres within the total permit boundary.

The proposed operation is approximately 0.5 mile southwest from KY 680's junction with KY 979, and located on Hamilton Branch of Mud Creek.

The proposed operation is located on the McDowell USGS 7 1/2 minute quadrangle map. The surface area to be disturbed is owned by The Elk Horn Coal Corporation, Curt Hall Heirs, Richard P.

Hall Heirs, Charles Hall, Walker Tackett et al., Robert or Marlene Howell, Frank and Ivaalee McKinney, William L. Hall Heirs, and Barbara Hall. The operation will underlie land owned by Charles Hall, Walker Tackett et al., Robert or Marlene Howell, and Frank and Ivaalee McKinney. The operation will use the area, contour, and auger methods of surface mining.

The application has been filed for public inspection at the Department for Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement's Prestonsburg Regional Office, 3140 South Lake Drive, Suite 6, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653. Written comments, objections, or requests for a permit conference, must be filed with the Director of the Division of Permits, #2 Hudson Hollow Complex, U.S. 127 South, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601.

*** F i n a l Advertisement Only:** This is the final advertisement of the application. All comments, objections, or requests for a permit conference must be received within 30 days of today's date.

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR INVOLUNTARY TERMINATION OF MEDICARE/MEDICAID PROVIDER AGREEMENT

Notice is hereby given that effective February 1, 2003, the agreement between Riverview Health Care Center, 79 Sparrow Lane, Prestonsburg, Kentucky, and the Secretary of Health and Human Services, as provider of nursing services in the Health Insurance for the Aged and Disabled Program (Medicare), is to be terminated.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services has determined that Riverview Health Care Center is not in compliance with the Requirements for Participation. The Medicare program will not make payment for inpatient nursing services to residents who are admitted after February 1, 2003. For residents admitted prior to February 1, 2003, payment may continue for a maximum of 30 days for nursing services. Such payment is specifically limited to covered services through the close of business March 3,

2003. Eugene A Grasser Associate Regional Administrator Department of Survey & Certification

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO MINE

Pursuant to Application Number 836-5423, Amendment No. 3

In accordance with KRS 350.070, notice is hereby given that Frasure Creek Mining, LLC, 1051 Main Street, Suite 100, Milton, West Virginia 25541, has applied for an amendment to an existing surface and underground coal mining and reclamation operation located approximately 3.1 miles southeast of McDowell in Floyd County. The amendment will add 80.99 acres of surface disturbance and will

underlie an additional 52.95, all of which overlie permitted underground acreage, making a total area of 3,299.19 acres within the amended permit boundary.

The proposed amendment area begins at the intersection of KY Route 1929's junction with Buckhorn Fork Road and is located within Buckhorn Fork of Frasure Creek and also at the head of Frasure Creek.

The proposed amendment is located on the McDowell USGS 7 1/2 minute quadrangle map. The surface area to be disturbed by the amendment is owned by The Elk Horn Coal Corporation, McKinley Osborne Estate, Charles T. and Janet G. Vance, and Laura Caudill Estate, Perley Howell Heirs, Emmitt Blevins Heirs, and Freda Bentley. The amendment will underlie land owned by The Elk Horn Coal Corporation, McKinley Osborne Estate, Charles T. and Janet G. Vance, and Laura Caudill Estate, Perley Howell Heirs, Emmitt Blevins Heirs, and Freda Bentley. The application has been filed for public inspection at the Department for Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement's Prestonsburg Regional Office, 3140 South Lake Drive, Suite 6, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653. Written comments, objections, or requests for a permit conference must be filed with the Director of the Division of Permits, #2 Hudson Hollow Complex, U.S. 127 South, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601.

Bentley. The amendment will underlie land owned by The Elk Horn Coal Corporation, McKinley Osborne Estate, Charles T. and Janet G. Vance, and Laura Caudill Estate, Perley Howell Heirs, Emmitt Blevins Heirs, and Freda Bentley.

The application has been filed for public inspection at the Department for Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement's Prestonsburg Regional Office, 3140 South Lake Drive, Suite 6, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653. Written comments, objections, or requests for a permit conference must be filed with the Director of the Division of Permits, #2 Hudson Hollow Complex, U.S. 127 South, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601.

Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement's Prestonsburg Regional Office, 3140 South Lake Drive, Suite 6, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653. Written comments, objections, or requests for a permit conference must be filed with the Director of the Division of Permits, #2 Hudson Hollow Complex, U.S. 127 South, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601.

tions, or requests for a permit conference must be filed with the Director of the Division of Permits, #2 Hudson Hollow Complex, U.S. 127 South, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601.

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.

The Floyd County Times

Let one of our "ad-visors" help you with your ad.
Call **886-8506**

Patton to propose tax increase with budget

by MARK R. CHELLGREN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

FRANKFORT — Gov. Paul Patton said Wednesday he will propose a tax increase to patch the leaky state budget and the brunt of it would fall on corporate Kentucky.

Patton met with business leaders at his office Wednesday to warn them of his plans and float the balloon. Patton said the final form of his tax proposal will depend to some extent on reaction.

Nevertheless, Patton said he intends to propose a "complete, comprehensive review of the way we tax the business community in Kentucky."

The proposal is believed to revolve around a business activity tax as a replacement for the corporate income tax and corporate license fee.

A business activity tax is not commonplace and only Michigan among nearby states imposes such a levy. Such a tax often is based on a company's payroll, investment and sales in a state. It can be modified in many ways, depending on the rates and covered activities.

Patton outlined his idea to nine members of the board of the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce, including its chairman, Dan Lacy of Ashland Inc. Also in the meeting was Tony Sholar, the chamber's lobbyist, who said Patton was suggesting "a fairly major shift in a tax policy, going from ... corporate income tax, which is based on profits, to an activities tax, which is a tax based on business activity irrespective of making a profit."

"You pay a tax on the privilege of doing business in a state, based on how much money you have invested in the state, how much money you utilize to run your business," Sholar said.

The chamber officials have several questions about Patton's idea, including whether the state will end up having to grant larger and costlier incentives to attract new and expanding business, Sholar said.

During an impromptu question and answer session with reporters in the Capitol Rotunda, Patton repeated a litany he began a few weeks ago about how corporate Kentucky has not maintained its obligations.

When the business community signed onto the 1990 tax increase to finance the Kentucky Education Reform, corporate taxes raised about \$350 million a year and constituted about 10 percent of the state budget.

By 2002, Patton said, corpo-

rate income taxes contributed only about \$320 million to the General Fund and made up about 5 percent of the total.

While individual income and sales taxes have more than doubled, corporate income taxes have actually declined, Patton said.

"I think the business community needs to get back to that 10 percent of the budget that they were in 1990," Patton said.

Corporate tax payments would have to rise by \$350 million to \$400 million annually to reach 10 percent of the budget.

Business representatives say their actual tax payments are much larger and should include income taxes paid by new corporate entities such as limited liability companies and partnerships.

The tax package could also include a higher levy on cigarettes, but not higher alcohol taxes, Patton said.

Patton raised the idea of applying the sales tax to some package liquor sales, but said Wednesday he has since learned that alcohol sales are subject to many other taxes and pay their way. "I spoke before I had all the facts," Patton said.

Such changes in the package are likely as the public discussion of a tax increase is beginning, Patton said.

A letter was sent to lawmakers Wednesday in which Patton asked for time to make a budget speech to a joint House and Senate session when the General Assembly reconvenes in February.

Lawmakers, especially Republicans in the Senate, have all but excluded any consideration of a tax increase, even as the state budget faces a \$500 million deficit in the next 18 months.

Under the Kentucky Constitution, legislation for a tax increase must originate in the House, which Patton's fellow Democrats control. They are leery of the Senate, where the Republican majority seems poised to kill any attempted tax increase and use it as an election issue against Democrats.

Patton wants to force the Senate to take co-ownership of whatever develops. He issued a statement Wednesday that said debate over the budget "has boiled down to a dispute over who has the ball. The answer is clear, we all have the ball; the Governor, the House and the Senate."

Patton said he will propose a budget to cover the shortfalls and the money to pay for it, which will put the onus on legislators to either embrace the tax plan or

BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF KENTUCKY (LEXINGTON DIVISION) LODESTAR ENERGY, INC. LODESTAR HOLDINGS, INC. DEBTORS. CHAPTER 11 PROCEEDING CASE NOS. 01-50969 AND 01-50972 JOINTLY ADMINISTERED UNDER CASE NO. 01-50969 JUDGE JOSEPH M. SCOTT, JR.

NOTICE OF AUCTION, BIDDING PROCEDURES, ASSUMPTION AND ASSIGNMENT OF EXECUTORY CONTRACTS, UNEXPIRED LEASES, LICENSES AND PERMITS AND HEARING FOR AN ORDER AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF THE DEBTORS' ASSETS

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT:

On December 24, 2002, the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Kentucky, Lexington Division (the "Court"), entered an order (the "Procedures Order") granting a motion (the "Bidding Procedures Motion") under which Lodestar Energy, Inc. ("LEI") and Lodestar Holdings, Inc. ("LHI"), the debtors and debtors in possession in the above captioned chapter 11 cases (collectively, the "LEI Debtors") requested authority to conduct a sale (the "Sale") of all or substantially all of their real and personal property (the "LEI Property"), free and clear of all liens, claims, encumbrances and other interests, pursuant to sections 105(a), 363, 365, 503 and 507 of title 11 of the United States Bankruptcy Code (the "Bankruptcy Code"). The Sale will be by public auction (the "Auction") at which the LEI Debtors will consider bids for the LEI Property. The Procedures Order approves the procedures (the "Sale Procedures") for the Auction and Sale.

On January 10, 2002, Industrial Fuels Minerals Company ("IFMC" and, together with the LEI Debtors, the "Debtors"), a wholly owned subsidiary of LEI, filed with the Court a petition for relief under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code. IFMC is chapter 11 case is pending in the Court as Case No. 03-70015. It is expected that IFMC is real and personal property (together with the "LEI Property," the "Property") will be included in the Sale and the Auction, and subject to the Sale Procedures.

Further information relating to the Sale Procedures, the submission of bids for the Property, the Auction and the Sale are set forth in the complete Amended Notice of Auction, Bidding Procedures, Assumption and Assignment of Executory Contracts, Unexpired Leases, Licenses and Permits and Hearing for an Order Authorizing the Sale of the Debtors' Assets, dated January 14, 2003 (the "LEI Notice of Sale Procedures") and the Notice of Auction, Bidding Procedures, Assumption and Assignment of Executory Contracts, Unexpired Leases, Licenses and Permits and Hearing for an Order Authorizing the Sale of Industrial Fuels Minerals Company Assets, dated January 14, 2003 (but subject to Court approval) (the "IFMC Notice of Sale Procedures" and, together with the LEI Notice of Sale Procedures, the "Sale Procedures Notices"). The Sale Procedures Notices may be obtained upon request to counsel to the Debtors, Bradley K. Johnston, Esq., Squire, Sanders & Dempsey L.L.P., mailing address: 312 Walnut Street, Suite 3500, Cincinnati, OH 45202; facsimile (513) 361-1201; or email, HYPERLINK "mailto:bjohnston@ssd.com" bjohnston@ssd.com. Prospective bidders are urged to review carefully the Procedures Order and the Sale Procedures Notices in their entirety, which Procedures Order and the Sale Procedures Notices contain certain information related to the Sale and Auction not contained herein and which shall control in the event of any inconsistency with any information contained herein. Any person desiring to purchase any of the Property must do so under the terms and conditions set forth in the Sale Procedures Notices and Procedures Order.

The Debtors own real and personal property located in Kentucky, Colorado and Utah for use in the mining, cleaning and loading of coal, including, without limitation, (a) accounts, accounts receivable, inventory, machinery and equipment, general intangibles, executory contracts and unexpired leases, furniture, fixtures, and real property (the "General Property"); and (b) four categories of vehicles listed in Schedule 1, attached to the Sale Procedures Notices (i.e. Eastern Kentucky Vehicles, Western Kentucky Vehicles, Colorado Vehicles and Utah Vehicles) (the "Vehicles"). For purposes of the Procedures Order, the Sale Procedures Notices and the Sale Procedures, the term "Property" shall include all real and personal, tangible and intangible property of any kind or nature of each of the Debtors, including without limitation, the General Property and the Vehicles, but expressly does not include: (i) each of the Debtors' cash on hand at the closing of the Sale, unless securing bonds or other surety obligations being assumed or replaced by a purchaser, (ii) any cause of action of any of the Debtors under chapter 5 of the Bankruptcy Code; and (iii) any other claim or cause of action of any of the Debtors arising prior to or after the chapter 11 petition date for such Debtor. Bidders may bid on the General Property in any configuration including part or all of the General Property. Any bid for the Vehicles shall be for one or more entire category of such Vehicles. No offers or bids for individual Vehicles will be accepted.

The Debtors will conduct the Auction on January 30, 2003, beginning at 10:00 a.m. EST at the offices of Wyatt, Tarrant & Combs, LLP, 250 West Main Street, 1600 Lexington Financial Center, Lexington, KY 40507-1746312 (the "Sale Site"). A hearing to approve the Sale has been scheduled for January 31, 2003, beginning at 9:00 a.m. EST.

Any sale, assignment or other disposition of the Property shall be by bill of sale, without any representations or warranties whatsoever, of any kind, nature or description by the Debtors, their agents or representatives. Each party who has submitted at the Auction a successful offer to purchase all or some portion of the Property (a "Successful Offeror") will have had the opportunity to conduct an independent inspection and investigation of the Property and any liabilities of the Debtors that will be assumed by them in connection with the Sale ("Assumed Liabilities") and all such other matters relating to or affecting the Property or Assumed Liabilities as each Successful Offeror deems necessary or appropriate. In proceeding with its purchase of the Property and assumption of the Assumed Liabilities and with the assumption of all of the Debtors' rights, duties and obligations under the Property and the Assumed Liabilities, each Successful Offeror will be doing so based solely upon its independent inspections and investigations and will acknowledge that, subject to the foregoing, it will be receiving all of the Debtors' rights, duties and responsibilities under the Property and Assumed Liabilities purchased by such Successful Offeror on an "AS IS" and "WHERE IS" and "WITH ALL FAULTS" basis.

All of the Debtors' right, title and interest in and to the Property shall be assigned and sold, pursuant to sections 363(f) and (m) of the Bankruptcy Code, free and clear of all liens, claims, encumbrances and security interests, which shall attach to the net proceeds received by the Debtors as a result of the sale with the same force and effect that they now have, subject to further order of the Bankruptcy Court. All secured creditors shall retain all bidding rights allowed under the Bankruptcy Code.

The closing of the Sale(s) (the "Closing") shall take place at the Sale Site no later than eleven (11) days after entry of an order authorizing the Debtors to sell the Property to the Successful Offeror(s).

The Debtors intend to offer for sale, as part of the Property, all or substantially all executory contracts and unexpired leases to which the Debtors are party. Prospective bidders are urged to review carefully the Procedures Order and the Sales Procedures Notices, which contain further information relating to such executory contracts and unexpired leases. The Successful Offeror(s) shall be responsible for all obligations arising under or related to any executory contracts and unexpired leases that they direct Debtors to assume and to assign to them, from and after the Closing, and for all obligations under section 365(b)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code as set forth in the Procedures Order.

Any objection(s) to the entry of a final order approving the final sale of any of the Property must be filed with the Court and served so that they are RECEIVED by the undersigned counsel, counsel to the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors, counsel to Congress Financial Corporation and counsel to Wexford Capital, LLC no later than 9:00 a.m. EST on January 31, 2003.

Dated: January 14, 2003

Stephen D. Lerner
Jeffrey A. Marks
Bradley K. Johnston
SQUIRE, SANDERS & DEMPSEY L.L.P.
312 Walnut Street, Suite 3500
Cincinnati, OH 45202
Telephone: 513-361-1200

COUNSEL FOR DEBTORS AND DEBTORS IN POSSESSION and

Taft A. McKinstry, Esq.
Ellen Arvin Kennedy, Esq.
FOWLER, MEASLE & BELL, llp
300 West Vine Street, Suite 600
Lexington, KY 40507-1660

CO-COUNSEL FOR DEBTORS AND DEBTORS IN POSSESSION #25531

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ROLLIN'

Cars - Buy'em, sell'em, fix'em, love'em

Friday, January 17, 2003

An update on the Ford Focus

by TOM AND RAY MAGLIOZZI

Dear Tom and Ray:

I have listened to your radio show for maybe 20 years, and I read your column religiously. I've enjoyed every minute of it, and I've never disagreed — you're funny, knowledgeable and fair — until recently. You wrote a column about the Ford Focus, in which you cited "investigations" into safety problems with the car. Not proofs, not findings, not manufacturer's recalls ... just investigations. You then recommended that people not purchase this car until these problems are solved, based on this less-than-factual evidence. I had just purchased a Ford Focus two weeks earlier. Your column has caused great consternation. I think you should apologize, be more careful in the future and — at the least — follow up on this story when NHTSA or Ford releases more information. — Patrick



TOM:

Gee, Patrick, we certainly do apologize for causing any consternation. I was consternated for a whole week once, and boy was that unpleasant!

RAY:

The investigations we cited on the 2000 and 2001 Focus were taken up by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. And in our opinion, NHTSA doesn't open investigations lightly or without significant reports of problems. Plus, the Focus was the subject of an unusual number of investigations. But you are correct — an investigation is not proof of a defect.

TOM:

Fortunately, there have been several developments on the Focus front in the past few months, and we're happy to report on them here. First, Ford acknowledged that the Focus has had too many quality problems. The company responded by slapping a 5-year, 100,000-mile drive-train warranty on all Focuses to help regain customer confidence. That's certainly a step in the right direction.

RAY:

Ford also tells us that its internal tracking shows quality problems and warranty costs going down steadily since 2001, reflecting the improvements it says it's been making. We can't verify that, but if it's true, that's also good news.

TOM:

As for the recall investigations we mentioned, here are the updates: The 2000 model had a problem with the left rear wheel falling off. Ford discovered that the problem was caused by an underdesigned seal in the wheel bearing. In the middle of 2001, Ford changed to a "more robust" seal. Cars manufactured before mid-2001 can be fixed for free at Ford dealerships (provided you get there before the wheel falls off).

RAY:

The investigation into air bags in the 2000 and 2001 Focuses causing burns and fires was closed. That means there was not enough evidence to suggest that a defect exists, and the case was dismissed.

TOM:

The problem of front suspensions collapsing while 2000 and 2001 Focuses were being driven has resulted in a recall and a manufacturing change. The problem is a bolt that comes loose. Ford dealers will inspect and tighten or replace the offending bolt under the recall. Those cars built after May 2001 were subject to a manufacturing change that made sure the pinch bolt was properly tightened. Ford says this will solve the problem going forward.

RAY:

The engine fires in 2000 and 2001 cars also resulted in a recall and a manufacturing change. That problem was caused by wires that were routed near the battery. Those wires were rerouted for the 2002 model year, and all previous vehicles have been recalled so their wires can be moved, too.

TOM:

That leaves only a couple of open investigations. One is the front suspension collapse on the 2002 Focuses (the recall only covered 2000 and 2001). Ford says its internal data suggests that the problem did not continue into 2002. We'll let you know what NHTSA decides.

RAY:

And there's still an open investigation into a problem with engine stalling that's related to the fuel-delivery module on 2000 and 2001 models. NHTSA has

(See CLANK, page two)

Behind the Wheel Volvo XC90-Box

by ANN M. JOB
FOR THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Gosh, a lot of American drivers are interested in Volvo's first sport utility vehicle.

Scarcely had the 2003 Volvo XC90 T6 AWD test vehicle shown up curbside than people started stopping to examine it and ask questions. I can't recall a recent Volvo — even the company's C70 convertible — that drew such attention.

Evidently the word is out that this new Volvo is an SUV that's designed to be safer than others, isn't quite as brutish as traditional SUVs and might even be a tad more acceptable

(See WHEEL, page two)

Volvo XC90

BASE PRICE: \$33,350 for two-wheel-drive XC90; \$35,100 for all-wheel-drive model with five-cylinder engine; \$39,975 for all-wheel-drive model with six-cylinder engine.

AS TESTED: \$45,655.

TYPE: Front-engine, all-wheel drive, seven-passenger, mid-size, sport utility vehicle.

ENGINE: 2.9-liter, double-overhead cam, intercooled, twin turbo, inline six-cylinder.

MILEAGE: 15 mpg (city), 20 mpg (highway).

TOP SPEED: 128 mph. L.

OPTIONS: Versatility package (includes third-row seats, third-row air conditioning, self-leveling rear suspension, second-row center cushion) \$1,675; premium package (includes 18-inch alloy wheels, premium sound system with Dolby Pro Logic 2, wood-covered steering wheel, power retractable rearview mirrors) \$1,300; climate package (includes interior air quality system, headlamp washers, heated front seats) \$595; bi-xenon headlights \$500; metallic paint \$450; reverse warning system \$400.

DESTINATION CHARGE: \$660.

TEST DRIVE by Greg Zyla



2003 Nissan Xterra 4x4

This week we test-drive Nissan's popular Xterra SE-SC 4x4 SUV, a capable vehicle that came through a week of 10-inch snowfall with ease. We were especially grateful that Nissan provided the needed 4x4 traction this week, as ice and snow hampered drivers for several days. Not so for the Xterra 4x4. We went where we wanted when we wanted.

Available in either two-wheel or four-wheel drive, the 2003 Xterra is powered by either a four-cylinder or more powerful six-cylinder engine. Not only did our Xterra have the six-banger, it was also fitted with a supercharg-

er for extra power. Xterra is still built on a full chassis, something we look for when recommending an SUV that will see severe-duty driving along the way. It may be a little tougher on ride comfort, but the overall durability and 4x4 abilities are enhanced 10-fold.

Built on Nissan's Frontier pickup-truck platform, Xterra offers excellent ground clearance and a towing capacity of 5,000 pounds, the latter not available in unibody-built competing brands.

Under the hood sits the 3.3-liter V-6, which in standard form produces an acceptable 180 horsepower. The V-6 is standard on all of the 4x4's, but ours also carried

the supercharger that results in 210 horsepower and 246 foot-pounds of torque.

Our fully automatic four-speed transmission performed well, and the easy-to-operate, part-time 4x4 two-speed transfer-case lever, which can be utilized while moving forward, was a breeze. Whenever we needed 4x4 capability, we just pulled back on the lever and a light on the dash indicated 4x4 mode.

Inside, the dashboard is easy to read, although it looked a bit on the "low cost" side with lots of plastics evident. The seats are

(See TEST, page two)

Base Price: \$27,999 • Price tested: \$30,903

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Wheel

to SUV-haters.

After all, the radiator in this biggest Volvo passenger vehicle helps clean ozone out of the air, and nearly all the sheet metal and other metals in the XC90 can be recycled.

In addition, interior fabrics and materials are tested to ensure they are free from hazardous and allergenic substances, and a front subframe structure is designed to keep the XC90 from overrunning small cars in a crash.

The XC90's safety features have received a lot of publicity. They include extra strength boron steel-reinforced roof, automatic-cinching, pre-tensioner seat belts for all riders, standard side curtain airbags for every row of passengers, anti-whiplash front seats and a stability control system.

Shipments of the XC90 began arriving late last year at dealerships.

Early models are fitted with all-wheel drive and have a starting manufacturer's suggested retail price, including destination charge, of \$35,760.

In a few months, a front-wheel-drive model will debut with a starting MSRP, including destination charge, of \$34,010.

Note this is less than the \$35,430 starting price for Volvo's previous SUV attempt, the V70 Cross Country wagon, and compares with the \$37,615 starting price for a 2003 two-wheel-drive Mercedes-Benz ML350 and \$36,200 for a 2003 four-wheel-drive Acura MDX. All MDX models come standard with four-wheel drive.

Recent clinics show that the customers see an SUV as a natural step for Volvo, said Vic Doolan, president and chief executive officer of Volvo Cars of North America.

Indeed, company officials hope the XC90 will help them retain Volvo owners who want an SUV as well as lure new buyers who have never owned a Volvo.

The Swedish-built XC90 actually is based on Volvo's large car platform used by the S80 sedan and delivers a car-like ride.

So, with styling that's more akin to a bulked-up station wagon than a traditional SUV and respectably easy entry for passengers, this new model might also be considered something of a crossover vehicle.

The XC90 uses modified versions of five- and six-cylinder, turbocharged engines already in use in Volvo cars, too.

But the XC90 ranks as the biggest Volvo in the lineup. In

fact, the 15.74-foot-long XC90 is 6.3 inches longer than the ML350 and 5.2 inches longer than BMW's 2003 X5. It's about the same length as the MDX.

The XC90 offers a choice of five- or seven-passenger seating, too, and an SUV-like maximum cargo capacity of 93.2 cubic feet. This compares with some 81 cubic feet in the ML350 and MDX.

Two engines are offered, both turbocharged, making the XC90 the only vehicle in the segment with turbo power only.

The base engine is a 208-horsepower, 2.5-liter, light-pressure, turbocharged five-cylinder capable of generating 236 foot-pounds of torque as low as 1,500 rpm.

The upscale test vehicle, the T6, had the 268-horsepower, 2.9-liter, six-cylinder with intercooled, twin turbo. Torque is 280 foot-pounds coming in as low as 1,800 rpm.

Note the XC90's towing capacity is a healthy 5,000 pounds, the same as the Mercedes-M-Class and more than the MDX.

In the tester, the power was enough to propel the quite heavy XC90 AWD quickly into traffic and provided ready power for passing, even at highway speeds. There was a distracting whine from the turbo on acceleration, however.

The XC90's base engine gets a five-speed automatic, but because of space considerations, the more powerful six-cylinder engine has a four-speed automatic.

In the tester, it managed gear changes mostly smoothly. But the gear shift lever in the center console seemed to lock into the manual mode every time I tried to move the lever simply into "drive."

Note that premium unleaded is the recommended fuel for both

XC90 engines.

The six-cylinder model has the poorest fuel economy rating of any 2003 Volvo — 15 miles a gallon in city driving and 20 mpg on the highway.

This is nearly the same rating as Chevrolet's more traditionally styled SUV, the 2003 Trailblazer with six-cylinder engine and four-wheel drive.

Though mid-sized, the XC90 conveys the feeling of a bigger vehicle. In fact, the broad-shouldered sheet metal and spacious front seats made me drive warily in my first couple of outings as the XC90 felt wide.

But I learned the vehicle, which also felt heavy, maneuvered just fine in parking lots and on narrow side streets.

Steering feel is a bit on the light side, as it is in other Volvos, especially in slow-speed situations such as parking.

The tester had optional, 18-inch tires. The independent front MacPherson strut suspension and independent multilink in back made road bumps feel they were being expertly managed somewhere below, and body motions were nicely controlled.

All-wheel drive works full-time here, putting 95 percent of the power to the front wheels in normal driving with the ability to shift power to the rear wheels through a multi-plate clutch in the rear differential in fractions of a second if needed. The driver doesn't have to do anything to activate the system.

It's coupled with traction control that applies brakes to one or more wheels to halt wheelspin.

Similar all-wheel-drive systems are found on other vehicles, too, such as Mercedes 4Matics.

The XC90's stability system uses electronic braking to help control the vehicle. It works with a gyroscopic sensor that's constantly monitoring to see if a rollover is imminent. If so,

brakes are applied to help regain stability.

The system is expected to make its way into Ford SUVs. Ford Motor Co. owns Volvo.

The XC90 was quite quiet inside except for some wind noise at the front-passenger door of the tester.

I have long appreciated Volvo's quality seats, which work well to reduce fatigue, and the XC90's seats are no exception.

Riders sit up enough to see beyond cars and some other vehicles, and side windows are sizable.

But be aware of the large pillars at each end of the XC90 windshield. They block a driver's view, enough that I nearly missed a pickup coming down a cross street.

Also, the third-row seats for two are optional on all but the upscale six-cylinder model. Legroom is just 30.1 inches back there.

Volvo officials project sales of some 39,000 XC90s annually in the United States.

Fifty-five percent of buyers are expected to be men, with 85 percent married, Volvo officials said.

They're expected to be 45 years of age, some 2 years younger than current Volvo buyers, with median household income of \$145,000. Some 30 percent will have postgraduate degrees, and 40 percent are likely to have three or more other vehicles at home, the company said.

Because the XC90 is a new vehicle, Consumer Reports magazine does not list owner trouble reports.

Also because of the newness of the XC90, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration does not list crash test ratings, and there have been no safety recalls.

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Test

acceptable, offering a height-adjustable driver seat with a manual lumbar-support setting. We folded down one of the split rear seats, and easily moved a 7-foot Christmas tree. There is ample leg and headroom. Cup holders are convenient, and 12-volt plug outlets fore and aft offer power for kid games, computers or what have you. There is even an on-board fire extinguisher.

Our model included a load of standard features, from air conditioning to Electronic Brake Force Distribution. Things like privacy glass, in-dash six-disc CD player with AM/FM stereo, undercarriage skid plates, gauge and tachometer package, 17-inch all-season tires mated to alloy wheels, dual power mirrors,

cruise, all the powers, keyless entry, fog lamps, tilt-steering with radio touch controls and four-wheel anti-lock brakes. We'd like to see four-wheel discs, too, but for now it's a front-disc/rear-drum setup.

On the road, be ready to go where you please. On rough roads, the Xterra lets you know it's built on a full chassis. However, freeway driving is comfortable. Xterra is sturdy and strong, and the suspension is double wishbone in front with front and rear stabilizers.

Important numbers include a 104.3-inch wheelbase, 19.4-gallon fuel tank that requires premium fuel, EPA numbers of 15 mpg city and 18 mpg highway and a gross vehicle weight of 4,090

Continued from p1

pounds.

Pricing is very impressive. If a consumer opts for the six-cylinder 2x4 you can park one in your driveway for less than \$18,000. For a top-of-the-line model like ours, you'll need \$30,903. Included in the price were options like a sunroof package (\$349); side impact airbags (\$499); splash guards (\$89); a Rugged Leather package (\$999); floor mats (\$79); and a tow package (\$349). Add the final destination charge of \$540 to the \$27,999 base, and we arrive at the final bottom line.

We loved Xterra during our snow-covered week, and we recommend this vehicle as a must drive if you are shopping in this category.

Clank

upgraded that investigation to an "engineering analysis," which is the next step up the ladder toward a possible recall. We'll follow that one, too.

TOM:

So, while many of the open investigations have been resolved, we're still dismayed at what we consider the "rookie mistakes" that Ford made on this car. I mean, engine fires and wheels falling off were things we thought the industry solved ages ago.

RAY:

So, it's hard for us to tell you it's fine to go buy one now. We simply don't know whether the problems have truly been solved, or whether more will pop up. We won't know that until the 2003s have been on the road for a few years.

TOM:

We still like the way the car drives. It's got a good warranty now, and it's a lot of car for the money, relative to the competition. But given its history, you need to have your eyes open if you decide to buy one. Let us know how yours does, Patrick. And we'll keep folks posted on any other news from NHTSA.

Car: Secrets Only Your Mechanic Knows." Send \$4.50 (check or money order) to Used Car, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475.

Got a question about cars? Write to Click and Clack in care of this newspaper, or e-mail them by visiting the Car Talk section of cars.com on the World Wide Web.

Regulating AC temperature

by TOM AND RAY MAGLIOZZI

Dear Tom and Ray:

Here is a question that I'm sure the dealer will not have a correct answer for. When I ran my car's air conditioner (2003 Toyota Corolla), the air is too cold. I've been instructed to turn the temperature dial to a warmer setting. What does this do? Does it just air-condition the air and then heat it up again? In which case, is this a really inefficient way to cool a car? Or does it run the compressor less, and therefore use less power from the engine? — Jim

RAY:

It just mixes in warm air, Jim. The air-conditioning compressor has only one setting (well, two on some cars with an "economy" option). And when it's on and cycling, the only way to regulate the temperature is to mix

Continued from p1

in heat to make it "less cool."

TOM:

It is somewhat inefficient, but at least the heat is free — it's taken from the heat that's naturally created by the engine. So it's not costing you any MORE in gas consumption than just running the air conditioner would.

RAY:

By the way, this is exactly the way lots of climate-control systems work. They run the air conditioner and then regulate the temperature by turning up the heat.

TOM:

Turning up the heat. That's what I've been trying to do to my brother to get back the 200 bucks he owes me.

Which is cheaper, buying or leasing? Should you keep a car forever or dump it after three years, before trouble starts? Find out in Tom and Ray's pamphlet "Should I Buy, Lease, or Steal My Next Car?" Send \$4.50 (check or money order) to Next Car, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475.

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