

The Times

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(See page 3A for details)

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Volume 80, Issue 154 • 75 Cents



BLACKCAT BOYS, GIRLS FALL

— Page B9

briefs

Rock fall closes road

State highway maintenance workers will close a portion of Route 302 at 7:30 this morning, Dec. 20, until further notice.

The section to be closed is from Terry Boat Dock to just above the dam, according to Grady Allen of Highway District 12's Allen Maintenance Garage.

The purpose of closing the road is to remove rock and debris from a recent rock fall.

"A lot of the rock has to be broken up before it can be moved," explained Todd Harris. "We will work as quickly as we can and still be safe, but it may take several days. We apologize in advance for any inconvenience, and we want to thank people for their understanding and patience."

Letters to Santa now on internet

If you missed The Floyd County Times' special Letters to Santa section earlier this month — or if you'd just like to read it again — it is now available online at our website, floydcountytimes.com.

In addition to the section which ran Dec. 6, the online version includes more letters that were delivered to our office after the section went to press.

2-DAY FORECAST

Today
Mostly sunny
High: 56 • Low: 39

Tomorrow
Evening showers
High: 58 • Low: 47

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

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Spencer plans to serve with no personal agenda

by ALEX SMITH
STAFF WRITER

CHANGING OF THE GUARD

Part 2 in a seven-part series looking at the new faces in Floyd County government.

One of the few surprises in this year's midterm elections was the victory of James Brandon Spencer, who succeeded in his second attempt to defeat Chuck Meade for 95th District state representative.

Spencer, a Democrat, said he may be young (31), but he believes he was elected because people saw he was legitimately passionate about serving the district. While Spencer said he will work hard during his first term in Frankfort, he said he has no intention of forgetting about the people who voted him into office.

"I found before when I ran against Mr. Meade that he wouldn't always show up for smaller meetings, and I think the number one plan for me is to show up," Spencer said.

Supporting economic development in the region is something Spencer believes will help grow the area and make the district a better place to live. Continued funding of sewer and water projects are high on his list of priorities, with a goal of making sure that everyone in his district has access to basic necessities as soon as possible.

Because of his prior work history, two areas



Brandon Spencer

(See SPENCER, page 13)

SERVING A HOLIDAY NEED



photo by Jessica Hale

Thousands of people lined up both inside and outside of the old Food City building in Pikeville at Marlow Tackett's annual "Christmas for the Needy." This year marks the 30th anniversary of the tradition.

Nearly 5,000 turn out for 'Christmas for the Needy'

by JESSICA HALE
STAFF WRITER

PIKEVILLE — Thousands of people turned out Sunday for a Christmas party that is celebrating its 30-year anniversary of giving needy families a Christmas to remember.

Marlow Tackett held his "Christmas for the Needy" party at the old Food City building in the Town and Country shopping center in

Pikeville and it was probably a good thing since nearly 5,000 people showed up for the event, the largest crowd since the tradition began.

Tackett spoke to the crowd on Sunday before all of the gift giving began and expressed his thanks to all of the people who helped with preparations.

"It wouldn't have been possible without all of the helpers and donations," said Tackett.

Canned food, soda, fruit and

candies were some of the things given to needy families on Sunday. Families were also given clothing and toys were given to the children.

Tackett says the drive is still accepting donations to be delivered to needy families throughout the region. He plans on visiting several counties within the next few weeks.

For more information call (606) 437-4311 or (606) 794-7593.

Board balks at request from Barren County

by KATHY J. PRATER
FEATURES EDITOR

HI HAT — The Floyd County Board of Education has long since maintained that children "come first" in the school district, but, it may be, only so long as said children are not enrolled in private school.

At Monday evening's meeting of the Floyd County Board of Education, the members of the board, save for Mickey McGuire and Sherry Robinson, who were not present, discussed a request handed to them by the Barren County Board of Education to enter into a nonresident agreement in regard to Barren's BAVEL (Barren Academy for Virtual and Expanded Learning) program, a virtual high school operated by the Barren County school district. Ten Floyd County students are currently enrolled in the program, but the students are each enrolled at The David School, rather than in Floyd County public schools.

As such, Supt. Paul Fanning did not recommend the requested action to the county's board members on Monday night. Fanning expressed concerns in regard to a possible loss of state funding to the county if the agreement were to be approved.

Fanning said that he

believes Barren County schools were currently receiving funding, possible state SEEK funding, that allowed them to operate the virtual high school and that "we are not getting any benefit from that."

However, Kristina Springer, director of pupil personnel for Floyd County Schools, did recommend approval of the agreement to the members of the board based on the stipulation that only students enrolled at the David School be eligible for enrollment in the program. According to Springer's report, neither the Floyd County nor Barren County school districts are currently receiving average daily attendance (ADA) funds for the 10 David School students, but should the proposed contract agreement be approved, the Barren County school district would be eligible to receive ADA funding.

"If the superintendent is not in favor of it, I'm not going to recommend it," said board member Carol Stumbo, "but I'd like to get more information on the matter." Stumbo suggested tabling the item for a future meeting in order to receive further information, to which her fellow board members agreed.

Emma Kriz, principal,

(See BOARD, page 13)

Civil rights group joins flag debate

by SAMIRA JAFARI
ASSOCIATED PRESS

PRESTONSBURG — A civil rights group is challenging an eastern Kentucky high school's use of the Confederate emblem as its school flag, saying the symbol is hurtful to black students at other schools.

Members of the Louisville-based Justice Resource Center met privately with Floyd County school officials on Monday afternoon to discuss their concerns

over Allen Central High School's prominent displays of the Confederate flag at the school and public events.

"The rebel flag to African-Americans represents something very bad — it represents slavery," said the Rev. Louis Coleman, head of activist group. "This community is still in the past."

After the meeting, Coleman and the Rev. Milton Seymour

(See FLAG, page 13)



Prestonsburg Headstart students received a lesson in stranger danger on Monday from the Floyd County Sheriff's Department. Lt. Deputy Shawn Roop held a discussion with the students in which they were told what they should do if a stranger should ever approach them and how they can keep themselves safe. New child safety laws and programs such as Code Adam Walsh and Amber Alerts were also a part of the discussion.

Jerry's
606-886-6701

Early Morning Breakfast Special

6 a.m.-11 a.m., Monday-Friday

(No Substitutions) Limited Time Only

- (1) 2 Eggs, Bacon or Sausage2.99
- Biscuits or Toast served w/Jelly
- (2) 2 Pancakes, Bacon or Sausage ..2.99
- served w/butter and syrup
- (3) Country Gravy and Biscuits.....1.99
- 2 Buttermilk Biscuits and Gravy
- (4) Oatmeal & Toast1.99
- Fresh cooked Oatmeal (good for heart)
- served w/Toast & Jelly

Additional Items—99¢ each
(1) Hash Browns or Home Fries
(2) Orange Juice or Tomato Juice
(3) Country Gravy

Kids!

Come in and register for World's Largest Christmas Stocking To be given away December 23rd.



Obituaries

Emma Lou Hamilton

Emma Lou Hamilton, age 70, of Stanville, the wife of Lloyd Hamilton, passed away Saturday, December 16, 2006, at the Pikeville Medical Center.

She was born December 5, 1936, a daughter of the late Elbert and Julia Spradlin Stratton. She was a homemaker, and a member of the Betsy Layne Freewill Baptist Church.

She is survived by her husband, Lloyd Hamilton.

Survivors, other than her husband include two sons: Richard Hamilton of Dana, and Stephen Hamilton of Cynthiana; a daughter, Karen Wilson of Banner; a brother, Elbert Stratton Jr., of Grethel; four sisters: Zella Price of Lexington, Vivian Conn of Betsy Layne, Maggie Hicks of David, and Ailene Cole of Morristown, Tennessee; nine grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

Funeral services for Emma Lou Hamilton were conducted on Tuesday, December 19, at 11:00 a.m., in the Hall Funeral Home Chapel, in Martin, with Clergyman Tracy Patton officiating.

Burial was in the Davidson Memorial Gardens, in Ivel, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

Visitation was at the funeral home

Pallbearers: Jeff Hicks, Paul Hicks, Craig Hicks, Elbert "Bud" Stratton, Jr., Stephen

Hamilton, Dougie Cole, Richard Hamilton, Bobby Johnson, Shannon Hamilton and Jesse Hamilton. (Paid obituary)

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William H. Hall

William H. Hall, 79, of Minnie, died Sunday, December 17, 2006, at Highlands Regional Medical Center.

Born October 27, 1927, in Uniontown, Pennsylvania, he was the son of the late Beverly and Mella Newsome Hall. He was a retired coal miner.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Ilene Robinson Hall.

Survivors include a son, Earl Hall of Ohio; two daughters: Gloria of Ohio, and Pamela of Nevada; a brother, Willard Hezzie Hall of Ohio; two sisters: Madge Halbert of McDowell, and Martha Pack of Elizabethtown; and four grandchildren.

In addition to his wife and parents, he was preceded in death by a son, Ricky Hall; three brothers: James Hall, Shirl Hall, and Edgel Hall; and three sisters: Claudette Tackett, Launa Jones, and Glenda Sauerwein.

Funeral services will be held Wednesday, December 20, at 1 p.m., at Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home in Martin, with Atha Johnson and Terry Hall officiating.

Burial will be in the Greenbury Hall Cemetery in McDowell, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Visitation, at the funeral home.

www.nelsonfrazierfuneralhome.com
(Paid obituary)

□□□

Floyd Hughes

Floyd Hughes, age 84, of Martin, passed away Monday, December 18, 2006, at the Highlands Regional Medical Center, in Prestonsburg.

Born January 6, 1922 in Lackey, he was the son of the late Joe and Carlena Stone Hughes. He was a retired employee of Stephens Elkhorn Coal Company and an U. S. Army World War II veteran.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Irene Layne Hughes.

Survivors include three daughters: Clara Akers, (husband, Everett (Poody) Akers), Jo Ann Samons and Martha Fay Bentley all of Martin, and seven grandchildren.

In addition to his wife and

parents, he was preceded in death by five sisters: Deliah, Tildia, Gracie, Dora Ellen and Opal; two brothers: Willard and Millard; and three step-brothers, Chester, Ishmel and Lenzie.

Funeral services will be conducted Thursday, December 21, at 11:00 a.m., at the Hall Funeral Home Chapel, in Martin, with Clergyman Gary Allen officiating.

Burial will follow in the Davidson Memorial Gardens, Ivel, under the professional care of the Hall Funeral Home, in Martin.

Visitation is at the funeral home.

Pallbearers: Jimmy Artrip, David Bentley, Phillip Anderson, Jay Samons, Toby Samons, and Chuck Horne.

(Paid obituary)

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Ray Meadows

Ray Meadows, age 87, of Harold, passed away on Wednesday, December 13, 2006, in the Pikeville Medical Center.

He was born November 12, 1919, in Thealka, the son of the late George and Susie Castle Meadows.

He was a retired coal miner, a member of the U.M.W.A, and a member of the Boldman Freewill Baptist Church.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Alberta Meadows; five brothers: Kanard, Cecil, Ted, Ora, and Reece Meadows; and a sister, Lida Lyons.

He is survived by his long-time companion, Claudine Johns; and nephews and nieces.

Funeral services for Ray Meadows were held Saturday, December 16, at 11:00 a.m., in the Boldman Freewill Baptist Church in Harold, with Belmont Johnson officiating.

Burial was in the Bush Cemetery, in Harold, under the professional care of the Hall Funeral Home of Martin.

(Paid obituary)

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Freeman Newman

Freeman Newman, age 79, of Hi Hat, died Sunday, December 17, 2006, in Wapakoneta, Ohio.

Born December 24, 1926, in Floyd County, he was the son of the late Ted and Arminia Jones Newman. He was the owner of Newman's Service Station for 49 years, and was a deacon at Clear Creek United

Baptist Church.

He is survived by his wife, Melva Caudill Newman.

Other survivors include a son, Steven Brian Newman of Hi Hat; a daughter, Brenda (Larry) Moore of Waynesville, Ohio; two brothers: Donald Newman and Arthur Newman, both of Lima, Ohio; three sisters: Patricia Ann Johnson of Wapakoneta, Ohio, Dallas Carpenter of Columbus Grove, Ohio, and Bernice Sergeant of Delphos, Ohio; grandchildren: Candy Lynn Truman, Bryan Moore, Ted Newman and Tawny Newman; and great-grandchildren: Sonya Truman, Autumn Truman, Katrina Truman and Jacob Newman.

Funeral services will be held Thursday, December 21, at 11 a.m., at Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, in Martin, with United Baptist ministers officiating.

Burial will be in the Newman Cemetery, in Hi Hat, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Visitation is at the funeral home, with additional services each night at 7 p.m.

www.nelsonfrazierfuneralhome.com
(Paid obituary)

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Emitt Tackett

Emitt Tackett, 88, of Salyersville, formerly of Ivel, died Sunday, December 17, 2006, at the Salyersville Health Care.

Born April 25, 1918, in Grethel, he was the son of the late John and Margaret Tackett Hamilton. He was a member of the Toms Creek Freewill Baptist Church; a retired yard manager for a scrap metal business; a World War II Army veteran; and a life member of DAV Chapter 169, at Betsy Layne.

He is survived by his wife, Alma Hall Tackett.

Survivors, in addition to his wife, include a stepson, Ralph Damron of Ivel; a brother, Bert Tackett of Albion, Michigan; two grandchildren: Darren Damron of Ivel, and Latta Jo Knapp of Concord, North Carolina; five great-grandchildren: Jeremy, Bobby, Kaleigh, Wesley, and Dustin; and a great-great-grandchild, Madison Nicole.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brothers and sisters: Evan "Tubby" Tackett, Andy Tackett, Charlie Tackett, Kenas Tackett, Willie Tackett, Pearl Hunt, and Nan Newman.

Funeral services will be held Friday, December 22, at 1 p.m., at Nelson-Frazier

Funeral Home, in Martin, with Chuck Ferguson officiating.

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

Visitation is after 5 p.m., Thursday, at the funeral home.

www.nelsonfrazierfuneralhome.com
(Paid obituary)

Card of Thanks

The family of Elder Monford Howell would like to thank each of you who helped us in any way during one of the most difficult times in our lives. We would like to extend our appreciation to all those friends, neighbors, and loved ones who helped to comfort us during our time of sorrow. To all those who sent flowers, or food, or just spoke a kind word, thank you. We would like to thank the Old Regular Baptist ministers for their comforting words. Thanks to the Samaria Church for all your kindness shown to our family. Thanks to those who assisted with the grave. To the Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, thank you for your patience and kindness as you attended to our needs. Thanks to the Sheriff's Department for your assistance in traffic control. Thanks to both the active and honorary pallbearers for each act of love shown to us. To both the Betsy Layne Chapter 128 and Garrett Chapter 169 of the DAV, thank you. We will always remember. Keep us in your prayers
God Bless you all.

THE FAMILY OF ELDER MONFORD HOWELL

Card of Thanks

The family of Martin B. Frasure wishes to gratefully acknowledge the thoughtfulness and 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 Roy Harlow for this comforting words, Graceway United Methodist Church for all the love and support shown to our family, the Sheriff's Department for their assistance in traffic control, and the Hall Funeral Home for their professional and compassionate service.

THE FAMILY OF MARTIN B. FRASURE

Card of Thanks

The family of Helen C. Stumbo would like to extend their appreciation to all those friends, relatives, and neighbors who helped in any way upon the passing of their loved one. Thanks to all those who sent food, flowers, prayers or spoke comforting words. We are especially grateful to the Regular Baptist ministers for their comforting words, the Sheriff's Department for their assistance in traffic control, and the staff of Hall Funeral Home for their unsurpassed service.

THE FAMILY OF HELEN C. STUMBO

Card of Thanks

The family of Bert Allen would like to take this opportunity to thank all those friends, relatives, and neighbors who helped to comfort our family during this difficult time. We are especially grateful to Clergyman Randy Blackburn for his comforting words. The Betsy Layne United Methodist Church for their love and support, the Sheriff's Department for their assistance in traffic control, and the Hall Funeral Home for their loving care and hand of friendship to our family.

THE FAMILY OF BERT ALLEN

Card of Thanks

The family of Alma Johnson Ditto Meade wishes to thank all of those friends, neighbors, and family, who helped in any way upon the passing of our loved one. Thanks to all who sent flowers, prayers, or words of comfort expressed. We are especially grateful to Clergymen Louis Ferrari and Donald Daniels for their comforting words, the Sheriff's Department for their assistance in traffic control, and the Hall Funeral Home for their kind and trusted services.

THE FAMILY OF ALMA JOHNSON DITTO MEADE

In Loving Memory of

John Boyd

Happy 54th Birthday, Dec. 25

"Daddy"

Daddy, you left without a goodbye. My eyes filled with tears, that I cry. My heart was filled with heartache and pain, But my memories of you, Dad, still remain. It's been so hard, without you here, But in my heart, you're always near. I'll take you with me, wherever I go, In my heart, body, mind and soul. Mom will never be the same, She get so sad just hearing your name. But I know you're walking on streets of gold, And forever in my heart, the memory of you, Dad, I'll always hold. And when it's my turn to travel on, I know you'll greet me with a smile, and say welcome home.

Written by your baby girl
Tammy Boyd Hall

We love you and miss you so much.
Love, Your Wife, Kids, and Grandkids



NOTICE OF INTENTION TO MINE PURSUANT TO APPLICATION NUMBER 836-0305 OPERATOR CHANGE

In accordance with the provisions of 405 KAR 8:010, notice is hereby given that The Elk Horn Coal Company, LLC, 544 South Lake Drive, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653, intends to revise Permit No. 836-0305 to add operators. The operator presently approved in the permit is The Elk Horn Coal Company, LLC, 544 South Lake Drive, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653. The new operators will be PIA Company, Inc., P.O. Box 1590, Martin, Kentucky 41649 and Major Elkhorn Mining Company, LLC, P.O. Box 1590, Martin, Kentucky 41649.

The operation is located 5.7 miles southwest of Harold in Floyd County. The operation is approximately 0.75 miles southeast from State Route 2030's junction with Little Mud Creek Road and located along Morgan Fork of Little Mud Creek. The operation is located on the Harold and McDowell USGS 7 1/2 minute quadrangle maps.

The application has been filed for public inspection at the Department for Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement's Prestonsburg Regional Office, 3140 South Lake Drive, Suite 6, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653.

Written comments or objections must be filed with the Director, Division of Mine Permits, #2 Hudson Hollow, U.S. 127 South, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601. All comments or objections must be received within fifteen (15) days of today's date.

Friends and Neighbors

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1208 South Mayo Trail • Pikeville

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(Slow cooked Barbeque)

NEW HOURS:
Tuesday-Friday, 11 a.m.-6 p.m.
Saturday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

- NOW FEATURING:
- Southern Vinegar Based Barbeque
 - Smoked Pulled Pork Shoulder
 - Smoked Pulled Chicken
 - Smoked Baby Back Ribs
 - Homemade Side Items

Carry out only
CATERING AVAILABLE FOR
UPCOMING HOLIDAY EVENTS

Located between PCC and
Highlands Regional

Contact us at 889-9119

Community Calendar

Calendar items will be printed as space permits

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

Diabetes Support Group

The Floyd County Health Department Diabetes Support Group will meet on December 19, from 11:00 to 12:00. Classes will be held at the Floyd County Health Department and are free of charge. This month topic is "Holiday Eating with Diabetes." For more information, contact Cheryl Younce at 886-2788, ext. 214.

Winter fun at EKSC

Children, grades 2 thru 6, can have fun this holiday break by attending a series of Science Camps, to be held Dec. 18-22 at the East KY Science Center. Enrollment is on a day-to-day basis with a fee of \$15/day (\$10 for members). Camp will begin at 9:30 a.m. each day and end at 2 p.m. A box lunch will be provided.

Campers may pick and choose which days they would like to attend, or come all week.

Daily activities schedule: Monday - Santa's Workshop (puppets, etc.); Tuesday - Flying Objects (mobiles, paper airplanes, rockets); Wednesday - The Sounds of Music (rain stick, pan flute, etc.); Thursday - Ornaments Galore (crystal snowflakes, yarn Santa, etc.); Friday - Holiday decorations (gingerbread house, wreath, etc.) To register, call 889-0303.

Left Beaver Fire and Rescue

Annual Santa Claus Run
The Left Beaver Fire and Rescue Annual Santa Claus Run, will be on Sunday, December 17.
12:00 Drift Ball Park
12:15 Minnie Ball Park
12:35 Minnie Townhouses
12:50 McDowell A.R.H.
1:35 Left Beaver Station, 2 McDowell
2:00 Pilgrim Rest Church
2:15 The old Price Coal

Tippie
2:30 Little Nancy Church
2:45 Foot of South Floyd High School
3:00 Bud Reynolds Store (Ligon)

Carl D. Perkins Job Corps

The Carl D. Perkins Job Corps Center, in cooperation with the Marine Corps Reserve, will be hosting Toys for Tots 2006 for Johnson County residents on December 21, and Floyd County, on December 22, at the Perkins Gymnasium. Anyone interested in donating a new unopened toy can drop them off at the following locations:

Floyd County locations:
• All First Commonwealth Bank locations
• Big Sandy RECC
• Brad Hughes Toyota
• Cash Express
• Dollar Tree
• Honda of Prestonsburg
• East KY Tire
• IGA at Stanville
• Layne's Hardware
• Messer's Department Store
• Save-A-Lot
• WQHY
Johnson County locations:
• All Citizens National Bank locations
• Brown's Ford
• Fashion Bug
• Glenda's Little Nook
• Ramada Inn

All toys collected will be distributed to local children. Anyone in need of receiving toys, for ages infant to 13 years old, needs to contact the Family Resource Center at their local elementary and middle schools.
For more information, contact Marsha Hackworth at 886-1037, ext. 105, or Lisa Moore at ext. 127.

Celebrate Old Christmas at Samuel May House

The custom of Old Christmas will be observed at the Samuel May House in Prestonsburg, on Sunday January 7, 2007, from 2-4:00 p.m. There will be tours of the House, period Christmas music, and refreshments. The public is cordially invited to attend this heartwarming, free event.

HRMC Calendar

• Dec. 14, 21, 28 - Kiwanis, Meeting Place A&B, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
• Dec. 15 - Highlands Blood Drive, Meeting Place A&B, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.
• Jan. 4, 11, 18, and 25 - Kiwanis, Meeting Place B, 12:1-30 p.m.

• Jan. 9 - Sr. Advantage, Meeting Place A & B, 9-11:00 a.m.

• Jan. 13 - Childbirth classes, Board Room, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

• Jan. 25 - Living Well With Diabetes Support Group, Meeting Room A & B, 5-6:00 p.m.

For more information concerning the support groups, contact the Highlands Educational Services Department at 886-7424.

Hillbilly Travel Club

Now scheduling trips for the upcoming year to: Myrtle Beach (Golf), March 11-15; Washington, DC, Memorial Day weekend; Niagara Falls, Canada, Labor Day weekend. All trips include roundtrip motorcoach, lodging, selected meals. Others include rounds of golf (with cart), guided tours, entry to area attractions (Maid of Mist boat ride, IMAX theater, and more). Call Ed at 452-4149 for more information.

ACHS Class of '96

The Allen Central High School Class of 1996 will be holding their 10-year reunion. For more information, call Amanda at 285-9491 or Leslie at 886-8003.

PHS Class of '97

The Prestonsburg High School Class of 1997 is currently planning their 10 year reunion. The reunion is scheduled to be held on July 14, 2007 at the Best Western, Prestonsburg. Those wishing to attend should please send in all of their personal information including name, address, phone number, occupation, spouse, children, and pets.
All teachers from 1993 to 1997 are also welcome. Classmates may send their information to psh97@bell-south.net or mail to Mark McKinney, 69 Hospital St., Prestonsburg, KY 41653.

Lunch is served at noon

Martin, KY 41640

Hope in the Mountains

Hope in the Mountains will host public meetings on Mondays, at 9 a.m., at the junction of U.S. 23 and Rt. 80, on Watergap Rd., behind the Trimble Chapel Church.

Meetings focus will be to offer information in regard to community resources available to women seeking freedom from drug abuse. Family members are also welcome to attend. The Hope initiative proposes to help women break free from addictive lifestyles to become self-respecting contributing members of society.
Call 874-2008 or 788-1006 for more information.

Social Security Rep to be at Mud Creek Clinic

Date: Dec. 26.
The representative will assist in filing claims for Social Security retirement, disability, and survivor's benefits. Those visiting may also apply for SSI, Black Lung, and Social Security numbers.
The representative may also assist in filing appeals and answering questions.

Prestonsburg Rotary Club

Invites interested professionals and businesses to join them for lunch each Thursday, at 12 p.m., in the Student Grille Conference Room, on the BSCTC campus.

Each weekly program is devoted to community service and its application to the Rotary Motto: "Service Above Self."
"Lunch is served at noon

and programs begin promptly at 12:40. Contact Mike Vance at 226-2075; David Kraus at 886-3082; or Nancy Johnson at 886-1156 for more info.

UNITE

The UNITE coalition of Floyd County will meet the FIRST Monday of each month, at 7 p.m., at the New Allen Baptist Church. All interested persons welcome to join UNITE's fight against drugs.

"Living Free" - A support group sponsored by the Floyd County UNITE Coalition. Group will meet weekly at the old Allen Baptist Church, on US 23 N., between Allen and Banner, on Tuesdays, at 1:15 p.m.

Living Free is a faith-based 12-step support group open to all who are searching for recovery. There is no fee to attend. For more info., contact Shirley Combs at 874-3388 or 434-8400.

Free Body Recall classes
Free Body Recall Exercise Classes will be held Monday.

(See CALENDAR, page ten)

Happy Holidays
MIKROTEC SECURITY SYSTEMS
as low as \$99.95
478-9100

Early Times \$18.99 1/2-gal. Carton
Doral Cigarettes \$19.99 + tax Carton
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Happy Holidays
COALFIELDS SERVICE BUNDLES
as low as \$74.98
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Happy Holidays
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Great gift items, including sewing machine cabinets, scissors, and sewing boxes.

Gift certificates available.

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30% off

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LB & J Designs
DBA Janie & Lillian's
587 S. Lake Drive, Prestonsburg, Ky.
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Christmas Sale
Going on NOW at the
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Just in Time for Christmas Giving!
SMALL APPLIANCES
\$25.00—Smoothy Maker*
\$30.00—Ice Cream Freezer*
\$20.00—3-cup Electric Coffee Pot*
\$90.00—George Foreman Grill/Waffle Maker* with Removable Plates
\$50.00—Toaster/Broiler Oven—used
*Still in boxes, never used
?—Various Household Items
?—Various Jewelry Items
?—Various Women's Clothing
?—Various Cosmetic Items
?—Collector's LP Volumes
\$50.00—Cherry Silverware Chest
\$40.00—Ceramic Labeled Cannister Set
\$20.00—Tupperware Cannister Set
5/\$20.00—Cookbooks
50¢—Paperback Mysteries
Ask about the Fur Jacket
Call 886-6248 for information between 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

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Viewpoint

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— John Greenleaf Whittier

Guest View

A widening savings gap

The clock is ticking for baby boomers — and this time, it's not their biological clocks. It's the countdown to retirement, for which many boomers feel they are unprepared.

A new study conducted for Thrivent Financial for Lutherans found that 71 percent said a lack of money would prevent them from having the kind of retirement they want. The study of 2,500 people ages 45 to 60 was conducted in September and October. Much of this, of course, is the fault of those who haven't saved. And some studies actually don't paint as dire a picture, claiming that in terms of overall wealth, the generation born between 1946 and 1964 is actually pretty well off.

But a lot of them don't feel like it. There are several factors making saving for retirement more complicated for this generation. For one thing, folks are living much longer than previous generations. And so are their parents. So often they are sandwiched between the generation before and the one after them, providing care to both. The number of Americans 65 and older rose 183 percent between 1950 and 2000, according to the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. At the same time, fewer companies are offering pension programs — or offering as rich a program as in the past.

Furthermore, Social Security is under severe stress and will need big infusions of federal money in the coming years to meet its obligations. And federal studies of estates show that most people will not be able to rely on inheritances to bail them out. So much for that rich uncle theory of retirement planning. So unlike their parents, baby boomers must rely to a much greater degree on their own savings. Yet they are falling short — way short in many cases.

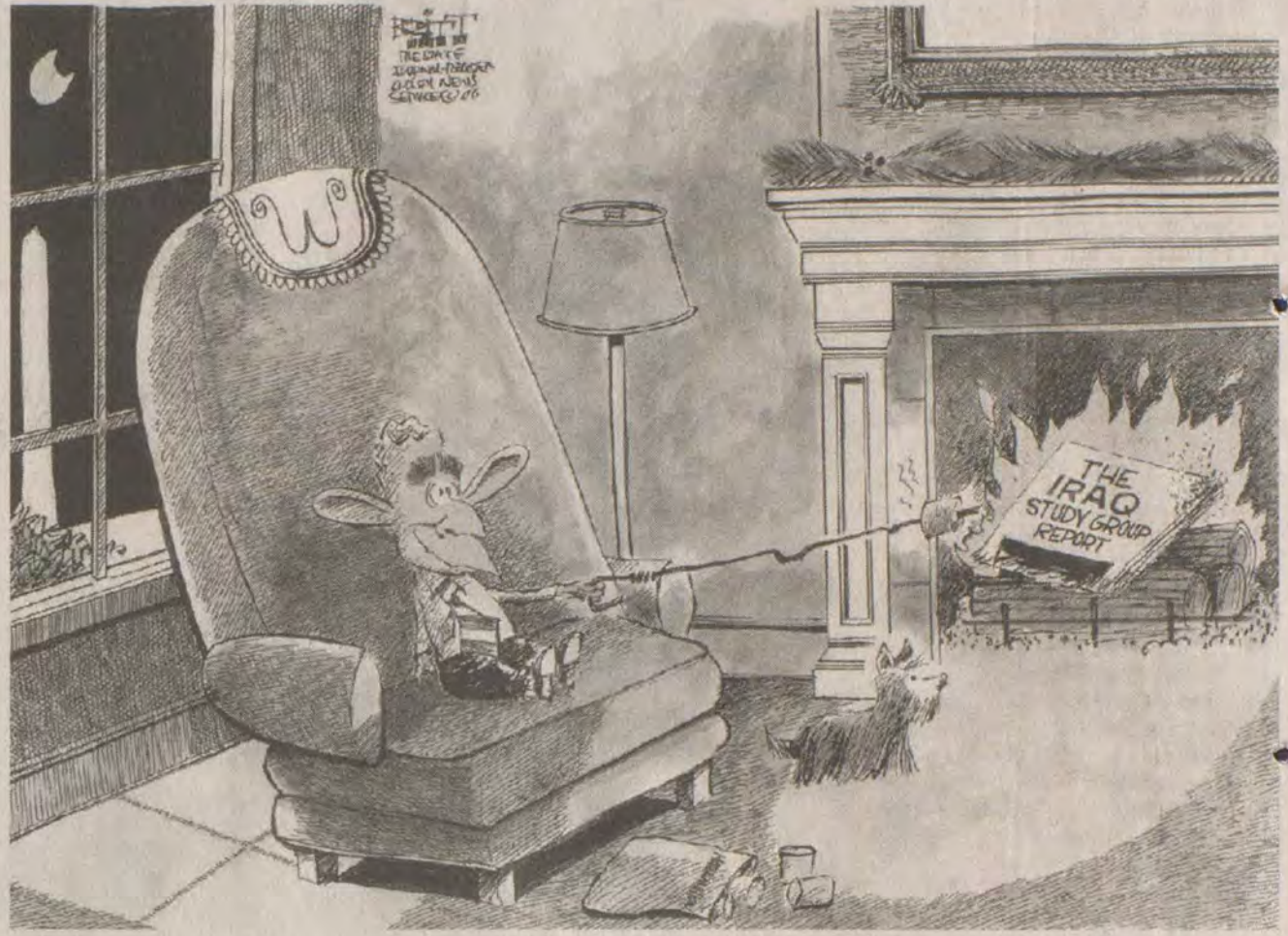
Based on a review of outstanding balances in 401(k) accounts, the FDIC found that baby boomers in their 40s and 50s had no more than about \$140,000 in their accounts as of 2003. Many had considerably less. In the Thrivent survey, nearly 25 percent said they had saved nothing for retirement.

What to do? First, start saving. The pension reform bill signed into law by President Bush earlier this year makes it easier for companies to automatically enroll employees in 401(k) retirement savings plans and select appropriate investments for them. That was a good thing.

But stronger medicine may be needed. Gene Sperling, a former adviser to President Clinton, recommends replacing the current tax breaks for retirement savings with universal 401(k) accounts in which the government would match family savings at different rates, depending on family income. While the idea may have merit, there is concern that companies would cut back on providing matching funds if the government got into the game.

Clearly, attention should be paid to this issue. By most accounts, baby boomers are nowhere close to having the kind of money they need in retirement, and that could be the kind of demographic train wreck that costs all of us big bucks to clean up in the long run.

— The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel



Letters

What happened to investigation?

I'm writing to respond to an ad that was published in The Floyd County Times August 30, concerning the Office of Education Accountability declining a request from the superintendent of Floyd County schools, Dr. Paul Fanning, to investigate the May Valley incident.

The OEA wants the superintendent of Floyd County schools, Dr. Paul Fanning, to investigate the May Valley incident. But first, Fanning said he was waiting to receive certain informational documents and materials from Commonwealth's Attorney Brent Turner to be used in the investigation in regards to the May Valley case.

This is a joke! To let Supt. Fanning do his own investigation would be like "the fox in the hen house."

Dr. Paul Fanning makes absurd and false allegations against the parents of the children abused at the May Valley school. Fanning purports that the reason a lawyer/lawyers filed suit in federal court concerning the May Valley incident was because the school board possessed liability insurance and not the abuse of the children. This is a joke!

The board tried to keep it a secret about money involved in the settlement at May Valley.

I'm curious as to how much of our children's educational funds were spent on supporting the administrators that covered up and ignored the abuse at May Valley? How much of our educational funds were spent supporting the superintendent of Floyd County schools?

If the principal and superintendent and anyone else covered up and ignored the abuse, then they are just as guilty as the people who did the abusing. These people should have to appear before the grand jury and be tried! Make them pay back what was spent on lawyers.

The superintendent and the board tried to get themselves out of a bad situation by using a cover-up because they used the Department of Education to come up with a system where only one board member, namely Carol Stumbo, would know what's going on in that case.

What about those outstanding high scores on the CATS test at May Valley? Was that a cover-up on the principal's and superintendent's part also? I asked Supt. Fanning to investigate possible inappropriate assessment practices. He declined. (He didn't hesitate to have me investigated.)

I just feel like with all this abuse cover-up at May Valley and the

money involved in the lawsuit, spending millions of your taxpayers' dollars on lawsuits, increasing your taxes to get the board out of a bad situation, possible prodigal spending of the children's educational funds to support the administrators that covered up and ignored the abuse at May Valley. How about prodigal spending on the superintendent also?

There was more covered up that people don't know about. How about a cover-up on the superintendent? I'll scratch your back if you'll scratch mine." The superintendent will build you an unnecessary new school building if you will vote to keep him in as superintendent. At the same time, the taxpayers' money is wasted.

There should be a faction committee formed to remove the superintendent from the Floyd County school system, since his own little group of board members won't.

Oh, by the way, did you ever receive those informational documents and materials from Commonwealth's Attorney Brent Turner to be used in the investigation at May Valley? Did you ever investigate the May Valley incident? (Which is a joke.)

What are the results, Dr. Fanning? Are you trying to cover up this also?

John Hicks
Hueysville



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 objection-

able. 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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Former lt. gov. announces bid for state's top spot

by JOE BIESK
ASSOCIATED PRESS

FRANKFORT — Former Lt. Gov. Steve Beshear finished third in a 1987 eight-way gubernatorial Democratic primary and lost his last statewide attempt in 1996 to U.S. Sen. Mitch McConnell by more than 160,000 votes.

But those losses, Beshear claims, have given him a greater insight into what's wrong in Kentucky and how he could better govern if elected to the state's top job next year.

"Those defeats made me a better man," Beshear said Monday after announcing his candidacy in the 2007 governor's race.

Beshear, who also has been Kentucky attorney general and a state lawmaker, filed papers to run for the Democratic nomination. State Sen. Daniel Mongiardo, an Eastern Kentucky legislator, signed on

as Beshear's running mate.

Together, they will seek their party's nomination for a chance to win back the governor's mansion. The Democrats relinquished the state's highest executive office for the first time in more than 30 years when Gov. Ernie Fletcher defeated now-U.S. Rep. Ben Chandler in 2003 to become the state's first Republican governor since Louie Nunn.

Beshear is the second Democrat in a week to announce plans to run in the 2007 primary. State Treasurer Jonathan Miller filed papers last week that allow him and his running mate, Jefferson County Attorney Irv Maze, to raise money for the campaign. Otis Hensley Jr. of Harlan was the first Democratic candidate to enter the primary.

On the Republican side, Fletcher is expected to face Billy Harper, a Paducah businessman. Harper has announced his candidacy and

is running television ads but so far has not filed the paperwork needed to enter the race officially.

Beshear said his previous defeats led him back to the private sector where he gained additional experience in managing a law firm.

"They gave me an opportunity to spend additional time in the private sector and, more importantly, with my family," Beshear said of his losses.

During the campaign, Beshear said he would address issues such as economic development, education, health care and crime. The candidate, however, declined to offer any specifics.

"Today we've laid out a broad vision of what we think the various problems are facing the state," Beshear said. "In January, we're going to be kicking off our campaign, and from that point on, we're going to be spending time talking about specific proposals,

specific problems and proposals that'll address those problems."

Still, Beshear's announcement came as Mongiardo is under scrutiny by the state's Legislative Ethics Commission for his alleged involvement in a political action committee called DAN-PAC, an acronym for Democrat Activist Network PAC. The ethics panel last week found "probable cause" to continue with its investigation into Mongiardo's relationship with the PAC.

Under Kentucky law, state legislators are not allowed to have permanent committees in their names. Mongiardo has called his involvement "an honest mistake" and has maintained he was a distant adviser who severed ties when he learned of a potential problem.

Beshear said he thought the issue was "going to be resolved here very shortly," and that he's not concerned about it.

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Former Fletcher official facing ethics charges

The Associated Press

FRANKFORT — An ethics panel has charged one of Gov. Ernie Fletcher's former commissioners with violating the state ethics laws to install political supporters into protected state jobs.

Dan Druen, a former commissioner for administrative services in the state Transportation Cabinet, also allegedly altered evidence so it could not be used against him or others, according to the Executive Branch Ethics Commission's recent order. The panel has charged Druen with 10 alleged ethics code violations.

Druen, among other things, allegedly facilitated the "systematic preselection or approval of individuals, based on private political interests rather than qualifications," the panel said. Druen, whom Fletcher pardoned during the merit hiring investigation, also facilitated other hirings,

appointments, promotions, demotions and transfers based on politics rather than candidates' qualifications.

Druen could not be reached for comment because he does not have a listed phone number. His attorney, Rob Eggert, did not return a call seeking comment.

A Franklin County special grand jury had charged Druen with multiple allegations including trying to influence a witness and tampering with subpoenaed evidence. But Fletcher pardoned Druen and anyone other than himself who could be charged in the investigation. Druen, however, was subsequently fired along with other officials shortly after the pardons.

The ethics panel gave Druen 20 days to respond.

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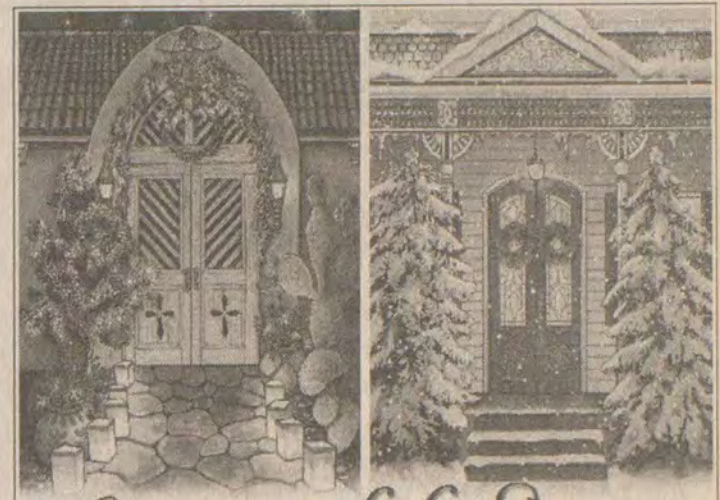
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We have been so blessed. God is so good. We would not be here today except for the prayers sent up on our behalf.

May we, as God's children, always keep the true meaning of Christmas in our hearts; and may we share in the warmth and joy of this glorious season and the hopes of the coming year!

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Chandler wins appropriations seat; Yarmuth to education panel

by BRUCE SCHREINER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOUISVILLE — U.S. Rep. Ben Chandler's recent decision not to run for governor could pay off for his district, as the Lexington Democrat got a seat on the powerful Appropriations Committee.

"I hope with this new committee assignment, I will be in a better position to serve the people of central Kentucky," Chandler said Wednesday in a statement.

Chandler was selected by the Democratic Steering and

Policy Committee for the assignment. The selection is still subject to a vote by the entire Democratic caucus in January, Chandler's office said.

With his new role when Democrats take control of the House in January, Chandler will give up his seat on the International Relations, Agriculture and Transportation and Infrastructure committees, his statement said.

As Congress prepares for its return to work in early January, Kentucky's two Republican senators said Wednesday they will keep their committee assignments.

Meanwhile, Kentucky's newest member of Congress got his first choice for a committee assignment. Rep.-elect John Yarmuth said Wednesday

he landed a spot on the House Education and Workforce Committee.

Yarmuth, who narrowly defeated five-term Republican Rep. Anne Northup in the Louisville-area 3rd District last month, said the committee offers "the potential to improve the lives of so many millions of Americans."

The role will give Yarmuth a voice on two issues he stressed in his campaign — raising the federal minimum wage from \$5.15 to \$7.25 an hour and cutting student loan interest rates by half.

On Wednesday, Yarmuth also mentioned revamping President Bush's education initiative known as "No Child Left Behind," which he said has been underfunded and has

become a burden for schools to implement. Yarmuth said the education agenda early next year will also include reauthorizing Head Start and raising Pell Grant caps.

Labor initiatives will include legislation on pension reform, job training and health care, he said.

Chandler said he will be the first House member from central Kentucky to serve on the Appropriations Committee since 1891. Chandler, who represents Kentucky's 6th District, won a second full term last month.

Chandler was widely viewed as the Democratic favorite in the 2007 Kentucky governor's race, but the congressman recently ruled out a run for the job. Chandler, the grandson of

two-term Kentucky governor A.B. "Happy" Chandler, was defeated by Republican Ernie Fletcher in the 2003 race for governor.

Meanwhile, Kentucky Sen. Mitch McConnell, soon to become the Senate's top Republican, will retain his seats on the Appropriations, Agriculture and Rules committees, according to his office.

The state's other GOP senator, Jim Bunning, will keep his assignments on the finance, banking, energy and budget committees.

"I will have a seat at the table on a number of important committees that will be drafting significant legislation," Bunning said in a statement.



Our Lady of the Way Hospital has announced that Faye Slone, a member of the cardiopulmonary team, has been named Employee of the Month for November. Slone is a registered respiratory therapist and has been at OLW for 35 years. She and her husband, Ballard, have been married for 40 years and live in Salyersville. They have three children — Patricia Davis of Salyersville, Clark Slone of New Castle, and Johnathan Slone of Florence. Slone enjoys spending time with her five grandchildren, cooking and antiques.

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Pine Top native and resident Trooper Austin Hicks, of Kentucky State Police Post 9 in Pikeville, received an award for outstanding achievement from Kentucky Justice and Public Safety Cabinet Secretary Gen. Norman Arflack, left, and KSP Commissioner Jack Adams, right, at the 2006 Governor's Impaired Driving Enforcement Awards in Louisville on Dec. 12. Hicks made 49 impaired driving arrests during the past year. "Each arrest for impaired driving may in fact be a life-saving effort," said Adams. Hicks is the son of Phillip and Susan Hicks, of Pine Top.



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Fletcher: Kentucky can afford more university projects

by **JOE BIESK**
 ASSOCIATED PRESS

FRANKFORT — Gov. Ernie Fletcher, fresh off a trip to meet with Wall Street bond agencies, said Wednesday he thinks Kentucky can now afford more of the pricey projects he dissected from the state budget earlier this year.

Legislative leaders seem on board, especially considering early projections that the state is likely to have about \$279 million more come into its coffers than was expected. Fletcher said that after recently meeting with representatives from three bond agencies, he's "more confident" Kentucky can afford the new debt from the projects.

"I feel more comfortable with those projects now than I did a year ago," Fletcher told reporters.

Kentucky lawmakers approved an \$18.1 billion two-year budget earlier this year, but Fletcher cut from that \$370 million worth of projects across the state. Buoyed by a projected \$279 million financial surplus this year, lawmakers seem ready to spend at least a portion of that money on restoring what the governor vetoed.

Lawmakers adjourned the 2006 regular session without giving themselves enough time

to reconsider any of Fletcher's vetoes.

Senate President David Williams, R-Burkesville, said the General Assembly approved the projects once, and he was inclined to continue supporting them.

"I think that we could afford them when we passed them and we can afford those projects now," Williams said.

Despite the anticipated cash infusion into Kentucky's state government, Williams said he was not keen on adding new projects that weren't already cleared by the General Assembly.

"I'm more inclined to review the budget that was previously presented and take a look at the projects that were vetoed," Williams said.

House Speaker Jody Richards, D-Bowling Green, said the money lawmakers approved for education projects was "crucial." New university buildings, many of which would have been paid for with bonds issued by the schools, were necessary, Richards said.

"I believe that the House and Senate will join together to restore all of the worthwhile projects on our state university campuses that were vetoed after the 2006 session," Richards said. "None of these buildings were frill buildings."

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Kate Shutts, MD Pediatrician

Dr. Kate Shutts is now accepting new patients from birth to age 18. Dr. Shutts is a native of Prestonsburg who earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Biology, graduating Summa Cum Laude, from the University of Kentucky; received her Doctorate of Medicine from the University Of Kentucky College Of Medicine; and completed her Pediatric Residency at the Kentucky Children's Hospital. Her office is located on the 2nd floor of the Highlands Medical Office Building. Kids Care Pediatrics is a part of Hometown Family Care, the practice of Dr. Chris Bailey and Dr. Jeff Potter.



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Computer Information Technology leaders Brett Higgins, Brian Handshoe and Randy Smith, from Floyd County Schools, along with other attendees at the first annual Kentucky Datastream Technology Institute.

School information technologists attend conference in Louisville

LOUISVILLE — Representatives from more than 40 school districts attended the first annual Kentucky Datastream Technology Institute in Louisville last week. Representatives from Floyd County Schools, along with other participants worked with new technology and discussed innovative computer and network strategies to use in local schools.

As Participating Partners in the Kentucky Datastream Initiative, attendees received an early Christmas present. Participants are taking a new Apple iMac back to their local

school district. Not only will the new machine help them use some of the new education and management tools learned at the conference, but the computers will join machines in their local school district and thousands of others that are currently operating in a state-wide computing grid.

This computing grid is capable of providing Kentucky researchers over a hundred thousand research hours in a single month. It is one of the largest managed research grids in the world and is currently helping researchers at the University of Louisville James

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Soon, a joint project between Atmos Energy and Kinzer Drilling Company will begin construction. The 60-mile Straight Creek Gathering System originating in Floyd County, Kentucky, will gather natural gas from production areas in eastern Kentucky and deliver it into the Tennessee Gas Pipeline in Carter County.



For more information about this project, please contact us: 1-800-275-7473 ext. 8712, email paul.vance@atmosenergy.com or cindy.cartwright@atmosenergy.com; or visit our Web site at http://www.atmosenergy.com/other/straight_creek.html



a Christmas Wish

May the true spirit of Christmas be yours, just as in the manger on that Holy Night, when the Star first shone above.

Peace and joy to your family from ours, all through this season and the coming year.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year
 from the Administration and Staff of
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Calendar

Wednesday, and Friday, at 9:30, at the Presbyterian Church in Prestonsburg. Classes are held Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday, at 11 a.m. at the old R & S Building. Classes are offered by the Floyd County Health Department. Call the health department, 886-2788, for more information.

'Earn While You Learn'

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

Senior employment program

Are you a senior citizen on a fixed income struggling with soaring medical bills and living expenses? Could you use some extra spending money but don't know how to get back into the workforce? If you are at least age 55, the Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) may be able to help. Earn extra money, learn new skills, and help your community at the same time! To find out more, call: 886-2929

External Diploma Program

Kentucky residents age 25 and older can earn a high school diploma by demonstrating skills learned on the job or in raising a family. Flexible scheduling is provided and confidentiality maintained. Classes are held at the Carl D. Perkins Rehabilitation Center, in Thelma, Mon. thru Fri., with evening classes on Thursday. EDP classes are also held at the Mullins

Learning Center, in Pikeville, on Tuesdays, from 4:30-8:30 p.m. Contact Andy Jones at 606-788-7080, or 800-443-2187, ext. 186, or Linda Bell, at ext. 160 to make an appointment. GED classes are also available.

Floyd County Extension Homemaker Club Meetings

Allen: 1st Monday, 11 a.m., at Christ United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall.

Dixie: 3rd Thursday, 12:30 p.m., Dixie Community Room.

David: 1st Monday, 1 p.m., at St. Vincent's Mission.

Martin: 1st Tuesday, 6 p.m., Martin Church of Christ.

Maytown: 3rd Thursday, 6 p.m., Maytown Learning Center.

Cliff: 3rd Tuesday, 12 p.m., Community Center.

Prestonsburg: 2nd Tuesday, 10:30 a.m., Extension Office.

South Prestonsburg: 3rd Tuesday, 7 p.m., Home of members (call 886-2668 for info.)

Left Beaver: 2nd Tuesday, 10:30 a.m., Osborne Elem. School Library.

Special interest groups:

Nimble Thimble Quilt Guild: 1st/3rd Wednesdays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Extension Office.

Newbees Quilt Group: 4th Thursday, 6 p.m., Extension Office. (The Newbees do not meet during the months of January and February.)

Looking for a Support Group?

*Floyd County Alzheimer's Support Group now meets at Riverview Manor.

*Overeater's Anonymous - Meetings held each Wednesday at 6:30 p.m., at the old Allen Baptist Church, located in Allen, just past red light. Call 889-9620 for more info.

*US TOO! Prostate Cancer Survivors Support Group - For all men with prostate cancer and their families. Group meets the 3rd Thursday of each month, at 6 p.m., at the Ramada Inn, Paintsville.

*Community Weight Loss Support Group - Meets Thursday's at 6:30 p.m., at the Martin Community Center. For more info., call 377-6658.

Those who have had gastric bypass surgery most especially welcome to attend. Meetings being offered as support to anyone needing extra support in dealing with weight loss.

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

Have to Hurt."

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

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

*A.S.K. (Adoption Support for Kentucky) - Support group for all adoptive parents (public, private, international, and kinship care), foster parents and all others interested in adoption. To be held the first Monday of each month, at the Department for Community Based Services office, 1009 North Lake Drive, Prestonsburg, from 6-8 p.m. Childcare will not be provided. For more information, contact Dedra Slone, adoptive parent liaison, at 432-4110 or 422-7927, or email to: doslone@eastky.net.

*PARENTS! - Contact the Big Sandy Area Community Action Program, Inc. to find out about child care services in your area, the STARS for KIDS NOW licensing standards program, and how you can earn an income by staying home with your own children while caring for the children of others. Find out more by calling Cheryl Endicott at 886-1280, or 888-872-7227 (toll free).

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

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

Continued from p3

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Public Forum on Wellness, Health, and Nutrition Plans
 Parents and citizens are invited to attend a public forum discussion about Wellness, Health, and Nutrition plans in Floyd County Schools. This forum will be hosted by the Floyd County Board of Education Health, Nutrition and Physical Activity Committee.
 The meeting will take place January 22, 2007, 5:00 PM at May Valley Elementary.

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For the Record

Marriage Licenses

Cindy Kidd, 37, of Hi Hat to Herbert Gentry Jr., 32, of Beattyville.
Donna Hall, 37, to Patrick Fannin, 35, both of Grethel.

Civil Suits Filed

Lackey Pharmacy, Inc. vs. Ella M. Caudill
Deutsche Bank vs. Perry Kingsley
CitiMortgage, Inc. vs. Robin Prince, et al
Ashley Lewis vs. Coe E. Lewis Jr.
Michael Chiazza vs. Katie Chiazza
Justine Hamilton vs. Connie Goodman
Kea-Ham Contracting, Inc. vs. Pruitt & DeBourbon Law Firm, et al
HSBC Mortgage Services, Inc. vs. Pauline Mullins
Edgille Branham, et al vs. Life Investors Insurance Co. of America
Sylvia T. Gamble vs. Jamie N. Slone
Vanderbilt Mortgage & Finance vs. Janet Greer, et al
Green Tree Servicing, LLC vs. James E. Williamson, et al

Small Claims Filings

Capital One Bank vs. Lisa Tucker
Midland Funding vs. Stephanie Childers
Midland Funding vs. Lori A. Turner
Midland Funding vs. James Lewis
North Star Capital

Acquisitions vs. Mack V. Hagans
Capital One Bank vs. Glen D. Rackey
Midland Funding vs. Donald Endicott
Midland Funding vs. Gloria Mullins
Midland Funding vs. Stephanie Maynard

Charges Filed

Matthew A. Cook, 20, of Paintsville, criminal trespass; public intoxication, controlled substance; use/possession drug paraphernalia; possession marijuana.
William Gray, 36, of Eric, Michigan, alcohol intoxication, public place.
Ronnie Manuel, 35, of Martin, assault/domestic violence; resisting arrest.
Shane D. Burchett, 20, of David, cruelty to animals.
Matthew Bernard Crawford, 23, of Hazard, alcohol intoxication, public place; disorderly conduct.
Neal Hall, 32, of Harold, assault.
Adam M. Little, 25, of Prestonsburg, criminal littering.
Sarah Lynn Smith, 23, of Prestonsburg, criminal littering.
Becky Stewart, of Pikeville, harassing communications.
Vernon Brian Johnson, 37, of Bevinsville, criminal mischief; menacing.
Joshua Howard, 26, of

Prestonsburg, controlled substance prescription not in original container; 1st degree possession controlled substance, drug unspecified; use/possession drug paraphernalia; public intoxication, controlled substance.
Leita J. Griffith, 37, of Ivel, theft of another without consent (identity theft).
Keith Ydell Robinson, 25, of Langley, rape, 2nd degree.
Cathy Jacobs, 42, of Ivel, forgery.
Ashanti Jasmine Risner, 19, of Martin, forgery of a prescription for a legend drug.

Property Transfers

A-4 Rentals Inc. to Jarvis Moore; B K Goose Creek on Right Beaver Creek.
Gary Adkins to Beverly and Gary Adkins, Big Mud Creek.
Dennis and Marlene Asay to Josh and Katherine Miller, Daniels Creek.
Dennis and Marlene Asay to Prudential Relocation Inc, Daniels Creek.
Tamery Bowen and Unknown spouse of Tamery Bowen, to Nationstar Mortgage LLC, Still House Branch.
Thelma Burchett and Unknown spouse of Thelma Burchett to Equity One Inc., location undisclosed.
William Burchette and unknown spouse of William burchett to Equity One Inc., location undisclosed.
Centex Home Equity

Company LLC to Nationstar Mortgage LLC, Still House Branch
Conesco Finance Servicing Corp. to Nationstar Mortgage LLC, Still House Branch.
Aileen and Howard Evans to Community Trust Bank Inc., Ford Addition to Prestonsburg.

Jerome Greathouse to Barbara and Billy Osbourne, Auxier.
Jarred and Michelle Hall to Elk Horn Coal Company LLC, location undisclosed.
Peggy Hall to Joe and Tracey Marson, location undisclosed.

Janice and Randy Hamilton to Scarlett and Stevie Johnson, location undisclosed.
Katie Hansen to Dana Spurlock, Keathley Spradlin Subdivision.
Mark, Paul, Ross, Vickie, and Melissa Hurd to Gwyen and Phillip Meade, Caney Fork.

Mark, Paul, Ross, Vickie, and Melissa Hurd to Melissa and Phillip Meade, location undisclosed.
Mark, Paul, Ross, Vickie, and Melissa Hurd to Mark and Vickie Hurd, Spring Branch of Caney Fork of Middle Creek.

Regina Johnson to Jonathan and Regina Johnson, location undisclosed.
William Kendrick Master Commissioner to Equity One Inc., location undisclosed.

William Kendrick Master Commissioner to Nationstar Mortgage LLC, Still House branch.
John, John Sr. and unknown spouse of John Sr.

Ledke, to Nationstar Mortgage LLC, Still House Branch.

Martin Baptist Church to Floyd County Fiscal Court, Martin.

Brenda and Donald Martin to Leah and Wesley Moore, location undisclosed.

Jerry Martin to Amanda and Tim Hall, location undisclosed.

Gwyen and Phillip Meade to Gwyen and Phillip Meade, Caney Fork.

Gwyen and Phillip Meade to Melissa and Phillip Meade, location undisclosed.

Gwyen and Phillip Meade to Mark and Vickie Hurd, Spring Branch of Caney Fork of Middle Creek.

Jeffrey and Vanessa Moore to Linda and Roy Newsome, John Hall Branch of Frasure Creek.

Shawn Porter to Denise Porter, location undisclosed.
William Potter to Dottie and William Potter, Crestwood Subdivision.

Darrel and Leesa Powers to Consolidated Health Systems Inc., location undisclosed.

Prestonsburg Clinic Associates to Consolidated Health Systems Inc, Ky Rt 1428.

Primary Closing Corporation to Melissa and Tim Hastings, location undisclosed.

Prudential Relocation Inc to Josh and Katherine Miller, Daniels Creek.
Ellen Ramey to Bethany and Jared Arnett, Harold.

John and Julie Scoggins to David Hans, location undisclosed.

Charles Scoville to Rhonda Scoville, location undisclosed.
Tina Spradlin, and unknown spouse of Tina

Spradlin to Equity One Inc., location undisclosed.

Donald Stanley to Don and Joshua Stanley, location undisclosed.

Joshua Stanley to Don Stanley, location undisclosed.

Dennis, Eula, John, and Lora Tackett to Eula Tackett, Big Mud Creek.

Marcus and Mary Tackett to Katrina Hall, location undisclosed.

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Legislative Briefs

Bill would ease safety requirements for smallest surface mines

FRANKFORT — The state's smallest coal companies would get a reprieve from a year-old mine safety law under legislation pending in the General Assembly.

The measure would relieve companies that employ fewer than 10 miners from having to keep two certified mine medics on duty during working hours.

Ancel Smith, D-Leburn, said the requirement adopted by the General Assembly last year created some unforeseen hardships.

"I'm just trying to help some small people here who are trying to survive" financially, Smith said. "It won't hinder the safety."

Lawmakers, reacting to the deaths of 16 miners in 2006, passed a law early last year to provide additional safety protections.

The law requires state mine inspectors to double the number of visits they make to underground operations, puts methane gas detectors in the hands of all work crews and mandates that companies keep a vehicle close to work crews to haul injured miners to the surface in case of accidents.

Among other provisions, it also requires that ventilation fans stay on at all times, unless they are undergoing maintenance, to keep fresh air flowing into mines and to prevent the buildup of methane.

With the law in place, Kentucky had no underground coal mine fatalities in 2007.

Smith's proposal to allow small coal operations to work with only one medic on duty faces opposition from mine safety advocates, including Lexington attorney Tony Opeppard, whose law firm represents widows of coal miners killed on the job. Opeppard, a former mine regulatory official at the state and federal levels, said lawmakers didn't arbitrarily choose to require two medics. It was done, he said, so that if one was injured, the other could provide treatment.

"To save a few bucks, they're putting miners' lives at risk," Opeppard said. "I think it's detrimental to mine safety. It's unnecessary, and it's shortsighted."

The architect of last year's mine safety law, state Rep. Brent Yonts, D-Greenville, said he isn't opposed to tweaking the law to accommodate two-man crews that use augers to dig coal out of a mountainside. If Smith is willing to

amend his bill to specify that it pertains to two-man augering operations, Yonts said he could support it.

Kentucky Coal Association President Bill Caylor said easing the requirement on the smallest mining companies makes sense.

"It's not meant to diminish safety," Caylor said. "It's just trying to cut back on the burdens of the small businessman."

House passes bill to help veterans get government jobs

FRANKFORT — Military veterans would have a better chance of landing jobs in state government under legislation that has cleared the House.

The legislation requires state agencies to give preference to honorably discharged soldiers when filling jobs. The House approved the measure 97-0 on Wednesday. It now goes to the Senate for consideration.

The bill is one of several introduced over the past three weeks intended to reward veterans for their military service. Democratic state Rep. Mike Cherry of Princeton says the bill would add up to 10 "preference points" to test scores used to gauge an applicant's qualifications and would require that state agencies grant interviews to veterans for jobs that don't require tests.

Advanced placement bill clears Senate, on to House

FRANKFORT — A plan aimed at boosting the number of Kentucky students taking top-level high school courses cleared the Senate on Wednesday.

Lawmakers say the approximately \$4.25 million proposal will help high schools offer more rigorous advanced placement courses that could lead to college credit for students who take them.

"This bill will take us a gigantic step forward in Kentucky," said Sen. Ken Winters, R-Murray, the bill's sponsor.

Among other things, the bill would expand the availability of advanced placement classes by giving high schools grants to develop math and science programs and offer more virtual classes online. The proposal would also cover students' costs of taking the exams, which cost about \$80 each.

The measure, which cleared the Senate on a 36-0 vote, heads to the House for consideration.



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Spencer

of special concern for Spencer include the drug problem and health care. Spencer is nearing the end of a four years of service as District I constable in Floyd County in addition to his position as an associate CEO of Lafferty Enterprises, an ambulance provider for five counties in Eastern Kentucky. Both jobs have opened his eyes to problems facing the district, sparking his drive to run for higher office.

"There is a large amount of uninsured people," Spencer

said. "Do I have a solid answer to give everyone, no; but there is an extreme need, and I'm gonna fight for health care."

During his time as a constable, Spencer received criminal justice training, something very few people outside the law enforcement field in Kentucky receive. He said the training helped him see that their is indeed a drug problem in the state, an epidemic as he called it.

"My heart is definitely in it (training). I felt it was good

public service, and I'm very passionate about it."

Even though he has big plans for the district and plans to begin working for the people as soon as he is sworn into office Jan. 2, he said he will head to Frankfort ready to serve the needs of the district's people.

"What I really want people to know when I'm there is that I have no personal agendas, I'm there for the will of the people," Spencer said. "They had the confidence in me, so I plan to do what they ask."

Flag

held hands with Paul Fanning, Floyd County superintendent, and Henry Webb, director of instruction, to pray for equality and understanding.

Fanning declined to discuss his opinions on the flag, saying it was an issue for the local school board. He promised Coleman that he would put the topic of Allen Central's flag and mascot on the board's

January agenda for discussion. Coleman, in a letter sent to county school officials Monday, said surrounding Allen Central's all-white stu-

dent body with Confederate symbols will not prepare the teens to enter "a diverse society where these symbols have already been eliminated."

Board

The David School, said during a telephone interview conducted Tuesday afternoon that she hopes that the two school districts reach an agreement favorable to both but that whatever the outcome she felt confident that the 10 David

School students now enrolled in the virtual high school program would continue on.

"The world won't end for us," she said.

In other business, the board recognized the efforts of outgoing board member Earl M.

"Mickey" McGuire, outgoing Judge-Executive Paul Hunt Thompson, and George Cawood, of the Kentucky School Boards Association, for their work in advancing education in Floyd County Schools. None of the named honorees were present at the meeting.

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<p>Cinema Two • PG-13</p> <p>HELD OVER THE HOLIDAY Mon.-Sun. 6:45-9:25; Fri. (4:00), 6:45-9:25; Sat.-Sun. (1:30-4:00), 6:45-9:25</p>	<p>Cinema Seven • PG</p> <p>STARTS WED., 12/20 ROCKY BALBOA Mon.-Sun. 7:00-9:30; Fri. (4:30), 7:00-9:30; Sat.-Sun. (2:00-4:30), 7:00-9:30</p>
<p>Cinema Three • G</p> <p>HELD OVER CHARLOTTE'S WEB Mon.-Sun. 6:50-9:10; Fri. (4:10), 6:50-9:10; Sat.-Sun. (1:50-4:10), 6:50-9:10</p>	<p>Cinema Eight • PG</p> <p>STARTS FRI., 12/22 WE ARE MARSHALL Mon.-Sun. 6:45-9:20; Fri. (4:10), 6:45-9:20; Sat.-Sun. (1:50-4:10), 6:45-9:20</p>
<p>Cinema Four</p> <p>HELD OVER HAPPY FEET Mon.-Sun. 6:50; Fri. (4:00), 6:50; Sat.-Sun. (4:00), 6:50</p> <p>HELD OVER BLOOD DIAMOND Mon.-Sun. 9:00; Fri. 9:00; Sat.-Sun. (1:20), 9:00</p>	<p>Cinema Nine • PG</p> <p>HELD OVER ERAGON Mon.-Sun. 7:00-9:30; Fri. (4:30), 7:00-9:30; Sat.-Sun. (2:00-4:30), 7:00-9:30</p>
<p>Cinema Five</p> <p>HELD OVER DECK THE HALLS Fri. (4:20), 7:05; Sat.-Sun. (4:20), 7:05</p> <p>HELD OVER UNACCOMPANIED MINORS PG-Fri. (9:20); Sat.-Sun. (2:05), 9:20</p> <p>STARTS MON., 12/25 BLACK CHRISTMAS R Mon.-Sun. 7:05, 9:20</p>	<p>Cinema Ten</p> <p>HELD OVER THE NATIVITY STORY PG-Mon.-Sun. 7:00; Fri. (4:25), 7:00; Sat.-Sun. (4:25), 7:00</p> <p>HELD OVER APOCALYPTO R-Mon.-Sun. 9:10; Fri. 9:10; Sat.-Sun. (1:30), 9:10</p>

Happy Holidays
DISH BUY-BACK PROMOTION
\$200
478-9406

Just in Time for Christmas Giving!

SMALL APPLIANCES
\$25.00—Smoothy Maker*
\$30.00—Ice Cream Freezer*
\$20.00—3-cup Electric Coffee Pot*
\$90.00—George Foreman Grill/Waffle Maker* with Removable Plates
\$50.00—Toaster/Broiler Oven—used
*Still in boxes, never used
?—Various Household Items
?—Various Jewelry Items
?—Various Women's Clothing
?—Various Cosmetic Items
?—Collector's LP Volumes
\$50.00—Cherry Silverware Chest
\$40.00—Ceramic Labeled Cannister Set
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On and after this date of Wednesday, Dec. 20th, 2006, no one is to be buried in the Jack Arnett Cemetery except immediate members of the Arnett Family.

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Merry Christmas
Wishing You a Healthy New Year

This season filled with joy and hope reminds us that we are indeed blessed to be part of this great community. Your support of our hospital is never taken for granted and always appreciated.

From your friends and neighbors who make up the family of health care professionals on our team we wish you a very Merry Christmas and a New Year filled with health and happiness.

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NOTICE OF INTENTION TO MINE
Pursuant to Application Number 836-5437, Renewal

In accordance with KRS 350.055, notice is hereby given that Frasure Creek Mining, LLC, 1051 Main Street, Suite 100, Milton, West Virginia 25541, has applied for renewal of a permit for an underground coal mining and reclamation operation, located 2.5 miles northwest of Minnie, in Floyd County. The proposed operation will disturb 11.77 surface acres and will underlie 591.50 acres, and the total area within the permit boundary will be 603.27 acres.

The proposed operation is approximately 1.74 mile southeast from KY Route 80's junction with KY State Route 680, and is located along Gosling Branch.

The proposed operation is located on the Wayland USGS 7 1/2 minute quadrangle map. The surface area to be disturbed is owned by The Elk Horn Coal Company, LLC and Commonwealth of Kentucky. The operation will underlie land owned by The Elk Horn Coal Company, LLC, Rondell and Jacqueline Lawson, Rebecca Conley Estate, Ida Hunter, Manda Pratt, Wendell Sexton, Richard Griffith, T. J. Hoover, Lafayette Gayheart, Gosling Branch Coal Co., Inc., Shannon Wallen, Michael Collett, David Hawley and Nancy Lee Scott, Larry Collett, John Moore Estate, James and Mary E. Patton, George Ousley and Peggy Hanover, Fred Gibson, James and Michelle Hall, Fred and Sherry Lyons, Lee and Lizzie Wallen Estate, and Gene Mullins.

The application has been filed for public inspection at the Department for Mine Reclamation and Enforcement's Prestonsburg Regional Office, 3140 South Lake Drive, Suite 6, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653. Written comments, objections, or requests for a permit conference must be filed with the Director of the Division of Mine Permits, #2 Hudson Hollow Complex, U.S. 127 South, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601.

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2. **Fax:** (606) 886-3603
3. **E-mail:** classifieds@floydcountytimes.com
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5. **Mail:** P.O. 390, Prestonsburg, KY 41653

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The **FLOYD COUNTY TIMES** does not knowingly accept false or misleading advertisements. Ads which request or require advance payment of fees for services or products should be scrutinized carefully.

AUTOMOTIVE

130 - Cars

HICKS AUTO SALES
David Road
 93' Chevy Shortbed 4x4 automatic V8. 120,400 miles. \$3,995.
 96' GrandAm 2 door V6 80,000 miles. \$1,795
 92 Pathfinder, automatic, \$2,495
 96 Jeep Grand Cherokee Limited Edition. \$3,495.
 01 Chevy Ventura 80,000 Miles. \$5,500
 886-2842
 886-3451.

150-MISC

FOR SALE
 2 Motor 2003 TTR125 \$1150. 1990 XR100. \$1500. Great Christmas gifts! Call 874-0262

FOR SALE
 1996 Dodge Grand Caravan And a 1982 Volkswagon Rabbit Convertible stored since 1991 call 874-2421 if no answer please leave message.

FOR SALE
 1998 5 Speed Toyota Tacoma, 2006 Commercial Scag Mower, 51" Mitsubishi big screen TV, 2002 Honda Recon, V3620 Motorola Phone, LG VX6000 Camera Phone. Lots of yard sale items. 1 price. 889-0592.

EMPLOYMENT

When responding to Employment ads that have reference numbers, please indicate that entire reference number on the outside of your envelope. Reference numbers are used to help us direct your letter to the correct individual.

WANTED: Barber Stylist. Call 377-1176. Shirley Belcher The Barber Shop. PO Box 265 McDowell 41647.

DRIVER
 We are seeking a full time Driver at our Manton, KY location, to operate company vehicles to transport products to and from specified destinations. This position is responsible for operating company equipment at the

job site under the direction of the Blaster in charge, performing duties of load/print crew or shot service crew and or assisting plant manager. Must possess a current class A CDL with Hazmat and Tanker endorsement and 1 year driving experience. Please forward your response information to 152 Manton Rd, Martin, Ky 41649; or Fax 2854-5171.

IN THE SPIRIT OF GIVING: EF Foundation for Foreign Study is seeking coordinators to facilitate high school exchange program. Mentor foreign exchange students, find and screen host families, and build relationships with high schools. Applicants must be at least 25 y/o. Position is not paid, but expenses are reimbursed, and training and travel opportunities are available. For more information, call Brenda and Neil Kendrick at 866-329-4546!

Job Opening
 Summit Engineering is seeking a Rodman to work with the survey crew. Applicants must have a up to date surface and underground training and a new employee drug test is required. Applicants must be willing to work underground. Applications may be pick up at Summit Engineering, INC. 131 Summit Drive, Pikeville, KY 41501, between the hours of 8:30 and 4:30 p.m., Monday thru Friday.

JOB OPENING
 Mountain Manor of Painstville is now taking applications for Dietary position. Excellent wages and benefits. Apply in person at 1025 Euclid Avenue, Painstville, Ky. From Monday - Friday between 8a-4:30p.

JOB OPENING
 Our Lady of the

Way Hospital, Inc. has an opening for a Kentucky licensed Physician Assistant. Requirements: Physician Assistant Certification with two (2) years experience preferred. Generous salary and benefits commensurate with experience. Send resume to Debi Bentley, P. O. Box 910, Martin, Kentucky 41649, email: HYPERLINK "mailto:dbentley@olwh.org" dbentley@olwh.org, fax: (606) 285-6409 or call (606) 285-6420.

JOB OPENING
 Local Home Oxygen company is seeking a full time CRT/RTT/ Must be organized, self motivated, reliable and results driven. Must poses good communication skills. Must have the ability to lift 75lbs. Please fax resume to 606-218-6131.

JOB OPENING
 Part time house-keeping position available. Must have experience, and must work weekends. Come by Microtel Inn and apply.

JOB OPENING
 Mountain Manor of Painstville is taking applications for a LPN position. Excellent wages and benefits. Apply in person at 1025 Euclid Avenue, Painstville, Ky from Monday thru Friday between 8a and 4:30p.

JOB OPENING
 Renos Roadhouse in Prestonsburg is now hiring for all positions. Shifts- Day and Night. Apply in person only.

MERCHANDISE

410-Animals

FOR SALE
 Christmas Puppies AKC Cocker spaniel, miniature schnauzer, pickanease, poodles, yorkies, shitsues, and unregistered chi-wahwah puppies. 606-789-5918

FOR SALE
 AKC Registered Golden Retriever male puppies. 6 months old. Shots and wormed. \$250 call 606-432-3518

FOR SALE
 AKC Registered English Bulldog puppies. 6 weeks old. Males and females. Ready to go in 2 weeks. Wormed and Vaxinated. Call 304-872-4946.

LOST
 On Abbott Creek solid black German Shepherd. Male collar and Microchip tag. Reward! Call 886-7942 or 886-8106.

445-Furniture

Used furniture 3 piece BRS \$450 19' TV and cabinet. \$75.00. Electric range \$250. Cloths Dryer \$125. 2 wall mirrors \$125 each. Computer and table \$375.

FULL-TIME EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

POSITION: SALESPERSON
 Local furniture store is seeking motivated and personable individual for sales position.

- Experience helpful, but not required.
- Salary negotiable—(Hourly w/bonuses or commission)
- Benefits available
- Mon. thru Sat.—Closed Sundays

Bring résumé to:

HOME FURNITURE
 126 Collins Circle (Highlands Plaza) Prestonsburg, Ky. 41653

Console stereo. \$75. 2 whatnot shelves \$50 bookshelf \$60 new grill, bench, lawn chairs, table all for \$125. Approx 200 ceramic molds \$125. Call 422-4940.

ALLEN FURNITURE ALLEN, KY
 Furniture, used appliances, living / bedroom suits, bunk beds, and lots more! Call 606-874-9790.

480-Misc.

FOR SALE
 2 Hank Williams Jr. tickets at Expo Center. Call 285-4826.

FOR SALE
 1 BURIAL PLOT LOCATED ON

FULL-TIME EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

POSITION: DELIVERY/DRIVER
 Local Furniture Store is seeking responsible and dependable individual for delivery position.

- Experience helpful, but not required.
- Salary negotiable—(Hourly)
- Benefits available
- Mon. thru Sat.—Closed Sundays
- Must have valid driver's license
- At least 18 years of age
- Must be able to drive standard shift

Complete Employment Application at **HOME FURNITURE**
 126 Collins Circle (Highlands Plaza) Prestonsburg, Ky. 41653

RICHMOND CEMETERY. CALL 886-3394.

FOR SALE
 Windows for sale. Five 36x62 Double Pane insulated windows. Never been used. Windows open

from the inside for easy cleaning. Call 606-226-0913 Leave message.

REAL ESTATE

530-HOUSES

RN Unit Manager

Salyersville Health Care Center is recruiting for a qualified candidate to fill our RN Unit Manager position. The qualified candidate must be a Kentucky Registered Nurse, have knowledge of long term care and have at least 3 yrs. experience.

- Responsibilities:
- Care management of 50-bed skilled wing
 - Supervision of staff
 - Follow policies and procedures

Qualified applicants apply to:
Salyersville Health Care Center
 571 Parkway Drive
 Salyersville, KY 41465
 E.O.E./A.A.P.

Treatment Nurse

Salyersville Health Care Center is recruiting a high paced, organized, and resourceful nurse to perform treatments.

- Responsibilities include actual physical care, skill performance, and maintenance of records.

Monday-Friday
 9 a.m.-6 p.m.

Qualified applicants apply to:
Salyersville Health Care Center
 571 Parkway Drive
 Salyersville, KY 41465
 E.O.E./A.A.P.

HIGHLANDS REGIONAL

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Highlands Regional Medical Center

"The Medical Center of Eastern Kentucky" has a PRN opening for a

Registered Nurse Case Manager

Highlands is seeking a motivated experienced Registered Nurse Case Manager. The Case Manager identifies, communicates and performs Medical Record review for quality improvement and utilization review. The Case Manager serves as a contact person for all initial, concurrent and retrospective review and able to do all functions in the department as Discharge Planning, cover for the Social Worker and Occupational Services Coordinator. The Case Manager must also be able to do Case Management as requested and needed.

Requirements: The ideal candidate, must be a graduate of an accredited nursing program and currently licensed in the state of Kentucky with Bachelor of Science Degree recommended. The candidate must have at least five years nursing experience with good knowledge of general nursing theory and practice. Case Management and CPR certification recommended.

Interested applicants may apply to the Human Resources Department
 Highlands Regional Medical Center
 5000 Kentucky Rt. 321, Prestonsburg, KY 41653
 (606) 886-7530 • Fax: (606) 886-7534
 E-Mail: tclark@hrmc.org

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HOUSE FOR SALE Will consider land contract with down payment. 2 BR, 1 bath, hardwood flooring. Located in Littlebud. For more

Jerry's

RESTAURANT
 Prestonsburg

HELP WANTED: Waitresses, dishwashers/busboys, cooks. Paid vacation, health insurance available. Uniforms furnished.

No phone calls, please!
 Apply in person.

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

1, 2, 3, 4 Bedrooms

available for extremely low-income people at Highland Heights Apts. in Goble-Roberts Addn., and Cliffside Apts. on Cliff Road, Prestonsburg. Computerized learning centers offer social/educational programs for children and adults. All utilities included at Highland Hgts., utility allowance at Cliffside. Call (606) 886-0608, 886-1927, or 886-1819. TDD: 1-800-648-6056. Highland Heights and Cliffside Apartments do not discriminate in admission or employment in subsidized housing on account of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, religion and familial status.

APPLICANTS BEING ACCEPTED FOR 1-BEDROOM APARTMENTS FOR PERSONS 55 AND OLDER

Located behind Wendy and Pizza Hut in Prestonsburg. All utilities included and the rent based upon gross monthly income. Several activities such as line dancing, crafts bingo, movies, hair salon and church services. The apartments are furnished with a refrigerator, stove, emergency alarm system and air conditioner. For more information, please call Highland Terrace at 606-886-1925, TDD: 1-800-648-6056 or 711, or come to the office for an application. Highland Terrace does not discriminate in admission or employment in subsidized housing on account of race, color, creed, religion, sex, national origin, age, familial status or disability.

Music Carter Chevrolet Buick Cadillac Pontiac in Prestonsburg

has an opening for a **Sales person**. We offer: - Unlimited earning potential - Great benefits - Including demo and gas, paid vacations, 401k retirement, health insurance. Qualifications: Integrity, strong sales skills, self starter, automotive background preferred. Call 886-9181. Ask for **Virgil Slone** or **Mike Hunt** to make appointment.

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One, Two and Three Bedroom Units
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 Water, Sewer & Garbage Paid
 Located on U.S. 321 (below hospital)

For Applications, call or write:
 Regency Park Apartments
 61 Regency Park Dr., Box 17
 Prestonsburg, KY 41653

PHONE:
 606-886-8318
 or 1-800-686-4447

(TDD for speech & hearing impaired 711)

information call 794-4360.

590-Sale Or Lease

FOR SALE

Property for sale between Prestonsburg and Painstville. Also, double wide for rent. \$500 plus deposit. Call 606-789-6721 or 792-792-6721. No pets.

FOR SALE

REDUCED! Property for sale at Frasure Creek. Septic and water ready. \$22,500. Call 377-9221 Bobby Caudill.

FOR SALE

99 Clayton home. 3 BR 2 bath. Ceramic tile in kitchen, hardwood flooring in L/R take payments over or pay off. 606-285-9107.

FLOYD COUNTY.

Lum DeRossett Branch 75 acres more or less. Level land. Sloping / timber. Call 606-325-2809 or 606-325-4430

FOR SALE

1978 Mobile Home 12 x 70, 3 BR bath and 1/2. Refrigerator, stove, washer and dryer. Standard appliances include a new furnace. Very good condition for model. Underpinning included. Need a home? Look here! \$4,300. Must be moved. Call 606-886-9544 days or 606-886-3386 nights.

RENTALS

610-APARTMENT

FOR RENT
3 BR 1 bath, living room, kitchen, appliances included. Located on West Prestonsburg on Main St. \$600 per month plus utilities. No HUD. Call 886-6186 or 886-8266 after 5.

1-2 BR FURNISHED
Apt. Clean. In Prestonsburg. 886-8366.

APT FOR RENT

Modern 2nd floor unfurnished apt. Approx. 1800 Sq. Ft. 3 BR 2 full bath with access to heated swimming pool. Will consider renting the apt. for office space. \$600 per month plus utilities. Deposit and references required. Located on Rt. 122 at Martin across from Floyd County Tech. Center. Call 285-9112.

APT FOR RENT

Newly remodeled unfurnished ground floor apartment. Located across from Floyd County Technical center on Route 122 at Martin. \$500 per month plus utilities. Must furnish references. Call 285-9112.

APT FOR RENT

Renovated like new apartments. Located in Martin at EP Grigsby Store. Call 285-3233 from 10am-6pm.

APT FOR RENT

Furnished Apartment for rent. Suitable for 1 person. Lease and security deposit required. Basic utilities included. \$475 per month. No HUD, No Pets! Call 886-3565

Furnished 1 bed room Apt. Central heat & air. Rent starting at \$375. month, + \$300. deposit water included. Located near HRMC. 606-889-9717.

630-Houses

HOUSE FOR RENT

3 BR house for rent in Wheelwright. \$200 deposit and \$300 per month. Call 285-9887.

HOUSE FOR RENT

2 BR house on Rt. 80 at Watergap. Call 285-3808.

HOUSE FOR RENT

3 BR 2 Bath Log Home in Oaklawn, Hager Hill. Central H/A low utility bills. Large covereddeck. Large storage barn. Acres of privacy. Open Oct 31. \$1090.00 month or best offer. 850-222-2226. Leave message.

650-MobileHomes

FOR RENT

Lots for rent. New mobile home park. Allen-Dwell area Floyd Co. All sizes. Black top streets, parking pads, all lighted area. Some restrictions. Call 377-2357

FOR RENT

One Mobile Home lots for rent 1/2 mile on right from Prestonsburg on Town Branch Road. Lots have city water, gas, sewage, and AEP electric. Call Karen 874-7155.

FOR RENT

2 BR MH. Minutes from Prestonsburg. W/D hookup. \$375 and \$375 deposit. Water, Sewage, and trash included. 889-0036.

FOR RENT

Trailer and trailer lot for rent. Left fork of Abbott Prestonsburg. Call 886-9479.

LEGALS

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO MINE Pursuant to Application Number 836-0324

In accordance with KRS 350.055, notice is hereby given that GCAS Corporation, P.O. Box 2886, Pikeville, KY 41502, has applied for a permit for a surface coal mining and reclamation operation, located 1.0 mile north of the community of Dana, in Floyd County. The proposed operation will disturb 24.27 surface acres, and will underlie 9.34 acres. 6.24 acres of the underground acreage rests beneath proposed surface acreage, and is included in the surface acreage. The total acreage to be permitted is 24.27 acres. The proposed operation is approximately 0.2 mile southeast from Johnson Fork Road's junction with Cecil Branch Road, and located within Johnson Fork. The latitude is 37°33'57" and the longitude is 82°41'13".

The proposed operation is located on the Harold U.S.G.S. 7 1/2 minute quadrangle maps. The surface area to be disturbed is owned by Randy Hayes, et al. The permit area will underlie land owned by Sylvia Hall. The operation will use the surface area and surface contour methods of mining. The application has been filed for public inspection at the Department for Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement's London Regional Office, 85 State Police Road, London, Kentucky 40741. Written comments, objections, or requests

for a permit conference must be filed with the Director, Division of Permits, #2 Hudson Hollow, U.S. 127 South, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601.

This is the final advertisement of this application, all comments, objections, or requests for a permit conference must be received within thirty (30) days of this date.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO MINE Pursuant to Application Number 860-5243

Operator Change 1. In accordance with 405 KAR 8:010, notice is hereby given that King Brothers Coal, Inc., P.O. Box 524, Ky. Rt. 550, Hindman, KY 41822, intends to revise permit number 860-5243 to include an operator. The operator presently approved in the permit is the permittee. The new operator will be Pride Mining, Inc., P.O. Box 700, Robinson Creek, Kentucky 41560.

2. The operation is located 4 miles southeast of Kite, in Knott and Floyd Counties. The operation is approximately 1.2 mile west from Ky. Rt.

7's junction with Bates Branch Road, and is located on Bates Branch of Right Fork of Beaver Creek. The latitude is 37 degrees, 19 minutes, 05 seconds. The longitude is 82 degrees, 46 minutes, 58 seconds. The operation is located on the Kite U.S.G.S. 7 1/2 minute quadrangle map.

3. The application has been filed for public inspection at the Department for Natural Resources, Prestonsburg Regional Office, 3140 South Lake Drive, Suite No. 6, Prestonsburg, KY 41653. Written comments, objections, must be filed with the Director, Division of Permits, No. 2 Hudson Hollow, U.S. 127 South, Frankfort, KY 40601. All comments, objections must be received within (15) days of today's date.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

The following items will be offered at public sale on January 5, 2007, at First Guaranty Bank, 39 Triangle Street, Martin, Kentucky, 41649, at 11 a.m.
1998 Ford Eddie Bauer Expedition

VIN # 1FMPU18LOWLB28698
1998 Chevrolet Cavalier
VIN # 1G1JF52T7W7105439

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
39 Triangle Street
P.O. Box 888
Martin, KY 41649

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO MINE Pursuant to Application Number 836-5334 Amendment No. 4

In accordance with the provisions of KRS 350.070, notice is hereby given that Matt/Co., Inc., 439 Meadows Branch; Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653 has applied for an amendment to an existing underground/refuse storage coal mining operation located

2.0 miles north of Emma in Floyd County. The amendment will add an additional 1521.0 acres of underground area for a total area within the permit boundary of 2648.16 acres.

The proposed amendment area is approximately 1.0 miles east from Ky Route 1428's junction with Sugarloaf Branch Road and located 0.1 miles north of Sugarloaf Branch.

The proposed amendment is located on the Lancer U.S.G.S. 771/2 minute quadrangle map. The amendment will use the underground mining method. The operation will underlie land owned by Jewell Crider, Lon Goble Estate, Donald L. & Joyce Goble, Bud Goble Estate, Wayne & Barbara Wright, Mary Lucille Willis, Lewis & Emma Hunt, Evan & Mari Rose, Linda Jervis, Floyd Harris Heirs, Jimmy & Ramona Burchetts, Rudy Harris, Vivian Franklin, John Harris, Martha Johnson, Bill Monroe Thompson, Army Corps Engineers, Clark Pergem, Jesse Rudd, and Mary Crawford & Charles Porter Trust.

The amendment application has been filed for public inspection at the Department for Natural Resource's Prestonsburg Regional Office, 3140 South Lake Drive; Prestonsburg, Ky 41653. Written comments, objections, or requests for a permit conference must be filed with the Director, Division of Mine Permits, #2 Hudson Hollow, U.S. 127 South, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601.

COMBINED NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT AND OF NOTICE TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS
December 20, 2006

Eddie Patton, Executive Director
Low-Income Housing Coalition of East Kentucky, Inc. (LINKS)
116 North Front Street, Prestonsburg, KY 41653
(606) 886-0152

TO ALL INTERESTED AGENCIES, GROUPS, AND PERSONS: On or about January 5, 2007, the Low-Income Housing Coalition of East Kentucky will authorize LINKS to submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to release Federal funds under the Self-Help Homeownership Opportunity Program (authorized by Section 11 of the Housing Opportunity Program Extension Act of 1996 (PL 104-120) for the following project: LINKS—Homebuyer Shepherd New Construction Project, to be provided to the Low Income Housing Coalition of East Kentucky for acquisition and site development of one property in Floyd County, located at 219 Andy Branch, Teaberry. Other components of the project include home construction and soft costs associated with low-income, single-family housing units.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

An environmental assessment for this project has been made by LINKS and is available for public examination and copying at the office of Big Sandy Area Development District, 110 Resource Court, Prestonsburg, KY. Based on this review, LINKS has determined that a request for release of funds will not significantly affect the quality of the human environment and, hence, an environmental impact statement will not be undertaken under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (PL 91-190). The reasons for the decision not to prepare an environmental impact statement are as follows: 1) Development of new lots will benefit the low income residents of Floyd County; 2) By providing infrastructure support, housing costs will remain affordable to low income residents.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON FINDING

All interested agencies, groups, or persons disagreeing with these decisions are invited to submit written comments for consideration by January 5, 2007. All comments must clearly specify to which decision they object, the Finding of No Significant Impact or the Request for Release of Funds. All comments so received will be considered by LINKS prior to its taking any administrative action or LINKS requesting release of funds on the data listed immediately above.

RELEASE OF GRANT FUNDS

LINKS will undertake the project described above with funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (DHUD), under the Self-Help Homeownership Opportunity Program (SHOP). LINKS consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to environmental reviews, decision-making and action, and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. The legal effect of the certification is that upon its approval, LINKS may use SHOP funds, and HUD will have satisfied its responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and other environmental responsibilities listed in 24 CFR Part 58. HUD will accept an objection to its approval of the release of funds and acceptance of the certification only if it is on one of the following bases: (a) That the certification was not in fact executed by the chief executive officer or other office of LINKS; (b) that the applicant has failed to make one of the two findings pursuant to 24 CFR Part 58, Sec. 50.40 or the make the written determination required by Secs. 58.35, 58.47 or 58.53 for the project, as applicable; or (c) the applicant's environmental review record for the project indicated omission of a required decision finding or step applicable to the environmental review process, or (d) another Federal agency has submitted written comments pursuant to Section 309 of the Clean Air Act of Section 201(c) of NEPA.

Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58), and may be addressed to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Gene Snyder Courthouse, 601 West Boardway, Room 110, Louisville, KY 40202. Objections to the release of funds on bases other than those stated above will not be considered, and objections received after 15 days from the date of request for funds listed above, will not be considered by HUD.

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- Paying Invoices
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- Good Organizational Skills
- Good Computer Skills
- Knowledge of Accounting
- Ability to Adapt to Changing Requirements in a High Volume Position
- Able to Set Deadlines and Meet Deadlines
- Punctual

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This Holiday Season



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Prestonsburg First!

Keeping it real with robotic pets this holiday season

For animal lovers who would love to receive a cuddly pet this holiday season but can't take on the added responsibilities, interactive robotic pets just might be the answer.

This new wave of toys has come a long way from stuffed animals or dolls that just sat on your bed. Robotic toys are programmed to have their own moods and personalities.

Unlike wind-up dolls that sing or cry "real" tears — robotic toys are more sophisticated and lifelike. People can enjoy interaction and responsiveness from the toy. From blinking eyes to wagging tails, robotic pets provide a fun alternative for those not quite ready to take on the real thing.

Senario Entertainment is one of the nation's leading robotic, interactive toy makers. Over the years, the Chicago-based company has produced some of the hottest selling robotic toys on the market. Their latest creation is The Scoozie Pet™ — a new breed of interactive pets.

The toy has its own built-in artificial intelligence, Cuddleactive™ Technology, and responds to human touch,



A furry, robotic pet can be just as loveable as a real dog, but much less responsibility.

sound, orientation, and light. Each Scoozie comes with its favorite food and its personality evolves based on owner interaction. Senario also makes sure no two pets look alike by hand coloring each one.

People who adopt an interactive pet enjoy all the perks of having a "real" pet without the hassles of pooper scoopers, costly vet bills and over-priced doggy day cares. And while their "real" counterparts aren't allowed certain places, robotic pets are allowed everywhere

— apartments, dorm rooms, restaurants — you name it.

It's those selling points that appeal to many. From busy professionals who aren't home enough to parents who have kids too young to care for a real dog or cat, robotic pets seem to be the new trend.

And, no matter how lifelike these toys appear, a couple of things are certain — robotic pet owners will never come home to find accidents on the carpet, fur on the furniture, or missing slippers!

Think 'green' this holiday season

Why not include the environment on your holiday gift list this year? Popular gift items including laptops, cell phones, electronic toys, digital cameras and cordless power tools, all contain rechargeable batteries, which can and should be recycled.

Not sure where to recycle those used rechargeable batteries? The Rechargeable Battery Recycling Corporation (RBRC), a nonprofit public service organization dedicated to rechargeable battery and cell phone recycling, has a simple solution for consumers regardless of the season. Through its Call2Recycle™ program, consumers can recycle their used rechargeable batteries and old cell phones at convenient drop-off boxes housed at major retailers including Target, The Home Depot, Circuit City, Lowe's, RadioShack and many more.

So this season, while you wait in long lines at the mall, remind your friends and family to do their part to protect the environment with each electronic item they purchase. A complete list of drop-off locations is available at call2recycle.org or by phone toll-free at 1-877-2-RECYCLE.

And, if you are feeling especially merry this holiday season, share these simple tips from RBRC so your loved ones can get the most out of their techie gifts:

- Follow the charging guidelines provided by the manufacturer. There are specific initial battery charging times for each individual product before using it for the first time.

- Never return a fully-charged battery to the charger for an extra boost. This will shorten the life of the battery.

- Let a discharged battery cool to room temperature before recharging.

- Recharge batteries only when they are near to fully discharged.

Make a year-round commitment to the environment by remembering to recycle your used rechargeable batteries and old cell phones. After all, what better way is there to help make the Earth merry and bright?

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Ducking the holiday debt monster

Accruing debt seems to be as much a holiday tradition as singing carols or decorating the tree. Most holiday shoppers find themselves in some kind of debt once the holiday season has come and gone. And if they're not careful, they'll still be paying that same debt by the time the next holiday season rolls around.

For shoppers still reeling from a past holiday season spent swiping cards in the hunt for that perfect gift, exercising restraint and responsibility is likely an absolute necessity. Fortunately, there are some easy steps to take that can save you money and keep your loved one's faces smiling come the holiday season.

■ **Keep track of what you're**

spending. The "swipe the card now, worry about it in January" approach to holiday spending is a great way to riddle yourself with debt. Far too many holiday shoppers lose track of how much they've spent. Simply keeping the receipts is not enough. Know how much you've spent, and how close you are to staying under or going over budget.

■ **Shorten your list.** While it might seem as though it's customary to give every acquaintance at least a little something each year, it's not. A thoughtful card is sufficient for acquaintances whom you don't see very often or friends who have fallen out of touch. Keep your money for the people you see on a regular basis.

■ **Seek out extra income.** Holidays are busy times for almost everyone, so you might be able to give yourself some spending relief by logging a few extra hours around the office. If not, seasonal employment opportunities are abound come the holiday season, when many companies need extra help to combat the heavy shopping season. Since you won't be needing this extra income to pay your typical monthly bills, use it expressly for holiday shopping, or save it up until after the holiday season and use it to pay off the first wave of post-holiday bills.

■ **Pay with cash.** This is perhaps the biggest problem holiday shoppers run into: putting it all on plastic and

sorting it out later. If you have the cash to pay for a gift, use cash, as there's no interest rate on cash purchases. When using plastic, you're essentially acknowledging you'll be paying more for an item than you would if you simply used the cash in your pocket. Interest charges add up quickly, and if a credit-card balance isn't paid off immediately, they add up continually as well. Paying with cash, however, means you won't have to worry about checking the mailbox for bills come January.

If you must use a credit card and have more than one to choose from, use the one with the smallest interest rate. If you need to make multiple charges and have multiple cards, try

limiting each card to one purchase. And the best bit of credit card advice is, if you do rely on them for shopping, pay off the bill in its entirety once it arrives. This way you'll definitely avoid accruing interest charges.

■ **Shop early.** When you leave all your holiday shopping to the last minute, you're more inclined to overspend, as you don't want to end up giving a bad gift or come up empty-handed. By shopping early, you're capable of seeking out the best deal and, as an added benefit, you'll also be less stressed, having avoided the last minute rush.

Hiding gifts also a Christmas tradition

While every parent likes to think the smile on a child's face upon opening a holiday gift is genuine, chances are some of those smiles are worthy of an Academy Award. That's because kids wouldn't be kids if they didn't spend some time leading up to the holidays rooting through packages as they attempt to see what presents they'll be getting this holiday season.

Parents who are hip to this yuletide cat-and-mouse game are well aware that hiding the presents well is a key component to ensuring the element of

surprise when it comes time for kids to tear off the wrapping paper. For those are new to the game or fresh out of ideas as to how to keep the kids from finding their presents before the big day, the following tips should be a big help.

■ **Have the gifts wrapped at the mall.** Unless you'll have time to wrap the gifts immediately when you get home, have them wrapped at the mall or the store where you purchased them. Kids know parents will recognize when a wrapped gift has been tampered with, so they'll be less likely poke and

prod a gift that's already been wrapped.

■ **Replace store bags with plain ones.** Carrying gifts in the house in bags emblazoned with a store logo can easily give up the surprise of what kids are getting for the holidays — what else would you be buying at the local toy store? A good way to keep them guessing is replace toy or department store bags with unmarked bags.

■ **Go the tall-person route.** Most children are shorter than adults, so placing unwrapped gifts in places where only the

tall adults can see or reach them can be an effective deterrent. To keep kids from risking injury and trying to climb up to such places when you're not looking, hide them in higher places while the kids are not around.

■ **The smaller the gift, the smaller the hiding space.** Earrings for a daughter or even a video game for your son can be placed in an old coat you don't wear or a purse you don't use. Kids likely won't think to look in such places. Of course, make sure you remember each and every hiding spot when it

comes time to do some wrapping.

■ **Use your office.** One place you know the kids won't be rooting through is the office. If you have the space around your office, keep the gifts there until you have time to wrap them or until it's time to bring them home.

■ **Be creative.** Kids can be unrelenting in their pursuit of presents, so parents should match that approach when it comes to hiding gifts. Try places such as under the kitchen sink or the attic to hide gifts. Most kids are not

allowed to go under the sink or into the attic without supervision, so they're less likely to risk punishment to find their presents.

■ **Pool your resources.** Use a relative's garage or closets to hide gifts, assuming those relatives don't have children of their own. If you're getting your youngster a new bike this year, ask a friend or relative if you can keep it in their garage until the big day arrives. If that's not an option, see if you can arrange a later pickup date with the store you purchased the gift from.

Don't forget the family pets this holiday season

Everyone enjoys getting something special during the holiday season, whether it's a child opening a gift from Santa or a parent opening the first gift their child's ever made just for them.

That's a fact that even extends to the family pet. While most people endure long lines at the malls and endless Internet searches for the right gift, pets often get less attention during the busy holiday season. Such a reality makes finding the right holiday gift for your pet all the more

important. After all, no one's as loyal as the dog, cat or bird, so reward that loyalty this holiday season with a gift. For those looking to make this holiday a memorable one for their favorite four-legged friend, consider the following gift ideas.

■ **A new bed.** A domestic pet's life is certainly a good one. Most cats and dogs lie around the house or apartment all day and take frequent naps. While that's certainly something their owners could envy, especially during the time-pressed holiday season, it

can do a number on your pet's bed. Chances are, your pet looks at his bed much as you look at yours. Reward your pet with a new bed, complete with all the comforts he deserves.

■ **Clothes.** As pets have become more popular and pampered over the years, pet clothing lines have begun to pop up in stores nationwide. But what many people might not know is that clothing for pets is as functional as it is fun. Much as humans feel the cold come winter, pets can get very cold as well. Simply because they're

covered in hair doesn't mean they're well-insulated. Try getting your pet a hooded sweatshirt for colder climates or a T-shirt if you live in a warmer area. There are also booties that will protect your dog's paws from snow and ice, which could irritate the paw pads. Your pet will appreciate it once he steps outside into the cold winter.

■ **Food.** A big part of many holiday celebrations is food, hence the reason most people pack on a few extra pounds come the holiday season. While you won't want to feed

your pet cakes or candies, try giving him some new flavored treats, or perhaps even a helping of the holiday meal. Be sure to consult your veterinarian before feeding your pet any human food, however, as certain foods you might not expect could actually prove harmful to your cat or dog.

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From Our Family To Yours: "Merry Christmas!"

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KIM'S KORNER

Hurry home

By Kim Little Frasure

Dedicated to all military troops everywhere.

THE SANDS OF CHRISTMAS

I had no Christmas spirit when I breathed a weary sigh, And looked across the table



Kim Little Frasure

where the bills were piled too high.

The laundry wasn't finished and the car I had to fix, My stocks were down another point, the Chargers lost by six.

And so with only minutes till my son got home from school, I gave up on the drudgery and grabbed a wooden stool.

The burdens that I carried were about all I could take, And so I flipped the TV on to catch a little break.

I came upon a desert scene in shades of tan and rust, No snowflakes hung upon the wind,

(See KORNER, page six)

POISON OAK

Christmas mornings then and now

By Clyde Pack



Clyde Pack

With this coming Monday being Christmas, it'd probably be a pretty good bet that nine out of ten sermons to be delivered from pulpits all over Eastern Kentucky on Sunday morning

will recount the ever-familiar Nativity story. Odds are, also, that "Silent Night" will be one of the hymn selections.

"Miracle on 34th Street" and "Frosty the Snowman" have burned up the TV screens for the past couple of weeks and the most recent "classic" Christmas song - one that's sure to eventually replace "White Christmas" - plays about every 15 or 20 minutes on local radio. Sad to say, I'm speaking of "Grandma Got Run Over by a Reindeer."

Anyway, since no one apparently gets tired of all things Christmas, I think it'd be OK if once again I recalled my papaw's Christmas stories.

He was my mom's father. His name was Ulysses Simpson Grant Baldridge (Uncle Liss to all his friends) and when I was a small boy sitting on the steps of his front porch down on Hammond Creek in rural Johnson County, he talked about his Christmases as a boy back in the late 1800s. He said he remembered there always seemed to be a big snow on the ground every Christmas morning and he talked about how he had to get fully dressed and wade through deep snow

(See OAK, page seven)

MEET THE BIG SANDY SINGERS

"Meet the Big Sandy Singers" is a continuing series of articles about the members of The Big Sandy Singers, a musical group comprised of students from Big Sandy Community and Technical College. The students, who receive scholarships for their participation in the group, share a love for music and the performance arts. They are led by director, Laura Ford Hall, a former member of the KY Opry.



Jessica Keathley

Jessica Keathley

Jessica Keathley is a student on the Big Sandy Community and Technical College Pikeville Campus where she is a sophomore majoring in middle school education.

A graduate of Pike Central High School, Jessica received scholarship honors to attend BSCTC as well as the Big Sandy Singers scholarship.

"I started singing at age two," Jessica said. "I remember standing on my grandmother's couch singing 'God On the Mountain' with my grandfather."

As Jessica grew, she continued to grow as a vocalist. In the 5th grade, she was the only younger child among 8th graders from across the state to be accepted to the All-State-Choir and traveled to Owensboro to perform. In high school, Jessica became involved with the prestigious Pike Central Concert Choir, under the direction of Betsy Thompson.



Jessica is the cute little girl in the middle of this row of children singing at an early age in front of the congregation at her church.

Jessica joined the Big Sandy Singers in the fall of 2005. In addition to being involved with the Singers, Jessica works at SouthEast Telephone and maintains a full schedule of classes.

When asked what she loved the most about being a part of the Big Sandy Singers, she said, "Everything! I love the Big Sandy Singers. They are truly like a second family to me. I feel so honored to be able to sing with these amazing performers."

On the Singers' new album, "Going Home," Jessica sings "Who I Am," a song made popular several years ago by Jessica Andrews. "I am so excited about our album," she commented. "I love our a capella song 'Father Who Can,' and it helps us to remember how God has blessed us with our voices. I am so glad we can sing a song for Him."

Jessica is the daughter of Jeff and Sonia Keathley, of Raccoon. "They are so wonderful," Jessica said. "My parents have supported me my entire life." She is the granddaughter of Madeline Keathley.



Big Sandy Singer Cheryl Combs is pictured holding her 5-month-old son, Caiden.

Cheryl Combs

Cheryl Combs is a senior in the social work program at the MSU extended campus at Big Sandy Community and Technical College. Cheryl auditioned for the Big Sandy Singers in May, 2006 and is one of the newest members of the group.

Cheryl began singing in church when she was very little, but didn't start singing solo until age 22 when she began singing karaoke. Luckily, in the crowd at a karaoke event, was a woman by the name of Charlotte Sodar who complimented her and encouraged her to keep singing. "Singing, in itself, is an accomplishment for me," said Cheryl. "I used to be very shy and singing has helped me come out of my shell."

On the Big Sandy Singers new album, Cheryl sings Bonnie Raitt's "

(See COMBS, page eight)



Cheryl Combs

CRITTER CORNER

A rescue pet's Christmas poem

'Twas the night before Christmas when all through the town, every shelter was full, many lost but not found. The numbers were hung by the kennel floors, so bare, while the animals hoped every minute that someone would care. "They'll come to adopt us and give us the call, 'Come here, Max and Sparkle, come, fetch your new ball!'"

But still they sat and thought of the days when they were treated so fondly - 'cause they had cute, baby ways. "Once we were little, then we grew and we

grew, now we're no longer young and we're no longer new. So, out the back door we were thrown like the trash. They reacted so quickly, why were they so rash?"

"You jump on the children," "don't come when we call," "bark when we leave you," "climb over the walls!"

We should have been neutered, we should have been spayed, now we suffer the consequence of the errors THEY made. If only they'd trained us, if only we knew, we'd have done what they asked us, and worshiped them, too. We were left in the backyard, or worse - left to roam, now we're tired and lonely and out of a home. They dropped us off here

(See CRITTER, page seven)



Looking a lot like C&O's famous "Chessie," this kitty is resting up for Christmastime play with older "sibling" Sugar. The tiny cutie is owned by Randy and Sandy Bentley.

School Happenings

Adams Middle School Youth Services Center

****AMS is collecting Food City receipts! Receipts may be given to any AMS student or dropped off at the school office.**

■ Book Club will meet on Thursdays, after school until 5 p.m. New members can still sign up in the YSC office.

■ Sponsors needed for the YSC Secret Santa program. Call 886-1297.

■ The Youth Services Center is open each weekday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Coordinator is Michelle Keathley. Center telephone is 886-1297. Please call for information on center programs and services.

Allen Central High School

■ Dec. 20 - Semester exams.
■ Dec. 21 - Jan. 2 - Christmas break.

■ Jan. 3 - First day back to school following Christmas break.

■ Center hours: 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Mon. thru Fri. Sharon Collins, coordinator. Telephone 358-3048. Center provides services for all families regardless of income.

Allen Central Middle School

****Collect Food City receipts and "Box Tops for Education" and turn them in to homeroom teachers!****

■ Career Decisions and Job Development videos available in YSC lending library.

■ The ACMS Youth Service Center offers services to all families, regardless of income. For more information, call Marilyn Bailey, center coordinator, at 358-0134.

Allen Elementary and Family Resource Youth Service Center

■ Call Allen Elementary Youth Service Center at 874-0621 to schedule your child's Hepatitis B vaccination, immunizations, and WIC appointments.

Betsy Layne Elementary

■ Lost and Found items will be located in the center. Items not

claimed within two weeks will become FRYSC property.

■ Center hours are 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., Mon. thru Fri. Center offers services to all families, regardless of income.

■ The Betsy Layne Elementary Family Resource Youth Service Center is located in the 7th and 8th grade wing. The goal of the FRYSC is to meet the needs of all children and their families who reside in the community or neighborhood by the school in which the center is located. For further information, please contact the center at 478-5550.

■ Brian H. Akers, Center Coordinator.

Clark Elementary

■ F.I.T. Club meets each Tuesday and Wednesday after school, 3:15-4:15 p.m. (Fitness activities for 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students.)

****Fridays are "School Spirit" days! (All year long!) Wear Clark colors (green and gold) or Clark t-shirts. Students, staff, parents - show your support for CES!****

■ Nurse services: Floyd County Health Department nurses will be in the Resource Center on selected dates. Now taking appointments for 6th grade exams, WIC, and well-child exams for birth-18 years. Flu shots may also be scheduled. Call 886-0815 for an appointment.

■ Lost and Found located in Resource Center. Items not claimed by Dec. 7 will be donated to "One Warm Coat" program or become a part of FRC Clothing Closet (for Clark students).

■ The Clark Elementary Family Resource Center provides services for all families regardless of income. We are located in the Adams Middle School building.

Duff Elementary

****School is collecting Food City receipts again this year! Please drop off your receipts at the school, or mail them to: Duff Elementary School, P.O. Box 129, Eastern, KY 41622.**

■ Yearbooks on sale - \$22.

■ FRC is also in need of clothing, sizes 3T thru adult, for emergency clothing use and burnouts. If you have clothing to donate, please call the FRC.

■ Floyd County Health Dept. is on site three days per month. Services include 6th grade school entry physi-

cal; kindergarten, Head Start and well-child physicals (age birth to 18 years); T.B. skin test; T.D. boosters; and WIC services. Please call 358-9878 for appointment if you are in need of any of these services.

■ The J.A. Duff Elementary Family Resource Center provides services for all families regardless of income. We are located in the tan metal building at the rear of the school. Contact persons are Judy Handshoe, coordinator.

May Valley Elementary

■ Parent Lending Library is available to parents for video check-outs. A variety of topics are available.

■ Floyd County Health Dept. nurse at school every Wednesday. Services include Head Start physicals, kindergarten physicals, 6th grade physicals, well-child physicals, immunizations, TB skin test, WIC program, blood pressure checks, and more. Must call the FRC at 285-0321 for an appointment.

McDowell Elementary and Family Resource Center

■ 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 postpartum services, and school physicals. Call 377-2678 for an appointment.

Mountain Christian Academy

■ Call 285-5141, Mon. thru Fri., from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

■ MCA is an accredited non-denominational Christian school.

Prestonsburg Elementary and Family Resource Center

■ The Family Resource Center is open weekdays 8 a.m.-4 p.m., and later by appointment. Office provides services for all families, regardless of income.

■ Call 886-7088 for additional information regarding the Prestonsburg Elementary Family Resource Center or its programs.

South Floyd Youth Services Center

■ Feb. 1 - Open House. Food will be served. Teacher and parent visits. Date subject to change. Watch school marquee.

■ Parents needing assistance with daycare may contact Mable Hall for information, or the "A Step Ahead" daycare center, at 452-1100.

■ SFMS parents with concerns about your child's grades, visit the STI Home! site at <http://tiiod.ssts.com> and click on the STI program. Select state, county, school, child's pin number and password. You may view your child's attendance record, class average, schedule, grades, and discipline referrals. Questions? Call 452-9607.

■ SFHS and SFMS will be participating in the Apples for Students program. Please save and turn in your Food City receipts.

■ Floyd County substance abuse counselor will be on the South Floyd campus each Tuesday. If you need to contact the counselor, please call the Youth Service Center.

■ Call center for: list of visiting speakers and presentations to be held throughout year; to make appointments to attend Parent Volunteer Training sessions; or for information in regard to Adult Education programs.

■ Walking track open to public (track closed during special events).

■ The center has a one-stop career station satellite that is available to the community as well as students.

■ All new students and visitors, stop by the Center, located on the South Floyd campus, Room 232, and see Mable Hall. Open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Mon. thru Fri.

■ For more information call 452-9600 or 452-9607, ext. 243 or 153.

Stumbo Elementary/Mud Creek Family Resource & Youth Service Center

■ Lost & Found located in Family Resource Center.

■ The Mud Creek FRYSC is located on the right, by the school gymnasium. Services are offered to all families, regardless of income. For more information, call Anita Tackett, center

coordinator at 587-2233.

W.D. Osborne "Rainbow Junction" Family Resource Center

■ Lost & Found located in the Family Resource Center. Items not claimed within 2 weeks become the property of the FRC.

■ The FRC accepts donations of children's clothing, shoes, belts, book bags, etc. May be used but need to be in good condition. Donated items will be appreciated and utilized by OES students.

■ The Family Resource Center is located in the central building of W.D. Osborne Elementary. Those wishing more information about the center are welcome to visit, or call. Ask for Cissy (center coordinator). Center telephone and fax: (606) 452-4553.

Wesley Christian School

■ WCS Learning Center accepts toddlers, preschool age (2-4). Hours: 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Mon. thru Fri.

BSCTC Adult Education & GED

2006 Fall Schedule

■ Mondays: 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. - McDowell FRC, Martin Comm. Ctr., Auxier Learning Ctr., and BSCTC; 1-4:30 p.m. - Layne House, BSCTC; 4:30-9 p.m., Auxier Learning Ctr.

■ Tuesdays: 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. - Mud Creek Clinic, BSCTC; 1-4:30 p.m. - Dixie Apts., Betsy Layne FRYSC, BSCTC; 6-8 p.m. - Auxier Learning Ctr.

■ Wednesdays: 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. - Martin Comm. Ctr.; Auxier Learning Ctr.; BSCTC; 1-4:30 p.m. - David Craft Center, BSCTC; 6-9 p.m. - BSCTC.

■ Thursdays: 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. - BSCTC, Mud Creek Clinic, Weeksbury Comm. Ctr.; 1-4:30 p.m. - BSCTC, Betsy Layne YSC., Weeksbury Comm. Ctr.; 4:30-9 p.m. - Martin Comm. Ctr.

■ Adult Education teachers are: Ron Johnson, Stephanie Conn, Lynn Hall, Nancy Bormes, Vanessa Adkins and Susan Stephens.

■ Program manager: Kay Hale Ross (886-7334).

YESTERDAYS

(Items taken from The Floyd County Times, 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70 years ago.)

Ten Years Ago

(December 24, and December 27, 1996)

Upset over rumors that an alternative school would be relocated to the Martin Middle School during Christmas break, some parents of children who attend the Middle School recently voiced their complaints about the move. The concern was raised after a recent board of education meeting, when the board was presented a budget workshop committee report that suggested relocating the alternative school to the middle school campus. The move would eliminate land and building rents for Opportunities Unlimited...Ralph Davis of Prestonsburg, was one of three \$100,000 winners in Kentucky Lottery's Cash 5 drawing, Friday. "I played and I won," Davis said Monday. You study the numbers and hope for the best... In January, House Majority leader, Greg Stumbo, D-Prestonsburg, is expected to meet with state and federal investigators to discuss the activities of former legislative aide Kent Downey. Federal officials and members of the attorney general's public corruption unit are looking into the business dealings of Downey's company, Entertainment Outings Limited. Downey arranged fundraising golf trips

for some legislators and allegedly hired topless dancers to serve drinks on the golf course...Jim Daniels, of Auxier, who was charged with theft of services and for failing to comply with the terms of the county's solid waste ordinance, said he was accepted into bankruptcy court on December 10. A civil suit filed in November against him, for having not paid his garbage bill could be at a moot point...The first reading of an ordinance to close a section of Gosling Branch Road, near Eastern, was passed Friday, during the regular monthly meeting of the Floyd Fiscal Court, but the ordinance may face opposition at the second reading. Magistrate Jackie Owens asked other magistrates during the morning to vote against the closure at the second reading, if the land is not surveyed more extensively...Prestonsburg's City Council voted, Friday, to establish an expense fund for the development of a hilltop recreation complex near Jenny Wiley State Park. The city will loan \$10,000 to the Prestonsburg Properties Advisory Committee to pay costs for advertising for an architect to design the complex, plus the cost of specialized appraisal of the 700-acre tract...Sara Lafferty, daughter of Bennie and Paletta Lafferty of Daniels Creek, at Banner, has been diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukemia and needs a bone marrow transplant. Her miracle could come on Christmas Eve if a donor is found dur-

ing the first day of a bone marrow donor drive at the Central Kentucky Blood Center in Prestonsburg, Tuesday. The blood center will also conduct the drive Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, at the Prestonsburg Holiday Inn...Less than three days before Christmas, the Dwale residence of Columbus Quillen was totally destroyed, Sunday night, after a fire apparently started in one of the bedrooms, according to Allen Volunteer Fire Department Chief Roy Compton. Twelve Allen volunteer firefighters responded to the scene shortly after 8 p.m...The Floyd County Emergency and Rescue Squad had to cut the roof off a car, Thursday afternoon, to remove a Hueysville resident after a logging truck ran into the back of the car on Route 80, at the Martin red lights. Kenneth Patton, 50, was trapped in the back seat of the car, and was transported to Our Lady of the Way Hospital. His mother, Maxie, was also transported to the hospital...The Friends of the Samuel May House gave the City of Prestonsburg, a \$15,000 Christmas gift, Monday, when they paid a portion of the \$25,000 they are committed to pay the matching funds for an ISTE grant. A major portion of the money is being raised through a direct mail effort spearheaded by Bob Perry, president of the Friends of the May House, a non-profit group dedicating to preserving the May House and its history...There died: Edith B.

Burchett, 84, of Prestonsburg, Sunday, December 22, at Highlands Regional Medical Center; Esther H. Reitz, 67, of Martin, Friday, December 20, at her residence; Willard Hamilton, 77, of Harold, Friday, December 20, at Pikeville Methodist Hospital; Estelle Burchett Harris, 81, of Prestonsburg, Friday, December 20, at Riverview Manor Nursing Home, Prestonsburg; Thelma Newsome Adams, 73, of Beaver, Friday, December 20, at McDowell Appalachian Regional Hospital; Ellis Hicks, 84, of Frankfort, formerly of Floyd County, Friday, December 20, at Central Baptist Hospital, in Lexington; James Howard Pigman, 63, of Maysville, formerly of Knott County, Friday, December 20, at St. Elizabeth Hospital South, in Covington; Delmer Douglas "D.D." Cole, 54, of Stanville, Wednesday, December 18, at Pikeville Methodist Hospital; Mary Francis Hicks, 86, of Seaford, Virginia, formerly of Garrett, Friday, December 20, at her residence; Virginia Roop, 81, of Estill, Thursday, December 19, at Our Lady of the Way Hospital, Martin; Claude Johnson, 39, of Meally, Saturday, December 21, at Cabell-Huntington Hospital in Huntington, West Virginia; Herbert B. Salisbury, 72, of Harold, Sunday, December 22, at the University of Kentucky Medical Center, Lexington.

(Other reports, unavailable.)

Korner

just clouds of swirling dust.

And where the reindeer should have stood before a laden sleigh, Eight Humvees ran a column right behind an M1A.

A group of boys walked past the tank, not one was past his teens, Their eyes were hard as polished flint, their faces drawn and lean.

They walked the street in armor with their rifles shouldered tight,

Their dearest wish for Christmas, just to have a silent night.

Other soldiers gathered, hunkered down against the wind, To share a scrap of mail and dreams of going home again.

There wasn't much at all to put their lonely hearts at ease, They had no Christmas turkey, just a pack of MRE's.

They didn't have a garland or a stocking I could see, They didn't need an ornament - they lacked a Christmas tree.

They didn't have a present even though it was tradition, The only boxes I could see were labeled "ammunition."

I felt a little tug and found my son now by my side, He asked me what it was I feared, and why it was I cried.

I swept him up into my arms and held him oh, so near, And kissed him on the forehead as I whispered in his ear.

"There's nothing wrong, my little

son, for safe we sleep tonight, Our heroes stand on foreign land to give us all the right.

To worry on the things in life that mean nothing at all, Instead of wondering if we will be the next to fall."

He looked at me as children do and said, "it's always right, To thank the ones who help us and perhaps that we should write."

And so we pushed aside the bills and sat to draft a note,

To thank the many far from home, and this is what we wrote:

"God bless you all and keep you safe, and speed your way back home. Remember that we love you so, and that you're not alone.

The gift you give you share with all, a present every day, You give the gift of liberty and that we can't repay."

- Michael Marks -

Merry Christmas and a safe New Year to all troops so far from home! May God bless and keep you safe.

Continued from p1

Oak

to tend the livestock before he could open his presents. He'd pause momentarily, take a big draw from his ever-present pipe, and talk about the time that those presents for little boys were indeed few and far between. He did recall, however, receiving a little wooden wagon when he was about ten years old that had been carved by his uncle. As he looked just above my head as if watching it all unfold on some invisible movie screen, he told of how he played for hours with that little wagon, hauling twigs that had become imaginary locust posts for fencing in his livestock.

He said he cherished that little homemade toy, but what he looked forward to more than anything else was fresh fruit, especially oranges. He said that all his life he had associated oranges with Christmas.

Those were simple times to say the least, and Christmas has come a long way since a small boy could receive so much pleasure from so little. Then again, maybe it might be more appropriate to suggest that the holiday has regressed to a horrible state, turning into some sort of monster bent on stripping us of hard-earned cash and maxing our credit cards.

Anyway, can you imagine what it'd be like if your child awoke on Christmas morning to find nothing but a little homemade wooden wagon and a couple of oranges under the tree?

Gives you kind of a warm feeling, doesn't it?

Now that we're grandparents ourselves, we're fortunate enough to be able once again to enjoy the holiday through the eyes of youngsters.

Alison and Owen Pack will make this Christmas morning even more special than ever.

Continued from p5

Critter

and they kissed us good-bye. "Maybe someone else will give you a try."

So now here we are, all confused and alone. In a shelter with others who long for a home. The kind workers come through with a meal and a pat, with so many to care for, they can't stay to chat. They move to the next kennel, giving each of us cheer, we know that they wonder how long we'll be here. We lay down to sleep and sweet dreams fill our heads, of a home filled with love and our own cozy beds. Then

we wake to see sad eyes, brimming with tears, our friends filled with emptiness, worry, and fear.

If you can't adopt us and there's no room at the inn, could you help with the bills and fill our food bin? We count on your kindness each day of the year, can you give more than hope to everyone here? Please make a donation to pay for the heat and help us get something special to eat. The shelter that cares for us wants us to live, and more of us will, if more of you give.

-Written by "David the Dogman" (www.thedogman.net)

Continued from p5

Missoula Children's Theatre brings The Little Mermaid to Hazard

The Greater Hazard Area Performing Arts Series announces that Missoula Children's Theatre will bring The Little Mermaid to the stage on Saturday, Jan. 13, 2007 at 7 p.m. at the Forum, Hal Rogers Center. Admission is \$10 per person, those age five and younger will be admitted for free.

The show will consist of performers from the area. The weeklong residency begins with an open group audition on Monday, Jan. 8, 2007

from 4 to 6 p.m. in the First Federal Center at Hazard Community & Technical College, room 123.

Around 50 to 60 students in grades 1-12 will be cast and well rehearsed throughout the week, learning lines, songs and choreography to perform as an ensemble in producing a full-length musical. All MCT shows are original adaptations of children's stories and fairytales, a twist on the classical stories that you know and love.

Back by popular demand, Missoula Children's Theatre (MCT) is North America's largest touring theatre for young people. A team of two professional actor/directors will arrive in our community at the beginning of the week with a set, costumes, props and make-up, everything it takes to put on a play, except the cast. MCT will conduct theatre workshops in area schools for any grade level.

School matinees will be held on

Friday, Jan. 12, 2007 at The Forum at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Event sponsors are: Kiwanis Club of Hazard, Greg and Noreen Wells, International Coal Group Inc., and Primary Care Centers of Eastern Kentucky.

Series Grand benefactors are: ARH Regional Medical Center, City of Hazard, Hampton Inn and Suites, Hazard Clinic, Peoples Bank and Trust Company, and Super 8 Motel. The Kentucky Arts Council, a state

agency in the Commerce Cabinet, provides operational support funding for the Greater Hazard Area Performing Arts Series with state tax dollars and federal funding from the National Endowment for the Arts, which believes a great nation deserves great art.

For tickets, group rates and more information contact Tammy Duff, performing arts series director at (606) 487-3067 or 800-246-7521, ext. 73067.

BSCTC awards 105 graduates with degrees, diplomas and certificates.

Paintsville—One hundred five graduates received degrees, diplomas or certificates in the December 8, 2006 graduation at Big Sandy Community and Technical College (BSCTC). Held in the Mayo Auditorium on the Mayo Campus of BSCTC in Paintsville, KY, the graduation was a celebration of accomplishments and beginnings. Adorned in lovely greens and holiday decorations, the auditorium was filled with family, friends and

well wishers as the graduates filed in to celebrate their Commencement.

Dr. George D. Edwards, President of BSCTC, applauded the achievement of the graduates as he told them, "Don't forget the people who helped you reach this milestone. Remember to thank the parents, friends, teachers and others who made it possible for you to go to college and succeed."

Dr. Edwards introduced the commencement speaker, the Honorable

John David Preston, Family Court Judge. Judge Preston spoke about lifelong learning, telling the graduates that research shows that they may change careers as much as 3 or 4 times in their lifetime. Each change will require preparation so they can expect to continue learning all of their life. He congratulated them on their accomplishment and wished them success in their lives.

Music for the event was provided

by Big Sandy Singers Laura Ford Hall, LouAnna Calhoun and Susan Scott. LouAnna, a graduating student, and Laura, Director of the Big Sandy Singers, sang "When You Believe." Susan sang "Somewhere Over The Rainbow."

Keithen McKenzie, Mayo Campus Coordinator, acted as emcee for the ceremony. Bobby McCool, Vice President of Institutional Services, introduced special guests. Randall

Roberts, Pikeville Campus Coordinator, announced Student Recognitions and Awards. Dr. Nancy B. Johnson, BSCTC Provost, presented the graduates for awarding of credentials. The pianist was Bryen Lynn Goble.

For the program and including a list of graduates, please check the posted graduation program on the BSCTC webpage: www.bigsandy.kctcs.edu.



Floyd County Chamber welcomes new member Southern Hospitality Antiques & Gifts

The Floyd County Chamber Of Commerce held a ribbon cutting ceremony for new chamber member, Southern Hospitality Antiques & Gifts LLC on October 6. Located on KY RT. 321 in Prestonsburg just north of Highlands Regional Medical Center, Southern Hospitality Antiques & Gifts is a different kind of shop. Carrying antiques of every kind as well as nearly new treasures they have gifts for all occasions. The past will come to life as you browse through the many unique treasures finding the simplicity of country past or the most modern of the new items they have to offer. Southern Hospitality Antiques & Gifts will wrap and ship gifts for their customers. They also provide a bridal registry for soon to be wed couples and offer a baby register as well. Caring gifts for times of sickness or sorrow are also available. Southern Hospitality is owned and operated by Lane Dutton. Southern Hospitality Antiques & Gifts can be reached by phone at (606) 886-9995.



Clothing give-away

Tiny Jenna Wireman wishes this beautiful Christmas dress would fit her, but another lucky, and bigger, little girl will get it. No worry, though, because tiny holiday dresses in Jenna's size were also available at the clothing give-away sponsored by the Town Branch Christian Victory Fellowship Church on Friday and Saturday. Along with holiday clothing and new shoes, warm scarves, gloves and toboggans, like the ones Jenna and church volunteer Karen Marcum are wearing, were also handed out. If a child you know is in need of warm winter clothing or a new coat, contact Pastor Tom or Earlene Nelson at 478-2836.

photo by Kathy J. Prater

Christmas Story

By Sylvia L. Lovely

It was tradition among the poor of Appalachian Kentucky. A member of the family would go off and work in the big city of Lexington and send home presents at Christmastime. The presents were small, but they were better than nothing in the years coming out of the Depression, when very few were working.

One year, for reasons still unknown, every child got a present out of the big box except my mother. She had been forgotten somehow, and the memory it created for her took the form of a lifelong emotional scar.

So it was with both my parents. They didn't get many breaks in life. They just had a lot of what my mother would call "gumption." They packed up their truck when I was three months old and left eastern Kentucky for the promised land of Dayton, Ohio, where the factory managers didn't care if you had only an 8th-grade education. They paid good wages for good, hard work, and my father was a more-than-willing employee.

He lost that job in the great economic upheaval of the late 1970s and, at 55, had little to offer in a work world that required a diploma. So he and my mother took on a "job" they both loved - watching my boys back in Kentucky, where I had returned and settled.

They lived on next to nothing. Once when I came home dressed in a business suit, my dad asked: "How much did you pay for that?" I struggled to answer, having always been instructed by mother not to tell him how much I paid for clothes. As I did my mental calculations, he blurted out: "I paid a dime for the shirt and a quarter for the pants." It was definitely a "gotcha" moment for him.

It was only after the passing of more years that I came to appreciate what my parents' lives meant to me. Because of their sacrifices, I had been able to go to college and law school and land a great job. But my passion for the work grew even stronger as I watched my mother die from cervical cancer.

It was then that I heard their stories of growing up hard and poor; of how the people who should have done better by them somehow did not. I heard my dad speak in reverent tones of Roosevelt and his big ideas that transformed citizens, lives and their nation.

My parents were never leaders. (In fact, my dad tells a story of rejecting an offer to become foreman because he didn't want to boss his friends.) But through their sacrifices, they allowed me the opportunity to become one. It is a huge responsibility, and in the wee hours, I fear falling short. Like most Americans, I sometimes doubt my ability to have an impact on anything in a world grown wildly large.

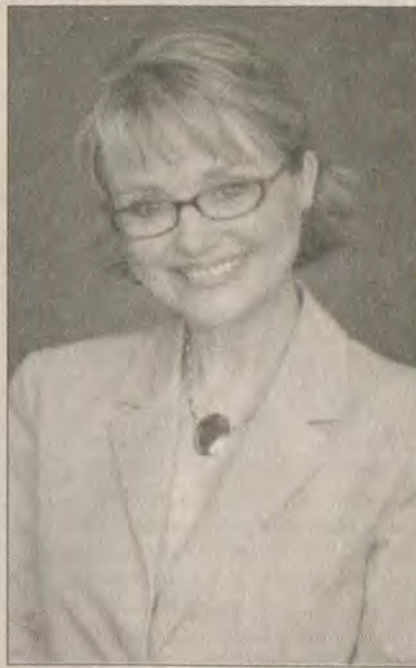
But in the same wee hours, I remind myself that I cannot quit. When I took my mother to see a palliative care doctor to alleviate her suffering, she responded to his inquiry of what she would like to continue doing until the end. "I like to do little things," she said.

It is, after all, the little things that added up to an ordinary life for her, much as it is the little things that leaders can do en route to the big things that can change lives forever.

We begin where it is best to begin - at the local level - to make a difference every day while ignoring the assertion that we are too small to matter. We reclaim our democracy one community at a time and connect with one another in what I call an army of community patriots who are united in their efforts to make a difference.

We all use images to remind us of the importance of our work and of staying dedicated to it. My images are those of a simple man and woman who struggled out of poverty and made the best of things in a world that greeted them with hostility. In my position of relative privilege, surely it is not too much to ask that I approach the world with the same dedication and try to make a positive difference.

Founded in 2001, the NewCities Institute is a non-profit organization dedicated to helping communities obtain or retain economic and social wealth with innovation, inspiration and partnership opportunities. More information on the NewCities Institute may be found at www.newcities.org.



Sylvia Lovely

Visit The Floyd County Times on the Internet
www.floydcountytimes.com

Wedding



Allen-Joseph

The parents of Sarah Elizabeth Allen and Rick Shannon Joseph are pleased to announce their marriage on Friday, December 22, 2006, at 6:30 p.m., at Fitzpatrick Baptist Church, Prestonsburg. Sarah is the daughter of Claude and Missy Allen, of David. She is a 2006 graduate of Morehead State University from which she holds a degree in music education. She is employed with the Floyd County Board of Education as a music teacher at McDowell Elementary and Adams Middle School. Ricky is the son of Dokey and Mary Joseph, of Prestonsburg. He will graduate from Morehead State University in December, 2006, with a degree in secondary math education. The gracious custom of an open church wedding will be observed.

Anniversaries



50th Wedding Anniversary

James and Clara Fowler, of Martin, will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on December 27, 2006, with a party presented to them by their children, Lena Faye Keller, James Randall Fowler, Suzanne Fowler, and Michelle Leigh Fowler. The Fowlers share that love, faith, and devotion has kept their marriage strong throughout the years and that they look forward to celebrating their special day with family members and friends who are all cordially invited to attend.

Birthday



Happy Birthday, LaKole!

LaKole Ousley will celebrate her 19th birthday on December 23, 2006 with "Cammie," her family, and friends, who all wish her a very happy, very special day. LaKole is the daughter of Dennis and Donna Ousley, of Martin. She is currently attending Big Sandy Community and Technical College.



Bernadette Tiapo

BSCTC minority students mentoring program

The Big Sandy Community and Technical College (BSCTC) Minority Students Mentoring Program had its kick-off ceremony on November 29, on the Prestonsburg Campus. The ceremony was hosted in the new BSCTC Diversity Resource Center. Those participating in the ceremony were BSCTC minority students, faculty and staff, as well as, prospective BSCTC students from the Carl D. Perkins Job Corp Center. Bernadette Tiapo, the Director of Cultural Diversity welcomed the group "It is our hope that this program will improve on the chances of present and prospective minority students to pursue higher education studies here at BSCTC."

Dr. George D. Edwards, President of BSCTC provided the opening and closing remarks. He thanked the faculty and staff members who have agreed to serve as mentors. He also reminded the mentors of their responsibilities and the relevance of the program in promoting the recruitment, retention, and graduation rates of minority students. Dr. Edwards urged the students to be cooperative with their mentors in order to make the experience a better one.

A short story about the Mentor and Mentee relationship was read by Michelle Meek. The story emphasized the importance of mentoring and the role that mentors play in the lives of their students. The story was followed by the reading of the minority students' biographies.

The mentoring program has started with 25 students and 14 mentors involved. Of these 25 students, five will be graduating in the December 2006 commencement ceremony, but will continue to maintain their relationships with their new mentors.

For more information about the BSCTC Minority Students Mentoring Program contact Bernadette Tiapo at 606-886-3863, ext. 67374 or BTIAPO0001@kctcs.edu

HCTC offers nail tech class

For the first time in four years, the Cosmetology Program at Hazard Community & Technical College will offer a nail tech class, beginning in the Spring 2007 semester.

The Nail Tech Classes begin on Tuesday, Jan. 16, 2007 and classes will meet from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., Monday through Thursday. The classes will end during the Fall 2007 semester. Melissa Tigues is the instructor.

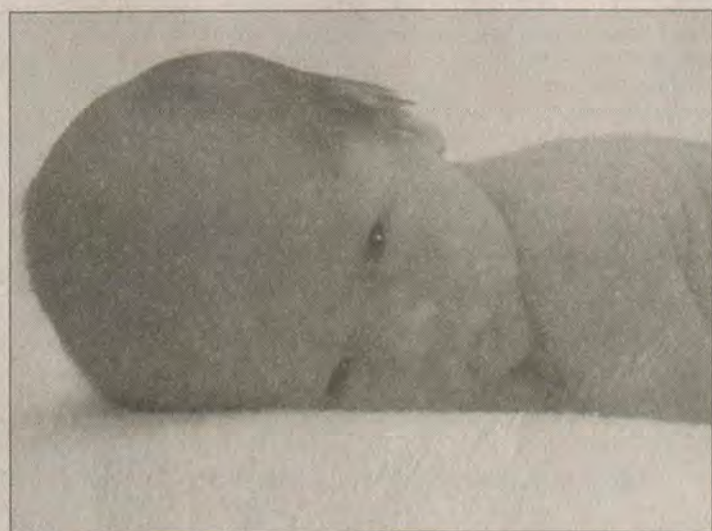
For more information, contact Susan Johnson, Associate Professor and Cosmetology Program Coordinator, at (606) 487-3343.



50th Wedding Anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. Charles and Faye Hamilton, of Teaberry, will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on December 26, 2006. The couple have three children, Joann, Angie, and James, and six grandchildren. They also have one great-grandson who is now gone but fondly remembered. Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton plan to enjoy their special day with their loving family.

Birth



New Arrival

Landon Bryce Hamilton was born October 25, 2006, at 5:40 a.m., at Saint Joseph East Hospital, in Lexington, to proud parents Ryan and Brittney Hamilton, of Midway. He weighed 5 lbs., 7 oz., and was 19 inches in length. He is the maternal grandson of David and Teresa Ginn, of Milton. His paternal grandparents are Ricky and Gwen Hamilton, of McDowell. He is the great-grandson of Wyman and Juanita Callis, of Bedford, Willis and Earlene Mathews, of Prestonsburg, and Dorothy DeRossett, of Printer. Landon has one big brother, Colin Reed Hamilton.

Editor's Notice: The Floyd County Times is happy to announce your engagement, new marriage, new baby, birthday or family reunion free of charge. However, space is limited and we can offer no guarantee of the exact day your announcement will run. Readers may opt to purchase ad space if these conditions are not satisfactory. With the purchase of a paid ad, run date, size and placement may be guaranteed.



Helping the Tech Campus

Hazard Community & Technical College thanks Lindon Heating Supply for the gift of a two-ton Goodman heat pump to use for training purposes in the Heating and Air Conditioning Program at the Technical Campus. Doug Adams (on left), faculty member with the program, told Lindon Heating Supply manager Trevor Barnett (on right) that he appreciates having such a supportive local distributor. "We appreciate their commitment to helping our students. Lindon Heating is always working with us to help the program," Adams said. Brothers Jimmy and Gary Lindon own the business along with their father, Ray Lindon. Classes for the spring semester begin Jan. 16. Registration is Jan. 4-6.

Combs

Continued from p5

Something to Talk About." She said that her favorite thing about recording the album was learning to sing harmony. "When we learned and recorded 'Father Who Can,' it was a wonderful experience. I didn't truly understand harmony until we did that song."

In addition to being a full-time student and Big Sandy Singer, Cheryl is also a full-time mother to a 4-month old baby boy named Caiden. "My son deserves all that I can give and more. I feel so blessed that God gave him to me."

Cheryl is supported by her mother and sister; her father, and grandparents on both sides. "I thank my family so much for helping me to be able to sing because I enjoy it so much."

When asked what she liked best about being in the Big Sandy Singers, Cheryl said "It's so much fun. I have a great deal of respect for everyone involved with the group."

"Most of all, I thank God who has blessed me with a voice," concluded Cheryl.

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Valley blasts Blackcats

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

PRESTONSBURG — Shelby Valley definitely looked the part of 15th Region contender Friday night. The Wildcats rolled into Prestonsburg and dealt the host Blackcats one of their worst hardwood losses ever. Shelby Valley led Prestonsburg 29-12 at the end of the first quarter and cruised in the second half. The Wildcats broke the century mark in the scoring column, beating Prestonsburg 107-44.

The loss was Prestonsburg's second straight in as many Friday nights.

The Blackcats (0-2) opened the season on a down note Friday, Dec. 8, falling to Magoffin County.

Shelby Valley led the Blackcats 49-26 at the half. Prestonsburg only lost ground in the second half.

Thirteen different Valley players provided scoring in the blowout win. Logan Bryant led Prestonsburg with a game-high 19 points. Ashley Hatfield scored 17 points, Elisha Justice pushed in 16 and Jordan Bryant tossed in 12. Goodson just missed double figures for the Wildcats, finishing with nine points. Simpkins chipped in

seven points for visiting Shelby Valley.

The Blackcats were held to just one field goal in the entire second half. Prestonsburg scored nine points in each of the two second-half quarters.

No Prestonsburg player reached double figures scoring. Junior Bobby Hughes led the Blackcats with eight points. Jordan Hall, another junior, added seven points. Freshman Michael Burchett contributed six points for the Blackcat offensive effort. Nathaniel Stephens and

(See BLACKCATS, page ten)



Prestonsburg freshman Michael Burchett came in off of the bench and scored six points in Friday's loss to Shelby Valley.

photos by Steve LeMaster

Lady Rebs beat South Floyd for first win

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

HI HAT — The Allen Central Lady Rebels picked a good time to get their first win. Allen Central, playing on the road Friday against Floyd County rival South Floyd, secured their first win of the season in an all-important 58th District game. Allen Central outscored jumped ahead of South Floyd 13-2 in the first quarter. The Lady Rebels led South Floyd at the end of every quarter and defeated South Floyd 51-41.

Allen Central led South Floyd

(See LADY REBS, page ten)

Mason County edges JBS, 57-55

TIMES STAFF REPORT

HAZARD — It's safe to say the June Buchanan Crusaders have proved their case as being one of the state's top basketball teams. Mason County had its closest game of the season Friday in the Whitaker Bank Classic (Perry County Central Invitational) at Perry County Central High School's John C. Combs Arena. But the Royals survived. Darius Miller scored a game-high 28 points as the Royals were able to turn back 14th Region contender June Buchanan 57-55. June Buchanan, one of Eastern Kentucky's top teams, features another one of the state's leading junior boys' basketball players in Clark Stepp. Living up to lofty billing, Clark led June Buchanan with a team-high 23 points.

(See CRUSADERS, page twelve)

DISTRICT WIN



photo by Steve LeMaster

Leslie County was able to upend host Prestonsburg Friday in a girls' basketball matchup between two teams from opposing regions.

Late run lifts Leslie past P'burg

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

PRESTONSBURG — The Prestonsburg Lady Blackcats have become quite familiar this season with some of the 14th Region's top girls' basketball teams. Prestonsburg faced 14th Region contender Leslie County in a home game. Through the first half, Prestonsburg gave the visiting Lady Eagles all they wanted and then some. Leslie County led Prestonsburg 17-13 at the end of the opening quarter. After clinging to a 28-27 lead at halftime, Leslie County was able to pull away and beat the Lady Blackcats, winning 58-44.

Leslie County put some considerable distance between itself and host Prestonsburg in the third quarter, outscoring the Lady Blackcats 15-6.

Beth Lewis paced Leslie County with a game-high 19 points. Lewis was one of three Leslie County players to reach double figures scoring. Junior Beth Wooten was Leslie County's second-leading scorer, finishing with 16 points. Ciara Stidham added 12 points for the Lady Eagles.

The loss dropped Prestonsburg to 3-5. The Lady Blackcats have played a very challenging

(See LADY CATS, page ten)



Bears have six season-highs in dominating Ky. Christian

TIMES STAFF REPORT

PIKEVILLE — Pikeville College ended the first semester of play by setting season highs in six offensive categories in a 104-58 win over Kentucky Christian University Saturday afternoon.

The Bears will go to the break 7-8 on the season, having won four straight and seven of their last nine games. Kentucky Christian fell to 6-10 on the campaign.

The Bears set season highs in all three triple-crown categories: 104 points, 62 rebounds and 23 assists. They also hit 53.8 percent from the field, which marks the

(See BEARS, page ten)

Road trip opener goes south for Lady Bears

TIMES STAFF REPORT

DENMARK, S.C. — The Pikeville College women's basketball team hit the road this week, en route to the Disney NAIA Basketball Challenge in Orlando, Fla. But Voorhees College decided to make it a very rough bus ride south, as they took care of the Lady Bears by a 61-46 score at Screen Arena on Thursday night.

The omens did not look well for the Lady Bears, as the Lady Tigers managed to force turnovers on Pikeville's first three possessions. Still, the Lady

(See LADY BEARS, page ten)

Rebels remain perfect in district

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

HI HAT — After getting behind in the first quarter and trailing at the half, Allen Central claimed its second 58th District win in as many games Friday night, beating host South Floyd 70-58.

Allen Central turned things around in the third quarter, outscoring the Raiders 21-9.

Veteran Allen Central Coach Johnny Martin saw his team remain strong defensively and play better offensively in the second half. The Rebels outscored South Floyd in each of the two second-half quarters.

"Our kids played hard — this is one of the most well-conditioned teams we've had," said Martin. "Our defense has really

(See REBELS, page ten)



Ryan Collins lofted a shot over the South Floyd defense during Friday's 58th District matchup.

Eagles beat Boyce

TIMES STAFF REPORT

PIPPA PASSES — Alice Lloyd put visiting Boyce out of the game early on Saturday when the two men's basketball teams met at Grady Nutt Athletic Center. The Eagles led Boyce 55-33 at the half and went on to win 104-82.

Alice Lloyd was 43-of-66 from the field. The Eagles connected on six-of-13 three-pointers.

Floyd County product Shawn Newsome paced Alice Lloyd with 25 points. Newsome was one of three players to reach double figures scoring for the Eagles. Rodney Mitchell pushed in 22 points and William Dillard added 12. Preston Simon, another Floyd County product, added 11 points for the Eagles. Corey Hairston worked his way into double

(See EAGLES, page twelve)

Lady Cats

schedule, also facing Knott County Central and Letcher County Central, two other 14th Region championship contenders.

Four different players provided scoring for Prestonsburg. Sophomore Linsey Fields led the Lady Blackcats with a team-high 16 points. Seniors Meaghan Stone and Amber Whitaker each had 13 points for home-standing Prestonsburg. Julianne

Frye rounded out the Prestonsburg scoring with two points.

Leslie County finished on a strong note, outscoring the Lady Blackcats 15-11 in the final quarter.

The victory was the second straight win for the Lady Eagles. With the win, Leslie County improved to 4-1.

Prestonsburg started 58th District play Tuesday night at home against visiting Betsy

Layne. Results from the Prestonsburg-Betsy Layne girls' basketball game were unavailable at press time.

Leslie County 58, Prestonsburg 44

Leslie County — B. Lewis 19, Stidham 12, Wooten 16, K. Lewis 4, Boggs 5, Helton 2.
Prestonsburg — Fields 16, Whitaker 13, Stone 13, Frye 2.
Leslie County.....17 11 15 15-58
Prestonsburg.....13 14 6 11-44

Lady Rebs

25-19 at the half. The Lady Rebs outscored South Floyd 11-6 in the third quarter.

Allen Central opened district play with a loss Friday, Dec. 8 in a game versus Betsy Layne. The Lady Rebs fell behind and never recovered in their first district tilt as Betsy Layne won 59-50.

Against South Floyd, Sara Johnson led Allen Central with a game-high 18 points. Amanda Thacker added 15 points for the Lady Rebs. Allen Central finished 17-

for-39 from the free throw line. The Lady Rebs hit 11 field goals and four three-pointers.

In other Allen Central scoring, Kim Biliter tossed in six points, Liz Dingus scored five, Brandi Brown netted four and Jaimie Mullins scored three.

Allen Central improved to 1-4. The loss dropped South Floyd to 1-3.

Kayla Hall led South Floyd with a team-high 14 points. Hall was the only South Floyd player to reach double figures scoring. Danielle Tackett

tossed in seven points and Jessie Tackett added five for the Lady Raiders. Andrea Conn, Heather Dean and Faith Little each had four points for host South Floyd. Chelsie Tuttle rounded out the Lady Raider scoring with three points. Danielle Tackett pulled down a team-high 11 rebounds for South Floyd.

South Floyd finished 10-of-19 from the free throw line. The Lady Raiders made eight field goals and knocked down five three-pointers.

Bears

first time they've made more than half their field goal tries, nailed 12 threes and had 43 field goals for the game.

While the undermanned Knights struggled, the Bears played arguably their best 40 minutes of the season. Playing aggressive man-to-man defense, Pikeville held the Knights to 33.9 percent shooting. Additionally, the non-starters from Pikeville outscored KCU 24-0.

And perhaps they had had the most dominant performance on the glass since beginning varsity play in 1955-56, pulling down 25 offensive boards en route to a 62-21 margin.

The teams were tied at 11 at

the 12:23 mark after the Knights scored five straight points. But the Bears scored five straight to pull away. After Matt Hackenberg scored to cut the lead to 29-21 with 7:45 left in the half, the Bears went on an 18-6 run to stretch the lead to 20 at 47-27. At the break it was 55-33.

The second half lead never got below 22 and the Bears scored the game's last 13 points to expand the lead to its zenith.

Sophomore Bo Harris had his third straight double-double since gaining his eligibility last weekend, pouring in 22 points and 15 rebounds. Sophomore Will Holloman, who was also in his third

game, had 22 points, a game-high seven assists and five rebounds.

Junior Paul Frazier tossed in 15 and nine rebounds, while freshman Brad Lowe knocked down four three-pointers en route to 12 points. Sophomore Robbie Spears came off the bench for eight points and six rebounds.

KCU was paced by Akeem Scott, who led his club with 19 points and seven rebounds. Both Hackenberg and Jimmy Wooten tossed in 16 points each.

Pikeville now has a break away from game action. The Bears will entertain U.Va.-Wise on Saturday, Dec. 30, at 4 p.m.

Rebels

carried us at times. We were pleased to go to South Floyd and get the win. Any win is a big win."

Seven different Rebels scored points in the district game.

Ryan Collins led Allen Central with a game-high 20 points. The Rebels enjoyed balanced scoring. Josh Prater and Josh Martin each had 11 points for the Rebels. JR Robinson and Fraley Joseph added nine points apiece for Allen Central.

Lyle Johnson led South

Floyd with a team-high 17 points. Ethan Johnson, returning to the hardwood following an injury, turned in a double-double performance of 14 points and 12 rebounds for the Raiders. Wes Akers added 12 points for South Floyd.

The Raiders outscored Allen Central 22-18 in the first quarter and led 37-36 at the half.

Alex Hammonds flipped in seven points and Tyler Stone added three for the Rebels.

The win was Allen Central's fourth straight. The Rebels

opened district play at home Dec. 8 with a 58-43 win over Betsy Layne. Allen Central, following the win over South Floyd, improved to 4-1 overall and 2-0 in the district. The Raiders dropped to 0-4 overall, suffering their first district setback of the season.

Allen Central is due back in district action Friday on the road at Prestonsburg. South Floyd is scheduled to play host Boyd County Thursday night at 9:15 in the Town Square Tournament.

Lady Bears

Bears, using a 6-0 run over the course of four minutes, overtook their hosts and held a 21-16 lead late in the half. Voorhees, however, refused to let Pikeville maintain its momentum, going on a 20-8 run to wind out the final seven minutes.

Trailing 36-29, the Lady Bears came out the half and looked like a different team, but not in the good way. Poor shooting and lackadaisical defense allowed the Lady Tigers to stretch out a 6-0 run to open the first five minutes of the second-half. With 9:02 remaining, Earnasha Houston

hit a pair of free-throws, giving Voorhees its largest lead of the night at 53-36. A three from Pikeville senior Tonya Amburgey (Pinetop) brought the Lady Bears closer at 55-44, the Voorhees lead was too much to overtake, as the Lady Tigers cruised to the win.

"We looked like a very bad basketball team," said Pikeville head coach Bill Watson. "We didn't shoot well; we didn't rebound well; we didn't do much of anything well."

Voorhees managed to force 25 Pikeville turnovers, while the Lady Bears only managed

to steal four balls away from the Lady Tigers. The Lady Bears also managed to shoot a mere 29 percent from the field.

Sophomore Alice Daniel (Meally) led the Lady Bears with 12 points, while Amburgey provided eight points, five rebounds, and two assists. Pikeville also got a strong showing from junior Beth Patterson (Middleburg, Ky.), who spent much of the game on the floor, taking charges and chasing loose balls, in the loss.

Tammy Harbin had a career game for Voorhees, picking up 28 points. Houston also provided 10 points in the Voorhees win.

The Lady Bears dropped to 3-9.

Blackcats

Michael Vance each had five points for host Prestonsburg. Josh Rodebaugh and Trevor Patton flipped in two points apiece.

Prestonsburg was hosting Betsy Layne Tuesday evening in a key 58th District matchup. Results from the Prestonsburg-Betsy Layne boys' basketball game were unavailable at press time.

The Wildcats were back in competition Saturday on the road at Perry County Central in the Whitaker Bank Classic. Shelby Valley defeated Buckhorn 71-59 in the Perry

County tournament, improving to 7-0. The Wildcats were hosting Haysi, Va., Tuesday night. Results from the Shelby Valley-Haysi, Va. game were also unavailable.

Shelby Valley 107, Prestonsburg 44

Shelby Valley — E. Justice 16, Adkins 2, L. Bryant 19, Goodson 9, Hatfield 17, Simpkins 7, Ta. Newsome 6, Ty. Newsome 3, J. Justice 4, Varney 5, Wright 5, J. Bryant 12, Tackett 2.
Prestonsburg — Clark 2, Hall 7, Hughes 8, Patton 4, Stephens 5, Vance 5, Martin 2, Rodebaugh 4, Burchett 6, Hall 1.
Shelby Valley.....29 20 36 22-107
Prestonsburg.....12 14 9 9-44

Continued from p9

Continued from p9

Continued from p9

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U.S. General Services Administration

Stanley wins Pro-Fitness Christmas 10k

TIMES STAFF REPORT

PRESTONSBURG — Twenty-one runners started at Pro-Fitness Center and ran to the top of StoneCrest Golf Course, a distance of 6 miles, including approximately 2 miles of climbing the grade up the mountain, which varies from a minimum of 7-percent up to around 18-percent Saturday in the Christmas 10k. The race winner was Frank Stanley, who finished in an incredible time of 38 minutes, 31 seconds. Stanley, 48, set a

blistering pace in the Christmas 10k.

Second place went to Gary Smith, an 18-year-old cross country runner from Shelby Valley High School.

Gail Faria of Paintsville was the fastest of four females with a time of 58:58.

RESULTS BY AGE GROUP

15-19	Gary Smith	44:20
(Teenage Winner, Second Overall)		
20-24	Si Akin	47:53
25-29	Barry Crum	54:59
	Keith Arms	59:40
	Jessica Conley	63:50
30-34	Deon Caine	65:35

35-39	Allison Noud	5k no time
	Doug Hyden	53:28
	Henry Webb	56:04
40-44	Thomas Webb	49:35
	Chuck Wetzel	52:12
	Greg Frasure	52:18
	Gail Faria	58:58
(Women's Overall Winner)		
45-49	Frank Stanley	38:31
(Men's Overall Winner)		
	Dave Watson	45:34
	Don Fields	46:53
	Archie Everage	55:54
	Clyde DeRossett	62:26
	John Hetherington	64:35
	Liz Chaffin	5k, no time
65-69	Ken Henry	55:13



Frank Stanley (pictured out in front) claimed first-place in Saturday's Christmas 10k run.

Saints lose, but lock up playoff berth

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW ORLEANS — The Saints' triumphant return to New Orleans now includes the franchise's first playoff berth since 2000 — not that they're in any mood to celebrate.

New Orleans (9-5) made the playoffs by default Sunday, losing 16-10 to the Washington Redskins while the Saints' only remaining pursuer in the NFC South, Carolina, was eliminated from the division race by a loss to Pittsburgh.

The Redskins (5-9) punished the Saints' defense with a running attack that racked up 161 yards.

Coming off a career-high 171 yards a week earlier, Ladell Betts gained 119 on 22 carriers, while blossoming quarterback Jason Campbell outplayed Drew Brees.

Campbell threw for 204 yards and a 31-yard touchdown to Santana Moss, and Shaun Suisham kicked two field goals of 37 yards and another of 22 to keep New Orleans at arm's length.

Brees, who has played his way to MVP contention by leading the league in yards

passing, threw a costly interception in the fourth quarter and finished 21-of-38 for 207 yards. He did not throw a touchdown pass.

The Redskins' defense also neutralized Reggie Bush, holding him to only 14 yards rushing and 19 yards receiving.

Ravens 27, Browns 17

BALTIMORE — Needing a victory over Cleveland to clinch a playoff berth, the Ravens had blown a 14-point lead and were without injured quarterback Steve McNair.

In the time it took Demetrius Williams to run under Kyle Boller's long pass and take it into the end zone, everything changed.

Boller threw two touchdown passes, including a 77-yard strike to Williams that snapped a tie and propelled Baltimore.

Jamal Lewis ran 22 times for 109 yards and a touchdown for the Ravens (11-3), who are assured a spot in the playoffs for the first time since 2003. Baltimore will win the AFC North if Cincinnati loses to Indianapolis on Monday night.

Cleveland fell to 4-10.

Bears 34, Buccaneers 31, OT

CHICAGO — The Bears earned home-field advantage throughout the playoffs the hard way.

Chicago blew a 24-3 second-half lead, then recovered with big plays from backups Rashied Davis and Adrian Peterson in overtime that led to Robbie Gould's 25-yard field goal with 3:37 left.

Coupled with Washington's upset of New Orleans, the Bears (12-2) got the home-field advantage in all of their games during the NFC playoffs.

Gould's field goal came after Davis made an over-the-shoulder catch of 28 yards on a pass from Rex Grossman to the Tampa Bay 20. Peterson, Chicago's third-team tailback, then had runs of 2 and 11 yards to move the ball to the 7.

The Bucs (3-11) stunned the Bears with three fourth-quarter touchdowns, tying the game on Tim Rattay's 44-yard TD pass to Ike Hilliard with 3:44 left.

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Dr. Faruque Ahmed, General Surgeon, has joined the Medical Staff at Highlands Regional Medical Center and opened an office practice in Suite 2 of the Riverview Complex near the Medical Center. Dr. Ahmed is a graduate of the New York College of Osteopathic Medicine and served his Internship and Residency in General Surgery at St. John's Episcopal Hospital in Far Rockway, New York. As a General Surgeon, Dr. Ahmed will perform minor surgical procedures, laparoscopic procedures, and more complicated abdominal procedures.

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Lady Commodores top Betsy Layne

TIMES STAFF REPORT

HAZARD – Known for playing a tough schedule, Betsy Layne Coach Cassandra Akers took her Ladycats on the road Saturday for a game against 14th Region frontrunner Perry County Central. The Lady Commodores outscored Betsy Layne in every quarter

on their way to defeating the Ladycats 76-48.

Perry County Central led Betsy Layne 25-14 at the end of the first quarter. The Lady Commodores took a 40-23 lead into the intermission break.

Betsy Layne played arguably its best quarter of basketball in the third period

when Perry County Central held a 17-14 scoring advantage.

Kristen Madden paced Perry County Central with a game-high 34 points. Madden was one of two Lady Commodores to reach double figures scoring. Junior guard Heather Sturdivant added 11 points for host Perry County

Central. In all, 10 different Perry Central players scored in Saturday's game.

Kaitlin Lawson led Betsy Layne (3-3) with a team-high 19 points. Kristy Flanery added 11 points for the Ladycats while Megan Hamilton scored eight.

Betsy Layne was playing on the road Tuesday night against 58th District rival Prestonsburg. The Betsy Layne-Prestonsburg girls' game ended too late to make this edition.

Perry County Central 76, Betsy Layne 48
 Betsy Layne (3-3) – Lawson 19, Flanery 11, Hamilton 8, Martin 3, Tackett 3, Meade 2, Reynolds 2.
 Perry County Central (6-0) – Sturdivant 11, Kilburn 2, Feltner 14, Madden 34, Caines 4, Combs 2, Strong 4, Campbell 1, Neace 2, Eversole 2.
 Betsy Layne.....14 9 14 12-48
 Perry County Central....25 15 17 19-76

Kentucky 61, Louisville 49

by **WILL GRAVES**
 ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOUISVILLE – Kentucky coach Tubby Smith keeps his freshmen off limits to the media.

When first-year guard Jodie Meeks finally does get a chance to break his silence, he won't lack for things to talk about.

Playing with poise while some of his older teammates struggled, Meeks scored a career-high 18 points to lead quickly improving Kentucky to a 61-49 victory over in-state rival Louisville on Saturday.

The win was Kentucky's third straight in the series, and the Wildcats (7-3) did it without major contributions from leading scorers Randolph Morris and Joe Crawford, who combined for just seven points – nearly 24 below their season average. Morris finished with just two points in 15 foul-plagued minutes while Crawford had trouble getting anything going.

"We had to overcome Randolph's loss and I thought our guys showed a lot of heart and courage," Smith said.

Particularly Meeks, who scored nine straight points midway through the second half after the Cardinals took a 41-40 lead. He hit consecutive 3-pointers and added three free throws while Kentucky held the Cardinals without a field goal for nearly seven minutes.

"I see (Meeks) every day," Morris said. "I see what he does in practice. It's a matter of him being comfortable in a game situation and him producing where everybody else sees what he can do."

Meeks looked right at home at the center of one of college basketball's fiercest rivalries, helping the Wildcats finish a brutal stretch that included losses to No. 1 UCLA and No. 3 North Carolina and a win over Indiana.

"It was his best game of the season, what a day to show up," Louisville forward Terrence Williams said. "He made some tough shots."

While hard fought, the game showcased just how far one of the nation's high-profile rivalries has fallen in recent years. There were poor shots, missed layups, turnovers and no sense of rhythm. The teams combined for 25 turnovers, 42 fouls and 84 missed shots.

Louisville came in averaging 77.5 points a game, but

struggled to get anything going. The Cardinals shot just 27 percent from the field, including 13 percent (3-for-24) from 3-point range.

David Padgett led Louisville with 16 points and 10 rebounds, but had little help from his teammates despite what coach Rick Pitino called "excellent" execution offensively.

"This is kind of a scary thought, that's the best we've ran our offense this year," Pitino said. "It's an obvious thing. We are not a good shooting team. We missed open shots."

The Cardinals had plenty of opportunities to take control. They led for much of the first half and did a decent job defensively, holding Kentucky to 42 percent shooting.

But when it mattered, it was Meeks and company who made the big plays while Louisville's freshmen wilted. Freshman center Derrick Character was scoreless in eight minutes before fouling out, and the backcourt duo Edgar Sosa and Jerry Smith combined for just eight points.

"We've got to learn how to make easy shots, the little bank shots, the two-point shots," Pitino said.

The Cardinals got within 49-45 on a putback by Andre McGee with 3:59 to play – Louisville's first basket in nearly seven minutes – but Sheray Thomas hit a jumper to put the Wildcats up by six and Louisville would get no closer. Louisville, meanwhile, could finish its nonconference season without any wins over a significant opponent. The record is the Cardinals' worst after nine games under Pitino since he took over the program six years ago. Louisville's 49 points were the program's lowest since a 71-46 loss to TCU on Feb. 17, 2004.

"We are not a very good basketball team right now," Pitino said. "We've just got to keep working."

The Cardinals had hoped a 10-game homestand this month would jump start their season. But halfway through it they're just 3-2 and have only one win over a team from a major conference before beginning play in the Big East.

"You've got to put it behind you," Williams said. "You've got to be men about it and get your confidence back."

The Wildcats, however, have a chance to build some major momentum over the next two weeks. They play four straight at home before Southeastern Conference play begins.

"I am sure it does (give our players) a lot of confidence," Smith said. "They need a lot of confidence."

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Crusaders

Continued from p9

The two teams were deadlocked at 17-17 at the end of the first quarter. Mason County managed to hold some sort of lead at the end of each of the last three quarters. The Royals led 28-23 at the half and 47-40 at the conclusion of the third quarter.

Senior Tyreese Scott added 10 points for the Royals. Mason County featured a total of eight different scorers.

The Royals finished play in the Perry County Central Classic in convincing fashion Saturday, beating the host team 76-44.

Eagles

Continued from p9

figures for Alice Lloyd, finishing with 10 points.

The Eagles were 12-of-15 from the free throw line.

John Cabal paced visiting Boyce with a game-high 30 points. Greg Gibson was the only other Boyce player to reach double figures. Johnson added 27 points in the setback.

After Alice Lloyd built the early lead, each of the two teams played even in the second half.

Alice Lloyd outrebounded Boyce 35-27.

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