

The **FLOYD COUNTY** Times

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Volume 82, Issue 40 • 75 Cents

Former president to stump in Pikeville

by JACK LATTA
STAFF WRITER

PIKEVILLE — Eastern Kentucky will get a taste of the Democratic Presidential primary Thursday when former President Bill Clinton arrives to speak to local voters on behalf of his wife's campaign.

According to officials in the Hillary Clinton campaign office, President

Clinton expects to attend the "Solutions for America" event at the East Kentucky Expo Center at 6 p.m. on Thursday.

Clinton has been a tireless force in the presidential campaign, speaking around the country in an effort to elect his wife and former First Lady, New York Sen. Hillary Clinton.

The 2008 Democratic primary has been historic on many levels, featuring

a Democratic runoff between Sen. Clinton, who if elected would become the first female president, and Sen. Barack Obama, of Illinois, who would become the first African American president if elected.

The tightly contested Democratic primary also offers more historical context as Kentucky suddenly finds itself in the political limelight after decades of being an afterthought.

"This is a great opportunity for the people living in Eastern Kentucky," said Pike County Judge-Executive Wayne Rutherford, adding that this is an event that people here do not get to see very often.

Rutherford hopes that school principals will encourage their students to attend the event, particularly high

(See CLINTON, page eight)

PHS WINS 2 OF 3

— Page B1

briefs

Culvert work to close Route 194

by JACK LATTA
STAFF WRITER

Highway officials from the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet announced this week that a section of a Floyd and Pike county road will be closed Wednesday.

According to Jerry Lowe, Highway District 12 Maintenance Engineer for Floyd County, a culvert which runs under Route 194 has collapsed and must be replaced.

"We are sorry if this inconveniences anyone," Lowe said, "but when a culvert collapses, we have to replace it as quickly as possible, not only because it is part of the road's drainage system, but for safety reasons as well. We want to thank people in advance for their cooperation while we do this work."

The closure will take place in Floyd County at the 8.5 mile marker, above German Bridge going toward Pike County.

Lowe said the road will be closed from 8:30 in the morning until about 3:30 in the afternoon.

THE FREEDOM TRAIL



photo by Kathy J. Prater

Members of the University of Kentucky Opera Theatre chronicled the African-American struggle for freedom through song and dialogue for area students in a performance staged at the Mountain Arts Center yesterday. "The Freedom Trail" combined music, history and literature to tell a part of America's history, from the African slave trade to the Civil Rights movement of the 1960s. Afterwards, cast members engaged in a question-and-answer session with audience members. The free performance was presented in association with the William E. Schmidt Opera Outreach Program, the Lexington Opera Society and the Mountain Arts Center.

City to hold Arbor Day observance at Stonecrest

by JACK LATTA
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — City officials announced this week that the city's landscaping department will be hosting its annual Arbor Day Festival this Friday.

According to Brent Graden, the city's economic development director, the festivities will begin promptly at 9 a.m. at the Stonecrest Golf Course.

The landscape department, in conjunction with various groups, plans to plant thousands of redbud tree seedlings.

"We want the whole town to show up," said Landscape

Manager David Crisp. "We think trees really add to the community and it is our responsibility to make this community the best it can be. So come out with your boots on and plant a tree with us on Friday."

The work is expected to begin at 9 a.m. and last until 4 p.m. with landscape crew, volunteers and honored guests taking part in the event.

According to officials, following the day's activities, a "proper tree planting demonstration" as well as a cookout and possible live music have been planned to begin at 5 p.m. at the downtown city stage.

"We want people to realize

that we have to do our part to support Mother Nature," said Crisp. "So love your earth and plant a tree."

The Prestonsburg Landscaping Department was recently honored by the Floyd County Extension Office in recognition of being one of the most outstanding cooperating organizations in the state.

Officials say that all interested parties should report to the Stonecrest golf clubhouse with good shoes and long pants. Refreshments and food will be provided during the day.

Any questions should be directed to Brent Graden at City Hall at (606) 886-2335.

Floyd loses as coal tax funds axed

by JACK LATTA
STAFF WRITER

FRANKFORT — Possible disaster looms large for Floyd county after it was discovered Tuesday afternoon that all coal severance spending projects have been cut from the proposed state budget.

According to Rep. Greg Stumbo, all of the coal severance tax projects were stripped from the budget. Stumbo blames the leadership in the House for what he says is a budget which doesn't make any sense.

"Right now I think that the House is poised not to vote for the budget compromise," Stumbo said.

Stumbo said that the coal severance money can't only be spent in the coal producing counties, and if that money is not earmarked in the budget, it just sits there.

Stumbo who had previously said the Route 680 connector was "back on track" after its funding had been removed by the Fletcher administration.

(See CUTS, page eight)

Officials: Agreement made on state budget

by JOE BIESK
ASSOCIATED PRESS

FRANKFORT — Kentucky lawmakers said they've agreed on a nearly \$19 billion, two-year state budget after working through the night, ending seven days of intense negotiations.

During their talks, lawmakers scuttled proposals to raise revenue through an increase in the state's tax on cigarettes and impose the state's sales tax on certain services. Instead, lawmakers settled on a scaled down spending blueprint that will include 3 percent cuts to public universities.

"The eagle has landed, and we have a budget," House Speaker Jody Richards, D-Bowling Green, said Tuesday morning, after more than 20 grueling hours of budget talks.

Legislators hoped to agree on a proposed budget by midnight Tuesday to be able to pass it and preserve their authority to override any possible vetoes by Gov. Steve Beshear.

Senate Majority Floor Leader Dan Kelly, R-Springfield, said there's still time for the General Assembly to vote on the measure by Wednesday night.

This year's budget negotiations started out in stark contrast to years past, when legislators held their entire talks behind closed doors. Leaders agreed to open the talks to the public and broadcast them live on Kentucky public television.

That lasted five days before lawmakers took their discussions behind closed doors. Lawmakers huddled

(See BUDGET, page eight)

East Ky. Power seeks rate increase to pay for equipment

The Associated Press

LEXINGTON — East Kentucky Power Cooperative is looking for an increase of nearly \$475 million in customers' bills to help pay for environmental equipment.

The power cooperative filed the rate increase request with the Kentucky Public Service Commission on Friday.

If approved later this year, the request would increase residential customers' bills by 6 percent to 7 percent, or \$4.50 to \$5 on average, by 2010, the co-op said.

East Kentucky Power's network of member co-ops serve around half a million Kentucky homes and businesses.

The Winchester-based co-op agreed

to spend more than \$650 million on environmental equipment to settle a lawsuit brought by the Environmental Protection Agency over its pollution control equipment. The cooperative also paid a \$750,000 fine.

The environmental equipment includes two scrubbers that help reduce pollution, as well as monitoring equipment.

If approved, the increase would be the second by East Kentucky Power in the last year. In April, the PSC allowed the cooperative to hike rates by \$19 million to help ease financial troubles.

The co-op had lost money during 2004 and 2005 and narrowly had a profit in 2006. That increase resulted in about \$1.50 to \$2 more a month for an average residential customer.

2 DAY FORECAST

Today



High: 58 • Low: 41

Tomorrow



High: 55 • Low: 49

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

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(2) 2 Pancakes, Bacon or Sausage..2.99 served w/butter and syrup	Additional Items—99¢ each
(3) Country Gravy and Biscuits1.99 2 Buttermilk Biscuits and Gravy	(1) Hash Browns or Home Fries (2) Orange Juice or Tomato Juice (3) Country Gravy



Obituaries

Wildflower Watch provides updates on colorful blooms across state

FRANKFORT — Spring is here, and the Kentucky Departments of Tourism and Parks are teaming up once again to provide travelers with tips for trips to state parks and nature preserves where the state's wildflowers and trees are bursting forth in bloom.

For the ninth year, the Wildflower Watch program will provide weekly updates on the stages of wildflower and flowering tree activity reported by 13 park and preserve naturalists throughout the state. Starting April 2 and running for four weeks, the watch will also spotlight an area or park on video via the Tourism Department's website.

The eight Kentucky

Welcome Centers and the Berea Artisan Center located on interstate highways will be distributing a brochure that lists scenic areas and drives near the various centers. Visitors can stop at a Welcome Center, pick up the brochure and enjoy a short side trip off the busy interstate. These listings will also be available online at www.kentucky-tourism.com/wildflower-watch.

The weekly Wednesday reports providing updates on the blooms from our parks and describing upcoming events will appear on the Department of Tourism's website, www.kentuckytourism.com. Just click on the Wildflower Watch logo on the home page

for events, images, video and the report. The public can also obtain updates by calling the state's travel consultants at 1-800-225-8747.

For more information on specific park events, check the Parks Department website at www.parks.ky.gov.

Clifford Faxon Baldrige

Clifford Faxon Baldrige, 82, of Prestonsburg, died Saturday, March 29, 2008, at his residence.

Born December 1, 1925, in Floyd County, he was the son of the late W.L. Baldrige Sr. and Malta L. Watkins Baldrige. He was retired from Bell South Telephone Company, and was a veteran of WW II.

Survivors include a daughter and son-in-law: Linda Karen Baldrige May and Gary May, of Prestonsburg; two granddaughters: Stephanie and Jonathan Lang of Lexington, and Sara and B.J. Caudill of Prestonsburg.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a brother, William L. Baldrige Jr.

Funeral services were held Monday, March 31, at 11:30 a.m., at Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, in Martin, with Rev. Mark Tackett officiating.

Burial was in the Baldrige Cemetery, (Alley Fork), Prestonsburg.

Visitation was at the funeral home. (Paid obituary)

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Clifford C. Bradley

Clifford C. Bradley, 86, of Lima, Ohio, went to be with the Lord on Friday, March 28, 2008, at St. Rita's Medical Center.

Born August 8, 1921, in Langley, he was the son of the late Joe Bradley and Pearl (Stephens) Bradley.

He married Sylvia Lafferty in 1943. She died August 12, 1999.

He served in CCC during WW II building roads. He was a member of the Lima Freewill Baptist Church. He worked in the coal mines in Kentucky. After moving to Lima, he worked through Labor Local Union 329 and retired from there. He enjoyed hunting and fishing, and he leaves many friends who will remember his joy in life, and his service to the Lord.

Survivors include a son, Roger L. (Cathie) Moore, and a daughter, Lisa Upshaw, all of Lima, Ohio; three sisters: Ruth (Arnold) Moore, Bonnie Bradley and Wanda Louise (Lawrence) Howard, all of Floyd County; three brothers: Bill (Fay) Bradley of Bellefontaine, Ohio; Bob (Lema) Bradley of Floyd County; and Francis Coy Bradley of Cincinnati, Ohio; seven grandchildren: Michelle (Lynn) Smith, Kathie Jo (Peter) Dove, Craig Moore, Scott Moore, Dejah Mason, Sarah Mason, and Charles Hicks, all of Lima, Ohio; eleven great-grandchildren; a former daughter-in-law, Jane A. Moore; special friends and caregivers: David and Mary Trusty; and a brother-in-law, Willis Haws.

In addition to his wife and parents, he was preceded in

death by four sisters: Susie Bradley, Zada Ratliff, Clara (Bradley) Parker, and Shirley Haws; and three brothers: Gorman Bradley, Harlen Bradley, and Clyde Bradley.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, April 1, at 10 a.m., at Chamberlain-Huckeriade Funeral Home, with David Trusty and Pastor Russell D. Manns officiating.

Burial was in Bluelick Cemetery, in Lima, Ohio.

Visitation was at the funeral home.

Memorials may be made to the Lima Freewill Baptist Church, 1507 N. Grant, Lima, OH 45801. (Paid obituary)

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Myrtle "Patsy" Blevins Bentley Dean

Myrtle "Patsy" Blevins Bentley Dean, 67 of Kansas City, Kansas, formerly of Langley, passed away Saturday, March 29, 2008.

She was born May 14, 1940, the daughter of Delmer and Webble Blevins. She was a graduate of Maytown High School in 1958, and attended Spencerian College of Louisville. She was formerly employed by General Motors Fairfax, Kansas City, Kansas.

She is survived by her husband, John Dean; daughters: Theresa Bentley of Excelsior Springs, Missouri, Pamela Ruis, and Tina Wall, both of Kansas City, Kansas; grandchildren: April and Joshua Bentley, Geoffery and Jacob Ruis, and Daniel and Sean Wall; sisters: Janice Sue Hinkle and Mary Joan Wallen of Langley; brothers: Johnny Blevins of Toledo, Ohio; and Larry Blevins of Holt, Michigan; and numerous neices, nephews, family members and friends.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her sister, Judith Archer; and brothers, Kedrick Blevins and Kenneth Blevins.

Funeral services will be held on Saturday, April 5, 2008 at 11:00 a.m., in the Hall Funeral Home Chapel, Martin, with the Reverend Roy Harlow officiating.

Burial will follow in the Blevins Cemetery, Langley.

Visitation will begin at 3:00 p.m., on Friday, April 4, at Hall Funeral Home. (Paid obituary)

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Chrissie Ethel Hagans

Chrissie Ethel Hagans, age 92, of Langley, widow of Ralph "Bud" Hagans, died Sunday, March 30, 2008, in Highlands Regional Medical Center, Prestonsburg.

She was born October 10, 1915, in Russell County, Virginia, a daughter of the late Richard and Mary Alice Knuckles Taylor. She was a homemaker, and a member of the Graceway United Methodist Church, in Langley.

She is survived by two sons:

Larry Hagans, his wife, Pam; and Jerry Hagans, his wife, Burnadette, all of Langley; two daughters: Judi Allen, of Ligoneer, Indiana, and Janie Vanderpool, her husband, Dorlan, of Louisville; a brother, George Taylor of Radford, Virginia; seven grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

In addition to her husband and parents, she was preceded in death by a son, Nelson Hagans.

Funeral services for Chrissie Ethel Hagans were conducted Tuesday, April 1, at 11 a.m., in the Hall Funeral Home Chapel, in Martin, with Roy Harlow officiating.

Burial was in the Hagans Cemetery, Langley, with the Hall Funeral Home caring for those arrangements.

Pallbearers: Galan Hagans, Jarrad Hagans, Ray Hagans, Doug Allen, Dorlan Vanderpool, French Hensley, Tommy Brown, and Stanton Bentley. (Paid obituary)

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Luther J. Johnson

Luther J. Johnson, 71, of Zanesville, Ohio, formerly of Floyd County, died Thursday, March 27, 2008, at the Adams Lane Care Center, in Zanesville.

Born March 16, 1937, in Floyd County, he was the son of the late Tom and Avanelle Hubbard Johnson. He was a self-employed contractor, and a veteran of the Army.

He is survived by his wife, Lorraine Kennedy Johnson.

Other survivors include two sons: Luther David Johnson of Chillicothe, Ohio, and Lawrence Donovan Johnson of Connecticut; five brothers: Tom Jr., Johnson of Rushville, Ohio; Marvin Johnson of Cincinnati, Ohio; Harmon Johnson of Springdale, Ohio; John Edd Johnson of Pyramid; and James Bruce Johnson of Hamilton, Ohio; two sisters: Grace Webber of Tuscaloosa, Alabama, and Mary Emma (Al) Ousley of Martin; several nieces and nephews; and a granddaughter, Tasha Bree Johnson.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a son, Lyndon Dwight Johnson; three brothers and a sister: Mack Johnson, Richard Bee Johnson, Joe Johnson, and Becky Beavers.

Funeral services will be held Thursday, April 3, at noon, at Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, in Martin, with Malcolm Slone officiating.

Military services will be conducted by Auxier DAV Chapter 18.

Burial will be in the Johnson-Hubbard Cemetery, (Spurlock Fork), in Prestonsburg, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Visitation is at the funeral home.

Pallbearers: Andy Johnson, David Ousley, David Lee Ousley, Donnie Ousley, Wayne Beavers, Jack Rice, and Shawn Wright. (Paid obituary)

Card of Thanks

The family of Alpha Jean Johnson wishes to extend a heartfelt thanks to all friends, relatives, and neighbors who comforted us during the loss of our loved one. Thanks to all who sent flowers, food, prayers, and comforting words. A special thanks to Pastor Louis Ferrari and Preacher Richard Johnson, Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home for their kind and professional service, the Sheriff's Department for their assistance in traffic control; and everyone who sang such beautiful songs. All your prayers and kindness will never be forgotten.

THE FAMILY OF ALPHA JEAN JOHNSON

Card of Thanks

The family of Charlene Rackey wishes to gratefully acknowledge the thoughtfulness and kindness of friends, relatives, and neighbors in the loss of our loved one. Thanks to all those who sent flowers, food, and prayers to our family. A special thanks to the Regular Baptist ministers for their comforting words; the Samaria Regular Baptist 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 caring service. All your thoughtfulness and kindness will never be forgotten.

THE FAMILY OF CHARLENE RACKEY

In recognition of "Kick Butts Day" the Floyd County Ministerial Association has passed the following resolution.

RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE ADOPTION OF A SMOKE-FREE ORDINANCE IN FLOYD COUNTY

WHEREAS, Toxic secondhand smoke is the third leading cause of preventable death in the United States, killing at least 53,000 nonsmokers in this country each year; and

WHEREAS, Studies show toxic secondhand tobacco smoke is a major cause of cancer, heart disease, and respiratory disease; and

WHEREAS, Five minutes of exposure to secondhand smoke constricts the aorta as much as smoking one cigarette; making it more difficult for the heart to pump blood; and

WHEREAS, Twenty minutes of exposure to secondhand smoke has substantial, adverse effects on the heart, blood, and blood vessels, as much as smoking one pack of cigarettes per day; and

WHEREAS, Thirty minutes of breathing secondhand smoke constricts the aorta as much as smoking one cigarette, making it more difficult for the heart to pump blood; and

WHEREAS, Studies show levels of toxic secondhand smoke in restaurants and bars are 1.6 to 6 times higher than in office workplaces, and waiters and waitresses have an increased risk of developing lung cancer and heart disease compared to other occupations, and

WHEREAS, Toxic secondhand smoke cannot be controlled to acceptable levels of health risk by ventilation, air cleaning, or simply separating smokers from nonsmokers, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Floyd County Ministerial Association endorses initiatives to adopt a local ordinance to completely eliminate smoking in places of public assembly, such as restaurants, bars and taverns, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Floyd County Ministerial Association supports the authority of local communities to adopt clean indoor air policies and regulations.

Signed,
Rev. Thomas R. Biddle
President, Floyd County
Ministerial Association
March 31, 2008

Early Times Doral Cigarettes
\$18.99 1/2-gal Cart \$21.99 + tax
J & J Liquors
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SURGEON GENERAL'S WARNING: Cigarette smoke contains carbon monoxide.

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Bring your 2006 income tax return and all current tax information for 2007.

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† Gospel Sing †

Saturday, April 5, 6:00 p.m.

THIRD AVENUE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

FEATURING:

The Jackson Family

(HURLEY, VA)

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COME JOIN US FOR SOME WONDERFUL FELLOWSHIP

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THERE WILL BE DINNER AFTER THE SERVICE

For more info: PASTOR PHILLIP RAMEY • (606) 886-6566

Church is located in Prestonsburg,
between the Old Post Office and Floyd County Times

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.

Zebulon Lodge 273, F&M Master Mason Degree
Zebulon Lodge No. 273, F&M, will confer the Master Mason degree at a meeting to be held Saturday, April 19. The first section of the degree will be conferred at 6 p.m.; dinner will be served; and the degree work will continue. All Master Masons are encouraged to attend.

Gospel singing
Gospel singing will be held Sunday, April 6, at 6 p.m., at the Betsy Layne New Day Anointing Worship Center, located on George Rd., across from Velocity Market. Joyful Sounds from Kingsport, Tennessee, Mary Smallwood, Michael Browning and Gospel Harmony Trio. For more information, call: 478-4043 or 478-4004.

Christ United Methodist Sunday night "Joy Service"
Christ United Methodist Church of Allen, will hold a Sunday night "Joy Service" on March 30, at 6 p.m. Special singing by "Crystal Collins."

Benefit dinner
The Pikeville Rotary Club will host an International Dinner on Tuesday, April 1, from 6-8 p.m., in the Pikeville College Gym. Enjoy fine cuisine from around the world! Admission: \$25/person. Tickets available from any Rotary member or at the door. All proceeds will go to the East Kentucky Science Center.

Book of Life play at Betsy Layne church
The Betsy Layne Freewill Baptist Church will present the play, "The Book of Life" on April 4, 5, and 6, at 7 p.m. each night. "Is your name written in the Book of Life? Where do you plan to spend eternity?" Nursery provided each night. Viewing of play not recommended for small children as realistic scenes of hell will be portrayed. All invited to attend.

Maytown Center
Tuesdays & Thursdays - Martial Arts classes. All ages, call John Vaughn at 886-2254. See maytowncenter.org for complete listing of upcoming activities, or telephone Dan Chauncy at 285-0539.

Help Judi's Place help kids
Join Judi's Place for Kids for a 5K Run/Walk against Child Abuse on April 12. Registration will begin at 7:30 a.m.; race will begin at 8 a.m. \$15 registration fee includes free t-shirt. To register, call

Early Times | Doral Cigarettes
\$18.99 1/2-gal. | Carton \$21.99 + tax.
J & J Liquors
Betsy Layne • 478-2477
SURGEON GENERAL'S WARNING: Cigarette smoke contains carbon monoxide.

437-7447. During the race, there will be lots of fun, free activities in the Pikeville City Park that the entire family can enjoy.

Piarist School Reunion
The First Annual Piarist School Reunion, featuring the Class of 1998's 10-Year Reunion, will be held on Saturday, April 26, at 6 p.m., at the Mountain Arts Center. Music, dancing, dinner and silent auction. All former students and faculty cordially invited to attend. For more info., please contact Ann @ 859-626-2171 or email to: piaristalumni@yahoo.com.

MADD to meet
MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Driving) will conduct a meeting on April 3, at 6:30 p.m., at the Big Sandy Area Development District Agency (110 Resource Court). For more information, contact the Regional Prevention Center at 889-8902. All community members encouraged to attend.

Need Help With Home Repairs?
The Auxier Lifetime Learning Center can help! We are now taking applications for home repairs. If you, or someone you know, are low income and need help with repairs on your home, please call 606-886-0709 for your application, or stop by our office at 21 South River Street, Auxier. Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 8-4.

4th Annual Home and Garden Expo to be held Sat., March 29
The 4th Annual Home and Garden Expo will be held Saturday, March 29, at the Jenny Wiley Convention Center from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. The Home and Garden Expo features various sections with on-going home and garden presentations and demonstrations. There will be an area showcasing products and services of area businesses and questions and answer booth with free literature on many topics. You and your family can also have fun with "hands-on" youth and family activities. There are free herb, vegetable, and flower seeds available to all participants. Come enjoy, have fun, and learn!

Family reunion
The descendants of Bud and Tannie Johnson, Ab and Lendie Bryant, and Green and Mary Johnson will have a family reunion Saturday, May 24, at the Weeksbury Community Park, starting at 10:00 a.m. Please bring a covered dish. For more information, contact

Paul W. Johnson, 1274 Alexandersville Road, Miamisburg, Ohio 45342. Phone: 937-866-7937.

Democratic Woman's Club meets at May Lodge
The Floyd County Democratic Woman's Club meets the second Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m., at the May Lodge, Jenny Wiley State Park.

Need help with addiction?
Lifeline of Floyd County "Conquer Chemical Dependency" is a Christ-centered 12-step program offering support to those who are coping with addiction and learning to live drug-free lives. The support group meets on the following schedule:
Mondays, at Minnie (beside pharmacy), from 7-8 p.m.
Mondays, at Little Mud,

Spruce Pine School, from 7-8 p.m.
Tuesdays, in Prestonsburg, in the Van Ark Building, from 2-3 p.m.
Tuesdays, at David, The David School, from 3:30-4:30 p.m.
Wednesdays, at Allen Baptist Church, from 7-8 p.m.
Thursdays, at Allen Baptist Church, from 7-8 p.m.
For more information, call Shirley Combs at (606) 434-

8400, or Tom Nelson at (606) 478-2836.
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.

Prestonsburg Rotary Club
Prestonsburg Rotary Club meets, 12 noon to 1 p.m., at (See CALENDAR, page five)

SUNDAY BUFFET

at **Bob's BBQ**

Call For Reservations

At StoneCrest Golf Course

918 Clubhouse Drive, Prestonsburg, KY 41653
606-886-2376 • (Cell) 606-205-2477 • bobsbbq@bellsouth.net

US 23, Prestonsburg
(606) 874-6844

 '05 Ford F250: Crew Cab, Leather, 4x4, Lariat!	 '07 Dodge 2500: Diesel, Crew Cab!	 '06 Ford F-150 XLT: X-Cab, 4x4, Sunroof, Alloys, Loaded, Fact. Warranty!	 '06 Ford F-150: XLT, 4x4, Crew Cab, Sunroof, Alloys, Loaded, Fact. Warranty!
 '05 Jeep Wrangler: 6 Cyl., Alloys, 4x4, Sharp, Low Miles AC!	 '06 Jeep Liberty: 4x4, Trail Rated, Loaded, Sharp!	 '05 Jeep Grand Cherokee: Leather, Sunroof, Alloys, Towing Pkg., Loaded!	 '06 Chevy 2500 HD: Crew Cab, Leather, 4x4, Loaded, Sharp!
 '07 Dodge Charger: Auto, AC, Spoiler, Sharp, 3 To Choose From!	 '07 Mercedes C-Class: Sunroof, Leather, Only 14,000 Miles!	 '07 VW Jetta: Auto, All Power, Factory Warranty, Sharp!	 '05 Dodge Ram: 2500, 4x4, Crew Cab, Sharp!
 '07 Toyota Camry LE: All Power, Factory Warranty, Sharp!	 '07 Toyota Avalon XLS: Leather, Sunroof, Alloys, Factory Warranty, Loaded!	 '07 Ford Mustang: V6, Auto., Spoiler, Alloys, Factory Warranty, Sharp!	 '07 Mitsubishi Eclipse: Auto., Alloys, Rear Spoiler, 3 To Choose From!
 '07 Ford Mustang: Auto., V6, Alloys, Sharp!	 '08 Saturn Sky: Auto., Leather, Turbo, Only 8,000 Miles!	 '07 Corvette: Auto., Head Up Display, Dual Power, Polished Wheels, Only 14,000 Miles!	
 '06 Chevy Tahoe: Z71, Sunroof, 3rd Seat, Loaded!	 '05 Harley Heritage Softail Custom: Hardtail, Saddle Bags, Loaded! \$13,995	 '05 Harley Sportster 1200: Two-Toned In Color! \$6,995	 '04 Big Dog Pit Bull: Loaded with Chrome, Custom Alloys! \$15,995
 '06 Harley Street Rod: Only 1,200 Miles! \$11,900	 '00 Ford F-350: Bucket Truck, 5.4 Gas Altec 35" Reach!	 '04 Chevy 1500: Cargo Van, Ladder Rack, Shelves, Auto., AC!	 '01 Dodge 2500: 4x4 Utility, 90,000 Miles, Excellent Condition!

Specials of the Week:

 '94 Chevy Silverado: V8, Cold AC, Auto! \$3,495	 '03 Chevy X-Cab: 4x4 4.3 V8, Sharp! \$7,995	 '99 Pontiac Grand Am: V6, Rear Spoiler, Alloys, Low Miles! \$4,995
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would like to thank all his customers and to invite all his friends, family, and everyone to stop by and take advantage of the low, affordable prices on top-of-the-line vehicles available at

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Viewpoint

Amendment 1

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

Worth Repeating ...

The greatest of faults,
I should say, is to be
conscious of none.

— Thomas Carlyle

Our View

Bad ideas

This year is shaping up to be truly unique and exciting for American politics. Unfortunately, that is causing some people to espouse some dangerous ideas.

■ BAD IDEA #1: Do away with the Electoral College.

At times it becomes difficult to defend our current system of choosing a president, especially after 2000, when George W. Bush won the election, despite the fact that Al Gore won the popular vote. Surely in a democracy, the person who receives the most votes should win, right?

Ideally that would be the case, but it is important to understand the Electoral College was not created just to mess up elections. There was a very good reason for it, and that reason was that our founding fathers realized that other issues of fairness required additional safeguards beyond mere majority rule.

If the United States were to adopt a system in which the winner were declared simply by the popular vote, candidates for president would find little need to pay any attention to small, largely rural states like Kentucky. Instead, they would find that their campaigns could save money and get more bang for their buck by focusing entirely on population centers — large metropolitan cities and heavily populated states such as New York, Florida, Texas and California.

As all Kentuckians can probably agree, American government does not need to be any more focused on New York or California issues than it already is.

■ BAD IDEA #2: Regional super-primaries.

Every four years, it is guaranteed we will hear the familiar refrain, "Why should Iowa and New Hampshire hold so much sway over the presidential race?" The same could be said for Nevada and South Carolina, the only other states to hold their primaries and caucuses ahead of "Super Tuesday."

By voting first, it could be argued that these four small states hold too much influence over American politics. Former New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani certainly saw the peril of ignoring those states in his failed presidential bid.

However, allowing those four states to vote ahead of the rest of the nation actually gives American voters some protection over the influence of big money in politics. Allowing four small states to vote first gives underfunded candidates an opportunity to level the playing field, because they do not need to spend as much money in those states to get their message out. This is certainly true of former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee, who was able to jump-start his campaign after a win in Iowa. And even though it was not enough for him to win his party's nomination, Huckabee certainly was able to shape the political discussion in his party.

Switching to rotating regional primaries or even a national primary would ensure that only those who are able to raise hundreds of millions of dollars would be able to effectively compete for the presidency and further deepen the impact special interests have on American politics.

■ BAD IDEA #3: "Unifying" the party.

As the Democratic race continues, with no apparent resolution before the party's convention in August, there have been calls from some for one of the two candidates to step aside to prevent further "damage" to the party. Such arguments only matter to partisan political professionals, not the American people.

The fact is, Democrats are evenly divided between two candidates, and that shows a need for more debate and discussion, not less.

And there are selfish reasons for Kentuckians to want to see the race go on. For the first time in recent memory, Kentucky voters will have a true effect on selecting the Democratic nominee, and we're seeing the benefit of that now. Sen. Hillary Clinton and her surrogates are making frequent visits to the state, and we will likely see the same thing from Sen. Barack Obama's campaign. Certainly it cannot hurt Kentucky's interests for our state to have the ears of two of the three people most likely to be our nation's next president.

— The Floyd County Times



"REBATE...REBATE"

Guest Column

House week in review

by REP. GREG STUMBO
95TH HOUSE DISTRICT

As we wound up the last full week of the 2008 session of the Kentucky General Assembly, much of our time has been spent working out differences on House bills amended by the Senate and participating in conference committees on the state budget, the state employee pension issue and other legislative matters.

Funding the state budget is the most pressing issue to resolve with the House proposing a revenue package from debt restructuring, government efficiencies, and savings from state employee retirements. The Senate's budget would depend mostly on increased state lottery contributions, proposed reductions in the state's prison population and savings from state retirements.

The last day for the General Assembly to meet is Tuesday, April 1, before we recess for the governor's veto period. When we return, we can then override any vetoes he may have

made, and the session will end on April 15th.

But there is much work to do before we gavel out the 2008 session.

Several House and Senate bills were passed this week that will protect families, promote economic development and strengthen Kentucky's streams and waterways.

The Kentucky Recreational Trails Authority was created to implement programs for off-road activities including pedestrians, bicycles, mountain bicycles, horses, all-terrain vehicles (ATVs), and off-highway vehicles. Senate Bill 196 would allow the state to enter into agreements with owners of private property for use of their land for such activities as horseback riding, fishing, hunting and motorized vehicle use. It would also provide limited liability protections for landowners. SB 196 passed the House by a vote of 99-0.

Senate Bill 203 aims to improve the safety of amusement rides and attractions in Kentucky. SB 203 would require that the ride operator conduct ride inspections each day and the age of the operator would be raised to 18 from 16. The ride owner would maintain inspection records for one year; and ride owners would

have to notify the commissioner of Department of Agriculture within 12 hours of an accident. The bill passed 98-0.

House Bill 717 would create local authorities that would select water restoration and cleanup projects around Kentucky. These decisions are currently handled by either the U.S. Corps of Engineers or the state Fish and Wildlife Department. Developers, road builders, and companies that disturb waterways or cause excessive runoff that pollutes streams and rivers must pay what are called mitigation fees to the U.S. Corps of Engineers or Fish and Wildlife to manage clean-up.

Under HB 717, local authorities could seek the Corps of Engineers' permission to manage such a project. HB 717 passed by a vote of 99-0 and now goes to the Senate for consideration.

I encourage you to call me if you have any questions about the legislative session. Please leave a message for me in Frankfort by calling the legislative toll-free Message Line at 800-372-7181, or through the Legislative Research Commission's website at www.lrc.state.ky.us.

Kick Butts Day highlights danger of smoke

by JEAN ROSENBERG
FLOYD COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Tobacco's Toll: 114,106 kids in America have become regular smokers in 2008. 38,035 will die prematurely from their addiction. The Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids' wants everyone to know these numbers. The American Journal of Public Health reports that 90 percent of smokers begin smoking before they are 18. The Floyd County Health Department's "Kick Butts Day" activities are designed to highlight everyone's need to be protected from secondhand smoke and to promote everyone's right to breathe clean air.

"Kick Butts Day", KBD, is Wednesday, April 2, 2008. This is the 13th annual Kick Butts Day sponsored by the national Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids.

"Kick Butts Day" gives the Floyd County Health Department the opportunity to raise awareness about the tobacco problems every community faces and support strong tobacco pre-

vention policies. The KBD activities promote tobacco free kids and attempt to reduce the number of kids under 18 from becoming new smokers. Currently 6,800 kids (under 18) in the USA become new daily smokers each year.

Being able to eat in a smoke free restaurant is one way to decrease the public health risk from secondhand smoke exposure. Floyd County has 23 sit-down restaurants that are currently smoke free every day. They are: BSCTC's Campus Grill; Charlie's Grilled Subs; Country At Heart & Old Town Fudge Company; DaDeo's; Dairy Cheer; Down to Earth; Fat Boy's Pizza and Grill; Hardee's; Jenny Wiley State Park Lodge; Little Caesars; McDonalds of Prestonsburg and Martin; Papa John's; Perfect Setting Café in McDowell; Pig In A Poke; Sandy's, Stone Crest Grill; Subway of Martin, Prestonsburg, Stanville, and in Walmart; Taco Bell; Wendy's.

This year for KBD, 18 other Floyd County restaurants, at the request of the Health Department, have volunteered to go smoke free on Wednesday. This is an increase of five from last year.

They are: Billy Ray's Restaurant; Dairy Queen in Martin and Prestonsburg; El Azul Grande;

Giovanni's in Martin and Prestonsburg; Hot Rod's Pizza; Jerry's Restaurant; Kentucky Fried Chicken; Long John Silvers in Martin and Prestonsburg; Made From Scratch Dining and Catering; Martha's Pizza and More; Pizza Hut; Pure Country Café; Season's Inn and Sharon's Pizza and the Wayland Fountain. Every patron and every worker in these establishments will be protected from secondhand smoke on KBD.

Danger from secondhand smoke was addressed by the highest federal medical authority in the USA in a major report in 2006. The U.S. Surgeon General concluded "The debate is over. The science is clear: Secondhand smoke is not a mere annoyance but a serious health hazard that causes premature death and disease in children and nonsmoking adults." The Surgeon General found that secondhand smoke is a proven cause of lung cancer, heart disease, serious respiratory illnesses such as bronchitis and asthma, low birth weight and sudden infant death syndrome. The Surgeon General also found that secondhand smoke is responsible for tens of thousands of deaths in the United States each year; there is no safe level of exposure; only

(See **SMOKE**, page six)

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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Calendar

Made From Scratch
Restaurant, 1566 North Lake Drive. For additional information, contact Chris Daniel, 886-7354, or Tommie Layne, 886-2321, ext. 1297.

UNITE
The UNITE coalition of Floyd County will meet on the fourth Thursday of each month, at 5:30 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.
'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 meets regularly at Riverview Manor Healthcare Center. Call the center for meeting times.
Domestic Violence Support Group - The Big Sandy Family Abuse Center holds meetings each Wednesday from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. The meetings are free of charge. Call Jessica Stone at 886-6025 for more information.

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."
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 Stone, 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 christophercook@hotmail.com.

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Restoring old strip mines could bring American chestnut revival

by DUNCAN MANSFIELD
ASSOCIATED PRESS

PIONEER, Tenn. — In a double-barreled approach to environmental restoration, Appalachian mountains scarred by strip-mining are being planted with American chestnut trees, a species that has been all but wiped out in the U.S. by a fungus.

For the past 30 years or so, federal regulations essentially said that once a forested mountainside was scraped open and the coal extracted, mine companies had to smooth the soil over and seed it with grass.

But recently, federal regulators have begun promoting the planting of chestnuts and other hardwoods to improve drainage, reduce erosion and return the landscape to a more natural state.

The project has the added advantage of helping to bring the American chestnut back from the brink of extinction.

American chestnuts "were a critical part of the forest and they are gone now, for all intents and purpose," said John Johnson, a former leader in the militant environmentalist group Earth First! and now an employee and student in the University of Tennessee forestry program. "So this in a way is like double research — like, how to bring chestnuts back and how to reclaim these sites."

Recently, 60 volunteers in a public-private partnership clambered over a coalfield on Zeb Mountain, 50 miles north of Knoxville, and planted chestnut seeds. The same thing will be done in the coming weeks in Ohio, West Virginia, Kentucky, Maryland and Virginia.

The Zeb Mountain planting was so popular, volunteers had to be turned away. Students, retirees, mining regulators, mine operators, researchers and conservationists participated. They left muddy, wet and enthusiastic after planting more than 200 germinated nuts over a two-acre plot of rocks, boulders and sandstone.

"I was just so excited to be part of it," said Jeff Gately, a senior in civil engineering at the University of Tennessee. "I just thoroughly enjoyed it, just being a part of something that could help reclamation in the future."

In pioneer days, American chestnuts towered 100 feet over the American landscape, providing timber, oil for tanning hides and food for people and wildlife. But a still-lingering blight wiped out 3.5 billion chestnuts from Maine to Mississippi during the first half of the 20th century.

With any luck, the seeds on Zeb Mountain will be 3- to 5-foot saplings next year. But the trees are still susceptible to blight, and Barry Thacker, an environmental engineer and

organizer of the Zeb Mountain planting, said they will probably live for only 10 or 15 years. But by then, scientists hope to have developed a blight-resistant hybrid.

Marshal Case, president and chief executive of the Vermont-based American Chestnut Foundation, a partner in the venture, said he has long dreamed of seeing chestnuts planted on reclaimed mine sites in Appalachia, for this was where America's great chestnut forests used to be.

"It just seemed like it would be a natural for us. We could do a lot of things, including healing the land," he said. The American chestnut "is a legacy of hope now. People are getting the idea that this tree has a tremendous future for the landscape in the Eastern forest."

Nearly 2.7 million acres of strip-mined land will need restoration in coming years, according to the Interior Department. Case said at least 300,000 acres could be suitable for chestnuts and other hardwoods.

The project got its start in 2004, when regulators and university researchers in Appalachia and the mid-Atlantic states formed a network to push for the planting of chestnuts. It joined forces with the American Chestnut Foundation, and the idea soon gained backing from the U.S.

Office of Surface Mining and the U.S. Forest Service.

The Office of Surface Mining has given nearly \$100,000 for chestnut research, and the American Chestnut Foundation is providing \$1.8 million. It is supplying the seeds and operating a research nursery in Virginia.

Tree scientists know that American chestnuts actually grow better in loose, rubble-strewn soil than they do in compacted earth. But mine companies that took pride in their ability to turn coalfields into rolling meadows initially resisted the idea of leaving mountainsides ungrazed, even though the practice could save them money.

"They said, 'Absolutely no. It is not the way we do things,'" Thacker said. "But, boy, you mention the idea of restoring the American chestnut and it is a whole different ballgame because of the history that is there and the desire, if you will, to return to our roots. Once they realized they could be part of restoring the American chestnut, they changed their minds."

Dan Roling, president and chief executive of Knoxville-based National Coal Corp., which owns the 2,000-acre Zeb Mountain mine, agreed: "Everything we have been seeing across the country in reforestation suggests this is the way to go."

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Cinema 2—Starts Friday, April 4
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Cinema 2—Held Over
SHUTTER (PG-13), Mon.-Sun. 7:15-9:30; Fri. (4:30) 7:15-9:30; Sat.-Sun. (2:15-4:30) 7:15-9:30.
Cinema 3—Held Over
21 (PG-13), Mon.-Sun. 6:45-9:15; Fri. (4:15) 6:45-9:15; Sat.-Sun. (1:45-4:15) 6:45-9:15.
Cinema 4—Held Over
DRILL BIT TAYLOR (PG-13), Mon.-Sun. 7:05-9:20; Fri. (4:20) 7:05-9:20; Sat.-Sun. (2:05-4:20) 7:05-9:20.
Cinema 5—Held Over
NEVER BACK DOWN (PG-13), Mon.-Sun. 6:50-9:15.
Cinema 5—Held Over
TYLER PERRY'S: MEET THE BROWNS (PG-13), Fri. (4:25); Sat.-Sun. (2:10-4:25).
Cinema 6—Held Over
HORTON HEARS A WHO (G), Mon.-Sun. 7:00-9:10; Fri. (4:10) 7:00-9:10; Sat.-Sun. (2:00-4:10) 7:00-9:10.
Cinema 7—Starts Friday, April 4
NIM'S ISLAND (PG), Mon.-Sun. 7:00-9:15; Fri. (4:15) 7:00-9:15; Sat.-Sun. (2:00-4:15) 7:00-9:15.
Cinema 8—Starts Friday, April 4
LEATHERHEADS (PG-13), Mon.-Sun. 7:00-9:20; Fri. (4:20) 7:00-9:20; Sat.-Sun. (2:00-4:20) 7:00-9:20.
Cinema 9—Starts Friday, April 4
THE RUINS (R), Mon.-Sun. 7:15-9:30; Fri. (4:30) 7:15-9:30; Sat.-Sun. (2:15-4:30) 7:15-9:30.
Cinema 10—Held Over
SUPERHERO MOVIE (PG-13), Mon.-Sun. 7:15-9:30; Fri. (4:30) 7:15-9:30; Sat.-Sun. (2:15-4:30) 7:15-9:30.

Water: Our lives depend on it

by JOHN G. SHIBER, PhD
PROFESSOR OF BIOLOGY AND HUMAN
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Editor's note: This article is the first in a series written for Environment Month.

Aside from the air we breathe, water is the most important resource we have. We can do without oil, gas, coal, gold, uranium, etc., but if clean, potable water ceases to exist, so do we. It's that simple.

68 percent of our bodies and 80 percent of our brains are made up of water. It shapes the surface of the earth (e.g. valleys, rivers, 'hollows', etc...). Oceans moderate climates, and, as a universal solvent for life's biochemical processes, water makes pollutants less toxic by diluting them.

Important as Earth's water is to life, however, barely 3 percent is fresh. Of that, less than one-third of a percent (.003 percent) is available for human

use. The rest (97 percent) is seawater. It's pretty scary how little fresh water there is and how much we waste and pollute it.

Consider the amount wasted within the confines of our homes and where we work. To cool all America's nuclear reactors, it takes more water than the whole of Lake Erie...every year! California uses 80 percent of its water for agriculture, and, of that, 60 percent is wasted. Worldwide, over half the water pumped from underground is used for irrigation, and 60-75 percent of it is completely lost through seepage and evaporation.

"The wars of the next century will be about water", warned World Bank Vice President Ismail Serageldin in 1995. He was correct. Already, major conflicts over water are taking place around the world. Zones most prone are rivers and lakes shared by several countries.

Lake Chad, once Africa's third-

largest freshwater source that provided livelihoods for 20 million people in four countries, has lost 90 percent of its surface area over the last 30 years. This is partially due to global warming but human activities are the main culprit. Consequently, arguments over water rights are increasing between fishermen, farmers, and cattle herders in Niger, Chad, Nigeria and Cameroon. The bloody conflict in Sudan's far west is rooted in disputes over water and grazing rights between sedentary farmers and semi-nomadic herders. (We hear little about this historical aspect of the Darfur tragedy.)

In the Middle East, Israel is illegally extracting ground water from the Jordan River, the Lebanese Litani River, and from beneath the Palestinian West Bank. Some say it will eventually siphon water from Iraq's Euphrates with America's help. This provocative activity aggravates already volatile situations between

Israel and its neighbors.

Even Kentucky has conflict over water. Legislators recently failed to pass HB 164 - The Stream Saver Bill - to protect Kentucky rivers and streams from mountaintop removal wastes (products of strip-mining) being dumped into them. Apparently, coal industry profits supercede the importance of clean water. These wastes have already obliterated about 500 miles of Kentucky waterways and polluted others. The practice violates federal environmental laws, but continues here with impunity. Further waste and pollution of our water is promised with the impending establishment of coal-liquefaction plants. Unless citizens unite and take action, our beautiful state will have hugely polluted water and no mountaintops. What a legacy the coal companies are passing on to us!

Some technological strides are being made concerning water conser-

vation and preservation. California recently passed legislation that requires every new home to have water recycling and re-use systems. Urinals and toilets that don't require flushing have been designed. A few 5-star hotels already have them. There's even treatment for sewage water that makes it drinkable. Although desalinization of ocean water is possible, it is very costly and impractical, since all the extracted salt would create a new pollutant.

Saving clean water from 'extinction' is possible, but technology alone will not do it. We need a total attitude change that causes us to abandon our old wasteful habits. Conserving and keeping water clean must be a way of life for everyone.

To learn more about water issues, visit the Natural Resource Defense Council (www.nrdc.org), and to take action in your community, go to Kentuckians for the Commonwealth (www.kfkc.org).

Pike Chamber gears up for Hillbilly Days fest

PIKEVILLE — The staff of the Pike County Chamber of Commerce is preparing for Hillbilly Days 2008, to be held Apr. 17-19.

"There is so much work behind the scenes to plan the festival," said Chamber Office Manager Debbie Clevinger. "Although a festival the size of Hillbilly Days truly requires year round attention, we begin intensely working on each year's festival in September and then devote most of every workday until mid-April. Even after the last official day of the event, there are still many items to take care of before everything is 'wrapped up' for another year."

For the past 20 years, the Pike County Chamber has worked to organize and improve the festival. With the help of the Shriners and other organizations and volunteers, the festival has continued to grow year after year. In 2007, the festival broke all previous records. The attendance reached well over 100,000, over 300 vendors participated, and \$56,000 was donated to the Shriners Hospital.

"I enjoy working to organize Hillbilly Days," Clevinger added. "I enjoy it because it not only brings positive publicity to our city and county, it primarily raises money for the Shriners' hospital. We're all very proud that each year, the funding for the hospital has increased. In 1996, the hospital received \$14,000 but in the past years, with the Shriners and Chamber working together, we are consistently able to give over \$50,000. That is a 400 percent increase and that is amazing to me."

The Chamber staff prepares vendor information packets for all those who have previously had spaces. They also answer hundreds of phone



photo by Joshua Ball
Pikeville's Hillbilly Days remains the largest spring festival in the Big Sandy region.

calls from prospective vendors as well as attendees. Each year, the new applications are sorted through in order to add some new products and events. The deadline is December for early registration so the phones stay busy with calls from those hoping to get a spot at the event. In January and February, the staff assigns spaces while applications keep rolling in for late registration.

In September of each year, the Chamber staff begins preparing packets and taking phone calls for the event. The staff gets to the streets of downtown Pikeville, measuring and reevaluating space and working to improve efficiency of the event. In November, over 300 vendor application packets are mailed to vendors to begin registering vendors

for the event. "The phones begin to ring off the hook and the chaos begins," Mullins said.

December brings the deadline for early registration and more and more vendors call the office hoping to get a spot at the event. In January and February, the staff works to assign spaces for the vendors. All the while applications keep rolling in for late registration.

During January thru April, many planning sessions are had with the Pike County Fiscal Court, The City of Pikeville, The Shriners Hillbilly Clan, UMG, and The Pike County Fiscal Court. All of these organizations work together to make this event happen.

When festival time rolls around, in depth planning goes into the detailed organization of the festivities. Volunteers

come out on the Monday of Hillbilly Days week to mark streets for vendor placement. Over 70 volunteers arrive to help place and park the vendors the Wednesday before the event begins. The crew of volunteers setup shop early at the two staging areas to begin signing in vendors and staging them to drive in to town at 5:30 p.m. At that time, the streets of downtown are closed and the parade of vendors is strategically marched in for placement. The volunteers work until 11 p.m. or until the last vendor is parked.

Each year from September to April, the Chamber works over 2,800 man hours in order to create a successful festival. Over 50 chamber members provide over 70 volunteers from their organizations to

assist in making this a successful event.

"We hope everyone in the community will come out to support Hillbilly Days again

this year," said Chamber CEO Brad Hall. "We look forward to the festival and hope that everyone attending has a wonderful time."

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In Kentucky, there are currently about 55,400 high school students who smoke and about 25 percent of male high school students who use smokeless or spit tobacco. Addiction specialists call nicotine a "gateway" drug to other substance abuse.

For Kick Butts Day, all students in Floyd County's five high schools will have the opportunity to visualize the toll tobacco takes on Floyd County families. The Floyd County Health Department will supply each school with black ribbon loops. These will be worn by any student who wishes to memorialize someone they know who has died of a tobacco related illness such as lung cancer, heart disease, emphysema, even infants who, by living in a home with smoking adults, died of sudden infant death syndrome.

The Floyd County Health Department's mission is reflected in its slogan "Your local health department working to improve the health of the community!" As part of this commitment, each year

activities are scheduled to coincide with the national KBD to highlight the public health dangers of tobacco use especially for kids.

The Health Department can provide additional information on all its activities. Call 886-2788 for more information.

Continued from p5

The Floyd County Animal Shelter PET OF THE WEEK

This week's celebrity is Sabrina Mullins. Sabrina is a Honor Student at Prestonsburg High School and Big Sandy Community and Technical College.

Sabrina scored a distinguished on this years On Demand state test, and she is also an employee at Pillersdorf, DeRossett, and Lane Law Offices.



Sabrina is shown here with Tinker and Casper, two male 10-week-old Basset Hound/Feist mix puppies.

The Floyd County Animal Shelter is located at Sally Stephens Branch in West Prestonsburg
Phone 886-3189

Parents!

"Give Yourself A Break Day"

Thursday, April 10, 2008

8:45 a.m.-2:00 p.m.



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PRIDE honors SouthEast Telephone

SOMERSET — Eastern Kentucky PRIDE announced today that SouthEast Telephone Company (SETel) won the April 2008 PRIDE Volunteer of the Month Award. The company, which is headquartered in Pikeville, supports PRIDE volunteers as they pick up litter across southern and eastern Kentucky.

"We are grateful that SouthEast Telephone has selected PRIDE as a partner in the company's remarkable community service efforts," said Karen Engle, PRIDE President and Chief Executive Officer. "Since 2004, SETel has donated bottled water and hosted picnics for volunteers during the annual PRIDE Spring Cleanup. The company's employees make sure volunteers feel appreciated and have an overall good experience, which makes it more likely they will continue volunteering to care for our environment."

"SETel's in-kind donations to this year's Spring Cleanup are valued at more than \$1,000, which makes the company a Bronze Sponsor of the region-wide cleanup campaign," Engle continued. "At just two events this April, SETel will feed about 800 PRIDE volunteers."

On April 5, SETel will host the picnic at the PRIDE Spring



SouthEast Telephone Company won the PRIDE Volunteer of the Month Award for April. In this photo are PRIDE's Tammie Wilson; Terran Hall and Cindy Looney, who are on the Community Relations staff at SouthEast Telephone; and PRIDE's Karen Engle.

Cleanup Kickoff Celebration at Cumberland Falls State Park, which is expected to attract 300 volunteers. On April 19, the company plans to feed at least 500 volunteers at the Laurel River Lake Cleanup. When hosting picnics at PRIDE cleanup events, SETel donates the food, as well as the equipment and personnel to cook and serve it.

"SouthEast Telephone's efforts have been a significant contribution to the overall success of the Laurel River Lake Cleanup," said John T. Strojjan, District Ranger for the Daniel Boone National Forest's London district office. He nominated SETel for the PRIDE award.

SouthEast Telephone Company is a community-

focused telecommunications provider offering local telephone service, long distance, Internet and paging products for residential and business customers throughout underserved rural areas of Kentucky. In addition to supporting PRIDE, examples of SETel's community service projects include operating web sites that promote Kentucky's

many local festivals (www.KyFestivals.com) and offer live video of communities (www.KyWebcams.com).

The PRIDE Volunteer of the Month program recognizes hard work and dedication to the PRIDE initiative. With corporate sponsorship from TECO Coal, WYMT-TV airs commercials about each PRIDE Volunteer of the Month. The 12 Volunteers of the Month are considered for PRIDE's annual Tony Turner Volunteer of the Year Award.

"Volunteers are the backbone of PRIDE," said Congressman Hal Rogers (KY-5), PRIDE co-founder. "We wouldn't be where we are without our volunteers. More than 230,000 volunteers have helped with PRIDE cleanup and education projects. We

want to thank TECO Coal for helping PRIDE give these generous people the recognition they deserve."

PRIDE links citizens with the resources of local, state and federal agencies to clean up the region's waterways, end illegal trash dumps and promote environmental education and awareness. PRIDE is funded by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

For more information about the PRIDE Spring Cleanup — including the April 5th kickoff event at Cumberland Falls — call the PRIDE office, toll free, at 888-577-4339 or visit www.kypride.org. To volunteer for the Laurel River Lake Cleanup, call the London Ranger District at 606-864-4163.

Floyd leaders invited to grant-writing seminar

SOMERSET — Floyd County community leaders, governmental officials and managers of non-profit organizations are invited to attend a seminar on grant writing and funding resource identification Thursday, April 10, at The Center for Rural Development in Somerset.

The seminar, which begins at 9 a.m. and continues until 4 p.m., will include presentations from leading local and state experts who will share tips on grant writing and how to identify funding resources. The session will be beneficial

for anyone responsible for identifying funding resources for a community or non-profit organization.

The seminar is the second in a six-part series on community strategic planning sponsored by The Center. The Roadmap for Community Success series provides community leaders and elected officials in the 42-county service area with resources needed to better serve residents in Southern and Eastern Kentucky.

Registration fee is \$20 and will include course materials

and lunch. Pre-registration is encouraged due to space limitations. On-site registration will begin at 8:30 a.m. the day of the seminar at The Center, located at 2292 South U.S. 27 (at Stoplight No. 15).

Pending final approval by the Governor's Office of Local Government (GOLD), the seminar will be recognized as an accredited course under House Bill (HB) 810 County Official Training Program.

The Center, headquartered in Somerset, is a non-profit organization that provides economic and community devel-

opment programs to communities in Southern and Eastern Kentucky and is home to several statewide and national technology-based programs.

For more information on the series of community strategic planning seminars or to pre-register for the April 10 session, contact The Center for Rural Development at 606-677-6000 or e-mail Pat Bradley at pbradley@centertech.com or Richard Hunley at rhunley@centertech.com.

Kentucky State Parks offer camping options across state

FRANKFORT — If you're planning to enjoy the outdoors this year and go camping, make sure to try out a Kentucky State Park campground.

The parks have 31 campgrounds across the state. And to kickoff the camping season, the state parks will hold its annual "Camper Appreciation Weekend" on April 25-27, when campers can get two nights for the price of one.

"State park campgrounds are a great way to enjoy our parks and the outdoors," said Parks Commissioner Gerry van der Meer. "All of our campgrounds are near recreational or historic sites and make great vacation or weekend trips."

Campgrounds are offering a variety of activities to kick off the camping season. These include entertainment, arts and crafts, putt-putt golf, bonfires, movies, cookouts and nature programs.

All state park campgrounds have water and electric services with dump stations or sewer hookups, along with picnic tables and fire rings at each improved site and bath houses. Primitive sites are also available.

New for campers this year are six camper cabins at Dale Hollow Lake State Resort Park's campground. These small cabins have a double and single bed with heat and air conditioning. Guests bring their own linens or sleeping bags. A picnic table and fire ring is also provided.

The campgrounds at Levi Jackson State Park and Greenbo Lake State Resort Park are being renovated and are scheduled to open by Memorial Day. All other campgrounds will be open by April 1.

In addition to the 31 state parks, the Kentucky Horse Park Campground features 260 paved sites with water and electric hookups. Unlimited primitive camping is also available, as well as a trading post, swimming pool, lighted game courts, playground, bathhouses/laundry, seasonal events and more.

For reservations at the Horse Park, call (888) 4KY-PARK, (888) 459-7275, or visit www.parks.ky.gov. For information and group reservations call (800) 370-6416, (859) 259-4257, or e-mail campground@kyhorsepark.com.

The ban on out-of-state firewood remains in effect for state park campgrounds. The ban is intended to keep the emerald ash borer, an insect that kills ash trees, from entering the state. The insect has been found in states north of Kentucky - including Ohio, Michigan, Illinois and Indiana. Firewood gathered or purchased in Kentucky should be used.

Check the Department of Parks web site at www.parks.ky.gov for more information on Camper Appreciation Weekend. Reservations are accepted (but not required) for the 2,600 improved sites by going to www.parks.ky.gov or calling 1-888-459-7275. (For the Camper Appreciation Weekend, campers will be charged half price for the nights of April 25-26.)

The following state parks have campgrounds:

- Barren River Lake State Resort Park
- Big Bone Lick State Park
- Blue Licks State Park
- Carr Creek State Park
- Carter Caves State Resort

- Columbus Belmont State Park
- Cumberland Falls State Resort Park
- Dale Hollow State Park
- Fort Boonesborough State Park
- General Burnside State Park
- General Butler State Resort Park
- Grayson Lake State Park
- Green River Lake State Park
- Greenbo Lake State Resort Park (opening later this year)
- Jenny Wiley State Resort Park
- John James Audubon State Park
- Kenlake State Resort Park
- Kentucky Dam Village State Resort Park
- Kincaid Lake State Park
- Lake Cumberland State Resort Park
- Lake Barkley State Resort Park
- Lake Malone State Park
- Levi Jackson Wilderness Road State Park (opening later this year)
- My Old Kentucky Home State Park
- Natural Bridge State Park
- Nolin Lake State Park
- Paintsville Lake State Park
- Pennyrite Forest State Park
- Rough River Dam State Resort Park
- Taylorsville Lake State Park
- Yatesville Lake State Park

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April 7th - April 18th

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The CITYWIDE PRIDE PROGRAM has made great progress recently! Since March 2006, we have collected over 265 TONS of trash within city limits. We even removed 18 TONS of trash from the Big Sandy River alone.

And yet, we can't do it alone. **BE A SUPERHERO** and help your community and your environment. If you won't do it, who will? Join us on April 4th or make sure to remove unwanted appliances today! To call in your **APPLIANCE PICK-UP**, please call City Hall at 606-886-2335 before April 18th!

Any Questions? Call Brent Graden at 606-886-2335.

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Leadership Kentucky selects class of 2008

FRANKFORT — Founded in 1984, the Board of Directors of one of the oldest and most successful statewide leadership programs in the United States announces its 24th Class. Selected participants for the 2008 class are:

Mark Blackburn, Superintendent, Martin County Board of Education, Inez; Carrie Blackham, Family Resources Director, Audubon Area Community Services, Owensboro; Delinda Borden, Customer & Distribution Services Manager, Kentucky Power - AEP, Ashland; Tom Bozarth, Mayor, City of Midway, Midway; Glenn Bradley, Audit Partner, Chilton & Medley, Louisville; Ford Brewer, M.D., Assistant General Manager, Toyota Motor Engineering & Manufacturing, North America, Inc., Erlanger; Jeffery B. Bringardner, President, Humana-Kentucky, Humana, Inc., Louisville; Raylene Browne, Manager, Strategic Planning, Jewish Hospital & St. Mary's Healthcare, Louisville; Steve Brunson, President, Republic Bank & Trust Northern Kentucky, Ft. Wright;

Kevin Carrico, Senior Vice President, National City Bank, Owensboro; Ben Caudill, Vice President, Commercial Lending, Kentucky Bank, Morehead; Jena Collins, Manager, Strategic Initiatives, Apple Computers, Inc.,

Lexington; Kay Coomes, Manager, Public Affairs, ATMOS Energy, Owensboro; Tim Corrigan, Managing Partner, The Rotunda Group, Louisville; Debra Dawahare, Partner, Wyatt, Tarrant & Combs, Lexington; Sandy Dunahoo, Project Development Specialist, Nesbitt Engineering, Lexington; Doug Eberhart, President/CEO, United Way of Southern Kentucky, Bowling Green; Jim Evans, Vice President, Finance & Business Affairs, Pikeville College, Pikeville; Roger Ford, Director, Energy & Technology, Pike County Fiscal Court, Pikeville;

Novella Forman, 4-H Youth Development County Extension Agent, Pikeville; Paula Gastenveld, President/CEO, Owensboro Community & Technical College, Owensboro; Mark Giuffre, Public Affairs Manager, United Parcel Service, Louisville; Laura Lee Goins, Director, Communications & Organizations, Kentucky Retail Federation, Frankfort; Lori Gonzalez, Dean, College of Health Sciences, University of Kentucky, Lexington; Greg Greene, Vice President, Business Banking, Fifth Third Bank of Northern Kentucky, Florence; Joe Grider, Survey Division Manager, HMB Professional Engineers, Frankfort;

Ivory Griskell, Director of Global Education, Kentucky State University, Frankfort; Vincent Guenther, Manager Government Affairs, Louisville Water Company, Louisville; Joel Guess, Senior Vice President, Vanguard Contractors, Paducah; Teresa T. Hail, Business Development & Online Banking, First & Farmers Bank, Somerset; Michael Hawthorne, Member, Greenebaum Doll & McDonald LLC, Member/Attorney, Louisville; Linda Hopgood, Attorney, Lexington; Kathleen Johnson, Assistant Professor of Law/Director of Clinical Programs, Salmon Chase College of Law, Northern Kentucky University, Highland Heights;

Ellen Jones, Executive Director- External and Legal Affairs, AT&T, Louisville; Lexington; Temple Juett, General Counsel, Kentucky League of Cities, Lexington;

Greg Kosse, General Counsel, Kentucky Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Co., Louisville; Beth Kovacs, Assistant Vice President, Business Development Coordinator, Citizens Union Bank, Shelbyville; James T. Lobb, Shareholder/Attorney, Weber & Rose PSC, Louisville; Gloria McCall, Vice Chancellor, Kentucky Community and Technical College System, Versailles; Joy Moore, Judge, Kentucky

Court of Appeals, Burlington; Lisa Murrell, Assistant to Dean, Graduate Studies & Research, Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green;

Thomas P. O'Brien, III, Partner, Frost, Brown & Todd, Louisville; Francis O'Hara, Director, Career & Technical Education, Scott County Schools, Georgetown; Sandy Oskins, Regional Vice President, Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield, Louisville; Rachel Phelps, Associate Partner, Government Strategies, Frankfort; Robert Samuels, Brand Manager, Maker's Mark Distillery, Louisville;

Jenny Stith, Director, Corporate & Community Outreach, Children's Hospital Foundation, Louisville; Kevin Stuphin, Vice President, JP Morgan Chase Bank, Lexington; John Talbert, External Affairs Manager, Big Rivers Electric Cooperative, Henderson; Susan S. Tanner, Director of Youth Development, Kentucky Farm Bureau Federation, Louisville; William "Chuck" Thornbury, M.D., Medical Director, Medical Associates of Southern Kentucky, Glasgow; Paul Tuell, Vice President/Human Resource Director, Global Brands & Regions, Brown-Forman Corporation, Louisville; Palmer "Gene" Vance, Member, Stoll Keenon Ogden, PLLC, Lexington; John Voyles, Vice

President, Regulated Generation, E.ON U.S., Louisville; Scott White, Shareholder/Partner, Morgan & Pottinger, PSC, Lexington; Joshua Wice, Government Relations Officer, Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, Edgewood; Tammie Wilson, Vice President/COO, Eastern Kentucky PRIDE, Inc., Somerset.

The class will travel across Kentucky this year for sessions at Jabez, Murray, Frankfort, Shelbyville, Pikeville, Eddyville/Ft. Campbell, and Nicholasville. Locations for class session vary from year to year.

Leadership Kentucky, created in 1984 as a non-profit educational organization, brings together a selected group of people that possess a broad variety of leadership abilities,

career accomplishments, and volunteer activities to gain insight into complex issues facing the state. Our goal is to prepare our participants to take an active role in advancing the state for the common good. Leadership Kentucky graduates bring a fresh and informed perspective to their communities and companies, serving as important participants in the unified effort to shape Kentucky's future.

For more information, please contact Diana Ratliff, (502) 695-1102 or email to dbr@leadershipky.org.

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Cuts

says that this new state budget proposal strips away all of that funding.

Other Floyd County projects that were slated to receive funding from the coal severance dollars included necessary funding to complete the Eastern Sewer Project, as well as supplemental assis-

tance to entities such as the Maytown Fire Department. Stumbo says it's all gone.

According to Stumbo, some projects would be able to receive funding through other means, but entities such as school athletics, little leagues or senior citizens groups do not qualify if they are not car-

marked for the money in the budget.

"Every member I have talked to isn't happy about this," Stumbo said. "My speculation is the leadership is going to get a big wakeup call."

As of last night, Stumbo said he did not expect the

members to pass the budget.

"I've never voted against a budget," said Stumbo. "[But] If this budget passes, it won't pass on my vote."

The budget reportedly takes 36 hours to print due to its sheer volume. Stumbo expects a vote on the budget sometime this afternoon.

Clinton

school seniors, who would be of voting age, and would benefit from the civic leadership experience.

Rutherford says he expects to see cars lined up U.S. 23 Thursday making their way to the Expo Center to listen to the former president, who he says "is one of the greatest orators of our generation."

Floyd County Judge-Executive R.D. "Doc" Marshall, who says he had previously seen

President Clinton speak last year in Louisville, hopes to be able to attend Thursday's event.

When asked about the importance of Clinton's visit and future campaign stops, Marshall said, "It's vitally important to Eastern Kentucky."

An earlier visit to Floyd County by then presidential hopeful John Edwards last fall was seen as a rarity, with Robert Kennedy's visit, 40 years ago, being the last time a candidate

graced the Big Sandy Valley.

"To first have a candidate, and now a past president visit our area is great, and lets Eastern Kentucky feel that we're an important part of the system," said Marshall.

Rutherford hopes the visit will shine a light on Eastern Kentucky as a leading coal producer and energy provider.

"Coal produces 93 percent of the energy for the state, and 53 percent for the nation," said

Rutherford.

Rutherford said that possible projects such as liquid coal could become the energy source that America is looking for to replace its dependence on foreign oil.

Rutherford noted that the coal basin made up of counties in Eastern Kentucky and West Virginia have over 120 billion tons of recoverable coal. "We are the Saudi Arabia of coal."

Budget

in the privacy of a Capitol annex conference room throughout Monday and well into Tuesday morning, with as many as four state police troopers standing guard in the hallway.

A sagging economy and soaring government expenses have caused economic forecasters to predict the state is facing an approximate \$900 million revenue shortfall over the next two fiscal years.

Beshear proposed an austere two-year budget that called for 12 percent cuts to public universities and numerous government agencies and programs. Beshear called on lawmakers to avoid the cuts by passing a cigarette tax hike of 70 cents a pack to generate nearly \$200 million per year. The money could have helped finance hundreds of millions in bonds, Beshear said.

The House and Senate proposed dueling plans aimed at raising millions more in revenue to carry Kentucky government through the tough financial times that are expected.

Lawmakers in the Democratic-controlled House proposed raising the cigarette tax and imposing the state's 6 percent sales tax on certain services. That proposal also was rejected by budget negotiators.

Kentucky's cigarette tax is among the lowest in the nation at 30 cents a pack, and health advocates say raising it could have improved the state's overall physical well-being.

"We're very disappointed. We see this as a missed opportunity," said Tonya Chang, a lobbyist for the American Heart Association. "As long as we fail to act, we're going to continue to have the highest rates of adult smoking in the nation. And we're going to continue to suffer tobacco-related deaths and disease."

Members of the GOP-led Senate, meanwhile, balked at the idea of raising any taxes. Instead, the chamber approved a plan that would have relied on about \$110 million in additional lottery proceeds.

After the budget talks, lawmakers agreed to take \$14 million more from the lottery during the next two years.

Legislative leaders canceled Monday afternoon meetings of the full House and Senate to allow more time for budget negotiations.

Among other things, the agreed budget would give teachers and state employees pay raises of one percent in each of the next two fiscal years. It would also put \$60 million into Bucks for Brains, a program that provides state matching money for private donations to universities for research and other spending.

Richards said lawmakers also included money to keep proposed bridges in Louisville on track, and included language to allow for tolls.

Dick Brown, a Beshear spokesman, said the governor had not had a chance to review the details.

"The governor and his staff will have to take a look at what their proposal is, look at all of it and see where it is and see how it fits with the governor's proposals," Brown said. "We'll take it from there."

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Commissioner of the Floyd Circuit Court, entered on the 1st day of December, 2006, in the Floyd Circuit Court, in the above styled action, in the principal sum of \$16,702.41, together with interest, costs and fees, I shall proceed to offer for sale at the Old Floyd County Courthouse Door, South Central Avenue, Prestonsburg, Kentucky, (behind the new Floyd County Justice Center), to the highest bidder, at public auction, on Thursday, the 17th day of April, 2008, at the hour of 9:00 a.m., the following described real estate, lying in Floyd County, Kentucky, and more particularly described as follows:

TRACT NO. 1
Being the same property conveyed to Glenn Kidd and Barbara Kidd, now deceased, his wife, from Lavone Jacobs and Betty Jacobs, his wife by survivorship deed dated September 5, 1985, of record in Deed Book 294, Page 474, in the office of the Floyd County Clerk, which property is now vested solely in Glenn Kidd pursuant to the survivorship clause of said deed, and being a certain tract or parcel of land lying in the Floyd County, Kentucky, which is more particularly described as follows:

Beginning at Nathan Wright's property on the South side of the above mentioned eighteen foot driveway; thence, running in a southern direction with Nathan Wright's line to the branch; thence running down the branch in a northern direction back to the eight-

teen foot driveway; thence with the south side of said driveway to the beginning.

TRACT NO. II
Being the same property conveyed to Glenn Kidd and Barbara Kidd, now deceased, his wife, by survivorship quitclaim deed, dated July 25, 1988, of record in Deed Book 321, Page 114, in the office of the Floyd County Clerk, which property is now vested solely in Glenn Kidd pursuant to the survivorship clause of said deed and being a certain tract or parcel of land lying in Floyd County, Kentucky, on the waters of the Justice Branch of the right fork of Beaver Creek, near Martin, Floyd C o u n t y , Commonwealth of Kentucky, which Tract No. 2 consists of three tracts of land which are more particularly described as follows:

TRACT ONE:
Mountain Lot No. 1 embracing 8.2 acres, as shown on map 714, more particularly described as follows, viz:

Beginning on a large hickory standing on the bank of J.W. Flanery Branch, same being a corner to lots No. 2 and No. 6, S 65 00' E 160 ft. to a stake at foot of hills; then running up the hill S 31 15' E 142 ft. to a buckeye on the point, then running up the meanders of the point S 6 00' W 84 ft. to a stake, S 10 00' E 116 ft. to a beech, S 1 15' W 81 ft. to a stake, SO 30' W 126 ft. to a stake, S 15 15' E 166 ft. to a black oak, S 22 30' E 98 ft. to a beech, S 18 30' E 136 ft. to a stake one foot left of a large chestnut oak S 25 00' E 194 ft. to a maple S 22 30' E 104 ft. to a black oak, S 32 30' E 70 ft. to a black oak, a corner to A.J. Davidson; then

running with the ridge between Osborne Branch of Left Beaver and Flanery Branch with the land of said Davidson S 80 00' E 150 ft., then down the hill with the lines of J.W. Flanery Estate N 16 30' W 1330 ft. to a stake; thence S 78 30' E 50 ft. to a stake; then N 24 00' W 50 ft. with the lines of Rachel Ison, N 36 00' W 114 ft. to a stake, a corner to Bottom Lot No. 5; thence N 82 15' W 3 16 ft. with the lines of Bottom lot No. 5 to a stake in the center of the branch; then S 14 00' W 66 ft. to the beginning.

TRACT TWO:
Mountain Lot No. 9 embracing 2.6 acres, as shown on map 714, more particularly described as follows, viz:

Beginning at a stake in the branch which is a corner to the lands conveyed to the Henry Flanery Heirs, thence up the hill with the land of said Henry Flanery heirs N 83-45 W 331 ft. to a stake on the hillside; thence on up the hill N 75-15-W 504 ft. to a stake on top of the hill and a corner of the land of Furman Dingus, thence down the hill with the line of Furman Dingus N 62-00 E 140 ft. to a stake, thence N 89-45 E 150 ft. to a stake, thence 87-00 E 150 ft. to a stake, thence S 89-45 E 278 ft. to a stake at the base of the hill which is a corner of the land of said Glenn Kidd, thence leaving the land of Furman Dingus and with the land of said Glen Kidd running in a southerly direction along the base of the hill for a distance of 179 ft. the corner of the old garden fence, thence running easterly with the garden fence approximately 116 ft. to a stake in the branch, thence up the branch S 14-00 E approximately 44

ft. to a stake thence S 21-00 W 13 ft. to the beginning.

TRACT THREE:
Mountain Lot No. 10 embracing 6.4 acres, as shown on map 714, more particularly described as follows, viz:

Beginning at a stake which is a corner to Lot No. 1 and Rachel Ison, thence with the lines of Rachel Ison S 47-00 E 224 ft. to a stake, thence up the hill S 10-0 E 268 ft. to a stake; thence S 31-00 E 250 ft. to a stake, thence S 42-00 E 162 ft. to a stake, thence S 33-00 E 425 ft. to the ridge, thence with the ridge S 64-30 W 400 ft. to a stake which is a corner to Lot No. 1, thence down the hill with the lines of Lot No. 1 N 16-00 W 1330 ft. to a stake, thence S 78-30 E 50 ft. to the beginning.

There is excepted from this Tract No. 2 (which consists of three separate tracts) that portion of same that was conveyed to David Moore and Shona Moore, his wife, by deed dated May 3, 2005, of record in Deed Book 512, Page 722, office of the Floyd County Clerk, which tract is more particularly described as follows:

Beginning at a stake on hillside; thence on up the hill N 75-15 W-504 ft. to a stake on top of the hill and a corner of the land of Furman Dingus; thence down the hill with the line of Furman Dingus N 62-00 E 140 ft. to a stake; thence N 89-45 E 150 ft. to a stake; thence N 87-00 E 150 ft. to a stake; thence running in a straight line with the property line of Glenn Kidd to the stake on the hillside, the point of beginning.

TERMS OF SALE:

(a) At time of sale, the successful bidder, if the other than the Plaintiff,

shall either pay cash or 10% of purchase price, with the balance on credit for thirty (30) days.

(b) The property shall be sold subject to any easements and restrictions of record in the Floyd County Clerk's Office, and such right of redemption as may exist in favor of the United States of America and/or the record owners thereof.

(c) The purchaser shall be required to assume and pay all Floyd County, Kentucky, real property taxes for the year 2007, and all subsequent years which are not yet due and payable. Any and all delinquent Floyd County, Kentucky, real estate taxes will be paid from the sale proceeds.

(d) In the event the Plaintiff is the purchaser of the above described property for an amount equal to, or less than, its first lien, it shall take a credit against said lien for the amount of the bid, and no bond shall be required of the Plaintiff, and it shall only be obligated to pay court costs, the fees and costs of the Master Commissioner, and any real estate taxes assessed against the real estate.

Any announcements made on date of sale take precedence over printed matter contained herein.

William S. Kendrick
Floyd County Master Commissioner

NOTICE OF BOND SALE

The Floyd County (Kentucky) School District Finance Corporation, will, until 1:00 p.m., E.D.S.T., on April 10, 2008, receive in the office of the Kentucky School Facilities Construction Commission, Suite 102, 229 W. Main Street, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601, competitive bids for its \$2,115,000 School Building Revenue Bonds, Series of 2008, dated April 1, 2008, maturing April 1, 2008 through 2028. Specific information and required Official Bid Form available in POS at www.rsamuni.com from Ross,

Sinclair & Associates, LLC.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to KRS 231.040, application for a permit to operate a place of entertainment, has been made by John C. Kidd. The name of the proposed business of entertainment is ASPI Services DBA Lucky's Restaurant and Bar, Betsy Layne, Ky. The nature of the business will be Music, Dancing, Restaurant, and Liquor by the drink. Pursuant to KRS 231.070, the Floyd County Attorney shall investigate whether the applicant lacks good moral character, or whether the appli-

cant will obey the laws of the Commonwealth in the operation of the business, or whether the applicant, within the last two (2) years prior to the date of filing the application has been convicted in Kentucky of maintaining a public nuisance. Pursuant to KRS 231.080 any person desiring to oppose the permits shall file with the County Clerk no later than April 17, 2008, in writing, allegations that show cause as to why the application shall not be granted. Said written information shall be signed, dated and reflect the current address of said person providing the information. Pursuant to KRS 231.080, a hearing has been scheduled for April 17, 2008, at the hour of 2:30 p.m., or as soon thereafter as same can be heard before the Floyd C o u n t y Judge/Executive at the Floyd County Justice Center, 2nd floor, in Prestonsburg, Kentucky. The Floyd County Judge/Executive shall hear evidence in support of or in opposition to the granting of the permit.

HON. KEITH BARTLEY
FLOYD COUNTY ATTORNEY

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that McDonald's Corporation, 1000 Omega Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15236, has filed an application with the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Cabinet to construct a McDonald's Restaurant with associated site improvements. The property is located off of North Lake Drive, near May's Branch Road. Any comments or objections concerning this application shall be directed to: Kentucky Division of Water, Water Resources Branch, 14 Reilly Road, Frankfort Office Park, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601. Phone: (502) 564-3410.

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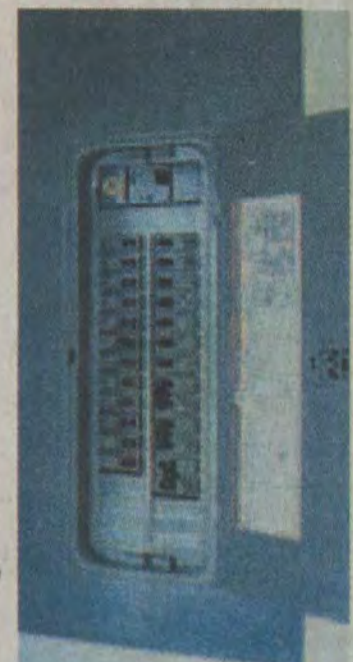
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FLOYD COUNTY Sports

BASEBALL: Blackcats win two of first three games

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

PRESTONSBURG — First-year Prestonsburg baseball coach Marc Shepherd guided the Blackcats to a 2-1 mark last week in the program's first three games of the new season. Morgan County dealt Prestonsburg a 10-4 loss Monday in a season-opener for both teams. After falling to Morgan County in a home game, Prestonsburg bounced back and posted road wins over 15th Region foes East Ridge and Sheldon Clark.

Tyler Hall and Cameron Tincher each had two hits for the Blackcats. Junior Chris Schoolcraft pitched a solid 4 2/3 innings for the Blackcats, striking out six Morgan County batters while allowing

two earned runs.

Prestonsburg defeated East Ridge 11-3. The Blackcats tagged 15 hits in their first win. Hall and Tincher were Prestonsburg's leading batters, finishing with three hits apiece. Bobby Hughes, Billy Robinson and Alan Craynon connected for two hits apiece in Prestonsburg's triumph.

Hughes earned the win for the Blackcats, pitching 4 1/3 innings and fanning seven batters.

Rodebaugh started and pitched two solid innings for the Blackcats. The Prestonsburg senior experienced soreness in his arm and had to exit off of the mound.

Prestonsburg doubled up Sheldon Clark 10-5 Wednesday.

The Blackcats managed 15 hits in the win over the Cardinals. Josh Blackburn paced Prestonsburg offensively, finishing with four hits. Rodebaugh, Robinson and Craynon each had two hits for the Blackcats. Rodebaugh provided the biggest hit for Prestonsburg when he belted a fourth inning grand slam.

Rodebaugh earned the win, pitching five innings and allowing three earned runs. One of the 15th Region's top players, Rodebaugh fanned six Sheldon Clark hitters.

Robinson came on in relief of Rodebaugh and recorded a save.

Prestonsburg improved to 4-1 over the weekend, sweeping June Buchanan. The Blackcats defeated June Buchanan 7-4 and 9-7.



photo by Tony McGuire
ALLEN CENTRAL BATTER ELIZABETH DINGUS made contact on a pitch during last week's game versus Hazard. The Lady Rebels defeated Hazard 13-2 in five innings.

Four No. 1 teams advance to Final Four, make history

by EDDIE PELLIS
ASSOCIATED PRESS

HOUSTON— Bill Walton played what many agree was the best college game ever. Michael Jordan is universally praised as the best player ever. Years before either of them came along, the great Wilt Chamberlain redefined what a big, athletic center could accomplish.

These icons got their starts at UCLA, North Carolina and Kansas — three of college basketball's most storied programs, which are coming together on the sport's biggest stage, the Final Four.

March Madness? This might feel more like Hoops History 101 when the Bruins, Tar Heels and Jayhawks gather in the oversized classroom called the Alamodome, starting Saturday in San Antonio.

UCLA, the team that won most of its 10 titles in the '60s and '70s with star centers Walton and Lew Alcindor — later known as Kareem Abdul-Jabbar — will play Memphis, a team that also has a colorful and successful history, though not nearly that of the other three.

Walton went 21-for-22 for 44 points in UCLA's 1973 title game — a win over none other than Memphis. This marks UCLA's record 18th Final Four.

In Saturday's other semifinal, it will be Kansas against North Carolina, a perfect matchup with a perfect story line — that of North Carolina coach Roy Williams going against Kansas, the program he left in 2003 amid shouts that he was a traitor for leaving his adopted school to return to his alma mater.

Carolina is in its 17th Final Four, and Kansas its 13th.

"They gave me a chance when I was not exactly a household name. I was barely a name in my own house," Williams said of Kansas. "I have no idea what my emotions will be. I'm just ecstatic for this club right now."

And speaking of perfect: This is the first time since the NCAA started seeding teams in 1979 that all four top teams — from the South, Midwest, East and West regionals — advanced to the Final Four.

"This is one of those years where it appears from the Day One, people said there are four teams that are a little bit better than everybody else," Memphis coach John Calipari said Sunday after his team's 85-67 win over Texas. "That's what they said. We happen to be one of those teams."

The early betting pick among these four power programs is North Carolina, listed as a 9-5 favorite at the Las Vegas Hilton Race and Sports Book. Memphis was the long shot at 3-1.

Those who can't get money down in Nevada certainly might have action in one of those millions of office pools around the country. Those who picked all the favorites in their brackets are looking good. But does anyone really do that any-



photos by Greg Moore
Prestonsburg narrowly missed getting into the win column versus Pikeville in a road game. Pikeville edged the Lady Blackcats 4-3.

Softball: Pikeville edges P'burg

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

PIKEVILLE — Host Pikeville needed a run in the bottom half of the seventh inning to get past Prestonsburg Saturday in a fast-pitch softball matchup between two familiar 15th Region foes. The Lady Panthers, after plating three runs in the first four innings, scored once in the final frame and defeated Prestonsburg 4-3.

Pikeville never trailed. The Lady Panthers took a 2-0 lead in the bottom half of the third inning.

Prestonsburg plated a pair of runs in the fifth inning after Pikeville had taken a 3-0 advantage.

The Lady Blackcats tied the game at 3-3 when Rikki Hughes scored in the visitor's portion of the sixth inning.

Alicia Mayfield and Ali Hackworth each scored once for the Lady Blackcats.

Tara Sword earned the win for Pikeville. Sword withstood a couple of troublesome innings to get the win.

Alexis DeRossett took the loss for Prestonsburg.

Magoffin County blanked the Lady Blackcats 9-0 Tuesday, March 25 in a season-opener.

Prestonsburg is scheduled to host Knott County Central today. First pitch for the high school softball game is set for 5:30 p.m.

Around the 58th District/Floyd County Conference:

— Allen Central went 2-1 last week in its first three games. In a road game Thursday, Allen Central defeated Hazard 13-2 in five innings. The Don Burke-coached Lady Rebels split with Belfry in a doubleheader Saturday, defeating the Lady Pirates 17-3 in one

game. Belfry edged Allen Central 8-7 in another matchup.

— South Floyd, under the guidance of first-year head coach Tiffany Turner, opened the season 1-1. The Lady Raiders defeated Knott County Central 18-0 in five innings Tuesday, March 25. Perry County Central handed South Floyd its first loss Thursday, beating the Lady Raiders 12-2 in six innings.

— Betsy Layne, under the guidance of head coach Gloria Mullins, went 1-1 last week. Sheldon Clark edged the Ladycats 15-14 last Wednesday. Betsy Layne nearly doubled up Knott County Central, winning 9-5.



photo courtesy of Apex One Photo
BRANDON KINZER signed a T-shirt for a young fan during the Spring Thaw 100 held recently at Volunteer Speedway. Kinzer has several races on his schedule for the 2008 season:

APRIL 15 — At Lernerville (Pa.) Speedway

APRIL 25 — At Talladega (Ala.) Short Track

APRIL 26 — At Talladega (Ala.) Short Track



UK Football: Ford, Gholson injured

TIMES STAFF REPORT

LEXINGTON — Wide receivers DeMoreo Ford and Jonathan Gholson sustained injuries during the University of Kentucky football practice Saturday afternoon. Coach Rich Brooks announced after practice.

Ford sustained a ruptured patellar tendon and is expected to undergo surgery during the coming week. Depending upon the extent of the injury and the rehabilitation time, it is possible that he will return to the team during the 2008 season. A junior from LaGrange, Ga., Ford has caught 20 passes for 236 yards and two touchdowns during his career.

Gholson, a redshirt freshman from Louisville, incurred a knee ligament injury. He will be re-evaluated on Monday to further determine the extent of the injury.

The team practiced for two hours Saturday afternoon at the Nutter Training Center. Before the practice, Coach Rich Brooks presented the Wildcats with their championship rings from the 2007 Gaylord Hotels Music City Bowl, commemorating UK's 35-28 win over Florida State. The team will return to the practice field on Monday.

Jackson dismissed: Brooks also announced on Saturday that redshirt freshman tailback Brandon Jackson has been dismissed from the team for violation of team rules.

Gridiron Bash at Kentucky, other schools postponed

TIMES STAFF REPORT

LEXINGTON — The Gridiron Bash, a series of football pep rallies and concerts to be held at 16 schools across the nation, has been postponed by the event's sponsor, MSL Sports and Entertainment. The University of Kentucky was scheduled to hold its version of the Gridiron Bash, including a concert by Wynonna Judd and Dierks Bentley, on April 18.

The event also featured a competition for fan participation, with the top three schools receiving \$1 million, \$500,000, and \$250,000, respectively, for their general scholarship funds. MSL said it will postpone the Gridiron Bash until the fall of 2008 or the spring of 2009.

Fans who have already purchased tickets for the UK Gridiron Bash may obtain a refund.

— Fans who purchased tickets from the UK Athletics Ticket Office should call 859/257-1818 or go to the ticket office at the Joe Craft Center to get their refund.

— Fans who purchased their tickets online should contact Ticketmaster to get their refund.

— Fans who have placed text votes in the fan competition will not be billed.

Hamlin foils Burton's strategy to win at Martinsville Speedway

by HANK KURZ Jr.
ASSOCIATED PRESS

MARTINSVILLE, Va. — Denny Hamlin hopes he's finally put his frustration behind him, not only at Martinsville Speedway, but throughout the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series. "It's just been so close so many times and to finally break through here, it definitely means a lot," Hamlin said Sunday after he foiled Jeff Burton's late-race pit strategy and won the Goody's 500. "It feels like maybe the monkey is off our back."

Hamlin had twice finished in the top three on the smallest, tightest track in the series, and said he felt like bad luck had let several other wins slip away, too.

At Atlanta three weeks ago, he had just moved into second place when his power steering failed. Then in the last race at Bristol, a fuel pickup

problem on the restart of a two-lap sprint to the finish cost him a chance to win, and he finished sixth. "I definitely feel like maybe this is the turning point for our team," he said.

For 389 laps, the race looked like it would be another victory for Hendrick Motorsports at the track it has dominated by winning eight of the last 10 races.

Hendrick drivers led 371 of those laps, but Hamlin and fellow Virginia native Jeff Burton made decisions under the next-to-last caution that allowed them to move up front.

Hamlin then ruined Burton's decision to stay out while the rest of the leaders pitted, passing him on the 427th lap and holding on for his fourth career victory.

"We timed it perfectly," Hamlin said. "We got to the front when it counted."

Jeff Gordon rallied to finish sec-

ond, followed by Burton, Jimmie Johnson and Tony Stewart. Johnson had won three straight at Martinsville heading into the race.

Hamlin had a great view of the last one, finishing third, and had shown several times recently here that he was among the few that could run with the Hendrick teams.

"First Virginia win for me," he said in Victory Lane. "Finally. The curse is over, I think. I hope. We've had such bad luck over these first few weeks."

Hamlin arrived 15th in the point standings; he moved up to eighth. "It finally feels good to come here and get a win," said Hamlin, a native of Chester. "Can't wait, man. This is a sign of things to come, I believe."

Gordon, seeking his eighth victory at Martinsville, was satisfied. "It came down to pit strategy, and Denny and those guys definitely did the right strategy," he said, believing

Hamlin had taken two tires with 111 laps to go.

When Gordon headed for pit road on lap 389, Burton was running second and decided to stay out. Most of the front-runners also pitted, including Hamlin, but he just stopped for fuel while the rest took tires, allowing him to beat Gordon off pit road.

Hamlin made quick work of the cars between his and Burton's, pulling onto Burton's bumper with 75 laps to go. He moved inside to challenge for the lead on the next lap, then did it again with 73 laps to go, passing Burton to take the lead for good.

He won by 0.398 seconds.

Gordon passed Burton with less than seven laps to go, and the normally mild-mannered and diplomatic Burton was left seething about rookie Michael McDowell's conduct.

"We had one driver that I thought was real inconsiderate," Burton said

of McDowell, who was making his series debut for Michael Waltrip Racing. In Burton's mind, McDowell should have been better about getting out of the way of the contenders at the end.

"He better learn some manners or he's going to get taught," Burton said.

Dale Earnhardt Jr. of Hendrick led a race-high 146 laps, but saw his winless streak stretch to 68 races. Johnson led 135 and Gordon, the pole-sitter, led 90 laps.

"Our car was unbelievable in the first half of the race," Gordon said. But after taking tires late, "the car just never took off," he said, until it was too late.

The race also went well for Jamie McMurray, who arrived 36th in points and having to race his way into the field. He did that, qualifying fifth, and then backed it up, running up front most of the day before finishing eighth. He's now 30th in points.

Reds' hopes to break losing streak rests on two young starters

by JOE KAY
ASSOCIATED PRESS

SARASOTA, Fla. — Dusty Baker slowly rose from his folding chair next to the dugout and started that reluctant walk to the mound, where his young starting pitcher had melted down in the first inning.

Before he extend his hand to get the baseball from Johnny Cueto, someone in the stands provided a critique.

"Gonna be a long year, Dusty," a fan yelled from behind home plate.

If the Cincinnati Reds' new manager has to keep walking the walk, it sure will be.

Whether the Reds emerge from their seven-year losing streak could come down to whether two unproven young pitchers emerge in a rotation that has a good one-two combination, then fresh-faced questions.

The 22-year-old Cueto and 24-year-old Edinson Volquez won spots with stellar spring

training showings. But what happens in Florida often stays in Florida when the games start to matter.

Baker's greatest challenge will be helping them keep it together when they get tested in ways they've never experienced. It's not an easy thing.

"That's a \$4,000 question I've been trying to answer since I got into this game," Baker said. "You want to help them, but you don't want to oversaturate their brain and confuse them. That's the hard part of coaching. That's the hard part of parenting. They're similar."

This club could use a little of both.

Since the Reds traded away their clubhouse leaders as part of a roster purge in 2003, they've struggled to find a winning chemistry. They'll make a few offseason moves, talk about contending in the watered-down NL Central, then fall apart when the pressure is on.

Baker, who guided the Giants to a World Series and the

Cubs to the NL championship series, was hired to provide a steadying influence on a clubhouse that has known four managers in the last five years.

He has made an early impression.

"He wants to win now," Ken Griffey Jr. said. "The big thing is everybody talks about we just want to contend, and that's not the attitude that he has. He wants to win."

The 58-year-old Baker knows it's going to take time for that message to rub off on a team mired in its deepest slump in a half-century. Fans would be thankful just to have some meaningful September games for a change.

Not Baker.

"We're going to get to the point where my team likes itself," he said. "That's more important than me liking them. I think it's getting there. It's a work in progress, naturally."

"You've lost seven years in a row. That's what you're trying to filter out. You're trying

to get to accepting winning like it's no big deal, and being upset about losing."

The Reds lost 90 games last season in large part because the bullpen couldn't hold a lead, setting up devastating losses that sapped the team. The bullpen had an NL-worst 5.13 earned run average and gave up 123 runs in the eighth inning, most in the league.

It was so bad that David Weathers had to go more than an inning during 11 of his 33 saves. No other NL closer had to work so hard.

Cincinnati found a \$46 million fix, signing former Milwaukee closer Francisco Cordero to a four-year deal in November. That allowed them to move Weathers into a set-up role, which should help get rid of those eighth-inning blues.

Reliever Todd Coffey has lost a lot of weight and gotten back into form this spring. Left-hander Jeremy Affeldt provides a late-inning option as well. It's a lot more enticing

than last season, when there were three rookies in the bullpen at midseason.

"I like our bullpen this year, I really do," Coffey said. "I like the mix of younger guys and experience."

The everyday lineup has enough sizzle. Left fielder Adam Dunn has hit at least 40 homers in each of his last four seasons. Griffey had a renaissance season in right field last year, hitting 30 homers while driving in 93 runs. Second baseman Brandon Phillips became the third Reds player to hit 30 homers and steal 30 bases.

"We've just got to stay consistent and stay healthy," said the 38-year-old Griffey, who played in 144 games last season, his highest total of the last seven years. "We made a few changes. Hopefully all the pieces fit and we can do something."

The rotation is still getting pieced together.

Baker will start the season with two givens — Aaron Harang and Bronson Arroyo — followed by cast that falls into the category of no telling what will happen. Cueto started last season at Class A and has never pitched in the majors. Volquez, acquired from Texas in the Josh Hamilton trade, has gone 3-11 with a 7.20 ERA in 20 career appearances.

"They just have to make sure they learn from their mistakes," said Harang, who has developed into one of the NL's best.

What advice will he give them?

"Be aggressive," Harang said. "Don't look at who's in the lineup, who you're facing. That's the biggest thing. Guys get out there and all of a sudden they're facing a big guy and they're like, 'Oh, God, I've been watching this guy play!' And they get tentative. You can't be. It's all about confidence."

In Baker's first season, it will be all about that pitching.



FLOYD COUNTY YOUTH SOCCER PLAYER NICK CONN worked for position during a contest last season. Floyd County boasts some of the area's most promising young soccer players. The spring soccer season opened over the weekend. More on the spring season will appear in Friday's edition.

Four more?

A big part of the uber-popularity of the NCAA tournament is the idea that the little guys really do have a chance to shock the world during these three magical weeks in March (and April). Two years ago, it was George Mason — the commuter school in northern Virginia — coming from nowhere to crash the Final Four party.

This year's George Mason was nearly 10th-seeded Davidson, which might be about the 10th-best-known school in the state of North

Carolina, but still gave Kansas a heck of a run Sunday before falling 59-57.

The Jayhawks held their breath while Davidson's Jason Richards launched a 3-pointer at the buzzer that would have won it. It missed and KU prevailed to officially make it a Final Four for big boys, only.

These are the programs that were established in the 1890s, 1910s, 1920s, the ones that sell great players on their schools not only because of gleaming gyms and awesome weight rooms, but because it gives them a chance to wear the

Ferguson named honorable mention All-America

TIMES STAFF REPORT

Three players from Kentucky schools were named to the NAIA All-America teams, and four more, one of whom is a Pikeville College senior, received honorable mention last Wednesday.

Pikeville College senior forward Jeff Ferguson was named honorable mention.

Georgetown senior Gordon Chase was the only player to make the first team. Chase led the Tigers to a 35-1 record. He averaged a team-high 18.4 points and 7.2 rebounds per game during his senior year.

Campbellsville junior Nestor Colmenares made the second team averaging 15.6 points per game and 9.4 rebounds. Both Georgetown and Campbellsville made the NAIA Fab Four.

Cumberland junior Luke Fitzgerald shot 57 percent from the field and averaged 16.1 points per game. He was named to the NAIA third

team.

The following players were given honorable mention: Georgetown forward Demetrius Guions; Pikeville senior Jeff Ferguson; Brescia forward and Owensboro Catholic graduate Andrew Howard; Lindsey Wilson guard George White.

A breakdown of the All-Americans follows.

First Team: Ollie Bailey, Oklahoma City, Sr., F; Gordon Chase, Georgetown, Sr., F; Glen Dandridge, Lambuth, Sr., F; Mike Gordy, Lewis-Clark St., Sr., F; Brad Harris, Lee, Sr., G; Othys Jeffers, Robert Morris, Sr., F; Eric Palm, McKendree, Jr., G; Josh Porter, LSU-Shreveport, Sr., G; Mark Roussin, California Baptist, Jr., F; James Spencer, Mountain State, Sr., G.

Second Team: Czyz Bennett, Texas College, Jr., G; Nestor Colmenares, Campbellsville, Jr., F; Phil French, Olivet Nazarene, Sr., C; Kelvin Johnson, Ill.-

Springfield, Jr., G; Jon Meriweather, Park (Mo.), Jr., F; Kendaris Pelton, Martin Methodist, Sr., F; Davon Roberts, Azusa Pacific, Sr., F; Danny Storey, Wayland Baptist, Sr., F; Terrence Worthy, Concordia, So., G; Ryan Zamroz, The Master's (Calif.), Jr., G.

Third Team: Jeremy Cable, Tougaloo, Jr., F; Danden Chisholm, Paul Quinn, Jr., G; Brandon Durham, S. Nazarene, Sr., G; Luke Fitzgerald, Cumberland, Jr., F; Trae Hall, Columbia (Mo.), Sr., G; Robert Jones, Mobile, Sr., F; Jamon Morris, LSU-Shreveport, Sr., C; Thomas Pranciliauskas, Shorter, Sr., G; Danny Reeder, Westminster, So., G; Jason Taylor, Okla. Christian, So., F.

Honorable Mention (players from Kentucky colleges): Jeff Ferguson, Pikeville; Demetrius Guions, Georgetown; Andrew Howard, Brescia; George White, Lindsey Wilson.



photo courtesy of Pikeville College
HONORED: Jeff Ferguson went up for a layin during a Pikeville College men's basketball game. Ferguson was recently named honorable mention All-America. Ferguson was one of four players from Kentucky colleges named honorable mention All-America.



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Kansas holds off Davidson's final shot, advances to Final Four

by NANCY ARMOUR
ASSOCIATED PRESS

DETROIT — Bill Self's hair was sopping wet. And that snazzy gray suit he'd been wearing was gone, replaced by boring — but dry — warmups.

"I apologize for my attire, but our team thought we just won a football bowl game in the locker room," the Kansas coach said. "They got me pretty good with the water jug. But needless to say, I'm proud, happy, relieved."

On so many different levels. Sweet-shooting Stephen Curry was covered so tightly he couldn't get a shot off in the closing seconds, leaving him no choice but to dish to Jason Richards, Davidson's next-best option. But Richards' 25-footer from the top of the key thudded off the backboard, allowing Kansas to escape with a 59-57 victory Sunday that put all four No. 1 seeds in the Final Four for the first time.

And after coming oh, so close, so many other times, Self is finally on his way to the Final Four.

"It feels good just for him," Brandon Rush said. "He's been stuck in the Elite Eight for the last few years. This feels good just to make that push into the Final Four for him."

Self had taken three different schools to the regional finals only to come up short four different times, including last year with the Jayhawks. He'd been saddled with the dreaded "best coach never to make a Final Four tag," and he acknowledged Saturday that the failing crossed his mind at least once a day.

Well, no more. These Jayhawks (35-3) were too talent-

ed, too powerful, too experienced to be denied, and they simply wore lovable, little Davidson down at the end.

"We had an opportunity to win," Curry said. "So fatigue is a factor, but we fought through to the best of our abilities and still had a shot to win it at the end."

Curry, the son of former NBA sharpshooter Dell Curry, turned the NCAA tournament into his own little party, scoring at will with his silky-smooth shot and carrying Davidson to one improbable victory after another. And he looked as if he might do it again in the Midwest Regional final.

After looking exhausted for much of the second half, he drilled a 3-pointer from NBA range to cut Kansas' lead to 59-57 with 54 seconds left. When Kansas' Sherron Collins missed with 21 seconds left, the 10th-seeded Wildcats got one last chance and of course they gave the ball to Curry.

He was the right guy — the only guy — to take the biggest shot of the NCAA tournament. But there was no shot to be had.

"Kansas had four guards out there and they just switched. It kind of defeated the purpose of the play," he said. "I gave them a pump fake to try to get a look, but I was off-balance when he fell down."

As the bright red numbers on the clock got dangerously close to zero, all he could do was the pass the ball and watch Richards' desperation try thudded off the backboard.

"I kind of had a feeling in my heart that it wasn't going in because the way he shot it. It looked like he was leaning to the left a little bit," Kansas guard

Mario Chalmers said. "When I turned back, I saw it hit the backboard. I was just relieved."

Richards dropped to his back at midcourt while the Jayhawks exhaled and began celebrating.

"Trust me, I was on both knees," Self said. "You picture the way you win a big game like that, you celebrate or something happens and you're able to go congratulate all your coaches and players. This was not one of those deals. I just wanted to make sure that I hurried up and shook hands and the officials left the court so they couldn't put any time back on the clock."

Curry, who became just the fourth player to hit the 30-point mark in his first four NCAA tournament games, finished with 25 on 9-for-25 shooting and was picked Most Outstanding Player of the Midwest Regional. Bryant Barr was the only other Davidson player in double figures, scoring all 11 of his points in the second half.

The loss snapped Davidson's 25-game winning streak, longest in the nation.

Chalmers and Sasha Kaun each scored 13 for Kansas and Rush added 12.

"It hurts a lot to get this far, be so close to get to the Final Four," Curry said. "I'm definitely proud of what we've accomplished and what we're about and what we've just proven all year. ... But it's going to hurt. This game's going to hurt a lot for the next however long."

For Kansas, the fun is just beginning. This is the Jayhawks' 13th trip to the Final Four, but their first since 2003 — Roy Williams' final season at Kansas. And who are the Jayhawks play-

ing Saturday in San Antonio? None other than Williams' current team, North Carolina.

Kansas hasn't won a title since 1988, when Larry Brown was on the sideline and Danny Manning was on the court.

"It's been five years since Roy went to Carolina," Self said. "As Kansas fans, representing Kansas, we should be proud of the time that Roy gave us, because excellence was definitely the standard while he was there. There may be some talk

about (Williams' leaving), all those things. But our focus will not be on that. Our focus will be on their team."

For Davidson, the focus will be on what might have been.

The Wildcats (29-7) proved they were no mere warm-and-fuzzy sideshow, hanging and banging with some of the toughest teams in the nation and making Kansas earn every inch of its trip to San Antonio. The country has learned all kinds of fun facts about the little school from North Carolina, including that it has free laundry and generous trustees.

But a loss is a loss, and coming so close only makes it sting harder — something Self knows all too well.

"The agony of this is that we came so far," Davidson coach Bob McKillop said. "We've seen and touched our dream, and we missed. We came two points away from the Final Four with a 1,700-student school in the Southern Conference."

Davidson's time at NCAA ball expires

by JIM LITKE
ASSOCIATED PRESS

The little guy got caught holding the ball too long.

Of all the NCAA tournament endings Stephen Curry imagined for himself, that one probably didn't make the list. All the other elements for a great story, though, were in place: Davidson down 59-57 to Kansas with the ball, 16.8 seconds left and the final spot in the Final Four on the line.

The slim, 6-foot-3 sophomore and son of NBA sharpshooter Dell Curry brought it up the court, then from crossed from left side to right, just past the top of the key. Because Curry has the same range as his old man, and because he'd already burned three tournament teams, Kansas coach Bill Self made sure no step on the kid's journey from halfcourt in would be unaccompanied.

The Jayhawks came out "small" after the time out, deploying 6-9 forward Darrell Arthur under the basket and four guards around the perimeter. All four had played Curry man-to-man at some point in the game trying to wear him out, and in the concluding seconds, first Mario Chalmers, then Brandon Rush and finally Sherron Collins each took one last turn.

With Rush soaring directly in front of him, and Collins hemming him in on the left, Curry's last option was to kick the ball back to teammate Jason Richards with 2 seconds left. Richards' hurried 25-footer caromed harmlessly off the backboard.

"They made sure they put the ball in their best player's hand," Self said. "We did a good job of switching."

Making the Final Four meant everything to Self, who'd come up short a few times before. But it meant plenty to his fraternity brothers running similarly high-powered programs, too, since it restored some order to their universe.

The win meant all four No. 1 seeds — UCLA, North Carolina and Memphis previously booked their trips to San Antonio — advanced out of the regionals for the first time since the NCAA began seeding teams in 1979. Narrow as Kansas' win was, that was not an accident.

Davidson became the darlings of this tournament, the smart pick to retrace George Mason's magical steps of two years ago and provide another rallying cry for the small schools seeking a better shake from the selection committee come tournament time. And none other than George Mason coach Jim Larranaga climbed

on the Wildcats' bandwagon even before the postseason began.

It helped that Larranaga had been an assistant at Davidson and that he was close pals with coach Bob McKillop. But more to the point, Larranaga saw many of the same qualities that made his Colonials team such a tough out in the NAAs in 2006 — a roster brimming with late-blooming talent, experience and the fearlessness that comes from playing tough nonconference opponents.

And whenever schools like George Mason or Davidson — which plays in the lowly Southern Conference, with a student body of 1,700 and the same coach for 19 years — get on that kind of a run, it makes athletic directors at the big schools with bigger budgets playing in the biggest conferences question why they're already home watching on TV.

Self acknowledged afterward both he and his kids felt the burden of those expectations.

"Even though they're as good ... they don't have the same 'wow' factor with the name of their school, not being from a BCS conference or whatever, I think in some ways, maybe put a little subtle pressure on you, as well," he said.

"Our guys didn't handle it great," Self added, "but we were tough enough to get the win, which is all that matters."

He's right, of course, but that's no accident, either.

We could argue the rest of the year whether anybody is tougher than Curry. But Kansas, Carolina, UCLA and Memphis have tough kids in waves, more than a few of whom also happen to be NBA-ready; that kind of quantity AND quality almost always wins out over the course of time.

Curry grew up wanting to play in the Atlantic Coast Conference. Despite his pedigree, the closest he got to a scholarship was an offer to walk on at Virginia Tech, where Dell played, with a shot at a full ride the following year. Instead, Stephen chose Davidson and used all those rejection letters for fuel.

"I think everybody will tell you they were wrong," Dell said recently, "but it's good to have a chip on your shoulder when you play sometimes."

Stephen doesn't have anything left to prove, though he already announced he will be back for his junior year. No one had a better tournament and there's no one that McKillop, or any other coach in the land, would have rather seen with the ball in his hands and the clock

winding down — even if Curry wound up running himself ragged and into a thicket at the end.

"Their four-guard rotation, where they could throw kind of the same defender at you, same style, it really took a toll toward the end," Curry said. "Regardless of that, we had an opportunity to win. So fatigue is a factor, but we fought through to the best of our abilities and still had a shot to win it at the end."

McKillop knew only too well how rare it was for the Davidsons of the college basketball world just to get into that position. If there was anything he wanted people to remember about this season, that was it.

"My father was a New York City cop. He used to always tell me to polish the backs of your shoes," McKillop said, "because that's the last thing people see of you."

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POISON OAK

Catchy drawer and squeaky door

If I've learned one thing in the more than 25 years I've been writing this column, it's that when it comes to folklore, folks in these parts have as much lore as those in any other part of the country. Whether we're discussing old-time remedies or old superstitions that have been handed down from one generation to another, we eastern Kentuckians are second to none.

But just when I get the feeling that we've pretty much exhausted the ways our ancestors handled the many afflictions that faced their families a hundred years ago, I'll get a phone call, a letter, or an email, that reveals yet another "sure-fire cure" for some common malady.



Clyde Pack

Same goes for some of the old superstitions that prevailed in those long-ago days, before modern science and instant communication.

In just the last few weeks, several interesting items have crossed my desk in one form or another. Like the call I received from a lady in Michigan, who said she grew up in Johnson County. She said once, when she was a child, she slammed a car door on her foot. It was turning into a nasty infection, until her mother took her to the barnyard, took a little stick and scraped fresh cow manure off the gate, spread it onto the injured foot and covered it with a clean, white cloth. The next day, her infected foot was no longer infected, and she had no problem with it thereafter.

Cow manure. Now what healing properties were contained in cow manure? Obviously, this lady's mom knew something that perhaps her mom had passed down to her, and whatever it was, worked.

I received a letter, also postmarked Michigan, with a neatly hand-lettered list of the many ways old folks predicted rain. A pale moon rising means rain the next day; rain is on the way when crows fly low; when chairs squeak, of rain they speak; catchy drawer and sticky door, coming rain will pour and pour; and finally, just before a rain, the flowers smell sweeter.

An email brought me a list of things that blackstrap molasses could cure: constipation, heart palpitations, anemia, arthritis, and acne. And finally, something that might even be more interesting to our age group than any of the above, blackstrap molasses can turn gray hair back to its original color.

Unfortunately, the emailer did not include a particular recipe for any of the cures. He did, however, distinguish between just regular molasses and blackstrap molasses. Blackstrap is the result of three boilings of cane sugar syrup. Regular molasses are made by just one or two boilings.

Eastern Kentucky folklore is apparently like Jimmy Durante's jokes. We got a million of 'em. Therefore, I've long since given up on thinking I'll ever run out of material when it comes to this subject.

The way I figure it, all I have to do is sit tight and wait. Sooner or later, more will show up, and when it does, I'll share it with my readers.



Mr. John D. Tufts, center, was one of the Prestonsburg Health Care Center residents who was honored with induction into the center's Hall of Fame this past Thursday evening. Mr. Tufts, no longer a resident, convalesced at the center following knee surgery. Pictured with him are (from left) his grandson, Johnathan Banks; daughter, Judy Tufts Combs, of Wayland; granddaughter, Katelyn Banks; and daughter, Jackie Tufts Salisbury, of Minnie.

Prestonsburg Health Care Center honors 'Hometown Heroes'

Third annual Hall of Fame Cafe Awards

by KATHY J. PRATER
FEATURES EDITOR

"Hometown Heroes" - the people who really make a town proud to say, "That's one of our own." They're the people who go about their daily lives making a difference in, most often, quiet and subtle ways. And they're the very people that Elaine Jones, director, and her staff at Prestonsburg Health Care Center go out of their way each year to honor with induction into the center's Hall of Fame Cafe.

"We're proud to have served our 'Hometown Heroes' and this special evening is set aside for them," Jones said. Last Thursday evening, March 27, Jones and her staff presented their third annual Hall of Fame Cafe awards ceremony. Honored that evening were PHCC residents Delbert Copley, John D. Tufts, and Joe Jarrell; along with stakeholder Venita Powers and community leader Billie Jean Osborne.

Mr. Copley was selected for recognition based on his long years of community involvement and military service. Born February 5, 1922, in Logan, West Virginia, he joined the army following his graduation from high school. While in the service, he attended engineering and artillery school. Serving during World

War II, he was involved in the Normandy Campaign in 1944, participating in what history knows today as D-DAY, or the Normandy Invasion, on June 6, 1944.

Mr. Copley received two medals, one of which was the Bronze Star, awarded for bravery, acts of merit and valor. He remains today, most proud of his Army service.

Mr. John D. Tufts, recognized for his many professional accomplishments and military service, was a short-time resident at the health-care facility, where he spent a few months recuperating following knee surgery. "It's very nice to be invited back," Tufts said. "They were very good to me while I was here." At age 85, Tufts remains active at home and says he still very much enjoys life, "especially hunting and fishing," he said.

Born October 15, 1923, in Rush, he is a graduate of Wayland High School and Mayo Technical School. Following his graduation from Mayo, he enlisted in naval service. Trained in gunnery, he, too, served during World War II, on the ship the U.S. Clay, stationed in Tokyo Bay. Tufts was present at the signing of the U.S. - Japan Peace Treaty, the treaty that officially ended World War II.

Following his service in the navy, he

(See HEROES, page seven)



Mrs. Billie Jean Osborne was honored with induction into the Hall of Fame and presented with a plaque that will hang in the center by Center Director Elaine Jones. Mrs. Osborne was this year's selected member from the community chosen for recognition.

photo by Kathy J. Prater

CRITTER CORNER

Be careful what pets ingest

by KATHY PRATER

Last week we looked at common household plants that can be harmful to your pet's health. This week, we take a look at the foods in your kitchen and the drugs in your medicine cabinet that can seriously threaten the well-being of your pet.

Experts at The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) Animal Poison Control Center urge pet owners to avoid feeding their pets the following foods: chocolate (all forms); fatty foods; macadamia nuts; raisins and grapes; avocado; alcoholic beverages; coffee (all forms); moldy or spoiled foods; onions and onion powder; salty foods; yeast dough; garlic; and products sweetened with xylitol.

Information on additional foods best to avoid may be found on the ASPCA website (www.aspc.org) under "People Food."

Chocolate, a favorite food of humans, though not necessarily best for them, either, contains high amounts of fat and caffeine-like stimulants known as methylxanthines. If ingested in significant amounts, chocolate can potentially produce clinical effects in dogs ranging from vomiting and diarrhea to panting, excessive thirst and urination, hyperactivity, abnormal heart rhythm, tremors, seizures and even death in severe cases.

Typically, the darker the chocolate, the higher the potential for clinical problems from methylxanthine poisoning. White chocolate has the lowest methylxanthine content, while baking chocolate contains the highest. As little as 20 ounces of milk chocolate - or only two ounces of baking chocolate - can cause serious problems in a 10-pound dog. While white chocolate may not have the

(See CRITTER, page seven)



These little "snow angels" are Brittany and Brandy, feisty Yorkshire terriers owned by Rita and Lowell Brock, of Prestonsburg. The curious duo, according to their owners, enjoyed playing in the recent snow that fell last month outside their home. "They loved it," proclaimed Rita. "They were the cutest sight ever," she said.

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YESTERDAYS

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

Ten Years Ago

(April 3 and 8, 1998)

Russell Wallen, Jr., 68, was lodged in the Floyd County Adult Detention Center last Friday, after a contempt hearing in Floyd Circuit Court. He was released from custody on February 19, after his attorney appealed a district court jury's verdict, which found the defendant guilty of selling alcohol to minors, a class B misdemeanor.

Floyd County will benefit from a grant for homeless veterans approved, Wednesday. President Bill Clinton announced the approval of the \$2.5 million in grants to aid homeless veterans in 11 states and the District of Columbia. Efforts to mend fences between Lancer residents and LodeStar Energy officials began, Wednesday, when both sides met to discuss concerns related to the mining company's blasting. Last month, a group from Lancer approached Prestonsburg's City Council claiming blasting on the mountaintop site adjacent to their community was damaging their homes.

Inspectors from the state's Licensing and Regulations were at Mountaintop Pre-school, Thursday morning, conducting an inspection of that facility. Inspectors met with Pre-school director Danny Greene, Betty Cavens and Shonia Bentley for more than an hour in the center, while a David school teacher and three students were installing a wooden gate at a set of stairs where three children fell, Monday.

Prestonsburg is blooming with color, and more hue is on the way. The city's greenhouse, located at Prestonsburg Community College, is overflowing with seedlings trays, baskets and pots of petunias, marigolds, salvia, and coleus fill tables, shelves, and the floor of the facility, awaiting transplantation to former weed-filled spaces.

The Town Branch Church has a tradition of assisting those in the community who are having financial difficulties, along with providing spiritual counseling. They operate a food bank, and for the past four years, have provided the public with free clothing and personal items at

four different give-aways a year. This week April 1-10, the church will be offering free Easter clothing for small children, sizes 4-7.

In a welcomed turnabout, members of Kentucky's Board of Education seemed pleased with proposed efforts by local school officials to get the Floyd School System on the road to financial and academic recovery. Floyd County School officials told state board members, Tuesday, that the district is "broke and broken," and organization is the key to turning the system around.

Barring any last minute, line item vetoes by Governor Paul Patton, Floyd County is in line for some \$21 million worth of projects and related funding over the next two years. And, that total doesn't include Transportation Cabinet spending in the county.

Interviews for four applicants seeking to fill the vacancy on Floyd County's Board of Education will be held Thursday, at the central office in Prestonsburg. There is an empty seat on the board in District Three, due to the resignation of B.J. Newsome. Newsome resigned in February, after filing to run for county commissioner.

Prospective property purchases may eliminate parking problems in Prestonsburg. The Floyd Fiscal Court authorized Judge-Executive Ben Hale, Monday, to purchase a piece of property adjacent to the courthouse, to be utilized as a parking facility.

The Community-oriented Policing Services (COPS) training project is coming to Prestonsburg. This two-day seminar, funded by Eastern Kentucky University, is a free course, open to the public, with the goal being to better enhance relations between police force and the public it serves.

Two-year-old Joseph Grant Collins, of Stanville, was killed, Tuesday morning, when he ran into traffic on Route 23 in Pikeville. He suffered fatal injuries when he was struck by a vehicle, in the southbound lane of the highway.

There died: Frank Gordon Grey, 66, of Allen, Tuesday, March 31, at the University of Kentucky Medical Center, in Lexington; Denver Daniels, 83, of Prestonsburg, Tuesday, March 31, at Kobacker House, in Columbus,

Ohio; Myrtle Imogene Sayers, 72, of Pikeville, Tuesday, March 31, at her residence; Hewen Shaler Spencer, 70, of Martin, Wednesday, April 1, at Highlands Regional Medical Center; Russell Johnson, 73, of Melvin, Tuesday, March 31, at McDowell Appalachian Regional Hospital; Melvin Bernard Wicker, 63, of Mousie, Tuesday, March 31, at his residence; Ira D. Amick, 51, of Minnie, Wednesday, April 1, at the VA Hospital in Lexington; Norma Cline, 90, of Pikeville, Sunday, April 5, in Gray, Tennessee; Ebbie Thornsberry Martin, 82, of Litt Carr, Wednesday, April 1, at her home; Lillie Belle Boyd, 62, of Marshallville, formerly of Dana, Sunday, April 5, at her residence; Holena "Babe" Collins, 68, of McDowell, Thursday, April 2, at the McDowell Appalachian Regional Hospital; Clifford Hampton, 70, of Salyersville, Monday, April 6, at the Paul B. Hall Regional Medical Center; Girtie DeBord, 69, of McDowell, Tuesday, April 7, at her residence; Spicy Younce, 73, of Virgie, formerly of Little Robinson Creek, Friday, April 3, at Pikeville Methodist Hospital.

Twenty Years Ago

(April 6, 1968)

Last Thursday, the two percent restaurant tax became effective, and the revenue will be used to promote tourism.

Child support collection is said to have risen 67 percent since the 1986 law, which allows back pay to be deducted from wages.

A halt was seen on the work of a road on new Route 3, due to a lack of right-of-way.

An apartment at Dixie Heights netted the sheriff's department an arrest and confiscation of marijuana and drug paraphernalia.

Drive-thru was given a new meaning for Ken's Gulf Service Station on South Lake Drive in Prestonsburg, as a woman lost control of her car and ran through the garage doors, and almost made it out through the other side.

Last Wednesday, a brother and sister met for the first time. Allen Bentley of Great Britain,

and Katherine Fields of Allen, had been separated by the Atlantic Ocean and, after years of wondering about the other, met here in the U.S.

There died: Lona Gibson, 69, Monday, at her residence at Tram; Flora Brown, formerly of Hall Hollow, March 16, in Pennsylvania; Anna Moore, 53, of McDowell, Saturday, at her residence; John Mollett, 84, of Weeksbury, Monday, at HRMC; James Goble, 78, of Prestonsburg, Sunday, at HRMC; Jessica Housah, 95, of Prestonsburg, Monday, at HRMC; Raleigh Barnett, 51, formerly of Martin, Saturday, in Florida; Oscar Ousley, 77, of Martin, Thursday, at his residence; Imogene Barnett, 62, of Ivel, Monday, at HRMC; Geneva Turner, 62, of Garrett, Saturday, at HRMC; Florene Wilcox, 62, March 25, in Ohio; and Luther Tackett, 72, formerly of Floyd County, Saturday, in Cleveland, Ohio.

Thirty Years Ago

(April 5, 1978)

A gasoline spill at the Marvin Music Gulf Distribution bulk plant at West Prestonsburg, and the resulting threat of explosion and fire, forced the evacuation, late Saturday night, of an estimated 300 to 400 residents there.

Although completion of the new \$1.8 million Riverview Manor is not expected before early fall, the 116-bed extended care facility was under roof this past week, and inside finishing work had begun.

Owners of gas wells on three leases in the Prestonsburg vicinity, filed suit, last Thursday, against the City of Prestonsburg, alleging that the city had violated its contract to buy from them, all marketable gas produced from their premises.

Floyd County will begin, on May 1, what its fiscal court hopes will be the greatest cleanup effort in its history.

The month has been declared Cleanup and Beautification Month by the court, and John M. Stumbo has been designated to head the

(See YESTERDAYS, page seven)

School Happenings

***Of special note:** Thursday, April 10, "Give Yourself a Break Day," 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., at MAC. For all parents/guardians of all Floyd County students. Food, door prizes, information - all FREE.

Adams Middle School Youth Services Center.

•Lending Library available for student/parent use. Pamphlets, videos, books and more on a variety of topics available.

•Appointments now available with the Floyd County Health Dept. nurse. Nurse can do school physicals and immunizations on site. Please call 886-1297 to schedule an appointment.

•The Youth Services Center provides services to families regardless of income. Please contact the center for more information on center services and programs. Call the center at 886-1297. Coordinator is Michelle Keathley.

Allen Central High School

•April 8 - Open House, 5-7 p.m.
•April 9 - Technology Showcase, 5:30-8 p.m.

•April 18 - Progress reports.
•April 18 - UK Barn Storming Tour (Basketball).

•April 21 thru May 2 - CATS testing window.

•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

•April 1-3 - Energy program for 7th grade.

•April 7-21 - Accepting Parent SBDM Council nominations.

•April 7, 8, 11 - Energy program for 6th grade.

•April 17 - Child Abuse Awareness booth, in cafeteria, 2-3 p.m.

•April 21 - CATS testing begins.

•April 21 - Parent Site-Based Election, in YSC, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

•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

•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.

Duff Elementary

•Center is in need of gently used clothing, shoes, belts and backpacks. All donations greatly appreciated.

•Floyd County Health Dept. is on site three days per month. Services include 6th grade school entry physical; 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 area where the old main office used to be. Contact persons are Judy Handshoe, coordinator.

May Valley Elementary

•May Valley is currently accepting applications for the May Valley Elementary Early Childhood Program (3-4 year olds). Fee for services is \$18/per day. Services available Mon. thru Fri. Contact school at 285-0883 for more information. Slots will be filled on first-come, first-serve basis. Remaining applicants will be placed on waiting list.

•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.

•Parents of 5th grade students are urged to call the FRC and make an appointment for their child's 6th grade physical exam!

•Floyd County Health Department Nurse Joy Moore, is at the center the first three Mondays each month to administer immunizations, T.B. skin tests, well-child exams, WIC, prenatal and post-partum services, and school physicals. Call 377-2678 for an appointment.

•Parent lending library available to all parents for video/book check-outs. A variety of topics are available.

•GED classes available at FRC each Monday, 8 a.m. to 12 p.m., in library.

•Family Resource Center is open weekdays, 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Center is located upstairs in the old high school building, on the McDowell Elementary School campus. For further information, call Clara Johnson, director, at 377-2678. The McDowell FRC provides services to all MES students and their families, regardless of income.

Mountain Christian Academy

•Tuition assistance and bus transportation is available. For more information or a tour of the school, call 285-5141 or 285-5142.

•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.

•April 4 - School Dance (K-2nd, 6-7:30 p.m.); (3rd-5th, 7:30-9 p.m.)

•April 8 - FRC Advisory Council meeting, 3:25 p.m., conference room.

•April 8 - SBDM Council meeting, 6:30 p.m., school cafeteria.

•April 15 - Parent Conference Night, 5:30-7:30 p.m. (Soup Bean dinner in cafeteria.)

•April 22 - Parent meeting to review Learning Compact for 08-09, 6:30 p.m., in cafeteria.

•May 15, 16 - Kindergarten registration, 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

•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.

•After-School Child Care: 3-6 p.m.

•School hours: 8:15 a.m. to 3 p.m.

•Call the PES Center at 886-7088 for information and referrals regard-

ing GED classes, preschool child care, and other programs or services offered to the community.

South Floyd Youth Services Center

•Floyd County Substance Abuse Counselor will be on South Floyd campus on Mondays; Mt. Comp Care counselor will be on campus on Tuesdays. If you need to speak with either counselor, contact the SFYSC.

•SFHS and SFMS Parent Volunteer training held throughout the year. Watch for dates TBA.

•Juniors and Seniors will attend the pre-Prom program at the MAC in May.

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

•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 .m

•John M. Stumbo Elementary is currently registering students for Kindergarten. Parents/guardians may pick up packets in school office.

•Lost & Found located in the Family Resource Center. If your child has lost an item, please contact us as soon as possible. Items left over two weeks become the property of the center and will be donated to charity.

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

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

•Lost and Found is located in the Family Resource Center. Items not claimed within three 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

•April 22 thru 25 - Stanford testing.

•May 1, 2, 8, 9 - WCS Aldersgate Camp Family Retreats. K-4 through 2nd grade on May 1, 2; 3rd grade through 7th grade on May 8, 9.

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

•For more information about Wesley Christian School, call 874-8328.

Big Sandy Community & Technical College Adult Education and GED

Monday: 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. - McDowell FRC; Martin Comm. Ctr.; Highlands Regional Hospital; BSCTC.

1-4:30 p.m. - BSCTC; Martin Comm. Ctr.

1:30 - 5 p.m. - Wheelwright Baptist Church.

Tuesday: 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. - Mud Creek Clinic; BSCTC.

9-11 a.m. - Hope House

9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. - Dixie Apartments; David Craft Center.

1-4:30 p.m. - BSCTC; Mud Creek Clinic; Floyd County Jail.

6-8 p.m. - Highlands Regional Medical Center; Martin Community Ctr.

Wednesday: 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. - Martin Comm. Ctr.; Highlands Regional Medical Center; BSCTC.

9-11 a.m. - Hope House

1-4:30 p.m. - Layne House; BSCTC; Floyd County Jail.

6-8 p.m. - BSCTC.

Thursday: 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. BSCTC.

8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. - Weeksbury CC.

10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. - Betsy Layne YSC.

1-4:30 p.m. - BSCTC.

6-9 p.m. - Betsy Layne

Kay Hale Ross - Manager of Adult Education, 886-7334

Lisa Pelfrey - Assistant, 886-7397

Ron Johnson, Stephanie Conn, Lynn Hall, Nancy Bormes, Cindy Justice and Wayne Combs - Adult Education teachers.

Yesterdays

effort
A resolution, aimed at removing union President Arnold Miller from office, was adopted by representatives of seven UMW districts as a meeting, here, Saturday, and locals around the country will soon be receiving copies of the resolution

There died: Mrs. Hattie Porter, 94, of Martin, March 28, at Mountain Manor Nursing Home; Ruth Hager DeRossett, 57, formerly of Bull Creek, Sunday, at Mary Chiles Hospital in Mt. Sterling; Robert Lee Boyd, 89, of Banner, Saturday, at the Paintsville Hospital; Martin Hall, 52, of Martin, whose body was found in front of a church at Hite, Sunday; Joseph Wade Spears, 88, of Galveston, Wednesday, at Methodist Hospital, Pikeville; Mrs. Alta Greene, 67, of Jenny's Creek, Sunday morning, at U.K. Medical Center; Mrs. Julia B. Stephens, 87, formerly of Prestonsburg, Tuesday, at Mayfield Nursing Home in Lexington.

Forty Years Ago

(April 4, 1968)

Rumor became stark reality, last Thursday afternoon, when the David mines of the Princess Elkhorn division of Princess Coals, closed permanently, after 27 years of work

Jerry Neace, 39, of Prestonsburg, was killed, instantly, shortly afternoon, Friday, in a highway construction accident on Daniels Creek

Sam Bittman, English instructor at Prestonsburg Community College, has been appointed director of the 1968 Summer Amphitheatre Program at Jenny Wiley State Park, it was announced recently

Commenting on the liquor situation this week, Sheriff Joe W. Lewis said Floyd County is ringed with bootlegging joints which are in the jurisdiction of sheriffs of other counties or state police

Married: Miss Linda Marie Baker, of Columbus City, Ind., and Cpl. Mitchell Dingus, of Floyd County, March 10, at Columbus City; Miss Ulanda Lucas, of Ligon, and Mr. Gary Rose, of Hi Hat, March 28, at Clintwood, Virginia

Born: to Mr. and Mrs. Hassell Hall, of Hi Hat, a daughter, March 25; to Mr. and Mrs. Everett Maggard, of Minnie, a son, March 26; to Mr. and Mrs. Victory Ray, of Beaver, a son, March 30

There died: Mrs. Ruie Draugh, 69, of Leburn, Tuesday, at Ary, Ky.; Mrs. Lucinda Chaffins, 89, Monday, at her home at Garrett; Mrs. Elizabeth Horn Copley, 83, native of Prestonsburg, last Wednesday, at a Paintsville Hospital; Lloyd (Bus) Hale, 58, formerly of David, Saturday, at a Paintsville hospital; Mrs. Susanna Slone, 57, Saturday, at her home at Lackey; Kessie Boyd, 46, formerly of Dana, last Wednesday, at Ashland; Elder Jonah Isaacs, 92, of Ligon, Saturday, at the McDowell Appalachian Regional Hospital; Rev. Benard (Ben) Parker, 63, last Wednesday, en route to Prestonsburg General Hospital; George Robinette, 86, Tuesday, at his home at Harold.

Fifty Years Ago

(April 3, 1958)

"There is no reason why eastern Kentucky couldn't become the mountain resort area of Middle America," said Laban Jackson, Commissioner of Conservation, recently, while on a visit to Dewey Lake State Park. "To become this, you need good forests, clean streams and better roads," he added

Floyd County had a total income of \$38,079,000 in 1956, with a per capita distribution of \$683, according to a University of Kentucky study

Mrs. Arville Tackett, 44, of East McDowell, is said to be the only woman in Kentucky actively engaged in coal mining

The Fiscal Court, last week, certified a total of 8,884 Floyd Countians to be recipients of surplus foodstuffs

Continued from p6

The building housing the W. T. Hammond grocery store on South Lake Drive, here, was gutted and its contents destroyed, Sunday morning, by fire

Married Miss Lois Faye Skeans, of Blue River, and Kenneth Ray Wright, of Prestonsburg, at the First Methodist Church of Prestonsburg

Born: to Mr. and Mrs. James Brunson, of Phoenix, Ariz., a daughter, Angela Leigh; to Al and Mrs. Vernis Adkins, a son, March 27, at McDowell Memorial Hospital

There died: Jeff Crider, 80, of Bonanza, Monday, at the home of a daughter in Boldman.

Sixty Years Ago

(April 8, 1948)

What promised to be a hot fight for the Republican county chairmanship, between Harry R. Burke, of Bonanza, and D.P. (Perk) Dingus, of Martin, suddenly cooled at the county caucus here, Saturday, with Mr. Burke winning the post by acclamation, after one of his main supporters, S. C. Ferguson, Prestonsburg, had won the seat of temporary chairman

Bids looking to the clearing of buildings from the area in the vicinity of the Dewey dam were asked, this week, by the Huntington district office, Corps of Engineers

The nation's soft coal strike, today, was a week nearer its end—but when this end would come, none would venture a guess

Next April, Joseph D. Harkins Sr., Prestonsburg attorney, will become the first president of the Kentucky Bar Association to be named from the Big Sandy section of the state

Married: Miss Katherine Frances Sizemore, of Hazard, and Edward C. Casebolt, of Newport, Ky., March 19, at Richmond, Ky.; Miss Betsy Louise Tyler, of West Liberty, and Charles A. Goble, formerly of Prestonsburg, March 26, at Mt. Sterling

There died: Jacob Crisp, 79, of Martin, Sunday, at the Methodist Hospital, Pikeville; George Hall, 47, formerly of this county, last Tuesday, at Louisville; Mrs. Vannie Newsom Elliott, 24, of Dony, Saturday, at the home of her mother at Melvin.

Seventy Years Ago

(April 7, 1938)

The fiscal court meeting, here, Tuesday, voted five tax levies, postponed appropriations for the health department and county agent, approved five claims, and voted to sponsor and maintain farm-to-market roads

To the list of 19 persons already indicted for murder, and docketed for trial in the April term of court, the grand jury added nine additional Floyd Countians, charged with murder in true bills returned this week

Fire originating at 3 a.m., Sunday, destroyed the frame one-story dwelling of former Sheriff T. Y. Martin, a second house, in the rear, occupied by William Young, and a double garage, as firemen fought to save adjacent buildings

Stepping from one track where a train was backing up, Mrs. Mary Tackett, 57, Weeksbury, was struck by an oncoming train on a parallel track at Clear Creek, Tuesday, and was killed, instantly, after the train had dragged her for a short distance

With one well already drilled, two drilling, two more rigs under construction, and several locations made, Tram is Floyd County's oil boom town

Born: to Mr. and Mrs. Frank Rogers, of Betsy Layne, a son, April 3

There died: Dr. J. T. Cottrell, of Prestonsburg, last Friday, in a Paintsville hospital; Beverly Burchett, 58, of Emma, Sunday night, in a Paintsville hospital; Mrs. Anna Stumbo, 54, Friday, at home; Mrs. Ben Phares, 45, of Prestonsburg, Monday, at Huntington, W.Va.; Mrs. Margaret Salyers, Wednesday, at the home of her sister at Hueysville; Mrs. Osie Coburn, 47, Friday, at her home here.

Heroes

Continued from p5

returned home and began working for the East Kentucky Explosive Company. He has worked on several major projects, one of which was the Pikeville Cut-Thru, known as one of the largest land removal projects ever completed in the western hemisphere by the US Army Corps of Engineers.

Tufts also helped on the Paintsville Lake project, in nearby Johnson County.

"He's a good man, a good husband, and a good father," said his daughter, Judy Combs. "And he's lucky to have come from a long line of folks who all lived very long lives."

Joe Jarrell, honored posthumously Thursday night, was also recognized for his professional accomplishments, as well as history of community involvement. Born January 11, 1915, in Louisa, he attended the University of Kentucky following high school graduation. At UK, Jarrell earned a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture. Employed as a teacher for 37 years in both Floyd and Lawrence Counties, he spent a career teaching both children and adults. Hired by the Lawrence County Board of Education, Jarrell taught an occupational training program for veterans returning from World War II.

He was a member of the Lawrence County Soil and Conservation Board and enjoyed many years hunting, fishing, and taking care of animals. His award

was accepted by a family member. Working as a state registered nurse aide, Venita Powers has been on staff at Prestonsburg Health Care Center since April, 1979. Center Director Elaine Jones said she was "proud" to honor Powers with her Hall of Fame Cafe award, presented to her for "being a hard working employee with excellent attendance for the past 29 years."

"She has helped lead and mentor other employees during her time with us," Jones said.

Married to David R. Powers, she is a member of the Auxier Freewill Baptist Church where she serves as a Vacation Bible School teacher, as well as assistant treasurer for the church.

Venita enjoys scrapbooking, reading, baking, working in her flower gardens and spending time with her family and three nieces when she is off duty.

Mrs. Billie Jean Osborne, known far and wide as the founder of the Mountain Arts Center, was also honored with induction into the PHCC Hall of Fame Cafe. Recognized for her admirable skills in community leadership, Mrs. Osborne has taught one and all to never give up on their dreams.

Envisioning a place where mountain children could showcase their talents, "Ms. Billie," as she is affectionately known, never stopped in her quest to build just such a place. Today, that place is

known as The Mountain Arts Center, a state of the art facility that boasts a 1,050 seat auditorium, gift shop, art gallery, classrooms, rehearsal space, community conference center, and fully equipped recording studio. It serves as home to The Kentucky Opry and Kentucky Opry Junior Pros, Osborne's acclaimed musical groups.

Never ceasing to put her energies and talents to work providing the very best in musical educational opportunities for area children, Mrs. Osborne remains hard at work today making sure every child with a dream to do so is allowed the opportunity to showcase their musical talent on the arts center stage.

Living by the motto, "Give me a child, let me put a song in its heart and I will give you back a happy child," Mrs. Osborne said that she was touched by the PHCC recognition of her work. "It's very nice to be honored," she said.

Those attending the Hall of Fame Cafe awards ceremony were treated to a roast beef dinner with all the trimmings, an array of fine desserts and presented with a special gift of homemade candies to take home.

Special music was provided by Holli Howard, the invocation by Chaplain William Jarrell, and Debra Williamson, activities director, read the poem "Hometown Hero."

Critter

Continued from p5

same potential as darker forms to cause methylxanthine poisoning, the high fat content of lighter chocolates could still lead to vomiting and diarrhea, as well as the possible development of life-threatening pancreatitis, an inflammatory condition of the pancreas.

Looking at cats, veterinarians know that cats do not possess significant amounts of lactase, the enzyme that breaks down lactose in milk. Feeding milk and milk-based products to cats can actually cause them to vomit or have diarrhea, which in severe cases could lead to inflammation of the pancreas. For this reason, it's

always a good idea to check with your vet before offering any "people food" to pets.

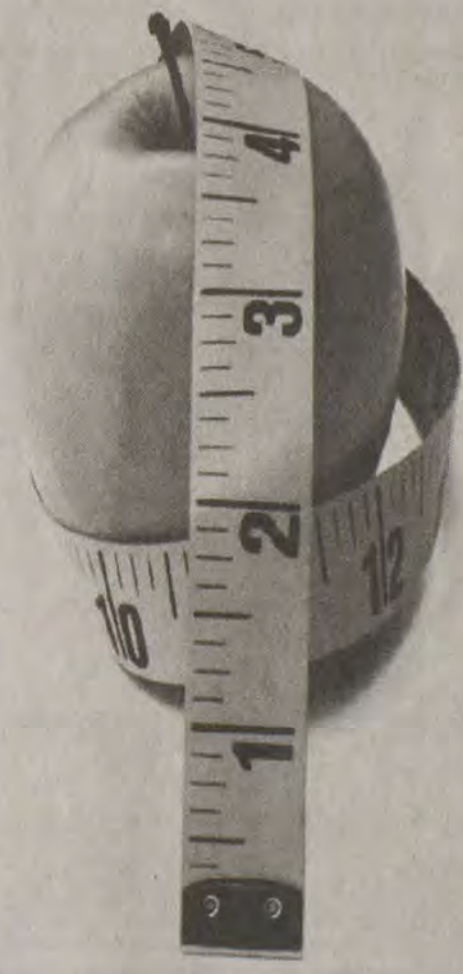
In looking at common household medications, though many may think it harmless, it is not okay to give your pet Ibuprofen. Ibuprofen can definitely be toxic to dogs and other pets - even in small amounts. Depending on the dose ingested, significant gastrointestinal damage or even kidney damage can result.

Many drugs, including non-steroidal anti-inflammatories like aspirin, can cause serious or potentially life-threatening problems, depending on the dose involved. Also, pets have

been known to chew through containers of aspirin and other medications. Though most medications are packaged to be child-proof, pets can easily chew and break open packaging, so medications should always be stored in a secure cabinet above the countertop and out of reach of curious pets.

The ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center strongly advises pet owners to never give their pets any type of medication without first consulting with their regular veterinarian. Many drugs that are beneficial to humans can be harmful and even deadly to pets.

Healthy Living With DIABETES



Saturday, April 19, 2008
9:00 A.M. - 11:30 A.M.

Highlands Regional Medical Center
Medical Office Building
Meeting Place A and B - First Floor

- Heart Healthy Breakfast
- Door Prizes
- Free of Charge

Spend a Saturday Morning Learning
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New bundle of joy

Gary and Sheena Walton are pleased to announce the birth of their second daughter, Lillian Faith Walton, born March 2, 2008, at 12:34 a.m., at Mercy Fairfield Hospital, in Fairfield, Ohio. Lily weighed 7 lbs., 1 oz., and measured 20 inches in length. She is the maternal granddaughter of Lowell and Rita Brock, of Prestonsburg. Her paternal grandparents are Don and Brenda Knuckles, of Hamilton, Ohio. Also overjoyed to welcome home "her" new baby, is Lily's sister, Madeline, age 2.



Reading fun comes to life!

Wesley Christian School Kindergarten students, Jaden Little, Peyton Corbett, Megan O'Brien and Allison Akers helped celebrate Dr. Seuss's birthday in grand style last month at their school.

New Arrivals

Highlands Regional Medical Center

March 12, 2008
A son, Timothy Clifton Lauterwasser, to Lisa & Eric Lauterwasser, of River

March 13, 2008
A son, Sydney MacKaylyn Salyer, to Maranda Leigh Montgomery, of Salyersville

A daughter, Hailey Kristina Howell, to Kelli Renae Evans, of Wayfield

A daughter, Isabella Thomasdeana Wolfe, to Tina Marie Blevins, of Auxier

March 14, 2008
A son, John David Brace Manns, to Bonnie & John Wayne Manns, of Wayland

A daughter, Keira Brooke Wicker, to Kayla Michelle & Billy Joe Wicker, of Mousie

A son, Logan Brandt Lafferty, to Barbara Sue & Lee Lafferty, of Langley

March 17, 2008
A son, Jackson Patrick Nutt, to April & Jake Nutt, of Prestonsburg

A daughter, Paulinna-Carlee Robertta-Louise Ratliff, to Corinna JoAnn Ratliff, of Salyersville

A daughter, Angela Louellen Pitts, to Wanda Pitts, of Martin

A son, Logan Riley Hopson, to Brenda Lynn Lewis, of Prestonsburg

March 18, 2008
A daughter, Jasmine Nicole Stone, to Danyail & Matthew Stone, of Wayland

March 19, 2008
A daughter, Brookelynn Kennedy Keeton, to Jessica & Joshua Keeton, of Salyersville

A daughter, Abbigal Alexis Harris, to Dollie & Michael Harris, of Louisa

March 20, 2008
A son, Chance James Nicholas Hall, to Kimberly Hall, of Staffordsville

A son, Christian Raul Padilla, to Regina Adams, of Hazard

March 21, 2008
A son, Jaycob Wade Conley, to Tabitha Stacy, of Garrett

A daughter, Kayden Shyann Short, to Amanda & Tony Short, of Topmost



Hale receives US Army promotion

Dr. Edwynna Hale Miller, a native of Prestonsburg, was recently promoted in the United States Army Dental Corps to the rank of Colonel. COL Miller is the daughter of Mrs. Bobby Hale and the late Edgar Hale. She is a graduate of Prestonsburg High School, Transylvania University, and the University of Kentucky Dental School. She joined the United States Army in 1991 and has served for the past 17 years. COL Miller completed a residency in Oral and

Maxillofacial Pathology and is currently the Chief, Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology at Brooke Army Medical Center, Fort Sam Houston, Texas. Participating in the ceremony were COL Miller's husband Jared and her two children, Bobbi Jo and Jacob. Also in attendance at the ceremony were COL Miller's mother, Mrs. Bobby Hale, and her sister and brother-in-law Gary and Gwen Frazier of Prestonsburg.



Look! What's that 'Thing'?

Mrs. Geneva, flanked by Dr. Seuss characters "Thing 1" and "Thing 2", otherwise know as WCS students Allison and Peyton, enjoyed celebrating Dr. Seuss week, March 10-14, at Wesley Christian School. The weeklong celebration included dressing up like favorite Dr. Seuss characters, Crazy Hat Day, Crazy Socks/Shoes/Hair Day, and enjoying a special luncheon of "Green Eggs and Ham"!

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