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Board votes to sign reciprocal agreements

by KATHY J. PRATER
FEATURES EDITOR

Parents keep right to choose children's schools

PRESTONSBURG — The controversial issue of whether or not Floyd County students would be allowed to continue to exercise their freedom of choice in deciding where to attend school was finally laid to rest at Monday evening's meeting of the

Floyd County Board of Education. A "standing room only" crowd of concerned parents, many with children in tow, appeared at the meeting to address the board during the public comment segment of the meeting. Several parents spoke,

voicing concerns over their right to choose where their children attend school. Some informed the board that their children attended schools in neighboring counties due to convenience, others because they felt their children were

receiving better educations than Floyd County schools seemed to have to offer. Following a motion made by board member Mickey McGuire, district 1, the board voted unanimously to continue reciprocal agreements with neighboring counties, allowing parents to continue to freely

(See AGREEMENTS, page eleven)

Little League Signups

— Section B

briefs

SBA offering guidance to flood victims

MARTIN — The Small Business Administration will be at the Floyd County Community Center in Martin this week and next week to talk with people about FEMA and low-interest loans for businesses and homes damaged during the flood.

Homeland security to be discussed at PCC

PRESTONSBURG — Ray Nelson, Kentucky director of homeland security will be coming to Prestonsburg Community College Monday, March 31, from 1 to 2:30 p.m. to present a program on security measures against terrorism, foreign and domestic.

Nelson will discuss how individuals can protect themselves against terrorist attack and the aftermath. His presentation will focus on both the college and general community, what to look for, how to react, what not to do and procedures for staying safe. The public is welcome to attend this presentation along with students and employees.

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STATE-BOUND



Betsy Layne High School students and fans gathered for a pep rally and motorcade Monday evening to celebrate the girls' basketball team's 15th Region championship and entry into the Sweet Sixteen. The Lady Cats square off against Campbell County in first round tonight in Bowling Green. Tip-off is scheduled for 7:30 p.m.

Photo by Steve LeMaster

New board member keeps meeting lively with questions

by KATHY J. PRATER
FEATURES EDITOR

PRESTONSBURG — The newest member of the Floyd County Board of Education, Prestonsburg attorney Earl M. "Mickey" McGuire, district 1 representative, allowed his years of courtroom experience to show throughout the evening during Monday's meeting, held at Adams Middle School, as he managed to keep the spirit of debate alive and

well on several board-related issues. McGuire posed pointed questions to both fellow members and administrative staff in regard to issues surrounding special education, the county dropout rate, budget allocations, gender and racial discrimination, and what could be termed as an eagerness to move hastily into litigation. McGuire stressed a need "to just listen to parents" and to "act in a conscientious manner" as steps toward improving the long troubled school

system. "I think if we did, we wouldn't find so many students going to other counties," he said.

Special education

As Ruth Blackburn, director of special education in Floyd County schools, and Debbie Preston, special needs consultant, approached the board to request additional special education staffing for the

(See MCGUIRE, page three)

Jailer advises expanding, not closing jail

by SHELDON COMPTON
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — With talks of money problems possibly closing the Floyd County Detention Center less than a week old, Floyd County Jailer Roger Webb says he has a plan that could fix the problem.

Some options to increase income for the facility have already been mentioned during the fiscal court's regular meeting last Friday. Among those was a suggestion that county inmates be charged an unspecified amount to be housed, if convicted.

But court officials admitted the suggestion was weak, when considering enforcing payments.

Webb says expansion could be the answer. Approximately a year ago, residents of the county saw the juvenile detention center closed due to cutbacks, but the empty top floor of the building could now be used to

(See JAILER, page ten)

Ethics panel issues charges against Patton

by CHARLES WOLFE
ASSOCIATED PRESS

FRANKFORT — A state ethics panel Tuesday charged that Gov. Paul Patton did official favors for a former mistress, putting her on the lottery board and helping one of her companies.

Patton has acknowledged the affair with Tina Conner but has consistently denied misusing his

(See PATTON, page three)



Patton

U.S. troops fight off attack by Iraqi troops

by DAVID ESPO
AP SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

American infantry troops fought off a desert attack by Iraqis on Tuesday, inflicting heavy casualties in a clash less than 100 miles from Baghdad. British forces battled for control of Basra, a city of 1.3 million souls sliding toward chaos.

Defense officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said between 150 and 500 Iraqis were killed in the battle near An Najaf,

adding there were no immediate reports of American casualties.

Iraqis launched their attack on a day of howling sandstorms — weather bad enough to slow the U.S.-led drive toward the Iraqi capital.

Despite the adverse weather in some parts of Iraq, U.S.-led warplanes bombed targets in the northern part of the country and briefly knocked government television off the air in the capital. And U.S.

(See WAR, page ten)



KRT Photo by David Leeson/Dallas Morning News
Infantry with Task Force 2-69 Armor of the 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division from Fort Benning, Ga., disembark from a Bradley Fighting Vehicle to surround a man who was stopped for suspicious activity somewhere in Iraq on Monday, March 24. An AK47 automatic rifle and ammunition were found in the man's vehicle.

Family says Kentucky soldier wounded in Iraq

The Associated Press

MANCHESTER — A soldier from Eastern Kentucky is recovering after being ambushed by Iraqi forces in southern Iraq on Sunday, his family said.

James Grubb, a mechanic with the 507th Maintenance, part of the 111th Air Defense Artillery Brigade, stationed at Fort Bliss, Texas, was shot three times, his grandmother, Della Grubb, told The

(See SOLDIER, page ten)

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Odds and Ends

■ **PINE BLUFF, Ark.** — Somebody finally started putting two and two together, and when the count was finished, the total was 11.

That's the number of sets of twins in the 520-student seventh grade at Southeast Junior High School.

"I'm not sure any school, anywhere, has as many twins in one grade as Southeast," said Juanita Curry, a school counselor.

Assistant Principal Cheryl Hatley said even the students didn't realize how many look-alikes there were in the class until someone came up with a twin total.

Southeast's twins say they don't consider themselves any different from other youngsters.

"We're just regular people," said 13-year-old Anthony Hatchett, a fraternal twin of

Adrienne. "It's not like you see on TV."

Twins Brittney and Whitney Lee are identical in appearance, but disagreed as to whether or not their teachers could tell them apart. They have used the obvious to their advantage at least once, back when they were in the second grade.

"We switched classes once," Brittney said last week, "and switched back at noon. Nobody ever knew."

■ **HARRISBURG, Pa.** — Pennsylvania gained a new state senator this week, but he didn't stay in the state too long.

State Sen. John Pippy, R-Allegheny, an Army reservist whose campaign for office ran headlong into his military duties, was sworn in Monday afternoon during a brief ceremony at the state Capitol squeezed in between stints at an Army post.

Pippy, on a one-day pass, took the oath of office from Superior Court Judge Joan Orié Melvin. Less than two hours later, he was driving back to the Army's 332nd Engineer Company in Aberdeen, Md., for evening training exercises. Pippy, a captain, commands the unit.

"It'll be appropriate to celebrate the victory when I return," Pippy said before entering a Republican party caucus that preceded his departure.

The question of Pippy's eligibility to serve as both soldier and statesman was called into question until Deputy Secretary of Defense Paul Wolfowitz issued a waiver permitting Pippy to run for office. The Army at one point had said he could not hold both positions.

■ **BELLEVUE, Wash.** — Call it a \$5,000 panty raid.

That's the estimated value of 300 sets of skivvies taken from Victoria's Secret in Bellevue Square.

"It's very unusual. It's shoplifting to the max," said

Marcia Harnden, a police spokeswoman in this suburb east of Seattle.

An employee noticed the panties in a variety of colors, styles and sizes were missing shortly before 5 p.m. Sunday, Harnden said. Each cost \$15 to \$28.

Two display tables at the front of the store were cleared of the frilly, silky merchandise, and two other tables, one next to the cash register, were half-emptied, she said.

Police don't think it was an inside job. "All the employees were busy" with customers, and no one noticed any suspicious shoppers, Harnden said.

"It's probably a crime of opportunity," Harnden said.

Police may check flea markets and online auction sites, Harnden said, "but if I were the consumer, I'd be very leery about buying undergarments

from a disreputable source."

■ **SAN DIEGO** — Love was in the air at the San Diego Zoo this weekend.

Gao Gao, an 11-year-old male giant panda who recently arrived from China, mated three times Saturday with Bai Yun, the San Diego Zoo's resident female panda.

"We just couldn't believe that this could come off so quickly," said Don Lindburg, head of the zoo's panda team. "I am beyond surprised."

Researchers are optimistic that the panda mating — a first in San Diego Zoo history — may yield another cub.

Bai Yun gave birth to a cub in 1999 after she was artificially inseminated.

Gao Gao arrived from China in mid-January, replacing Shi Shi, a 26-year-old male, who returned to China earlier this

year after years of showing more interest in bamboo than in mating with Bai Yun.

"We had year after year of frustration," Lindburg said. "To have this naive individual at his first opportunity perform in this way was pretty special."

Gao Gao showed intense interest in 12-year-old Bai Yun from the get-go. The pandas were taken off public display and given privacy after biologists determined Bai Yun had entered a rare period of fertility.

■ **LINCOLN, Neb.** — A Shetland pony with the Shrine Circus took his show on the road.

The 7-year-old pony named Fort Worth stopped traffic in downtown Lincoln and attracted a posse of police when he bolted through a Pershing Auditorium

(See **ODDS**, page six)

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Today in History

The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, March 26, the 85th day of 2002. There are 280 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On March 26, 1982, groundbreaking ceremonies took place in Washington D.C. for the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

On this date:

■ In 1804, the Louisiana Purchase was divided into the Territory of Orleans and the District of Louisiana.

■ In 1827, composer Ludwig van Beethoven died in Vienna.

■ In 1875, poet Robert Frost was born in San Francisco.

■ In 1892, poet Walt Whitman died in Camden, N.J.

■ In 1911, playwright Tennessee Williams was born in Columbus, Miss.

■ In 1958, the U.S. Army launched America's third successful satellite, "Explorer Three."

■ In 1962, the U.S. Supreme Court gave federal courts the power to order reapportionment of seats in a state legislature, a decision that eventually led to the doctrine of "one man, one vote."

■ In 1971, East Pakistan proclaimed its independence, taking the name Bangladesh.

■ In 1979, the Camp David peace treaty was signed by Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin and Egyptian President Anwar Sadat at the White House.

■ In 1997, the bodies of 39 members of the Heaven's Gate techno-religious cult who'd committed suicide were found inside a mansion in Rancho Santa Fe, Calif.

Ten years ago:

President Clinton promised a "full-court press" against Bosnian Serbs to secure their agreement to a United Nations peace plan endorsed by Bosnian Muslims and Croats.

Five years ago:

President Clinton stood with President Nelson Mandela in a racially integrated South African parliament to salute a country that was "truly free and democratic at last." The federal government endorsed a new HIV test that yields instant results.

One year ago:

Yasser Arafat decided not to attend a key Arab summit in Beirut, Lebanon; his Cabinet accused Israel of trying to "blackmail" the Palestinian leader with tough conditions for letting him go. Arthur Andersen chief executive Joseph

Berardino resigned, bowing to mounting pressure as a result of the accounting firm's role in the Enron scandal. President Bush nominated Dr. Richard Carmona to be surgeon general.

Today's Birthdays:

Retired Army Gen. William C. Westmoreland is 89. Jazz musician James Moody is 78. Conductor-composer Pierre Boulez is 78. Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor is 73. Actor-director Leonard Nimoy is 72. Actor Alan Arkin is 69. Actor James Caan is 63.

(See **HISTORY**, page six)

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Patton

Continued from p1

office. He said Tuesday he would "vigorously defend" himself against the allegations.

The Executive Branch Ethics Commission, which has only civil jurisdiction, issued four charges. It said it found "probable cause" to believe that Patton "used or attempted to use his official position" in ways that posed a conflict between his personal life and public duties.

If upheld after a hearing, the maximum penalty it could impose on Patton would be a \$5,000 fine and a public reprimand on each count, commis-

sion Chairman Joseph Helm and general counsel Boyce A. Crocker said.

In its order, the commission alleged that Patton intervened to get a construction company owned by Conner and her husband, Seth Conner, certified as a "disadvantaged business enterprise." That would entitle the company, ST Construction, to preferential treatment from the Transportation Cabinet as a highway subcontractor. No state contract was awarded, according to the administration.

Patton's public defense has

been that Conner was treated like any other constituent. Patton said he asked Transportation Secretary James Codell III to take a look at ST Construction's application but that he never ordered Codell to have it approved.

The commission also alleged that Patton influenced a decision by the Transportation Cabinet's vehicle-enforcement division to promote an officer, Monty Clark, with whom Tina Conner was friendly.

The cabinet's inspector general reached a similar conclu-

sion in a report issued March 5. The report said Patton's inquiry on Clark's behalf spurred the division commander to create a sergeant's slot that eventually went to Clark in 1999.

Patton said he did not remember making the call but would not deny it. Clark later was demoted. He declined comment to The Associated Press on Tuesday.

The two other counts allege that it was because of the affair that Tina Conner was appointed to the Kentucky Lottery Corp. board of directors and Seth

Conner was appointed to the Kentucky Agricultural Development Board. The Conners have since divorced.

The commission said nothing about Tina Conner's allegation that Patton retaliated against her after their affair by turning state regulators loose on a nursing home she owned in Clinton. She eventually lost the nursing home, Birchtree Healthcare, in bankruptcy.

Patton read a brief statement to reporters and declined to take questions. The ethics commission "has merely initiated a hearing," he said. "I will vigorously defend myself against these allegations. As I have said before, I have made mistakes in my private life, but I have not abused my office. I am confident that when the commission's hearing is completed, that fact will be clear to the citizens of Kentucky."

Patton's attorney, Sheryl Snyder of Louisville, could not be reached for comment.

Tina Conner told WHAS-TV

in Louisville she had been "truthful about my involvement in all of these matters to the ethics commission and to the public."

"I think it's the governor's opportunity to respond to these charges brought by the ethics commission, and it's my hope that in the interest of the people of the commonwealth that he will be truthful and take responsibility," she said.

Patton's affair became public in September when Conner disclosed it in interviews with WHAS-TV. Patton initially denied it, then gave a tearful confession on statewide television. The governor and first lady Judi Patton have only rarely appeared together since.

Conner sued Patton for sexual harassment, which a judge later dismissed. Some other charges in her suit - outrageous conduct and intentionally inflicting emotional distress - are pending in Franklin County

(See PATTON, page ten)

McGuire

Continued from p1



photo by Kathy J. Prater

Members of the Betsy Layne High School girls' softball team showed up in full force Monday evening to address the Floyd County Board of Education in regard to what they consider to be unfair treatment towards a "female sport." The team expressed its dismay with promises not kept in regard to the erection of a scoreboard, construction of a walkway and the removal of the team concession stand. The girls' softball season begins in one week.

remainder of the current school year, McGuire questioned the two in regard to the process of evaluating and identifying special needs children, as well as the viable possibility of locating certified special education teachers this near the end of the school year.

Asking the two administrative personnel how they planned to locate available certified teachers at this time of the year, McGuire also posed questions in regard to how many individuals are currently employed by the school system to instruct special needs children "under emergency certificates."

Blackburn answered, "Not as many as there have been in the past. Several have become certified." She told McGuire that she did know exact numbers "off the top of her head."

"Can you give me a ballpark figure," McGuire queried. "Less than a dozen?," he asked.

"Yes," Blackburn responded, adding that the postings for certified special education teachers would be added to a statewide website.

McGuire expressed concerns in regard to the dropout rate among special education students, as well as others, by asking, "Does any school have higher dropout rates in any other category?"

Debbie Daniels, director of instruction, added that attendance played an "important part in dropout rates," to which McGuire asked, "Well, how are we going to do better? How are we actually going to decrease our dropout rate?"

McGuire requested that a plan of action along those terms be developed and presented to the board by June of this year.

The special education teachers, should they be located and hired, would hold their positions only until the end of the current school year, with the projected cost of salaries being "no more than \$26,500."

School staffing

Another point of budgetary contention arose when Prestonsburg High School Principal Ronald Hampton approached the board to request additional staffing at his school.

According to Hampton, his school "has the largest average classes of any high school in the district." He added that due to current allocation formulas, "a school of 383 [student enrollment] equals one program added staff per every 191.5 children," whereas a school with a student enrollment of 613, as with PHS, the current allocation formula provides for "one program added staff for each 306.5 children."

Hampton said that by adding "another 1.2 program added

staff" to his high school, the school would then be "allocated equally with the schools with the lowest projected enrollment and our pupil/staff ratio would drop from 20.3 to 19.5."

Hampton added that his school "lost 6.5 positions last year" due to budget cuts. He said he and the members of his school's site-based decision making council fear that the possibility of future staffing cuts would "make it impossible to teach the basic core content in one or more of the seven core content areas of the CATS test."

Mallory Ousley, PHS student representative to the board, who took a seat at Monday evening's table, agreed with Hampton, sharing with board members that students at her school desire a "wider variety of classes" to be offered.

"I took home economics last year," Ousley said, "and this year, it wasn't even offered."

McGuire agreed with both Hampton and Ousley, saying that "Mallory and the students at PHS should not suffer because your [Supt. Fanning] staff calculated an unequal allocation. They should also not suffer because the PHS staff did not complain sooner."

Matt Wireman, board finance director, took issue with McGuire's statement, saying that the budget calculations had not been calculated unequally. Wireman said that the allocations were made fairly in the original timeframe that they had been composed.

Carol Stumbo, board chair, district 4, said that she believes that all allocations should be made according to "need."

McGuire countered, saying that "however much money you have, it should be divided equally among each of the schools, not disproportionately. It's just not fair if it's not equitable."

The board agreed to take no action on the item during Monday's meeting and to bring the issue back for further discussion at a later date.

In the interim, Hampton requested that board members "look at this closely, as a chance to do something for academics."

Gender and race

The always-controversial issues of gender and racial discrimination also came before the board Monday evening through the appearance of the Betsy Layne High School girls' softball team and through a report issued through Assistant Superintendent Pete Grigsby as a response to an article that appeared in the Feb. 20 edition of the Lexington Herald-Leader.

Tricia Newsome appeared before the board members as spokesperson for the BLHS

girls' softball team to voice complaints in regard to "promises" made and not kept.

"We are about to start our third season on this field," Newsome said. "We were promised a scoreboard, we have no scoreboard. We were promised a walkway, and we have no walkway. We have to walk through mud and rock to get to our field. Then came the final slap in our face when our concession stand was unplugged and pulled away in order to make room for a road to the football field. This, one week before our season is to begin."

Newsome went on to explain that the girls' field has had "no maintenance" and that she and her team members feel that because they represent a "female sport" they have been subject to unfair treatment.

"A lot of money has been outright stolen [from our sport/team], and we'll not tolerate being treated as second-hand citizens anymore," she said.

Board chair Carol Stumbo suggested to the team that they speak with the school principal about the matter, while new member McGuire responded by telling the team, "You shouldn't have to face an inquiry. This should be taken care of."

Board member Jeff Stumbo, district 3, assured all that he felt that "Dr. Fanning will look into the issue and get some kind of response back to us."

McGuire stood adamant in his belief that "We should make sure that boys and girls are treated equally." He also asked in defense of the team, "Can their concession stand be pulled back?" and whether or not any of the "extra money" currently said to be in the budget could be used to "buy a new concession stand for the girls."

In regard to the subject of alleged racial discrimination in Floyd County schools, it was reported in February by the Lexington Herald-Leader that out of 16 African-American students attending Floyd County schools in the 2000-2001 school year, 11 were suspended, with four of the students having been suspended "several times," according to Asst. Supt. Grigsby's report. In the 2001-2002 school year, African-American students totaled 22, with three suspensions.

Grigsby reported that he felt the numbers comparing Floyd County to those of Fayette, Jefferson and Harlan counties were disproportionate and that "behavior punishments are distorted when small numbers are compared with larger numbers."

"The article looked horrible on Floyd County," said Joyce Watson. "We did not take it lightly."

McGuire had to say on the issue that "it looks like what's happened is a bunch of white people went out and decided that we didn't do anything wrong. Did you talk with any of the black students. Did you talk with any of the black parents?"

He went on to report an incident that occurred in his private practice when a Floyd County parent came to him and reported that her child had been called "nigger" on the school bus that he was scheduled to travel on. McGuire reported that the parent had been dissatisfied with the reactions of school administration and officials that she had spoken with.

"This parent felt as though no one really seemed to care," McGuire said. "Had this happened in Fayette County, or in Louisville, something much bigger would have happened, but it happened in Floyd County."

The report in question concerning "unequal student punishment" was based on documenta-

tion gathered by Spalding University's National Institute on Children in Louisville and the Children's Law Center in Covington.

Following a brief executive session, the board returned to make a motion to move ahead with "litigation proceedings" involving a confidential issue. Again, McGuire voiced disapproval.

Saying that litigation proceedings can prove to be "very expensive," McGuire said that he felt the decision to move ahead in this manner was one that was not in the best interest of the county system.

"We don't relegate money to PHS, but we move ahead and decide to begin litigation when we don't even know how much that litigation will cost," he said. "I vote no. I'm not saying that this is a wrong move, entirely, I just think we should analyze the cost and see the numbers we're working with."

Board chair Stumbo said that she "felt certain" that the board's attorney would guide them accurately in the matter and the board gave its authorization to proceed with litigation.

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Viewpoint

Worth Repeating ...

"We can't all be heroes because someone has to sit on the curb and clap as they go by."

— Will Rogers

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

History lessons from Bull Run, WWII, Korea

On July 21, 1861, residents of Washington packed their picnic lunches, hitched their horses to their wagons and set off to watch the North whup the South, to put a quick end to a war that didn't yet have a name. Five hours and 460 dead Union soldiers later, the partygoers had a better sense of the nature of war.

Firepower and CNN notwithstanding, there seemed a parallel to the circumstances of Bull Run in the voyeurism with which Americans watched spellbound as tank after tank after tank rolled through Iraq Thursday and Friday, rapidly and almost bloodlessly. By a sad Sunday morning, TV viewers had a better sense of the nature of war.

Nine Marines were reported killed on some surprising battlefields, a dozen soldiers were reported missing, two British airmen perished when a Patriot missile shot their plane down, and an American in Kuwait died when a troubled comrade used grenades to try to blow up his commanders. Meanwhile, Iraqi troops put some of their frightened and apparently battered captives on TV. And U.S. leaders were trying to persuade Turkey to keep its soldiers out of northern Iraq and a potential battle with our allies there.

"This is going to get a lot harder. Anybody that thinks it is going to be quick and easy is wrong," said Richard Myers, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

How tough the war will get and how long it will last are questions that may not find their answers until the troops get to Baghdad. But anyone who believed that precision bombs, control of the air and superior technology - not to mention a joyous Iraqi welcome - would make for a painless fight must figure now he was wrong.

Americans old enough to remember Vietnam, Korea or World War II know better, and it's not coincidental that many were wary about picking a fight. Now a new generation is learning why. That's too bad.

— The Peoria (Ill.) Journal Star



Sticks & Stones

Closing the jail could be a quiet defeat

Officials are saying the Floyd County Detention Center can't be closed ... the county can't afford it, they say. But, on the other hand, taxpayers can't continue to see their hard-earned money taken from the county's pocket and put into the jail either.

So then, coming up with some workable answers must be accomplished, but fixing things becomes more difficult when priorities are considered.

For Jailer Roger Webb, fighting to save the jail must be a matter of pride because, by all rights, he would still

have a job as there would still be a need for a jailer, even without a jail. He might see his staff dwindle, along with his paycheck, but he would still have a job. Then again, pride may be a nonfactor. Maybe he's just grown comfortable being the second-highest paid elected official in the county.

Judge-Executive Paul Hunt Thompson will probably get moving to cure the income woes of the facility because tax paying voters can get loud, and also because things like coal severance tax is more than a little handy to have around.

District 2 Magistrate Jackie Edford Owens says the problem will come down to choosing between closing the jail or closing the county road department. He is getting hassled about fixing potholes in his district and has to tell his

voters that the money set aside to get the work done is being siphoned away.

But some of the facts don't need a mouthpiece.

For instance, Floyd County, far from being the wealthiest county in the state, is, however, its second-largest producer of natural gas and we might have to watch several hundred thousand dollars of that money used to keep our jail afloat.

Over half a million dollars of our coal severance tax could be applied to the jail's budget to offset a stale, if not failing, income.

There goes what little atonement there was for my grandfather's black



SHELDON COMPTON

lung cough. Webb, who says "crime is the cul-

(See STICKS, page seven)

Letters

Setting the record straight

Regarding House Bill 210, it seems as though some individuals have been misinformed and are somewhat confused on the price of the renewal fees. The biggest fees will be to the continued education educators. There has been a misconception on this matter.

The annual renewal license fee for each type of license renewal is as follows:

- Apprentice cosmetologist, \$20, up from \$10.
- Cosmetologist, \$20, up from \$12.
- Nail technician, \$20, up from \$10.
- Beauty salon, \$25, up from \$15.
- Nail salon, \$25, up from \$15.

■ Apprentice instructor of cosmetology, \$25, up from \$15.

■ Instructor of cosmetology, \$35, up from \$25. If you should have any questions, please feel free to contact the Kentucky State Board of Hairdressers in Frankfort at (502) 564-4262 or Edith Dotson at (606) 886-6547.

Edith Dotson
Prestonsburg

Many good nursing homes available

After reading a letter in the Sunday edition, March 9, of the Appalachian News-Express, from Jane Marshall, of Clarksville, Tenn., the staff at Parkview Nursing and Rehabilitation Center asked

me to respond. My response was published in its entirety in the next edition of the Appalachian News-Express. On March 19, the same letter from Jane Marshall was printed in The Floyd County Times and, again, we feel compelled to respond.

Few people choose to go into a nursing home. The decision is usually forced by a sudden decline in their health or mental abilities, or the realization that they can no longer get the kind of care they need at home or from family caregivers. The decision-maker is usually a family member or close friend.

Many families feel guilty about moving loved ones into nursing homes, yet some people are actually happier being around other people and getting regular meals and medical attention. They may actually feel more independent when they no longer have to rely on family or friends to

take care of them. Still, it is not an easy choice, and the decision is even harder because bad care in nursing homes is often in the news, whereas, good care is seldom mentioned.

As for convictions for abuse of residents, Ms. Marshall may want to become more informed. Nursing facility administrators, owners and operators are legally liable for adhering to regulations related to the provision of care in nursing facilities. In Saint Louis, Mo., the president and former nursing home operator of American Healthcare Management received a one-year jail sentence for failure to report abuse, and the person guilty of abuse was sentenced to 15 years in prison. Also, seldom publicized is the neglect and abuse some of our elderly citizens are

(See LETTERS, page five)

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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Health Extra

Hospital patients may face risks from vaccinated doctors, health care workers

by LINDSEY TANNER
AP MEDICAL WRITER

CHICAGO — More than half of all New York state hospital patients may face an increased risk of complications from contact with smallpox-vaccinated health care workers, a study suggests.

With the voluntary vaccination of health care workers under way nationwide, the study's results underscore the need for strict adherence to safety guidelines, the researchers said.

The federal Centers of Disease Control and Prevention recommends daily inspection and bandaging of the vaccine site, meticulous hand-washing after contact and administrative leave if vaccination-related complications develop.

"Successful implementation of this policy will require the complete cooperation of every vaccinated health-care worker to avoid complications among vulnerable hospital patients," said the study by Dr. Perry Smith and Hwa-Gan Chang of New York's health department and Dr. Kent Sepkowitz of Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York.

The study appears in Wednesday's Journal of the American Medical Association.

The smallpox vaccine is made with a live virus called vaccinia that can infect those who come into contact with

people who have been vaccinated. Such infections are called contact vaccinia.

The CDC says no doctor-to-patient cases have been reported in the voluntary program in which more than 21,000 health care workers have been vaccinated since January.

The researchers examined

data on 2.4 million patients discharged from New York hospitals in 2001; about 1.3 million of them had conditions that may put them at increased risk for contact vaccinia.

Those at increased risk include: newborns; patients with immune system diseases; those with skin conditions

including eczema; and cancer patients and others on immunosuppressing medication.

The CDC has estimated that between 15 percent and 18 percent of the general population has an at-risk condition. The percentage among hospitalized patients naturally would be higher.

Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month

In Kentucky, during the 2001 fiscal year, rape crisis centers served nearly 7,000 female and over 1,000 male unduplicated victims of sexual victimization and nearly 2,000 unduplicated family and friends. Also in fiscal year 2001, the rape crisis centers answered 10,788 crisis calls, responded to 1,196 requests for hospital advocacy, 2,673 requests for criminal justice advocacy and provided 59,673 counseling sessions.

Sexual assault is a broad category of actions in which sexual acts and/or sexual innuendos are performed without consent upon a person who is not able to give consent. It may involve physical or non-physical contact. Sexual assault is the name for many different sexual crimes, including sodomy, incest, indecent expo-

sure, sexual harassment, child sexual abuse, stalking, rape and attempted rape, fondling, molestation and pornography. It may involve the use of force or coercion, including the use of threats, pressure, intimidation, bribes, blackmail and lies.

Sexual assault may also involve the threat or use of guns, knives, battering or abduction of the victim, family members or pets, as well as the threat of destruction of property. Sexual assault can happen to any person of any gender and any age. Sexual assault offenders can be strangers but are more often family members, spouses, dates, neighbors, friends or co-workers. Most sexual assaults take place among acquaintances in the home of the victim or the assailant. Victims of sexual

assault include males as well as females and all age categories, from infancy to old age. Sex offenders are not motivated by sexual desires but by power and anger. One out of every three females and one out of every six males will be sexually abused before age 18.

Most survivors experience a range of trauma symptoms. Many survivors feel they would rather have died than have survived the assault. Based on the U.S. Census estimates of the number of adult women in the United States, approximately 1.3 million women currently have rape-related post-traumatic stress disorder and over 200,000 women will develop post-traumatic stress disorder each year.

In years past, September was designated Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month in Kentucky. However, because of the events leading up to the tragedy of Sept. 11, the Kentucky Association of Sexual Assault Programs decided to observe March as Sexual

(See AWARE, page six)

Letters

subjected to in their own homes or homes of family members.

If you are looking for a nursing home, you may discover that there are some you should avoid. However, there are many good nursing homes. Residents and families are happy with the quality of care they receive at Parkview Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. We have received letters and other communications thanking us for making parents and grandparent's lives happier and more meaningful. While care-giving work is physically demanding, most nursing facility workers feel their work is fulfilling and take pride in the care they provide. All employees of nursing facilities undergo criminal record checks before they are employed. In addition, nursing facility management is required to check a state maintained abuse registry to assure any one who was ever found to have abused (mentally, physically, or verbally) a nursing home resident will never work in a nursing facility again.

Nursing facilities are highly regulated by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (formerly HCFA), the federal agency that oversees Medicare and Medicaid (CMS). CMS has a web site to help people in their search for a nursing home. Nursing Home Compare includes A Guide to Choosing a Nursing Home; information about all Medicare and Medicaid nursing homes by city and state and how they performed on their last inspection; a directory of state long-term care ombudsman programs and state survey agencies, and other useful information.

Other things you can do to assure you or your loved one receives good quality care is be involved and involve your loved one in the decision-making process. This will help to build acceptance of this major change in his or her life and trust in you as a caregiver.

Make a list of nursing homes available in the area and visit during weekends and evenings.

Other sources of information include:

■ The local or state long-term care ombudsman, who is

an advocate for nursing home residents.

■ Hospital discharge planning and social workers.

■ Physicians, nurses, and other healthcare providers.

If you are concerned about cost — if your loved one cannot pay with his or her own money for as long as it may be necessary — consider nursing homes that are certified for Medicare and Medicaid. Medicare does not pay for long nursing home stays. However, it will pay for short periods of skilled nursing facility care when a patient has been in the hospital at least three days and needs continued care. If your loved one is a resident in a nursing home that accepts Medicare, it will pay for his or her care during any peri-

od he or she is eligible for the benefit. Medicaid does pay for long nursing home stays for those whose income and savings will not cover the cost. About 70 percent of all nursing home residents receive assistance from Medicaid.

After you find the right facility, voice concerns as they arise. Keep the staff informed of your expectations, and exercise your rights as a resident or family member.

Thank you for this opportunity to talk about nursing homes in general and Parkview Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in particular.

Judith Branham, MBA, NHA Administrator, Parkview Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, Pikeville

Thank You Note

The Hughes family wishes to thank Riverview Health Care Center.

On Sunday, March 15, in company of numerous family and friends, Earl and Ruby Hughes celebrated 60 years of marriage at Riverview Health Care Center in Prestonsburg, KY. This event would not have been possible without the help of Pam Pennington, Activities Director at Riverview, and the Prestonsburg Transport ambulance service. The Hughes family wishes to acknowledge and express heartfelt appreciation to these individuals, as well as to Deana Sparkman and other members of the administration and staff at Riverview.

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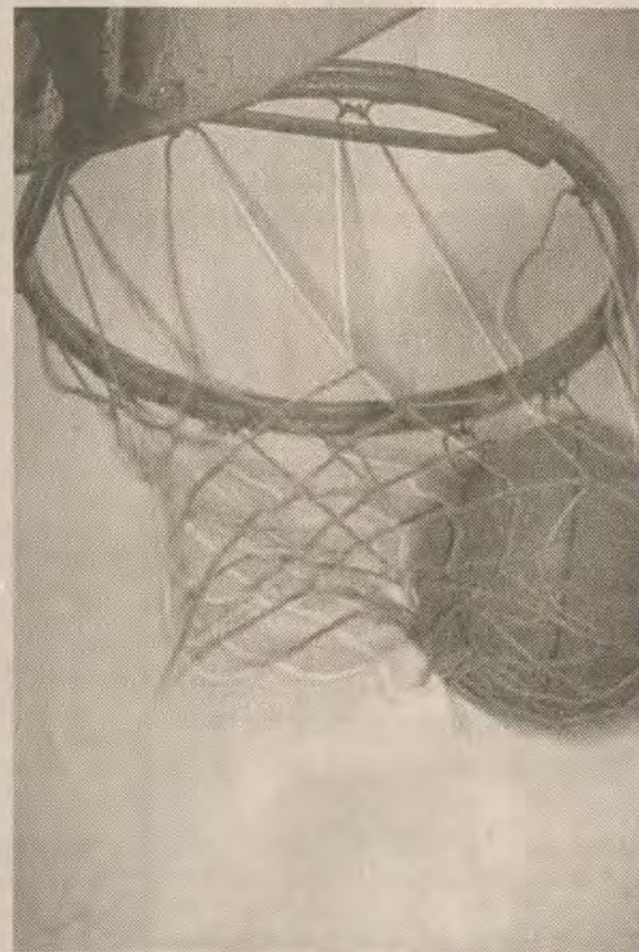
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<p>CINEMA 2</p> <p>BRINGING DOWN THE HOUSE Mon.-Sun. 7:00, 9:15; Fri. (4:15), 7:00, 9:15; Sat.-Sun. (2:00, 4:15), 7:00, 9:15</p>	<p>CINEMA 7</p> <p>OPENS FRIDAY HEAD OF STATE Mon.-Sun. 7:10, 9:10; Fri. (4:10), 7:10, 9:10; Sat.-Sun. (2:10, 4:10), 7:10, 9:10</p>
<p>CINEMA 3</p> <p>BASIC Mon.-Sun. 7:10, 9:10; Fri. (4:20), 7:10, 9:10; Sat.-Sun. (2:10, 4:10), 7:10, 9:10</p>	<p>CINEMA 8</p> <p>OPENS FRIDAY THE CORE Mon.-Sun. 6:40, 9:15; Fri. (4:00), 6:40, 9:15; Sat.-Sun. (1:20, 4:00), 6:40, 9:15</p>
<p>CINEMA 4</p> <p>HUNTED Mon.-Sun. 7:20, 9:20; Fri. (4:20), 7:20, 9:20; Sat.-Sun. (2:20, 4:20), 7:20, 9:20</p>	<p>CINEMA 9</p> <p>DREAMCATCHER Mon.-Sun. 6:40, 9:15; Fri. (4:00), 6:50, 9:15; Sat.-Sun. (1:20, 4:00), 6:40, 9:15</p>
<p>CINEMA 5</p> <p>VIEW FROM THE TOP Mon.-Sun. 7:05, 9:05; Fri. (4:05), 7:05, 9:05; Sat.-Sun. (2:05, 4:05), 7:05, 9:05</p>	<p>CINEMA 10</p> <p>BOAT TRIP Mon.-Sun. 7:20, 9:20; Fri. (4:20), 7:20, 9:20; Matinee only: Fri, Sat, Sun (2:20-4:20)</p>

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Odds

back door during a Friday performance.

Townpeople and circus folk ran after him, yelling to pedestrians for help.

Gary Boltz was driving on his way to work when he saw the pony, running against traffic down the middle of the street.

"He was kind of running like he was in the Kentucky Derby," Boltz said. "He wasn't stopping for nobody."

Boltz offered the pony's tuxedo-clad trainer a ride. The man jumped in the bed of his pickup, and off they went.

Pedestrians finally caught Fort Worth and held him for his trainer.

The pony was not injured.

■ OKANOGAN, Wash. —

The head of the Okanogan County Jail is certainly prepared. He figures he has a century worth of mustard on his shelves.

There's also a huge supply of enchilada sauce, corn tortillas, dehydrated onions and salt.

"We have 75 years worth of cinnamon," said Sheriff Frank

Rogers. "That's a lot of cookies."

Jail Administrator Noah Stewart discovered the stockpile when he took the post Jan. 1.

The food company that sold the food won't take the items back, so Stewart has started bartering with the Chelan County Regional Justice Center.

Rogers blamed "inattention to detail of what was being ordered."

Mary Apodaca, Okanogan County's former jail administrator for eight years, said the cooks didn't tell her about the overstocking.

"I depended on them to let me know what we needed," she said last week. Checking inventory "is not something an administrator does."

Apodaca said she sometimes bought nonperishable goods that weren't requested if they were on sale, or exchanged a prepackaged item for something less expensive.

"The shelf life of mustard is probably forever," she said. "The cinnamon, I don't think I had

anything to do with."

■ HOMEWOOD, Ala. —

This city is serious about maintaining its spotted salamander community. City leaders last week granted a resident's request to install "salamander crossing" signs on each end of a road where the spotted salamander crosses on its annual migration to mate and lay its eggs.

Don Stewart asked the city to install the signs to make travelers on the road between the National Guard armory and Homewood High School more aware of their environment.

It's unusual that the spotted salamander has survived in an urban environment such as Homewood, a bedroom community of 25,000 adjoining Birmingham, Stewart said. The amphibians are common from Canada to Mississippi and are inky black with orange or yellow spots and gray bellies. They eat worms and can grow to up to 9 inches long.

In Homewood, they crawl down the north face of Shades Mountain toward a wetlands next to Shades Creek during the first full moon after the first warm rain.

The new signs will be yellow and feature a black salamander drawn by Stewart, who owns an art gallery. They could be installed as early as next month.

Homewood Councilman Walter Jones was proud of his affirmative vote.

"Thirty years from now, someone will look back and see I voted for a salamander crossing," he said. "They won't remember anything else, but they'll remember that."

■ BURLINGTON, Iowa —

Police officers were surprised to find a drug suspect stashed in a refrigerator.

"I definitely heard comments that this was a first," said Greg Hoffer, an investigator with the Southeast Iowa Narcotics Task Force.

Police went to a house on a tip that the suspect may be living there. The homeowner told police the man wasn't there, but gave them permission to search the house.

After a short search, police found Jerome Anthony Dobbyey hiding inside a refrigerator with the door shut. Hoffer said items had been stacked in front of the refrigerator, which was not plugged in.

Dobbyey, 24, was arrested and jailed Friday on charges, including possession and intent to deliver crack-cocaine. The homeowner was charged with being an accessory after the fact.

History

Continued from p2

Author Erica Jong is 61. Journalist Bob Woodward is 60. Singer Diana Ross is 59. Actor Johnny Crawford is 57. Rock singer Steven Tyler (Aerosmith) is 55. Singer and TV personality Vicki Lawrence is 54. Singer Teddy Pendergrass is 53. Comedian Martin Short is 53. Country singer Ronnie McDowell is 53. Country singer Dean Dillon is 48. Country singer Charly McClain is 47. TV personality Leeza Gibbons is 46. Actress Jennifer Grey is 43. Basketball player John Stockton is 41. Actor Michael Imperioli is 37. Rock musician James Iha is 35. Country singer Kenny Chesney is 35. Rapper Juvenile is 28. Actress Amy Smart is 27.

Thought for Today:

"The man who never tells an unpalatable truth 'at the wrong time' (the right time has yet to be discovered) is the man whose success in life is fairly well assured." — Agnes Repplier, American essayist (1858-1950).

Aware

Continued from p5

Assault Awareness and Prevention Month.

The Victim Services Program is joining other rape crisis centers in Kentucky in sponsoring the "Believe Me" campaign and is asking individuals to join them. Other ways to show community support are to turn on porch lights and wear purple ribbons throughout March.

For more details on what individuals can do to prevent sexual assault, contact the Victim Services Program at Mountain Comprehensive Care Center, (606) 886-4397.

Obituaries

Pauline (Napier) Foley

Pauline (Napier) Foley, age 83, of Prestonsburg, passed away Sunday, March 23, 2003, at the Cabell-Huntington Hospital at Huntington, West Virginia, following an extended illness.

She was born October 15, 1919, at Laurel City, West Virginia, a daughter of the late Samuel and Mary Etta (Bradshaw) Napier. She was a member of the Freewill Baptist Church, and the Order of the Eastern Star.

She was married to Willie T. (Bill) Foley, who preceded her in death.

She is survived by one son, Paul Foley of Prestonsburg; three daughters, Billie Jo Wireman, and husband, Bob; Betty Lou Derossett and husband, Paul, all of Prestonsburg; and Sara Smith, and husband, Robert, of Portsmouth, Ohio; eight grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be conducted Wednesday, March 26, at 1 p.m., at the Burke Funeral Home Chapel, at Prestonsburg, with Rev. Bill Campbell officiating.

Burial will follow in the Foley Cemetery at Auxier.

Visitation is at the funeral home.

All arrangements are under the direction of Burke Funeral Home. (Paid obituary)

Margie Mae (Ratliff) DeRossett

Margie Mae (Ratliff) DeRossett, age 86, of Blanchester, Ohio, formerly of Ivel, passed away Friday, March 21, 2003, at the Clinton Memorial Hospital, at Wilmington, Ohio, following an extended illness.

She was born May 25, 1916, at Rhodafeild, West Virginia, a daughter of the late John and Vina Mae (Elkins) Ratliff. She was a member of the Tom Creek Baptist Church.

She was married to Ollie DeRossett, who preceded her in death.

She is survived by two sons, Phillip (Bud) Morris DeRossett of Milford, Ohio, and John Hillard DeRossett of Palmetto, Florida; one daughter, Phyllis Jean Deem of Blanchester, Ohio; 13 grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren, and eight great-great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted Monday, March 24, at 1 p.m., at the Burke Funeral Home Chapel, Prestonsburg.

Burial followed in the Davidson Memorial Gardens at Ivel.

Arrangements were under the direction of Burke Funeral Home. (Paid obituary)

Martha Story Hamilton

Martha Story Hamilton, 69, of Teaberry, died Monday, March 24, 2003, at the McDowell Appalachian Regional Hospital.

Born August 30, 1933, in Pike County, she was the daughter of the late Bob and Fenev Hamilton Story. She was a retired cook for the Floyd County Board of Education, and was a member of the United Christian Church of God at Hi Hat.

She is survived by her husband, Henry Hamilton.

Other survivors include one son and daughter-in-law, Frank and Sharon Dotson of Beaver; one daughter and son-in-law, Garnet and Rexal Hamilton of Teaberry; two sisters, Febie Blankenship of Teaberry, and Maudie Keathley of Harold; four grandchildren, Franklin, Jason, Deonna and Lesli; and two great-grandchildren, Katelyn and Cody.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by seven brothers, Estel R. Story, Joe Story, Ted Story, Paul Story, Bernie Story, Donnie Story, and Remur Story; and three sisters, Fannie Story, Virginia Howard, and Mary Story.

Funeral services will be conducted Thursday, March 27, at noon, at the Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home in Martin, with Ralph Hall and Bill Stone officiating.

Burial will be in the Davidson Memorial Gardens at Ivel, under direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Visitation is at the funeral home. (Paid obituary)

Shirley Hall

Geraldine Case of Norwalk, Ohio, and Betty Case of Printer, 21 grandchildren, and 11 great-grandchildren.

In addition to her husband, and parents, she was preceded in death by one son, Bill Bailey Hall; and two brothers, Elmer Case and Delmer Case.

Funeral services for Shirley Hall will be conducted Wednesday, March 26, at 1 p.m., at the Hall Funeral Home Chapel, Martin, with the ministers, Frank Junior Kidd, Ronnie Sammons, and Bob McKinney, officiating.

Burial will follow in the Harvey Cemetery, at Printer, under the professional care of the Hall Funeral Home, Martin.

Sign the register for the family at www.hallfuneralservice.com (Paid obituary)

Shirley Hall

Shirley Hall, age 69, of Printer, widow of Azzie B. Hall, passed away Sunday, March 23, 2003, at Our Lady of the Way Hospital, Martin.

She was born September 6, 1933, in Printer, the daughter of the late Willie Case and Ethel Williams Case. She was a homemaker, and a member of the Honaker Church of Christ.

Survivors include five sons, Mike Hall, Earl Hall, Terry and Azzie Junior Hall, all of Printer, and Dewey Hall of Honaker; two daughters, Jone Kidd of Hazel Green, and Rosie Hall of Teaberry; four brothers, Farley Case and Ray Case, both of Dana, Racey Case of Martin, and Terry Case of Stanville; four sisters, Shelby Iricks of Betsy Layne, Rosanna Case of Harold, Geraldine Case of Norwalk, Ohio, and Betty Case of Printer; 21 grandchildren, and 11 great-grandchildren.

In addition to her husband, and parents, she was preceded in death by one son, Bill Bailey Hall; and two brothers, Elmer Case and Delmer Case.

Funeral services for Shirley Hall will be conducted Wednesday, March 26, at 1 p.m., at the Hall Funeral Home Chapel, Martin, with the ministers, Frank Junior Kidd, Ronnie Sammons, and Bob McKinney, officiating.

Burial will follow in the Harvey Cemetery, at Printer, under the professional care of the Hall Funeral Home, Martin.

Sign the register for the family at www.hallfuneralservice.com (Paid obituary)

Gregory Allen Tackett

Gregory Allen Tackett, 45, of Hager Hill, died Saturday, March 22, 2003, at the Central Baptist Hospital, Lexington.

Born February 6, 1958, in Martin, he was the son of the late John B. and Magelene Brown Tackett. He was a disabled coal miner.

He is survived by his wife, Lena (Lynn) Baldwin.

Other survivors include one daughter, Sabrina Tackett of McDowell; one granddaughter, Kierstin Belt; five brothers, Ricky Tackett, Nicky Tackett, Ken Tackett, and Kevin Tackett, all of Beaver, and Dana Tackett of Pikeville; four sisters, Sue Johnson of Teaberry, Sheila Kidd of Harold, and Charlotte Collins and Kimberly Hamilton, both of Stanville.

Funeral services were conducted Tuesday, March 25, at 11 a.m., at the Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, Martin, with ministers of the Old Regular Baptist Church officiating.

Burial was in the Tackett Family Cemetery, at Beaver, under direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Visitation was at the funeral home. (Paid obituary)

Thank You

from the Family of Margie DeRossett

The family of Margie DeRossett would like to take this time, to say thanks to the friends, and loved ones, who came by, or sent flowers, or gave us a hug, or a handshake, or made a contribution during the time of the loss of our mother. We would also like to send a special thanks to Larry and Mary Lou Burke, and the friendly staff at Burke Funeral Home for their courtesy, respect, understanding, compassion, and their professional service that they offered to our family during our loss of our mother. We also wish to thank the Rev. Chuck Ferguson, Rev. James Harmon, and Brother Philip Crisp and the Toms Creek Freewill Baptist Church, for the beautiful service and the wonderful songs that were sung for mother, by the Assurance Gospel Singers. Thanks also, to the Floyd County Sheriff's Department for their help and courteous service. For it is at these times, that things mean the most.

Thank You, Phyllis Deem, Phillip & John Hilary DeRossett, the children of MARGIE MAE DEROSSETT

Card of Thanks

The family of Nellie Ann Rice wishes to gratefully acknowledge the kindness of friends, relatives, and neighbors, in the loss of our loved one. Thanks to all who sent food, flowers, prayers, or spoke comforting words. We are especially grateful to Clergyman John Pelphrey for his comforting words, the Sheriff's Department for their assistance in traffic control, and the Hall Funeral Home for their kind and professional care.

THE FAMILY OF NELLIE ANN RICE

Card of Thanks

The family of James W. McKinney wishes to gratefully acknowledge the thoughtfulness and kindness of friends, relatives, and neighbors, in the loss of our loved one. Thanks to all who gave food, flowers, prayers, or spoke comforting words. We deeply appreciate you all. A special thanks to Clergyman Bruce Coleman for his comforting words, the Sheriff's Department for their assistance in traffic control, and the Hall Funeral Home for their kind and professional care.

THE FAMILY OF JAMES W. McKINNEY

Card of Thanks

The family of the late Anna Martin Mullins would like to extend our heartfelt appreciation to all those who helped in any way during the loss of our loved one. We appreciate the beautiful floral arrangements, the food that was brought to the church and the house. We thank the Old Regular Baptist ministers for their comforting service, the people of Rebecca Regular Baptist Church for opening their doors and hearts to us, the Sheriff's Department for their assistance in traffic control, and the Hall Funeral Home of Martin, Ky., for the wonderful job, and as always, the professional, courteous service.

ANNA MARTIN MULLINS

Card of Thanks

The family of Critt Conn sincerely thanks all who shared in the sorrow we felt with the loss of our loved one. We greatly appreciated the many expressions of sympathy, which included cards, flowers, food, prayers, kind words, and cherished memories. We offer a special thank-you to the Regular Baptist ministers for their comforting words, the Sheriff's Department for their assistance in traffic control, and the Hall Funeral Home for their kind and professional care. We will always remember the kindness each of you showed our family.

THE CRITT CONN FAMILY

Card of Thanks

The family of Virgil Cross would like to extend their appreciation to all those friends, neighbors, and loved ones who helped to comfort us during our time of sorrow. Thank you to all those who sent food, flowers, or just spoke kind words. A special thanks to Elder Charles Nitchie and others, for their comforting words, the Sheriff's Office for their assistance in traffic control, and to Hall Funeral Home for their kind and efficient service.

THE FAMILY OF VIRGIL CROSS

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Appalachia struggle for a better life

by LISA CORNWELL
ASSOCIATED PRESS

CINCINNATI — It's been almost 30 years since Debra Holmes quit going to classes at her Cincinnati middle school rather than be teased about where she came from and how she talked.

Now, she's proud to claim her heritage as a member of what some sociologists call an "invisible minority" — urban Appalachians.

"I was shy and when I did talk, the other kids called me a hillbilly or cracker," said Holmes, 44, who was born in Cincinnati to Appalachian parents, but spent most of her childhood in Clay County, Ky. "When I moved back to Cincinnati at 14, some teachers treated me as if I were stupid. I just couldn't take it."

Urban Appalachians are migrants and the descendants of migrants who have moved to urban areas from the rural, 200,000-square-mile mountainous region that extends along the Appalachian mountains from southern New York to northern Mississippi.

Many settled in cities such as Cincinnati, Cleveland, Chicago and Detroit, becoming an "invisible minority" that lacks recognition as an ethnic group but shares many of the socio-

economic problems of other minorities.

"Many of the migrants who settled in the industrial centers came with few skills and little education and ended up in

"We lived in cold-water flats with 10 or 12 people in one or two rooms and six or seven families sharing a bathroom — if there was one," said Redden, 55, who dropped out of school in the eighth grade.

"Things are better for my children, but we still have a long way to go," said Holmes, who earned a high school equivalency diploma at age 30 with the encouragement of the Urban

Appalachian Council.

Maloney, who was born in a log cabin in eastern Kentucky in 1940, came to Cincinnati in the 1960s to study education at Xavier University and soon became involved in a grass-

roots effort to help urban Appalachians. That effort led to the 1974 formation of the council, which helps urban Appalachians with education, family services, employment and job training.

Similar efforts were started in the 1950s and 1960s in various northern industrial cities with large Appalachian populations, but few if any of those groups still exist, Maloney said.

The council primarily serves Cincinnati's urban Appalachians. Human Services Coordinator Phyllis Shelton was raised with eight brothers in Cincinnati by their Appalachian mother who came to the city with her husband, who was looking for work. He returned to Kentucky, leaving his wife and children behind.

"When I was a kid, a policeman who ticketed me for playing ball in the street once told me I was a dumb hillbilly who would never amount to anything," said Shelton, 43, who was determined to prove him wrong and went on to earn a law degree. "There are more opportunities now, but the problem is how to help our people get those opportunities."

Larry Redden, executive director of the council's Appalachian Identity Center, also was born in Cincinnati to parents who migrated from Appalachian Ohio and Kentucky.

"We lived in cold-water flats with 10 or 12 people in one or two rooms and six or seven families sharing a bathroom — if there was one," said Redden, 55.

(See STRUGGLE, page eight)

impooverished areas, where they often had to struggle to survive," said Michael Maloney, the founding director of Cincinnati's Urban Appalachian Council and a first-generation urban Appalachian. "They also had to fight against negative hillbilly stereotypes that labeled them as ignorant or lazy."

The migration to industrial centers has been under way for more than a century. Appalachian scholars say it reached its peak between 1940 and 1970, when more than 7 million Appalachians left the region in search of jobs and a better life.

Maloney and other urban Appalachians believe that while conditions have improved, many urban Appalachians in inner-city neighborhoods are still struggling to overcome cultural stereotypes.

Appalachian Council.

Maloney, who was born in a log cabin in eastern Kentucky in 1940, came to Cincinnati in the 1960s to study education at Xavier University and soon became involved in a grass-

roots effort to help urban Appalachians. That effort led to the 1974 formation of the council, which helps urban Appalachians with education, family services, employment and job training.

Similar efforts were started in the 1950s and 1960s in various northern industrial cities with large Appalachian populations,

Sticks

— the number of county offenders his office sends to jail will not decline. He says, if anything, the numbers will continue to rise. He said he's not too big on letting loose offenders based on money issues and has no doubt paid attention to what some of those decisions have led to on a statewide level.

So what could that mean?

Drug abuse playing a quiet role in seeing an Eastern Kentucky jail closed.

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Continued from p4

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- 2002 FORD F150 SUPER CREW—White, auto, V8, PS, PW, PL, tilt, cruise. Stk. #FLP400. WAS \$25,995.00 NOW \$23,995.00
- 2002 MERCURY MOUNTAINEER—4-dr., 4x4, white, auto. A/C, P.S., P.B., P.W., P.L., tilt, cruise, AM/FM/CD. Sharp, very clean! WAS \$24,995.00 NOW \$20,977.00
- 2001 FORD FOCUS—4-dr., gold, auto., A/C, P.S., P.B., AM/FM cassette. One-owner, low miles. Stk. #NCP302. WAS \$12,995.00 NOW \$9,198.00
- 2001 MERCURY SABLE—4-dr., white, auto., A/C, P.S., P.B., P.W., P.L., tilt-cruise, AM/FM/CD. Stk. #DP342. WAS \$14,995.00 NOW \$11,888.00
- 2001 FORD FOCUS—White, 4-dr., low miles, auto., A/C, P.S., P.B., tilt-cruise, AM/FM/cassette. Stk. #NCP316. WAS \$12,995.00 NOW \$8,988.00
- 2001 SUZUKI GRAND VITARA—4-dr., 4x4, black, auto., A/C, P.S., P.B., P.W., P.L., AM/FM/CD. One-owner, sharp! Stk. #FLP88. WAS \$16,995.00 NOW \$13,777.00
- 2001 SUZUKI GRAND VITARA—4-dr., 4x4, green, auto., A/C, P.S., P.B., P.W., P.L., AM/FM/CD. Low miles. Stk. #FLP100. WAS \$16,995.00 NOW \$14,888.00
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- 2001 FORD ESCORT—4-dr., white, auto., A/C, P.S., P.B., AM/FM/CASS. Stk. #FLP130. WAS \$11,995.00 NOW \$8,888.00
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- NEW 2001 CHRYSLER PT CRUISER—Limited Edition, 4-dr., black, loaded, leather, 325 miles, moonroof. Stk. #FLP115. WAS \$23,995.00 NOW \$18,999.00
- 2001 CHEVY MALIBU—4-dr., white, V6, auto., A/C, P.S., P.B., AM/FM/CASS. tilt-cruise. Stk. #LEX100. WAS \$12,995.00 NOW \$9,344.00
- 2001 SUZUKI XL7—4-dr., 4x4, silver, V6, auto., A/C, P.S., P.B., P.W., P.L., AM/FM/CD, 7-pass. seating. Stk. #FLP137. WAS \$20,995.00 NOW \$15,498.00
- 2001 CHEVY S10 EXT. CAB 4x4 PICKUP—Biege with tan int., 4.3 V6 eng., auto. CD player, one-owner, 37k miles. #F2413A. WAS \$15,995.00 NOW \$13,995.00
- 2001 FORD 15-PASS. VAN XLT—Front & rear air, 21k miles. Would be a nice church van. Stk. #FLP12. WAS \$23,995.00 NOW \$21,488.00
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- 2001 FORD EXPLORER—Eddie Bauer, 4-dr., SUV, white with gray leather. All the extras, including sunroof, 5.0 L V8 eng., 22k miles. Factory warranty. Stk. #NOP287. WAS \$25,995.00 NOW \$20,877.00
- 2001 FORD F150 SUPER CREW PICKUP—4-dr., 2-WD, red & silver, gray int., 4.6 V8 eng., all power, CD player, 20k miles. Nice truck, factory warranty. Stk. #FLP102. WAS \$21,995.00 NOW \$19,888.00
- 2001 RANGER SUPER CAB PICKUP—4-dr., dark red with gray int., V6 eng., auto., P.S., P.B., P.W., P.D.L. tilt-cruise, 26k miles, factory warranty. Stk. #NCP300. WAS \$14,995.00 NOW \$11,888.00
- 2002 LINCOLN TOWN CAR SIGNATURE SERIES—Green, loaded. Stk. #FLP402. WAS \$29,995.00 NOW \$27,995.00

- 2001 HONDA ODYSSEY VAN SE—V6 eng., all power, CD player, white with gray cloth int. We sold it new! WAS \$24,995.00 NOW \$22,999.00
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- 2003 LINCOLN TOWN CAR—SIGNATURE SERIES—White, loaded. Stk. #TP405. WAS \$33,995.00 NOW \$31,995.00
- 2000 FORD CONTOUR—4-dr., green, auto., A/C, P.W., P.L., P.S., P.B., tilt-cruise, AM/FM/cassette. Stk. #TP03. WAS \$10,995.00 NOW \$8,995.00
- 2000 PLYMOUTH BREEZE—4-dr., green, auto., A/C, P.W., P.L., P.S., P.B., tilt-cruise, AM/FM/cassette. Stk. #FLP71. WAS \$11,995.00 NOW \$8,977.00
- 2002 LINCOLN TOWN CAR—SIGNATURE SERIES—White, loaded. Stk. #TP406. WAS \$29,999.00 NOW \$27,995.00
- 2000 FORD F150 PICKUP XLT—4.2 V6 eng., 5-spd. trans., air & power, blue with gray int., low miles. Stk. #OHP375. WAS \$16,995.00 NOW \$13,995.00
- 2002 FORD RANGER SUPER CAB 4x4 — White, loaded. Stk. #FLP407. WAS \$19,995.00 NOW \$16,995.00
- 2002 FORD RANGER SUPERCAB—Red, A/C, power steering, power brakes. Stk. #FLP408. WAS \$15,995.00 NOW \$13,995.00
- 2000 SUZUKI GR. VITARA—4-dr., 4x4, SUV, white with gray int., V6 eng., auto. trans., P.S., P.B., P.W., P.D.L., tilt-cruise, low miles. Stk. #FLP61. WAS \$14,995.00 NOW \$13,488.00
- 1999 FORD RANGER—White. Stk. #FLP409. WAS \$8,995.00 NOW \$6,995.00
- 1999 DODGE RAM 1500 EXTENDED CAB 4x4—Black-gray int., 318 V8 eng., auto. trans., all power. Stk. #2109A. WAS \$14,995.00 NOW \$9,995.00
- 2000 FORD RANGER—Red. Stk. #FLP410. WAS \$12,995.00 NOW \$10,995.00
- 1998 HONDA PASSPORT—4-dr., 4x4, SUV, black with gray int., V6 eng., auto. trans., all power, low miles. We sold it new! Stk. #F2179A. WAS \$16,995.00 NOW \$12,995.00

- 1998 PONTIAC MONTANA VAN—White with gray int., V6 eng., auto. trans., all power. Local trade. Stk. #FLP141A. WAS \$9,995.00 NOW \$7,995.00
- 1998 FORD F700 RYDER VAN-BODIED TRUCK—V8 eng., auto. transmission. Stk. #NCP306. WAS \$14,995.00 NOW \$9,995.00
- 1997 FORD EXPLORER XLT—4-dr., 4x4, SUV, 4.0 L V6 eng., auto. trans., all power, gold with tan int. Nice truck. WAS \$12,995.00 NOW \$8,995.00
- 2000 FORD RANGER SUPER CAB—Red, power steering, power brakes, A/C. Stk. #FLP411. WAS \$11,995.00 NOW \$9,995.00
- 1997 FORD F350 RYDER VAN-BODIED TRUCK—V8 eng., auto., transmission. 2 to choose from. WAS \$12,995.00 NOW \$8,995.00
- 1997 DODGE AVENGER—4-cyl., auto., 2-dr. hardtop. Red & ready to go! Stk. #F2370A. WAS \$7,995.00 NOW \$5,995.00
- 1996 BUICK REGAL—4-dr. sedan, green with gray int., V6 eng., auto. trans. all power. Stk. #H2215A. WAS \$12,995.00 NOW \$4,995.00
- 1996 SUBARU OUTBACK—All-wheel-drive wagon, 4-cyl. eng., 5-spd. trans., P.W. P.D.L., keyless entry, nice wagon, white with gray interior. Stk. #FLP96A. WAS \$8,995.00 NOW \$6,995.00
- 2001 FORD RANGER SUPER CAB—Blue, power steering, power brakes, A/C. Stk. #FLP412. WAS \$15,995.00 NOW \$13,995.00
- 1992 CHRYSLER LeBARON—4-door, blue, A/C, power steering, power brakes, power windows, power locks. Stk. #OHP385. WAS \$2,495.00 NOW \$1,495.00
- 1995 HONDA ACCORD EX—White-gray leather int., 4-cyl., 5-spd. transmission. Stk. #2223A. WAS \$8,995.00 NOW \$5,995.00
- 1993 CHEVY 4x4 SUBURBAN—9-passenger seating, towing package, 454 engine. One of a kind, one-owner. Stk. #F2171A. WAS \$12,995.00 NOW \$10,995.00
- 1988 PONTIAC GRAND AM—Grey. WAS \$1,495.00 NOW \$495.00
- 1989 FORD E150 CUSTOMIZED VAN—White with maroon accent. V8 eng., auto. trans. Nice van. WAS \$4,995.00 NOW \$2,995.00

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Dwight Yoakam's home place for sale in Betsy Layne

by ROGER ALFORD
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BETSY LAYNE — Despite the popularity of country music star Dwight Yoakam, no one has rushed to purchase his family's former home in Eastern

Kentucky.

The three-bedroom house where he honed his musical talent as a young boy went on the market a month ago.

That it hasn't sold has surprised tourism officials who see the property as an attraction for

people traveling through the mountainous region where many of Nashville's biggest stars were born or raised.

"I could see a country music lover making a good income supplement, buying the house and opening it to fans," said

Fred James, spokesman for the Kentucky Tourism Cabinet. "It has appeal, no question about it."

American Way Realty, a Century 21 affiliate in Prestonsburg, lists the price of the wood-frame, single-story house at \$89,500. An advertisement published locally says the house, which has two bathrooms, is completely remodeled and has new carpet.

James said he believes the house would have sold immediately if it had been advertised more widely.

"I believe people are going to want to see it," he said. "It will be sold the first time the house hits the masses."

Yoakam was born in Pikeville and lived in the house only briefly as an infant, before his parents moved to Columbus, Ohio. He returned often to spend time with his grandparents, Luther and Earlene Tibbs in the house, said Billie Jean Osborne, a country music promoter from Betsy Layne.

Four buses now are common throughout the region, bringing groups from as far away as Canada, to see the hometowns and the former homes of their favorite singers.

But those buses can't maneuver on the narrow road leading up Pike Floyd Hollow to the house where Yoakam would sit on the porch and play his guitar during weekend visits with his grandparents.

Lots of fans drive by the house, said Trudy Hunter, whose son Randy Hunter, owns the property.

"You can tell who his fans

(See YOAKAM, page nine)

Small town wants to grow through annexation

The Associated Press

FLEMING-NEON — One of the smallest towns in Eastern Kentucky has designs on becoming Letcher County's biggest city, and plans to annex several nearby communities to achieve the goal.

The City Council in Fleming-Neon, population 840, has voted to annex seven communities, a move that Mayor Harlan "Tootie" Seals said would increase revenues and allow the city to enlarge its police force.

The communities being considered for annexation are Hemphill, Haymond, McRoberts, Neon Junction, Whitaker, Seco and Kona. Not everyone favors the proposed annexation measure, but that has not deterred Seals.

"I'm planning to be a one-term mayor, and a lot of the changes made are going to be for the betterment of the community," he said.

Residents of the targeted areas who oppose annexation have 60 days to gather signatures of at least 50 percent of the registered voters or property owners to get a referendum on the ballot in the next election.

If opponents don't get enough signatures, the areas will become part of Fleming-Neon.

Fred Back of McRoberts said no one in his community likes the idea.

"I went door to door on this, and I found eight people who were for it," Back said.

Back said residents are already organizing against the annexation.

Seals said he wants to build sidewalks throughout the area, put up street lights, boost the police force and the public service department if annexation passes.

"Were not going after tax money, we're going after numbers so we can change the class of the city," he said.

Seals said he doesn't know how many people live in the area he is proposing to annex, but he said he's sure it would be enough to push Fleming-Neon's population past Jenkins, which is Letcher County's largest city with 2,401 residents.

He said the annexation would easily push Fleming-Neon past Whitesburg, population 1,600.

Struggle

Continued from p7

who dropped out of school in the eighth grade.

Redden, who went on to earn a college degree, said education is the key to improving the lives of urban Appalachians.

"A lot of my teachers had good intentions, but telling me that the way I talked was stupid made me ashamed of my origins," Redden said. "A lot of that hasn't changed. We are still seen as the unwanted bastard children of Cincinnati."

Council officials say school dropout rates among urban Appalachians are high. The 2000 census showed that among Cincinnati neighborhoods, the highest dropout rate of 58 percent was in Lower Price Hill, which is predominantly urban Appalachian, Maloney said.

Charlene Dalton runs one of several Urban Appalachian Council-affiliated community schools that provide classes for teenagers and adults trying to earn their high school equivalency diplomas. She said public schools can do more to keep students from dropping out.

"We help those who have quit or been put out of the public schools and have no place else to go," Dalton said. "If the public schools train their staff and teachers to understand the Appalachian culture, maybe it might help the dropout problem."

Cincinnati schools Superintendent Alton Frailey has met with the council to help address the problems facing urban Appalachian students, said Jan Leslie, spokeswoman for the 40,000-student district.

University of Minnesota researcher Trent Alexander, who has studied the migration of southerners to northern industrial cities, said the Appalachian identity may have survived better in Cincinnati than in other

cities because the stream of migrants coming there was heavily Appalachian.

"The political culture in Cincinnati also may have been more receptive to immigrants," he said, citing a provision in the city's human-rights ordinance that protects the rights of urban Appalachians by forbidding discrimination in housing and employment.

Pat Kenney, who came to the city from Kentucky at age 11, said close family ties and pride also helped her and many other urban Appalachians maintain a strong cultural identity.

"I've heard all of the things

The MOVIES! at the Plaza

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First Lady speaks about abuse



photo by Loretta Blackburn

First Lady Judi Patton continues to be a spokesperson for those who don't have a voice in government by speaking out against domestic violence on Monday, at Pikeville College.

encouraged the crowd to think of these victims as people and not numbers, he offered statistics that delivered the impact of the problem in our society. In the 2001-2002 year, Thomas stated that there were 27,758 domestic violence cases filed in Kentucky, with Pike County ranking seventh in the state with its 1,912. He stated that the county issues approximately 1250 marriage licenses a year and the court grants over 700 divorces.

He shared that it was a moving sight to see someone shaking and crying as they stood beside the person they love and tell him why he needed to order this person to stay away from them.

Casey, who is an author of several published articles addressing domestic violence issues, stated that the solution to dealing with this social issue requires involvement from not only medical professionals, but everyone. She stated that a woman is killed as a result of domestic violence every four minutes and the mandatory reporting law included anyone who may be able to save someone's life by disclosing a possible abusive situation.

"I am my brother's keeper," said Casey in reference to her

(See **ABUSE**, page eleven)

by LORETTA BLACKBURN
STAFF WRITER

"No woman can deliver her true abilities when she worries about the safety of her family," stated first lady Judi Conway Patton at Pikeville College on Monday, where she continues to speak for those who don't have a voice in government by bringing awareness to domestic violence issues.

The first lady, Pike Circuit Court Judge Hon. Larry Thompson, Family Court Division, and Baretta M. Casey, M.D., director of East Kentucky Family Practice Residency Program, were all a part of a panel that addressed these issues during an event sponsored by Pikeville College Special Events Committee, who invited the panel in observance of Women's History Month.

Patton stated that she had chosen to make her mark as first lady by speaking out against domestic violence, proposing that education paves the way for a better society.

"Violence against women does not mean crimes against a few," stated Patton in reference to the alarming statistics in relation to domestic violence.

Patton's push for domestic violence legislation resulted in the Governor's Office of Child Abuse and Domestic Violence Services, which she serves as special advisor. In September 2002, she joined the University of Kentucky in announcing plans to develop a Center of Research on Violence Against Women, which will research issues related to domestic violence, rape, stalking and related crimes.

As Family Court Judge, Thomas stated that he averages 25 to 30 cases every Monday afternoon that are related to this social issue. Although he

Yokam

Continued from p8

are," she said. "They slow down real slow looking at the house. Then they stop, get out and take pictures. There are people from all over the country who come."

The house is only about a mile from U.S. 23, the four-lane route through eastern Kentucky that has been officially designated the Country Music Highway because of the many stars who grew up in communities it runs through.

Those stars include Naomi and Wynonna Judd of Ashland; Ricky Skaggs of Blaine; Loretta Lynn and Crystal Gayle of Butcher Hollow; Patty Loveless of Pikeville; and Billy Ray Cyrus of Flatwoods.

Kentucky tourism officials, trying to capitalize on the

region's ties to country music, have begun developing museums and performance halls to cater to the fans who visit eastern Kentucky.

Osborne, who lives in Betsy Layne not far from the house where Yoakam's grandparents lived, said eastern Kentucky has developed a mystique among country music fans. They want to see the hometowns and former homes of their favorite singers.

That, she said, includes the tiny community of Betsy Layne, which had a huge influence on Yoakam's music.

"There are people who have money who could come in here and make a show place out of it," Osborne said.



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War

Continued from p1

troops in control of a vast Iraqi air base sealed 36 bunkers, designated as possible hiding places for Saddam's elusive weapons of mass destruction.

American officials issued fresh cautions, as well, about the possible use of chemical weapons by Iraqi troops, although none has yet been used in the 6-day-old war — or even found by the invading troops.

As the pace of combat quickened, American and British officials sought to prepare the public for something less than a quick campaign, and predicted difficult days to come.

Still, President Bush forecast victory. The Iraqi regime will be ended ... and our world will be more secure and peaceful," he said after receiving a war update at the Pentagon.

Not surprisingly, Saddam saw it differently. State television carried what it described as a message from him to tribal and clan leaders, saying, "Consider this to be the command of faith and jihad and fight them."

If confirmed, the initial reports of fighting near An Najaf would make it the biggest ground clash of the war, as well as the first encounter between advancing American infantry and the Iraqi units guarding the approach to Saddam's seat of power.

A senior military official said the U.S. troops had hunkered down against a sandstorm, less than 100 miles south of Baghdad, when Iraqis — either Republican Guard or paramilitary Iraqi troops traveling on foot — opened fire with rocket-propelled grenades.

Some of the 7th Cavalry's equipment was damaged in the attack, the official said.

The unit is part of the Army force driving on Baghdad. Some elements of the force are farther north, near Karbala, with only the Medina armored division of the Republican Guard between them and Baghdad.

Details were sketchy, as well, of the situation inside the southern city of Basra, Iraq's second-

largest. British journalists reported that residents were staging an uprising against pro-Saddam forces and that Iraqi troops were firing mortars at them.

British forces staged a raid on a suburb of the city, captured a senior leader of the ruling Baath party and killed 20 of his bodyguards.

"He's sitting there in his little room thinking he's having a good morning and whap, we're in, whap, we're out," boasted Col. Chris Vernon, a British Army spokesman.

The Iraqis denied all of it. "The situation is stable," Information Minister Mohammed al-Sahhaf said in an interview with Al-Jazeera, an Arab satellite television network.

United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan and others have warned of a possible humanitarian crisis in Basra. The International Red Cross said during the day that it had begun repairs at a war-damaged water-pumping station serving the city.

Thus far in the campaign known as Operation Iraqi Freedom, Americans said they had taken more than 3,500 Iraqi prisoners. There was no accurate death toll among Iraqi troops or civilians.

American losses ran to 20 dead and 14 captured or missing. The remains of the first two to die were flown overnight to Dover Air Force Base in Delaware.

A total of 20 British troops had also died, including two killed Monday by friendly fire.

Weather or not, the U.S.-led invasion moved ahead.

The U.S. Central Command, which oversees the war, announced the capture of an Iraqi military hospital used as a military staging area. Officials said Marines confiscated more than 200 weapons and stockpiles of ammunition and more than 3,000 chemical suits with masks, as well as Iraqi military uniforms. The Marines also found a T-55 tank on the compound.

Elements of the U.S. 3rd

Infantry Division were about 50 miles from Baghdad and hit Republican Guard units defending the Iraqi capital with an all-night artillery barrage.

Thousands of other troops hastened — as much as the sandstorms would allow — to join them for the coming battle against Saddam's seat of power.

But some helicopters were grounded by the weather, and combat aircraft taking off from the USS Harry Truman returned

a few hours later without dropping bombs on their targets.

Distant explosions could be heard in Baghdad, and efforts were underway to dig deeper defensive trenches around the city.

Bush, after receiving his war update, said U.S. forces were clearing approaches to the port city of Umm Qasr of Iraqi-laid mines. "Coalition forces are

(See WAR, page eleven)

Woman faces court for flipping the bird

by JARRID DEATON
STAFF WRITER

A Grethel woman has been charged with harassment for allegedly giving "the finger" to a Harold resident.

Rhonda Collins, age unlisted, allegedly committed the offense of harassment when she gave

"the finger" to Marty Gilliam. Rocky Hall, age unlisted, of Grethel, was also charged with harassment when he made an offensively coarse gesture and engaged in a course of conduct which annoyed Marty Gilliam.

Collins and Hall are scheduled to appear before a judge to answer the charges on May 7.

Patton

Continued from p3

Circuit Court.

Under the state ethics law, Patton has 20 days to respond to the charges. He can present evidence to a hearing officer who then would make a recommendation to the ethics commission.

Helm and Crocker said the commission functions like a grand jury in issuing charges. It also sits as a judge once a hearing officer has done his work.

Helm said the commission was not prejudging the case, despite its own evidence-gathering. The commissioners "cannot approach the case with any pre-

dispositions," Helm said in a news conference. The hearing would decide whether there was "clear and convincing proof" that Patton did anything wrong, Helm said.

He declined to say whether the commission's investigation was concluded. Patton's actions also are being investigated by Kentucky Attorney General Ben Chandler and a U.S. attorney.

Helm said the commission, a small agency with a single full-time investigator, conducted over 100 interviews but never talked to Patton.

Man charged with assaulting referee

by LORETTA BLACKBURN
STAFF WRITER

PIKEVILLE — A Belfry man was charged with assaulting a referee on Sunday.

According to court documents filed in Pike County, Kenneth Edward Blackburn Jr., 37, was

charged with assault of a sports official for allegedly pushing Robert N. May down on a gym floor on March 23.

The arrest warrant, taken out by Tpr. W.B. Layne, of Kentucky State Police, was executed on Blackburn March 24, in the Pike County Detention Center.

\$1,000 reward offered in puppy killing

by JARRID DEATON
STAFF WRITER

An animal-rights organization has joined the Floyd County Sheriff's Department in an attempt to find who is responsible for the shooting death of three puppies which were found in the Middle Creek area in January.

PETA is offering a \$1,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person or persons who are responsible for the crime.

The Floyd County Sheriff's Department was tipped to the crime by dispatchers in Magoffin County, who had received an anonymous call that

led to the discovery of the dead puppies along with six living ones. The puppies were reportedly found in a circle with garbage bags stacked around them.

PETA believes that other animals in the area, and even humans, may be in danger as long as the person or persons responsible for the crime are at large.

"Animal abusers are cowards that take their issues out on the most defenseless beings available to them," said Martin Mersereau, PETA senior case-worker. "Floyd County residents have reason to be concerned. According to leading mental health professionals, perpetrators of violent acts against animals are often repeat offenders who pose a serious threat not only to other animals, but to the community as a whole."

Anyone with information about this case is encouraged to contact Deputy Steve Montgomery at the Floyd County Sheriff's Office at (606) 886-6171.

Soldier

Continued from p1

Associated Press on Monday.

"He's going to be fine," she said. "It's just going to take time."

Grubb said the family feared the worst when word came that her grandson, who has been in the Army for three years, might have been a victim of the ambush.

His family said James Grubb was caught in the same ambush in which the Iraqi military took at least five Americans prisoner near Nasiriyah, a major crossing point over the Euphrates northwest of Basra.

"We had been watching TV like everybody else," Della Grubb said. "We knew it was his division. All we knew for a long time was that he was missing.

We didn't know anything else." Then came the call from his wife, Jennifer, that he had survived.

"We didn't know how bad he was hurt or where he was shot until this morning," Della Grubb said. "He was shot in both arms and one leg and the other leg was injured."

James and Jennifer Grubb have a 2-month-old daughter, Jacklyn.

"He called his wife this morning," Della Grubb said. "He said he'll be all right."

In a telephone interview Monday night, James Grubb's mother, Peggy, declined to comment. Peggy Grubb did confirm that her son had been shot and would recover from the injuries.



photo and information courtesy Rick D. Caudill/Martin Fire Department
Route 80 was closed for nearly three hours Friday night following a four-car pileup in front of Kinzer Drilling. Members of the Martin fire and police departments responded to the scene. While the exact cause of the accident remains unclear, no one was seriously injured in the accident, which occurred around 8 p.m. The incident remains under investigation.

Jail

Continued from p1

open up space for housing state inmates, Webb said.

"We've already did a study on the old juvenile building," Webb said Monday. "We had the state inspectors up here and they said we'd have to get a sprinkler system installed, but on the top floor of that building, we can house about 50 work release inmates."

Of course, the first point to be made after such a suggestion is that with expansion comes the spending of money. Webb said he could not estimate how much such renovations would cost.

"I don't know what the expenses would be," Webb said. "But the judge [County Judge-Executive Paul Hunt Thompson] don't want to spend money on that building until he's assured the state would give us enough to fill it up."

In theory, Webb's plan would open up space enough for 50 state inmates, which, at \$27.51 for each inmate, would mean a daily income of \$1,375.50 for the jail.

Webb said head counts at the jail for his last report on Thursday showed 75 county inmates housed and 37 state inmates for a total of 112 — numbers he says about show the current average.

Discussions about how to solve this jail's money problems have been going on for some time, according to Webb, who

said he cannot accept closing the facility as a solution.

"You can't just turn these people away," Webb said Monday. "What are you going to do, close the court system down and the justice system down? It would break the county if they closed the jail. There's no feasible means of closing the jail in a county our size. How in the world would the court system operate?"

Thompson, along with the other attending members of the fiscal court's regular meeting last Friday, agreed that closing the jail wasn't desirable for anyone involved, saying the county could not afford such a decision. But all were quick to agree that a solution was badly needed, considering the amount of money being given to the jail from the county's general and road funds.

Webb seemed to imply Monday that transfers from county funds to the jail are not as inconvenient as some say.

"As much money as they've spent in the last while, they ought to have every road black-topped," Webb said, adding that county officials should have anticipated the jail's overcrowded condition.

"They should have known that the majority would be county inmates," said Webb. "And the money has to come from somewhere if we can't raise it from the state inmates."

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Pike man charged with hitting horses with car
by LORETTA BLACKBURN
STAFF WRITER

PIKEVILLE — A Pikeville man is being held on a \$5,000 cash bond on a cruelty to animals charge for allegedly hitting two horses with his truck.

According to court documents, Billy G. Spears, 23, allegedly hit two horses belonging to Paul Castellanos, of Tram, on March 20.

The criminal complaint states that one of the horses sustained two broken legs and had to be put to sleep by a veterinarian, while the other had to be given a shot.

Castellanos reported that when he asked Spears why he and the passenger, Bobby Williams, of Pikeville, had hit his horses, Spears replied, "We don't know."

Spears was arrested on March 21 on the misdemeanor charge of second-degree cruelty to animals and was given a \$5,000 cash bond during an arraignment on March 24.

*Specials for month of march only. Photos for illustration purposes only

Abuse

Continued from p9

feelings concerning her responsibility to bring awareness to those who suffer abuse.

Patton disclosed that proposed legislature called for stricter laws in relation to domestic violence crimes such as violation of emergency protective orders and stalking.

The state budget does not

favor the ongoing existence of Pike County's Abuse Shelter, as funding was not made available for its upkeep. However, Patton stated that it did allocate for \$1.6 million for the Children's Advocacy Program, which allows children to stay in one building while their situation is determined.

Pair charged with trafficking cocaine

by LORETTA BLACKBURN
STAFF WRITER

KIMPER — Two men have been lodged in the Pike County Detention Center on bonds of \$100,000 and \$5,000 full cash pursuant to an event taking place at Kimper, where Brian K. Harris, 31, and Mickey Lee Thacker, 31, were allegedly observed trafficking in cocaine.

According to court documents, the two men were observed by Tpr. Ben Cramer, KSP, on Sunday, when they

transferred a package allegedly containing two separate bags of cocaine with a total weight of approximately two ounces at Callahan Branch.

Harris was arrested on first-degree trafficking in cocaine charges and placed in custody with a \$5,000 bond.

Thacker, who was also in possession of a gun, was charged with first-degree trafficking, carrying a concealed weapon and being a convicted felon possessing a handgun charge, which netted him a \$100,000 cash bond.

W.Va. man charged with attack, hit-and-run

by LORETTA BLACKBURN
STAFF WRITER

PIKEVILLE — A man residing in Red Jacket, W.Va., has been charged with several charges stemming from two separate events in 2001, including second-degree assault for striking a juvenile on a bicycle at McCarr.

According to court documents, Robert Joseph Chumley, 45, was arrested on March 21 at the Pike County Jail for events allegedly occurring on August 8, 2001. He is accused of striking a juvenile who was riding a bicycle on Route 1056, causing injuries to the minor. The criminal complaint alleges that he left

the scene, failing to render aid.

After he was located, Chumley allegedly admitted to driving while intoxicated and to assaulting the juvenile. He did not have insurance or registration at that time.

A warrant was executed on Chumley on March 22, in which he was charged with first-degree assault for allegedly assaulting Mark Lloyd on Sept. 7, 2001, with what appeared to be a knife or a small axe. The criminal complaint alleges that Lloyd was injured severely.

The charges against Chumley include first-degree assault, second-degree assault, leaving an accident, failure to render aid, driving under the influence, no insurance and no registration.

Classic cars alleged stolen

by JARRID DEATON
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — A Banner man has been charged with theft for allegedly obtaining four classic automobiles from a Hillsboro resident and refusing to give them back.

Danny Smith, 55, is charged with theft for allegedly refusing to let Beckham Smith have his 1948 Plymouth, 1969 Volkswagen, 1953 Oldsmobile and 1946 Dodge truck.

According to a court summons, Smith also has clothes and furniture belonging to Beckham Smith.

Danny Smith is scheduled to appear in court to answer the charge on May 7.

War

Continued from p10

working hard to make sure that when the food and medicine begins to move it does so in a safe way," he said.

Sensitive to international criticism that relief was slow in reaching Iraqis, the administration dispatched national security adviser Condoleezza Rice to the United Nations for a discussion of the issue. White House spokesman Ari Fleischer blamed Saddam for slowing the flow of goods by placing mines near Umm Qasr.

The war unfolded side by side with diplomatic maneuvering.

Speaking in Toronto, the American ambassador Paul Cellucci said Canada's refusal to send troops to the war effort has upset and disappointed the United States and caused a "bump in relations."

In Saudi Arabia, Foreign Minister Saud al-Faisal said his country has contacted the United States and Iraq with a peace proposal, and was awaiting a response.

He did not disclose the proposed terms. The Bush administration said it was not aware of any Saudi peace proposal, and there was no response from the Iraqi government.

CAP seeks 'Impressions Of Appalachia'

HAGER HILL — In an effort to promote local artists in nationally distributed publications, The Christian Appalachian Project is sending out a call for artists' renderings of Appalachia.

Artists are invited to submit their original drawings and photographs to be considered for use in calendars and various communication pieces produced

by the organization. CAP is seeking artwork that depicts the cultural heritage of Appalachia or the challenges faced by those who live in Appalachia.

Uses may include being a part of nationally distributed requests for donations to support the Christian Appalachian Project's mission and programs that help the disadvantaged of Appalachia help themselves. In

addition, the work may also be used in CAP's website and in future shows and exhibitions in selected locations.

All work to be considered for use by the Christian Appalachian Project in this call must be in a medium that can be reproduced in a high-quality black-and-white format. Only original art will be accepted.

The Christian Appalachian Project seeks to help promote local artists by using their work in widely distributed communi-

cation pieces. Artists will be compensated for their work, and whenever possible, will be given credit for their work, along with contact information when their work is used by the Christian Appalachian Project.

Deadline for submission of impressions of Appalachia is April 14.

For more information and complete rules; contact Marilynn Payson at (606) 789-9791 ext. 306 or email at mpayson@chrisapp.org.



photo by Kathy J. Prater

It was "standing room only" as parents and children alike crowded the hallways and meeting room of Adams Middle School to protest against the possibility of the ending of the long-standing reciprocal agreements between Floyd and neighboring counties in regard to which counties parents choose to have their children attend school in. The board voted to reauthorize and continue the agreements.

Agreements

Continued from p1

make the choice of where their children would attend.

Board chair Carol Stumbo, district 4, told the attending parents, "I don't think anyone ever saw this as a money issue. We need to get our kids back, but the same decision would have been made had you not been here. We care about kids and we will show you that in time."

Jeff Stumbo, district 3 board member, who seconded McGuire's motion, said, "We are trying to rebuild. We are moving toward progress. I ask each of you to just hang in there with us. In a couple of years, we will show you a better system."

McGuire's comments on the issue were, "This is America. I

think it is wrong to tell people what they have to do. I joined the school board to do what's right. I appreciate what these parents had to say here tonight."

EKSC 'Star Party' to be held Friday

PRESTONSBURG — Come see the stars Friday, March 28, during the East Kentucky Science Center's Star Party on Maggie Mountain, near the Stone Crest Golf Course, in Prestonsburg.

See up-close views of Jupiter, Saturn, the Orion Nebula, the Pleiades, star clusters and more through the Science Center's telescopes.

The Star Party will begin around 8:15 p.m. and will be held near the Stonecrest Golf Course Clubhouse parking lot on Maggie Mountain. The event is free and open to the public.

Star parties are part of the Science Center's Mobile Observatory Outreach Education

Program and are made possible through the assistance of the East Kentucky Regional GEAR-UP Project, Music-Carter automotive dealership and Citizens National Bank.

The event will be cancelled if the sky is cloudy or in case of rain. However, if the sky is partly cloudy and stars are visible, the event will be held as planned. In the case of the possibility of rain, listen to local radio stations, call the Science Center at (606) 889-0303, or visit the Center's website, www.wedo-science.org.

Please bring red-lensed flashlights only to the Star Party. White light limits night-time viewing.



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Smoke filled the community of Dinwood, just outside of Martin, early Thursday morning when an abandoned mobile home caught fire. Martin fire and police departments were called to the scene around 2 a.m. No one was injured. The fire remains under investigation.

Jenny Wiley AARP No. 3528 conducts meeting at HRMC

Jenny Wiley Chapter No. 3528, AARP, in its first meeting of the year 2003, convened in the meeting rooms of the office complex of Highlands Regional Medical Center, on Friday, March 21.

Burieta Gearhart, president, presided over the meeting.

The invocation and the pledge of allegiance to the American Flag were given.

The minutes of the last meeting and the treasurer's report were presented, and these were approved.

The president reported that May 6 is Volunteers Day, and she stressed the importance of volunteering, and encouraged all present to do some kind of volunteer work. She also reported that a Fifty-Five Alive driving course would be conducted on May 5th and 6th, with Willis Haws as the instructor.

The president reported on the Tax-Aide program in progress. She said that they had three workers, and that in February, they assisted more than 100 taxpayers with their income tax

forms. She also stated that a computer program was available.

The matter of membership was discussed, and the need for the participation of the retired teachers was stressed.

The election and installation of officers will definitely be held at the April meeting, and due to the date falling on Good Friday, the time for the meeting was set for 5 p.m., at Highlands Regional.

Gladys Allen presented Jane Bond from the Floyd County Health Department, and she discussed the smallpox prevention program that is being planned in the event there is a threat that the disease could become active.

The next meeting of the Chapter will be held on Friday, April 18, 5 p.m., at the office complex of Highlands Regional.

Present for this meeting were Sarah Laven, Gladys S. Allen, Garnett Fairchild, Jane Bond, Eva Collins, James E. Goble, Burieta Gearhart, Elizabeth B. Castle, Charlotte Goble, and Freddie and Beverly Goble.

Pet Adoption Corner



Whether you're looking for an energetic puppy or an indoor cat, with over a hundred animals all the time, the Floyd County Animal Shelter is sure to have just the pet for you! If any of the animals pictured to the left catch your eye, please drop by the shelter to meet them, and if they've already been adopted, to meet their friends.

Our featured pets today are two chow mix puppies, one boy and one girl. They are sweet, friendly eight-week-olds, both ready for adoption right away.



The Floyd County Animal Shelter is located at Sally Stephens Branch in west Prestonsburg. The shelter is open from 10:00 to 5:00 Monday through Friday, and 10:00 to 3:00 Saturdays, and can be reached by phone at 886-3189.

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M a r c h 3 0 , 2 0 0 3

Highlands Regional Medical Center would like to say "Thank You" to the members of its Medical Staff for providing high quality care to the community. From treating minor illnesses to responding to the life-threatening trauma of an automobile accident or heart attack, doctors make the difference. Only a doctor can order a lab test or a radiology procedure, prescribe medicine, or admit a patient to the hospital. Hospitals provide patient care according to the instructions of the admitting or consulting physician.

Doctors truly do care about their patients. They miss many meals with their families and even miss many of their children's activities. They get awakened at all hours of the night and get "beeped" during important events they do attend.

On this special day, the Administration, Board of Trustees, and employees of Highlands Regional Medical Center say "Thank You" to all the dedicated Doctors serving on Highlands Medical Staff.

**Alan J.
Hyden,
MD,**

Family Practitioner
and Chief of
Medical Staff at
Highlands Regional.

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Girls' Sweet 16 Basketball Tourney

TODAY'S GAMES

Perry County Central-Lexington Catholic, Noon
Butler-Shelby County, 1:30 p.m.
Campbell County - Betsy Layne, 6:30 p.m.
Boyd County - Clinton County, 8 p.m.

THURSDAY'S GAMES

Christian County - Mercer County, Noon
Jackson County - Calloway County, 1:30 p.m.
Washington County - Muhlenberg North, 6:30 p.m.
Newport Central Catholic - Sacred Heart, 8 p.m.

INSIDESPORTS

- H.S. Football • page 2B
- Wrestling • page 3B
- Bristol race page 4B

Beaver Creek signups

Beaver Creek Little League recently held signups for the upcoming season, but that doesn't mean players can't still get in on the action. If someone still wants to sign up they can do so by calling Dexter Conley at 358-9444. Teams haven't started practice yet.



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LADYCAT PROFILE

Lykens in lineup improved team's play

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

BETSY LAYNE - When Whitney Lykens re-entered the Betsy Layne lineup following an injury suffered just before the All "A" Classic, the team took on a more complete look. Lykens, who



Whitney Lykens

scored her 1,000 career point last season as a sophomore, is the Ladycats' most accurate long-range bomber. She averages 29.2 percent from three-point

land, hitting 19-of-65 treys heading into today's State Tournament game.

Despite the injury, Lykens managed to play in 23 of Betsy

(See LYKENS, page two)

HONORS

Grigsby Jr. honored as 'Living Legend'

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

LEXINGTON - Pete Grigsby Jr. will always have a place in 15th Region boys' basketball. During last week's Boys' Sweet 16 State Basketball Tournament, Grigsby Jr. was recognized in



At UK, 1954

Session 4, Game 7 Thursday when South Laurel and Rose Hill were busy doing battle in the opening round as "a living legend in Kentucky high school sports."

The Floyd resident was honored and introduced with two other legendary coaches, Al Pruitt and S.T. Roach.

The Floyd County product was a first-team all-state player in 1952 at Martin High School. He was signed by Adolph Rupp to play basketball at the University

(See LEGEND, page two)



Cassandra Akers

A LOOK AT BOTH TEAMS

Bray leads the way for Campbell Co.

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

Both teams look similar on paper which should make for a good matchup.

Betsy Layne will enter this

evening's Girls' Sweet 16 State Basketball Tournament game against Campbell County with a record of 26-5. Campbell County is just off of Betsy Layne's season mark with a worksheet of 25-6.

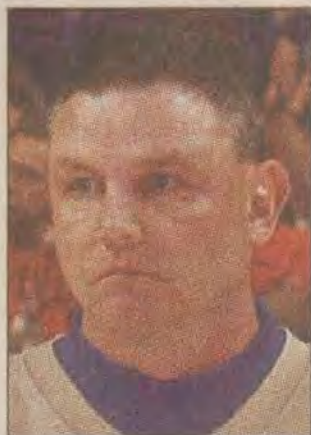
Two players average in double figures for Campbell County. One of the two, Lindsey Bray, averages a double-double with an average of 10.3 points per game and 12 rebounds each outing.

Betsy Layne, coached by

Cassandra Akers, has three players - Natasha Stratton (16.8), Whitney Lykens (14.8) and Kim Clark (11.8) - averaging double figures on the season.

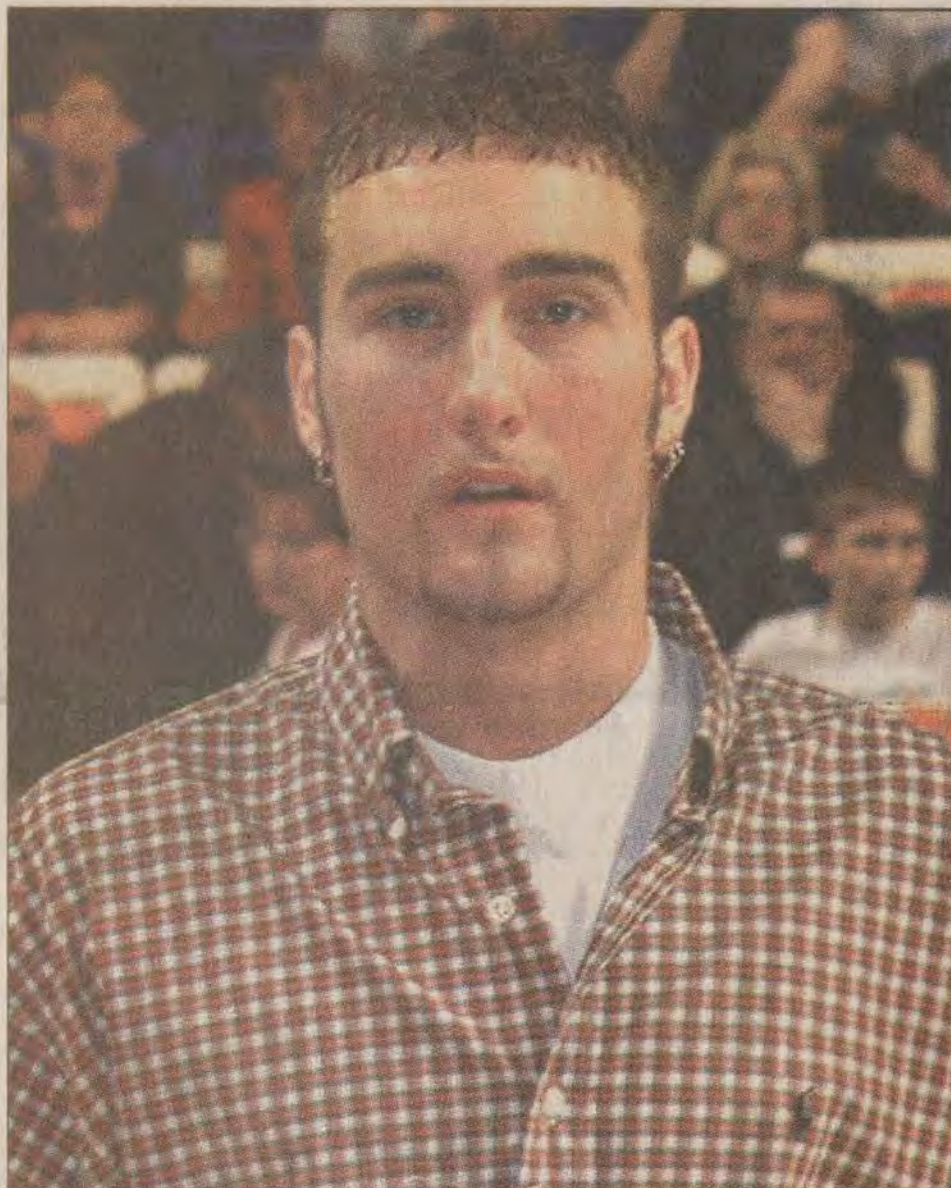
(See TEAMS, page two)

- 15th Region's Best -



photos by Jamie Howell

The 15th Region's top coach, Bill Mike Runyon (above), and top player, Michael Hall (left), were honored during last week's State Tournament. Hall will play next season at Pikeville College.



Hall, Runyon honored at Sweet 16 tourney

by JAMIE HOWELL
SPORTS WRITER

LEXINGTON - Michael Hall had the finishing touches added to a great senior season at South Floyd on Friday evening by being named the KABC (Kentucky Association of Basketball Coaches) 15th Region Player of the Year at Rupp Arena during the Boys' Sweet 16.

The honor capped a year of honors and awards for Hall that included a nomination to the McDonalds High School All-American team and a 58th

District Tournament MVP award.

Hall also became the all-time leading scorer at South Floyd as the guard scored over 2,500 points in his career. With the honor of player of the year comes an automatic invitation to the tryouts for the Kentucky All-Star team that will compete against the Indiana All-Star team over the summer. Hall led South Floyd to four straight 58th district titles and a trip to the Sweet 16 during his days at South Floyd High School and will play at the college level for Randy McCoy at Pikeville College.

Another honor that was presented in Lexington was the KABC Coach of the Year for the 15th Region. Bill Mike Runyon of the Paintsville Tigers was the winner of the coach of the year award. Runyon has guided the Tigers to several region titles and a state championship during his tenure at Paintsville. The Tigers came within one win of the Sweet 16 the past two seasons before falling to Shelby Valley in the finals of the 15th Region tournament. The player and coach of the year are selected by the member coaches within that region.

H.S. BASKETBALL

Stratton helps Ladycats to State

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

BETSY LAYNE - As early as her formative grade school years, Betsy Layne senior Natasha Stratton showed she had what it took to take her game to the



Natasha Stratton

tough confines of the 15th Region and survive the rough and tumble affairs the region offered. What began as a senior season back in October with pre-season practices still hasn't ended for the senior Ladycat. She has several new career milestones in her final

(See STRATTON, page two)

BASEBALL

ALC baseball keeps busy

TIMES STAFF REPORT

PIPPA PASSES - The Alice Lloyd College baseball team has played several games over the past several days. The team even traveled to Myrtle Beach, South Carolina for a spring road trip during its Spring Break.

On Tuesday, March 11, the Eagles hosted Kenyon College (Ohio) in a doubleheader. The Eagles won the first game 7-1. Chris Spurlock went three for five with a run scored and Noah May

(See ALC, page two)

ALL-STARS

Moore will play in Ky.-Ohio game

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

The Ohio/Kentucky All-Stars basketball games will be played April 18 at Thomas More College. The girls team includes Sheldon Clark senior and Marshall University signee Kelli Moore. She is joined on the team by Leigh Bolinger (Hopkinsville), Angela Brown (Clinton County), Megan Gearheart (West Carter),

(See MOORE, page two)

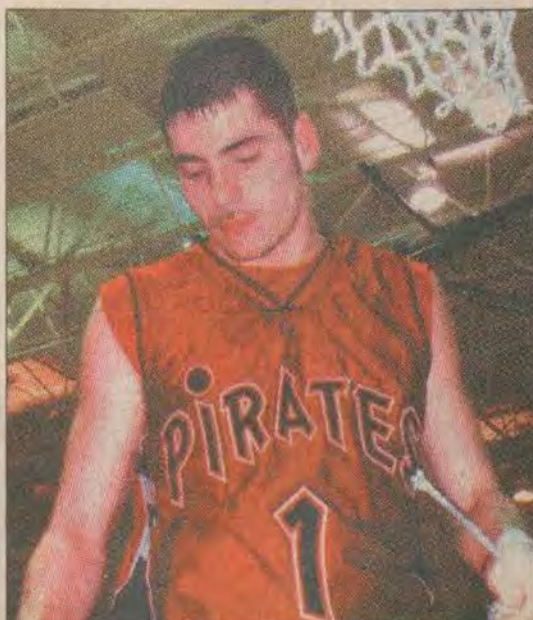
Kentucky makes first two rounds look easy

by CHRIS DUNCAN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOUISVILLE - Not long ago, Kentucky guard Keith Bogans said his team's practices are harder than its games. That hasn't changed in the NCAA tournament.

Kentucky won its first two games by 51 total points heading into Thursday's Midwest Regional semifinal against Wisconsin (24-7) at the Metrodome.

(See UK, page two)



Powell County sharpshooter Jeremy Jones took his turn on the net following a championship victory. Jones, a senior who played in last week's State Tournament, and South Floyd's Michael Hall, are cousins. Jones is still undecided on college.

NCAA Tournament Round Two In Review

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — A team of blue-collar kids with crew cuts from a tiny Indiana school beat a powerhouse in the big tournament.

Sound vaguely familiar? Darnell Archey's brilliant shooting and Brandon Miller's deft ball-handling Sunday swept 12th-seeded Butler into the round of 16 for the first time with a 79-71 stunner over Rick Pitino and Louisville in the East Regional.

The Horizon League team

that plays in the gym where the ultimate underdog movie, "Hoosiers", was filmed is writing a poignant script of its own with upsets of No. 5 Mississippi State and the fourth-seeded Cardinals (26-6).

Next, the Bulldogs (27-5) meet top-seeded Oklahoma on Friday in Albany, N.Y.

Archey shot 8-of-9 on 3-pointers — hitting all six in the second half — and tied his career high with 26 points to end Pitino's return to the NCAA tournament.

Butler, with an enrollment of

about 4,000 — less than a fifth of Louisville's — made 14 of 22 3-pointers, including 9-of-13 in the second half, to erase an early 15-point deficit.

Reece Gaines scored 22 of his 26 points in the second half for Louisville.

Auburn 68, Wake Forest 62

TAMPA, Fla. — Cliff Ellis can sing it proud. His Auburn Tigers really do belong in the NCAA tournament.

Feeding off their underdog status one more time, the team that many felt shouldn't have been invited to the tourney stunned second-seeded Wake Forest.

Marquis Daniels led the way, returning from a five-minute spell on the bench in foul trouble to score seven of his 18 points in the final four minutes. Reserve Lewis Monroe scored Auburn's last four points from the foul line to finish with 12.

The 10th-seeded Tigers (22-11) advanced to the round of 16

for the second time in five seasons under Ellis, a musician who's recorded several CDs that the coach likes to play in the locker room and on the team bus.

Auburn will face third-seeded Syracuse in the regional semifinals.

Freshman Justin Gray led Wake Forest (25-6) with a career-high 26 points. But the Atlantic Coast Conference regular-season champions were unable to overcome another sub-par performance by Josh Howard, the ACC player of the year. He had 14 points and a team-high seven turnovers.

Syracuse 68, Oklahoma State 56

BOSTON — Never count out Carmelo Anthony and Syracuse's other freshmen.

And don't write off the Big East, either. The conference remained unbeaten in the NCAA tournament when Syracuse overcame an awful start to advance to the regional

semifinals.

Third-seeded Syracuse (26-5) will be joined in the round of 16 by three other teams from the Big East, 8-0 in the tournament. The conference

received only four bids to the NCAA, which excluded one of its division winners, Boston College.

(See REVIEW, page three)

Stratton

Continued from p1

prep season, including 1,000 career points. She was also the Floyd County Conference Player of the Year.

But neither was the top prize. The top prize for Stratton and her Ladycat teammates was the 15th Region title. That was taken on Saturday, March 15 against two-time defending champ Johnson Central. Team goals, not individual ones, have Stratton and the rest of the Betsy Layne team still playing here on March 26.

The date March 26 is deep into the high school basketball season. Bowling Green is a long trip, a five hours-plus journey for most all that'll leave from Floyd County. But it is a trip that Betsy Layne is glad to take. It is a trip a girls' basketball player, a senior in Natasha Stratton's case, dreams about. It was the last chance for Natasha Stratton to get to the "Big Dance" as many refer to it as.

The team's leading scorer this

season, averaging 16.8 points per game, Stratton is very much a team player, which keeps her up near the top of the team stats in rebounding and assists. Although her playing time this season was increased over her previous seasons, she never slowed in her efforts. She kept working hard, and we all know hard work is the way to go.

And she'd like to continue her playing career after high school.

With the skills she's exhibited this season alone, one would have to think some college out there has room for a Natasha Stratton on its roster.

A senior leader was born when Natasha Stratton first touched the ball in pre-season drills. This evening, Betsy Layne will face Campbell County in the first round of the Girls' Sweet 16 State Basketball Tournament. Natasha Stratton will be there. Will you?

H.S. FOOTBALL

Many teams begin spring grid practice

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

Prestonsburg High School's John DeRossett has his hands full with baseball as the new head coach of the Blackcats, but that doesn't mean the football team is missing anything. DeRossett and his football staff are busy with the team in preparation for next season. The head coach is juggling the two sports and making due quite nicely.

It's early to start talking football, but one would have to think Prestonsburg is looking like one of the favorites in a tough district which will include Belfry and Sheldon Clark. The Blackcats hope to line Johnson

Central transfer Chat Yates up in their backfield. Trevor Compton will take over quarterbacking duties for Prestonsburg, following a standout career by Joey Willis. Compton has already been busy in recent weeks throwing to receivers.

South Floyd will enter the fall with Donnie Daniels back at the helm of the school's football program for a second straight season after a prior two-year absence. Daniels is looking to add more of the offensive and entire game plan he ran for many years at Wheelwright and later at South Floyd in his first tenure at the school.

Paintsville High School was

(See PRACTICE, page three)

Legend

Continued from p1

of Kentucky, despite having an offer from Georgia Tech that guaranteed him a starting position as a freshman. He also played baseball at Kentucky. In college, he was part of UK's undefeated 1954 team.

As a coach at McDowell High School, Grigsby Jr. took three teams to the Sweet Sixteen ('66, '71, '73).

He also served as a director on the KHSAA Board of Control. Grigsby is still involved with 15th Region athletics, doing play-by-play broadcasts for WPRG of Harold.

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Lykens

Continued from p1

Layne's 31 games. She averages nearly 15 points per game on the season, 14.8 to be exact, good enough for second on the team behind senior Natasha Stratton. Lykens is the team's leading rebounder, pulling down six boards per game.

What started in grade school as a member of the Betsy Layne High varsity team has evolved into a state tournament game as a junior for Whitney Lykens. Her game and soft shooting touch had opposing coaches inside and outside the 15th Region taking notice early on in her career. Playing in today's State Tournament may introduce her to the rest of the state. Campbell County will probably be among the first to meet her.

UK

Continued from p1

The Wildcats (31-3), who have won 25 straight, return to practice Tuesday. Coach Tubby Smith will stick to a season-long routine of having his players forget about their previous victories by plunging into preparations for the next game.

"We get that last game out of their minds immediately. That's been a big key," Smith said. "They know their mind-set is on the upcoming (game). They don't have time to reflect back."

If they did, it would be hard to find something to nitpick from the Cats' 74-54 win over Utah on Sunday.

The victory fit neatly into Kentucky's formula for success this season — smothering defense, dominant rebounding and unspectacular, but efficient, offense.

The Wildcats outrebounded the Utes 35-22 and held Utah to 39.6 percent shooting. It was Kentucky's 10th double-digit rebound margin and the seventh time in eight games it has held an opponent under 40 percent.

Kentucky shot 47 percent from the field against Utah — its worst shooting effort in five games. But the Wildcats went 18-for-18 from the free-throw line, only the second time this season they haven't missed a foul shot in a game.

"Mentally, we couldn't have been better focused," Smith said of his team's tournament play so far. "I'm really proud of the maturity they've shown and how well they're playing together, how well they're digesting the game plan and executing the game plan."

The Wildcats have had that success because of their intense practices. Bogans said before Kentucky played Tennessee on Feb. 26 that "guys get after each other" during practice, making it tougher than playing in games.

Kentucky will have to another challenge against Wisconsin, which is known for its deliberate offensive style.

LSU and South Carolina tried milking the clock on Kentucky during its perfect run through the Southeastern Conference regular season. Both lost to the Wildcats by double digits.

That may not be the Badgers' game plan, anyway. Coach Bo Ryan said his team won't simply try to eat up the shot clock on every possession.

"We've never held the ball yet," Ryan said. "It's just what you have to do to get a good shot. Nobody that knows us, that has seen us play, says anything about us holding the ball."

Shutting down offenses has been Kentucky's specialty all season.

The Wildcats harassed Notre Dame point guard Chris Thomas into nine turnovers on Jan. 18. Four days later, they held Auburn to 2-for-14 shooting from 3-point range. They forced then-No. 1 Florida into 19 turnovers on Feb. 4.

Kentucky won all three games by double digits.

"We've always been a good defensive team," Smith said. "Most teams that compete for championships year in and year out, whether it's in the Big Ten or the Big East or the SEC, are going to have to defend people."

Kentucky's defense usually leads to offense, and Smith said that will be a key in Thursday's game against the careful Badgers, who lead the Big Ten in turnover margin (+3.45).

Ryan said his team must counter Kentucky's defense with patience.

"We're going to probe, we're going to try to get good cuts, look for a shot after three passes," Ryan said. "But if it takes us seven or eight, we'll work it."

ALC

Continued from p1

went two for three with a run scored in the game. David Hatfield was the winning pitcher. The Eagles also won the second game, 4-2. K.W. Sexton, Brandon Morgan and Ben Monroe each went one for two with runs scored in the game. Michael Marcum was the winning pitcher and Brian Smith picked up the save.

On Wednesday, March 12, the Eagles traveled to Pikeville College. They lost 15-5. Sexton went one for two in the game with a home run. Doug Clark went two for three with a run scored.

On Friday and Saturday, March 14 and 15, the Eagles traveled to King College (Tenn.) for a three game series.

The Eagles lost the first game 13-5. They hit the ball well with 13 hits, but they committed five errors and left eight runners on base. Chris Spurlock and Doug Clark went two for five with runs scored. Ben Monroe went two for four with a run scored. In the second game the Eagles lost a close one by the score of 6-5.

Chris Spurlock, Doug Clark and Byron Hall each went two for three in the game with a run scored. Clark also hit a home run. In the third game of the series, the Eagles lost 12-2. They were able to get only five hits. Derrick Whitaker went two for two with a run scored and a double.

The Eagles traveled to Myrtle Beach for their annual Spring trip March 16-18. They only played one junior varsity game before the rain came and they had to cancel the other games that were scheduled.

On Friday and Saturday,

March 21 and 22, the Eagles hosted Bluefield College in a three game series. They won the first game 5-3. They pounded out 10 hits in the win. Doug Clark went two for four with a run scored and Dan Howard went two for three with a run scored. Derrick Whitaker hit a game winning two run home run in the bottom of the ninth inning. David Hatfield was the winning pitcher. Bluefield won the second game 5-0. Doug Clark went two for four with a double. Bryan Hall went two for three in the game.

In the third game, the Eagles lost 3-2. They managed only four hits. Clark went two for four with a double and a run scored and Dan Howard went two for three with a double.

At press time, the Eagles were hosting Mid-Continent in a doubleheader. ALC will travel to Rio Grande College (Ohio) on Thursday. On Friday the squad will host Union College in a doubleheader beginning at 1. On Saturday they will host Union again in a single game at 3.

Women's softball at Alice Lloyd College

Alice Lloyd College will field a women's fast-pitch softball team this spring for the first time in several years. The team will play a limited schedule of 11 doubleheaders. It will not participate in the AAC and will not participate in postseason play this year. The team will be coached by Floyd County native Tim Rice, who is also the women's basketball coach at the college.

All home games will be played at Hindman Park.

Moore

Continued from p1

Tracy Harbut (Bryan Station), Marquise Hanser (Notre Dame Academy), Charlotte Marshall (Shelby County), Angela Mullins (Hopkins County Central), Lauren Parrish (Mercy Academy), Toni Slaughter (Shelby County), Jessica Still (Apollo), Kelli Payton (Pleasure Ridge Park) and Megan Wood (Pendleton County).

The head coach for the Kentucky girls is Casey Sparrow of Covington Holmes. The assistant coach is Lisa Sparrow, also of Covington Holmes.

Mason County head coach Kelly Wells, fresh off a state championship, will coach the Kentucky boys. Team members include Lartavious Banks (Hopkinsville), Sean Booker (Ballard), Mike Brock (Simon Kenton), Rontreal Braxton (Hopkinsville), Chris Current (Frankfort), Justin Doellman (Ryle), Russ Gibson (Henderson County), Tyler Jones (Grant Co.), Isiah Mills (Corbin), Andrew Preston (Clark County), Dontae Sweatt (Pleasure Ridge Park) and Ryan Williams (Morgan County).

Wells will be assisted by Ryle High School's Nate Niemi.

Teams

Continued from p1

Betsy Layne holds the advantage in scoring with an average of 62 points per game. But it's a slight advantage. Campbell County averages 60.1 The Ladycats hold opponents to 44.1 points. Campbell County opponents have scored an average of 47.5 points per game over the course of the season.

One sizable advantage the Lady Camels look to have over Betsy Layne is in the rebounding department. Campbell County averages 48.9 rebounds per game. This season, the Lady Camels have managed 1,517 rebounds. Betsy Layne has pulled down 969 boards for an average of 31.3 each game.

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P'burg wrestlers compete in Young Guns Shootout

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

SOPHIA, W.Va. — The Prestonsburg Youth Wrestling Club traveled to West Virginia for a second straight weekend over the weekend and again came away with trophies in many hands.

Nick Rowe led the Prestonsburg group with a first-place finish in the 4 and under division. Jordan Baldrige placed second for Prestonsburg in the 11-12-year-old heavy

(See P'BURG, page four)



Some members of the Prestonsburg Youth Wrestling Club are pictured above. Nick Rowe (right) won the four-and-under division in last weekend's tournament.



Review

No. 6 Oklahoma State (22-10) rushed to a 14-2 lead, running after nearly every miss by the Orangemen. But Anthony, Gerry McNamara and Billy Edelin, all freshmen, brought Syracuse back.

Edelin scored 20 points, and McNamara finished with 14 despite missing nearly six minutes to have a wound bandaged above his nose. Anthony, perhaps the nation's top freshman, had 13.

Texas 77, Purdue 67

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — Triple-threat T.J. Ford and his Texas teammates are going home — to keep playing in the NCAA tournament, that is.

Considered by some to be the best guard in college basketball, Ford scored 21 points and added nine rebounds and eight assists.

Now, he and the top-seeded Longhorns (24-6) can take their traveling party back to Texas. They're headed to San Antonio, where they'll take on fifth-seeded Connecticut on Friday at the Alamodome.

James Thomas contributed 11 points and 12 rebounds and Royal Ivey had 14 points as Texas reached the round of 16 for the second straight year, a first for the program.

Willie Deane scored 13 points for ninth-seeded Purdue (19-11), which fell short of the round of 16 for the fourth time in six seasons.

Maryland 77, Xavier 64

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — No need to beat the buzzer this time. Maryland jumped ahead of Xavier right from the start.

The defending national champion Terrapins, who got a game-

winning 3-pointer from Drew Nicholas in the most exciting finish of the first round, shut down David West early and beat the Musketeers to reach the round of 16 for the third straight year.

Nicholas and Ryan Randle scored 17 points apiece for sixth-seeded Maryland (21-9).

West, the three-time Atlantic 10 player of the year, finished with 22 points and nine rebounds for No. 3 seed Xavier (26-6), but most of it came way too late.

Michigan State 68, Florida 46

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — Michigan State, stung and shocked when Anthony Roberson chose Florida over the home-state Spartans, held the freshman guard scoreless as part of a stunningly easy win over the Gators.

Getting playing time that might have otherwise gone to Roberson, freshman guard Maurice Ager scored 16 points to help the seventh-seeded Spartans (21-12) win in a rematch of the 2000 title game, also a Michigan State victory.

Tom Izzo's team advanced to play defending champion Maryland in the South Regional semifinals next week in San Antonio.

The second-seeded Gators (25-8) failed to get past the first weekend of the tournament for the third straight year — and failed to break 50 points for the first time in coach Billy Donovan's seven years. David Lee finished with 16 points and four rebounds.

Kentucky 74, Utah 54

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Keith

Bogans and Marquis Estill scored 18 points apiece and top-seeded Kentucky cruised into the round of 16 for the ninth time in 11 years.

Kentucky (31-3) stretched its winning streak to 25 games, a run sparked by an 18-point loss to rival Louisville on Dec. 28.

It wasn't a shock at all that No. 9 Utah (25-8) had its season end at the hands of Kentucky. The teams were meeting in the tournament for the fifth time in 11 years — the Wildcats have won each time, including a victory in the 1998 national championship game.

Kentucky advanced to meet Wisconsin in the regional semifinals at Minneapolis on Thursday. The Wildcats were knocked out in the round of 16 the last two years, but it will take a major upset by the Badgers to make it three in a row.

Marc Jackson led Utah with 19 points.

Pittsburgh 74, Indiana 52

BOSTON — Pittsburgh's defense put the Panthers in the round of 16 for the second consecutive year and ended Indiana's hopes of back-to-back trips to the NCAA title game.

Jaron Brown scored 20 points, and Brandin Knight added 17 points, seven assists and five steals for second-seeded Pittsburgh (28-4), which has won 11 straight. The Panthers will play No. 3 Marquette in Minneapolis on Thursday.

George Leach scored 15 points for the seventh-seeded Hoosiers (21-13), who lost to Maryland in the championship game last year.

COLLEGE SOFTBALL

Softball Lady Bears fall

TIMES STAFF REPORT

The Pikeville College softball team and first-year head coach Robert Staggs lost twice Friday night, losing both ends of a Mid-

South Conference doubleheader to Lindsey Wilson College at Paul Butcher Field.

The Lady Raiders beat Pikeville 3-0 in the opener. Lindsey Wilson then took the

second game 11-4.

Five consecutive Lindsey Wilson baserunners crossed home plate in the first inning of

(See SOFTBALL, page four)

SWEET 16 FINALS

Lofton hits nine treys as Mason Co. claims first state title

by JAMIE HOWELL
SPORTS WRITER

LEXINGTON — Kelly Wells really knows his players well at Mason County and that became obvious on Saturday evening as the Royals defeated a good Louisville Ballard team in the championship game of the Sweet 16 by a score of 86-65. In an interview before the start of the tournament it was Wells who stated that he felt like he had the best junior in the state in Chris Lofton. The youngster would not let his coach down. In the semifinals on Saturday morning,

Lofton finished with 30 points against Hopkinsville while going four of five from beyond the arc.

In the finals on Saturday night, Lofton again lit up Rupp Arena, scoring 39 points against Ballard and finishing the game nine of 12 from three point range. Lofton went 13 of 17 from beyond the arc in the two games combined. The junior went a combined 12 of 12 from the free-throw line during the two game span. Mason Co. led 42-28 at the half behind a three point barrage over the first two quarters that left the Rupp Arena crowd of 18,957 in awe as the Royals went an amazing 10 of 17 from three-point range in the first half alone.

15-year-old record with the nine three-pointers in a game and the team as a whole with 14 on the night. The third quarter was even as both teams put 20 points on the board in the quarter and Mason held a 14 point lead after three. Both teams finished the game with 29 rebounds and Mason County had 18 points off Ballard turnovers. Alex Hedges led the Bruins with 15 points on the night. Mason County outscored Ballard 24-17 in the fourth quarter to come away with the win and a first state title.

Scoring was as follows:

Mason Co. — Lofton 39, Grutza 11, Tibbs 9, Myrick 8, Vice 8, Jones 7, Gilbert 4.

Ballard — Hedges 15, Grimes 12, Baines 9, Booker 7, Gulley 7, Lee 6, Whitaker 8, Reeves 1.

Practice

Continued from p2

out Monday in shoulder pads and helmets with mostly linemen taking part in spring drills. Across town in Johnson County, Johnson Central was also out working.

Paintsville assistant coaches Jim Tom Allen, Milton Preston and Joe Chirico were overseeing drills Monday.

Paintsville recently added a transfer from Johnson Central, freshmen Simon Davis, to its already impressive freshman class. Many Paintsville first-year high school players saw action last season. Adam Smyth, Hans Doderor and Matt Blevins were among the freshman backs who saw a great amount of playing time during the 2002 season. Linemen Adam Cummings, Johnny Porter, Brandon LeMaster and Blake Lemaster lead another talented freshmen core group.

A couple of other backs who'll return as sophomores in the fall for Paintsville are Matt Crisp and Corey Welch, transfers from Floyd County. Both players attended Allen Grade School.

Prestonsburg and Paintsville won't play each other in the regular-season in the fall but will scrimmage in the pre-season.

A LOOK AT SPORTS

Betsy Layne squares off against Campbell County

by ED TAYLOR
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

Coach Cassandra Akers will take her "first" Betsy Layne Lady Cat (26-5) basketball team to E.A. Diddle Arena tonight and you know the nerves have to be jitter. The Lady Cats will face 10th Region champion Campbell County (25-6) in a 6:30 p.m. tip off time.

It will not be the first appearance of a Betsy Layne team in the Sweet Sixteen as then coach Bill Newsome took the '93 team after beating Belfry in the finals of the girls' 15th Region.

Coach Akers has taken her teams to two straight All "A" state tournaments in Richmond but had never won a 15th Regional championship until they unseated Johnson Central two weeks ago.

In looking for some kind of comparison in scheduling, Campbell County did not play any of the foes the Lady Cats faced during the past regular season. The closest we can come in comparison is when Allen

Central beat Ryle in their own tournament and Campbell County owned a 69-62 win over Ryle as well. Betsy Layne defeated Allen Central in two of the three games they played.

I look for this edition of Betsy Layne girls' basketball to be ready to play a good Campbell County team. After all, the Lady Cats knocked off eighth ranked Johnson Central in the regional finals and on the Lady Eagles home court. I will go as far as to say the Lady Cats will take this one. I wish Betsy Layne the best.

I had plans to get to the tournament so I could root Betsy Layne on, but circumstances will prevent me from making the trip to Bowling Green. But I will be rooting for them here in Florida.

ANDERSON: A PLEASANT FIND

Jimmy Anderson, a pleasant surprise in the Cincinnati Reds camp this spring, has won the fifth spot in the Reds rotation for

the 2003 season. Anderson is a 27-year-old lefthander who came to the Reds by way of Pittsburgh. The Reds coaching staff has lauded Anderson as being their best pitcher this spring.

Anderson will join the ranks of Jimmy Haynes, who will pitch the opener on March 21, Ryan Dempster, Danny Graves, and Paul Wilson. However, there is a chance that Wilson may start the season on the disabled list in that case Chris Reitsman will get the nod in the rotation.

Another item out of the Reds camp is playing shortstop Barry Larkin in the outfield some this season. The veteran shortstop is in his last year of a three-year contract with the Reds and he may be replaced at short by Felipe Lopez. However, while Lopez is a slick fielder, his bat is rather anemic.

Any way you look at it, the Reds pitching has been their sore spot for several seasons. However, as the Reds break camp it appears that the administration is optimistic as the 2003 season unfolds. But every one is optimistic this time of year.

Until Friday, good sports everyone and be good sports!



Their Owners



Our Owners

There is a difference between corporate ownership and cooperative ownership, because we're owned by the people we serve. At a co-op, the people who use the power have the power.

Big Sandy RECC

A Touchstone Energy Cooperative



photo by Steve LeMaster

The Betsy Layne Ladycats got together for a photo during a pep rally held Monday evening. The team will open play in the state tournament this evening against Campbell County.

NCAA TOURNAMENT

Wildcats in Sweet 16

TIMES STAFF REPORT

For the eighth time in nine years, Kentucky has advanced to the regional semifinals and, this year, will battle Big Ten Champion Wisconsin Thursday at 6:10 p.m. in the Midwest Regional. Only Kentucky has claimed such consistency in the NCAA Tournament. During the nine-year stretch, UK has a 5-2 record in Sweet 16 action, appearing in three Final Fours and capturing two NCAA Championships.

Pittsburgh/Marquette victor on Saturday.

UK is the nation's top-ranked team in the final AP poll and has strung together the country's longest winning streak at 25 games. During the stretch, the Cats have outscored opponents by 17.3 ppg and held each of their five postseason opponents below 40 percent shooting. It's the nation's longest win streak since the Cats ran off 27 straight during the 1996 NCAA Championship

season. UK finished 34-2 that season, with losses to Massachusetts in November and Mississippi State in March. UMass also compiled a 25-game win streak to start that '96 season.

UK owns NCAA records in tournament appearances (44), wins (91) and tournament games played (129). Tubby Smith is 22-8 in NCAA Tournament play, which ranks as the fifth-best winning percentage among active coaches.

Sports Calendar

HUNTING

Education course

The Pike County Extension Service Educational Center will host a hunter education course from 6-9 p.m. March 27-29. For more information or to register call 606/432-2534 or 800/233-1390. Instructor Larry Dotson may also be contacted by calling 606/432-3702 after 6 p.m.

BASKETBALL

Boys' tournament

The fourth annual Northern Kentucky Tar Heels Spring Shootout is scheduled for April 4-6 in Covington. The tournament will have 12-and-under,

13-and-under and 14-and-under divisions. For more information, contact James Pouncy at 859/491-5478 or via email at jamespouncy@hotmail.com

RUNNING

Tug Valley Road Runners Club

The Tug Valley Road Runners Club and the city of Williamson, W.Va. will present a 10k run on Saturday, April 26. The race will start at 8 a.m. at the SWVCTC campus in Williamson.

Later this year, the Hatfield-McCoy Marathon/Half marathon will be held. Saturday, June 14 is the date slated for the Hatfield-McCoy races. The half marathon will start in Goody in Pike County and end in Matewan, W.Va. The full marathon will also start in Goody, but will end in Williamson.

Both the half marathon and

the marathon will begin at 7 a.m.

For information on any of the aforementioned races, contact David Hatfield by calling 606/353-1626 or email tvrcc@hotmail.com.

PRO WRESTLING

Fundraisers

The Appalachian Wrestling Federation, a professional wrestling company, is currently accepting bookings for fundraisers. For more information, call 606/784-9186 or email jbcoole@excite.com. The mailing address follows

Appalachian Wrestling Federation
Joe Clark, Promoter
385 E. Campbell Br.
Morehead, KY 40351

NASCAR

Busch breaks into winner's circle, defends Bristol victory

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BRISTOL, Tenn. — Kurt Busch didn't need any bumping, banging or late-race dramatics. Good clean racing and a little luck was all it took to get him back into Bristol's winner's circle.

Busch, a runner-up three times this season, earned his first win of the year Sunday and defended his

Food City 500 title by gambling on pit strategy and avoiding all but one of the 17 cautions at Bristol Motor Speedway.

Coming off last week's thrilling door-to-door battle with Ricky Craven that he lost, Busch had little competition as his Ford Taurus led the final 96 laps and easily held off Roush Racing teammate Matt Kenseth by .390 seconds.

Bobby Labonte was third in a Chevrolet, Ricky Rudd finished fourth in a Ford, Roush Racing

rookie Greg Biffle was fifth and Sterling Marlin scored his highest finish of the season by coming in sixth in a Dodge.

The ending lacked the drama of last year, when Busch scored his first career victory by knocking Jimmy Spencer out of his way.

This year, he stayed patient as he coasted around the .533-mile bullring — he spun out once mid-way through the race — and let the bumping and banging go on behind him.

DIRT TRACK

Willard Speedway presents show No. 2 of new season

TIMES STAFF REPORT

WILLARD — Another impressive show was held Saturday at the red clay, fastest quarter mile in the Tri-State, Willard Speedway in Carter County. Forty-plus cars turned out to participate in the second racing event of the season. The modified feature race was an intense race with the No. 3 car of Jim Allen of Martin, and the No. 20 machine of Jason Perry, in a close race. Allen's No. 3 car managed to cross the finish line first. Another exciting contest was in the Bomber race between the No. 83D car of George Meade and the No. 88 Phillip Cox, with Meade achieving the victory.

Listed below are the top finishers of the Saturday races:

- Modified
1. 3 Jim Allen
2. 20 Jason Perry
3. 66 Scott Linville

Softball

The second game as LWC built a 7-0 lead after two innings but Pikeville sophomore Sarah Ratliff doubled and then scored off Amber Trimble's single in the fourth.

The Lady Bears added three runs in the fifth inning; freshman Hilary McKenzie and senior Amber Simpson singled and both scored on Trimble's triple, while Trimble got home on a single by freshman pitcher Jeanie Hamblin.

In the opener, Pikeville junior Randi Mullins scattered eight hits but gave up solo runs in the third, fourth and fifth innings for the loss.

Trimble was 1-for-3 in the first game and hit 2-for-4 with two RBIs in the nightcap. Freshman Whitney Broyles doubled in the opener and got a walk in the sec-

- 28 Walt Mayabb
K3 Kegan Tussay
69 George Canterbury
11B Jason Ball

Super Street

- 42A Jamey Adams
64 Terry Hicks
31 Lee Neil
3 Claude Spence

Bomber

- 8JR George Meade
88 Phillip Cox
33 Billy Harper
2 Jack Tackett

4-Cylinder

- 18B John Henson
84 Keith Anderson
5 Dale Dehart
8 John McKinney
L22 Floyd Lowe

V6 Stock

- 15 Daniel Mays
L6 Daniel Jordan

Road Hog

- Wayne Lawson

Continued from p3

ond game. Teresa Westray hit 2-for-3 in the nightcap.

Staggs took over the Pikeville softball program when Missy Gragg stepped down. Staggs is also an assistant coach on the Pikeville College women's basketball team that recently competed in the national tournament.

The Lady Bears are scheduled to host Mountain State (W.Va.) at 4 p.m. today.

P'burg

weight division.

The team had five third-place finishers. Third-place grapplers included Zack Rowe (7-8), Chris Bostic (11-12, 90 pounds), Kevin Burchett (11-12, 130

Ladycats Dream

I had a dream the other night, It was great, what a wondrous sight!

Looked up, what did I see, 1.8 seconds and soon we could be,

Loading a charter bus on our way to Bowling Green,

Cause we were the number one team!

We conquered the impossible.

Fulfilled all our dreams, Now we ask, "Who's the No.

I team?"

We were the underdogs.

But boy were they proved wrong

When we heard this one single song. "We are the Champions," played from above.

As friends and family ran from the stands, and gave us great big hugs.

It was a feeling I'll never forget, Cause this dream come true, On March 15, 2003, everyone was chanting, GO BIG BLUE!!

We climbed the ladders, What a joyous sight. We had put up a battle and won the fight.

Our Coach of the Year, tears running down her face,

Was covered in ice and froze in place,

But she forgave us, because we won,

If not she'd say, "GET ON THE LINE AND RUN!!"

We would've never won If we hadn't worked hard

If we hadn't ran through our plays and become impossible to guard

267 teams began this season, With one single dream,

Only 16 remain, Boy don't they wish they had our game!

Oh, what an honor it is to be, One of the teams still practicing,

And on their way to BOWLING GREEN!!!

Written by Breann Akers, No. 14

BASEBALL

Dawgs the pre-season favorite in 14th Region

by STEVE LeMASTER SPORTS EDITOR

STANTON — Thirteen of the 18 baseball coaches in the 14th Region recently met and cast votes in a pre-season poll. When the 13 votes were tallied, Hazard was the pre-season favorite to win the regional crown and advance to the sectional. One team from Letcher County, Fleming-Neon, cracked the top-five, in at No. 5. Lee County was to be picked to finish second, followed by Perry Central (third) and Breathitt County (fourth). Fleming-Neon is coached by J.J. Wright.

This season, 14th Region coaches will honor a Player of the Week and a Pitcher of the Week, each week throughout the season. Honorees will be listed on the region's baseball website at www.eteamz.com/14thregionbaseball

Continued from p3

pounds), Justin Wood (13-15, 152 pounds) and Josh Whitaker (9-10, 90 pounds).

Andrew Hall, Frankie Rose and Johnny Rose also participated in the tournament.

Baseball Clinic

All Ages: 5 years-16 years.

Adams Middle School

Saturday, March 29

Registration: 9 a.m.-10 a.m.

Clinic, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. (Draft for Teams, 3:00)

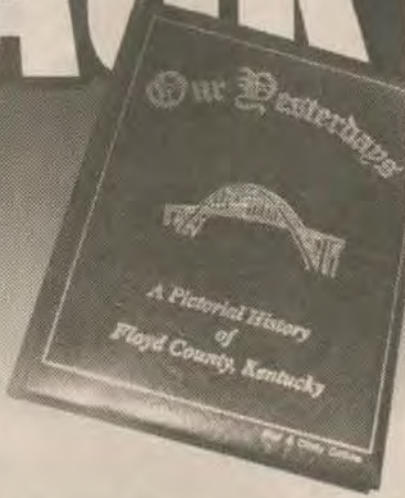


IT'S BACK

'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.

Hard Cover: \$27.95

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FLOYD COUNTY Lifestyles

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- JR. PRO SPOTLIGHT -



Miss Alison Lovely, "Miss Kentucky Junior Teen America" and member of the KY Opry Jr. Pros.



"Struttin' her stuff" at the Mountain Arts Center with fellow Jr. Pro members.

Allison Lovely



Alison as America's favorite moppet, "Annie," during the 2001 Jenny Wiley Theatre production season.

by KATHY J. PRATER
FEATURES EDITOR

Well, there may have been gold "in them thar hills" some years back in the days of the California gold rush, but folks, let me tell you, there's plenty of it right here in Eastern Kentucky, too. As this series highlighting our region's talented youth progresses, the golden sparkle of our Jr. Pro's shines ever brighter.

This week, we are proud and pleased to poise the spotlight on Miss Alison Lovely, who at the tender age of 13 is already a five-year veteran of the Mountain Arts Center's KY Opry Jr. Pros. And, as if that in itself is not impressive

enough, Alison is also a longtime cast member of the Jenny Wiley State Park's Jenny Wiley Theatre. "I have alternated my time between the Opry and Jenny Wiley Theatre. I've been a cast member in the productions, "The Hatfield's and McCoy's," "Pinnochio," "The Hunchback of Notre Dame," and "The King and I," said Alison. "Probably, my most memorable role with the Theatre was playing "Annie" in the 2001 season production." Such a long list of credits at such a young age is not terribly surprising once you learn that Alison's very first stage perfor-

(See LOVELY, page four)

NEWS & NOTES

School Happenings

ADAMS MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH SERVICES CENTER

- March 31 thru April 4 - Spring "Book Fair."
- April 15 - Parent Support Group meeting, 11 a.m. Topic: "How to Help your Child Succeed in High School." Refreshments will be provided, all parents and guardians welcome.
- April 17 - Youth Services Center Advisory Council meeting, 4:00 p.m. All welcome.
- April 17 - "Career Day" for 8th grade students - will be held at the Wilkinson-Stumbo Convention Center.
- May 6 - Red Cross Blood Drive, begins at 12:00 p.m.
- ***8th grade class is selling Papa John's cards (pizza discounts) to help raise money for the 8th grade prom and class trip. If you would like to help the Adams eighth-graders by purchasing a Papa John's card, please contact the Youth Services Center at 886-9812 or Diane at 886-7926.
- 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.

(See SCHOOL, page two)

POISON OAK

With age, comes some pretty good memories

by Clyde Pack

They say that "with age, comes wisdom." Guess the rule is that one needs a great deal of age before that would apply, because despite an ample amount of gray hair and wrinkles, I've yet to experience the "wisdom" part of the old axiom.

One thing that my growing older has made me realize, though, is that no matter how alone you think you are when it comes to certain ideas, there are lots of others who feel the same way. I've discovered, too, that one of the reasons that it's taken so long to discover that fact, is because one pretty much has to be beyond the age of caring what others think, before he has the courage to say what's on his mind.

That's why I don't hesitate now to discuss, freely, Sunday night's Academy Awards. I'll admit right



(See OAK, page four)

KIM'S KORNER

The power of prayer



Kim Frasure

This space has given me the opportunity to share many things over the past nine months. And I am so thankful to be able to share this week the gratitude and heartfelt appreciation for so many of your prayers for my niece Kennedy.

For those of you unaware, Kennedy is 2 months old now and was born with biliary atresia. Biliary atresia is the congenital absence or closure of the ducts that drain bile from the liver. Average studies show one case out of every 15,000 births may result. Females are affected slightly

more often than males. And in the United States approximately 300 new cases are diagnosed each year.

The cause of biliary atresia is unknown. Treatment is in the form of a procedure called Kasai, which is what Kennedy had this past Thursday evening at Cincinnati Children's Hospital in Cincinnati, Ohio.

To say our hearts were broken and torn to shreds to see this tiny little baby girl have to go through such a procedure is an understatement at best. Two years

ago in March, Kennedy's 2-year-old brother was diagnosed with juvenile diabetes. To think my brother and sister-in-law were facing such turmoil ripped my insides to pieces.

I thank God the two of them are strong, loving, Christian parents and have given us two of the most special, beautiful children God has created.

I had never been to Cincinnati Children's Hospital before. But I must

(See KORNER, page four)

School

Continued from p1

Assistant coordinator, Sheila Allen. Center offers services to students regardless of income. Center telephone: 886-9812.

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 HIGH SCHOOL

April 18 - ACHS will host its annual "Math Day." Registration will be from 11:15 - 11:30 a.m. Events will begin shortly after and end around 2:00 p.m. Event will be held for 7th and 8th grade students. Students will be placed on teams that will compete in a variety of fun and challenging activities.

The ACHS Class of 1993 will hold a meeting to plan their 10-year class reunion on Thursday, March 20, at 7 p.m., in the ACHS lunchroom. For questions, call Evelyn at 358-4347.

ALLEN CENTRAL MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH SERVICE CENTER

■ March 28 - MAC trip, 6th grade.

■ March 31 - "Respect" class, 7th grade girls.

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

Please turn in all your Food City receipts to your home room teachers.

■ Youth Service Center office hours are from 8 a.m. until 3:30 p.m.

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

■ March 27 - "Manners Matter" presentations, 5th grade.

■ March 27 - Special called SBDM Council meeting, 4 p.m.

■ April 17 - SBDM Council meeting, 6 p.m.

All SBDM Council meetings open to public. All are welcome to attend.

**School now collecting "Box Tops for Education" from General Mills products. Parents and community members, please send your "Box Top" coupons to the school Family Resource Center.

■ 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

■ April 7, 8, 9 - Kindergarten Registration - 8:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. Please call 358-9420 for information on what to bring with you when you register your child.

■ Call school Family Resource Center at 358-9878, to make an appointment for a free physical for your child who plans to enter Kindergarten in the fall semester, 2003.

■ Floyd County Health Dept. is at the school each Tuesday. Services include 6th grade school entry physical; kindergarten, Head Start and Well-Child physicals; T.B. skin test; and WIC services. Please call for appointment if

you are in need of any of these services.

■ 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

■ March 27 - Wulfe Brothers, school assembly program, 9:20 a.m.

■ April 1 - Community Blood Drive, 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., in school gym.

■ April 3 - "Stranger Danger" programs, primary grades.

■ April 4 - "Birds of Prey" school assembly program.

■ April 3, 4 - Kindergarten Registration, 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

■ Lending Library available for use of students, parents and teachers. Videos on a variety of topics are available.

■ 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; TB skin tests, 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 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.

(See SCHOOL, page three)

YESTERDAYS

(Items taken from
The Floyd County
Times,
10, 20, 30, 40, 50 and
60 years ago.)

Ten Years Ago

(Mar. 31, 1993, and Apr. 2, 1993)

Langley teen, Ronica Leigh Reid, was crowned the 1993 Miss Kentucky Teen World in Lexington, Saturday, at the Raddison Plaza Hotel. Among the prizes she received was a \$2,500 scholarship to Union College. The 17-year-old will represent Kentucky in the national pageant to be held in El Paso, Texas, in July. She will compete for a \$40,000 scholarship, and more than \$100,000 in prizes. The event will be aired on ABC or Fox television networks...An investigation is continuing into the Friday morning shooting of Wheelwright Police Chief Bob Moore. Moore, who was wearing a bullet-proof vest, was shot one time in the right chest area, while checking out a complaint at the old Majestic Tire Company building in Wheelwright. Floyd County Deputy Sheriff Ricky Thornsberry said Moore was not injured in the shooting, and credited the vest with saving his life. The case is being treated as an attempted murder of a police officer...A Kentucky Cabinet for Natural Resources spokesperson said, last week, that Floyd County probably will not be the recipient of a multimillion dollar project, proposed earlier in the week by Governor Brereton Jones. Jones and other state governors, from around the nation, met last week with President Bill Clinton, in an effort to procure a portion of a proposed \$16.3 billion economic stimulus package. Jones' press secretary, Frank Ashley, said, last Tuesday, that if the governor received at least 80 percent of the requested \$700 million, one of the first projects on the state agenda would be to construct a \$4.4 million wastewater treatment plant in Floyd County...Floyd County's long-awaited emergency 911 service will soon be operational, a Big Sandy Area Development District official said, Tuesday. Dan Cooley, a projects coordinator for Big Sandy ADD, said, Tuesday, that the E-911 project, which has been in the planning phase for the last two years, will be in service in about nine months...A Floyd County man accused of killing his estranged wife and her male companion, in cold blood, was released on bond, Friday, in Floyd Circuit Court. Phillip Hunter, 46, of Honaker, allegedly shot to death, Ella Francis Hunter, 42, and her companion, Darrell Blackburn, 45, of Owsley, on Sunday, January 31, in the Betsy Layne High School parking lot...Floyd County School Board member Tommy Boyd resigned his seat on the board, Wednesday, in a letter from Dan Hall, who is acting as Boyd's legal

guardian. Floyd Superintendent Steve Towler said, Thursday, that he received Boyd's letter of resignation, Wednesday afternoon, and has forwarded the letter to state Education Commissioner Thomas Boysen...Police still have no suspects in Wednesday's burglary of a downtown Prestonsburg jewelry store, the latest in an apparently unrelated string of robberies and acts of vandalism. Sergeant Jim Mullins of the Prestonsburg Police Department said, Thursday, that an unknown person or persons smashed an arm-size hole in a wire-mesh, shatter-proof window at Wright's Jewelry, on Court Street, in Prestonsburg, sometime in the early morning hours, Wednesday...No decision has been made on a plan to reorganize the central office of the Floyd County School System, and school board members will continue their debate Saturday morning. The board met in special session, Thursday night, at Allen Central High School, to discuss Superintendent Steve Towler's proposed reorganization formula. Towler's draft included eliminating four positions; creating four positions, and renaming three positions at the district headquarters...An 18-year-old Pike County woman was arrested in Prestonsburg, Wednesday, for an apparent string of thefts from the Prestonsburg Wal-Mart Department Store. Prestonsburg Police Chief Greg Hall said, Thursday, that the woman, whose name has been withheld, allegedly stole a total of \$259.31 from Wal-Mart in a number of incidents in which she claimed she represented a local church, and charged the items to the church's credit line...Almost 28 years to the day he landed in Vietnam as a Marine, Joel Stumbo, 50, has finally received his service medals, including a Purple Heart and a Good Conduct Medal. "I'm glad I got them," he said in an interview at his home in Harold. "It took them long enough. It doesn't mean a whole lot to me, but it does to my kids." There died: Johnny Hicks, 71, of Prestonsburg, Wednesday, at his residence; Annette Yates, 56, of Prestonsburg, Friday, at Highlands Regional Medical Center; Amanda Woods, 76, of Albion, Michigan, Saturday, at her residence; Mamie Tackett, 60, of Dry Creek, Friday, at the Hazard Appalachian Regional Medical Center; Mitchell Short, 78, of New Haven, Ohio, formerly of McDowell, Saturday, en route to the hospital; Larcie H. Lewis, 77, of Prestonsburg, Wednesday, at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Lexington; Boris Hall, 90, of Lexington, formerly of Hall, Saturday, at Homestead Nursing Home, Lexington; Thelma Warrix Miller, 81, of Prestonsburg,

Friday, at Highlands Regional Medical Center; Virginia Shepherd Conn, 63, of Galveston, Friday, at her residence; Gracie "Bluebird" Akers Goble, 77, of Auxier, Thursday; Maxie Lee Bentley, 87, of Banner, Thursday, at Highlands Regional Medical Center; Willis Earl Smith, 57, of Pikeville, Tuesday, at Pikeville Methodist Hospital; Delphia Adkins, 63, formerly of Banner, Sunday, at her residence in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida; Phillip D. Tipton, 47, of Harold, Tuesday, at his residence; Judy Banks Rittenhouse, 44, of Hager Hill, Susan Rittenhouse Blevins, 18, and her 18-month-old daughter, Brooke Rane Blevins of Van Lear, Monday, from injuries received in an automobile accident; Ray L. Craft, 74, formerly of Prestonsburg, March 19, at the Community Care Center, North Vernon, Indiana; Daniel Mitchell, 55, of Beaver, Wednesday, at the University of Kentucky Medical Center.

Twenty Years Ago

(April 6, 1983)

The trial of William "Oakie" Bevins for the murder of five men inside the Allen truck parts store, October 16, 1981, and the wounding of three others, took a dramatic turn, Tuesday morning, in Greenup County, when defense counsel Lester Burns withdrew Bevins' not guilty pleas, and entered pleas of guilty to all eight counts...The Floyd County School District is low on money spent per pupil, and also in the ratio of teachers to students, according to a study funded by the Appalachian Regional Commission...Floyd County Fiscal Court cuts payroll to narrow fund gap by laying off 13 county workers...There died: Pearl Mullins, 73, of Bevinville, Saturday, at Our Lady of the Way Hospital; David E. Hamilton, 58, of Bypro, Saturday, in Lexington; Norma P. Ford, 95, of Auxier, Tuesday, March 22, at Riverview Manor Nursing Home; Calvin Eugene Frazier, 74, of Martin, last Thursday, at his home; William Paul Luxmore, 52, of Price, Tuesday, March 29, at McDowell Hospital; Thomas J. Hagans, 61, of Bypro, Friday, at Pikeville Methodist Hospital; Columbus Conn, 94, of Martin, Saturday, at his home; Moss Dempsey, 77, of Blue River, Friday, at Highlands Regional Medical Center; Frank Hopkins Layne, 75, of Prestonsburg, Monday, at Highlands Regional Medical Center; Minda Thornsberry Johnson, 64, of Kite, Sunday, at McDowell Hospital; Bertha B. Blackburn, 90, Monday, at Riverview Manor Nursing Home.

Thirty Years Ago

(May 2, 1973)

County Attorney James R. Allen said this week that Floyd County and the city of Martin will move soon to acquire easements for the \$3 million stream improvement project in the Martin area...An upper Right Beaver Creek man was arrested, last Friday, by Deputy Sheriff Sollie Holbrook on a charge of drinking beer in church...In an area where surface mining is among the heaviest in the state, the establishment of a strip-mine reclamation office here a month ago has provided the people of 16 eastern Kentucky counties the hope of stricter reclamation law enforcement, as well as a place where they can voice their complaints...When the Times inquired this week about the date for appointment of precinct election officers for the May 29 primary, it learned that the county election commission isn't 100 percent sure new election officers will be named...There died: John M. Porter, 47, of Prestonsburg, Saturday, at the Methodist Hospital, Pikeville; Mrs. Maudie Hamilton, 77, Tuesday, at her home at East McDowell; Andy Lee Newsome, 76, of Masontown, Pa., formerly of this county, Feb. 20; Mrs. Emma C. McSurley, 65, of Tippecanoe, Ind., formerly of this county, Sunday, in Indiana; Mrs. Phoebe P. Crisp, 79, of Martin, here, Wednesday; Mrs. Martha Mae Gibson Smith, 78, of West Prestonsburg, Monday, at home; William S. (Tone) Branham, 80, Sunday, at his home at Martin.

Forty Years Ago

(April 4, 1963)

Approximately 115 fires have swept Floyd County woodlands within the week. Fires are still raging, and 22 were classified, Wednesday, as "out of control"...The Southeastern Kentucky Association of Emergency and Rescue Squads was formed here, Sunday afternoon, with Homer D. Neeley, of Prestonsburg, as its first president...Three persons, including Mrs. Ruby L. Kirk, 28, of Graham Street, Prestonsburg, and her mother, who resided with her, were killed, last Saturday, in the head-on collision of a truck and automobile on the new U.S. 23, south of Paintsville...Three new active cases of tuberculosis were discovered at the out-patient tuberculosis clinic held, Tuesday, at the Floyd County Health

(See YESTERDAYS, page three)

School

Continued from p2

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 home-room 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

April 2 - Child Abuse Awareness booth will be set up in South Floyd foyer in order to inform students, staff, and community.

April 14 - Peer Pressure and Conflict Resolutions 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. 242, or Keith Smallwood, ext. 243, or Donna Johnson, ext. 153.

STUMBO ELEMENTARY/MUD CREEK FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER

March 26, 27 - TWISA. (Alcohol Prevention program), 9:00 a.m., 5th grade.

The Bridges Project is located in the school each day,

Monday thru Friday, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. If you have any questions about the Bridges Project, call 587-2644.

Resource Center hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Parents and community members are welcome to visit. For questions, call 587-2233 - ask for Tristan Parsons, Center Coordinator, or Anita Tackett, Assistant.

THE DAVID SCHOOL

Adult Education Class Schedule

Monday and Wednesday Betsy Layne High School, 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. Call 478-3389 for more information.

Morehead State Prestonsburg Campus, 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. Call 886-2405 for more info.

Tuesday and Thursday St. James Episcopal Church, 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Church is located on

University Drive, Prestonsburg, between PCC and the BP station.

ALL GED CLASSES ARE FREE. BOOKS AND MATERIALS ARE ALSO FREE, EVEN THE ACTUAL GED TEST IS FREE! So, please take advantage of this wonderful learning opportunity. For more information about the free GED program, call Crissy Compton at The David School at 886-8374 (Fridays).

WESLEY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

March 28 - *Spring Fundraiser Dinner* - 7 p.m. For more information, contact the school at 874-8328. A \$1,000 door prize will be given away.

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

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.

Critter Corner: Rules for (and by) Dogs

By Dr. Carol Combs-Morris, DVM

I've been surfing the 'net again! It's been a while and I found some funny new material to share. Do you love this stuff as much as I do? These are things we already knew—somebody was just smart enough to put them on paper!

RULES FOR DOGS

Newspapers: If you have to go to the bathroom while playing in the front yard, always use the newspaper that is placed in the driveway every morning for that purpose.

Visitors: Quickly determine which guest is afraid of dogs. Charge across the room, barking loudly and leap playfully on this person. If the human falls down, lick its face and growl gently to show your concern.

Barking: Because you are a dog, you are expected to bark. So bark—a lot. Your owners

will be very happy to hear you protecting their house. Especially late at night while they are sleeping safely in their beds. There is no more secure feeling for a human than to keep waking up in the middle of the night and hearing your protective bark, bark, bark...

Licking: Always take a BIG drink from your water dish immediately before licking your human. Humans prefer clean tongues. Be ready to fetch your human a towel.

Holes: Rather than digging a BIG hole in the middle of the yard and upsetting your humans, dig a lot of smaller holes all over the yard so they won't notice. If you arrange a little pile of dirt on one side of each hole, maybe they'll think it's gophers. There are never enough holes in the ground. Strive daily to do your part to help correct this problem.

Doors: The area directly in front of a door is always reserved for the family dog to sleep.

The Art of Sniffing: Humans like to be sniffed. Everywhere. It is your duty, as the family dog, to accommodate them.

Dining Etiquette: Always sit under the table at dinner, especially when there are guests, so you can clean up any food that falls on the floor. It's also a good time to practice your sniffing.

Housebreaking: Housebreaking is very important to humans, so break as much of the house as possible.

Going for Walks: Rules of the road: When out for a walk with your human, never go to the bathroom on your own lawn.

Couches: It is perfectly permissible to lie on the new couch after all your humans have gone to bed.

Playing: If you lose your footing while chasing a ball or stick, use the flower bed to absorb your fall so you don't injure yourself.

Chasing Cats: When chasing cats, make sure you never—

quite—catch them. It spoils all the fun.

Chewing: Make a contribution to the fashion industry. Eat a shoe.

DOGGY DICTIONARY

LEASH: A strap which attaches to your collar, enabling you to take your human where you want him/her to go.

DOG BED: Any soft, clean surface, such as the white bedspread in the guest room or the newly upholstered couch in the living room.

DROOL: What you do when your humans have food and you don't. To do this properly, you must look sad and sit as close as possible, so the drool falls on their shoes, or better yet, on their laps.

SNIFF: A social custom to use when you greet other dogs. Place your nose as close as you can to the other dog's rear end and inhale deeply. Repeat until your human makes you stop.

GARBAGE CAN: A con-

tainer which your neighbors put out once a week to test your ingenuity. You must stand on your hind legs and try to push the lid off with your nose. If you do it right you are rewarded with margarine wrappers to shred, beef bones to chew and moldy crusts of bread.

BICYCLES: Two-wheeled exercise machines, invented for dogs to control body fat. For maximum aerobic benefit, hide behind a bush and dash out, barking loudly, then run alongside for a few yards until the human swerves and falls into the bushes.

DEAFNESS: A malady which affects dogs when their human wants them in and they want to stay out. Symptoms include staring blankly at the person, then running in the opposite direction, or lying down.

THUNDER: A sign that the world is coming to an end. Humans remain amazingly calm when this happens, so it is necessary to warn them of the danger by trembling uncontrollably, panting, rolling your eyes wildly, and following at their heels.

WASTEBASKET: A dog toy filled with paper, envelopes and old candy wrappers.

SOFA: A dog napkin. After eating it is polite to run up and down the front of the sofa to wipe your whiskers clean.

BATH: A process by which humans drench the floor,



"Gypsy." Gypsy was adopted from the Floyd County Animal Shelter by Ron and Angela Hager, of Prestonsburg. Say the Hager's, "Gypsy is loved so much! She has become the 'boss' of our household."

walls and themselves. You can help by shaking vigorously and frequently.

LEAN: The proper response to the command "Sit". Incredibly effective when your human is dressed for an evening out.

BUMP: The best way to get your human's attention when they are drinking a hot cup of coffee or tea.

GOOSE BUMP: A maneuver to use as a last resort when the Regular Bump is not sufficient. Especially effective when combined with the Sniff (see above).

Yesterdays

Department...At the March 5, meeting of the Floyd County Board of Education, the board voted to abandon several schools in the Big Mud Creek area due to the consolidation of the John M. Stumbo Elementary School...There died: Curtis W. Owens, 17, of Hite, last Tuesday, at Methodist Hospital, Pikeville, of injuries sustained three days earlier when he was struck by an automobile near Martin; Green Mullins Jr., 34, Hueysville miner, Monday, when the truck under which he was working fell on him; Mrs. Pearl Caudill, 51, of Melvin, Friday, at the Paintsville Hospital; Calloway Page, 57, of East McDowell, Friday, at the Methodist Hospital, Pikeville; Johnnie May, 71, of Allen, Sunday, at home; Mrs. Sally Salisbury, 77, native Floyd woman, Saturday, at home in Plant City, Fla.; Grant Horn, 54, March 27, at his home at Hueysville; Mrs. Irene Gibson, 61, of Garrett, last Wednesday, at Pikeville; Mrs. Goldie Stumbo, 52, of McDowell, Monday, at the McDowell Memorial Hospital; Miss Della Bryant, 32, of Hunter, last Wednesday at home; William J. Salisbury, 26, of Lucasville, O., son of former Floyd Sheriff Dial Salisbury, last Wednesday, at Circleville, O.; Mrs. Bonnie Graham Bakay, 43, of Weeksbury, Sunday, March 24, at the McDowell Hospital; Mrs. Diana Hall Johnson, 82, of Wheelwright, March 24, at the Prestonsburg General Hospital; William S. Hall, 94, of Wales, Ky., formerly of Floyd County, March 24; James Marion Justice, 74, last Thursday, at his home at Osborne.

Fifty Years Ago

(April 2, 1953)

Dr. Jonas E. Salk, this week, announced dramatic results from a vaccine he has developed to wipe out polio...The J. A. Jones Construction Company has signed a contract to build a miners' hospital at McDowell, this county...Miss Lucille Sexton, of Drift, has been selected to reign as queen of Pikeville College's May Day festivities...Stuart Stephens, of Prestonsburg, won the senior division of the Floyd County junior conservation bait-casting contest here, Saturday, with a perfect 100 score...J. T. Hughes announced, this week, he has leased from Alex H. Spradlin, a site for a Dairy Queen ice cream business here...There died: Mrs. Lizzie Henson, 42, of East McDowell, at Martin, Wednesday; Jeff Thacker, 93, Wednesday, at Hi Hat; Mrs. S. R. Auxier, 63, of Prestonsburg, last Wednesday.

Sixty Years Ago

(April 1, 1943)

Sgt. Marion Anderson, 22-year-old son of Melvin Anderson, of McDowell, was one of the Barksdale Field (La.) fliers to die in the crash of a medium bomber near Shreveport, La., last Saturday...Thirty-one Floyd teachers are eligible to continuing contracts under the new teacher tenure act...Countywide high school graduation exercises will be held at the gym here, May 14, it was announced this week...A meat shortage has developed at local stores. Customers have the cash and the required rationing "points," but many could find nothing better than sausage and goose liver...Ray Howard has sold the Cash Hardware here to the Morell Supply Company...Among the University of Kentucky students who had a 2.0 standing or better last semester was Miss Betty Jean May, of Prestonsburg...Surfacing of the Stephens Branch road to Manton is promised this year by the State Highways Department...There died: Irma Mae Vanderpool, 19, formerly of this county, at Bisbee, Arizona, Saturday; Raymond Allen, 20, of Printer, at Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore; Maryland, last Thursday; Mrs. Crissie Hamilton, 79, Monday, at Martin; Reuben Morgan, 71, of Garrett, at a Lackey hospital, last Thursday; Oscar Oppenheimer, 58, at Paintsville, Friday; Taulby Elkins, 58, Saturday, at Big Shoal, Pike County; Mrs. Ollie Spradlin, 42, March 23, at Brainard; Donald Edward Childers, 7, of Melvin, Friday, in a Martin hospital.

Seventy Years Ago

(March 31, 1932)

Sixteen-year-old Kemper Moore, Betsy Layne High School freshman, died Tuesday, 10 hours after he allegedly had been forced to drink poisonous moonshine whiskey...The U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals has upheld the Kentucky law making negotiable, scrip issued by mining companies...The state banking commission has sent an examiner to the Allen Bank for the purpose of liquidating its assets...Three men—Robert Sammons, Burrow Slone and Henry Parrott—have been wounded, none seriously, in gunfights within the last few days...Married: Miss Edna Johnson and Mr. Henry Gray, of Prestonsburg, March 26, at Martin...There died: S. G. Bralley, 57, of a heart attack, Friday, at Martin; Marion Allen, March 24, at Hueysville; Jack Shell, about 65, Monday, at Bonanza.

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Birthdays



Chloe is here!

Chloe Grace Branham arrived on Saturday, February 22, 2003, at Highlands Regional Medical Center. Chloe is the daughter of proud parents Bill and Amy Branham, of Weeksbury. She is the maternal granddaughter of Ricky and Toni Spears, also of Weeksbury. Her paternal grandparents are Patsy Branham, of Whitesburg, and the late Earl Branham, formerly of Weeksbury. Chloe has one "Big Sis," Caitlin Marie Branham.

Jacob is 1!

Jacob Lonzo Jervis celebrated his first birthday on Saturday, March 8, 2003, with a "Scooby Doo" theme birthday party attended by family and friends. He is the son of Tammy and Lonzo Jervis, of Endicott.



Lovely

Alison's very first stage performance was at the age of four, when she made her debut appearance during the Magoffin County Founder's Day Annual Celebration.

From there, Alison became involved in private voice lessons at the age of six, studying with the Mountain Arts Center's former Jr. Pro director, Chris Lafferty. "At age eight, I was invited to join the Opry Christmas Choir, as well as beginning to fill in here and there as needed," said Alison.

Alison says that she has had the opportunity to travel quite extensively with the Jr. Pro's, having performed with them in such places as "Lexington, Somerset, Charleston and Nashville." "The most exciting performance was in Nashville," she said, "We were invited by 'Country Weekly' magazine and Gov. Paul Patton to perform for country recording artists from the Commonwealth of Kentucky. We were honored to sing for Montgomery Gentry, Billy Ray Cyrus, Dwight Yoakum, Tom T. Hall, Rebecca Lynn Howard, (the band) Exile, and Ricky Skaggs. After our show, we got to meet and talk with and take pictures with the country stars."

As with several of the Jr. Pro members we have already profiled, Alison also shares that she "can't remember a time when I wasn't singing." The vivacious young lady says that "my mom has home videos of me singing since I was old enough to talk. I even made up my own songs."

Alison says that her love of music "definitely comes from my family." "My family has always been musically inclined, singing at church, in school choirs, pageants and community functions. Some have even had their own bands. One of the most important lessons they have taught me is that the ability to sing is a gift from God, and that it should be shared with others," she said.

"Singing gives me the ability to express myself from the bottom of my heart, while at the same time, hoping to touch another. Music will always be a part of my life, but at the age of 13, I'm not sure where life will take me. If the opportunity comes to make music my career, I will follow it all the way. If that opportunity comes, I will be there, onstage, doing what I love to do and sharing it with millions of others," she continued.

Alison says that she loves "all kinds of music" and "can't pinpoint one certain type" as a favorite. However, she does share that artists Reba McEntire, Dolly Parton and Martina McBride have all greatly influenced her with their "distinct vocal sounds and strong, powerful voices."

A seventh-grade honors student at Herald Whitaker Middle School, in Salyersville, Alison shows that she is an impressive combination of brains plus beauty as shown in her long list of on-going credits. Credits that include being a member of her school's Drama Club, Builder's Club and Y-Club, as well as being a member of the Herald Whitaker Middle Academic Team. Alison has also competed in a number of pageants, most recently winning the title of "Miss Jr. Teen America."

Alison feels that "community service should be a major part of every young person's life," and as such, has volunteered her time and service locally to the Dream Factory, Special Olympics, and the American Cancer Society.

As do her other Jr. Pro colleagues, Alison also feels that music education in the public school system "should be a part of the curriculum in every school." "It has been proven that music education raises student's grades. Also, Miss Billie Jean often reminds us how music has kept so many kids in school and on the right track," she said.

Alison, as with the rest of the country, has naturally been exposed to Fox's hit t.v. show, "American Idol," and this year's quest to showcase "talent over image," a pretty lofty goal considering the country's long-standing obsession with a performing artist's looks/image. "In my opinion," said Alison, "talent is what makes a star. You can take the talent and make the image, but you can't take the image and make the talent," proving that this is one young lady who isn't living with her head in the clouds.

Alison gives her mother, Tonya Fields, the credit for ensuring that her daughter stays well-grounded throughout her busy days of performing and public attention. "My mom is my strongest supporter," Alison shares, "she has driven me to vocal lessons, numerous rehearsals, shows and performances all over the state. She never misses me perform."

Alison is also the daughter of Brian Lovely, and the step-

daughter of Woody Fields. She has one step-brother, Lance.

This immensely talented and beautiful young lady leaves us this week with the following words: "I love being on stage, in the spotlight, performing. But, most importantly, I love all the friends I've made. The Jr. Pro's are made up of so many wonderful young people from all over Eastern Kentucky. It's like a big, extended family with tons of brothers and sisters who all share the same love of music and performing."

Shine on, "golden girl," and here's wishing you the best of luck this September in Connecticut.

"Miss Alison Lovely" - a more fitting name could never be for this, "lovely," lass!

Korner

Continued from p1

Continued from p1

share with you that I have never seen a hospital so full of compassionate caring doctors, nurses, surgeons and staff in my life. Scott and Cheryl were not new to the experience of this hospital, for Colby is seen every three months there. Colby's doctor even made visits to Kennedy, asked to hold her and let my brother and sister-in-law know Kennedy would be in her prayers. I was so touched by the love and care the staff of this facility exudes. It is truly outstanding.

Kennedy came through the Kasai procedure really well. She is doing well, and her mom and dad are standing strong and together every step of the way, Praise God!

Had the Kasai procedure not been a success Kennedy would

have had to endure a liver transplant. To try to fathom this 2-month-old precious baby girl having to go through such an ordeal is simply unimaginable. How we appreciate the many prayers, phone calls, and emails, from each and every one. How thankful we are God is still on throne today. How thankful we are for the power of prayer!

God has truly blessed this little precious bundle of joy and we praise Him and thank Him for it!

Our entire families extend our heartfelt appreciation to the Children's Hospital, the entire staff and all of you praying for Kennedy. Please continue to remember her, Colby, Scott and Cheryl and may God bless each of you!

New Arrivals

Pikeville Methodist Hospital

February 4:

A son, Isaiah Drake to Sunny and Carter Caldwell; a daughter, Victoria Elizabeth to Amy E. Jude.

February 6:

A son, Chase Joseph Mackenzie to Sandy and Tony Mims; Brenton Michael Kyle Newsome to Selena Kidd and Michael Brent Newsome; a son, Colby Nicolas to Misty Nicole and Rodney Lee Bryant; a son, Trajan Alexander to Johnda and Michael Adams.

February 7:

A son, Mason Kendall Harmon to Christina Hylton; a daughter, Lauren Elizabeth to Heather and Jeff Meade; a son, John Marshall to Leslie and James Workman.

February 8:

A daughter, Katelynn Rose to Crystal Gaill and Steve Jackson Cox Jr.

February 9:

A son, Mason Wade Case to Robin Nicole Harris.

February 10:

A daughter, Shalei Keionna Cobb to Bobbi G. Caudill; a daughter, Katherine Elizabeth Smith to Sonya Jeanne Haga.

February 11:

A daughter, Harley Jo Ann to Letina Jo and Jimmy Dale Hamilton; a son, Zachary Shane to Genean and Vernon Roberts;

a daughter, Sydnee Marie to Stephany and David Lowe; a daughter, Sarah Makayla to Amanda Kay and Clifford Brandon Bentley.

February 13:

A son, Micheal Makaiden to Vivian and Micheal Comer.

February 14:

Cody Lee to Brandy Janel and Virgil Lee Smith; a son William Ethan to Sunshine E. and William R. Bentley.

February 15:

A son, Aaron Blake Mullins to Wendy Reed and Chad Allen Mullins; a son, Jefferson Clayton Cartmell to Melanie Lester and Graham Jefferson Cartnell; a daughter, Abigail Nadine Hopkins to Hannah Little and Douglas Hopkins.

February 16:

A son, Cameron Douglas Meade to Angela Renee and William Douglas Scalf; a son, Spencer Gordon to Jeanna K. and Juston W. Hensley.

February 17:

A son, Samuel Robert Jack to Susan and Robert Dean Coleman; a son, Cody James Collins to Chasity Sayers and Michael Collins.

February 18:

A son, Connor Ray to Melissa Dawn and Fredrick Mason Bowling; a daughter, Samantha Peyton to Tammy Marie and Michael Kevin Jones.

February 19:

A daughter, Savannah Faith to Mary Lou and Paul Randall Bryant; a daughter, Riley Kanille to Delana and Kevin Gilliam.

February 20:

A daughter, Rachel Lauren to Stacie A. and Robert Wright.

February 21:

A son, Derek Lee Crum to Angela Comer; a son, Seth Benjamin to Renee and Benjamin McCray; a son, Brayden Mason to Dawn and Ralph Patrick.

February 22:

A son, Luca Alex to Bridgette and Alex Darnell Jr.; a daughter, April Ann to Vickie and Johnny Hall.

February 24:

A daughter, Pricila Kaitlyn Layne to Amanda Wolford; a daughter, Azailia Hope Kidd to Myra Star Hamilton and Micheal Todd Kidd.

February 25:

A son, Logan Joshua Lowery to Kandi Compton; a son, Logan Blake Reed to Denita Reed; a daughter, Kayleigh Melinda to Brentina Joyce and Brad Allen Akers.

February 26:

A daughter, Jaidlyn Breanna to Tammy and Anthony Cook.

February 27:

A daughter, Jamie Gayle Meade to Teresa Louise Grisco and James Dewey Meade; a daughter, Ciara Faith to Gloria and Robert Kilgore; a son, Robert Galaway to Misty Marie and Robert Langel; a son, Nicholas Glen to Glenda and Stephen Robinson; a son, Tyler Vincent to Celina and Vincent Eugene Howell.

February 28:

A daughter, Kaylea Mechelle to Melinda and Robert Wolford; a daughter, Grace Kaleigh Nicole to Leighanna Grace and Tony Lee Howard.

March 6:

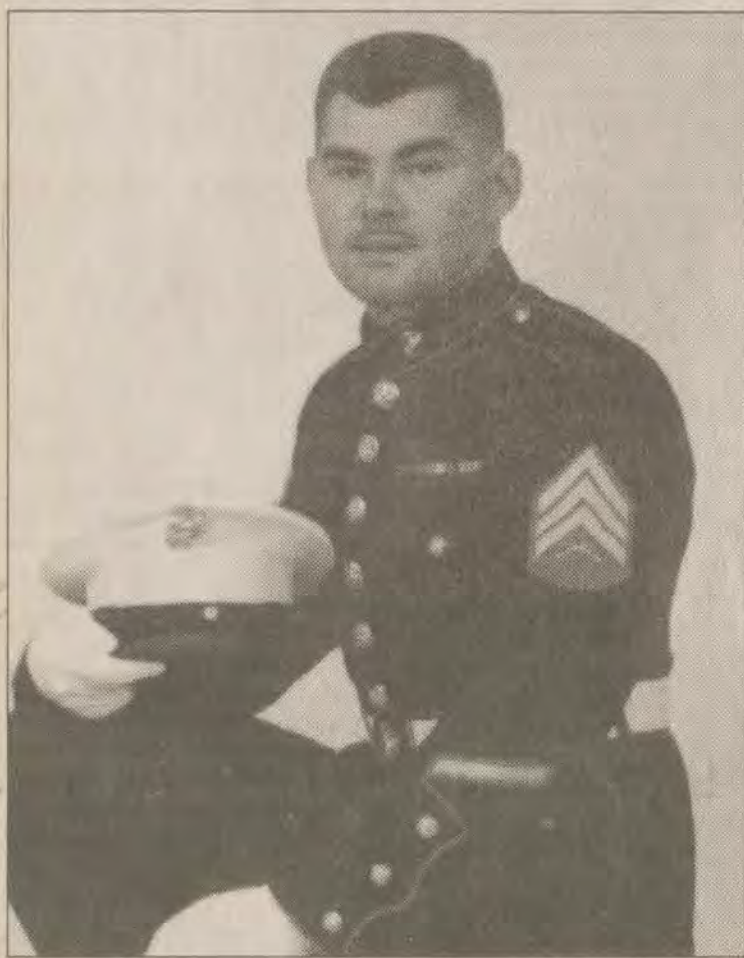
A daughter, Jeanna Nicole Fletcher to JoAnn Fletcher and Joel Henry Broadhead; a son, Jordan McClellan to Angela Michelle and Macie McClallan Blankenship.

March 7:

A son, Jason Daniel to Erica Kristen and Aidan Gage Smith; a daughter, Dakota Chyenne Casebolt to Amanda S. Bentley; a daughter, Savannah Paige to Stephanie Renee and Eddie Dean Wolford.

March 8:

A son, Brantley Gage to Melanie Ann and Bradley Earl Johnson.



Elliott earns honors, serves country

Sgt. Frank D. Elliott of the United States Marine Corp was recently named to the Dean's List of Prestonsburg Community College. He is the son of Vernon and Sharon Elliott, of Martin. Sgt. Elliott was successful in achieving a 4.0 GPA for the 2002 fall semester, in which he carried a full college load, while also being employed full-time at Otter Creek Correctional Facility. Sgt. Elliott is currently on deployment in Kuwait. His family and fiancée, Ms. Robin Burchett, request your prayers in his, as well as each of our American soldiers', safe return home.

C O - O P N E W S

The Earned Income Credit and Child Tax Credit Campaigns Offering Relief for Some Taxpayers



by **THERESA M. SCOTT**
COUNTY EXTENSION AGENT FOR
FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCES

The Earned Income Credit (EIC) is a special tax benefit for working people who earn low or moderate incomes. Workers who qualify for the EIC, and file a federal tax return, can get back some or all of the federal income tax that was taken out of their pay during the year. They may also get extra cash back from the IRS. Even workers whose earnings are too small to have paid taxes can get the EIC, and the EIC reduces any additional taxes that workers may owe.

Working couples making less than \$34,178, and individuals making less than \$33,178, may find they now qualify for the Earned Income Credit. Enacted by Congress in 1975, and admin-

istered by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), the EIC is also meant to offset social security and other living expenses. For the tax year 2002, single or married people who worked full- or part-time at some point in 2002 can qualify, depending on their income. Who qualifies:

■ Families with two or more children who earn less than \$33,178 (\$34,178 if married filing jointly) are eligible for a credit of up to \$4,140.

■ Families with one child who earn less than \$29,201 (\$30,201 if married filing jointly) are eligible for a credit of up to \$2,506.

■ Workers without a qualifying child who earn less than \$11,060 (\$12,060 if married filing jointly) are eligible for a credit of up to \$376.

"Qualifying children" include: sons, daughters, stepchildren, grandchildren, adopted children, and foster children, as long as they lived with the worker for more than half a year. Qualifying children must have valid social security numbers, and must be under the age of 19, or under the age of 24, if they are full-time students.

To get the Earned Income Credit, workers raising children in 2002, must file either Form 1040 or 1040A and fill out and attach Schedule EIC. Workers

who were not raising children in 2002, can file any tax form, including the 1040EZ, and write EIC or the dollar amount on the Earned Income Credit line.

The child tax credit

This year, many low-income families will be eligible for the Child Tax Credit. The Child Tax Credit (CTC) is a federal tax benefit worth up to \$600 this year for each dependent child under the age of 17. In 2002, even families that earned too little to owe income tax, can get the credit. They will receive all or part of their CTC in the form of a refund check from the IRS. Moreover, this credit is in addition to any Earned Income Credit for which the family qualifies. Most low-income working families will qualify for both credits.

To be eligible for the Child Tax Credit:

■ A single or married worker must be able to claim an exemption for a dependent child under the age of 17 on their tax return.

■ Have a taxable earned income above \$10,350.

■ Have either a Social Security number or an Individual Taxpayer Identification number.

The Child Tax Credit is calculated differently than the

Earned Income Credit, and required that you fill out a special form 8812 to receive the credit. Most families will need assistance in completing the tax forms for the CTC. If available, free tax assistance through VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) will be important to most families.

VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance)

VITA is a program of the IRS, which helps people fill out their tax form for free. Sites are available in some Kentucky communities. To find a VITA site near you, call 1-800-829-1040. Be patient, the 24-hour line is often busy. You might also contact the IRS Territory Manager, Vickie Fairley for a VITA site near you (Vickie D. Fairley's e-mail is Vickie.D.Fairley@irs.gov). VITA can help save taxpayers costly commercial tax preparation fees, as well as fees charged to provide a quick turn around.

For more information, contact Theresa Scott, County Extension Agent for Family & Consumer Sciences, at 886-2668.

Educational programs of the Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service serve all people, regardless of race, color, age, sex, religion, disability, or national origin.

Oak

Continued from p1

off, I didn't watch them on TV. The reason will soon become obvious. But as I read about them in the Sunday paper, I had to wonder if I was the only one reading the article who could not put a face with half the names of the actors and actresses who were nominated. If someone had offered me big money to match their photos with their names, it would have been pure dumb luck if I'd gotten a single one of them right. I couldn't pick Renee Zellweger, Julianne Moore or Salma Hayak from a police line-up. I wouldn't know Diane Lane or Catherine Zeta-Jones from a load of coal.

Guess by now you've figured out that I'm just an old fogey, who never goes to the movies. As a matter of fact, the last

movie I saw the same year it won Best Picture, was Chariots of Fire, the one where everybody ran in slow motion down by the ocean. I remember quite vividly how shocked I was when I heard that it had won an Oscar, because it had to have been one of the worst movies I'd ever seen in my life.

But I don't feel a bit uncomfortable admitting all that now, because I'm 100 percent sure I'm not by myself. I'm confident that there are many more just like me, out there, who still remember the days of Randolph Scott, Audie Murphy, Leo Gorcey and Huntz Hall; when popcorn was a nickel a box, and movies made sense.

I guess with age, also comes some pretty good memories.

Business/Professions

Troop support mail policy stressed

To bolster force protection, the general public is urged not to send unsolicited mail, care packages or donations to service members forward deployed unless you are a family member, loved one or personal friend.

On Oct. 30, 2002, the Department of Defense (DoD)

suspended the "Operation Dear Abby" and "Any Servicemember" mail programs due to force protection concerns. Although these programs provide an excellent means of support to friends and loved ones stationed overseas, they also provide an avenue to intro-

duce hazardous substances or materials into the mail system from unknown sources. Unsolicited mail, packages and donations from organizations and individuals also compete for limited airlift space used to transport supplies, war-fighting materiel and mail from family and loved ones.

defeat force protection measures, but can instead recommend alternatives to mail and donation programs. To show support to troops overseas, the following are recommended:

■ Log on to the following Web sites to show support, to include greeting cards, virtual Thank You cards and calling card donations to help troops stay in contact with loved ones:

- http://www.defendamerica.com/support_troops.html
- <http://www.usocares.org/home.htm>
- <http://www.army.mil/operations/iraq/faq.html>

■ Visit Department of Veterans Affairs hospitals and nursing homes. Volunteer your services to honor veterans who served in past conflicts.

Mail from family members and loved ones has always been encouraged and the military mail system will continue to work hard to get that mail to servicemembers overseas.

Bang! Bang! You're dead

"Lessons In Violence Prevention"

Presented By The Floyd County 4-H Community Theater at the Mountain Arts Center

Friday, March 28
10 am - School Matinee
7 pm - Public Evening Performance

This play, written by William Mastrisimone, is set in the jail cell of a high school student accused of shooting seven people in his community. Chuck Stamper, Floyd County 4-H Agent and Director says, "Everyone who works with young people or anyone who has children needs to come watch this production. It will touch the hearts of the whole family."

For Tickets call: Mountain Arts Center Ticket Office 886-2623 or toll free 1-888-MAC-ARTS or Floyd County Extension Service at 886-2668. Tickets may be purchased at the door.

Sponsored by: UK Cooperative Extension Service and the Mountain Arts Center

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Transportation Cabinet receives engineering excellence award

FRANKFORT - The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet received the 2003 Engineering Excellence Merit Award for its Louisville - Southern Indiana Ohio River Bridges Environmental Impact Statement and Preliminary Design Project.

The American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) of Indiana presented the award to Transportation Cabinet officials on March 8 in Indianapolis, Indiana. ACEC's Engineering Excellence Awards Competition recognizes projects of engineering achievement by

Indiana consulting engineering firms. Entries are judged on the basis of engineering excellence, the degree to which the client's needs are met and the benefits to the public welfare and private practice of engineering. The Merit Award recognizes those entries that demonstrate initiative and ingenuity in the field of engineering.

The Transportation Cabinet partnered with Indiana engineering consultant Beam, Longest & Neff to take on the Ohio River Bridges Project. In 1998, the project was established to develop

environmental assessment of various transportation options to connect

Louisville and Southern Indiana. The project examined alternatives such as the construction of one or more new bridges, the redesign of connecting interstate highways on both sides of the river and "non highway" alternatives such as mass transit, bike paths, and telecommuting.

AASHTO President Codell speaks to road builders

FRANKFORT - James C. Codell, III president of the American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials (AASHTO) attended the Association of General Contractors of America's (AGC) annual meeting on March 19 in Honolulu, Hawaii to speak to America's top transportation professionals. Members of AASHTO, AGC, and the American Road and Transportation Builders Association (ARTBA) gathered to hear Codell talk about reauthorization plans for the Transportation Equity Act which authorizes the federal surface transportation programs for highways, highway safety, and transit. The current Transportation Equity Act (TEA-21) was enacted on June 9, 1998 and will expire on September 30, 2003. At that time it will be replaced by TEA-3 for a six-year period.

"This year we've made great progress on getting full funding for highways," Codell said. "We started out looking at an \$8.6 billion cut from the 2002 federal funding level of \$32 billion and because of the relentless work of the National Governors Association, AGC and ARTBA, we ended up getting the \$31.8 billion highway spending level we needed. So the baseline was preserved going into reauthorization, and that was absolutely crucial."

AASHTO's reauthorization goal is to grow the highway program to at least \$45 billion by 2009, and the transit program to at least \$11 billion over six years.

Codell explained that Americans want a strong, reliable transportation system. He backed this with the Zogby poll

that was recently conducted. It showed that 81 percent of those polled consider the highway and transit network extremely or very important to the national economy, and 64 percent backing a yearly gas tax increase of 2 cents if it went exclusively to road, bridge and mass-transit improvements. Codell says Congress will look at these facts as they prepare for reauthorization this year.

"Taking Hillbillies to the Hills"

This year, the overall-donating and fun-loving masses who arrive in downtown Pikeville for Hillbilly Days will have a few opportunities to set foot on the mountain tops and splash around in local waterways.

As part of an effort to stir an interest in eco-tourism in the area, Trail Dog Outfitters of Pikeville will be offering several events during the festival. On Wednesday, April 9, before the event is in full swing, Trail Dog will be guiding a moderate three-mile hike on the Pine Mountain Trail. On the afternoon of Friday the 11th, a kayak demonstration will be held at Fishtrap Lake, during which participants will be able to "test drive" Liquidlogic kayaks. A Saturday-to-Sunday overnighter package will be available to those who'd like to spend a night atop the Pine Mountain. This package includes the rental of a backpack, sleeping bag and tent, as well as dinner on Saturday and breakfast on

Sunday. "We're scheduling these events so they won't conflict with what's happening downtown," explains Dwain Stevens, co-owner of Trail Dog. "We don't want to draw people away from the actual festival. On the contrary, we want to show them more of eastern Kentucky and persuade them to come back again, after Hillbilly Days, for a few days of backpacking or kayaking."

Pre-registration will be required for both the Wednesday dayhike and the post-parade overnighter and can be made by calling (606) 437-6717 or by visiting Trail Dog in Pikeville's Weddington Plaza by April 7. No pre-registration is required for the kayak demo, but those who are interested should check with Trail Dog for scheduled times. While the kayak demonstration is free, there will be a per-person charge for the other trips of \$15 and \$75, respectively.

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LAND: Bull Creek—Private Location! 75 acres, city water available. Great for personal home or development. Call Jerry for more information. (107827)

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HIGHLANDS REGIONAL

The Medical Center of Eastern Kentucky

Come grow with us!!

Highlands, a growing premier healthcare facility in Prestonsburg, is currently recruiting for

Clinical Manager - 2nd Floor Medical Surgical
Clinical Manager - 4th Floor Medical Surgical

The Manager is responsible for all aspects of staff and departmental management. Administrative responsibilities include: annual work plan development, budget preparation, professional development, performance reviews, performance improvement programs, professional development programs for staff, and preparation and maintenance of regulatory requirements, such as JCAHO, OSHA, etc. Graduate of accredited nursing program, and currently licensed in the state of Kentucky, and BSN preferred and five (5) years med/surg experience.

Interested applicants may apply to the Human Resources Department

Highlands Regional Medical Center
 5000 Kentucky Route 321, Prestonsburg, Ky. 41653
 (606) 886-7531
 Fax (606) 886-7534
 E-Mail: tclark@hrmc.org

Highlands is an equal opportunity employer
 Please visit Highlands web site at www.hrmc.org

"Think Healthy, Think Highlands!"

THE AMERICAN COMMUNITY MARKETPLACE

America's Nationwide Classified Market With Over 10 Million Readers

ANNOUNCEMENTS Start Dating Tonight! 1-800-ROMANCE Ext. 1847	FARM EQUIPMENT Tractors For Sale. Yanmar Model YM1500 2WD Diesel \$2500. Model YM1500D 4WD \$3100. Can Deliver. (256) 776-9435.	FINANCIAL SERVICES Save up to 57% on monthly bills!
BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY GOOD WEEKLY INCOME Mailing Our Sales Brochures! Free Supplies, Postage! Start Immediately! Genuine Opportunity! For Free Information, Call Toll Free: 1-800-357-1170	FINANCIAL SERVICES DEBT CONSOLIDATION • Save Thousands while Becoming Debt Free • Receive Cash Back Every 6 Mos. • Reduce Total Monthly Payments by 1/3 or More • Eliminate High Interest Rates & Fees • One Simple Low Monthly Payment • Feel Good About Your Finances Again • Free Consultation 1-800-438-9179 ext. 207 Brighton Credit Management Corp. www.brightoncredit.com (void in IL & KS)	FREE, Non-profit debt help. Be treated with honesty, understanding & respect. CareOne. 1-800-847-5869 (toll-free) www.careonecredit.com
BUY FORECLOSURES! Use our \$\$\$ Split Profits! Training! Free Info! 800-331-4555 x8505	MONEY PROBLEMS? Consolidate your bills with First Continental \$2,500.00 to \$150,000.00 Bad credit welcomed LOANS O.A.C Free consultation with live agent No application fee Toll-free 1-888-605-3379 www.iwillbedebtfree.com	MOTORCYCLES HARLEY DAVIDSON 1998 Heritage Classic, Black. 2300 Miles, Chrome, Like New, \$17,900. Can Deliver. (256) 776-9938, or (256) 259.3329.
\$550 WEEKLY SALARY Mailing Our Sales Brochures From Home. No Experience Necessary-Genuine Opportunity All Supplies Provided-Paychecks Guaranteed 1-(708)808-5182 (24hrs.) Or, S.A.S.E., Financial Resources, 7000 Adams, Suite 101, Willowbrook, IL 60527.	<small>This newspaper is not responsible for the specific content of the National Classified Ads. Before investing money in a business/employment opportunity with which you are unfamiliar, please call the National Better Business Bureau at: 773-278-0100 or visit www.nbb.org</small>	PERSONALS **AFFORDABLE LEGAL SERVICES** Divorce \$195 Adoption \$295 INCORPORATION \$195 Not do it yourself Kit CALL 1-800-303-1170 www.ntdcd.com for free information
EMPLOYMENT SERVICES \$2,000 WEEKLY! Mailing 400 brochures! Satisfaction Guaranteed! Postage, supplies provided! Rush Self Addressed Stamped Envelope! GICO Dept 4, P.O. Box 1438, Antioch, TN, 37011-1438. Start Immediately!	SALES HELP \$ MAKE BIG MONEY \$ 70% commission paid weekly. New financial service. No experience necessary FT/PT. 1-800-365-7550 ext. 88841	Now Hiring! Qualified Cooks & Kitchen Personnel Positions Available at Reno's Roadhouse in Prestonsburg. All shifts available. Salary commensurate with experience & ability.

For advertising rates and information on National Classified Advertising: Contact **Marsha Hoffman 1-888-511-5153**

Apply in person at restaurant 10-11 am 2-5 pm
 Reno's Roadhouse Entrance to Wal-Mart Prestonsburg, KY



Limitations. All Pre-existing Conditions OK Call United Family! 1-800-235-9209 Ext. 5766 ceo6620

\$\$\$WEEKLY\$\$\$ DISTRIBUTING MERCHANDISE ON EBAY. We Supply Product. No Inventory/ No Exp. Req'd. Call 1-800-568-1676 ext.458

A \$250,000/YEAR INCOME Potential. Call for Free 2 Minute Message. 1-800-831-2279.

EBAY RESELLERS NEEDED!! We Supply Product 80% Below retail. No Inventory/Exp. Req'd. Call 1-800-568-1676 ext.1301

EXCELLENT INCOME POTENTIAL! Become a medical biller. No experience needed. Computer required. Training. www.claimco.org 1-866-633-2567

MEDICAL BILLING/DATA ENTRY! Growing Industry. Work own hours. Training provided. No experience necessary. 1-866-509-1815 ext.5140

\$\$\$UP TO \$529 WEEKLY! Mailing letters from home. Easy! Any Hours! Full/part-time. No experience necessary. Call U.S. Digest 1-888-389-1790 24 hour recording.

WORK FROM HOME Stuffing Envelopes. \$4000 Mo. P/T. Receive \$4.00 for every envelope processed with our sales material. Call 24 hours. Recorded Message 1-858-492-8624

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

GOVERNMENT JOBS Wildlife and Postal 48K+ per year. Full benefits. Paid training. No experience necessary. For application and exam call toll free 1-888-778-4266 ext. 140

\$\$\$40,000+/Year: Become a medical transcriptionist! No Experience Necessary! Visit: www.transcription.com

PRESTONSBURG HEALTH CARE CENTER has an opening for a part-time Activity Assistant. If interested please call 606-886-2378 (ask for Cheryl Lafferty or Elaine Hunter) or stop by 147 N. Highland Ave. Prestonsburg (beside Prestonsburg Elementary).*

220-Help Wanted

MEDICAL OFFICE MANAGER/ ADMINISTRATOR: needed for multi-specialty physicians' practice. Competitive pay, health, life, dental insurance, retirement plan. Must have prior medical office management experience. Fax your resume with references to 606-432-0430.*

Dental Office: Needs employee. Knowledge of computers preferred. Send resume to: 415 North Lake Drive, Ste. 201, Prestonsburg, KY 41653.*

ATTN:Prestonsburg Postal positions. Clerks/carriers/sorters. No exp. required. Benefits. For exam, salary, and testing information call (630) 393-3032 ext. 234 8 a.m. - 8p.m. 7 days.*

"MOVIE EXTRAS" \$100-\$400/day, all looks. No experience. TV, commercials, film, print. 1-800-260-3949 ext. 3519

Drivers: OWNER OPERATORS!! Regional & Long Haul GREAT Hometime & Miles. Terminal Pay! Call TODAY For Details: 800-490-5248

INEXPERIENCED DRIVERS Werner Enterprises needs driver trainees! Shared tuition program for qualified applicants. Training provided at MTC Driver Training. Call 1-800-455-4682

CDL-A DRIVERS: Minimum 3 months Experience. *Team Runs to West Coast *Late Model Equipment * Great Pay, Miles & Benefits Call Steve Mox Trucking 1-800-253-5148

IMMEDIATE JOB OPPORTUNITIES CLASS A CDL Training with tuition reimbursement. Become a professional driver and on your way to an average salary of \$34,000 plus benefits the 1st yr. Lodging & transportation included 1-866-244-3644 ext. 20

TRUCK DRIVER PLACEMENT. Regional-O.T.R. Exp. or not. We can put you behind the wheel. (Teams also needed.) 800-291-0412

DRIVERS Are you ready for a great career? No CDL? No Credit? No Problem! National Carriers Need Driver Trainees Now! Earn Up to \$800/Wk Toll Free 1-866-619-6081

??LOOKING FOR A CHANGE?? We have an answer! Be self-employed, set your own hours. Complete training provided. Free information. 1-800-810-7311 www.SeekYourDream.com <<http://www.SeekYourDream.com>>

ADVERTISE TO MILLIONS for \$30 only! We pay every click! <http://www.firstzone.com>

Financial

310 Business Opportunity

480-Miscellaneous

\$500.00 FREE MONEY YOU NEVER REPAY. GOVERNMENT & PRIVATE SOURCES. EDUCATION, BUSINESS, NON-PROFIT, HOME PURCHASE AND REPAIRS. OPERATORS ON DUTY 9 A.M. - 9 P.M. MONDAY - SATURDAY 1-800-893-2518 1005

ATTENTION HOMEOWNERS! Need Cash for Your Bills? Bad Credit? We'll Pay You \$25,000.00-\$150,000.00 for your Mortgage! Not a Loan. No Fees! 1-888-403-0352. **BECOME DEBT FREE!** Cut payments without new loans. It's easy! 1 hr.

approval. Call 1-800-517-3406.

WE CAN HELP!

380 Miscellaneous

Want to feel independent? Call us now! for financial assistance! **1-866-201-3516 ***

NEED A LOAN? Try Debt Consolidation! Bad Credit OK! NO APPLICATION FEES!! 1-800-863-9006 x936 www.help-pay-bills.com <<http://www.help-pay-bills.com>>

NEED AN EARLY PAYDAY?? Up to \$500 instantly by phone! 1-(877)-EARLYPAY. Lic# 750005

STOP FORECLOSURE! Behind on mortgage? Don't file bankruptcy. Save your home. Guaranteed service. 800-915-9704 Ext. 022 www.usmortgageassistance.com <<http://www.usmortgageassistance.com>>

STOP FORECLOSURE \$489! Guaranteed Service. We've helped 1,000s!! See Real Case File Results at www.unitedfreshstart.com <<http://www.unitedfreshstart.com>> I Let our Winning Team help you Save your home... 1-877-327-SAVE(7283)

PAYDAY LOANS up to \$500! Never Leave Home! County Bank of Rehoboth Beach DE Member FDIC/EOL Checking Account Required. Not Available CO, DE, CA, WV, FL 1-800-397-1908.

BURIED IN BILLS? Drowning in Credit Card Debt? FREE DEBT CONSOLIDATION!! Reduce payment 20 to 50%. Save thousands in interest & late fees. Lic. Bonded. Non-profit. 1-800-288-6331 x14 www.goldcoastcc.com <<http://www.goldcoastcc.com>>

\$ FREE CASH NOW \$ from wealthy families unloading millions of dollars, to help minimize their taxes. Write immediately: I.G.I., 110-64 QUEENS BLVD., #415, FOREST HILLS, NEW YORK 11375-6347

FREE GRANTS - NEVER REPAY - ACCEPTANCE GUARANTEED. Government and Private Sources. \$500 - \$500,000. Education, Home Repairs, Home Purchase, Business. Phone Live Operators 9 A.M. - 9 P.M. Monday thru Saturday. 1-800-339-2817 ext. #356

USA #1 BILL CONSOLIDATOR From \$2,000 - \$250,000! (8% Average rate). Bad Credit. No Problem! For fast results, call toll-free 1-800-518-4209

FREE CASH! \$10,000 or more possible in 58 days or

VIAGRA MIRACLE! 100% Natural, No Side Effects, 30 Minute Results. Phenomenal Sensation, Incredible Lasting Longevity, A-1 Satisfaction Guaranteed! 1-800-456-1944

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less. Never Repay! New programs! Free Information. 1-800-964-8416 www.visionq2000.com <<http://www.visionq2000.com>>

480-Miscellaneous

ENGINEERED STEEL BUILDINGS: Lowest Prices in 10 Years. Factory Seconds. Freight Damaged. Repos. **1-800-222-6335.***

MERCHANDISE

410-Animals

AKC REGISTERED POODLE, male, 3 months old, \$375 firm. All shots & w.c.med. Call 606-886-1775 if no answer, leave message.

440-Electronics

NEED COMPUTER - CREDIT NOT PERFECT? Approval Guaranteed! No Cash Today! Checking/Savings Account Required. 1-877-488-1947 [WWW.PC4SURE.COM](http://www.PC4SURE.COM) M <<http://www.PC4SURE.COM>>

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

METAL BUNK BED, White, Great for Teenagers, 11 months old, Bottom bunk converts to full size bed or makes into Futon couch. \$250. Call 478-5390.(3-21-all)

460 Yard Sale

ESTATE SALE: 231 University Drive. Sat. March 29-31 & April 1-2. Prestonsburg, Ky. Appliance, furniture, dishes, Pots, linens, 2 B.R. house move or tear down for material.

470 Health & Beauty

ATTENTION DIABETICS If you are on Medicare you may qualify for FREE DIABETIC SUPPLIES, NEW METER and strips. FREE SHIPPING Satisfaction Guaranteed Call 1-800-223-0159

NEED AFFORDABLE HEALTH CARE? \$59.87/mo. per Family. No Limitations! All Pre-Existing conditions OK. CALL UNITED FAMILY !!! 1-800-235-9209 Ext. 1057 CE06620

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. *(6/13/03 all)

REAL ESTATE

RENTALS

530 Houses

HOUSES FOR SALE: 2 & 3 bedroom at Estill &

570-Mobile Homes

For Sale: 3 year-old Doublewide, in excellent condition, blocked, on over one half acre lot with nice yard, septic & city water in Prestonsburg near Allen. \$59,500. 606-874-1684. *

FOR SALE: 14 X 70 mobile home, 2 bedroom, 2 baths, located at Hippo. Asking \$11,000. 358-9151

1999 Freedom 14x60, 2 Bedroom, fully furnished, ready to move in. set up on mobile home park. Located at Minnie, Ky \$19,000. 606-377-

COMMERCIAL VACUUM CLEANER, excellent condition, used very few times. Call 874-0467 after 5 or leave message.

480-Miscellaneous

ENGINEERED STEEL BUILDINGS: Lowest Prices in 10 Years. Factory Seconds. Freight Damaged. Repos. **1-800-222-6335.***

MERCHANDISE

410-Animals

For Sale: 3 Horse slant horse trailer goose neck, also 3 show horses 886-3313 or 886-3314.

SAWMILL \$3,895. New Super Lumbermate 2000, larger capacities, more options. Manufacturer of sawmills, edgers and skidders. Norwood Industries 252 Sonwill Drive, Buffalo, NY 14225. FREE Information 1-800-578-1363 ext.200-U

DIETPILLS/VIAGRA! Order Phentermine, Diredex, Adipex, Viagra and Others. FREE Prescriptions- No Doctor Visit. Tollfree:1-866-567-0300. U.S. Doctors/Pharmacies. We Provide Prescription! Overnight Shipping. Open Weekends. Order Online anytime: www.order2.com <<http://www.order2.com>>

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Order Phentermine, Diredex, Adipex, Viagra and Others. FREE Prescriptions- No Doctor Visit. Tollfree:1-866-567-0300. U.S. Doctors/Pharmacies. We Provide Prescription! Overnight Shipping. Open Weekends. Order Online anytime: www.order2.com <<http://www.order2.com>>

550-Land & Lots

LAND & LOTS for sale by owner. approximately 7 acres of prime property on Mtn. Parkway read to develop. For commercial or residential use. 281-538-4405

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

DIABETIC SUPPLIES AND HEATING PADS AT NO COST with Medicare/Insurance if you qualify. FREE SYRINGES. New meters and strips. FREE SHIPPING (No HMO'S) 1-800-815-1577.-----

WANT TO BUY: Indian arrowheads, spears, knives. Will pay top dollar for GENUINE quality pieces. Call 886-6733.*

NO RENT! \$0 DOWN HOMES! GOVT & BANK REPOS! NO CREDIT OK. FOR LISTINGS, CALL 1-800-501-1777 EXT. 9811

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570-Mobile Homes

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1999 Freedom 14x60, 2 Bedroom, fully furnished, ready to move in. set up on mobile home park. Located at Minnie, Ky \$19,000. 606-377-

FOR SALE: 2001 CLAYTON HOME. 16X60. Take over payments, Call 606-889-0263.*

FOR SALE: 28X70 3 B.R., 2 BATH, Doublewide home on large lot, block foundation, city water, cent. heat & air, Playhouse. 5 minutes from Pikeville. *

\$0 DOWN HOMES! NO CREDIT OK! HUD, VA FHA. CALL FOR LISTINGS. 1-800-501-1777 EXT. 7372

NO RENT!!!! \$0 DOWN HOMES! GOVT & BANK REPOS! NO CREDIT OK! FOR LISTINGS, CALL 1-800-501-1777 EXT. 9821

FORECLOSED GOVT HOMES! \$0 OR LOW DOWN! TAX REPOS & BANKRUPTCIES! OK CREDIT FOR LISTINGS! CALL 1-800-501-1777 EXT. 9813

\$0 DOWN HOMES! NO CREDIT OK! HUD, VA FHA. CALL FOR LISTINGS. 1-800-501-1777 EXT. 9818

NO RENT!!!! \$0 DOWN HOMES! GOVT & BANK REPOS! NO CREDIT OK! FOR LISTINGS, CALL 1-800-501-1777 EXT. 9821

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Wayland. 358-4261

FOR SALE: 2001 CLAYTON HOME. 16X60. Take over payments, Call 606-889-0263.*

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2032. After 4:30 p.m. call 377-2032.*

FOR SALE: 2001 CLAYTON HOME. 16X60. Take over payments, Call 606-889-0263.*

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FORECLOSED GOVT HOMES! \$0 OR LOW DOWN! TAX REPOS & BANKRUPTCIES! OK CREDIT FOR LISTINGS! CALL 1-800-501-1777 EXT. 9813

NOTICES

805

Announcements

A M A Z I N G RESULTS! PSYCHIC READINGS!! NEED HELP WITH LOVE, MONEY, CAREER? SPECIALIZING IN REUNITING LOVED ONES! PREVENT SEPARATIONS & HELP IN ALL PROBLEMS OF LIFE 1-516-922-4117

812 FREE

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

830 Miscellaneous

SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY Claim Denied? We Specialize In Appeals and Hearings. **FREE CONSULTATION.** Benefit Team Services, Inc. Toll-free: 1-888-836-4052

850 Personals

When responding to Personal 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.

START DATING TONIGHT! Have fun meeting eligible singles in your area. Toll Free. 1-800-ROMANCE ext. 9735

CHRISTIAN DATING SERVICE. Since 1989! Safe, Confidential. **FREE** information packet. 1-800-292-5683

DISCOUNT CANADA DRUGS! SAVE 80% on prescriptions and over-the-counter medications! Canada's #1 discount pharmacy! www.canadian-drugs.com <<http://www.canadian-drugs.com>> 1-866-339-3356

900-Legals

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

The following item will be offered at public sale on March 28th, 2003, at 11:00, at First Guaranty Bank, 36 Main Street, Martin, Kentucky.

1991 Eagle Talon VIN# IE3CS44RXME0884 52

All items are sold "as is where is." Seller reserves the right to bid and to reject any or all bids. Items are to be paid following the sale, or satisfactory arrangements are made with the seller. Announcements at the sale take priority over ad. Purchaser to pay all taxes and transfer fees.

First Guaranty Bank 36 Main Street P.O. Box 888 Martin, KY 41649

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

The following item will be offered at public sale on March 28th, 2003, at 11:00, at First Guaranty Bank, 36 Main Street, Martin, Kentucky.

2000 Ford Explorer VIN# 1FMDU75E0YZA471 80

All items are sold "as is where is." Seller reserves the right to bid and to reject any or all bids. Items are to be paid following the sale, or satisfactory arrangements are made with the seller. Announcements at the sale take priority over ad. Purchaser to pay all taxes and transfer fees.

First Guaranty Bank 36 Main Street P.O. Box 888 Martin, KY 41649

NOTICE OF BOND RELEASE

In accordance with the provisions of KRS 350.093, notice is hereby given that Pen Coal Corporation, 544 South Lake Drive, Prestonsburg, KY 41653 (606-886-2330), intends to apply for Phase III Bond Release on Permit No. 836-0248, which was last issued on March 11, 1998. The permit covers a surface area of approximately 236.95 acres, and does not involve any underground area. The operation is located approximately 0.57 mile northwest of Collierville in Floyd County.

The permit area is approximately 0.64 mile southwest from KY 80's junction with KY 122, and is located 0.37 mile west of Eel Branch, and is located on the Harold and Martin 7 1/2 minute USGS quadrangle maps.

The performance bond (Surety) currently in effect for the operation is \$48,200.00. 100% of the original bond amount (surety) of \$708,400.00 is included in this request for release.

Reclamation work thus far performed includes: backfilling and grading, sampling and testing, liming, fertilizing, seeding and mulching, and was completed in Spring 1996. Results thus far achieved include: establishment of vegetation in accordance with the approved post mining land use plan, and the post mining land use.

Written comments, objections, and requests for a public hearing or informal conference, must be filed with the Director, Division of Field Services, #2 Hudson Hollow Complex, Frankfort, KY 40601, by May 2, 2003.

A hearing date for this bond release request has been set for May 6, 2003 at 9:00 a.m., at the Department for Surface Mining and

Enforcement's Regional Office, 3140 South Lake Drive, Prestonsburg, KY 41653. The hearing will be cancelled, if no request for a hearing or informal conference is received by May 2, 2003.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to serve as notice that Equitable Production Company (EPC) at P.O. Box 3878, Pikeville, KY 41502, (606) 433-1240, has applied, or will be applying for a permit to drill Gas Well Numbers 565570 and 565546. The construction of the drillsites, access roads, or pipelines may require disturbance of the tract of land that exists near the Abe Fork of Left Beaver Creek, lying on the southeast side of Left Beaver Creek, bounded on the northeast by lands owned by John and Darlene Collins, and on the southwest by lands owned by the Bertha Tackett Estate, located on the Wheelwright Quadrangle in Floyd County Kentucky. EPC has utilized all available resources to contact all of the Warfield Johnson Estate. However, EPC has been unsuccessful in contacting all of the Warfield Johnson heirs regarding their potential interest in the 26 +/- acre tract of land, located on the PVA map number 72 and parcel number 64. Anyone with information on contacting any of the Warfield Johnson Estate heirs can contact Craig Blackburn at the EPC office in Pikeville, KY at (606) 433-1240.

The permit area is approximately 0.64 mile southwest from KY 80's junction with KY 122, and is located 0.37 mile west of Eel Branch, and is located on the Harold and Martin 7 1/2 minute USGS quadrangle maps.

The performance bond (Surety) currently in effect for the operation is \$48,200.00. 100% of the original bond amount (surety) of \$708,400.00 is included in this request for release.

Reclamation work thus far performed includes: backfilling and grading, sampling and testing, liming, fertilizing, seeding and mulching, and was completed in Spring 1996. Results thus far achieved include: establishment of vegetation in accordance with the approved post mining land use plan, and the post mining land use.

Written comments, objections, and requests for a public hearing or informal conference, must be filed with the Director, Division of Field Services, #2 Hudson Hollow Complex, Frankfort, KY 40601, by May 2, 2003.

A hearing date for this bond release request has been set for May 6, 2003 at 9:00 a.m., at the Department for Surface Mining and

Enforcement's Regional Office, 3140 South Lake Drive, Prestonsburg, KY 41653.

NOT RESPONSIBLE

As of March 8th, 2003, I will no longer be responsible for any debts incurred by anyone other than myself.

William Thomas Johnson 363 Rice Br. Prestonsburg KY, 41653

NOTICE OF BOND RELEASE

In accordance with the provisions of KRS 350.093 notice is hereby given that AEP KENTUCKY COAL L.L.C., P.O. BOX 270, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653, has applied for Phase I release on Permit Number 836-5433, which was last issued on 12/02/02. The application covers an area of approximately 4 acres, located 1 mile south of Estill, in Floyd County.

The permit area is approximately 0.5 mile northwest from Rte. 7 junction with KY Rte. 1086, and located 0.2 mile southwest of Right Fork of Beaver Creek. The latitude is 37°26'46". The Longitude is 82°49'03".

The bond now in effect for 836-5433 is \$37,000.00. 60% of the original bond amount

\$37,000.00 is included in the application for release. Reclamation work performed includes: grading, seeding, completed 1/22/03.

Written comments, objections, and requests for a public hearing or informal conference must be filed with the Director, Division of Field Services, #2 Hudson Hollow, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601, by 5/02/03.

A public hearing on the application has been scheduled for 9:00 a.m., 5/06/03, at the Department for Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, Prestonsburg Regional Office, 3140 South Lake Drive, Suite 6, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653.

The hearing will be cancelled if no request for a hearing or informal conference, is received by, 5/02/03.

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY FLOYD DISTRICT COURT DIVISION NO. 1 C.A. NO. 02-C-00037 MCCARTHUR JACOBS PLAINTIFF VS. STANLEY BRANHAM DEFENDANT

NOTICE OF COMMISSIONER'S SALE

BY VIRTUE OF ORDER of Sale of the Floyd District Court, entered on the 22nd day of November, 2002, in the Floyd District Court, in the above styled cause, I shall proceed to offer for sale, AS IS, at the Old Floyd County Courthouse Door, 3rd Avenue, Prestonsburg, Kentucky, (behind the new Floyd County Justice Center) to the highest bidder, at public auction on Thursday, 10th day of April, 2003, at the hour of 9:00 a.m., more particularly described as a 1994 Clayton Mobile Home, Vin #: CLM060268TN.

The sale proceeds of said personal property shall be deposited with the Floyd District Court for appropriate disposition.

TERMS OF SALE: At the time of sale, the successful bidder shall either pay cash or cashier's check for the full amount of the purchase price. Any announcements made on date of sale take precedence over printed matter contained herein.

Plaintiff's Counsel: Hon. Timothy Parker P.O. Box 927 Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653

WILLIAM S. KENDRICK Master Commissioner P.O. Box 268 Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653

PUBLIC NOTICE

Natural gas... Over 40 million homes throughout the United States utilize this safe, reliable, energy efficient fuel for heating and cooling.

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- (1) A strange or unusual odor in the vicinity of a gas pipeline.
- (2) A hissing or roaring sound (caused by the escaping of natural gas)
- (3) Flames originating from an opening in the ground.
- (4) Dead or discolored vegetation in the vicinity of gas pipeline.

If you encounter a pipeline leak, leave the area immediately. Avoid creating sparks and sources of heat which would cause the gas to ignite or burn. DO NOT LIGHT A MATCH, OPERATE AN ELECTRICAL SWITCH, OR START AN ENGINE. Go to a telephone away from the leak area and call the gas company. If you do not know who the gas line belongs to, call the local fire, police or sheriff's department or the state police and advise them of the nature and location of the emergency. Mike Little Gas Company, Inc. P.O. Box 69 Melvin, Kentucky 41650 606-452-2475 — Office Number 1-800-829-9614 — Pager Number for 24-Hour Service 606-452-9288 — Personnel Home Number

In accordance with 405 KAR 8:010, notice is hereby given that Levisa Fork Mining Company, 544 South Lake Drive, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653, intends to transfer permit number 836-5399 to Motts Branch Coal, Inc., P.O. Box 2765, Pikeville, Kentucky 41502. The new permit number will be 836-5446. The operation disturbs 19.00 surface acres and underlies an additional 271.00 acres, for a total permit acreage of 290.00. No new acreage is affected by the transfer.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO MINE

Pursuant to Application Number 836-5439

In accordance with 405 KAR 8:010, notice is hereby given that Levisa Fork Mining Company, 544 South Lake Drive, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653, intends to transfer permit number 836-5387 to Motts Branch Coal, Inc., P.O. Box 2765, Pikeville, Kentucky 41502. The new permit number will be 836-5439. The operation disturbs 2.00 surface acres and underlies an additional 194.08 acres, for a total permit acreage of 196.08. No new acreage is affected by the transfer. The operation is

located 0.5 mile southwest of Craynor, in Floyd County, and is located approximately 1.5 mile southwest from KY 979's junction with Mink Branch Road, and located 0.1 mile west of Mink Branch. The operation is located on the McDowell U.S.G.S 7 1/2 minute quadrangle map at latitude 37°26'13" and longitude 82°38'50".

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 41653-1410. Written comments or objections must be filed with the Director, Division of Permits, #2 Hudson Hollow, U.S. 127 South, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601. All comments and objections must be received within fifteen (15) days of today's date.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO MINE

Pursuant to Application Number 836-5446

In accordance with 405 KAR 8:010, notice is hereby given that Levisa Fork Mining Company, 544 South Lake Drive, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653, intends to transfer permit number 836-5399 to Motts Branch Coal, Inc., P.O. Box 2765, Pikeville, Kentucky 41502. The new permit number will be 836-5442. The operation disturbs 9.9 surface acres and underlies an additional 442.0 acres, for a total permit acreage of 451.9. No new acreage is affected by the transfer.

The operation is located 0.5 mile east of McDowell in Floyd County, and is located approximately 0.55 mile east from KY 680's junction with KY 122, and located 0.1 mile south of Hall Fork. The operation is located on the McDowell U.S.G.S 7 1/2 minute quadrangle map at latitude 37°26'50" and longitude 82°42'08".

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 41653-1410. Written comments or objections must be filed with the Director, Division of Permits, #2 Hudson Hollow, U.S. 127 South, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601. All comments and objections must be received within fifteen (15) days of today's date.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO MINE

Pursuant to Application Number 836-5442

In accordance with 405 KAR 8:010, notice is hereby given that Levisa Fork Mining Company, 544 South Lake Drive, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653, intends to transfer permit number 836-5392 to Motts Branch Coal, Inc., P.O. Box 2765, Pikeville, Kentucky 41502. The new permit number will be 836-5442. The operation disturbs 9.9 surface acres and underlies an additional 442.0 acres, for a total permit acreage of 451.9. No new acreage is affected by the transfer.

The operation is located 1.2 mile southeast of East McDowell in Floyd County, and is located approximately 0.2 mile east from Route 1929's junction with Hoods Fork Road, and located 0.2 mile north of Hood's Fork. The operation is located on the McDowell U.S.G.S 7 1/2 minute quadrangle map at latitude 37°26'15" and longitude 82°42'41".

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 41653-1410. Written comments or objections must be filed with the Director, Division of Permits, #2 Hudson Hollow, U.S. 127 South, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601. All comments and objections must be received within fifteen (15) days of today's date.

NOTICE OF BLASTING SCHEDULE APPLICATION

NUMBER 836-5389

In accordance with the provisions of 405 KAR 18:120E, Section 3, notice is hereby given that Levisa Fork Mining Company, 544 South Lake Drive, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653, (606) 886-2330, proposes the following blasting schedule. The blasting site consists of approximately 31.62 acres, located 1.0 mile northwest of Beaver in Floyd County, Kentucky. The area is located approximately 0.75 mile west from KY Route 979's junction

with Mitchell Branch Road, and located in the head of Mitchell Branch at latitude 37°24'37" and longitude 82°39'55". Detonations of explosives are proposed to occur daily, sunrise to sunset, from March 21, 2003, to March 20, 2004.

Control of the blasting area will be maintained by blocking the access roads to the area, and stopping traffic along public roads, when applicable, at least ten (10) minutes prior to the blast. Post detonation access to the blasting area, and release of traffic on public roads, will be allowed only after an inspection has determined that no hazards exist.

After personnel are cleared from the area, a pre-detonation warning, consisting of a one minute series of long blasts of a siren will be given. The blast signal will consist of a one minute series of short blasts of a siren, prior to detonation. The all clear signal will consist of a prolonged blast, sounded on a siren, following the inspection of the blast site. These signals will be audible over a minimum distance of one-half mile. All blasting will be scheduled from sunrise to sunset; however, blasting may be conducted at other times. Events which could lead to blasting at times other than scheduled, include, but are not limited to, rain, lightning, or other atmospheric conditions which involve personnel, operational, or public safety. If conditions occur that require blasting at times other than the normally scheduled blasting hours, the audible signals described above will be used to warn the public of the blasting activity.

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Chris Waugh-Floyd County Court Clerk
Statement of Receipts and Disbursements
12 Period(s) Ending December 31, 2002

RECEIPTS

STATE FEES FOR SERVICE

Tax Bill Preparation	3,291.75
Election Personnel Reimb.	15,396.50
Registration of Voters	540.25
Total STATE FEES FOR SERVICE	19,228.50

FISCAL COURT FEES FOR SERVICE

Tax Bill Preparation	3,290.25
Calculation of Taxes	6,500.25
Other Receipts	70,000.00
Board of Elections Commissioner	375.00
Election Cost Reimb.	70,064.44
Total FISCAL COURT FEES FOR SERVICE	150,229.94

LICENSES AND TAXES

Motor Vehicle

Licenses & Transfers	1,032,542.08
Usage Tax	3,182,454.17
Tangible Personal Property	2,610,599.49
Total Motor Vehicle	6,825,595.74

Licenses

Fish & Game	14,699.00
Marriage	14,662.50
Occupational	871.55
Beer & Liquor	14,000.00
Total Licenses	44,233.05

Taxes

Deed Transfer Tax	70,121.64
Delinquent Taxes	533,145.08
Total Taxes	603,266.72

FEES COLLECTED FOR SERVICES

Recordings

Fixture Filings	1,238.00
Releases (Mrtgs / Deeds)	19,090.00
Deeds, Easements, Contracts	24,531.00
Real Estate Mortgages	54,805.00
Chattel Mortgages / Financial Statements	119,438.00
Power of Attorney	1,766.00
Notary Bonds	3,822.00
Property Bail Bonds	1,373.00
Wills	1,626.00
Leases	2,072.00
Articles of Incorporation	806.00
Mechanics Liens & LIS Pending	7,631.45
All Other Recordings	6,314.40
Total Recordings	244,512.85

Charges for Other Services

Copy Work	3,538.59
Postage	1,620.62
Total Charges for Other Services	5,159.21

Other

Candidate Filing Fees	3,715.00
Miscellaneous Account	658.94
Bank Interest Income	2,553.42
Overage / Shortage	1,014.92
Total Other	7,942.28

Total Income 7,900,168.29

Taxes

Delinquent Tax	61,306.67
Legal Process Tax	16,551.14
Total Taxes	77,857.81

PAYMENTS TO FISCAL COURT

Motor Vehicle

Tangible Personal Property	337,981.89
Total Motor Vehicle	337,981.89

Licenses

Occupational	650.21
Beer & Liquor	12,730.00
Total Licenses	13,380.21

Taxes

Delinquent	84,023.10
Fire Acreage	355.76
Deed Transfer	66,696.20
Total Taxes	151,075.06

PAYMENTS TO OTHER DISTRICTS

Motor Vehicle

Tangible Personal Property	1,431,276.08
Total Motor Vehicle	1,431,276.08

Taxes

Delinquent	265,834.10
Total Taxes	265,834.10

PAYMENTS TO SHERIFF

Delinquent Taxes	7,911.01
Total PAYMENTS TO SHERIFF	7,911.01

PAYMENTS TO COUNTY ATTORNEY

Delinquent Taxes	73,206.57
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ADMINISTRATIVE

Personnel Services

Official Maximum Compensation	70,601.27
Official Expense Allowance	3,990.49
Deputies Salaries	520,363.39
Total Personnel Services	594,955.15

Employee Benefits

Social Security	35,143.66
Medicare	8,218.93
Life Insurance	3,177.10
Unemployment Insurance	4,233.23
Total Employee Benefits	50,772.92

Contracted Services

Advertising	3,452.30
Imaging & Indexing	17,902.95
Audit & Accounting	11,229.52
Tax Bill Preparation (PVA)	6,881.00
Total Contracted Services	39,465.77

Supplies & Materials

Office Utilities	14,430.43
Office Supplies	21,600.05
Office Expenses	12,613.77
Total Supplies & Materials	48,644.25

Other Charges

Conventions & Travel	4,896.40
Fees, Dues & Subscriptions	1,715.00
Postage	11,807.55
Errors & Omissions Ins.	217.72
Rental Fees	8,775.00
Lease Fees	25,865.23
Election Expenses	69,713.42
Total Other Charges	122,990.32

Capital Outlay

Office Equipment	30,123.20
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Net Income (Loss) 23,343.20

CONGRATULATIONS

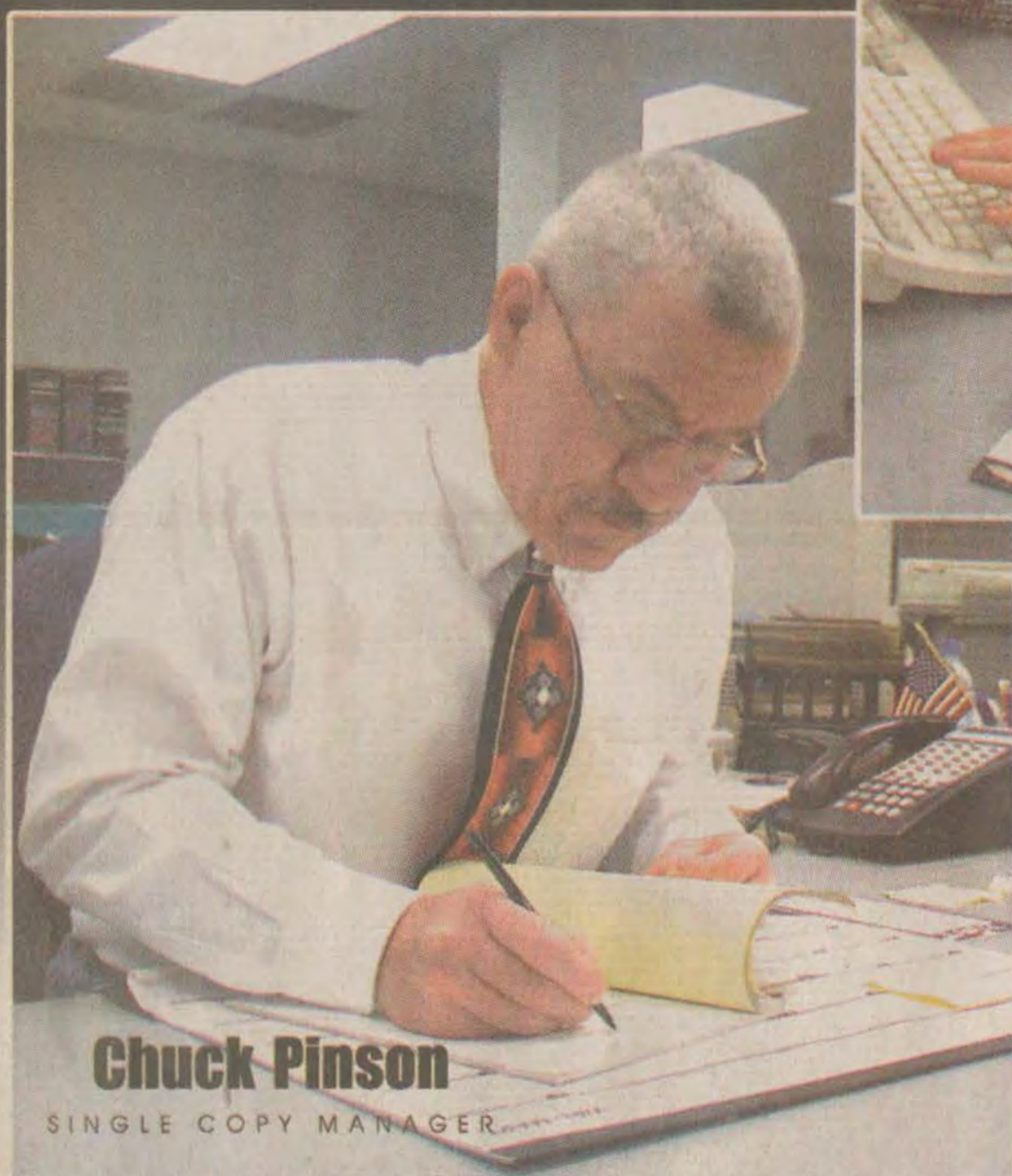
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