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The Associated Press

FRANKFORT — Some Kentucky school districts are considering four-day instructional weeks to combat the rising cost of bus fuel.

The Lexington Herald-Leader quoted Kentucky School Board member Kaye Baird as saying schools are trying to save every way they can.

The board was meeting in Frankfort. Baird and Associate Education Commissioner Larry Stinson said districts must be careful to get the required 177 days of instruction completed in each school year.

Webster County schools and the Jenkins Independent Schools in Letcher County have been on a four-day schedule for the past few years.

Both lengthened their school days so students receive the required number of hours of instruction.

2 DAY FORECAST

Today
 Mostly sunny
High: 95 • Low: 70

Tomorrow
 Sunny
High: 95 • Low: 70

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

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DIGGING DEEP



photo by Ralph B. Davis

More than a week after the project began, utility workers continued digging up the streets of downtown Prestonsburg. The city is in the midst of a project to separate its storm and sanitary sewers.

3 charged in catalytic converter thefts

by JACK LATTA
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — Prestonsburg City Police arrested three suspects this week they believe may be responsible for a recent string of thefts involving catalytic converters in Floyd County.

According to police officials, Maj. Gerald Clark was on patrol Tuesday in the downtown area, when he noticed a male subject, Ronald Spurlock, 29, of Rainelle, W.Va., under a parked vehicle attempting to cut the converter out of a vehicle belonging to an employee of Speedway.

Upon determining that the vehicle did not in fact belong to Spurlock, Clark saw the tools used for cutting the converter and placed Spurlock under arrest.

(See **ARRESTS**, page two)

Prestonsburg looks to bill for fire, EMS services

by JACK LATTA
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — Prestonsburg Fire and Emergency Medical Service is planning to start billing insurance companies to offset rising costs.

According to Fire Chief Bobby Carpenter, Mayor Jerry Fannin agreed and the city council approved a motion for the city to enter into a contract with a billing company during Monday's council meeting.

Carpenter says that his fire and rescue will be billing for everything from structure fires to emergency response to accidents.

The billing of insurance companies by public safety institutions is not a novel approach to increasing revenues.

Earlier this year, the Erlanger City

Council in Kenton county met to vote on a similar bill to allow their police and EMS to begin billing for working accidents.

In a January article of the Kentucky Post, Erlanger Mayor Tim Rouse said, "There are far too many wrecks in Erlanger and 82 percent of those are caused by travelers just passing through. An order like this wouldn't make sense if you didn't have the kind of roads we do running through the community."

According to Councilman C.E. "Shag" Branham, Prestonsburg works its fair share of accidents as well.

Branham said that the city has agreed to enter into an agreement with the billing company, but that the policy for how it is to be applied isn't in place yet.

Branham says that, as in Erlanger, he

and several other councilmen agree that only nonresidents' insurance companies should be billed.

"We don't want to do it where it would be double taxation," said Branham. The city already taxes insurance policies at a rate of reportedly 9.5 percent.

Carpenter said the cost of providing fire and rescue has gone up considerably in Prestonsburg as well, while the tax base used to fund the fire and EMS has not. "This is a way to reimburse on an as-needed basis."

"If we respond to an accident, and use a cervical collar, then we will bill that person's insurance company to replace it," said Carpenter. Carpenter said things such as use of the "Jaws of

(See **BILLS**, page two)

State panel adopts report on retirement systems improvement

FRANKFORT — State retirement systems are meeting their investment objectives, but still lag when compared to other states' plans, according to a report adopted by a legislative oversight panel Thursday.

The report was approved by the General Assembly's Program Review and Investigations Committee. The report, first requested in October, presents an overview of the Kentucky Retirement Systems and Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System. It presents seven conclusions for lawmakers to consider

regarding the pension and retiree health insurance systems.

"This report comes at a perfect time... especially with the special session coming up," said Sen. Ernie Harris, R-Crestwood, who co-chairs the panel. The governor has talked about a possible legislative session later this month to solidify the financial future of KRS. The governor is also convening a group to study further changes. "I'm sure that this report will serve as a starting point for their discussions," Harris said.

Research suggests that

asset allocation - the broad categories in which investments are made - can account for as much as 92 percent of the differences in portfolio outcomes, the report stated. Because the systems are limited in how much they can invest in any one sector - stock, bonds, or other areas - they may not be able to yield as much return as otherwise possible.

Both KRS and KTRS officials noted that they have begun shifting more investments toward international stocks, which have outperformed U.S. stocks recently. "Assets are shifting outside

the U.S.," said Adam Tosh, KRS' Chief Investment Officer. "There are opportunities outside the United States. That trend will likely continue." Gary Harbin, KTRS Executive Director, noted that until 2004 that system had no international investments.

Still, they noted, they set benchmarks for comparison purposes in the various asset classes. Results are mixed when compared to those benchmarks, analysis showed. In some cases, returns fell below bench-

(See **REPORT**, page two)



Michael R. Gannon

Escapee found in Detroit

by JACK LATTA
STAFF WRITER

PIKEVILLE — A prisoner in the custody of the Pike County Detention Center who walked away from the work release program on Wednesday was apprehended early Thursday morning, over 400 miles away.

Michael R. Gannon, 26, was serving a sentence at the Pike County jail on a conviction of first-degree robbery.

Kentucky State Police notified news agencies after his escape, that Gannon was to be presumed armed and dangerous.

Gannon was located and arrested by Michigan State Police at 2:30am Thursday in Detroit.

Gannon is being held in Detroit until his extradition to Kentucky can be arranged.

KSP officials are still investigating the circumstances surrounding Gannon's escape and flight to Michigan.

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Beshear follows predecessors with trip to Japan

The Associated Press

FRANKFORT — Gov. Steve Beshear is following in the footsteps of his predecessors as he spends this week in Japan meeting with business executives.

Former Govs. Brereton Jones, Paul Patton and Ernie Fletcher made similar trips, hoping to lure Japanese companies to do business with Kentucky, either by making investments in plants in the commonwealth or buying

Kentucky products. Japan ranks first in foreign investment in Kentucky.

Although Beshear has said the state faces a financial crisis, officials have defended overseas economic recruiting trips as paying dividends by attract-

ing investment and creating jobs.

On Wednesday, Beshear and his wife, Jane, spoke with Hitachi Automotive Products Chairman Taiji Hasegawa and corporate executives of Yamamoto Seisakusho Co. Ltd. at a reception in Tokyo.

Governors have traditionally visited Japan in May or June, after the legislative session is

adjourned. Fletcher visited Japan in June 2004, May 2005 and June 2007.

Patton visited Japan eight times during his two terms as governor and twice as lieutenant governor.

Jones, who preceded Patton, also visited Japan.

Beshear, who served as lieutenant governor in the mid-1980s under then-Gov. Martha

Layne Collins, was part of a team that landed the state's most lucrative investment from Japan — the Toyota auto manufacturing plant in Georgetown.

Japanese investment in Kentucky has become widespread with 154 facilities employing nearly 40,000 people in 40 communities, the governor's office said before the trip, citing a recent report.

Arrests

Two other people arrested at the scene. Lowell Castle, 43, of Garrett, and Regina Castle, 21, of Arkansas Creek, were standing next to the vehicle as Spurlock worked, and are believed by police to have been lookouts.

Officers at the scene recovered two converters which were cut from other vehicles in the area, as well as two guns,

tools and an assortment of drugs from the accused.

According to police, the last several months have seen a significant increase in the number of reports of stolen converters.

Stolen converters can be sold for the purposes of recycling and have an estimated value of \$100 apiece, though some victims say replacing a

stolen converter can cost between \$300 and \$600.

Clark was assisted at the scene by officers John Dale and George Tussey. Complaints into other stolen converters are still being investigated.

Spurlock and the Castles are all being lodged in the Floyd County Detention Center.

Continued from p1

Bills

Life" or fire trucks would have flat fees.

"We will only bill for items used," said Carpenter, adding that no individual will ever be billed, even if they do not have insurance.

Carpenter does not believe that the billing of insurance companies will cause premiums to rise. "The only way it would rise is if the bill ends up being \$1,000 and they only had \$500 in coverage, and we

demand \$1,000," said Carpenter. Carpenter said they will only collect up to the limit of that person's coverage.

Public Safety Officer Mike Ormerod says that there are currently no plans for the police department to start billing for its services. "We have always charged for accident reports, or if an insurance company wants pictures," said Ormerod. "We won't be doing anything different."

Continued from p1

Obituaries

Harlie Conn

Harlie Conn age 89 of Printer, passed from this life on Wednesday, June 11, 2008, at Highlands Regional Medical Center.

He was born in Martin, on February 28, 1919, the son of the late Johnny and Liddie Samons Conn.

He was a retired coal miner, and a member of the Church of Christ.

He was preceded in death by his parents; four brothers: Burlie Conn, Johnny Conn Jr., Willie Conn, and McArthur Conn; four sisters: Ticker Conn, Melster Maggard, May Manns, and Cracie Kilburn.

He is survived by his sons: Johnny Conn, Marlin Oakie Conn, Harlie Conn Jr., and Clyde Vernon Conn, all of Printer; Howard Franklin Conn and Willard "Ike" Conn, both of Pikeville; three daughters, Theda Hackworth, of Martin, and Norcie Hall and Wanita Branham, both of Printer; three sisters: Pearl Samons of Langley; Mary Conn of Martin; and Verlie Samons of Wabash, Indiana; 23 grandchildren, and 20 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held Saturday, June 14, at noon, in the Hall Funeral Home Chapel, in Martin, with Church of Christ ministers officiating.

Burial will be in the Conn Cemetery in Printer, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home. (Paid obituary)

□□□

Margie Lee Case Conn

Margie Lee Case Conn, age 79, of Dana, passed away Wednesday, June 11, 2008, at her residence.

She was born March 5, 1929, in Honaker, the daughter of the late Andrew Jack Case and Marietta Akers Case. She was a homemaker, mother and member of the Little Salem Regular Baptist Church, in Dana.

She is preceded in death by Eddie Estel Conn, her husband of 56 years.

She is survived by one son, Philip Conn, Richmond, Michigan; four daughters: Vetta (Ronnie) Jones of Banner; Stella Louise (Karl) Herzer of St. Claire, Michigan;

and Donna Kay (Andy) Head and Faye (Kermit) Hall, both of Dana; a brother, Thomas (Pricie) Case, of Cadillac, Michigan; a sister Mae (Hubert) Conn of Banner; 11 grandchildren: Philip E. Conn, Kristie (Phil) Ritter, Anthony (Christi) Jones, Scott (Mary) Jones, Rebecca (Andy) Cremeans, Jason (Shelley) Carpenter, Jarod Carpenter, Justin Carpenter, Eric Ryan Kromer, Lindsay Lee Miller, Allie Louise Head, and Diane Case, Kubbe; 15 great-grandchildren: Kai, Tona, Talon Jones, Ethan Jones, Dakota Conn, Kaylie, Quade and Carson Ritter, Marissa, Emma and Avery Carpenter, Joel and Hallie Kromer and Kate and Seth Miller; and many very much loved nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be conducted Saturday, June 14, at 11:00 a.m., at the Little Salem Regular Baptist Church, in Dana, with Regular Baptist ministers officiating.

Burial will follow in the Conn-Case Cemetery, in Dana, under the professional care of the Hall Funeral Home, in Martin.

Visitation is after 11:00 Friday, at the church.

Pallbearers: Larry Case, Jason Carpenter, Jarod Carpenter, Ryan Kromer, Andy Head, Philip E. Conn, Anthony Jones, Faye Hall, Ruby Conn, and Stella Herzer.

Honorary: Justin Carpenter, Doug Boyd, and Kermit Hall. (Paid obituary)

□□□

Ronald Lee Porter

Ronald Lee Porter of Prestonsburg, passed away suddenly at his residence on Thursday, June 12, 2008.

He was a disabled truck driver, and a member of the Prestonsburg Church of Christ.

He was born November 30, 1947, in Martin, a son of the late Gordon Lee and Rebecca

Crisp Porter.

He is survived by Deborah Cesco Porte his wife of 36 years; by three brothers: Billy Porter of Lexington, Jonathan Porter of Pippa Passes, and Christopher Porter of Prestonsburg; and by one sister, Palma Sue Porter of Prestonsburg.

Ronald was preceded in death by his parents, and by two brothers: James Michael Porter and Roger Dean Porter, who died in infancy. He was also preceded in death by a half-brother, William Norris.

Funeral services for Ronald Lee Porter will be conducted, Sunday, June 15, at 1:00 p.m., at Hall Funeral Home Chapel, in Martin, with minister Rick Kelley officiating.

Burial will follow in the Mayo Cemetery, Prestonsburg, with Hall Funeral Home, caring for those arrangements.

Visitation is after 6:00 p.m., Friday, at the Funeral Home. (Paid obituary)

Report

marks in numerous categories for a given time frame but overall fund performance beat its benchmark. One conclusion, the report suggested, is that each asset class should have a clearly defined benchmark, allowing for easy comparison for all investments.

The report also noted that members of the systems' boards of trustees are not required by statute to have investment experience. KRS Executive Director Mike Burnside said that despite the lack of prerequisites, several board members do have backgrounds in finance and banking.

Sen. Charlie Borders, R-Russell, said the General Assembly might consider more oversight regarding appointments and elections to the boards, similar to that over

other boards and commissions. Noting that board members receive extensive on-the-job

guidance, "we don't have the luxury of being a training ground," he said.

Continued from p1

BETSY LAYNE HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1987 COOKOUT

There will be a cookout held for the Betsy Layne High School Class of 1987, on June 21st at the Woodmen of the World Center Bldg., located next to the old Wickes Lumber building (R.E. Michels) in Dwale, KY. Guests are asked to bring \$20.00 and a covered dish and lawn chairs. This is a family event. Members and anyone wishing to attend are asked to contact or send their information to Jerry Robinette at 601-527-4997; Yvette Stephens at 606-874-0663; or Shelia Wallen at 606-478-8598.

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

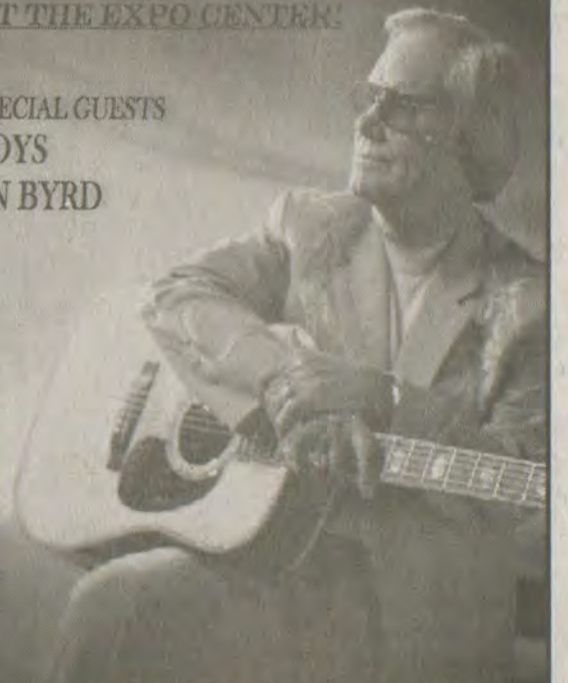
All-Fleming Reunion

Saturday, June 21st, at 10:00 a.m., at Clintwood Elementary School Cafeteria. Bring food, drinks, and any family info, including pictures, with you.

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Your mom.

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For the Record

Marriage Licenses

Vanessa Skeens, 18, to Christopher Tackett, 20, both of Melvin.

Shandra Howard, 18, to Billy Caudill, 24, both of Prestonsburg.

Megan Hamilton, 18, to Jamie Carter, 20, both of Teaberry.

Jamie Hall, 20, of Dana, to Michael Wesley, 24, of Harold.

Shannon Sizemore, 24, of Martin, to Nathaniel Birkhead, 24, of Bloomington, Ind.

Rebecca Hall, 19, to Daniel Branham, 18, both of Prestonsburg.

Angela Tackett, 22, of Wheelwright, to Brian Newsome, 25, of Weeksbury.

Sharon Hampton, 24, of Stanville, to Ronald Coleman, 30, both of Staffordsville.

Bethany Hughes, 20, of East Point, to James West IV, 25, of Louisa.

Civil Suits Filed

World Wide Asset Purchasing, LLC vs. Georgiana Cccil

Midland Funding LLC vs. Lisa Cole

Capital One Bank vs. Tracey L. Risner

Roy Blackburn vs. Ercella Pickens

Charges Filed

Thomas Brown, Langley, operating motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol/drugs,

theft by unlawful taking.

Scott Jarrell, East Point, Possession of a controlled substance, public intoxication, possession of marijuana, possession of prescription not in original container.

Lisa Hall, Martin; public intoxication, possession of marijuana, possession of es/drug, possession of controlled substance, possession of prescription not in original container.

Harvey Ratliff, River; falsely advertising as licensed HVAC contractor.

Jennifer Little, Hellier; theft by deception/cold checks

Renea Brown, Betsy Layne; menacing.

Crystal •Burdzilaukus,

Martin; criminal trespassing, harboring a vicious animal.

James Prater, Minnie; Disorderly conduct, possession of controlled substance, possession of drug paraphernalia, resisting arrest, public intoxication controlled substance.

Danny Burchett, Prestonsburg; alcohol intoxication, harassment, disorderly conduct, terroristic threatening.

Malinda Joseph, Hueysville; public intoxication controlled substance, controlled substance prescription not in original container, possession of drug paraphernalia.

Israel Rogers, Pikeville; fleeing and evading police.

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Price of gas to peak in August, lawmakers told

FRANKFORT - A leader in Kentucky's energy research efforts told lawmakers Wednesday that the average price of gasoline is expected to peak at \$4.15 per gallon later this summer, based on a federal energy outlook report.

Rodney Andrews, director of the University of Kentucky's Center for Applied Energy Research, told the Interim Joint Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources that a U.S. Department of Energy report released Tuesday projects that the price per gallon of gas will peak in August, while the price per gallon of diesel will hold at \$4.32 for the remainder of 2008 into 2009. The report also indicated, however, that strong demand for gasoline is expected to continue.

A surge in oil prices to over \$130 a barrel have driven the price of gasoline to \$4 and higher per gallon in recent days. While a weak dollar, oil companies and speculation on oil futures have been blamed for the increase, Andrews said that supply, demand and production are considered greater concerns.

By improving domestic production, U.S. refining capacity and looking for alternative sources of oil and fuel-including fuel produced by coal to liquid technology-Andrews said the U.S. could improve its options.

"I don't believe that the U.S. will ever be completely disjoined from world markets," he said, although he said domestic options "present significant opportunities."

Committee Co-Chairman Rep. Jim Gooch, D-Providence, agreed.

"The more that we can do ourselves, we'll be better off," Gooch said.

By relying on foreign oil, the U.S. must compete with growing industrial nations such as India and China, which Andrews said are expected to consume a "drastic" increase in oil by 2030. Already facing a limited oil supply due in part to unwillingness by some OPEC countries to increase production, Andrews said the U.S. must look for new oil sources such as South America and Canada, increase domestic production, and address its aging refineries.

"We have not built a refinery in approximately 30 years," he said.

U.S. refining capacity is expected to increase somewhat in coming years, said Andrews. Among that growth is construction of a plant in North Dakota that will be geared toward refining U.S. and Canadian oil, he said.

Currently the U.S. uses between 20 and 21 million barrels of oil per day, said Andrews. It produces only between 8 and 9 million barrels of that total.



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Viewpoint

Worth Repeating ...

How my achievements
mock me!

— William Shakespeare

Amendment 1

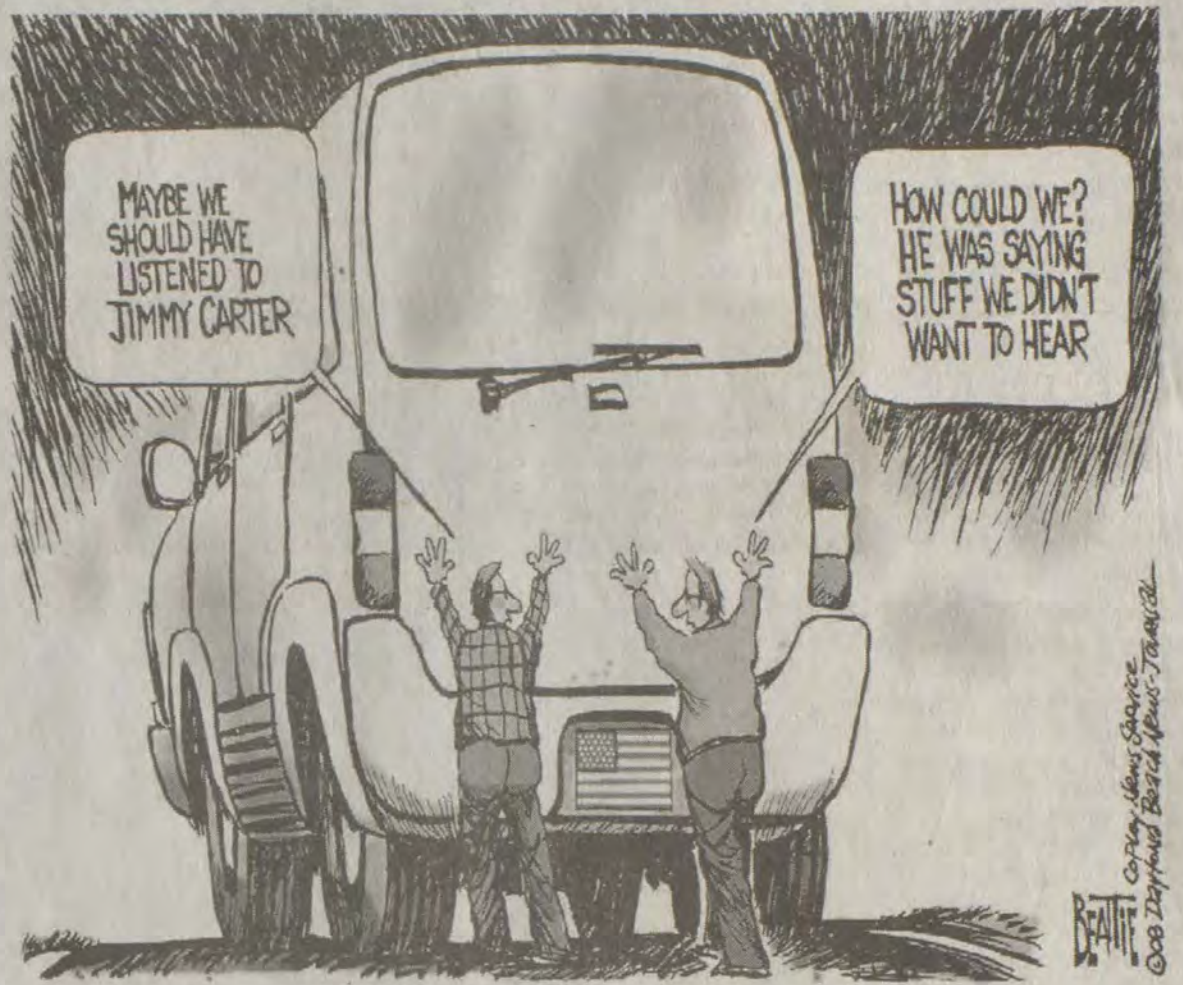
Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people to peaceably assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.

— Guest View — Editorial roundup

Augusta (Ga.) Chronicle, on oil company profits:
Senate Democrats want the government to determine how much profit is too much for the oil companies, and to take the "extra" through a windfall profits tax.
Why stop there? Why not just set profit amounts for every industry?
It's even easy, since the manual for doing so was written back in the early 20th century in a place called the Soviet Union. ...
And since when can members of Congress tell anyone anything about money management? There may be no worse money managers in the world. ...
Every so often, a sensible member of Congress proposes that lawmakers should have to cite the constitutional authority for each law they pass — to list the specific phrase of the Constitution that allows them to do what they're doing. You know what? They always reject the idea.
The reason is clear: A growing number of members of Congress want to act outside of the Constitution. They want to do whatever they darn well please. They don't need no stinking Constitution. They will "fix" what's right in society, whether we like it or not.
Well, for one thing, they're not authorized to do that. The Founding Fathers specifically limited the role of the federal government. Sadly, Washington has been violating the spirit and letter of the Constitution for decades. ...
Here's a better idea: How about Congress be required to get its own house in order before it runs around violating the Constitution by trying to run the economy for us?

The Gazette, Iowa, on Obama's candidacy:
Regardless of whether you support or oppose Democrat Barack Obama's candidacy for the presidency, we can all take a measure of pride in the fact that Iowa voters played a pivotal role in his historic march to the Democratic nomination.
Obama is the first African-American to win a major party's presidential nomination.
It's another milestone for a nation marching steadily, though at times too slowly, toward greater racial equality. And Obama's melting-pot lineage, with his Kenyan father and Kansan mother, makes his inspiring story even more uniquely American.
Obama's road to victory started in Iowa, where he won the first-in-the-nation precinct caucus in January. That victory surprised many, especially observers outside of Iowa, who believed that a black candidate could not win in an overwhelmingly white state. But thanks to the Obama campaign's meticulous organizational plan, his energetic pursuit of Iowa voters for nearly a year and the scores of young people who jumped into politics for the first time on his behalf, Obama triumphed. The rest is, as they say, is history. ...

Chicago Tribune on the Dunkin' Donuts ad:
Rachael Ray, the painfully perky, cute-as-a-button chef and spokeswoman for Dunkin' Donuts, got herself into hot water while peddling cold coffee.
What exactly did Ray do? Switch to Starbucks? Plagiarize recipes? Cheat calorie counts? None of the above. ...
Ray appeared in an Internet ad touting Dunkin' Donuts' supposedly full-flavored, double-brewed, rich and delicious iced coffee. She wore a black-and-white-patterned scarf dangled around her petite neck. Yes, it's this scarf that sparked a small uproar. Conservative columnist and blogger Michelle Malkin suggested that Ray, "Āi and by the same logic, Dunkin' Donuts, Āi was symbolically supporting terrorism.
The scarf closely resembled a kaffiyeh, a patterned cotton swath that serves as the traditional headwear of Arab men. Wrapped around the head as a turban or draped loosely about the shoulders, the kaffiyeh has become an icon of Palestinian nationalism or, as Malkin chose to put it, "the traditional scarf of Arab men that has come to symbolize murderous Palestinian jihad."
That's a stretch. Ray's scarf didn't look to us like a statement about anything other than fashion. Even if it did mimic a kaffiyeh, wearing one isn't the same as donning a suicide vest.
We're giving Ray the benefit of the doubt. We didn't view the ad as a bold anti-American statement or a call for extremist violence: Terrorism generally isn't served with a double chocolate cake doughnut on the side.



— Guest column —

Why is there a world food crisis?

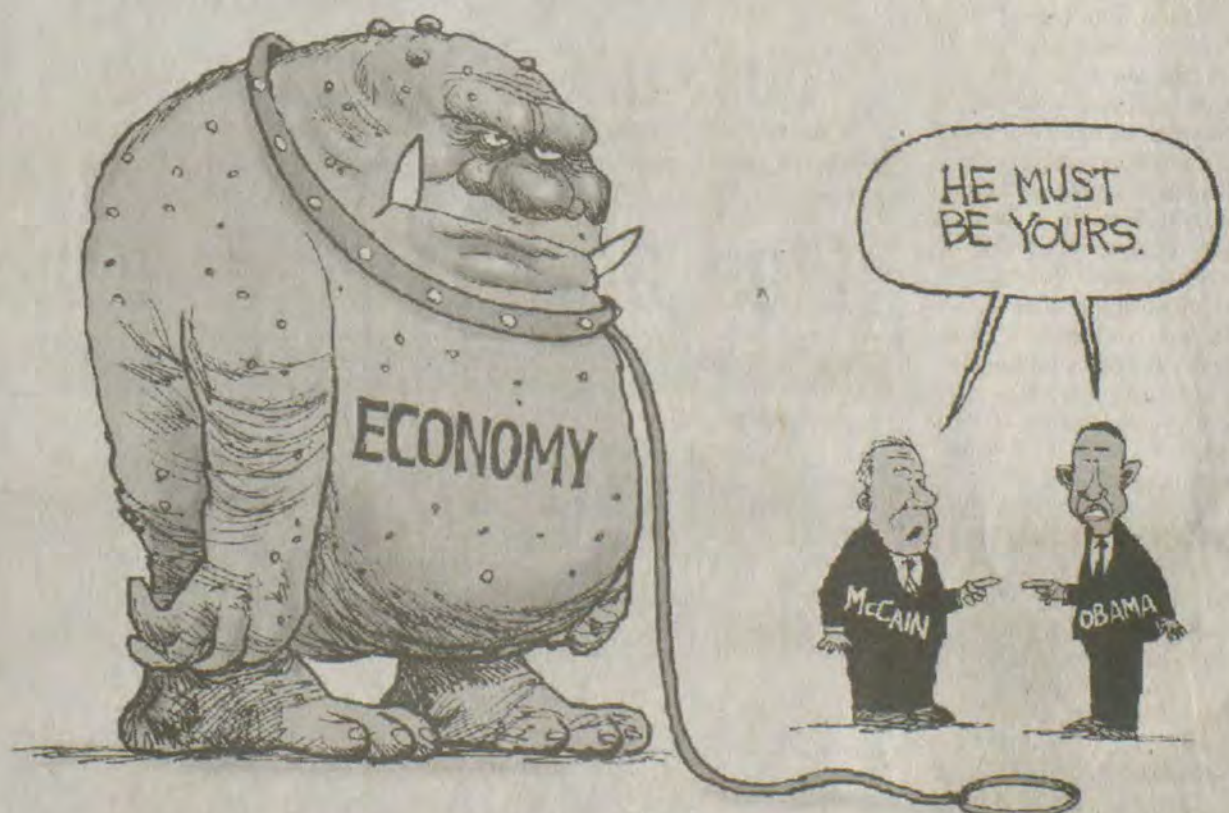
by BILL AYRES
MINUTEMAN MEDIA

We see the headlines almost every day: "Food Riots in Haiti," "The Price of Rice Doubles," "Mexicans Can Not Afford Tortillas" and dozens more. Rising food prices are devastating for the poor of the world who spend most of their available income on food in order to survive. The world is experiencing its worst food crisis in decades, not in one or two drought prone countries but in a growing number of countries all over the world. Why is this happening?
U.S. media usually mention the growing middle-class desire for more meat in India, China and other traditionally poor countries. This creates a loss of land that was previously growing grains and vegetables and drives up demand (hence driving up prices) for corn, soy, and other commodities. This is certainly a factor in the current crisis, but there are many other reasons as well. One of them is the huge expansion of subsidized agrofuels such as ethanol from corn, with fuel crops replacing much needed food crops in the fields. Another factor is rising oil prices that increase the cost of farm inputs from fertilizers to transportation.
There are also climatic changes that have been intensifying for decades; these have been talked about but not effectively addressed. The region of the Sahel just south of the Sahara Desert used to be a significant food-producing region in Africa. Desertification that is partially man made is the cause of its long

time decreasing production. Large parts of China and the Asian countries of the former Soviet Union are suffering from the decline of food-producing resources such as water and arable land, and extreme pollution is limiting their ability to produce healthful food. In many other countries including the United States, farmland is being lost to development with potentially devastating effects on food production.
The last set of causes is perhaps among the most devastating and preventable. It is the growing destruction of family and community agriculture and its replacement by agribusiness and corporate farms. Small- and medium-sized farmers are seen as an annoying anachronism. They are forced, by government policies, economic coercion, and terror tactics, to leave their land for the cities and most often wind up in dire poverty. Yet millions of small-scale farmers throughout the world are proving that it's possible to grow food sustainably when supported by sound government policies, appropriate technologies, and their own agro-ecological wisdom practiced through the ages.
Fortunately, there are a number of positive actions that can protect and enhance the world's food supplies and support farmers:
■ 1. INCREASE WORLD FOOD RESERVES
World food reserves are dangerously low and must be sustained and diversified, with an emphasis on strengthening or creating reserves at the national and regional levels. Sufficient food must also be available for rapid transportation to areas that are unable to feed themselves in times of crisis. The world's major food producing countries must come

to agreements to rebuild reserves, and ensure that food aid supports and does not undermine local farming.
■ 2. ELIMINATE DUMPING CHEAP FOOD ON POOR NATIONS
A recent example of bad agricultural policy is the dumping of cheap U.S. corn into Mexico, which has severely harmed Mexican corn farmers. Many thousands have lost their farms and migrated north in search of jobs, and now that corn prices have soared, people in Mexico cannot afford the most basic food of their diets, the tortilla. The tendency is for powerful countries and corporations to dictate to poorer countries, and especially peasant farmers, and not respect their crucial role in their countries' food supplies.
■ 3. INVEST IN LOCAL FARMERS
Small farmers can prosper several ways. The first is to help them secure the legal rights to their land, affordable credit, the means of production and access to markets that pay them a fair price. They also need the freedom of organizing to promote and protect their rights. International agencies and national governments must invest fairly and wisely in farmers in order to build local food self-reliance as well as providing a safe ongoing food supply for the world.
This current food crisis is devastating for millions throughout the world, but it is only a forerunner of a much larger and deeper crisis to come, as the multiple factors of unsustainable agrofuels, peak oil prices, energy crises, and climate change intensify. We must be aware and act accordingly.
Bill Ayres is executive director of WHY (World Hunger Year).

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GARY MARSTEIN



The Times

Published Sunday, Wednesday and Friday each week

263 SOUTH CENTRAL AVENUE
PRESTONSBURG, KENTUCKY 41653
Phone: (606) 886-8506
Fax: (606) 886-3603
www.floydcountytimes.com

USPS 202-700
Entered as second class matter, June 18, 1927, at the post office at Prestonsburg, Kentucky, under the act of March 3, 1879. Periodicals postage paid at Prestonsburg, Ky.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES PER YEAR:
In Floyd County: \$59.00
Outside Floyd County: \$76.00

Postmaster: Send change of address to:
The Floyd County Times
P.O. Box 390
Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653

PUBLISHER

Joshua Byers
jbyers@heartlandpublications.com

MANAGING EDITOR

Ralph B. Davis
web@floydcountytimes.com

ADVERTISING MANAGER

Kim Frasure
advertising@floydcountytimes.com



Faith and Family



Priest to recruit military personnel for new kind of service

by JAY LINDSAY
ASSOCIATED PRESS

METHUEN, Mass. — The Rev. John McLaughlin never served in the military, but he's faced unexpected, violent death in the way troops do.

Decades ago, McLaughlin lay bleeding on a Boston street after being stabbed from behind. The prayer-filled moments that followed, when McLaughlin believed he might

die, changed his life and ultimately led him to God. Now, in a newly created job, he'll be trying to recruit military personnel to the Roman Catholic priesthood.

He believes that service members, who confront death as part of their jobs, "could have a similar openness to religious service."

"You start realizing how fragile life is," McLaughlin said. "And when people start thinking in those terms, they eventually start thinking about helping people in life."

This month, McLaughlin left his parish north of Boston and became the first-ever national vocations director at the Archdiocese of the Military in Washington. McLaughlin will travel the country, speaking to troops about following a commitment to their country with commitment to their faith.

The clergy shortage in the Catholic church is well documented, and officials see the military as potentially rich ground to find future priests and nuns.

Besides having faced questions of life and death, military men and women tend to have traits necessary for religious life, including self-discipline and a willingness to sacrifice, said Monsignor James Dixon of the Archdiocese of the Military.

Church officials estimate 11 percent of seminary students during the last three years served in the military or had a parent who served. The archdiocese has long reached out to service members, but

never had the money to hire someone dedicated to that job, Dixon said.

"We finally got to the point where we think it's become an absolute necessity," he said.

Army chaplain Paul Hurley, who attended seminary with McLaughlin in the early 1990s, advocated for his friend to get the job without McLaughlin's knowledge.

Hurley said McLaughlin has an authenticity and a knack for getting young people to talk about what's important to them. Those characteristics are crucial when someone is deciding if life as a priest or nun is right, he said.

"He's got that special touch," Hurley said. "He finds a way of connecting with people where they're at."

McLaughlin's casual manner went with his unbuttoned clerical collar during a recent interview in his former office at Saint Monica's Church in Methuen. A solid build reflects his past as wrestler at Boston College and successful high school coach in his native Woburn.

McLaughlin, 50, the oldest of four brothers, said his first major encounter with God came when he was stabbed in the liver at age 20 while walking near Boston's Faneuil Hall marketplace. He and his brother were jumped without provocation, he said. As he lay on the street, McLaughlin prayed for forgiveness, and for his family.

"Even when I faced the worst hardship I turned to God," McLaughlin said.

His commitment to the

priesthood came more than a decade later, after experiencing an overwhelming peace during visits to the village of Medjugorje, in the former Yugoslavia, where the Virgin Mary is said to have appeared.

"I thought, this is what God wants me to do, is to tell people about that and bring that peace of God to them," he said.

McLaughlin was initially hesitant to take the new vocations post, telling Dixon that he was comfortable at Saint Monica's.

O'Brien replied that "there's a lot of men and women in Afghanistan and Iraq that were pretty comfortable, too," McLaughlin said. "That little guilt trip made me think about things."

McLaughlin believes he'll be helping both the church and the troops in his new job. If he succeeds in recruiting more priests to dioceses, he said,

those dioceses may be more likely to allow their priests to serve in the military, where the priest shortage is particularly acute.

In the Army, for instance, there are just 100 priests to serve more than 105,000 Catholic soldiers, said Chaplain Ran Dolinger, a spokesman at the Army's office of Chief of Chaplains.

Dolinger said he welcomed the church's move to create McLaughlin's job, adding he knows some people who leave the military for religious life will never return but that others will become the chaplains the military sorely needs.

If that happens, Hurley said, McLaughlin "is going to make a tremendous difference in the lives of some pretty heroic people."

McLaughlin said he wants to be sure troops are serious about religious life, and not just fulfilling the rash, fearful

deals some might make with God if they return safely from battle.

"The hope is that they'll think about it, talk to me about it, and then at the end of their (military) commitment, that's when they'll make the decisions," he said.

The job will require extensive travel to bases around the country to build relationships with the chaplains in closest touch with those considering a call to the Catholic church. Retreats and correspondence with interested troops will follow.

But many plans for the new job are still largely uncharted, McLaughlin said, adding he knows the challenges of drawing people to the priesthood in the modern day remain huge.

"All I know is that if I show them I enjoy the priesthood and believe in it, if God wants it to happen, it will happen," he said.

Southern Baptists elect Kentucky man to No. 2 spot

The Associated Press

LOUISVILLE — The president of the Kentucky Baptist Convention has been elected as first vice president of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Bill Henard is the pastor of Porter Memorial Baptist Church in Lexington and an assistant professor of evangelism at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville.

The (Louisville) Courier-Journal reports on its Web site that church representatives meeting in Indianapolis overwhelmingly elected Henard to the number two position in the Southern Baptist Convention.

KIM'S KORNER

Fight the good fight of faith

"Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses." — 1 Tim. 6:12

To lay hold of eternal life we must fight the good fight of faith. Fears can keep people from fighting in the natural, and fears can keep Christians from fighting in the spirit. But, as Christians we must not lose heart and give up. Sometimes circumstances look so bleak that we cannot see how our victory is possible; those are the times when, having done all that we can, we stand! We stand on our faith, we stand in His name, we stand because we fear and revere our Awesome God more than we want the temporary satisfaction that comes from surrendering to circumstances. It is at that point that God can show Himself strong in our situations. More so it shows that we have come to the end of our own strengths, and that we truly trust Him.

"These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation; but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world." — John 16:33 (KJV)

In these trouble-filled days, many believers cannot see the victory and have no one to lead them. As we gain victory in our personal battles with the help of the Lord, we will be able to encourage and strengthen others toward their victories. The help of the Lord is the key element in every part of the Christian's life, but

especially when it applies to faith. Christians must conquer fear, and though the element of fear may never be absent, it CAN be overcome. Admittedly, it is hard to be of good cheer when you are immersed in fear, but the fears of this life can be overcome by the fear of God. Yes, the very element that seems to be absent from society today is the very key to victory: THE FEAR OF GOD!



Kim Little Frasure

"And Moses said unto the people, Fear not; for God is come to prove you, and that his fear may be before your faces, that you sin not." — Exodus 20:20

It seems age-old, but is still apparent, that people want God to prove Himself to them. God is proving or trying us. The question at hand is: Will we fear Him? If so, then we will serve Him, and we will love Him, and we will love Him. That does not leave much room for "so called faith," you know, the kind that sits on the shelf like a trophy as a sign of yesterday's beliefs. We can only live in the today; each and every day. In the today we need the fear of God if we expect to see the victory.

"My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth." — 1 John 3:18

Victory is only one of the results; the greater benefit of finding what we need to overcome in Jesus Christ is the increase in relationship. Truly, all that we go through is designed to enhance and deepen our relationship with our Savior and Lord. So let us not just know about Him, let us

get to know Him more, and let us not just know what He is saying about our lives, let us do what He is saying so that we may be living proof that He is the truth.

He has already proven Himself to us, and that should be the encouragement that will cause us to get up and fight like Christians.

When we take a punch and get the wind knocked out of our sails we cannot stay down.

We have got to sink ourselves into HIS WORD and what did HIS WORD tell us in John 16:33 "I have told you these things so you may have peace in Me. In the world you will have much trouble. But take hope! I have the power over the world!" Thank You Jesus!!!

Jesus said in John 10:10, "I have come so that they may have life and have it more abundantly."

It is not His Will for us to live life defeated, beaten down, stressed out, worried and wavering.

We have got to work the word if we want the word to work for us.

"He gives strength to the weak. And He gives power to him who has little strength." — Isaiah 40:29

"I can do all things through Christ Jesus who strengthens me." — Philippians 4:13

And last, John 1:12, "He gave the right and the power to become children of God to those who received Him. He gave this to those who put their trust in His name."

Won't you put your trust in Jesus today. It is time to get out of the pit and get on your way to the Palace!

'Til next week, God's blessings.



SPIRITUALITY

- Church Services
- Morning Worship
- Afternoon Services

- Vacation Bible School
- Bible Study
- On-site Chaplain

- 24-hr. Chapel
- Tuesday, 10:15
- Wednesday, 10:15
- Thursday, 10:15/11:15
- Friday (3rd), 2:00
- Sundays, 2:00

THERAPY

- Neuromuscular re-education
- Therapeutic exercise
- Therapeutic activity
- Wheelchair management
- Gait training
- Orthotic and prosthetic training
- Ultrasound and electrical stimulation
- Adaptive equipment utilization
- Daily living re-education
- Orthopaedic rehabilitation
- Speech language and swallowing
- Cognitive retraining

QUALITY OF LIFE

- Bowling
- Picnics
- Mall Shopping
- Baseball Games
- Dining Out with Friends
- Bingo
- Theme Days

NURSING

- IV Therapy
- Wound Care
- Enteral Feedings
- 24-hr. Nursing Care
- Respiratory Care
- Diabetes Care
- Nutritional Services

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YOU GET MORE WHEN YOU GET TOGETHER

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Clothing, repellent and inspection prevent tick-borne disease — Page A8



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DINNER DIVA

Fiber gourmet

by LEANNE ELY

From whatever food perspective you come from whether it be one of low carb adherence or a more moderate approach of carb/protein balance, no one will argue with you how important it is in making sure the carbs you ingest are high quality (meaning complex carbs) and not the high glycemic carbs (meaning junky carbs) that people traditionally consume in mass quantities. Of course I'm talking chips, pastries and white flour products like pasta when I say high glycemic carbs.



Leanne Ely

Pasta is one of my guilty pleasures that I can just pile drive through. I love, love, love me some pasta, I won't lie! I cannot however, tolerate whole wheat pasta (boiled cardboard, anyone?) and while I'm fond of some brands of pasta that have managed to get the fiber in (like Barilla Plus and Dreamfield's), they still don't have enough fiber to offset the amount of pasta I would love to have on my plate.

Enter the new kid on the block, Fiber Gourmet. Fiber Gourmet has (drum roll please) 18-20 grams of fiber per serving! That's absolutely ginormous! Not only that, but their pasta proudly contains only 130 calories per serving vs. the 210 calories per serving most pastas pack in. When you consider that one small 2 ounce serving is going to get you more half your day's fiber, what's not to love about this pasta?

And, lest you think I am gushing (I am), the taste is phenomenal. My kids didn't even know I did the bait and switch on them! After dinner was over I told them we had eaten Fiber Gourmet. Their response? "Oh."

You know, teenagers just can't appreciate how significant this all is, but I knew YOU would! So here you go, a Saving Dinner recipe all tricked out in Fiber Gourmet pasta—just perfect for this time of year!

Summer Pasta Primavera

Serves 6

1 10 ounce bag Fiber Gourmet Light Pasta (I like the Spinach Pasta)

- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 medium red onion, chopped
- 2 cups chopped zucchini
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 2 cups chopped fresh tomato
- 1 cup fresh corn (if you can)
- OR 1 cup frozen corn, thawed
- 1/4 teaspoon hot red pepper

(See DIVA, page eight)



John and Tara Robinson were moved to help the Dewey Dam Dog and Cat Protection Society after a visit to the Floyd County Animal Shelter.

Johnson County couple host fundraiser for animal shelter

Big brown eyes, warm nuzzles and unconditional love, don't they need lovin' too? That's how this fundraiser for Floyd County's Dewey Dam Dog and Cat Protection Society (DDD&CPS) began.

John and Tara Robinson, of Staffordsville, wanted to make a difference in the protection and care of area animals so they asked their friends who shared their love of animals to help.

John Robinson sums up how the event took shape, "Tara and I wanted to take action to help our local animal shelter and had made contact with those who are making a difference. Since Johnson County where we live does not have its own animal shelter we reached out to DDD&CPS in Floyd County. We worked with the dedicated people who make animal welfare their main focus and brought in our friends with big hearts to make a collaborative effort that would have the maximum impact on both raising funds and awareness for pets."

The Robinsons and their friends hosted a wine tasting in their Cross Creek home, where new friendships were made, old ones strengthened and everyone had the opportunity to do their part for area animals. It was very fitting that the theme for the night was "We're asking you for help because they can't."

The event was pulled together with Cassie Picklesimer; Val Murray; Jody Blackburn; David and Rhonda Combs, of Tasty Temptations Catering; Carol Logdson, of Main Street Paintsville; Kathy Mullins, DDD & CPS's director; Robin Branham, Director of R&C Wildlife

Rescue; Stacy May, of Indian Hills Wine and Spirits in Pikeville; Michelle Sword, of Signature Events in Pikeville; and Mike Derossett, of Southern Distributors.

"Everyone was on board as soon as I shared with them what we were trying to do," Tara Robinson said.

Picklesimer and Murray worked set up the event and coordinated with Carol Logdson with Paintsville's Arts Council for a silent auction. Robin Branham educated the guests about the shelter and shared some wonderful stories and successes of her wildlife rescue.

David and Rhonda Combs of Tasty Temptations Catering were the culinary heads of the night. Their Polynesian shrimp salad on cucumber boats, melon wrapped in prosciutto and cream cheese-filled chocolate-dipped strawberries were a huge hit.

"We had a great mix of music playing, an array of appetizers, a casual pull up a chair wine tasting and exciting surprises," Tara Robinson said. "So many things made the night memorable; a Wine Tasting 101 conducted by Mike Derossett with wines provided by Mrs. May at Indian Hills Wine and Spirits, a three-tier champagne fountain donated by Signature Events and fanciful candy dog and cat sculptures."

Sadly in our area, the welfare of animals is greatly overlooked. The Robinsons had met Picklesimer at a previous fundraising event at their home for Johnson County's Social Services, where they talked about their love for children and animals.

"Just as children are born into less than perfect circumstances, animals also face difficult situations such as abandonment and neglect," Tara Robinson said. "John and I wanted to do something that would make a difference in our community."

John Robinson is a native of Greenup County, and Tara Robinson grew up in Kingsport, Tenn. The Robinsons have been residing in Johnson County since June 2006 and recently started Eye On You Security Systems, which provides commercial and personal security camera solutions.

"Being involved and meeting people are very important to us," Tara Robinson said. "We both love our jobs, but you've got to do more and be connected to your community to be truly happy."

In promoting the event, Tara Robinson explained that, "When inviting Johnson County residents to the fundraiser, we had to clarify why we were raising money for Floyd County's shelter."

In talking to Kathy Mullins, DDD&CPS's director, it became obvious the role that they play in the welfare of Johnson County's pets.

"The animal shelter in Floyd County is a wonderful place," Tara Robinson said. "I was worried, thinking it would be sad and that I would want to take all the animals home. But it is a very well run facility and the love that Kathy Mullins and her staff have for the animals is evident. The animals are cared for and brought to optimum health before they can be adopted."

DDD&CPS has the highest adop-

tion rate in the area due to the staff's diligence and having the lowest adoption fees anywhere. The atmosphere of the shelter, the medical care the pets receive and the professional job of the Petfinder, website where anyone can access information and pictures of the pets available, also contribute to their success.

"It is evident when you visit the shelter that the pets are happy and adorable," Tara Robinson said. "John and I have gone to the shelter to play with the animals and even helped out at bath time."

"When you adopt a pet from DDD&CPS they have had all their vaccines, been spayed or neutered, groomed and had medical ailments remedied. The adoption fee is very minimal and does not cover all the investment in the animals. So, in giving directly to them you can help them defray their many costs. I strongly recommend that everyone go by Dewey Dam shelter to see how well it is run, play with the animals to help them with socialization and drop some money to supplement their budget."

The Robinsons thanked the many people who came to the event and donated money to the shelter. The money that was raised will greatly subsidize their efforts especially at a time of year when they will be very busy.

If you would like to donate to DDD&CPS and/or be involved in future fundraisers please contact Tara Robinson at (606) 205-8986 or at tararobinson@hotmail.com, and go to Petfinders.com to find the perfect addition to your family.

FLY LADY

The 11 clutter commandments

by MARLA CILLEY

We all love lists. We make them every day and look at them. Lists can be helpful or they can make us feel bad. It is up to us to use the list to empower ourselves. We have David Letterman's top 10 lists, tips on every magazine cover and oh let's not forget about the 10 commandments. I have even made my own list of FlyLady's 11 Commandments.

This little list gives you the tools to find peace in your world. Just reading

the list is not going to give you the answers to all those questions. But guess what? It is a great start. I know why we love list so much. It is because they seem so easy and we have time to read just a list. So here goes. I am going to take our 11 commandments and show you how doing them is a way to pamper yourself every single day. It is the being nice to yourself that is the key to this peace!

1. Keep your sink clean and shiny!

This put a smile on your face and

helps you to stay on top of our kitchen.

2. Do your Before Bedtime Routine EVERY NIGHT.

Doing a before bedtime routine help you to start each morning on a good note, not a running through the house screaming fit. Everyone deserves to wake up without stress.

3. Do your Morning routine EVERY DAY, RIGHT WHEN YOU GET UP.

I want you to dress to lace up shoes so that you look good and this will help you feel well too.

4. Don't allow yourself to be side-tracked by the computer.

We have a tendency to stick our heads in the sand. Let computer time be a way to pamper and reward yourself.

5. Pick up after yourself, IF YOU GET IT OUT, PUT IT AWAY WHEN FINISHED

This is one thing that we don't even notice until it goes undone. When picking up after yourself all the time becomes a habit, you no longer have major hot spots to make you feel bad.

6. Don't try to do two projects at once. ONE JOB AT A TIME. Don't pull out more than you can put back in

(See FLY LADY, page eight)



Rental Central

by TOM DOTY
TIMES COLUMNIST

Variety was the watch word this week as four films, representing a quartet of different genres, hit the shelves.

■ "The Bucket List" — Drama and comedy are well blended in this effort which finds two terminally ill men making a last bid for adventure as they exit their cancer ward and pursue everything they want to do before kicking the bucket. It gets a little heavy handed at times but is saved by the

charismatic pairing of Jack Nicholson and Morgan Freeman in the lead roles.

■ "Jumper" — Sci-fi fans should enjoy this action outing that focuses on a young man who finds that he can teleport his body over vast distances. He eventually learns to control his power and finds that there are even others like him. Unfortunately, he also discovers that there is a group out to capture him and his newfound friends, and these guys play for keeps. Okay stuff with a great turn by Samuel L. Jackson as the bad guy, though Hayden Christiansen (Anakin Skywalker/Darth

Vader) has a difficult time sustaining viewer interest.

■ "Funny Games" — Thrillers don't get more relentless than this home invasion drama which finds a family at the mercy of two young sociopaths who behave like cats toying with mice before making a meal of them. No one gets off easy here and I wouldn't recommend watching this one with any youngsters around.

■ "The Other Boleyn Girl" — There is a lot to look at in this costume drama that employs great sets, a seasoned cast and the easy-on-the-eyes

appeal of Natalie Portman and Scarlett Johansen. Unfortunately, it's all window dressing that barely disguises stilted accents and a plodding storyline as King Henry the VIII tries to decide which Boleyn sister he wants to wed. Any historian can tell you this won't go well for the winner, though it doesn't appear that historical facts were a guiding influence here. The cinematic equivalent of Nyquil.

Next week look for Jack Black in "Be Kind, Rewind" and check out Kate Hudson in "Fool's Gold."

Floyd students recognized as outstanding by ALC

Several Floyd Countians have earned a high level of academic distinction at Alice Lloyd College for the 2008 Spring Semester.

The following students have been named to the President's List for achieving a 4.0 grade point average (based

on a 4.0 scale): Mara Bilitier, of Grethel; Justin Frasure, of Martin; Byron Hall, of Hunter; Justin Jacobs, of Martin; Melissa Noble, of Garrett; Tasha Rice, of Betsy Layne; and Preston Simon, of Stanville.

Named to the Dean's List

for achieving a grade point average of 3.25-3.74 were: Belinda Boyd, of Martin; Garred Cline, of Harold; Meka Hale, of Bevinsville; Roy Handshoe, of Hueysville; Danny Newsome, of Harold; Kelly Slonc, of Banner; and Bridget Stumbo, of McDowell.

STAGE TALK

JWT offers entertainment that is easy on the gas tank

by MARTIN CHILDERS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, JENNY WILEY THEATRE

Soaring gas prices mean a lot of people are going to skip summer vacations this year or stay close to home. If you're looking for some good nearby entertainment for the whole family, the presentations we're offering at Jenny Wiley Theatre might be just what you're looking for.

Two of our four shows are especially appealing to everybody in the family, from kids to grandparents: The Wizard of Oz and Little Red: Life in the Hood.

Since the first release of the timeless movie starring Judy Garland way back in 1939, young and old alike have thrilled to productions of The Wizard of Oz, with wonderful songs like "Over the Rainbow," and a fascinating cast of characters, including the Scarecrow and Tin Man, munchkins and witches.

And everybody knows the story of Little Red Riding Hood, but the stage production modernizes the tale by setting it in a TV talk show format that gets as wild as a Jerry Springer episode. Unlike his shows, however, our presentation is not only suitable for youngsters, it is performed entirely by our very own Youth/Teen company.

By the way, we give ratings to all of our shows so parents will always know what is and is not suitable for their children. Both Little Red and The Wizard are rated G.

A good one for older children and adults of all ages is Honky Tonk Angels (rated PG). It has the added advantage of playing indoors in the Stumbo-Wilkinson Convention Center here at Jenny Wiley State Park, so weather is never an issue. Seven of its showings are luncheon matinees, if you're looking for a fun-filled day trip. There are also two dinner-theatre shows, including the big opening night event on June 13. The "Angels" in this production are three would-be country stars, who will perform a bevy of all-time Nashville favorites like "Coal Miner's Daughter" and "Stand by your Man."

Grown-ups looking for entertainment close to home could do no better than booking a night to see A Chorus Line (Rated M, for mature audiences.) The award-winning Broadway show is filled with great dancing and such memorable hits as "What I Did for Love," and "One (Singular Sensation)."

Keeping economy in mind, you can take advantage of special pricing for some of our shows. We're offering six "4 for \$40" nights - that's better than half the adult price for The Wizard Oz, A Chorus Line and Honky Tonk Angels. (Regular price \$21 for adults, \$19 for seniors and \$13 for youth.) Little Red is a bargain-priced \$12 for adults and \$8 for youth (under 19) at all showings.

A good deal to see all four shows, plus our Halloween

and Christmas specials (Frankenstein and It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play) is a season subscription: \$81 for an adult (a savings of \$20) and \$281 for a family of two adults and two children (savings of \$51). These don't include opening nights, special events or meals, but can be upgraded for those. Season subscriptions must be ordered before May 31.

Our season runs from June 13 to August 16. Because we're a repertory theatre - offering four different shows on different nights throughout the summer - it's best to consult our schedule for specific dates and shows, including the "4 for \$40" nights. You can find it online at jwtheatre.com, where you can also reserve your tickets.

Jenny Wiley Theatre is a non-profit organization and receives funding from individuals, corporations, Prestonsburg Convention and Visitors Bureau, Paintsville Tourism, the Kentucky Arts Council, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the Kentucky Department of Travel.



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Wrights celebrate anniversary, graduation

Jeffery and Tamera Wright, of Hager Hill, celebrated their 20th wedding anniversary on April 6, 2008, when they renewed their vows at the church they have attended for the past 15 years, Free Pentecostal Church of God. The ceremony was performed by Pastor Buster Hayton. The Wrights have two sons, Eric and Ethan.

On May 10, 2008, Tamera graduated summa cum laude with a 4.0 GPA from Morehead State University with a bachelor of arts in elementary education. Along with many other honors, Tamera is a member of Kappa Delta Pi International Honor Society in Education. She is also a member of the Kentucky Education Association Student Program. Mrs. Wright also holds an associate of arts and an associate of science from Big Sandy Community and Technical College.

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KUNG FU PANDA (PG), Mon.-Sat. 7:00-9:00; Sun. (1:30) 7:00-9:00.

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6/13/08 - 6/19/08

Cinema 1—Held Over
WHAT HAPPENS IN VEGAS (PG-13), Mon.-Sun. 7:00-9:15; Fri. (4:15) 7:00-9:15; Sat.-Sun. (2:00-4:15) 7:00-9:15.

Cinema 2—Held Over
THE STRANGER (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 3—Held Over
INDIANA JONES (PG-13), Mon.-Sun. 6:45-9:20; Fri. (4:20) 6:45-9:20; Sat.-Sun. (1:45-4:20) 6:45-9:20.

Cinema 4—Held Over
BABY MAMA (PG-13), Mon.-Sun. 7:00; Fri. 7:00; Sat.-Sun. (2:00) 7:00.

Cinema 5—Held Over
IRON MAN (PG-13), Mon.-Sun. 9:15; Fri. (4:15) 9:15; Sat.-Sun. (4:15) 9:15.

Cinema 6—Held Over
SEX IN THE CITY (R), Mon.-Sun. 8:00; Fri. (4:50) 8:00; Sat.-Sun. (1:50-4:50) 8:00.

Cinema 7—Starts Friday, June 13
THE INCREDIBLE HULK (PG-13), Mon.-Sun. 6:50-9:20; Fri. (4:20) 6:50-9:20; Sat.-Sun. (1:50-4:20) 6:50-9:20.

Cinema 8—Starts Friday, June 13
THE HAPPENING (R), Mon.-Sun. 7:10-9:25; Fri. (4:25) 7:10-9:25; Sat.-Sun. (2:10-4:25) 7:10-9:25.

Cinema 9—Held Over
YOU DON'T MESS WITH THE ZOHAN (PG-13), Mon.-Sun. 7:05-9:30; Fri. (4:30) 7:05-9:30; Sat.-Sun. (2:05-4:30) 7:05-9:30.

Cinema 10—Held Over
CHRONICLES OF NARNIA: PRINCE CASPIAN (PG), Mon.-Sun. 8:00; Fri. (5:00) 8:00; Sat.-Sun. (1:45-5:00) 8:00.

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Vacation Bible School
Prestonsburg First Baptist Church (Irene Cole Memorial)
June 16-20, 2008, from 8:30-11:30 a.m.
Registration kick-off at Archer Park, Saturday, June 14, at 5:00 p.m.

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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.

Jenny Wiley AARP plans June meeting
Jenny Wiley Chapter No. 3528, AARP, will conduct its monthly meeting at the First Presbyterian Church, on Tuesday, June 17, starting at 6 p.m. All members and friends are urged to attend.

Free Bible Lessons
Write to: Bible Way Outreach Ministry, P.O. Box 3371, Kingsport, TN 37664. Lessons completely free of charge to all interested.

Church of Christ to hold Vacation Bible School
The Church of Christ on Arkansas Creek will be having Vacation Bible School June 16 thru June 20.

Support Group
Do you have a friend or loved one who suffers from Alzheimer's disease or any other dementia? We can help! We will meet at a new location: Thursday, June 12, at 5 p.m., UMW Health & Retirement Funds Office Uniplex Center, Suite 304, 126 Trivette Drive, Pikeville, KY 41501. For more information, contact the Fund's office at 606-432-1072, ext. 12 or 13. Refreshments will be served.

Christ United Methodist Church Vacation Bible School
A Beach Party, Surfin' Through the Scriptures at the Christ United Methodist Church, 105 Methodist Lane, Allen, 606-874-2344, Tillie Hinchman, VBS director. On Sunday, June 22 at 3 p.m., Vacation Bible School Orientation; June 23-26, Monday-Thursday, 6:8:30 p.m.; Friday, June 27, 6:00-8:00 p.m. Cook-Out for the whole congregation, out back of church and Wesley Christian School, with "Fun Time Inflatables."

Food City presents Annual Relay For Life
Food City will be having a Annual Relay for Life Car Show 2008, on Saturday, June 14, at 2 p.m., on University Drive, Prestonsburg, across from Big Sandy College. Trophies will be given away for Best of Show, Best Chevy, Best Ford, Best Custom, Best Mopar, Best Truck, Best Muscle Car, and Best Street Rod. Top 20 trophies awarded according to the highest score. Rain date will be June 21. Registration fee: \$15. For questions, contact: FC Pharmacy Dept. No. 471, (Elly Reed). (606) 889-9572.

Thelma Training Center plans graduation program
The Carl D. Perkins Vocational Training Center, in Thelma, will be conducting its commencement program on Friday, June 13, beginning at 1 p.m. The graduation program is held at this time each year to honor and recognize the students who have completed their individual training programs over the past year. A reception will be held in honor

of the graduates, their families and guests, immediately following the graduation ceremony. The staff and students of the Carl D. Perkins Vocational Training Center would like to invite all interested citizens and program supporters to attend. For more information, call 788-7080 or 1-800-443-2187.

Jervis-Jarvis Family reunion
The Jervis-Jarvis family reunion will be held at the Cow Creek Baptist Church, Annex B, on Saturday, June 21, from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Please bring a covered dish.

Angel Food Ministries
Prater Creek Baptist Church will be taking Angel Food orders at the church on June 7, from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m.

Orders are accepted by mail, e-mail or phone (606-285-9447) thru June 14. You may visit: www.pcbaptist.org for more info.

Orders may also be placed with the following churches: Faith Fellowship, Allen; First Baptist, Harold; First Church of God, Prestonsburg; and Graceway United Methodist, Langley. Email to prbarnette@bellsouth.net for further information.

Pratt Family Reunion
To be held June 21, in the Old Maytown School Lunchroom. Dinner will be served at 1 p.m. The lunchroom is reserved for the entire day. Meats, bread, drinks and dinnerware will be provided; please bring a side dish, dessert or specialty. Also, if desired, please bring an item for the silent auction that will be held to raise money for next year's reunion. Access to playground, horseshoes, volleyball and gym. For more info., please contact: Loretta Pratt Hackworth at 886-3928, Elbert Pratt at 358-2315, Jimmy Pratt at 358-4083, or Julia Pratt Jones at 285-3179 or fernjo@bellsouth.net.

East Kentucky Fair to hold mud bog event, Sat. June 14
The East Kentucky Fair will

hold its 2nd qualifying mud bog event—Saturday, June 14, at 3 p.m., at ThunderRidge. All 4-wheelers welcome. Giving away \$500 at the fair on August 2. Must run to qualify. Sign up on the day of the event, or call Terry Trimble at 886-2374.

East Kentucky Fair accepting applications for vendors and exhibitors

The East Kentucky Fair is now accepting applications for vendors and exhibitors for the 2008 fair to be held July 31-August 2. Please download a form from www.eastkyfair.com or call Terry Trimble, at 886-2374.

Floyd County Relay for Life

Event to be held Friday, August 1, at Archer Park. Opening ceremony, 6:30 p.m. To register a team or to find out more, call Susan Shepherd at (606) 377-1096. You may also visit www.events.cancer.org/rflfloydky. Help the American Cancer Society help save lives!

South Floyd High School 10-year reunion planned

A 10-year reunion for the South Floyd High School Class of 1998 will be held July 28, 2008. We are currently gathering addresses and phone numbers of the alumni. If you are an alumnus, please contact Danielle Tackett Harvel by phone or email—(606) 277-7770 or danielleharvel@yahoo.com. More details will be announced at a later date.

Have an 'Out of this World' birthday party!

The East Kentucky Science Center is now offering a fun and distinctive party venue for kids of all ages. The Birthday Party package includes rental of a classroom and admission to exhibits and planetarium programs. Must be booked two weeks in advance; limit 40 guests. Call 889-0303 for more information.

Night Science
Spend a night under the

stars without pesky critters around! Grab your sleeping bag and come to the East Kentucky Science Center for the Night Science programs for ages 8 and up. The pro-

grams will begin at 7 p.m. and will include planetarium shows, laser shows and other activities. For more information, contact Shannon at 889-0303, ext. 15. Cost \$15-

20/person.

Need Help With Home Repairs?

(See CALENDAR, page two)

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BBQ Cookoff + Blue Ribbon Pies
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CITY STAGE in D'Town Prestonsburg

Calendar

Continued from p1

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.

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 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 regu-

larly at Riverview Manor Healthcare Center. Call the center for meeting times.

•Domestic Violence Support Group - The Big Sandy Family Abuse Center holds meetings each Tuesday from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. The meetings are free of charge. Call 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 Slone, adoptive parent liaison, at 432-4110 or 422-7927, or email to:

doslone@eastky.net.

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

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

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

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The Floyd County Times is currently accepting applications for a Features Writer. The position entails writing stories for our News and Lifestyles sections, working with the public to write announcements (birth, wedding, anniversary, birthday, etc.), taking photos, proofreading, and other duties as assigned.

Applicants should be able to write both human interest and hard news stories, have basic computer skills, be able to meet strict deadlines while juggling multiple tasks, and be familiar with photography. The position requires an excellent grasp of spelling and grammar, frequently working odd hours (including nights and weekends), extensive typing and reliable transportation. The ideal candidate will have a degree in journalism or a related field and/or previous experience as a reporter, and will be able to use page layout software or have a ability and willingness to learn to do so.

Benefits include a competitive salary, health/dental/vision insurance, 401K, paid vacation, sick time and personal days, and mileage.

Applicants should send a resume and writing samples to Managing Editor Ralph Davis at The Floyd County Times, P.O. Box 390, Prestonsburg, KY 41653 or by email at web@floydcountytimes.com.

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FLOYD COUNTY Sports

Friday, June 13, 2008

Inside

■ Reds • B5
■ NASCAR • B6

Boggs wins 201 Speedway Modified feature race

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

SITKA - Carter County driver Randy Boggs led laps 9-14 in the Open Wheel Modified division feature and won via the time limit Saturday night at Johnson County's 201 Speedway. One of the state's top dirt tracks, 201 Speedway hosted the Battle of the Bluegrass DirtCar Series' Late Model division on the same night.

Boggs held off Jim Lemaster, who finished second after leading laps 1-8.

Tim Mason (Mr. Metal

Bomber) and Alan Osborne (Four Cylinder) also claimed feature wins. A breakdown of the racing in the non-Late Model classes follows.

Open Wheel Modified qualifying: 20-Jason Perry, 15.52; 3-Jim Lemaster, 15.57; B3-Randy Boggs, 15.58.

First Open Wheel Modified Heat: 20-Jason Perry; 17S-Brian Salisbury; 3-Jacob Ross; 41-Stanley Haddix; 00-Michael Butcher; 13-Driver name unavailable.

Second Open Wheel Modified Heat: 3-Jim Lemaster; 15-Corey McKenzie; CJ1-Charlie Jude;

28M-Kevin Mayabb; 40-Chris Maynard; 21-Jimmy Barnett.

Third Open Wheel Modified Heat: B3-Randy Boggs; 24K-David Kelly; 46-Dennis Deboard; 30-William Hensley; 35-Jeremy Hayes; 44-Ryan Jarrell.

Open Wheel Modified Feature: B3-Randy Boggs; 3-Jim Lemaster; 28-Kevin Mayabb; 15-Corey McKenzie; CJ1-Charlie Jude; 46-Dennis Deboard; 17S-Brian Salisbury; 3-Jacob Ross; 35-Jeremy Hayes; 21 Jimmy Barnett; 41- Stanley

Haddix; 13-Driver name unavailable; 00-Michael Butcher; 44-Ryan Jarrell; 24K-David Kelly; 30-William Hensley; 20-Jason Perry; 40-Chris Maynard; 23-Courtney Conley.

First Mr. Metal Bomber Heat: 37H-Greg Hensley; 77-Harley Hall; A85-Allen Turner; 51-Greg Matthews; P20-Ervin Vance; 3-Scott Lemaster; 3-Shannon Richmond; 20-Bo Howard.

Second Mr. Metal Bomber Heat: J17-J.J. Terry; 45-Tim

(See 201, page four)



photo by Steve LeMaster
FORMER CBA PLAYER OF THE WEEK JASON McLEISH handed out medals to participating campers last week during a pro basketball youth camp held at Prestonsburg High School.

Sports still sizzle in summer for many athletes

by RICK BENTLEY
TIMES COLUMNIST

It's that time of year again. School is out, which tells people on the surface that things are slow in the scholastic sports world. And while that is often true, for many people, it's simply time to kick things back in gear.

I thought about this last week when the story broke that former Pikeville College standout Brad Allen was hired to be the new football coach at East Ridge. I thought about how fast this summer would pass for Brad as he tried to get to know his players, get them time in the weight room and maybe some extra work somewhere along the way.

For the veterans, the only difference, I would suppose, is getting to know the players. In theory they should know most all of them, so the focus is on the time they get to work them out.

Personally, I'm not a big fan of this. A few years ago the KHSAA instituted a two-week "dead period," during which contact between players and their coaches is extremely limited. The theory is that, for two weeks, these young people get to be young people and don't have to worry about summer camps and workouts.

I've said before that I think this is ridiculous. I know I probably wouldn't find a coach in the reading area to agree with me, but I've long held that if the KHSAA wanted to truly do something to help these youngsters, they'd allow a two week "live period" during which they may work out or attend official summer functions, and allow them the rest of the time off to enjoy and recharge the batteries.

And while I've never really found a coach who agreed, I absolutely have never had a parent take umbrage with this notion. That says about all I need to know right there to ensure I'm on the right path.

I took this to Julian Tackett, I believe it was, with the KHSAA. Julian, who has roots in Pike and Floyd counties, is a solid guy, a longtime friend, and someone who has his head screwed on pretty well.

He said the reason my idea hadn't been further pursued is that high school coaches see summer camps and workouts as a way to keep their players out of the control of AAU coaches, who often have agendas other than the welfare of the player.

I know this is true. While locally there are many good examples of AAU programs equaling success - the one in the Virgie area being foremost in my mind - one need only read about

(See SUMMER, page four)



photos by Jamie Howel
Olympic softball player Adam LaLonde provided instruction to Prestonsburg High School softball players Tuesday evening.

P'burg softball players get Olympic instruction

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

PRESTONSBURG - It isn't everyday you get instruction from an Olympian. Members of the Prestonsburg High School softball program had an opportunity to learn from an Olympian Tuesday evening when former USA Softball outfielder Adam LaLonde provided instruction during a camp at StoneCrest. A Cheboygan, Mich. native, LaLonde was in attendance with staff members of Championship Fast-Pitch from the Ashland area. In 2007, LaLonde finished second with the USA Softball Men's National Team at the ISF Men's World Cup in Prague - batted .294 and collected the first grand slam of his national team career.

In 2006, LaLonde led the USA Men's National Team to a first-place finish at the AAU

International Championship in Orlando, Fla.

He was amed second-team ASA All-American while playing for Patsy's of New York City and batted .500 (6-for-12) during the ASA Men's Major Fast Pitch National Championship.

In 2004, LaLonde batted .444 in the ASA Men's Major Fast Pitch National Championship playing for Circle Tap of Denmark, Wis., and was named first-team ASA All-American.

He won a silver medal with the USA Softball Men's National Team at the Pan American Games in Santo Domingo.

During Tuesday's camp, Prestonsburg softball players received instruction on hitting, pitching and fielding.

"It was a great camp," said PHS Coach John DeRossett. "The instruction was excellent and all of the girls benefited."

Focus H.S. Football Combine rescheduled for July 26

TIMES STAFF REPORT

PRESTONSBURG - The Focus High School Football Combine - originally scheduled for Saturday, June 14 at Prestonsburg High School - has been rescheduled for Saturday, July 26. Numerous high school student-athletes, many of whom hail from various parts of Kentucky and West Virginia, expressed a great interest in attending the combine, but couldn't do so due to the ACT national

testing date. The decision was made to move the combine to July 26 to accommodate those who couldn't attend on the original date.

"The ACT is of great importance to all student-athletes," said Focus High School Football Combine Director Steve LeMaster. "Originally, we'd hoped to be able to accommodate the student-athletes who were taking the ACT on the same day of the combine. However, travel wouldn't allow for many of the stu-



dent-athletes to attend the combine. The entire Focus High School Football Combine staff hopes those who have preregistered will remain committed to the combine and take the opportunity to help their chances of playing on the next level with what the combine provides on Saturday, July 26. The staff also hopes all potential participants will use the extra time to work on needed areas - whether it be a 40-yard dash time or a vertical jump. We're looking to

draw in the best high school football players in Kentucky and other surrounding states. Who's the fastest? Who's the strongest? Who is the best at their respective position? This will serve as a grand stage for high school football players."

The Focus High School Football Combine will be comprised of the 40-Yard Dash, 20-Yard Shuttle Run, Bench Press (Repetitions of 185 pounds), Vertical Jump

(See COMBINE, page four)

Rodebaugh signs with Bears

TIMES STAFF REPORT

PIKEVILLE - Pikeville College has landed a local baseball product with some gaudy statistics.

Josh Rodebaugh, a senior from Prestonsburg, signed with the Bears last Friday morning.

Rodebaugh was credited with some amazing statistics this season, having hit .506 on 40 hits in 79 at bats. In addition, he had an on-base percentage of .563 and a

slugging percentage of .899. "He has some very impressive stats," said Coach Don Ashby. "We felt he was one of the best players in the region and we're glad to be able to bring him to Pikeville College."

Rodebaugh had 17 extra-base hits in 25 games, picking up eight doubles, four triples and five home runs. He scored 23 runs and drove in 47 as a senior.

For his career at Prestonsburg, he had 176 base

hits and slugged 18 home runs.

Rodebaugh, who will play third base and pitch, was also impressive on the mound. He was 3-1 with two saves and a 3.88 earned run average. But the impressive numbers were his strikeout-to-walk figures, where he fanned 73 batters in 53.1 innings pitched - including 15 in one game against June Buchanan earlier this season - while walking 28.



photo by Rick Bentley
Josh Rodebaugh is the newest member of the Pikeville College baseball program. He signed with the Bears one week ago.
Front row, from left: Michael Rodebaugh, father; Josh Rodebaugh; Kay Rodebaugh, mother.
Back row, from left: Freddie Burchett, grandfather; Brenda Burchett, grandmother; Kaleb Rodebaugh, brother; Marc Shepherd, Prestonsburg coach; Don Ashby, Pikeville coach.

Summer

Continued from p3

any of the O.J. Mayo's of the world to see there are issues all over AAU situations. I get that. But I still believe there's a middle ground somewhere that needs to be discovered.

It has to stop somewhere. We see this, know it goes on and turn a blind eye to it or treat it with wink-winks and nod-nods and then wonder why so many promising athletes fall by the wayside because their burned out midway through their high school years.

I spent six years coaching in a local Babe Ruth/Senior Little League, and let me tell you, it can be one frustrating experience. If you have good athletes, you're nearly assured you're going to have scheduling issues.

First, these players are generally in the eighth-grade-to-sophomore

years, which means if they're good players, they're likely on somebody's junior varsity team. And, because those are the programs to which they aspire, they feel obligated to go somewhere and sit through a varsity game to play a couple of innings in a JV contest to keep from upsetting their future coach.

Then, the day school gets out, basketball practice starts and if you have decent athletes in this area they're playing nearly every sport their school offers, so they're being pulled

into the gym midway through your season. It's not good for their development and not good for the kids.

I'll say this: Once my friend Mike Spears sat down with the high school coach to which our program fed 90 percent of the players and talked with him about this, he saw that it was better for them to play seven innings for us than to be on the road with him getting a couple of innings and maybe an at-bat in a throw-away game in which score was rarely kept anyway.

But the point is that summer should be reserved for summertime activities. I'm not against attending a team camp or two, but this nonsense of playing more basketball games during the summer than the winter has to stop. And don't get me started on these glorified practices called "passing leagues." We spend all summer in one of them and then throw it maybe four times on a Friday night in the fall.

I know what coaches think: I'd stop it if everybody else would, but I'm not going to because the competition is working, so I have to also.

There's something to be said for that. It's perfectly understandable and acceptable.

And that's why it has to be taken out of their hands. The KHSAA and its governing body, the board of control, must step in and do something.

We have to let these teens be teens. If we don't, we're going to drive even more of them to be video-game addicts ... or soon see them addicted to something much worse.

Southern Illinois University Edwardsville joins OVC

TIMES STAFF REPORT

MOREHEAD - The Ohio Valley Conference announced on Tuesday that Southern Illinois University Edwardsville has been admitted to the Conference and will become the league's 11th member. The move was unanimously approved by the OVC Board of Presidents at their May 30 meeting. SIU Edwardsville will officially become a member of the OVC on July 1, 2008 while its athletic programs will begin competing in the Conference over the following years as the institution completes its reclassification to Division I.

SIUE team sports will begin regular season competition in the OVC during the 2011-12 academic year and will be eligible for postseason competition in 2012-13. The exception will be the SIUE softball program which will be eligible for both regular season and tournament competition in 2010-11; the softball program was the department's women's sport designee to be fast-tracked to Division I, making it eligible to compete at the Division I level prior to other SIUE sports.

"I am very pleased to welcome SIU Edwardsville as a member of the Ohio Valley Conference," said Dr. Jon A. Steinbrecher, OVC Commissioner. "The addition of SIUE makes us a stronger conference. After our evaluation of the university, it was

clear that it is a Division I institution, given the scope and breadth of its academic and athletic offerings. We fully expect SIUE, given its past history and tradition and the commitment they have shown with budgets and facilities, to be very competitive as a Division I institution. The addition also gives us a presence in the St. Louis market, something that is important to our league."

SIU Edwardsville is located in Edwardsville, Ill., which is just northeast of St. Louis, Mo., the 18th largest media market in the United States. The St. Louis metro population includes over 30,000 alumni of Ohio Valley Conference schools, a number that increases to over 70,000 when SIUE alumni numbers are factored in.

"We're glad to welcome SIUE into the OVC family," said Morehead State Director of Intercollegiate Athletics Brian Hutchinson. "This is a move that absolutely strengthens the league and the competitive opportunities for our student athletes. The process has been very forthright and honest in looking into our membership as a whole and SIUE fits exactly what we were looking for."

The University was founded in 1957 and celebrated its 50th year of existence in 2007-08. SIUE sponsors 18 sports (9 men's sports and 9 women's sports) and previously competed as a member of the Division

II Great Lakes Valley Conference.

SIUE is currently in the reclassification process to Division I, as the program completed its one-year exploratory period in 2007-08. SIU Edwardsville will compete against a Division I schedule beginning in 2008-09 and will conclude the reclassification process in the 2011-12 season. SIUE will become a full Division I program beginning in the 2012-13 season.

With nearly 13,500 students, SIUE is ranked among U.S. News & World Report's Top 10 public master's level universities in the Midwest region. For three years in a row, U.S. News has named SIUE among "America's Best Colleges" for its Senior Assignment Program; the program was also recognized in 2007 as a national model for learning assessment by the Association of American Colleges & Universities.

The University offers undergraduate and graduate degrees in arts and sciences, business, education, engineering and nursing as well as professional degrees in pharmacy and dentistry. The School of Dental Medicine is ranked among the best in the nation.

"During the 12 years I was at Murray State University, I was impressed by the high level of OVC competition and great rivalries," said Dr. Vaughn Vandegrift, SIUE Chancellor. "We are most pleased to be joining this asso-

ciation of quality universities."

The Ohio Valley Conference is expanding for the first time since 2003 when it added two institutions, including current member Jacksonville State.

The OVC was established in 1948 and is the eighth-oldest Division I conference. With the addition of SIU Edwardsville, the OVC will include 11 teams from five states. The current members of the OVC are: MSU, Austin Peay State University (Clarksville, Tenn.), Eastern Illinois University (Charleston, Ill.), Eastern Kentucky University (Richmond, Ky.), Jacksonville State University (Jacksonville, Ala.), Murray State University (Murray, Ky.), Southeast Missouri State University (Cape Girardeau, Mo.), Tennessee State University (Nashville, Tenn.), Tennessee Technological University (Cookeville, Tenn.) and University of Tennessee at Martin (Martin, Tenn.).

The OVC currently sponsors championships in 18 sports: baseball, men's and women's basketball, men's and women's cross country, football, men's and women's golf, rifle, women's soccer, softball, men's and women's tennis, men's and women's indoor track & field, men's and women's outdoor track & field and volleyball.

Combine

Continued from p3

and Broad Jump.

Preregistration for the combine is still open. The combine is open to incoming high school freshmen, sophomores, juniors and seniors.

Results and video from the Focus High School Football Combine will be distributed to every NCAA, NAIA and junior college gridiron program in the nation.

Guest speakers, including former professional and college football players, continue to be finalized for the inaugural combine.

Each combine participant will receive an event T-shirt, hat and copy of their individual and overall results. A post-combine meal will also be provided.

An awards program will honor combine participants who excel. Position and class awards will be based on individual performance.

Preregistration for the combine is \$50. Onsite registration will get underway at 8 a.m. on Saturday, July 26. Registration on the day of the combine is \$60.

Checks and money orders for the combine should be made payable to Steve LeMaster.

For more information on the Focus High School Football Combine, including hotel discounts for out-of-town participants who will have to stay overnight, call 606-794-6409 or email footballcombine@sudenlink.net.



PRESTONSBURG HIGH SCHOOL SOFTBALL PLAYERS got top-notch instruction on hitting during a camp held Tuesday at StoneCrest.

Guard Jordan Crawford leaves IU

TIMES STAFF REPORT

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. — Guard Jordan Crawford has quit the Indiana basketball team, leaving with just two players returning from last season.

The 6-foot-4 Crawford started eight games as a freshman and averaged 9.7 points and 3.4 rebounds for the Hoosiers.

Joe Crawford, Jordan's brother, finished his career at Kentucky this spring.

On the possibility of her son transferring to UK, Sylvia Crawford, said, "I'll have to reserve comment on that right now."

She said her son doesn't have a list of schools to consider. Indiana officials are scheduled appear at an NCAA infractions committee hearing in Seattle on Friday.

Follow college basketball during the preseason, season, post-season and offseason in the pages of The Floyd County Times and online at www.floydcountytimes.com.

ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

Erica Meade, Prestonsburg Softball

Joseph Jamerson, Prestonsburg Track

AUTOGRAPH SESSION



PROFESSIONAL BASKETBALL PLAYER JASON McLEISH, an Eastern Kentucky University graduate, signed autographs last week at the end of the East Kentucky Pro Basketball Youth Camp.

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Mason; 3D-Darren Damron; P12-Dean Pennington; 73-Charlie Mullett; 5M-Scott Morris; 44-Driver name unavailable; 5H-James Hale; J6-Brian Pennington; 44-Driver name unavailable;

Mr Metal Bomber Feature: 45-Tim Mason; J17-J.J. Terry; A85-Allen Turner; 3-Scott Lemaster; 3-Scott Morris; 77-Harley Hall; 73-Charlie Mullett; P12-Dean

Pennington; 20-Bo Howard; 51-Greg Matthews; 11-Jim Ison; P20-Ervin Vance; 5H-James Hale; J6-Brian Pennington; B4-Bannic Blair; 44-Driver name unavailable;

37H-Greg Hensley; 3D-Darren Damron. Four Cylinder Heat: 18S-Shawn Ousley; 37-Alan Osborne; D6-Darin Rogers; 17-Shawn Shelton;

B2-Michael Blair; A17-Alan Salisbury; 9-Ethan Conley; 20-Colby Blanton; 68-Driver name unavailable.

Four Cylinder Feature: 37-Alan Osborne; 18S-Shawn Ousley; D6-Darin Rogers; 18K-DI Henson; 17X-Shawn Shelton; A17-Alan Salisbury; B2-Michael Blair; 9-Ethan Conley; 20-Colby Blanton; 68-Driver name unavailable.



EAST KENTUCKY MINERS COACH KEVIN KEATHLEY signed autographs for campers at the conclusion of last week's pro basketball youth camp held at Prestonsburg High School. Keathley is a Floyd County native.



of Prestonsburg

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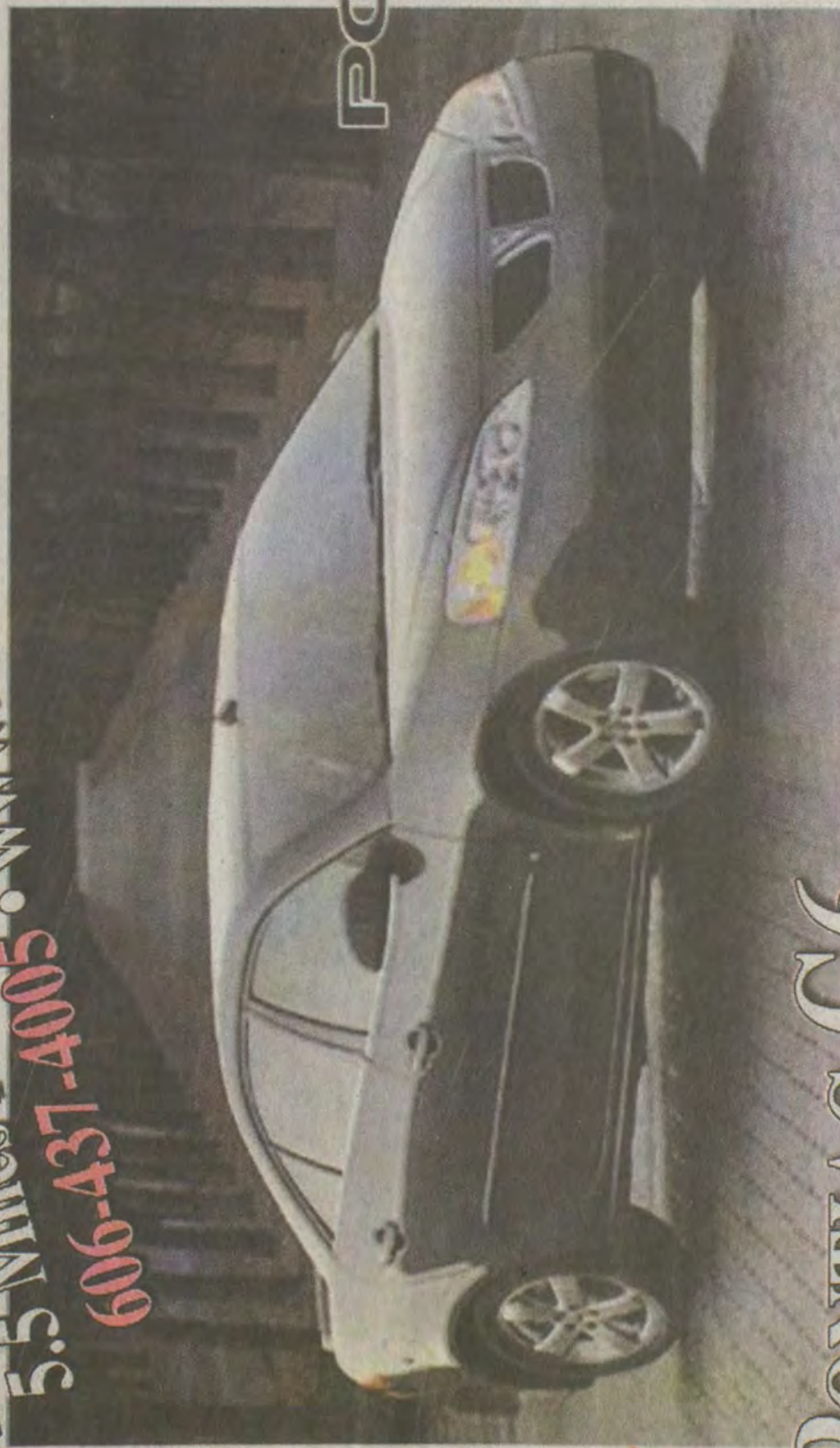
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