In brie

ketball

- page B1

egg hunts planned for Easter

FRANKFORT — Kentucky State Parks will be serving their annual Easter Buffet on Sunday, April 12, and several parks are planning egg hunts for children.

All 17 Kentucky state

resort park restaurants will be serving the buffet from noon until 8 p.m. The meal includes choice roast beef carved on line. baked Kentucky country ham, roast leg of spring lamb, golden fried catfish, garden vegetables and a variety of desserts.

The price for adults is \$16.95, while children age 12 and under are \$7.95 (prices include beverage).

Besides a restaurant, resort parks include lodging, gift shops, hiking trails and other recreational activities. Additional information is available at www.parks.ky.gov Jenny Wiley State Resort Park is among 10 state parks around the state planning egg hunts for children in April. Jenny Wiley's hunt will take

place April 11 at 2 p.m. For more details about these and other Kentucky State Park events, call the park or visit www.parks.ky.gov

2 DAY FORECAST

Today



High: 56 • Low: 40

Tomorrow



High: 59 • Low: 39

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Regional Obituaries .....A2 Opinion.....A4 Lifestyles ......A5 Sports......B1 Classifieds.....B4



Member, Kentucky Press Association

# Dog proposal up for changes, city says

by SHELDON COMPTON STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — Early stage discussions of passing a new ordinance that would require dog owners in Prestonsburg to register their pets have some asking questions.

At a recent meeting of the Prestonsburg City Council, a city ordinance committee passed around a sample dog registration form and accompato have as a springboard for further dis-

Prestonsburg City Clerk Sharon Schoolcraft, who owns two dogs of her own, said the idea of having dogs registered would actually be a throwback to a previous city ordinance that required pet owners to file registration with the city.

"It's an ordinance to alleviate stray nying ordinance for council members animals," Schoolcraft said. "There was an existing ordinance where people had to license their dogs, that's not anything new. They're just thinking about enforcing it again.'

Once before, fees were \$18 for one year. Schoolcraft said the newly instated few could be less than that.

"The model presented for further discussion is going to be picked apart over the next two or three meetings before anything is done," Schoolcraft

However, Hamilton Street resident Judy Freels says the model ordinance is both unconstitutional and, at times, ridiculous.

"It's unconstitutional, inhumane and they don't have the facilities or the

(See DOGS, page three)

#### HAPPY HOMECOMING



Army Cpt. Stephen Prater was surrounded by friends and family at the Martin Community Center on Thursday. Prater, who currently calls Texas home, recently returned to his native home of Hueysville after serving 14 months in Iraq. (For full story see Lifestyles, page A5.)

# Drug court gets boost from grant

by SHELDON COMPTON STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG - The Floyd County Drug Court program was one of three such courts in Kentucky to recently receive \$300,000 in federal grants.

The money was awarded through the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) to expand drug treatment for participants.

There was also a stipulation that could see even more funding arrive,. according to AOC officials.

The programs could each receive up to \$300,000 a year for a total of three years, depending on the results of the first \$300,000 allocation and the availability of federal funds.

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration awarded the grants in September. The grants were among \$17.4 million in grants the agency provided to a total of 20 drug court programs across the nation.

Floyd County Drug Court started in March 2004 and has graduated 30 participants from its program.

Along with Christian and Perry counties, Floyd County court officials have partnered with care facilities to carry out treatment initiatives.

One use for the new funds will be to enable drug court programs to implement what is known as the Assertive Community Treatment Model, a model that will see services extended to the most difficult to treat and isolated addicts in the community, said Jamie Ball, AOC spokesperson.

(See COURT, page three)

# Squad seeks money for river rescue training

by SHELDON COMPTON STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG - Twenty Floyd Countains will attend training this coming summer to form a special division of the Floyd County Emergency and Rescue Squad, which Capt. Tim Cooley has referred to as a "swiftwater team" or SWAT (Swift Water Attack Team).

Cooley went before members of the Floyd County Fiscal court Friday to ask help in paying for a training session to take place during the first weekend in June at the New River Elite Swiftwater Rescue Training Center in West Virginia.

The training, which would consist of 20 Floyd County citizens who have already signed up, along with room and board for the weekend would cost \$9,400, Cooley told court members.

"There's nothing more imp tant than the safety and lives of the people of Floyd County," Cooley said Friday, while county leaders agreed.

"You can't put a price tag on something like this," said District 3 Magistrate Donnie Daniels, who made the motion to fund the training.

The 20 already enlisted to attend include four people from the Left Beaver Rescue Squad, four from Prestonsburg Fire Department, two from the Middle Creek Fire Department and two others from the Auxier Fire Department.

Cooley said there could be more than that number express

· (See SWAT, page three)

# County, cities get nearly \$1 million for housing

by SHELDON COMPTON STAFF WRITER

Floyd County and the cities of Prestonsburg and Martin independently will be seeing a boost in housing funds soon.

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) awarded more than \$7.7 million in grants to southern and eastern Kentucky to improve housing conditions for low and very-low income families.

Floyd County will see \$374,737 toward that effort and officials just learning of the grant award this week say they will be discussing how best to utilize that money.

Floyd Judge-Executive R.D. "Doc" Marshall said he feels that in addition to the various housing authorities throughout the county, money may also be made available to the LINKS program, which builds homes for applicants in need of assistance.

While the county will receive money, Prestonsburg and Martin were also separately included in the grant award, announced through U.S. Congressman Hal Rogers' office Tuesday.

Prestonsburg is set to receive \$325,066 while Martin will get \$234,329 in federal

(See HOUSING, page three)



photo by Allen Bolling

Mother Nature seemed confused Friday, after a late-winter storm dumped six inches of powder on Eastern Kentucky - the heaviest snow of the season.

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# Regional Obituaries

FLOYD COUNTY

Harold Adkins, 87, of Martin, died Friday, March 6, at King's Daughters Medical Center. Funeral services were held Tuesday, March 10, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Richard Bentley, 67, of Grethel, died Wednesday, March 11, at his residence. He is survived by his wife, Avonell Akers Bentley. Funeral services were held Saturday, March 14, under the direction of Lucas and Son Funeral Home, Pikeville.

■ Maggie Caudill, 82, of Martin, died Tuesday, March 10, at St. Joseph Hospital, Martin. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, March 14, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

■ James Howard "Buddy" Caudill, 67, of Hanover, Indiana, an Allen native, died Thursday, March 5, at his home. He is survived by his wife, Linda Martin Caudill. Arrangements, under the direction of Morgan and Nay Funeral Centre, Madison, Indiana.

■ William Henry Jarvis, 85, of Prestonsburg, died Sunday, March 8, at King's Daughters Medical Center. Funeral services were held Wednesday, March 11, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Garfield Johnson, 86, of Bevinsville, died Monday, March 2, at the McDowell ARH. Funeral services were held Friday, March 6, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ Victoria Lynn Pavlik, 46, of Pikeville, died Thursdy, March 12, at her home. Funeral arrangements, under the direction of Lucas & Son Funeral Home.

■ James Lacy Porter, 63, of Allen, died Sunday, March 8, at St. Joseph Hospital, Martin. He is survived by his wife, Phyllis Ann Leslie Porter. Funeral services were conducted Friday, March 13, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

Willard Harve McKinney Jr., 65, of Martin, died February 26, at home. Funeral services were held Saturday, February 28, under

Ray Newsome, 72, of Teaberry, died Monday, March 2, at Highlands Regional Medical Center. Funeral services were held Thursday, March 5, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral

■ Billy Ratliff, 74, of Eastern, died Saturday, March 7, in Highlands Regional Medical Center, Prestonburg. He is survived by his wife, Ina Cooley Ratliff. Funeral services were held Wednesday, March 11, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

Dora Rector, 93, of Garrett, died Friday, March 6, at Riverview Manor Nursing

Home. Funeral services were held Sunday, March 8, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Ruby Rowe, 87, of Melvin, died Saturday, March 7, in Zolon, Ohio. Funeral services were held Tuesday, March 10, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral

John Joseph Salisbury, 27, of Hueysville, died Sunday, March 8, at St. Joseph, Martin. Funeral services were held Thursday, March 12, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral

■ Willie Morgan Scalf Jr., 82, of Sidney, died Monday, March 9, at his home. He is survived by his wife, Faye Easterling Scalf. A memorial service was held Friday, March 13, under the direction of R.E. Rogers Funeral Home.

■ Edd Shepherd, 63, of David, died Saturday, March 7, at his residence. He is survived by his wife, Julia Terry Shepherd. Funeral services were held Tuesday, March 10, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Allen Tackett, 50, of Hi Hat, died Tuesday, March 7, at the McDowell ARH. He is survived by his wife, Gerlie Gayheart Tackett. Funeral services were held Wednesday, March 11, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral

■ Martha Williams, 85, of Minnie, died Sunday, March 1, at her home. Funeral services were held Wednesday, March 4, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

#### KNOTT COUNTY

■ Betty Carol Gibson Collins, 46, of Hindman, died Monday, February 23, at home. Funeral services were held Thursday, February 26, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home,

■ Beatrice Combs, 87, of Hindman, died Wednesday, February 25, at the Knott Nursing Home. Funeral services were held Sunday, March 1, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, Hindman.

■ Mildred Faye Couch, 77, the direction of Hall Funeral of Anco, died Saturday, Home. February 28, at her home. Funeral services were held Tuesday, March 3, under the direction of Hindman Funeral

> ■ Milton Hager Gamble, 55, of Columbus, Georgia, formerly of Hindman, died Sunday, February 8, at home. Graveside services will be held at the Milton H. Conley Cemetery at Motts Branch, Lackey on Monday, February

Doffie Slone, 77, of Hollybush, died Friday, February 27, at the Hazard ARH. Funeral services were held Tuesday, March 3, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, Hindman.

#### JOHNSON COUNTY

Gap, died Sunday, March 8, at his residence. He is survived by his wife, Inez Rowland Fannin. Funeral services were held Wednesday, May 11, under the direction of Phelps & Son Funeral Home.

Francis Fannin, 85, of Paintsville, died Friday, March 2, at Pikeville Medical Center.

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A public service message from the U.S. General Services Administration

6, at Mountain Manor Nursing Home, Paintsville. Funeral services were held Sunday, March 8, under the direction of Phelps & Son Funeral

William Anthony Patrick, 21, of Oil Springs, died Friday, February 27, in Staffordsville. Funeral services were held Thursday, March 5, under the direction of Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

■ Daniel Clay Pennington, 18, of Hager Hill, died Friday, February 27, in Staffordsville. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, March 5, under the direction of Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

■ Dustin Lee "D-Rod" Rodriguez, 21, of Oil Springs, died Friday, February 27. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, March 4, under the direction of Magoffin County Funeral

Phillip Michael Salyer, 60, of Brownstown, Indiana, formerly of Oil Springs, died Thursday, March 5. Funeral services were held Monday, March 9, under the direction of Paintsville Funeral Home.

#### MAGOFFIN COUNTY

Raymond Barnett, 71, of Salyersville, died Wednesday, February 25, at the Paul B. Hall Regional Medical Center. Funeral services were held Saturday, February 28, under the direction of Magoffin County Funeral Home.

■ James Curtis Gullett, 52, of Royalton, died Friday, February 27, in Magoffin County. Funeral services were held Monday, March 2, under the direction of Salyersville Funeral Home.

#### PKE COUNTY

■ Anna June Baker, 78, of Canada, died Friday, March 6, at Pikeville Medical Center. She is survived by her husband, Ermel "Buck" Baker. Funeral services were held Saturday, March 7, under the direction of R.E. Rogers Funeral Home.

■ Barry Keith "Doc" Coleman, 56, of Phelps, died Saturday, March 7, at Pikeville Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, Patsy H. Coleman. Funeral services Wednesday, March 11, under the direction of Phelps Funeral Services.

■ Marie Bevins Comer, 85, of Pikeville, died Sunday, March 8, at her home. Funeral services were held Wednesday, March 11, under the direction of J.W. Call Funeral Home.

■ Bobby Gene Curry, 73, of Sidney, died Monday, March 9, at his home. He is survived by his wife, Lizzie Gilliam Curry. Funeral services were held Thursday, March 12, under the direction of R.E. Rogers Funeral Home.

Oleta Ray Dotson, 89, of Phelps, died Friday, March 6, at her residence. Funeral services were held Sunday, March 8, under the direction of R.S. Jones & Son Funeral Home.

Lon Estep, 61, formerly ■ Ervin Fannin, 72, of Flat of Pike County, died Saturday, March 7, in Elkhart, Indiana. He is survived by his wife, Lois Ann Estep. Funeral services were held Friday, March 13, under the direction of Thacker Funeral Home.

■ Edward R. Farmer, 74, of Pikeville, died Monday, March He is survived by his wife, Eloise Thacker Farmer. Funeral services were held Thursday, March 5, under the direction of Lucas & Son Funeral Home.

Lucille Fields, 79, of Steele, died Wednesday, March 4, at Pikeville Medical Center. She is survived by her husband, Clyde Fields. A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m., Sunday, March 15, in the Feds Creek Baptist Church. Arrangements, under the direction of Bailey Funeral

Bertha Hamilton, 84, of Feds Creek, died Wednesday, March 11, at her home. Funeral services were held Thursday, March 12, under the direction of Bailey Funeral

■ Charles Warren Hopper Jr., 66, of Pikeville, died Sunday, February 15, at the University of Kentucky Medical Center, Lexington. Memorial services were held Monday, February 23, under the direction of J.W. Call Funeral Home.

■ Verna Childress Hunt, 90, died Thursday, March 5, at her residence in Mouthcard. Funeral services were held Sunday, March 8, under the direction of Bailey Funeral

■ Vida Johnson, 82, of Jonancy, formerly of the Carl D. Perkins Apartments, died Sunday, March 8, at Parkview Nursing and Rehab Center, Robinson Creek. Funeral services were held Thursday, March 12, under the direction of Hall & Jones Funeral

Billy Jack Justice, of Jeffersonville, a Pike County native, died Saturday, February 28, at his home. Funeral services were held Wednesday, March 4, under the direction of Herald & Stewart Home for Funeral Inc. of Mt. Sterling.

Opal Ray Little, 80, of Pikeville, a Floyd County

died Saturday, February 28, at Pikeville Medical Center. She is survived by her husband, Frank Little. Funeral services were held Tuesday, March 3, under the direction of Lucas & Son Funeral Home.

Pastor Moses Fonso Lowe, 67, of Howey-in-the-Hills, Florida, a native of McCombs, died Sunday, March 1, in Florida. He is survived by his wife, Novella Lowe. Funeral services were held Thursday, March 5, under the direction of Beyers Funeral Home, Leesburg, Florida.

■ Victoria Lynn Pavlik, 46, of Pikeville, died Thursdy, March 12, at her home. Funeral arrangements, under the direction of Lucas & Son Funeral Home.

■ Loraine Morris Reed, 83, of Sidney, died Saturday, March 7, at the South Williamson Appalachian Regional Hospital. Funeral services were held Tuesday, March 10, under the direction of R.E. Rogers Home Chapel.

Leona Mae Rich, 78, of Pikeville, died Saturday, March 7, at Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were held Wednesday, March 11, under the direction of Lucas & Son Funeral Home.

Lonnie Randel Reynolds, 58, of Ashcamp, died Friday, February 27, at his home. Funeral services were held Tuesday, March 3, under the direction of Bailey Funeral Home.

Willie Morgan Scalf Jr., 82, of Sidney, died Monday, March 9, at his home. He is survived by his wife, Faye Easterling Scalf. A memorial service was held Friday, March 13, under the direction of R.E. Rogers Funeral Home.

■ Michelle Duty LaFever Snapp, 44, of Winchester, formerly of Pikeville, died Thursday, March 12, at St. Joseph East, Lexington. She is survived by her husband, Michael Snapp. Memorial

services were held Saturday, March 14, under the direction of Scobee Funeral Home.

David Emmons Stepp, 75, of Varney, Wednesday, March 11, at Pikeville Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, Pauline Robinette Stepp. Funeral services were held Saturday, March 14, under the direction of R.E. Rogers Funeral Home.

■ Minerva Stratton, 90, of Joes Creek, died Tuesday, March 10, at Signature Health Care Center, Pikeville. Funeral services were held Friday, March 13, under the direction of J.W. Call Funeral Home.

Danny Shea Wright, 58, of Dorton, died Monday, March 9, at Pikeville Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, Patricia K. Wright. Funeral services were held Wednesday, March 11, under the direction of Lucas & Son Funeral Home.

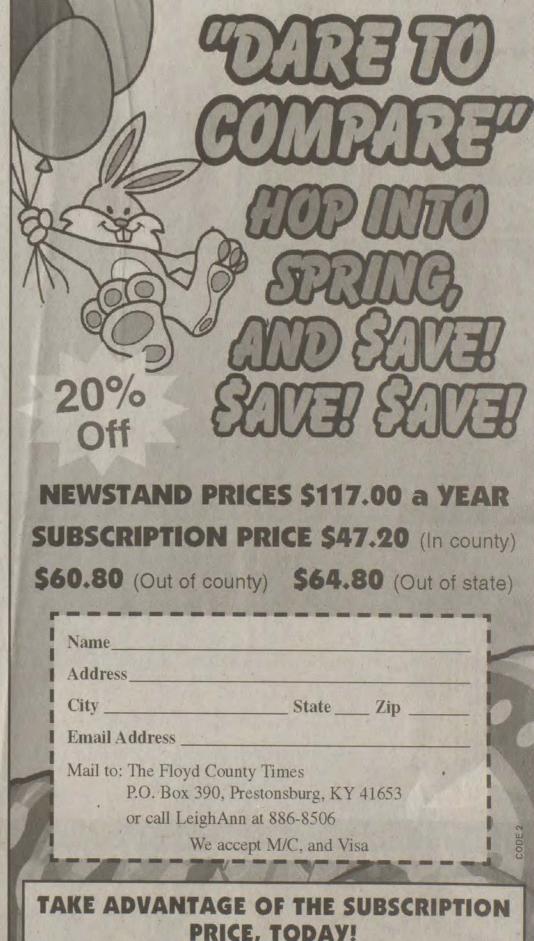
#### MARTIN COUNTY

■ Sula Hicks, 96, of Inez, died Saturday, March 7. Funeral services were held Monday, March 9, under the direction of Phelps and Son Funeral Home.

■ Coreine Mills, 87, of Inez, died Friday, March 6, at her residence. Funeral services were held Monday, March 9, under the direction of Phelps & Son Funeral Home.

Sammy R. Sites, of Tomahawk died Wednesday, March 4. He is survived by his wife, Mae Stacy Sites. Funeral services were held Saturday, March 7, under the direction of Richmond-Callaham Funeral Home.

■ Grace Slone, 68, of Inez, died Friday, March 6, at Highlands Regional Medical Center, in Prestonsburg. She is survived by her husband, Bob Slone. Funeral services were held Monday, March 9, under the direction of Phelps & Son Funeral Home.



Contact: LeighAnn Williams-Circulation Manager

Phone 606-886-8506

#### **Obituaries**

#### Jason Don Tackett

Jason Don Tackett, 26, of Beaver, died Wednesday, March 4, 2009, in Beaver.

Born March 2, 1983, in Martin, he was the son of Donnie Tackett of Teaberry, and Annie Adams Tackett of

Other survivors include a son, Skylar Don Tackett of Betsy Layne; a stepson, Nicholas Tackett; a sister, Sabrina Johnson of Beaver; a nephew, Braxton Chase Johnson; and several aunts, uncles, and other family and

Funeral services will be held Sunday, March 8, at noon, at the Samaria Old Regular Baptist Church, in Teaberry, with Old Regular Baptist ministers officiating.

Burial will be in the Family Cemetery, in Beaver, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, in Martin.

Visitation is at the church.

(Paid obituary)

# Will valve adjustment open a can of worms?

Dear Tom and Ray:

I have a 2002 Dodge Ram diesel 2500 two-wheel-drive six-speed manual with 130,000 miles. It's primarily used as a commuter truck — with a little bit of horse and hay hauling. I love this truck and plan to drive it for years. The dealership recommended a 100,000-mile valve adjustment as routine maintenance. Although I'm meticulous about maintenance, I'm reluctant to interfere with an engine that works well. Do you recommend a valve adjustment, or is this possibly opening a can of worms? Thanks!

TOM: Jeri, we strongly recommend regular maintenance - for cars AND people even when nothing is obviously wrong.

RAY: Right. Don't wait

by TOM and RAY MAGLIOZZI until you're like my brother, and EVERYTHING is obviously wrong.

> TOM: This truck came with two available engines. There's a 24-valve version and a 12valve version. The 24-valve engine has self-adjusting valves. But if you have the 12valve, six-cylinder version, you DO need to have your valves adjusted by a mechanic.

RAY: And with 130,000 miles, you're overdue. If your valves are out of adjustment, the engine can run less efficiently, because the valves aren't opening as far as they should. That decreases your performance and fuel economy.

TOM: Unadjusted valves also shorten the life of your engine. If there's slop in the valve train, components like the camshaft and lifters will bang against one another and wear out sooner.

to do the adjustment is that properly adjusted valves make the engine run quieter. Not that you'd notice in this truck! But

TOM: Actually, you should compare the cost of the valve adjustment with a set of those Bose noise-canceling headphones. And then go for whichever one is cheaper, Jeri.

Timing belt should be

changed by a pro Dear Tom and Ray:

I have a 2002 Hyundai Elantra with 97,000 miles. During the state inspection this week, the mechanic told me that I will soon need to replace my timing chain. He also said that the hose running from the pump housing to the rack-andpinion steering has a small leak. But he said the timing chain is a top priority. My son

RAY: And the final reason worked as an apprentice auto mechanic in a former life, and has taken helicopter-engine repair in the military. He does all his own work on his Jeeps, past and present. He feels that he can do this job for me, and told me to buy the repair manual. Since I cannot afford the more than \$900 that the mechanic wants for both jobs, I'm considering his offer. Bottom line: Should I let my son do this? And how long would my car be "in the shop" if I let him do this for me? -

RAY: Well, your car doesn't have a timing chain, Arlene; it has a timing belt. And that's unfortunate, because a timing chain - which is supposed to last the life of the engine would have been covered by your 10-year, 100,000-mile warranty

TOM: The belt, on the other hand, was supposed to be changed at 60,000 miles by you, as part of your regular maintenance. And if you neglected to change it back then, you can't reasonably expect Hyundai to cover its failure at 97,000 miles.

RAY: So the question is, Can your son handle this job?

**CLICK & CLACK** Talk Cars

I'd say there's a 75 percent likelihood that he can do it that is, complete the job in about a weekend, and do it so your car will still run when you get it back.

TOM: Those aren't bad odds, Arlene. Our percentage is only 80!

RAY: But there are two reasons why you might not want your son to tackle this. First, the parts for this job are relatively expensive, and there's at least one special tool (a puller) he may need to buy to remove the camshaft pulley. So even if you get the labor for free, this job is still going to cost you several hundred dollars.

TOM: But more importantly, because of the nature of this repair, there's a risk of catastrophic failure if he happens to do it wrong. So, in the worstcase scenario, you save \$300, but he bends all of the valves, and it costs you \$3,000 to rebuild the engine so you can drive the car again. Plus it costs you \$300 in legal fees to write him out of your will.

RAY: So here's what we'd recommend: Bite the bullet and have the dealer (or an independent, professional mechanic, who will be cheaper - but will still guarantee the work) do the timing belt.

TOM: While he's at it, make sure he changes the belt tensioner, and have him replace your water pump, too. Those are inexpensive parts that require almost no additional labor to replace while the timing belt is off. And they can ruin your engine if they fail

down the road. RAY: Then, have your son fix the power-steering leak, which certainly is well within his abilities. And make him a nice spaghetti dinner, which surely will soothe any bruised feelings. Good luck, Arlene.

#### SOCIAL SECURITY NEWS

#### What young workers should know about Social Security and saving

by JENNIFER HOPKINS SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

Did you know that it's never too early to start saving for your retirement? Retirement is probably the last thing on your mind if you're a young worker. But there are some basics you should know about Social Security and savings to plan for your retirement.

Social Security is the foundation for a secure retirement, but was never intended to be your only source of income when you retire. While Social Security replaces about 40 percent of the average worker's pre-retirement earnings, most financial advisors say that you will need 70 percent or more of pre-retirement earnings to live comfortably. Even with a pension, you will still need to save. If you will not have a private pension, you will need to save more-and start saving sooner. Today's young workers can expect to spend 20, 30 or even more years in retirement, so saving is critical.

The sooner you start to save, the more time your savings will have to grow. Whether you're able to save \$5 or \$500, it's in your interest to start saving now.

Want to start planning your future now? There are some easy ways to do so. Take a look at Your Social Security Statement, which you'll receive in the mail about two to three months before your birthday. Along with your annual Statement, workers between the ages of 25 and 35 will receive a helpful insert that provides information about Social Security, savings, and more items of interest to young workers. Want something more interactive? Visit Social Security's online Retirement Estimator at www.socialsecurity.gov/estimator which allows you to try out different retirement scenarios based on yourpersonal earnings record.

You can also go to www.mymoney.gov for infor-

mation on getting credit, paying for education, buying a home, creating a budget, starting a business as well as financial calculators and planning

Don't forget that Social Security coverage is not just for retirement, but also for disability and survivor benefits in the event that you are unable to work, or you leave behind a family that depends on your income when you die. Read more about retirement, disability and survivors benefits at www.socialsecurity.gov.

For more information about online services just call your local Social Security Office in Prestonsburg at (606) 886-8525. The office is located at 1897 Kentucky Route 321 in Prestonsburg Representatives are available to answer questions.

And remember, we have representatives available to give presentations and speeches about Social Security Programs. Contact the office for more information.

#### Dogs

ability to enforce such an ordinance,' Freels said.

Freels, who owns 12 dogs, is strictly opposed to sections of the model ordinance that would require, for instance, dog owners to keep their pets from defecating on public property and, if they did so on private property, the property owner would first have to have asked permission.

"What does that mean?" Freels asked. "Will I have to knock on my neighbor's door and ask if my dog can use the bathroom on his mailbox or something?"

Another point Freels is outspoken about is a stipulation would be given the right to enter public property if the need were to present itself to examine a dog based on complaints or other information.

But city officials stress that the model is just that, a model, and that a great deal of study would be conducted to fashion on ordinance that would suit the needs of the city and its cit-

We'll have another meeting on March 23 where the city will seek input from citizens," Schoolcraft said. "We want public input and we want them to come to the meeting."

According to the city, any ordinance that might be passed that enforcement officers in the future would be aimed

more at protecting pets than anything else. The registration would assist enforcement offi-

Continued from p1

dogs to identify the owners and return them. But Freels says the bottom line for her is to make sure residents are informed about whatever may come out of the

cers and others who find stray

city's discussions. "I want people to be aware and find out what this ordinance contains and what it means to them," she said. "I'm not sure they're in a position to enforce such a law."

The Prestonsburg City Council's next regular meeting is March 23 at 6 p.m.

#### SWAT

interest before the training date arrived.

That training, Cooley said, would be grueling and a "realtime" experience that would help rescue workers in Floyd County better handle situations that could come up where rivers and streamways were an element.

If plans for a river float tour along the Big Sandy, as mentioned by city leaders in Prestonsburg last year, or expansion of the horse trail were to become realities, this

training could prove critical in dealing with emergencies that might arise at those locations.

"The accidents that could occur along the horse trail would be most quickly accessed by water," Cooley said.

Discussion of attending the swiftwater training to up the number of people certified in the county (the number of people with the additional 20 would total 48 responders after the session concluded) first came up after Cooley and othsome months ago.

"We had plenty of help during that, but not a lot of people who knew what they were doing," Cooley said. "So I want all the people I can get on this team. It's the most intense training I've ever experienced, but it's worth the money."

#### Continued from p1

ers assisted a search team along the Big Sandy River

A next step will be working to secure \$10,500 to equipment the new swiftwater division, said Cooley.

#### Court

Parts of this plan would call for increased case management, peer recovery specialists, clinicians and job coaches targeting court participants with the most limited resources, said Kentucky Drug Court Executive Officer Connie Payne.

"Adding these enhanced services to the existing array of substance abuse education and treatment services allows the drug court programs to

reach beyond traditional treatment methods and focus on life skills that participants need for long-term, successful recovery," Payne said.

The grants were sought as a collaborative effort between comprehensive care centers, the University of Kentucky Center on Drug and Alcohol Research, the UK College of Social Work and the state's drug court programs.

Statistics from a 2004 out-

Continued from p1

come evaluation show that drug court graduates have just over a 20 percent rate of returning to a life involving drugs in some form within two years after finishing the program. Offenders who receive probation after committing crimes similar to those of individuals who enter drug court instead have a recidivism rate of 57 percent two years after completing probation.

## Housing

ments. Both cities have housing authorities.

Floyd County officials said because they had only recently learned of the federal funding

funding for housing improve- that it would be something court members, in coordination with housing officials, would study in the coming weeks to see how the funds could be most effectively put

Continued from p1

One focus for improvements would be efforts toward modernization, Rogers said in his announcement.

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Freedom of the press is not an end in itself but a means to the end of [achieving] a free society.

— Felix Frankfurter

## Guest View

# Rewarding excellence in the classroom

The conventional wisdom is that, now that he's elected, President Barack Obama will begin repaying those traditional Democratic constituencies. You know, like teachers unions.

His speech on education on Tuesday, however, sure didn't sound like it. While it would be nice if teachers unions would embrace merit pay based on student performance as likely to benefit their own members, that hasn't precisely been the history.

The president said it clearly: "Too many supporters of my party have resisted the idea of rewarding excellence in teaching with extra pay, even though it can make a difference in the classroom."

Some union spokesmen seemed to be holding out hope that the president wasn't really tying pay to student achievement, but the administration later reiterated that the president was saying precisely that, though he was also likely to consider other factors.

Many teachers are excellent all the time. Reward them. Other teachers can be motivated to become excellent. Money is a grand incentive. And a few teachers may never make the grade. Get rid of them.

Test scores aren't the perfect measure, but they are the best we have. Still, reward also should go to those teachers whose students might not be performing at grade level but who, because they were so far behind to begin with, have made incredible strides anyway.

The president also lauded charter schools as being crucial to educational improvement. He's right. Teachers unions have not been enamored of charter

But Obama called on the 26 states with limits on charter schools to lift them. One advantage of charter schools is that, if they aren't performing, they are easier to close than similarly underperforming public schools.

The president clearly recognizes that communities must use every tool in their belts to help students learn. Quality charter schools and rewarding teacher excellence with merit pay are two of the best tools.

Using federal stimulus money coming the states' way to achieve these is a perfectly credible use.

- Milwaukee Journal Sentinel



# -Chuck Norris

#### I may run for president of Texas

by CHUCK NORRIS CREATORS SYNDICATE

On Glenn Beck's radio show last week, I quipped, in response to our wayward federal government, "I may run for president of Texas.

That need may be a reality sooner than we think. If not I, someone someday may again be running for president of the Lone Star State, if the state of the union continues to turn into the enemy of the state.

From the East Coast to the "Left Coast," America seems to be moving farther and farther from its Founders' vision and government.

George Washington advised, "The great rule of conduct for us, in regard to foreign nations, is, in extending our commercial relations, to have with them as little political connection as possible." Yet the Obama administration just pledged \$900 million in U.S. taxpayer-funded aid to Hamas-controlled Gaza Mahmoud Abbas' Palestinian Authority.

Thomas Jefferson counseled us, "We must not let our rulers load us with perpetual debt." Yet the feds have skyrocketed our national debt by trillions of dollars, and they plan much more fiscal expansion, with few expectations of resistance. George Washington admonished, "To

contract new debts is not the way to People to alter or to abolish it, and to pay for old ones." But we keep borrowing and bailing out, and we watch the stock market plunge further every

Patrick Henry taught, "(Our Constitution) is an instrument for the

people to restrain the government." Yet our Congress and president stampede that founding document, overlook its explicitness and manipulate its words to abandon a balance of power and accommodate their own desires, partisan politics and runaway spending.

John Adams declared, Constitution was made

only for a moral and religious people." Yet we've bastardized the First them under absolute Despotism, it is religious history and secularized our off such Government, and to provide society, and now we ooze skepticism new Guards for their future Security." and circumvent religion on every level of public and private life.

Chuck Norris

How much more will Americans take? When will enough be enough? And when that time comes, will our leaders finally listen, or will history need to record a second American Revolution? We the people have the authority, according to America's Declaration of Independence, which

"That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these Ends, it is the Right of the

institute new Government, laying its Foundation on such Principles, and organizing its Powers in such Form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that

> Governments established should not be changed for light and transient Causes; and accordingly Experience hath shewn, that Mankind are more disposed to suffer, while Evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the Forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long Train of Abuses and Usurpations, pursuing invariably the same

Object, evinces a Design to reduce Amendment, reinterpreted America's their Right, it is their Duty, to throw

> It was this type of thinking that led me to utter the tongue-in-cheek comment on Glenn Beck's radio show that I may run for president of Texas.

> I'm not saying that other states won't muster the gumption to stand and secede, but Texas has the history to prove it. As most know, Texas was its own country before it joined the union as the 28th state. From 1836 to 1846, Texas was its own republic. Washington-on-the-Brazos served as

> > (See NORRIS, page six)

# beyond the beltway

#### A celebration of aging

by DONALD KAUL MINUTEMAN MEDIA

I turned 74 on Christmas Day. (Yes, I know. I share the birthday with a famous person — Humphrey Bogart.)

As ages go, it's without special significance. All it means is that I'm too old to cease to be before my pen has gleaned my teeming brain. My brain doesn't teem as good as it used

Which I was reminded of the other day while spending a brisk morning searching for my car keys. I finally found them (in the ignition, oddly enough) and was further reminded of an e-mail forwarded to me by a friend the week before.

It's one of those Internet joke things that show up in one's e-mail from time to time. I generally don't find them terribly amusing but this one seemed to have the relevance of a bad dream.

#### A Day in the Life

I decide to water my garden. As I turn on the hose in the driveway, I look over at my car and see that it needs washing.

As I start toward the garage, I notice mail on the porch table that I brought up from the mailbox earlier. I decide to go through the mail before I

I lay my car keys on the table, put

the useless mail in the trash basket under the table and notice that the basket is full. So I put the bills back on the table and first take the trash out to the recycling bin.

But then I think since I'm going to

be near the mailbox when I take out the trash anyway I may as well pay the bills first. I take my checkbook off the table and see that there is only one check left.

My extra checks are in my desk in the study so I go to my desk where I find a can of Coke I'd been drinking. I'm going to look for my checks

but before I do that I need to push the Coke aside so that I don't accidentally knock it over.

The Coke is getting warm and I decide to put it in the refrigerator to keep it cold. As I head toward the kitchen, a vase of flowers on the counter catches my eye - the flowers need water.

I put the Coke on the counter and discover the reading glasses that I've been searching for all morning. It occurs to me that I'd best put them back on my desk before I lose them again, but first I have to water the

I set the glasses back on the counter, fill a container with water and suddenly spot the TV remote that someone has left on the kitchen table.

I'm afraid that tonight when we go to watch TV, I'll be looking for the

remote but I won't remember that it's on the kitchen table, so I pick it up intending to put it back in the den where it belongs. But first I have to

I pour some water in the flowers

but my hand slips and most of it spills on the floor, causing me to set the remote back on the table, get some towels and wipe up the spill.

It takes a while, after which I head down the hall trying to remember why I went to the kitchen in the first place.

At the end of the

The car isn't washed, the bills aren't paid, there is a warm can of Coke sitting on the counter, the flowers don't have enough water and there is still only one check in my checkbook.

I'd watch television but I can't find the remote.

I'd read a book but I can't find my

I'd go to a movie but I don't remember what I did with my car

And I have no idea why nothing got done because I was busy all day. Which I would tell my wife - if I

knew where my cell phone was.

Don Kaul is a two-time Pulitzer Prize-losing Washington correspondent who, by his own account, is right more than he's wrong. Email him at dkaul2@earthlink.net.



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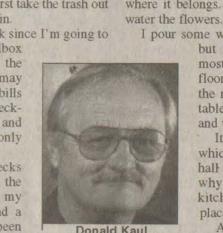
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Donald Kaul



## INSIDESTUFF

Sports.....page B1  **CAR TALK:** 

Will valve adjustment open a can of worms?

see pg. A3

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# This Town, That World

Editor's Note: For years, Floyd County Times founder and former publisher Norman Allen wrote a weekly column that looked at Floyd County through his eyes. His columns are being reprinted due to request.

I'm a little disturbed. Spring fever hasn't hit me yet. No feeling of lassitude, general debility, longing for a dark shady spot, no glimmering before the eyes or any of the usual symptoms. If I could find a doctor who hasn't alreasy taken to his bed with the malady, think I'd book an appointment.

#### PUCKER UP!

As you may suspect, I am not one to gamboling and tra-la-ing hither and yon, just because the weather is so great and the birds flowers, frogs and other wild things of nature are bursting into song and bloom, but even I can't be blind to it

And what is happening makes of me a down-at-the-mouth misanthrope as I pessimistically predict that the flowers will be pistil-deep in snow before spring really comes.

The birds, without a shirt to their backs or a guarantee of a meal tomorrow, aren't worrying, but are singing their fool heads off. Why shouldn't you and I show a little happiness, too?

Come you think of it-when have you heard anybody whistle, around here? That may be just what this country needs-more whistlers. The record does not show any man fighting his neighbor as long as he was whistling.

#### DOOTNEY BRINGS A BRACER

"Dootney" Horn has just pranced in from Florida, bringing me possibly the most unusual gift I will ever receive. It was at one time a best seller, although it isn't a book. It at one time had oldtimers clicking their heels and vowing, by cracky, that it was the best thing ever invented. It made a millionaire of the man who put it together, and was said to have created hangovers for some who used it too freely.

This gift is, among other things 12 percent alcohol. That's 24 proof, man! No wonder it perked the old boys up.

On his way up from Florida Dootney ran into it at a country store and immediately decided he knew the man who needed it.

So, it is that I have in my possession a bottle of the genuine, original, oldtime Hadacol.

How much am I offered? Or would that be bootlegging?

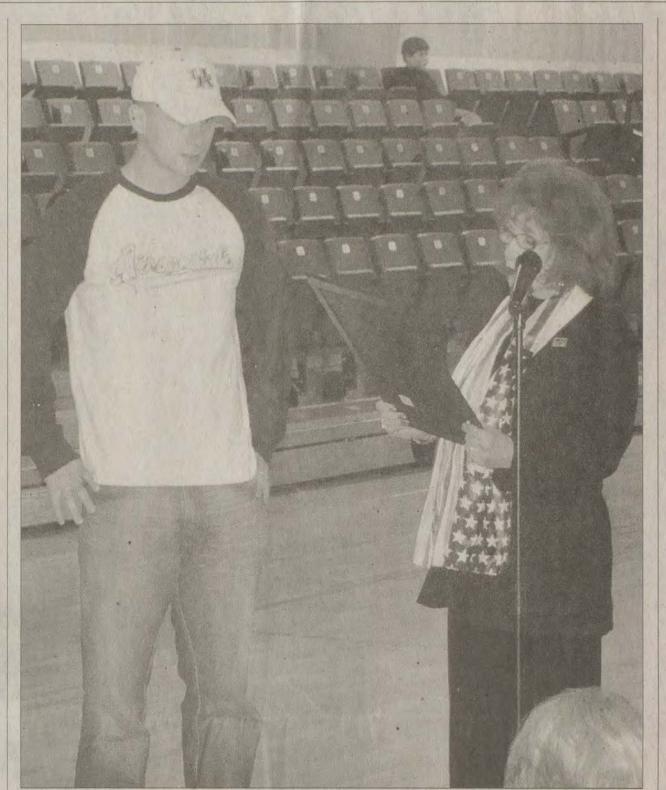
#### **IAPPROVE**

Said President Nixon recently in one of his State of the Union mes-

"I do not mean to be soft on crime, I mean exactly the opposite." Now that statement may not be

in a class with such perorations as "Give me Liberty or give me death," but I contend it belongs up there along with the best. May it stand, enforced and unchanged.

I'm sure Mr Nixon will be glad



Martin Mayor Thomasine Robinson presented Army Cpt. Stephen Prater with a proclamation making March 12 "Captain Stephen Prater Day" in the city. Prater recently returned to his native home of Floyd County after serving 14 months in Iraq.

# HOMETOWN HERO

# Prater honored upon return from Iraq

by JARRID DEATON FEATURES WRITER

MARTIN - The Martin Community Center was a site of celebration on Thursday as friends and family of Army Cpt. Stephen Prater gathered to welcome him back to his home in Floyd County.

Martin Mayor Thomasine Robinson presented Prater with a proclamation declaring that March 12 be designated as "Captain Stephen Prater Day" in Martin.

After reading the proclamation, Robinson offered the microphone to Prater, who turned it off and placed it back on the stand. Prater said that his time in the Army made it easy for him to talk without the use of amplification.

"It's so great to see all of you," Prater said, smiling. "It really makes me feel good to come back home. I appreciate everybody's

Prater, 26, a 2005 graduate of the University of Kentucky with a degree in political science, has been in active duty with the Army for three years, spending the past 14 months in Iraq. He was promoted to

captain earlier this year. The majority of the crowd had small United States flags in their hands waving them with a great deal of enthusiasm when Prater first walked through the door of the center. The crowd, ranging from close family members to old high school buddies from Allen Central, exchanged handshakes and hugs

with Prater as he made his way around the community center. After greeting all of the people who came . up to him, Prater and the rest of the crowd took their seats to enjoy the food that was brought to the center by some of those in attendance.

Prater's wife, Evelyne Reis, a native of Brazil, was not able to accompany Prater on his trip back to his childhood home due to work obligations.

Prater, a native of Hueysville, said he plans on spending a week in Floyd County before returning back to his current home in Texas. Prater's wife, Evelyne Reis, was not able to accompany Prater on his trip back to his childhood home due to work obligations.

#### MOVIES FROM THE BLACK LAGOON

## 'Shogun Assassin'

by TOM DOTY TIMES COLUMNIST

A rogue samurai slashes his way through feudal Japan while protecting his toddler from a whole host of assassins in this action epic that features some of the most intense and brutal sword fights ever committed to celluloid.

The film opens with Itto Ogami, the shogun's top executioner, reliving the moment when his boss sent a gaggle of thugs to his house to kill him. Turns out the Shogun had become paranoid after having Itto behead all of his



**Tom Doty Times Columnist** 

enemies and now fears that his people will turn on him. Itto bursts into the house too late to save his wife but he makes a quick hash of the killers.

Later, the Shogun sends another gang to his home with a proposition - commit ritual sepiku (hari kari to you and me) or swear allegiance to the guy who had your wife killed. Itto opts to kill the messenger, along with his small army.

He then turns to his pre-school aged son, Daigoro, and frames their situation in a way the boy will understand. He places a ball and a sword on the floor and waits to see which object his son will be drawn to. Daigoro chooses the blade and it's a good thing, as dad appears prepared to take the boy's life if he had chosen the plaything.

The pair hit the road, where dad houses the boy in a wooden cart that would be barred from most playgrounds as it is equipped with enough weaponry to decimate a small army. They must keep moving to stay ahead of the Shogun's men but occasionally stop so dad can get work as a hired

He lands a big assignment when a town council offers him a ton of dough to take on three well-armed gangsters whose moniker, Masters of Death, doesn't even raise Itto's eyebrow (which he could probably kill you with as easy as blink). Itto follows the trio onto a boat but any chance of a showdown is foiled when a passenger burns the vessel down after being roughed up by the Masters

Meanwhile, a female ninja, who cackles like a madwoman, and her gang of distaff killers hire on to kill Itto but they botch the job by coming at him in small numbers (three at a time is a cake walk for a guy who can kill you with a look). It comes down to just their leader, but she drops the job when Itto saves her from drowning on the burning boat.

She returns home to forfeit her own life to the Shogun, but Itto has bigger worries as the shipboard strife has left him with some festering wounds. This leads to the film's most

(See LAGOON, page six)

## The healing power of intention

by KATHLEEN CARROLL "CHICKEN SOUP FOR THE SOUL: LIFE LESSONS FOR MASTERING THE LAW OF

Try as I might, my knee still wouldn't bend. It had been months since my accident in March. While walking across the street, I had been hit by a car.

ATTRACTION")

I'd had surgery to reconnect the ligaments in my knee and spent eight weeks wearing a cast to mend my broken leg. Once the cast was removed and the surgery had healed, under my orthopedic doctor's guidance I would lay on my stomach night after night as my husband pushed on my leg to bend the knee, but to no avail. The leg was as stiff as a board. I was forced to walk with a

In August, my doctor recommended a procedure where I would be put under anesthesia and he would force the knee to bend. "This is going to hurt a lot," he said. "You will need to be on crutches for a long time, and

#### CHICKEN SOUP FOR THE SOUL

even with all that, the knee will never bend enough for you to go up the stairs without dragging the injured

A friend suggested that I counter the doctor's prediction with a scenario more to my liking. As I lay on the gurney in the hall in front of the operating room, I followed my friend's advice. Over and over I described to my husband, Steve, that the doctor would come out of the operating room, shouting for joy: "I can't believe it! The leg went all the way back!" Then, I told my husband, I would wake up pain-free and say, "I

don't need the crutches at all." About 10 minutes before I was ness. I expected Steve to agree with

wheeled into the operating room, I looked up at my husband and said: "You know what, Steve? I don't believe anything I'm saying.'

"Oh," he responded, "then what do you believe?"

"I think it will be just as the doctor said. It will hurt a lot, and I will need to be on crutches for a long time. And even with all that, the knee will never bend enough for me to go up the stairs without dragging my leg," I

"OK," Steve said, serenely. "Now

strange happened to my conscious-

go back to the other story.' At that moment, something the realistic expectation set by the doctor. When he didn't, my mind went into total confusion, then emptiness, and then to a simple openness. I returned to the positive story.

After the procedure, the doctor came out of the operating room and said to Steve: "I can't believe it! The leg went all the way back!"

I woke up feeling pain-free and wonderful and, while we took the crutches to please the hospital staff. I didn't need them. Today, I am a yoga teacher. I use this experience as an anchor to remind me of the potential power of affirmation, visualization and clear intention to affect reality.

#### Norris

our Philadelphia. Washingtonon-the-Brazos is where, on March 2, 1836, a band of patriots forged the Texas Declaration of Independence.

On March 1, 1845, then-President John Tyler signed a congressional bill annexing the Republic of Texas. Though the annexation resolution never explicitly granted Texas the right to secede from the union (as is reported often), many (including me) hold that

#### Lagoon

■ Continued from p1

touching sequence as Daigoro nurses his father back to health by carrying him some river water by holding it in his own

Itto springs back into action and then must take down an entire army of angry villagers that stand between him and his three adversaries. It's a stunning brawl that sees every swipe of his sword lop off a limb or strike some poor slob in a major artery. The Masters prove to be well heeled adversaries (each sports a cool ninja weapon), but they're no match for our hero, who would go on to appear in "Shogun Assassin

This one is almost all action and that's because it's made up of the best scenes from two other films. In Japan there were six Ogami adventures filmed (available in their original form on DVD as the "Lone Wolf and Cub" series) that were all based on a Manga series which is also available at most major book stores.

Ogami is played by the imposing Tomisaburo Wakayama. He cuts a mean figure who appears to be a cross between John Belushi and a fire hydrant. The series was produced by his brother, Shintaro Katsu, who had a great run as the blind swordsman in all 26 "Zato Ichi" films (all available on DVD).

If you're a purist, then seek out all 32 of the films by these brothers. If you just want the action, then this film should suffice but you should also check out "Shogun Assassin 2," which culls together the best bits from two other Itto films.

Best line: "At night we make a fire, have our tea and listen for ninjas.' 1980, unrated.

#### Cumberland Falls to host photo workshop April 17-19

FRANKFORT -- Cumberland Falls State Resort Park near Corbin will host a nature photography workshop Friday through Sunday, April 17-19, 2009.

Cumberland Falls, the park with the largest natural waterfall south of Niagara, has hosted an annual nature photography weekend for more than 25 years. The program offers photographers inspiring guest speakers as well as a 24-hour competition.

Competition this year is digital only, and there will be six categories to enter. All shots must be taken during the weekend within the Cumberland Falls area. Cost of the event is \$40 per person, and registration is limited to 100 participants. The registration deadline is April 10.

The region surrounding Cumberland Falls is a nature photographers' dream come true. Featuring abundant waterfalls and natural stone arches mixed with unique and diverse plant life, the location inspires the photographer with limitless image-making opportunities.

Guests at Cumberland Falls may stay in the historic DuPont Lodge or in a fully furnished The Riverview cottage. Restaurant serves a variety of cuisine for breakfast, lunch and dinner. If camping is more your style, there are RV and tent sites. To make a lodging reservation or to request a brochure of the event, please call 1-800-325-0063 OF BretA.Smitley@ky.gov.

it is implied by its unique autonomy and history, as well as the unusual provision in the resolution that gave Texas the right to divide into as many as five states. Both the original (1836) and the current (1876) Texas constitutions also declare: "All political power is inherent in the people. Ö They have at all times the inalienable right to alter their government in such manner as they might think proper."

Anyone who has been around Texas for any length of time knows exactly what we'd do if the going got rough in America. Let there be no doubt about that. As Sam Houston once said, "Texas has yet to learn submission to any oppression, come from what source it may.

For those losing hope and others wanting to rekindle the patriotic fires of early America, I encourage you to join Fox News' Glenn Beck, me and millions of people across the country in the live telecast "We Surround Them,"

which will be on Fox News Channel Friday, March 13, at 5 p.m. EDT. Thousands of cell groups will be united in solidarity over their concerns for our country. You can host or attend a viewing party by going to Glenn's Web site. My wife, Gena, and I will be hosting one from our Texas ranch. We've invited many family members, friends and law enforcement officials to join us. It's our way of saying, "We're united; we're tired of the corruption; and we're not

going to take it anymore!"

Again, Sam Houston could have been speaking to all of us present-day Americans when he gave these marching orders: "We view ourselves on the eve of battle. We are nerved for the contest and must conquer or perish. It is vain to look for present aid; none is at hand. We must now act or abandon all hope! Rally to the standard, and be no longer the scoff of mercenary tongues! Be men, be free men, that your children may bless their father's name.

NOTE: Speaking of showdowns, Chuck is inviting anyone near the Houston area this weekend to see a good example of the raw Texas fighting spirit. Join him and others for the national martial arts event

■ Continued from p4

"Showdown in H-Town.") To find out more about Chuck Norris and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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# **FLOYD COUNTY**

Inside

## Eagles await NCAA Tournament pairings

by STEVE LeMASTER SPORTS EDITOR

MOREHEAD - The NCAA will announce the pairings for the 2009 NCAA Men's Basketball Championship today at 6 p.m. MSU men's basketball fans are invited to join the Eagle basketball team for the announcement at a Selection Sunday Party at 5 p.m. in the Adron Doran University Center.

Doors will open at 5 p.m. Food will be provided by Buffalo Wild Wings and the MSU Division of University Advancement. The University Bookstore will be open with Eagle merchandise available.

The MSU men's basketball team and coaches were recognized by both houses of the Kentucky General Assembly on Tuesday, March 10.

The Eagles won the Ohio Valley Conference Saturday night in double overtime over Austin Peay to earn their first trip to the NCAA Tournament since 1984.

Seven MSU alumni serve in the Kentucky House. Rep. Rocky Adkins, D-Sandy Hook, is the majority floor leader. He was the starting point guard on the 1982-83 OVC Champion

Eagles.

Other members include: Rep. Hubert Collins, D-Wittensville, Rep. John Will Stacy, D-West Liberty, Rep. Robin Webb, D-Grayson, Rep. Mike Denham, D-Maysville, Rep. Jimmy Higdon, R-Lebanon, and Rep. Carl Rollins, D-Midway.

Three MSU alumni serve in the Kentucky Senate. They are Sen. Johnny Ray Turner, D-Drift; Sen. Charlie Borders, R-Grayson, and Sen. Walter Blevins, D-Sandy Hook.

ONLINE: www.msueagles.com



Members of the Morehead State University men's basketball program celebrated an

#### Ohio Valley Conference (OVC) championship victory last weekend. MSII is headed to the NCAA Tournament.

#### March is month for big bass throughout state

Dewey Lake affords area fishermen huge catches

TIMES STAFF REPORT

FRANKFORT - Several decades ago, March brought out crusty, tough men who impaled several night crawlers on a large hook and dropped the bait around any stump, tree top, log or surface debris along the shoreline of a lake or pond for big bass. These anglers used a scull paddle to move their wooden boats quietly around the water, and fished stout cane poles with heavy black nylon line to haul their catch away from the cover. This fishing technique became known as jigging.

Although Herrington Lake receives credit as the birthplace of jigging, anglers discovered the same technique also worked well in other lakes for enormous female large-

mouth bass. "They would drop the night crawlers right in front of the bass and haul them out of that cover," said "Kentucky television Host Tim Farmer. "I was once a creel clerk on Elmer Davis Lake in Owen County and I would see some really big bass come from there at this time of year

While most anglers nowadays have switched to artificial lures and modern baitcasting rods, the basic technique still works at this time of year because the big female largemouth bass need to eat.

"They are spawning next month and feeding up to put nutrients in them they'll need for spawning," said Gerry Buynak, assistant director of fisheries for the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources. "The best way to do that is to get up in the warm shallow water and feed as much as they can. This is the final push to get ready for the spawn."

In early March, eggs make up about 5 percent of the body weight of a female largemouth bass. By mid-April, eggs account for 15 percent of body

"If you want to catch a wallhanger, now is the time to do it," explained Buynak, who served as black bass research biologist for Kentucky Fish and Wildlife for 18 years. "Those large 6-pound or bigger female largemouth bass spawn first. They are more vulnerable to anglers than any other time of year, especially anglers fishing from the bank.'

(See BASS, page two)

# **ANOTHER SEASON IN THE BO**



photos by Jamie Howell The Betsy Layne High School girls' basketball program continues its reign in the Floyd County Conference and 58th District. The Lady Cats captured another district title less than three weeks ago.

Right: Betsy Layne was runner-up in the dance team competition.



# Little League Coaches Registry provides material to coaches, managers

TIMES STAFF REPORT

The Little League Softball Baseball and Coaches Registry was created in 2007 to help its managers and coaches improve their knowledge and learn how to be more effective teachers.

Currently, the Coaches Registry presents separate packets for Little League Baseball and Little League Softball, which include sportspecific training DVDs and reading materials.

The baseball package includes videos from the Play

Ball! Series, which features tips from Major League Baseball players and managers. The Softball series offers Michele Smith's newly-published training and practice guide along with a skills and fundamentals DVD.

In addition to instructional information, the registry provides coaches with a 2009 Rulebook, a Positive Coaching Alliance (PCA) handbook with helpful tips on how to be a better coach, What's the Score explaining how to score a game and a scorebook. Also, members

have the ability to download the latest version of the Electronic Rulebook with clips explaining frequently

misinterpreted rules. "We believe that many managers and coaches, regardless of their experience level or the level of the players they are coaching, would appreciate having ready access to additional resources that help them do a better job," Nick Caringi, Senior Director of Operations and Education at Little League International, said. "The materials available through the Coaches Registry will coaches/registry.htm.

help improve coaching skills, make the games of baseball and softball more fun for players, and improve the overall effectiveness of the league."

The Coaches Registry also affords member discounts on several items purchased through the Little League store, wwwLittleLeagueStore.net.

For more information on the Little League Coaches Registry, or to purchase the Coaches Registry package, visit http://www.littleleague.org/managersand-

SAN FRANCISCO -The San Francisco 49ers announced earlier in the week the hiring of Jason Michael as the team's offensive assistant. Terms of the contract were not disclosed.

Michael brings both NFL and collegiate coaching experience to San Francisco. He most recently served as the tight ends coach at the

University of Tennessee during the 2008 season after spending the previous two years as a member of the New York Jets coaching staff. During his first year with the Jets in 2006, Michael served as the team's quality control coach, which included working with the quarterbacks alongside offensive coordinator Brian Schottenheimer. The following season, he was assigned

for the team. Prior to joining the Jets, Michael served as an offensive quality control coach and video assistant for the Oakland Raiders in

Michael broke into the coaching ranks as a graduate assistant at the University of Tennessee, where he spent the 2004 season as the primary graduate assistant for defense

to assistant tight ends coach and special teams. He first arrived at the school as an assistant for both the strength and conditioning and video staffs in 2003.

Michael was not retained at UT when new head coach Lane Kiffin took over the reigns of the Volunteers football program.

A collegiate athlete, Michael played quarterback for Western Kentucky from civil engineering technolo-1999 to 2002, where he gy.

threw for more than 1,600 yards and rushed for over 600 yards as a senior. He was named the team's MVP that season after leading the Hilltoppers to the NCAA Division I-AA National Championship.

A native of Louisa, Michael graduated from Western Kentucky with an undergraduate degree in

#### More than 2,300 school archers to compete in state tournament

Adams Middle squads claim regional titles

TIMES STAFF REPORT

FRANKFORT - The best shooters in Kentucky's National Archery in the Schools Program will compete at the state tournament Wednesday, March 17 at Louisville's International Convention Center. More than 2,300 archers from 42 counties and 104 schools qualified for the event during regional tournaments.

"We have never had the interest, enthusiasm and excitement for archery in the schools that we have now," said Jennie Richardson, state coordinator for the program. "We're creating partnerships across state and national lines. I think we are at the point that we visualized when we started this program.'

Earlier in the month, Adams Middle School claimed both the middle school and elementary titles during regional competition. Sherman Holliday guides Adams - one of the state's top archery programs.

State tournament shooters will compete for individual and team honors in elementary, middle school and high school divisions. The tournament will conclude with a scholarship shoot-off for the top four male and top four female shooters. The winning male and female shooters will receive \$1,250 each in college scholarship money, with the remaining finalists receiving \$1,000, \$750 and \$500 each.

The Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources introduced the National Archery in the Schools Program in 2002. The program has been implemented in 46 states, two Canadian provinces and in South Africa, Australia and New Zealand. More than 4.6 million students have participated in the program.

Elementary, middle and high school students shoot archery during the regular school day as part of the archery program. Many schools also offer afterschool archery programs, providing an extra-curricular activity at which students of all abilities can

"No matter your size, ability, gender or background, every student can succeed at archery," said Roy Grimes, the program's national coordinator. "Teachers tell us it improves students' concentration, focus, motivation, attendance and behavior."

The tournament begins at 9 a.m., with the eighth and final competition flight scheduled for 4:45 p.m., followed by the scholarship shoot-off and awards ceremony. The event is open to the public. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$2 for students and free for kids under five.

State tournament participants will also be competing for spots in the national tournament, scheduled for May 8-9 at the Kentucky Fair and Exposition Center in Louisville.

More on the state archery tournament will appear in an upcoming edition.

# earn BIG EAST honors

TIMES STAFF REPORT

LOUISVILLE - Three University of Louisville men's basketball players have earned recognition on the BIG EAST Conference post-season teams as selected by the league coaches. Senior forward Terrence Williams was selected to the All-BIG

EAST Conference first team, junior forward Earl Clark was a third team pick and freshman center Samardo Samuels was hon-

ored on the six-person All-Rookie team.

The list includes three five-player teams, although the first team is six players, from which the BIG EAST Player of the Year will be chosen. The conference will announce Player of the Year, Oppenheimer Funds/BIG EAST Coach of the Year, BIG EAST Rookie of the Year and BIG EAST Scholar-Athlete on Tuesday, March 10. The announcement will be made between sessions on the first day of the BIG EAST Championship at Madison Square Garden.

Williams is one of the league's best all-around performers, averaging 12.8 points and ranking among the BIG EAST leaders in rebounds (8.5), assists (5.1) and steals (2.3). He capped the regular season helping the Cardinals win their first BIG EAST Championship with 20 points, seven assists, six rebounds and a career-high six steals at West Virginia. He is the only player in U of L history with career totals of over 1,400 points, 800 rebounds, 500 assists and 150 steals.

Clark leads the Cardinals in scoring (13.6), rebounding (8.8, sixth in the BIG EAST) and blocked shots (45 total). Clark has 14 double-doubles this season and 24 for his career. He needs 12 points to become the Cardinals' 60th career 1,000 point scorer.

Samuels is the seventh highest scoring freshman ever at Louisville, averaging 11.8 points and 4.7 rebounds. He is eighth in the BIG EAST in field goal percentage (.584), 15th in blocked shots (1.1) and is the third highest fresman scorer in the league. U of L earned the top seed in the BIG EAST Conference

Championship in New York.

ALL-BIG EAST FIRST TEAM

Hasheem Thabeet, Connecticut, C, Jr., 7-3, 263, Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania

Terrence Williams, Louisville, F. Sr., 6-6, 210, Seattle, Wash. Jerel McNeal, Marquette, G, Sr., 6-3, 200 Chicago, Ill. Luke Harangody, Notre Dame, F, Jr., 6-8, 251, Schererville,

DeJuan Blair, Pittsburgh, C, So., 6-7, 265, Pittsburgh, Pa. Sam Young, Pittsburgh, F, Sr., 6-6, 215, Clinton, Md.

ALL-BIG EAST SECOND TEAM

A.J. Price, Connecticut, G, Sr., 6-2, 181, Amityville, N.Y. Wesley Matthews, Marquette, G, Sr., 6-5, 215, Madison, Wis. Jonny Flynn, Syracuse, G, So., 6-0, 185, Niagara Falls, N.Y. Dante Cunningham, Villanova, F, Sr., 6-8, 230, Silver Spring, Md.

Da'Sean Butler, West Virginia, F, Jr., 6-7, 225, Newark, N.J.

ALL-BIG EAST THIRD TEAM

Deonta Vaughn, Cincinnati, G, Jr., 6-1, 195, Indianapolis, Ind. Jeff Adrien, Connecticut, F, Sr., 6-7, 243, Brookline, Mass. Earl Clark, Louisville, G/F, Jr., 6-8, 220, Rahway, N.J. Levance Fields, Pittsburgh, G, Sr., 5-10, 190, Brooklyn, N.Y Jeremy Hazell, Seton Hall, G, So., 6-5, 185, Bronx, N.Y.

BIG EAST HONORABLE MENTION

Weyinmi Efejuku, Providence, G, Sr., 6-5, 210, Fresh Meadows, N.Y

Dominique Jones, USF, G, So., 6-4, 205, Lake Wales, Fla. Scottie Reynolds, Villanova, G, Jr., 6-2, 195, Herndon, Va. Alex Ruoff, West Virginia, G, Sr., 6-6, 220, Spring Hill, Fla.

BIG EAST ALL-ROOKIE TEAM

Yancy Gates, Cincinnati, F, Fr., 6-9, 255, Cincinnati, Ohio Kemba Walker, Connecticut, G, Fr., 6-0, 175, Bronx, N.Y. Greg Monroe, Georgetown, C, Fr., 6-10, 240, Gretna, La. Samardo Samuels , Louisville, F, Fr., 6-8, 240, Trelawny,

Mike Rosario, Rutgers, G, Fr., 6-3, 180, Jersey City, N.J. Devin Ebanks, West Virginia, F, Fr., 6-9, 205, Long Island City, N.Y.

#### Bass

Jigging works best after rainfall colors the water. The murky water conceals anglers, allowing them to slip up on a trophy bass nosing the bank. Farmer shot a segment for "Kentucky Afield" using this

technique a couple of years ago. Although our fishing ancestors used night crawlers for jigging, Farmer used a brown jig with a pumpkinseed-colored trailer.

"It was a watershed lake in western Kentucky," Farmer explained. "There was some color to the water and they were right on the bank. I jerked a big one out of some cover and she rolled on her side. She was huge, in the 8pound class. I broke the line on that one, but we caught several between 5 and 6 pounds that

day.'

Although anglers flock to Lake Barkley, Kentucky Lake, Lake Malone, Cedar Creek Lake and Elmer Davis Lake for big bass, Dewey Lake at Jenny Wiley State Resort Park near Prestonsburg is worth a try for anglers in the eastern part of the state. Dewey Lake has an increasing number of quality bass in its waters. Anglers can catch bass there at this time of year by jigging

pockets in the weeds. "I think most lakes in Kentucky would do well with this technique," Buynak said. "One of our old creel clerks on Barkley Lake always said if you want to catch a 10-pound

Continued from p1 bass in Kentucky, fish in March."

Modern jigging anglers use medium-heavy to heavy baitcasting rods and flip jig-andpig combinations next to stumps, logs or rocks. They work the jig up and down a few times and then cast to another piece of cover, making sure the jig enters the water as quietly as possible. Trophy largemouth bass in shallow water along shore spook easi-

When possible, cast the jig on the bank and silently pull the lure into the water when fishing from a boat or the shore. This doesn't spook bass nearly as bad as a jig-and-pig loudly smacking the water in a foot of water. Any bass close by will flee to deep water when this happens.

Bank anglers walking along the bank of a lake or a farm pond may see V-shaped wakes moving quickly out into deep water. These are likely bass spooked by the vibrations coming from your feet hitting the ground. Walk parallel to the shore a good ways away from the edge of the water when bank fishing to avoid scaring away fish. Move in a

Get out now and probe shallow cover for the biggest bass of the year. To find waters close to home that hold largemouth bass, go to http://fw.ky.gov/navigation.as px?cid=769.

Williams, Clark, Samuels Consol Energy improves public hunting access

TIMES STAFF REPORT

KENTUCKY - CONSOL Energy, headquartered in Canonsburg, Pa., has enrolled 5,000 acres of land in Kentucky in the National Wild Turkey Federation's Energy for Wildlife Program and made the land available for public hunting.

With the recent enrollment in eastern Kentucky's Knott and Floyd counties, CONSOL Energy's total enrollment in the Energy for Wildlife program stands at approximately half a million acres.

"Utility companies who enroll in Energy for Wildlife are not only helping to meet America's energy needs, but the needs of its wildlife as well," said James Earl Kennamer, Ph.D., NWTF's senior vice president of conservation programs. "Through the program, CONSOL Energy and the NWTF are helping to protect and enhance a diverse array of wildlife habitat nationwide."

Energy for Wildlife is a membership-based certification program for all energy companies with the primary goal of enhancing wildlife for Wildlife program since lion and 4.8 million days

owned or -influenced lands. These lands include power line and gas rights of way, plant sites, woodlands and other properties. Together, the Energy for Wildlife program's 31 member companies manage approximately 3 million acres to benefit wild turkeys and other wildlife nationwide.

Any company that is involved in the production, transmission or distribution of energy is eligible to become a member of the Energy for Wildlife program.

In 2008, CNX Land resources, a division of CON-SOL Energy, received the NWTF's Energy for Wildlife Corporate Achievement Award. The award recognizes corporations that demonstrate outstanding efforts to improve wildlife habitat and promote conservation and North America's outdoor tradition.

"CONSOL Energy shows tremendous dedication to improving wildlife habitat while meeting its customers' energy needs," said Jay Jordan, coordinator of the Energy for Wildlife program. "As a member of the Energy

habitat on company-managed, 2005, CONSOL Energy has set their organization apart from other companies in the energy industry."

According to Dennis CONSOL Fredericks, Energy's manager of conservation properties and activities, CONSOL Energy strives to be an excellent steward of the land and works with conservation groups like the NWTF to return the land fullcircle after production.

"Helping make our lands available to the public while practicing conservation through sound stewardship of the land resources required to support our energy operations is important to CONSOL Energy," Fredericks said. "We are pleased to work with the NWTF and other conservation organizations that share and promote wise use of our nation's valuable natural resources."

With help from partners like CONSOL Energy, the NWTF is making additional public land available to hunters in Kentucky, which, according to Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation, spend \$439 milafield pursning their sport

CONSOL Energy Inc. is the largest producer of high-Btu bituminous coal in the United States. CONSOL Energy has 20 bituminous coal mining complexes in six states. In addition, the compar ny is a majority shareholder in one of the largest U.S. producers of coalbed methane, CNX Gas Corporation.

CONSOL Energy Inc. has annual revenues of \$3.8 billion. The company was named one of America's most admired companies in 2005 by Fortune magazine. It received the U.S. Department of the Interior's Office of Surface Mining National Award for Excellence in Surface Mining for the company's innovative reclamation practices in 2002, 2003 and 2004. Also in 2003, the company was listed in Information Week magazine's "Information Week 500" list for its information technology operations. In 2002, the company received a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Climate Protection

## Camper Appreciation events set for April 24-26

TIMES STAFF REPORT

FRANKFORT - Celebrate the return of spring at one of Kentucky's State Park campgrounds. With over 30 campgrounds located throughout the Commonwealth, guests can be assured of finding the perfect location to meet their adventure tourism needs.

Campgrounds will be opening up in April. (Due to the winter storms, campers should call the park they are interested in visiting to check on the opening date.) All parks will be hosting the annual Camper Appreciation Weekend April 24-26 with two nights for the price of one. Most parks will be holding special events this weekend for campers.

All campgrounds have sites with water and electric hookups. Campers with horses can be accommodated at Dale Hollow Lake and Taylorsville

KHSBCA 2009 Preseason Poll

Pleasure Ridge Park

Lexington Catholic

Harrison County

Lawrence County

Eastern

St. Xavier

Henry Clay Bullitt East Lexington Christian Christian County

14. Paul Dunbar Greenup County

Male

Boyd County

Greenwood

Boyle County

Central Hardin

Shelby County

Beechwood

Hopkinsville

Latayette

Franklin-Simpson

Christian Academy

Madison Central

LaRue County

Warren East

Heath

Daviess County

19. Covington Catholic

Elizabethtown

22. West Jessamine

Bowling Green

DuPont Manual

25. Owensboro Catholic

Others Receiving Votes:

Henderson County

Tates Creek

Reservations can be made

www.parks.ky.gov/reservations, where there is a new feature this year. Guests reserving online can now view pictures of the individual campsites available, allowing them to better select a site to suit their individual needs. Guests may also call 1-888-4KYPARK for reservations.

For more information about Kentucky State Parks, including camping information, events and other park details, visit www.parks.ky.gov

Listed below are area state park campgrounds and events Camper planned for Appreciation Weekend April 24-26:

Carter Caves State Resort Park, Olive Hill: This weekend has been set aside as a special weekend for campers. Those camping this weekend will get two nights camping for the price of one. Special rates will apply to campers for mini-golf and cave tours. Some of the

visiting recreation programs include a Smoky Lake canoe trip, crafts, homemade ice cream and a magic show by David Cottrell on Saturday night. For Wildflower Weekend we will have several wildflower walks and programs to show guests the beautiful array of the wildflowers of Carter Caves. 800-325-0059.

Jenny Wiley State Resort Park, Prestonsburg

Camp one night and get the second night free! Planned nature and recreation activities for all ages. A free cookout for all campers on Saturday night. Please bring a covered dish, as the park will supply the hotdogs and buns. 800-325-0142.

Paintsville Lake State Park, Paintsville: Paintsville Lake State Park would like you to join us in celebrating the opening of the 2009 camping season! We'll have a cookout in your honor and live entertainment. Also, if you camp with us on Friday

night you'll receive Saturday night free. 606-297-8488.

Award.

Yatesville Lake State Park, Louisa: Campers pay for one night and get the second night free during the weekend of April 24-26. On Saturday morning, meet the park manager and staff for coffee and donuts from 8.9:30 a.m., pontoon boat rides and nature walks follow during the afternoon and a hot dog dinner with all the fixins' at 5:30 p.m. It's all free for campers. Call 606-673-1492 details.

The Kentucky State Park System is composed of 52 state parks plus an interstate park shared with Virginia. The Department of Parks, an agency of the Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet, operates 17 resort parks with lodges - more than any other state. For more information on Kentucky parks, visit our site http://www.parks.ky.gov.

The Paintsville Junior High Cheerleading team finished second in the Mountain Classic Cheerleading Competition on Feb. 28 at Pikeville High School. Many school and All-Star teams competed in several categories as part of the Pikeville competition. The Paintsville team performed in the Small Junior High two-and-one-half minute routine. The team also received a Merit Award for Motions in its last event of the season. Eighth graders who competed were: Kelsey Gray, Jordan Miller, Savannah Pelphrey, Tori Preece and Emily Rice. Paintsville seventh graders were Sydney Chirico, Ericka Conley, Chessie deGuzman, Shelby Fairchild, Savannah Jackson, MaKayla Maynard,

Caitlin Matijasic, and Shelby Moore. Tiffany Austin is the Paintsville cheerleading team's



The 2008-09 edition of the Alice Lloyd College cheerleading program features the following student-athletes (pictured in no particular order): Brittany Adams; Sheena Kaye Newsome; Megan Stepp; Amanda Preece; Amanda Reece; Rosalee Benavidez; Brandi Keel; Janae Anderson; Heather Hanner; Amber Wells,

Bryan Station Clay County Maylield Ashland Blazer Grayson County Rockcastle County Washington County Anderson County George Rogers Clark Mercer County Newport Central Catholic Scott County Western Hills Campbellsville Cumberland County Franklin County Ryle Somerse straight line to the bank to cast. Danville Estill County Holy Cross-Covington

Louisville Collegiate Marshall County Ohio County Owensboro South Laurel East Jessamine

Butler

East Carter Paintsville Allen County Scottsville Edmonson County Johnson Central

Muhlenberg North

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# Yarborough, Wallace added to lineup for Saturday Night Special

Legendary drivers set to return to Bristol Motor Speedway

TIMES STAFF REPORT

BRISTOL, Tenn. - Cale Yarborough, one of the most successful drivers in the history of Bristol Motor Speedway, has been added to the lineup of stars for the Scotts "Saturday Night Special" at Bristol Motor Speedway, March 21.

Yarborough won nine times in only 29 career appearances at BMS, including eight times in 12 races from 1973 through 1978. Of the 10,878 laps he completed on the high banks, Yarborough led 4,305 or 39.57 percent. In March of 1973, Yarborough led all 500 laps of the Southeastern 500 and followed four years later by leading 495 in the 1977 spring

"Cale Yarborough is one of the greatest drivers in NASCAR history and his performances at Bristol are legendary," said Jeff Byrd, president and general manager of Bristol Motor Speedway. "We're tickled to have him as part of this event."

Darrell Waltrip, Bristol's all-time winner with 12, has had to pull out of the race because of a scheduling issue that has arisen.

"It seems crazy, but I am busier now than I was when I was a driver," Waltrip said. "I have some commitments to Fox Sports that have come up since we began talking with the folks at Bristol about this race. I was looking forward to getting out there with some of those guys again; and some of them for the first time. After years with Junior Johnson as

my boss, I was excited about rubbing fenders with him. But, sometimes things are unavoidable."

Rusty Wallace also has nine wins at Bristol Motor Speedway, his last two coming in 2000 when he swept both races at the .533-mile oval.

A \$100,000 purse to be paid to the charity of choice by each driver will be up for grabs. Competing in late model stock cars, \$25,000 will be donated to the charity of choice of the winning team as well as taking home that big Bristol trophy. The secondplace team will have \$10,000 given to the charity of its choice and \$5,000 will go to the designated charity of the other entrants.

Other drivers expected to compete are Harry Gant, David Green, Jack Ingram, Johnson, Junior Labonte, Sterling Marlin, L.D. Ottinger, Phil Parsons, David Pearson, Jimmy Spencer and

The Saturday Night Special will take place after the completion of the Scotts Turf Builder 300 Nationwide Series race and will be followed by a 100-lap UARA late model

Tickets, which include all three races, start at \$45 and are available by calling the BMS ticket office at 423-989-6900 or by visiting www.bristoltix.com

#### Top drivers commit to Food City Race Night

TIMES STAFF REPORT

BRISTOL, Tenn. - Fans are used to seeing drivers battling for position at Bristol Motor Speedway, doing all they can do in order to capture the prized checkered flag en route to a Victory Lane celebration.

What about seeing some of NASCAR's finest try their hand at something else, say, Rock Band or Wii Boxing? That's exactly what some of them will do Friday, March 20 at Food City Race Night.

After on-track activities are completed at Ford Fan Friday, fans can move into the Hospitality area at BMS for Food City Race Night to see some of their favorite drivers taking part in some activities that will require a different

At 7 p.m. that evening, Clint Bowyer, Kasey Kahne, Elliott Sadler and A.J. Allmendinger are scheduled to square off in a Wii Boxing tournament. Bowyer and Sadler will battle in one semifinal, while Kahne and Allmendinger will meet in the other semifinal. The two winners will then box for the

Championship.

Following the Wii tournament at 7:45 p.m., Kevin Harvick and Tony Stewart will take to the stage for Rock Band. Fans will be selected from the crowd to come onstage to participate with Harvick and Stewart.

Earlier in the evening, beginning at 6 p.m., several drivers, including Jeff Burton, the defending Food City 500 champion, Jeff Burton, Carl Edwards and Matt Kenseth will take part in a question and answer session from the stage.

Food City Race Night activities begin at 4 p.m. and conclude at 9 p.m. Featured throughout the event will be live music, along with food sampling and a variety of other events. Harvick is among several drivers scheduled to sign autographs, from 6-7 p.m.

There is no admission to Food City Race Night.

# Bobby Allison named honorary starter for Food City 500

TIMES STAFF REPORT

BRISTOL, Tenn. - Food City officials announced this week that legendary NASCAR driver Bobby Allison has been named the Honorary Starter for the Food City 500 at Bristol Motor Speedway on March 22.

"As the longest running sponsor of Bristol Motor Speedway, we felt Bobby Allison was the perfect choice for Honorary Starter, given his legendary career in NASCAR racing," said Steven C. Smith, Food City president and chief executive officer, "We're honored to have one of the greatest names in motorsports representing our company for the upcoming Food City 500. The determination and loyalty he has shown to the sport throughout his lifetime and the many challenges he has faced is unsurpassed. Bobby Allison is a credit to the sport and our entire region."

Voted one of NASCAR racing's 50 greatest drivers, dent at Pocono Raceway in

Allison's career was stellar and his performance at Bristol Motor Speedway was part of that. He posted four wins, 23 top-five and 28 top-10 finishes in 44 career races at BMS. Through that time, Allison showed his versatility by competing in eight different models of race cars.

Allison had two incredible periods of high performance at Bristol Motor Speedway. From March of 1969 through April of 1977, a period of 15 races, Allison finished lower than sixth only twice. He finished third or better, including posting his four career wins, in seven of those races. From April of 1979 through August of 1984, the dean of the Alabama Gang, posted 10 topfive and 11 top-10 finishes in 12 races.

His last race at Bristol resulted in a fifth-place finish in April of 1988. Less than three months later, his career would be cut short as a result of injuries sustained in an acci-

#### Beamer named Food City 500 Grand Marshal

TIMES STAFF REPORT

BRISTOL, Tenn. - As the area prepares for the upcoming race weekend at Bristol Motor Speedway, the folks at Food City are gearing up for the March 22, 2009 Food City

Each year, Food City selects an individual to serve as the event grand marshal. A number of public officials and well-known figures have been privileged to announce the four most popular words in motorsports - gentlemen start your engines. Company officials chose longtime Virginia Tech Head Coach, Frank Beamer as the 2009 Food City 500 Grand Marshal.

"We have always shared a

great relationship with Coach Beamer and Virginia Tech," said Steven C. Smith, Food City president and chief executive officer I can't say enough about Frank Beamer. "He's a great personal friend of mine and one of the most respected and successful coaches in college football. We're honored to have him serve as Grand Marshal of our event."

Under Beamer's direction, the Tech football program has enjoyed unprecedented success with 15 consecutive bowl appearances, two ACC titles, two ACC Coastal Division crowns, three BIG EAST Conference titles and a trip to the national championship game. Since the beginning of the 1995 season, only Ohio State and Florida have posted more wins than Virginia Tech, and the Hokies have finished in the top 20 in 12 of the past 15 seasons, including five Top 10 finishes during the last 10

He has been named ACC Coach of the Year, Southeast Coach of the Year by Sports Unlimited magazine, Bobby Dodd Coach of the Year, GTE Coach of the Year, Eddie Robinson Coach of the Year, Paul Bear Bryant Coach of the Year, Associated Press Coach of the Year, Walter Camp Football Foundation/Street & Smith's Coach of the Year, Maxwell Football Club Coach of the Year, Woody Hayes Coach of the Year and is a three time BIG EAST Conference Coach of the Year. In 1997, he was inducted into the Virginia Tech Sports Hall of Fame and became Tech's winningest football coach.

Food City is Bristol Motor Speedway's longest running sponsor and the second longest in NASCAR motorsports. In 2007, the company signed a contract extension with the speedway to take their sponsorship through 2010. The Food City 500 gets under way at 2 p.m. on Sunday, March 22. Qualifying for the event takes place on Friday, March 20 at 3:40 p.m. The Scotts Turf

Builder 300 is scheduled to begin at 2:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 21st, with qualifying getting underway at

Tickets are still available for Ford Fan Friday (\$5), Scotts Turf Builder 300 (Starting at \$45) and Food City 500 (starting at \$93) and may be purchased at www.bristoltix.com or by calling the BMS ticket office at 423-989-6900.

NASCAR SPRINT CUP

UPCOMING RACES March 22 Bristol, Tenn. March 29 Martinsville, Va. April 5 Texas April 18 Phoenix April 26 Talladega May 2 Richmond May 9 Darlington May 16 NASCAR Sprint Showdown May 16 Sprint All-Star Race

# Charlotte area hotels reduce race week room rates

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

CHARLOTTE, N.C. - In a collaborative effort, regional tourism bureaus and officials at Lowe's Motor Speedway have worked with area hotel operators to secure lower room rates for race fans attending the 25th running of the NASCAR Sprint All-Star Race on May 16, and the 50th Coca-Cola 600 on May 24.

More than 80 hotels within approximately one hour of the 1.5-mile superspeedway have agreed to reduce their race week room rates by 15 percent and waive their minimum stay requirements.

"Lodging is a major expense for race fans and we appreciate the area hotels working with us by rolling back prices and eliminating minimum stay requirements," said Marcus Smith, president and general manager of Lowe's Motor Speedway. "We were glad to have the assistance of area tourism groups to put this deal together for the fans and we're encouraged to see the unprecedented level of participation by local hotel operators."

The full list of participating hotels is available online for fans to reference at www.lowesmotorspeedway.co m/hotels. The speedway's ticket services representatives also

and can advise fans that call 1-800-455-FANS. In order to obtain the discounted rate, race fans must call the hotels directly and request the Speedway Special when making reservations.

In addition to the lower hotel rates, cost savings extend to the speedway as well. The Coca-Cola 600 Family Four Pack, which includes four race tickets to the Coca-Cola 600, four hot dogs and four Coca-Cola brand soft drinks, is available for just \$39.75 a person. Similarly, the Rite Aid Family Four Pack includes four tickets to the Sprint All-Star Race, four hot dogs and four Coca-Cola brand soft drinks for the low price of \$24.75 a person. The May Super Ticket special is also available, allowing fans the opportunity to see Windstream Pole Night qualifying, the CARQUEST Auto Parts 300 Nationwide Series race and the Coca-Cola 600, all for as low.

Fans can also choose from a wide selection of affordable grandstand seating options with payment plans available to reserve a ticket for the Sprint All-Star Race starting at just \$8 per month. Payment plans for a ticket to the 50th running of the Coca-Cola 600 are as low as \$16 per month.

"We're doing everything

races an affordable entertainment experience for race fans," said Smith. "Hundreds of thousands of fans have joined us over the years to enjoy great racing action and we want many more to come make memories with us as we celebrate 50 years of history this May."

Race fans are reminded that Lowe's Motor Speedway offers 164 acres of free parking and numerous affordable camping options are also available.

Coolers, limited to 14 inches in any direction, are also permitted in the grandstands.

Race events in May include the North Carolina Education Lottery NASCAR Camping World Truck Series race on Friday night, May 15; the 25th running of the NASCAR Sprint All-Star Race on Saturday night, May 16; Windstream Pole Night qualifying on Thursday night, May 21; the Rite Aid Outlaw Showdown World of Outlaws Sprint Car Series race on Friday night, May 22; CAR-QUEST Auto Parts 300 NASCAR Nationwide Series race on Saturday night, May 23; and the 50th running of the Coca-Cola 600 on Sunday evening, May 24.

To take advantage of these savings, fans should call the Lowe's Motor Speedway tick-

#### Battle of the Bluegrass Dirt Car Racing Series Tentative 2009 Super Late Model Series Tour Schedule (Schedule subject to change.)

May 1 May 2 May 23 June 6 June 12 June 13 July 4 July 10 July 11 July 18 July 25 July 31 Aug. 1

Sept. 5

Sept. 6

Track, Location, Purse Bluegrass Speedway, Bardstown, \$3,000 Ponderosa Speedway, Junction City, \$3,000 Richmond Raceway, Richmond, \$3,000 Tazewell Speedway, Tazewell, Tenn., \$4,000 201 Speedway Sitka, \$3,000 Ponderosa Speedway, Junction City, \$3,000 Bluegrass Speedway, Bardstown, \$3,000 201 Speedway, Sitka, \$5,000

Ponderosa Speedway, Junction City, \$4,000 Bluegrass Speedway, Bardstown, \$5,000 Richmond Raceway, Richmond, \$5,000 Portsmouth Raceway Park, Portsmouth, Ohio, \$3,000

Ponderosa Speedway, Junction City, \$5,000 Bluegrass Speedway, Bardstown, \$5,000

201 Speedway, Sitka, \$3,000

Tazewell Speedway, Tazewell, Tenn., \$5,000

#### Battle of the Bluegrass Dirt Car Racing Series **Tenative 2009 Modified Series Tour Schedule**

Date, May 16 May 22 June 6 June 13 July 25 July 31 Aug. 8 Aug. 15

Track, Location, Purse Bluegrass Speedway, Bardstown, \$1,500 Ponderosa Speedway, Junction City, \$1,500 Tazewell Speedway, Tazewell, Tenn., \$2,000 201 Speedway, Sitka, \$1,500 Bluegrass Speedway, Bardstown, \$1,500

Ponderosa Speedway, Junction City, \$2,000 201 Speedway, Sitka, \$1,500 Tazewell Speedway, Tazewell, Tenn., \$2,000

have the full listing of hotels we can to make attending our et office at 1-800-455-FANS. Crewman who ran after tire suspended four races

#### TIMES STAFF REPORT

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. -Jimmy Watts, a crew member for the No. 47 team in the Sprint Cup Series, has been suspended from the next four races (until April 22) for rule violations during this past Sunday's race at Atlanta Motor Speedway.

violated Sections 12-1 (actions detrimental to stock car racing) and 9-15-U (crew mem-

bers must not go on the race track for any reason while the cars are racing or while the cars are running under the yellow flag or the red flag, unless otherwise directed to do so by a NASCAR official). Watts has also been placed on NASCAR probation until Dec.

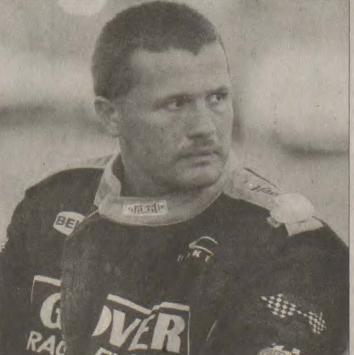
In addition, Frank Kerr, Watts was found to have crew chief for the No. 47, has been placed on NASCAR probation until Dec. 31 for violating Sections 12-1 and 9-4-A

(crew chief assumes responsibility for the actions of the team).

On Lap 67, Watts, gas man for Marcos Ambrose's team, chased a runaway tire into the grass of the quad-oval below the frontstretch grandstands during a round of green-flag pit stops. NASCAR called a caution for safety reasons, trapping the majority of the field a lap down.

Watts was suspended for the remainder of the race.

www.floydcountytimes.com



DIRT TRACK 2009

photo courtesy of Grover Motorsports EDDIE CARRIER JR. started the 2009 season earlier in the year, racing in Florida. Carrier, a Knott County native, will race at numerous tracks in various states.

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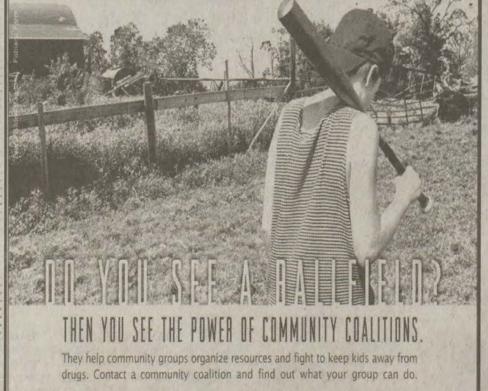
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Rose Bought new last yr before 10:00 pm. Hensley for \$425 asking Dev & Real Estate \$250. Call 889-0544

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2x8 *SPF* KD.	3.77	4.88	5.88	6.88	7.88
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2x8 Treated	4.88	6.33	7.55	8.88	10.44
2x10 Treated	6.88	8.88	10.88	12.88	13.77
4x4 Treated	5.88	7.55	9.33	11.33	13.55
6x6 Treated	14.88	17.77	22.44	25.55	28.88
1x6 Treated	2.77		4.44		
5/4x6 Treated	3.55	4.55	5.55		8.44
2x2	\$2.22	4 Ste	p Riser	********	\$8.44
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