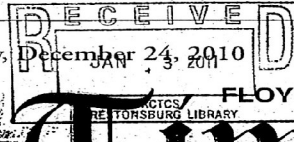


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Friday, December 24, 2010



# The Times

WEEKEND EDITION

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**13 killed on state highways**

**FRANKFORT** — Preliminary statistics indicate that 13 people died in 10 separate crashes on Kentucky roadways from Monday, Dec. 13, through Sunday, Dec. 19.

All of the crashes involved motor vehicles and six victims were not wearing seat belts. Single-fatality crashes occurred in Boyle, Bullitt, Butler, Letcher, Owsley, Pike and Russell counties.

A quadruple fatality crash occurred in Clinton County and none of the victims were wearing a seat belt. The suspected use of alcohol was a factor in this crash.

Through Dec. 19, preliminary statistics indicate that 737 people have lost their lives on Kentucky roadways during 2010. This is 30 fewer fatalities than reported for the same time period in 2009.

There were 576 motor vehicle fatalities and 307 of those victims were not wearing seat belts. Eighty-one of those crashes involved a commercial motor vehicle. Fifty-eight pedestrians and six bicyclists have been killed. Seventy-nine fatalities involved a motorcycle and sixteen fatalities involved an ATV. Two fatalities involved a scooter. A total of one hundred fifty-one fatalities have resulted from crashes involving the suspected use of alcohol.

## Sheriff takes oath record fourth time

by JARRID DEATON  
FEATURES WRITER

**PRESTONSBURG** — It was 12 years ago when John K Blackburn first stood with Circuit Judge John David Caudill to be sworn in as sheriff of Floyd County, and Blackburn once again raised his right hand with Caudill on Wednesday to start his fourth

consecutive term in office. Blackburn is the first sheriff in Floyd County to serve more than two consecutive terms. Henry Hale served three terms as sheriff in Floyd County, but those terms were not consecutive.

"It's been a pleasure to work with the judges, county attorneys

(See SHERIFF, page 6)



Circuit Judge John David Caudill swore in John K Blackburn for his fourth consecutive term as sheriff in Floyd County on Wednesday.

photo by Jarrid Deaton

## HOLIDAY FEAST



County employees and officials lined up for their annual Christmas banquet, following Wednesday's fiscal court meeting. County Judge-Executive R.D. "Doc" Marshall addressed the crowd beforehand, telling them that he realized it might seem at times that they had thankless jobs, but that they had his appreciation for their hard work.

photo by Ralph B. Davis

## Rescue squad gets grant for wetsuits

by RALPH B. DAVIS  
MANAGING EDITOR

**PRESTONSBURG** — The Floyd County Emergency and Rescue Squad has received a grant from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security that will go toward the purchase of wetsuits for the agency's Swift Water Attack Team.

The grant was announced during Wednesday's meeting of the Floyd County Fiscal Court, during which magistrates unanimously approved a payment of \$13,300 to the squad. That money will be reimbursed by Homeland Security.

The money will be used to purchase 10 wetsuits, Judge-Executive R.D. "Doc" Marshall said.

The rescue squad had originally applied for a \$2,225 grant, but the amount was reduced after grant funding was slashed. Statewide, Homeland Security is funding over \$6.4 million in grants, out of nearly \$32 million in requests.

(See GRANT, page 6)

**2 DAY FORECAST**

**Today**  
Snow  
High: 31 - Low: 22

**Tomorrow**  
Snow  
High: 29 - Low: 22

For up-to-the-minute forecasts, see [floydcountytimes.com](http://floydcountytimes.com)

## Texting can result in tickets Jan. 1

by SHELDON COMPTON  
STAFF WRITER

Here's an interesting fact to consider: Every second you take your eyes off the road when driving 70 miles an hour, your vehicle travels 102 feet.

This, according to Kentucky State Police Public Affairs Branch Commander Lt. David Jude, is one of many reasons that, beginning Jan. 1, state police will start handing out tickets to those violating the new texting law that went into effect July 15.

The law prohibits drivers from texting while their vehi-

cle is in motion. For drivers under the age of 18, the law goes one step further by prohibiting both texting and cell phone use.

"Everyone needs to be a part of this strategy through public education and enforcement of the law," said Jude. "Eliminating texting and cell phone use while driving will reduce crashes and, more importantly, reduce the number of deaths on Kentucky highways."

Drivers who violate the new law will be fined \$25 for the first offense and \$50 for each subsequent offense, plus court costs.

"A text message or cell phone call can wait," added Jude, "but the safety of you, your family and other motorists on the road is much more important."

This initiative, now referred to as "Just Put It Down," began with officials at the U.S. Department of Transportation, who are hoping to put an end to distracted driving behaviors and are promoting the idea across the country.

Citizens can contribute to highway safety by reporting erratic drivers to the Kentucky State Police toll-free at (800) 222-5555. Callers will remain anonymous.

## Court bids Daniels goodbye

by RALPH B. DAVIS  
MANAGING EDITOR

**PRESTONSBURG** — Wednesday's meeting of the Floyd County Fiscal Court ended on a wistful note, as the body said goodbye to District 3 Magistrate Donny Daniels, who was attending his last meeting.

Daniels, who was defeated in the May primary by county employee Warren Jarrell, received a plaque of appreciation from fellow members of the court, who each took turns addressing him.

District 1 Magistrate "Big John" Goble noted that most of the current court had come

(See DANIELS, page 6)

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The Floyd County Times is printed on 100 percent USA recycled paper

## Hundreds attend Toys for Tots event

by JARRID DEATON  
FEATURES WRITER

**PRESTONSBURG** — Over 400 children received gifts and got the chance to speak with Santa Claus at the Carl D. Perkins Job Corps Center's eighth annual Toys for Tots event held on Wednesday.

"It's been a really good program and we enjoy doing it," said Thomas Rainey, director of the Carl D. Perkins Job Corps Center. "It's great to see the children's smiling

(See TOYS, page 6)

faces."

This year, officials with the center decided to try something a little different based on suggestions from parents. The toys were brought to numbered tables to be handed out to the children, and then the parents or guardians were given the opportunity to get in line for their children to meet Santa. Some parents told officials that the previous events had lasted too long when the chil-



Over 400 children got the chance to sit with Santa at the Carl D. Perkins Job Corps Center Toys for Tots program held on Wednesday.

photo by Jarrid Deaton

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# Obituaries

## Rebecca "Ann" Brown

Rebecca "Ann" Brown, 80, of Martin, died Sunday, December 19, 2010, at the Knott County Health and Rehabilitation Center.

Born March 16, 1930, in Martin, she was the daughter, of the late Jim and Pearl Slone Johnson. She was a homemaker and of the Baptist faith.

She is survived by her husband, Dean Brown.

Other survivors include her brothers: Columbus Johnson of Eastern, Elmer Johnson of Prestonsburg, Allen Johnson of Stdekrbridge, Michigan and Will Johnson of Cave Run; her sisters: Daisy Clemons, Beatrice Deulber and Virginia McKissick of Lima, Ohio and Marie Arnett of Indiana.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her brothers: Columbus Johnson, Henry Johnson, El Johnson and Be Johnson and a sister, Liza Ousley.

Funeral services will be held Friday, December 24, at 11 a.m., at the Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, in Martin, with Glen Slone officiating.

Burial will be in the Jim Johnson Cemetery, in Martin.

Visitation is after 5 p.m., Wednesday, December 22, at the funeral home.

Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, in Martin, is in charge of arrangements.

(Paid obituary)

## Hary Richard Gibson

Hary Richard Gibson, age 79, of Minnie, passed away Tuesday, December 21, 2010, at the Hazard Appalachian Regional Hospital, in Hazard.

He was born July 7, 1931, the son of the late Ewing and Anna S. Gibson.

Survivors include two sisters: Ruby Jean (Drexel) Mitchell and Betty Sue (Tom) Roberts, both of Columbus, Ohio, and

nephews and cousins.

He was preceded in death by a brother, Daniel (D.D.) Gibson and a sister, Opal Irene Childers.

Harry was a graduate of McDowell High and Vocational School, and was formerly employed by the Owens Illinois Company in Huntington, WV.

Harry was a U.S. Korean War Veteran and spent a year over seas in Germany. He always liked the outdoors and took great pride in mowing his lawn.

Funeral service will be conducted Friday, December 24, at 1:00 p.m. in the Hall Funeral Home Chapel, with Ted Shannon officiating.

Burial will follow in the Allen Cemetery, in Minnie.

Visitation will be from 2:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. Thursday at the funeral home, under the kind and professional care of the Hall Funeral Home, Martin, Kentucky.

## Clyde Randall "Randy" Harmon

Clyde Randall "Randy" Harmon was received by his Heavenly Father on the morning of December 22, 2010.

After two short months battling lung cancer, Randy was at home when he peacefully went to be with the Lord.

Randy was born on August 22, 1948, to Anna (Hackworth) Harmon-Cheney of Prestonsburg and to Clyde Patrick Harmon, who pre-deceased him. He was also pre-deceased by his brother, Billy Ray and his stepfather, William Jr. Cheney. Along with his mother, he is survived by his wife of 32 years, Sandra (Howard) Harmon. He is also survived by his daughter, Katie Jo Adkins of Prestonsburg and grandson, C.J. Gray of Lexington.

Randy grew up on Abbott Creek in Prestonsburg, Ky., and graduated from Prestonsburg High School in 1968. He lived several years

in Findlay, Ohio, and returned with his wife to Prestonsburg six years ago to help raise his grandson, C.J.

Randy served his county for three years in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam war, and was stationed on the Germany and Czechoslovakia border and later at Fort Knox, Kentucky.

Randy worked a variety of jobs during his life, including Pepsi-Cola at Paintsville and Findlay, Ohio. Randy was an avid fisherman and he and his wife bought and sold antique for many years across the midwest.

According to his wishes, there will be no funeral service. Memorials may be made in his name by helping a family with children at this Christmas Season, donating a gift to a hospitalized child, or helping a special needs child.

"We who have known and loved you return the part of you that is the earth, to the earth, and was consign your spirit to the Lord to care for in eternity.—author unknown (paid obituary)

## Timothy Ray "Pig" Marcum

Timothy Ray "Pig" Marcum, 46, of Awardow, South Carolina, formerly of Prestonsburg, died December 18, 2010, in Charleston, South Carolina.

Born April 13, 1964, in Columbus, Ohio, he was the son of Don Marcum of Columbus, Ohio and Ina Fay Horn Lawson of Versailles, Ohio. Other survivors include his stepmother, Frankie Marcum; two sisters: Crystal (Brandon) Lowe of Versailles and Tammy Short (Jimmy) of Hillsboro; one stepbrother, David Marcum of Columbus, Ohio; two uncles: Scott (Robin) Moore of Winchester and Eddie (Terry) Moore of Kite; nieces and nephews: Elizabeth Short, Morgan Short, Jenna Hope Lowe, Abby Grace Lowe and Nick (Kayla)

Howard of Gunlock, Lois Butcher of Paintsville, Wandie Allen of Gunlock, Mary Bradley of Indiana, Barbra Shepherd of Gunlock and Bonnie Ingram of Gunlock; eight grandchildren: Jessica, Misty (Kevin), Jennifer (Michael), Jamie (Kayla), Jordan, Brianna, Tankia and Emily; and two great-grandchildren: Alyssa and Logan.

He was preceded in death by a son, Vaughn Shepherd and a brother, Elwood Shepherd.

Funeral services were held Wednesday, December 22, at noon, at the Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, in Martin, with Lowell Parker officiating.

Burial was in the Auxier Relocation Cemetery, in Auxier.

Visitation was after 7 p.m., Tuesday, December 21, at the funeral home.

Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, in Martin, was in charge of arrangements.

(Paid obituary)

## Luther "Pa" Shepherd

Luther "Pa" Shepherd, 73, of Gunlock, died Friday, December 17, 2010, at his residence.

Born October 18, 1937, in



Magoffin County, he was the son of the late Gobble and Bertha Shepherd. He was a pipeline worker and retired coal miner, and a member of the Salt Lick United Baptist Church.

He is survived by his wife, Edith Howard Shepherd.

Other survivors include three sons: Donald Shepherd (Nola) of Gunlock, Johnny Shepherd of Gunlock and Luther James (Bud) Shepherd, Jr. (Danielle) of Grant County; four daughters: Claudette Miller (Johnny) of Gunlock, Tammie Kilgore (Jimmy) of Gunlock, Leatrice Turner (Jerry) of David and Ammie Shepherd of Gunlock; two brothers: Ollie Shepherd and Willie Shepherd, both of Indiana; six sisters: Ruby

Howard of Gunlock, Lois Butcher of Paintsville, Wandie Allen of Gunlock, Mary Bradley of Indiana, Barbra Shepherd of Gunlock and Bonnie Ingram of Gunlock; eight grandchildren: Jessica, Misty (Kevin), Jennifer (Michael), Jamie (Kayla), Jordan, Brianna, Tankia and Emily; and two great-grandchildren: Alyssa and Logan.

He was preceded in death by a son, Vaughn Shepherd and a brother, Elwood Shepherd.

Funeral services were held Monday, December 20, at 1 p.m., at the Brushy Fork Baptist Church, in Gunlock.

Burial was in the Brushy Bill Cemetery, in Gunlock.

Visitation was Saturday, December 18, at 6 p.m., at the church.

Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, in Martin, was in charge of arrangements.

(Paid obituary)

## Hershel Slone

Hershel Slone, 70, of Eastern, died Monday, December 22, 2010, at his residence.

Born November 4, 1940, in Knott County, he was the son of the late Jake and Arminda Slone. He was a disabled coal miner.

He is survived by his wife, Thelma Slone.

Other survivors include three daughters: Glenda Faye Short of Wayland, Delois Ann Brown of Langley and Katie Lou Howard of Garrett; his brothers: Marshall Slone of Taylorsville, Devert Slone of Bypro; a sister, Delta Owens of Prestonsburg; 12 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by one son, Stevie Jay Slone, his brothers: Chalmer Slone,

Funeral services will be held Monday, December 20, at 1 p.m., at the Brushy Fork Baptist Church, in Gunlock. Burial was in the Brushy Bill Cemetery, in Gunlock. Visitation was Saturday, December 18, at 6 p.m., at the church. Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, in Martin, was in charge of arrangements.

(Paid obituary)

## In Loving Memory of William E. Woods

Bill was born on February 14, 1953, and passed away on December 23, 1997. Bill is holding his only living son Kyle E. Woods, who is now 21 years old and going to become a daddy, himself. Bill is truly missed by his mom, Beulah, sister, Kaye, niece, Angle, nephew, Barry and other family members and friends. This poem is once again dedicated to Bill's childhood and memories of years past.



### "Mom Would Always Say"

"There's sixteen months-and ten days between you and Bill," Mom would always say. Just a grade apart throughout our school years, but, Bill was the smartest. Learning came easy for him, while it required brother today." Mom would always say.

I loved my little brother from the day he was born. There was always overwhelming feelings of affection and protectiveness there. Our mom was a petite woman, and my ten-pound brother arrived on February 14th a Valentine baby. "He was the biggest valentine I've ever received," Mom would always say.

Only the two of us growing up beside the Levia's Fork of the Big Sandy River. Not many other children lived near-by. Just a few cousins and then occasional visits with out of town cousins gave us new playmates. "Company is coming. You two youngins be sure to share," Mom would always say.

Unruly, dense vegetation growing along the sandy riverbank and surrounding fields scattered with wild weeds, numerous wildflowers and rambling, pickly blackberry bushes became our playgrounds. "Be sure to stay away from that river," Mom would always say.

Yes, we were told to stay away from the river. And we knew we should, for neither one of us could swim. We played a lot together. He was my little brother and I was playmates. "You are such good children," Mom would always say.

During the spring and summer, we rode our bikes. His was a Bluegrass and mine was a Huffy. On rainy days we'd sit in the green, front porch to wait our hands. Or build a playhouse out of discarded, cardboard boxes. "Quiet down," Mom would always say.

Weekends sometimes brought visits from our parent's friends and their children. Once again, we'd have new playmates. We'd play checkers, rummy, and we'd seek at night. Catch lightning bugs to put in a jar. "Time to get ready for bed," Mom would always say.

In the fall, we'd trudge through tall stalks of chigger infested horse weeds, towering above our heads. Spreading, pushing, stomping them aside, as we carved a pathway deep within the mass of green. "Just look at you two, all covered with burrs," Mom would always say.

Proudly we'd christen the domain "The Horse Weed Club" or you secret hide-away out on the river bank. We'd tie the tall stalks of horseweeds into towering teepees and crawl underneath to pretend. "You shouldn't play in the weeds," Mom would always say.

We'd play for hours pretending to eat the delicious mud pies made out of wet and sandy soil, generously adorned with pebbles, rocks, sticks, and wildflowers. "Come on in to supper," Mom would always say.

"What do you mean, you're not hungry?" We'd laugh and rush off to wash our hands. Eager to eat real food that day.

In the winter we played in the snow. It didn't have a sled, we'd use an old tire or flatten cardboard box for sliding down that trail that traveled over an incline to our house. We'd climb up the gravel pile stocked nearby and slide down. "Come in before you catch your death," Mom would always say.

The word death to a child is a foreign word. As much as I loved my little brother throughout the years, I couldn't protect him from this darkness. Bill had been gone this December 23rd. And I still miss him. "Bill was my only son and I miss him, so," Mom continues to say.

# Regional Obituaries

## FLOYD COUNTY

■ Loretta Dockery Carr, 83, of Prestonsburg, died Monday, December 13, at Highlands Regional Medical Center. Funeral services will be held Friday, December 17, at 1 p.m., under the direction of Carter Funeral Home.

■ Dorsie Hamilton, 95, of Beecher, died Saturday, December 18, at her residence. Funeral services were held Tuesday, December 21, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

■ James Monroe Hunt, Jr., 65, of Hippo, died Tuesday, December 21, at his residence. He is survived by his wife, Ethel Hunt. Funeral services will be held Friday, December 24, at 11 a.m., under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

■ Jack Shepherd, 72, of Drift, died Friday, December 17, at his residence. Funeral services were held Monday, December 20,

under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

■ Ella Rose Wallen, 65, of Ypsilanti, Michigan, formerly of Spiedock, died Wednesday, December 19. She is survived by her husband, Lester Wallen.

## MARTIN COUNTY

■ Daisy Leota Ray Spears, 51, of Tomahawk, died Wednesday, November 24, at her home. She is survived by her husband, Danny Eugene Spears. Funeral services were held Saturday, November 27, under the direction of Richmond-Callahan Funeral Home.

■ Effie Evans Blair, 87, of Debord, died Monday, November 29, at Highlands Regional Medical Center. Funeral services were held Thursday, December 2, under the direction of Phelps and Son Funeral Home.

■ Pauline Fletcher, 62, of Warfield, died Friday,

November 26, at her home. Funeral services were held Sunday, November 12, under the direction of Richmond-Callahan Funeral Home.

■ Hiram Parsley, 81, of Inez, died Tuesday, December 7, at Three Rivers Medical Center, in Louisa. He is survived by his wife, Mary Parsley. Funeral services were held Friday, December 10, under the direction of Richmond-Callahan Funeral Home.

■ James Edward Dheel, 65, of Lowmansville, died Friday, December 10, at his home. He is survived by his wife, Ruby Spence Dheel. Funeral services were held Tuesday, December 14, under the direction of Phelps and Son Funeral Home.

■ Nola Cook Preston, 87, of Tomahawk, died Monday, December 6, at Three Rivers Medical Center, in Louisa. Funeral services were held

Saturday, December 11, under the direction of Phelps and Son Funeral Home.

■ Vernal Roger Fannin, 78, of Inez, died Sunday, December 12, at Three Rivers Medical Center, in Louisa. He is survived by his wife, Elsie Fannin. Funeral services were held Wednesday, December 15, under the direction of Richmond-Callahan Funeral Home.

■ Sally June Howell, 68, of Inez, died Saturday, December 11, at Highlands Regional Medical Center, in Prestonsburg. Funeral services were held Tuesday, December 14, under the direction of Phelps and Son Funeral Home.

Saturday, December 11, under the direction of Phelps and Son Funeral Home.

■ Pike County  
 ■ Henry Douglas Bailey, 76, of Pikeville, died Sunday, December 12, at

(See OBITUARIES, page 3)

## Card of Thanks

The family of Dallas Grant Click would like to sincerely say, "Thank you," to all of our wonderful friends and neighbors who helped to comfort us during this difficult time. Those who sent flowers, food, or came by to share our loss. A special thanks to Clergyman Tommy Spears for his comforting message, the Sheriff's Department for their assistance in traffic control; and the Hall Funeral Home for their kind and professional service. We will always remember all the love and kindness that was shown to our family.

THE FAMILY OF DALLAS GRANT CLICK

## Card of Thanks

The family of Martha Jane Fitzpatrick would like to sincerely say, "Thank-you," to all of our wonderful friends and neighbors who helped to comfort us during this difficult time. All those who sent flowers, food, or came by to share our loss. A special thanks to the Clergyman Jim Adams for his comforting message, the First United Methodist Church for all the love and support that was shown to our family, the Sheriff's Department for their assistance in traffic control; and the Hall Funeral Home for their kind and professional service. We will always remember all the expressions of love to our family.

THE FAMILY OF MARTHA JANE FITZPATRICK

# For the Record

**Civil Suits Filled**  
**Caualry Portfolio Services, LLC vs. Tiffany Hall, debt collection.**  
**Landmark Financial Services vs. Tim Carter, debt collection.**  
**Sharon Kidd vs. Sadie Chaffins, petition to quiet title.**  
**Tax Lien**  
**Investment vs. Janice Hill, debt collection.**  
**Tax Lien**  
**Investment vs. Edmona Calhoun, debt collection.**  
**Virginia Little vs. Kristy D. Dorton, petition for child support and health care insurance.**

**Charges Filed**  
**Joshua M. Hicks, 28, Auxier, public intoxication, 12 counts of possession of a controlled substance, 11 counts of controlled substance not in proper container, tampering with physical evidence, disorderly conduct, resisting arrest.**  
**Tanya Lisa Salisbury, 27, Toler Creek, fugitive from another state.**  
**William McCarty, 24, Hager Hill, first-degree terrorist threatening.**  
**William T. Mullins, 20, Louisa, receiving stolen property.**  
**Kristopher B. Lawson, 32, Prestonsburg, controlled substance not in proper container.**  
**Rhonda Ousley, 44, Hueysville, shoplifting.**

**Inspections**  
**Comfort Suites.**

**Prestonsburg, regular inspection.** Violations noted: sinks found chipped or cracked in most guest bathrooms. Score: 96.  
**Maddy's Pizza Palace, Hueysville, regular inspection.** Violations noted: non-food contact surfaces have accumulation of soil, individual disposable towels, a continuous towel system and/or hand-drying device not provided at lavatory or handsink, floors not maintained/constructed and/or installed properly, dustless method of cleaning floor not used, light fixtures not shielded as required. Score: 95.  
**Campbell's Grocery, Garrett, regular inspection.** Violations noted: lack of accurate thermometers in all refrigeration and freezing units storing potentially hazardous foods, lack of numerically scaled thermometers for checking temperature of potentially hazardous food, no hair restraints, cloths in use not stored in sanitizer solution, floors not maintained/constructed and/or installed properly, light fixtures not shielded as required, food contact surfaces are not resistant to pitting, chipping, crazing, etc. Score: Food: 93, Retail: 97.  
**Betsy Layne High School, Stanville, regular inspection.** Violations noted: outside waste receptacles, toilet seats in need of replacing due to damage, flooring in some hallways

in need of repair due to cracks. Score: 92.  
**Stumbo Elementary School, Grethel, regular inspection.** Violations noted: outside dumpster area in need of cleaning, also, dumpster missing lids, found two faucets without hot water under pressure, floors in need of cleaning in restroom and under water fountains. Score: 92.

**Property Transfers**  
**Norma Jean Spears Salisbury to Pilgrim Energy Inc., property located at Toler Creek.**  
**William P. Schell to Prudential Relocation Inc., property located at Whispering Oaks Dr.**  
**Debra Schmiessing to Saddle Justice, property not listed.**

**Larry Schmiessing to Saddle Justice, property not listed.**  
**Betsy Cottrell Schoolcraft to Fred R. Cottrell, Jr., property located at Richmond Memorial Cemetery.**  
**Floyd Raymond Schoolcraft to Fred R. Cottrell, Jr., property located at Richmond Memorial Cemetery.**  
**United States of America to Ronnie Hall, property located at Big Mud Creek.**  
**Vanderbilt Mortgage and Finance to Sharon Reynolds, property not listed.**  
**Diann B. Whitten to Eileen Isaac, property located at Middle Creek.**  
**Lon C. Whitten to Eileen Isaac, property located at Middle Creek.**

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## Obituaries

Continued from p2

**Pikeville Medical Center.** Funeral services were held Thursday, December 16, under the direction of Lucas & Son Funeral Home.  
**Charlie Blackburn, 89, of McAndrews, died Saturday, December 18, at the East Kentucky Veterans Center, in Hazard.** Private funeral services were held Monday, December 20, under the direction of R.E. Rogers Funeral Home.  
**Annie Blackman, 90, died Friday, December 10, at Signature Healthcare Center, Pikeville.** Funeral services were held Monday, December 13, under the direction of Thacker Memorial Funeral Home.  
**Sam Bridgeman, 80, of Joicey, died Saturday, December 11, at the Pikeville Medical Center.** He is survived by his wife, Jetta Lee Mullins Bridgeman. Funeral services were held Tuesday, December 14, under the direction of Lucas & Son Funeral Home.  
**Jackie Howard Cleveger Sr., 63, of Grahm, formerly of Pike County, died Saturday, December 11, at St. Clair Medical Center, Morehead.** Funeral services were held Tuesday, December 14, under the direction of Community Funeral Home.  
**Richard Keith Damron, 33, of Allegheny, a Pike County native, died Friday, December 10, in Elk Horn City.** Funeral services were held Tuesday, December 14, under the direction of Bailey Funeral Home.  
**Lazelle Elkins, 97, of Pikeville, died Sunday,**

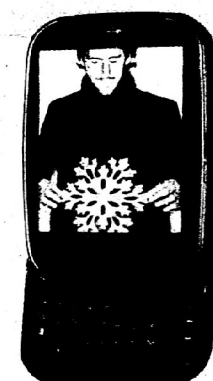
December 12, at the Pikeville Medical Center. She is survived by her husband, Kelly Elkins. Funeral services were held Wednesday, December 15, under the direction of J.W. Call & Son Funeral Home.  
**Helen Lavonne Owens Francisco, 87, of Danville, died Tuesday, December 14, at the Highland Regional Hospital, Danville.** Funeral arrangements, under the direction of J.W. Call & Son Funeral Home.  
**William Albert McCoy, 53, of Charleston, West Virginia, a Pikeville native, died Sunday, December 12, at Thomas Memorial Hospital.** He is survived by his wife, Valena Yates McCoy. Funeral services were held Thursday, December 16, under the direction of J.W. Call & Son Funeral Home.  
**Van Ratliff, 80, of Elk Horn City, died Thursday, December 16, at Pikeville Medical Center.** He is survived by his wife, Gannie Mullins Ratliff. Funeral services were held Sunday, December 19, under the direction of Bailey Funeral Home.  
**Irene Robinette Sipple, 60, of Virgie, died Friday, December 17, at Pikeville Medical Center.** Funeral services were held Monday, December 20, under the direction of R.E. Rogers Funeral Home.  
**Ballard J. Smith, 88, of Ransom, died Saturday, December 18, at the South Williamson Appalachian Regional Hospital.** Funeral services were held Monday, December 20, under the direction of R.E. Rogers Funeral Home.

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**FREE**  
 with 2-year wireless service agreement on voice and minimum \$20/mo messaging plan required.  
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# Viewpoint

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

Worth Repeating ...

Let's be naughty  
 and save Santa the trip.

—Gary Allan

## Guest View Legislators need to do more on prescription pill reporting

As Eastern Kentucky continues in the midst of a struggle against drug abuse, we were happy with the fact that at least one state legislator has already kept up the fight against drug abuse. At the same time, we're hopeful that the legislature can take it a step forward.

Earlier this month state Rep. Fitz Steele pre-filed a bill set for the 2011 session of the General Assembly that seeks to enact tougher regulation on the sale and purchase of over-the-counter medications containing dextromethorphan (DXM) as its active ingredient. Seeing that teenagers continue to abuse this substance at alarming trends, it is only fit that we begin to seek some way to keep that from happening. Just as the legislature moved to criminalize salvia, which just this month received some exposure with Miley Cyrus's "bad trip," Kentucky should move to make it tougher for teenagers to get DXM products.

And while we move in that direction, our legislature should also look at the problem of prescription pill abuse which remains a major contributor to the drug abuse epidemic in Kentucky and other central Appalachian states.

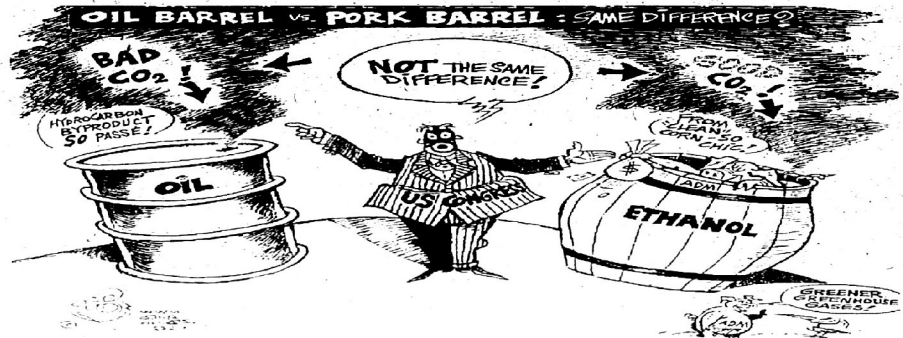
As we have seen from the numerous cases of doctor shopping, arrests at pain clinics and the so-called "pill pipeline" running up from Florida, legally prescribed medications are becoming a top contributor to the pills on the streets that are reaching the hands of Eastern Kentucky's residents.

Kentucky's legislature can do something to help slow down the river of pills flowing from some of Kentucky's more unscrupulous physicians to the hollows of Eastern Kentucky. For one, they can make participation mandatory for the Kentucky All Schedule Prescription Electronic Reporting program, or KASPER, for short.

At present, physicians practicing in Kentucky are not required to participate in the KASPER program, which would otherwise track the prescribing of the very pills that keep the drug problem in Kentucky a continuing fight. Authorities could have a better handle on where many of these pills are coming within Kentucky's borders, and perhaps cut down on instances of doctor shopping.

We're not so naïve as to think that mandatory participation in KASPER will be the silver bullet, but it's certainly a start. So far, though, there has not been a legislator with the gumption or support to get a bill passed. And as more and more of Kentucky's men and women overdose and all too often die from their dependency on drugs, that failure to pass a bill is increasingly become a crime in and of itself.

— The Hazard Herald



## Beyond the Beltway

### Why can't our politicians get into the holiday spirit?

by DONALD KAUL  
 OTHERWORDS

I was born on Christmas Day as an only child, and destined to remain one.

My parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles, having no other outlet, inundated me with presents every Christmas—toy cars to ride in, red wagons, pearl-handled cap pistols, games that used batteries—an embarrassment of riches.

We lived in a working class neighborhood, one in which recently departed husbands and fathers were routinely eulogized with the phrase: "He was always a good provider."

Other kids, my friends, would get two or three presents for Christmas (one of which would be a flannel shirt or something), some would get none, and I'd get this toy store. Even as a child, that struck me as unfair. Yes, I know, life is unfair. But that doesn't make it right. And surely this unfairness does not have to be rubbed in the faces of kids at Christmas.

But it is. The Republicans spent most of the holiday season holding up an extension of unemployment benefits to

desperate families in order to spare the well-to-do a modest tax increase. Bizarrely, nearly half of the American people sided with Republicans on the issue.

I must admit that even in a year of disappointing political surprises that one was a shocker.

It reminded me of Davy. He was a patient—innate, if you will—at a children's psychiatric hospital I worked at while in college.

Far from being a snake pit, it was a fairly cheerful place, filled with boisterous, rowdy kids who, despite their various problems, did not seem to differ markedly from normal children. Most of them were entirely likeable—some adorable—but Davy was at the other end of the spectrum.

He was convinced nobody loved him and, as it happened, he was right. There was nothing in particular to dislike about him; it was just that there was nothing to like, either.

I said the hospital was a cheerful place. Most of the time it was. Then there was Christmas.

The children were sent home for the holidays, all except those whose parents wouldn't have them or couldn't be trusted with even brief custody. The hospital staff would spend Christmas Eve trying to lend false cheer to a joyless occasion for the few children left behind. It wasn't a shift one volunteered for.

Davy's parents, as I remember, had beaten him like a gong from the time he was an infant and didn't want him home for the holidays anyway.

so he was one of the three or four kids there to greet me as I walked into the locked ward on Christmas Eve.

He seemed happy enough. He entered into the games and songs of the evening with great enthusiasm. At bedtime, I was assigned the task of reading him his bedtime story.

Let me digress. This was an excellent, well-funded hospital, but somehow it never got around to providing proper stockings for the kids. The standard-issue socks were huge, long things with "Property of University Hospitals" stenciled on the side.

When I walked into Davy's room he was crouched in a corner working on something. As I moved closer I could see it was a cardboard box, painted red with black lines drawn crudely across it. A fireplace.

Davy had been fastening one of the long, white hospital stockings on it as I came in. "I made it myself," he said brightly.

Then he jumped into bed and waited for his story, confident Santa would slide down that cardboard chimney and fill his stocking with toys and candy.

And, miraculously, Santa did.

I don't know exactly why that story occurs to me now, but I suppose it has something to do with the fact it can be seen as a metaphor of the times. The lucky few celebrate their gift-laden Christmases in the cocoon of their families, while others have to rely on the warmth afforded by a cardboard fireplace to get through the day.

## The Usual Eccentric

### A (not so) silent night

by WILL E. SANDERS

I was in my home office when she came. I was trying to install a pirated version of Microsoft Office at the time, mostly because I'm a jerk. My computer was being slow, so I was yelling at it. Actually, cussing, usually the Lord's name in vain—something awful considering it's the holiday season.

The doorbell rang. It was the front door. Anybody whose worth one's weight in salt knows to go to the side door. Only strangers ring the front door. Immediately, I knew that whoever was out there ringing had heard me cussing, because when I cuss, I do it very loudly. I didn't know what to do next, so I hid. Silas the Devil Dog wouldn't stop barking. And all the lights were on. Whoever was outside knew damn well I was home (and probably hiding).

My mind then began to cycle through a number of people it could be at the front door. I thought of all the things I had recently done that might cause someone to come to my house to punch me in the face. I was certain a knockout punch was on the other side of the door. I would have only been so lucky for that.

After a minute, my curiosity got the best of me. I slithered out from underneath my hiding place. I crept to the front door, sliding the curtain to one side as I peeked out—fore-

boding darkness. Still curious, I opened the door I crept outside. I was now officially creeping around my front porch, Grinch-style. Out of the corner of my eye, I saw a fancy array of festive hats being worn by a half-dozen individuals who were on my sidewalk.

"Drats," I muttered. "I've been spotted." Christmas carolers!

Having spotted me, the carolers turned around and shuffled toward me like yuletide zombies. I panicked, and since I didn't know what else to do, I just stood still (because I think playing dead only works with bears). Before I knew it, the carolers were all singing to me. They began with "Silent Night" as I just stood there listening and wishing it was silent.

I stared at each of them in 10 second intervals as they sang because I didn't know how to react. (It's probably not common courtesy to boo carolers.) Silas was still behind me barking like a maniac. The carolers were unrelenting, but once they finished, I knew the misery was over.

Actually, it wasn't. They went directly into a nightmarish version of "We Wish You a Merry Christmas" like an uncalled-for encore.

I scanned my brain for what to say once they were finished. It's best not to say or ask open-ended things that would extend a line of conversation in such situations. I wanted these carolers off my front porch the way an elderly man wants the neighbor kid off his lawn. Look, if you want to wish me a Merry Christmas, please do so in a non-confrontational way. Send a Christmas card, and I'll act like I care.

So, they eventually stopped serenading me. "Now what?" I thought. What does etiquette dictate? I'm not inviting them in. And even if I did, I have nothing to offer them. Hot chocolate? Gingerbread men? What am I, an 80-year-old widow? All I could offer them would be a cigarette, or I could nuke some bourbon in the microwave. Carolers like bourbon, right?

Once the carolers finished, I just muttered something like, "It sure is cold, wish I would have grabbed a coat." Immediately, I went back inside where it was warm and where traditionally strange people don't sing to me. I grabbed the phone and dialed my mom, who lives four houses away. After all, the carolers were now walking in the direction of her house.

"You need to listen to every word I'm about to tell you," I told her. "Lock the doors, turn off all the lights and hide. Carolers are coming your way. If you answer that door, it's going to be a world of awkwardness."

I could hear my mother racing around the house as I delivered the warning. "There they are," I heard her say. "They ran up on the porch." "They ran? The carolers?" I said, surprised. "That's odd. Quick! Go upstairs. Mom? Mom, are you OK?" "I'm safe," she said as she slammed up the stairway. "Dad's still downstairs, totally unaware."

"It's too late, save yourself!" I ordered. She laughed. "It's OK. Your father deserves this."

# The Times

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# Floyd County Devotional Page

This devotional and directory is made possible by these businesses who encourage all of us to attend worship services.

## Devotional Spotlight



**First Presbyterian Church  
Prestonsburg**

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m.

Attention Church Organizations, send in a picture of your church, pastor or youth leaders.

### ASSEMBLY OF GOD

**First Assembly of God, Marlin**; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Lorie Vannucci, Minister.

**In Victory Assembly of God, West Prestonsburg**; Sunday School, 10:00; Worship Service, 11:00 & 6:30; Wednesday Evening, 6:30; Gary Stanley, Pastor.

**New Bethel Assembly of God, Burning Fork Rd., Salyersville**; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Arthur (Sam) Smith, Minister.

**Praise Assembly**, 1 mile S. of Prestonsburg, intersection of Rt. 80 and U.S. 23; Sunday School, 10:30 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.; Midweek Thurs., 7:30 p.m.; J.M. Sloce, Minister.

### BAPTIST

**Allen First Baptist, Allen**; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Roger Music, Minister.

**Auxier Freewill Baptist, Auxier**; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Thursday, 7 p.m.; Bobby Spencer, Pastor.

**Bail Branch Regular Baptist Church, Mousley Ky.**; Worship Service, 9:30; Every third Sat. and Sun. of each month; Rogar Hicks, Pastor; Ralph Howard, Asst. Pastor; Contact Kerm Newsome 606-377-6881 for more information.

**Benedict Baptist, Stick Rock Branch, Cow Creek**; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Gordon Finch, Minister.

**Betsy Layne Free Will Baptist, Betsy Layne**; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Tracy Patton, Minister.

**Big Sandy Community and Technical College Baptist Student Union**, J 102; Wednesday, 11:30 a.m.; Vera Joiner, 886-3863, ext. 67267.

**Bonanza Freewill Baptist, Abbott Creek Road, Bonanza**; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Jimmy D. Brown, Minister.

**Brandy Keg Freewill Baptist, Com Fork**; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Rogar Music, Minister.

**Calvary Southern Baptist, Betsy Layne**; Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Doug Lewis, Minister.

**Community Freewill Baptist, Goble Roberts Addition**; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Paul D. Coleman, Minister.

**Cow Creek Freewill Baptist, Cow Creek**; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Nathan Lafferty, Minister.

**Daniels Creek Baptist Fellowship Church of God, Banner**; Services: Saturday night, 7 p.m.; Sunday morning, 11 a.m.; Sunday night, 7 p.m.; Henry Lewis, Minister.

**Drift Freewill Baptist, Drift**; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 6:30 p.m.; Thursday, 6:30 p.m.; Jim Fields, Minister.

**Endicot Freewill Baptist, Buffalo**; Sun. School, 10 a.m.;

Church every Sun. Morning 11:00 a.m.; Wed. evening Bible Study & Prayer Meeting, 7:00 p.m.; First Sat. evening Service, All Welcome 7 p.m.; Pastor: Louie, 306-476-6969.

**Faith Bible Church, an independent Baptist Church**, located on 1428, between Allen & Marlin; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Sunday Morning, 11 a.m.; Sunday Evening, 6 p.m.; Wednesday Bible Study & Prayer, 6 p.m.; Pastor, Rev. Bob Wrieman.

**Faith Freewill Baptist**, 1/4 mile above Worldwide Egg on Rt. 1428; Sunday Service, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Elder Donnie Patrick, Minister.

**First Baptist, Garrett**; Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Randy Osborne, Minister.

**First Baptist, Marlin**; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Sunday Evening Service, 7 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Graydon Howard, Minister.

**First Baptist, Prestonsburg**, 157 South Front Street; Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.; Wed., 6:30 p.m.; G. Workman, minister.

**Fitzpatrick First Baptist**, 1063 Big Branch, P.O. Box 410, Prestonsburg, KY 41653; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Pastor Roger Truch.

**Free United Baptist, West Prestonsburg**; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.

**Free United Baptist, West Prestonsburg**; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.; Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.

**Grethel Baptist, State Rt. 3379, (Branchman Creek Rd.)**; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.; Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.

**Garrett Regular Baptist, Route 550, Garrett**; Worship Service, 10:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.; Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.; Larry Patton, pastor. Phone 358-9610.

**Highland Avenue Freewill Baptist**; Sunday School, 9:50 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; David Garrett, Minister.

**Jacks Creek Baptist, Bevinsville**; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Pastor Tommy Reed.

**Katy Friend Freewill Baptist**, 2 miles up Abbott; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Jimmy Caudill, Pastor.

**Lackey Freewill Baptist, Lackey**; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Johnny J. Collins, Minister.

**Lancer Baptist Church**, 71 Cooley St., Prestonsburg; Sunday School, 10:00 a.m. Morning Worship, 11:00 a.m., Evening Worship, 6:00 p.m.; Wednesday Prayer Meeting and Bible Study, 7:00 p.m.; Pastor Bobby Carpenter.

**Left Beaver Regular Baptist Church** across from Garth School, 4th Saturday & Sunday 10:00 am. Odd Saturday 6:00 pm.; Gary Compton, Pastor.

**Liberty Baptist, Denver**; Sunday Service, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 6 p.m.; Merle Little, Minister.

**Ligon Community Freewill Baptist, Ligon**; Worship Service, Sunday, 11:00 a.m. Thursday, 7 p.m.

**Little Rose Regular Baptist Church of Jesus Christ, (Indian Bottom Association)**; Services: 1st Saturday & Sunday of every month 9:30 a.m., 3rd Sunday 9:30 a.m., Odd Sunday 9:30 a.m.

**Martin Branch Freewill Baptist, Estill**; Sunday Service, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11:15 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; James (Red) Morris, Minister.

**Martin Freewill Baptist, Marlin**; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; John L. Blair, Minister.

**Maytown First Baptist, Main St., Maytown**; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 6 p.m.; Bob Varney, Minister.

**McDowell First Baptist, McDowell**; Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 6 p.m.; Stacie Strason, Pastor.

**Middle Creek Baptist, Blue River**; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; William L. Hunt, Minister.

**Lighthouse Baptist, 2194 Ky Rt. 1428, Prestonsburg**; Sunday Service, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Donald Crisp, Minister. home phone 285-3385

**Pleasant Home Baptist, Water Gap Road, Lancer**; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Mark Tackett, Pastor.

**Prater Creek Baptist, Banner**; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Wendell Crager, Minister.

**Rock Fork Regular Baptist, Garrett**; Worship Service, 9:30 a.m.; Jerry Manns, Pastor; Willie Crace Jr., Assistant Pastor.

**Salt Lick United Baptist, Salt Lick, Hueysville**; Worship Service, 2nd & 4th Sunday, 10:30 a.m.; Pastor, Allen Charlins, phone 946-2123.

**Sammy Clark Branch Freewill Baptist, Dana**; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.

**Stephens Branch Missionary Baptist, Stephens Branch**; Sunday Service, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Wednesday, 6 p.m.

**The Third Avenue Freewill Baptist**; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Phillip Ramey, Pastor.

**Tom's Creek Freewill Baptist, U.S. 23 (north of Layne School)**; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Chuck Ferguson, Minister.

**Tom Moore Memorial Freewill Baptist**; Cliff Road; Sunday School, 11 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Youth Service, 5:00 p.m.; Evening Service, 6:00 p.m.; No Service the 1st Sunday of each month; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Jody Spencer, Minister.

**Trimble Chapel Freewill Baptist**; Intersection of U.S. 23 and KY 60, Water Gap; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Morning Worship Service, 11 a.m. and Evening Worship Service 6 p.m.; Wednesday Bible Study, 7 p.m., Youth Services 6 p.m.; Everyone Welcome.

**United Community Baptist, Hwy. 7, Hueysville**; Worship Service, 2 p.m.; Friday, 7 p.m.; Carlos Beverly, Minister.

**Wheelwright Freewill Baptist, Wheelwright Junction**; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Louis Sarraf, Minister.

### CHURCH OF CHRIST

**Betsy Layne Church of Christ, Betsy Layne**; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Tommy J. Spears, Minister.

**Prestonsburg Church of Christ, 88 Hwy. 1428**; Worship Service, 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Richard Kay Minister.

**Harold Church of Christ, Harold**; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Willie E. Meade, Minister.

**Highland Church of Christ, Rt. 23, Hager Hill**; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.

**Hueysville Church of Christ**; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Chester Varney, Minister.

**Lower Toler Church of Christ, Harold**; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.; Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.; Lonnie Meade, Minister.

**Main Creek Church of Christ, Slanville**; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.

**Martin Church of Christ, Marlin**; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.

**Maytown Church of Christ, 66 Turkey Creek Rd., Langley**; Sunday Bible Study 10:00 a.m., Sunday morning worship 11:00 a.m., Evening Worship 6:00 p.m., Wednesday, 7 p.m.

**Upper Toler Church of Christ, 3.5 miles up Toler Creek on right**; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.

**Weeksbury Church of Christ**; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 10:45 a.m. and 6 p.m.; John Burke, Minister.

### CHURCH OF GOD

**Betsy Layne Church of God, Old U.S. 23**; Sunday School, 10:30 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Pastor: Bill B. Tussley Jr., Pastor.

**Community Church of God, Arkansas Creek, Marlin**; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Friday, 7 p.m.; Bud Crum, Minister.

**First Church of God**; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Steven V. Williams, Pastor.

**Garrett Church of God, Garrett**; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. & Family Training Hour- Thursday 7 p.m., Bill B. Tussley Jr., Pastor.

**Lanark Church of God, Goble Roberts Addition**; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11:10 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Kenneth E. Prater, Jr., Minister.

**Little Paint First Church of God, 571 Little Paint Road, East Point**; Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Jeff White, Pastor.

**The Ligon Church of God of Prophecy, Saturday Services, 7:00 p.m.**; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Ralph Hall, Pastor.

**St. James Parish, 556 Henry Drive, Prestonsburg, KY 41653** (606) 886-8046; Sunday Coffee Hour, 10 a.m.; Morning Worship, 11 a.m.; Wednesday evening worship, 7 p.m.; Office Hours, Mon-Fri., 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; Reverend Stan McGrew, [www.doktor.net/frames/1st.htm](http://www.doktor.net/frames/1st.htm) on Facebook.

### LUTHERAN

**Our Savior Lutheran, Sipp Bayes Room Carriage House Motel, Paintsville**; Sunday Service, 11 a.m.; WKLW (600 am) 12:05 p.m., Rotar, Pastor, Minister.

### METHODIST

**Auxier United Methodist, Auxier**; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Wednesday, 6 p.m.; Mead Music, Minister.

**Betsy Layne United Methodist, next to B.L. Gymnasium**; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Randy Blackmon, 111 a.m.

**Allen Christ United Methodist, Allen**; Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Kenneth Lemaster, Minister.

**Concordia United Methodist, 147 Burke Avenue (off University Drive and Neesley St.)**; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Jeffrey Lambert, Pastor.

**Elliott's Chapel Free Methodist, Rt. 979, Beaver**; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Philip T. Smith, Minister.

**Emma United Methodist, Emma**; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Sunday Worship Service 11 a.m.; Pastor David Proff.

**First United Methodist, 223 South Arnold Avenue**; Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; Worship Service, 10:55 a.m.; Youth Service 6 p.m.; Rev Jim Adams, Pastor.

**Horn Chapel Methodist, Auxier Road, Auxier**; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Midweek Service, 7 p.m.; Sunday Evening Service held on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month at 6 p.m.; Judy Carrack, Minister.

**Graceway United Methodist, Rt. 60, Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.**; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Wednesday Night, 7 p.m.; Roy Harlow, Minister.

**Salisbury United Methodist, Printer**; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday Bible Study, 6 p.m.; Bobby G. Lawson, Minister.

**Wayland United Methodist, Rt. 7, Wayland**; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Wednesday, 6 p.m.; Jack Howard, Pastor.

**Wheelwright United Methodist, Wheelwright**; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Bobby Isaac, Minister.

**Wogia Day United Methodist Church, Harold**; Sunday School, 10:00 a.m.; Sunday Worship Service, 11:00 a.m.; Wed. Bible Study, 7:00 p.m.; Dennis C. Love, Pastor.

**Drift Pentecostal, Drift**; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, Saturday/Sunday, 7 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Ted Sharpe, Minister.

**Free Pentecostal Church of God, Rt. 1428, East Point**; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.; Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.; Buster Hayton, Minister.

**Free Pentecostal Church of God, Weeksbury**; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 7 p.m.; Wednesday/Saturday, 7 p.m.; John "Jay" Patton, Minister.

**Free Pentecostal Deliverance, Ext. 46 off Mt. Parkway at Campbell**; Worship Service, Saturday and Sunday, 7 p.m.; Patricia Crider, Minister.

**Free Pentecostal Holiness, Rt. 122, Upper Burton**; Sunday School, 11 a.m.; Worship Service, 6 p.m.; Friday, 7 p.m.; Louis Santar, Minister; David Pike, Associate Minister.

**Goodloe Pentecostal, Rt. 850, David**; Worship Service, 6 p.m.; Malcolm Stone, Minister.

**Parley Field Pentecostal, Floyd and Magdoffin County Lines**; Worship Service, 6:30 p.m.; Mike D. Caldwell, Minister; 297-6262.

**Trinity Chapel Pentecostal Holiness, Main St., Marlin**; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 7 p.m.; 2nd Sat. 7 p.m.; Thurs., 7 p.m.; Ellis J. Stevens, Minister.

**Free Pentecostal Church, Dwaie**; Services Saturday, 6 p.m.; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Services, 11 a.m.; No Sunday Night Service.

### PRESBYTERIAN

**Drift Presbyterian, Route 1101, Drift**; Worship Service, 11 a.m.

**First Presbyterian, North Lake Drive, Prestonsburg**; Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.

### SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST

**Seventh-Day Adventist**, 6 miles West on Mountain Parkway; Church Service, 9:15; Sabbath School, 10:45; John Baker, Pastor, 358-9263; Church, 888-3459; leave message. Everyone welcome!

### THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints; Sacramento Mtg., 10:00 a.m.; Sunday School, 11:20 a.m.; Relief Society/Fellowship Primary, 12:00 p.m.; Wednesday, 6 p.m. Church Meeting House address, Hwy. 80, Marlin, KY 41649; Meeting House telephone number: 285-3133; Richard Salsburg, Bishop.

### OTHER

**Pastor Atha Johnson** welcomes everyone to attend services at the CHURCH OF GOD OF PROPHECY TRAM KENTUCKY. Sunday school 10 a.m., worship service 11 a.m.

**Drift Independent, Drift**; Sunday, 11 a.m.; Thursday, 6:30 p.m.

**Grace Fellowship Prestonsburg**, (next to old flea market), Sunday School, 10 a.m. Worship, 11 a.m. Bill Stukenborg, Pastor 869-0819.

**Faith Deliverance Tabernacle, West Prestonsburg**; Sunday School, 10:30 a.m.; Thursday, 7 p.m.; Don Shepherd, Minister.

**Faith Revelation, Harkins Ave., West Prestonsburg**; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Wed, 7 p.m.; Thurs, 7 p.m. Randy Hagans, Minister. 886-9460.

**Faith Fellowship, Allen, Ky. Sun. School, 10 a.m.**; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Sun. Evening, 6 p.m.; Wed, 7 p.m., Carl & Missy Woods, Pastors.

**Faith Worship Center, US 862, Paintsville**; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Thursday, 6 p.m.; Buddy and Maude Frye, Minister.

**Full Gospel Community**, (formerly of Marlin) moved to Old Allen; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Sunday evening, 6:30 p.m.; Wed., 6:30 p.m.; Lavonne Laferly, Minister.

**Lighthouse Temple, Main St. and Hall St.**; Worship Service, 12 p.m. and 7 p.m.; Wednesday/Friday, 7 p.m.; Roy Cosby, Minister.

**Living Water Ministries Full Gospel Church, Rt. 3**; just before Thunder Ridge, Wednesday, 7:00 p.m.; Sunday Evening, 6:00 p.m. Pastor: Curt Howard.

**Spurlock Bible Baptist**, 6227 Spurlock Creek Rd., Prestonsburg; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 7 p.m., Saturday/Sunday.

**Old Time Holiness, 2 miles up Arkansas Creek, Marlin**; Sunday School, 11 a.m.; Worship Service, 7 p.m.; Friday, 7 p.m.; John W. Patton, Minister.

**Spurlock Bible Baptist**, 6227 Spurlock Creek Rd., Prestonsburg; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Jim Stephens, Minister. 886-1003.

**Town Branch Church**; Sunday School 10 a.m. except for first Sunday in each month; Worship Service, morning 10:00 a.m.; Evening 6:00 p.m.; Wednesday, 6 p.m.; No Sunday night services on first Sunday of each month. Tom Nelson, Minister.

**The Father House, Big Branch, Abbott Creek**; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 6 p.m.; J.J. Wright, Minister.

**The Tabernacle, 266 South Lake Drive, Prestonsburg**; Christian Educator, 10:00; Sunday Morning, 11:00; Sunday Evening, 7:00; Wednesday, 7:00; Pastors, Paul and Ramona Aiken. Phone 263-1619.

**Youth Fellowship Center, Wheelwright**; Monday-Tuesday, 6 p.m., Thursday, 7 p.m.

**Zion Deliverance, Wayland**; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.; Prayer Line, 358-2464; Darlene W. Arnette, Pastor.

**Taylor Chapel Community Church**, formerly the old Price Food Service building, located a quarter mile above Worldwide Equipment, Rt. 1428; Sun. Bible Study, 10 a.m.; Sun. Morning Service, 11 a.m.; Sun. Evening, 6:30 p.m. Kenny Vanderpool, Pastor.

**International Pentecostal Holiness Church, 10974 N. Main St., Marlin**; Rev. Ellis J. Stevens, Senior Pastor.

**Rising Sun Ministries, 114 Rising Sun Lane**; Prestonsburg, KY 41653; Sunday, 11:00 a.m.; Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. Pastor D.P. Curry.

**Church of God of Prophecy, Sunday School 10 a.m.**; Worship Service 11 a.m.; Wednesday Night - 6 p.m.; Pastor Glenn Hayes, West Prestonsburg.

**House of Refuge, Rock Fork**; Sunday Evening Worship 6 p.m.; Monday Bible Study 7:30 pm; Wednesday Prayer Meeting 7:30 pm, Bill B. Tussley, Pastor.

**Seventh-Day Adventist 5 miles West on Mt. Parkway**, Saturdays-Sabbath School, 9:30 a.m.; Church, 11:15 a.m.; Bible Study Tuesdays, 7 p.m. (We are studying the Book of Revelation); Pastor, Tony Kelly 423-64-2412; Church 606-886-3459.

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**Daniels**

into office at the same time and said that, in many ways, they "came in here blind." Goble referenced the many hardships the court had faced, including floods, an ice storm and the death of District 2 Magistrate Jackie Edford Owens, but said that Daniel rose to the challenge. "You've done a heck of a job," Goble said. "I appreciate you."

District 2 Magistrate Hattie Owens spoke of her

long friendship with Daniels. "I've known Donny all my life," Owens said. "I never thought I'd sit on a fiscal court with him ... It's been a pleasure, Donny."

Perhaps the most poignant statement came from District 4 Magistrate Ronnie Akers, who spoke of his lifelong friendship to Daniels, which began as the two attended school together.

■ Continued from p1  
 "You're not going to be a magistrate," Akers said, "but you're always going to be my friend."  
 County Judge-Executive R.D. "Doc" Marshall noted his admiration for Daniels' father, who he described as a "special person" who had many positive qualities. "I think Donny over the years picked up those qualities," Marshall said. "Don has been exemplified during his tenure with the people ... You made a difference."

Daniels thanked the court for their sentiments and then went on to say that he hoped that he was able to accomplish some good during his service as magistrate.

"I'm going to miss it in one way, and in another, I'm going to move on," Daniels said. "I've tried to make a difference, what time I've been here."

Daniels also noted that most people are unaware of all of the work that goes on behind the scenes, and described work as a public official as a "thankless job." However, he said that he is confident that those serving on the court are good people who are up to the challenge.

"I think you have a good court," Daniels said. "I think Mr. Jarrell is going to do a good job in my district. I really do. But people are going have to have more patience with these guys."

**Grant**

■ Continued from p1  
 In other news, most of Wednesday's meeting was taken up with housekeeping matters regarding the end of the fiscal year for the offices of County Clerk Chris Waugh and Sheriff John K. Blackburn.

In addition to approving various bonds and budget amendments for those

offices, magistrates also approved a \$12.7 million budget for the clerk's office and a \$1.4 million budget for the sheriff's office. The court also set maximum salary pools for deputies in the two offices — \$700,000 for the clerk's office and \$782,900 for the sheriff's office.

**Sheriff**

■ Continued from p1  
 and law enforcement," Blackburn said. "I am happy to have served as long as I have. I want to continue fighting drugs and helping the children and citizens of Floyd County."

Deputies with the Floyd County Sheriff's Department were also sworn in on Wednesday along with Blackburn.

Along with being sworn in for his fourth term, Blackburn was also recently elected once again to the Kentucky Sheriff's

Association Board of Directors.

"Sheriff Blackburn currently serves in this position and he is most deserving and has always represented Kentucky sheriffs in a positive manner," said Jerry Wagner, executive director of the Kentucky Sheriff's Association. "I feel sure he will continue to stand for Kentucky sheriffs, along with the citizens of Floyd County and the commonwealth during his tenure."

**Toys**

children received the gifts after sitting in the sleigh with Santa.

Along with the toys donated by the Marines, local residents and businesses also chipped in to ensure that the children all received special Christmas gifts.

According to the Toys for Tots website, "The mission of the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program is to collect new, unwrapped toys during October, November and December each year, and distribute those toys as Christmas gifts to needy

■ Continued from p1  
 children in the community in which the campaign is conducted. The objectives of Toys for Tots are to help less fortunate children throughout the United States experience the joy of Christmas; to play an active role in the development of one of our nation's most valuable resources, our children; to unite all members of local communities in a common cause for three months each year during the annual toy collection and distribution campaign; and to contribute to better communities in the future."

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**HIGHLANDS**

## Pike County hunter claims first black bear in modern era

**Phelps resident sets record on opening day of season**

**TIMES STAFF REPORT**

FRANKFORT — Danny Smith, a resident of Phelps, carved his name into Kentucky's hunting annals

Saturday, Dec. 18, when he claimed the state's first legally harvested black bear in the modern era.

Smith took the 265-pound male bear in Pike County about five hours into his hunt. He owned the state's record for the largest bear for about a day, until Billy Joe Dixon, of Cumberland, took a 280-pound male on the second day.

Smith, a lifetime Pike

County resident and long-time coyote and deer hunter, was hunting coyotes last Friday when he came across "a lot of bear sign in the snow near a stand of Autumn Olive." That prompted him to go buy his bear hunting license.

He hit the woods Saturday morning just after his Highway Department shift ended, but failed to find more bear sign. So he moved to an

area where he had previously seen bear activity and picked up a fresh trail.

He followed it for more than a mile around a mountain top. When the track he was following approached the location where he had first found the track, he backed off and began watching the area.

He used binoculars to scour the area and finally spotted the bear about 240

yards away. He made the shot just before 2 p.m. with his Savage 270 rifle.

"I've hunted a lot of coyotes and deer, but this bear season is the best thing Kentucky could have," said Smith. "This is the first time I have ever hunted them, but I am hooked for life."

Kentucky's first black bear season last year was tough on bear hunters after a winter storm dumped nearly

two-feet of snow across Pike, Harlan and Letcher counties and kept the hunters off the mountains. They were the only three counties open to bear hunting, and no bears were taken in that first season.

Dixon, 35, a lifetime resident of Cumberland, took the only other bear claimed this season Sunday about noon

(See BEAR, page two)

## Tis the season to celebrate

by RICK BENTLEY  
TIMES COLUMNIST

Finally, it's time for a break.

We've been going at it at break-neck speed since sometime in August, and finally, time for a pause. We get a little breather, halftime, if you will, before we put the pads back on, roll the balls back out and get after it one more time.

It's been a while since July's heat and humidity. We enjoyed long (or at least normal) weekends like the rest of the world, knowing what was right around the corner. Then, suddenly, the corner exploded and the football playoffs were on. Kentucky basketball was playing Pikeville College and we were swamped.

But for now, a respite. Let's make the most of it, shall we?

Today we spend time with friends and loved ones and miss many of those who are far away. We take our mind of the hustle and bustle of the season of play and, hopefully, focus for a while on The Season, or at least the One we call the Reason.

Says here most of the stress and baggage we carry around is the result of our lack of focus on Him to start with.

We've had a great year. We won two state championships in basketball, reached the finals in football and the semifinals in softball. That's not too bad a year for those of us in this region. Others take that kind of success for granted. We here in the 15th cherish it. We know how fleeting that can be.

Our local college landed a gold mine for a head football coach. When you say nobody who ever coached the game won more times, well, that's pretty stout there. He fell into an offensive machine that went from win, offensive to awe-inspiring in one off-season. Here's hoping the defense can do the same.

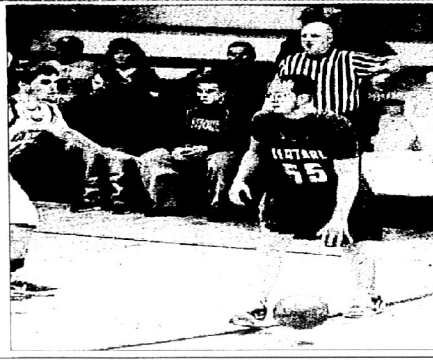
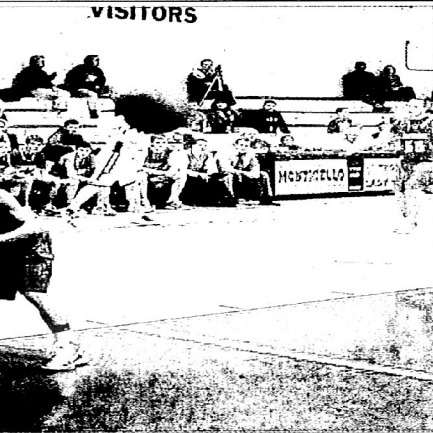
If so, he may pile up another 300 wins pretty quickly.

It's been quite a run. Today we return our attention to our homes, our families, our loved ones. Soon enough, the road will be calling again. It'll be time for

(See CELEBRATE, page two)



**HOLIDAY HOOPS:** The Allen Central High School boys' basketball team competed in the Monticello Holiday All "A" Classic earlier in the week. Allen Central defeated host Monticello 55-51, in another Somerset victory. Somerset defeated the Rebels 61-54. Allen Central will carry a 3-3 record into the Pikeville Invitational next week. Micah Harlow (55), Braxton Tackett (42) and Junior Handshoe (12) are pictured for the Rebels.



## Honored - P'burg native Haywood named Class 3A, District 8 Coach of the Year

by STEVE LEMASTER  
SPORTS EDITOR

**BELFRY** — Belfry High School head football coach Phillip Haywood, a Prestonsburg native who guided the Blackcat gridiron program prior to departing for the Pike County school, has been selected as the Coach of the Year for Class 3A, District 8. The Belfry program had seven players chosen for the All-District Team and

six designated as honorable mention selections. A breakdown of the honorees follows. Coach of the Year: Phillip Haywood, Belfry. Player of the Year: Avery Ray, Sheldon Clark. First Team All-District — Belfry: Jeffree Pruitt, Josh Dixon, Cameron Tackett, Micah Mahon, Trey Willis, Gary Runyon, Morgan Bentley. Sheldon Clark: Avery Ray, Channing Smith, B.J.

Jarrell, Kristian Skyles, Austen Stepp, Taylor Chapman, Corey Crum, Mikie Moore. Pike County Central: Channing Smith, Adam Daugherty, Zack Johnson, Alan Boggs, Cory Shouse, Jarrod Canada. East Ridge: Bryan Casey, Patrick Casey, Joseph Coleman, Ricky Hill, Jonathan Bryant. Honorable Mention — Belfry: Keegan Fields, Garrett Francis, Josh

Francis, Tyler Williams, Preston Young, Steven Gibbs. Sheldon Clark: Chase Lafferty, Tyler O'Connor, Kelly Haynes, Joe Scott, Jared Stevens. Pike County Central: Cody Coleman, Brad Lowe, Austin Maynard, Justin Smith, Cody Hollon. East Ridge: Tyler Ratliff, Dalton Lewis, Bryan Little, Andrew Ratliff, Austin Adkins.

## Kentucky Afield Outdoors: 2010 Year in Review

**TIMES STAFF REPORT**

FRANKFORT — A record wild turkey harvest, the return of the alligator gar and south-central Kentucky received two new wildlife management areas, are just some of the highlights of the past year.

Here's a look back at the top 10 stories of 2010:

1. Hunters took a record 36,094 wild turkey during the state's 23-day spring season, which closed May 9. The record harvest was achieved despite high winds, heavy rain and extensive flooding which made the hunting difficult during the last two weeks of the season. Steven Doherty, wild turkey biologist for the Kentucky Department of Fish and

Wildlife Resources, said he believed the foul weather had an impact on the harvest. "It rained the last two weekends of the season," he noted. "If it had been clear, I think over 40,000 birds would have been taken."

The final tally for the 2010 spring season was an increase of 24 percent over the 29,007 taken during the 2009 spring season.

Kentucky's wild turkey flock currently has an estimated 220,000 birds. The first statewide spring wild turkey season was held in 1996.

2. Dr. Jonathan Gassett, commissioner of the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, will serve as an officer for both a regional and national association of fish

and wildlife agencies in 2011. In May, Gassett was elected president of the Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (SEAFWA).

SEAFWA has member agencies in 15 states and two U.S. territories. "Election as president of SEAFWA is a reflection of the esteem in which Commissioner Gassett is held by his peers in the other 14 southeastern states," said Bob Brantley, SEAFWA executive secretary.

"It also speaks to their high regard for the leadership the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources provides in fish and wildlife conservation and management." In December, Gassett was named vice president of the

Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (AFWA).

He previously served as the organization's secretary/treasurer and currently serves as the vice-chairman of its executive committee.

"AFWA is a strong and unified voice for all 50 states, and I look forward to working with all of them in addressing the various issues that can benefit our fish and wildlife resources," said Gassett.

Over the past century, the organization has emerged as a powerful, effective and collective voice for fish and wildlife conservation. The association, headquartered in Washington, D.C., consists of fish and wildlife agencies from all 50 states along with more than 100

other representatives from the conservation community and the sporting industry, as well as territorial, provincial and federal fish and wildlife agencies.

Gassett came to Kentucky Fish and Wildlife in 1999 to head the agency's elk restoration and deer programs. He headed the department's Wildlife Division for four years, before becoming commissioner in 2005.

3. A restoration project hopes to bring back a native fish species absent from the sloughs, backwaters and bayous of western Kentucky waters for over 40 years - the alligator gar.

Alligator gar restoration efforts, which began last year, shifted to the Clark's River in

2010. "We have stationary receivers to monitor the movements of tagged fish from tributary streams to the major rivers," said Paul Rister, western fisheries district biologist for Kentucky Fish and Wildlife. "We can track the gar stocked in Clark's River as they move into the Tennessee and Ohio rivers."

Alligator gar once swam in all the major rivers in western Kentucky. By the 1970s, the species had disappeared due to habitat loss for spawning fish and juvenile gar.

The alligator gar is listed by the Kentucky State Nature Preserves Commission as an endangered species.

(See REVIEW, page two)



Review

Federal funds from the State Wildlife Grants program, administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, are being used to help fund the alligator gar restoration efforts in Kentucky, and several other neighboring states, including Missouri, Illinois and Tennessee. The restoration effort provides fisheries biologists a unique opportunity to learn about the alligator gar's biology, movements and habitat preferences in Kentucky. In June, the department announced plans to acquire the 2,155-acre Otter Creek Park in Meade County and operate it as an outdoor recreation area. The park, property of the city of Louisville, was forced to close for financial reasons. Commissioner Jon Gassett said Kentucky Fish and Wildlife plans to reopen Otter Creek in 2011 with user fees offsetting operational costs.

Activities at the park will include: picnicking, hiking, bird watching, fishing, hunting, camping, horseback riding and mountain biking. In early August, the Salato Wildlife Education Center in Frankfort unveiled its new, interactive exhibit "Get on Board." The entryway to the exhibit looks like the mouth of a Kentucky spotted bass. Visitors learn about the efforts of fisheries biologists to manage and maintain healthy fish populations. They also discover how fish hatcheries function, ways that fish populations are sampled and the funding for fishery management programs. In mid-August, Gov. Steve Beshear appointed three new members to the nine-member Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Commission, which works with the department to establish

policy and regulations. David M. Williams II, of Reynolds Station, is an agent with Kentucky Farm Bureau. Williams will represent the Second Wildlife District. He replaces Dale Franklin, whose term expired. Stuart N. Ray, of Louisville, is executive vice-president of Steel Technologies LLC. He will represent the Third Wildlife District. He replaces Tony Brown, whose term expired. Norman "Joe" Fryman, of Paris, is senior vice-president of Kentucky Bank. He will represent the Eighth Wildlife District. He replaces Rick D. Storm, whose term expired. Each term is effective through Aug. 13, 2014. On Aug. 21, two new state wildlife management areas opened to public hunting in south-central Kentucky — the 1,293-acre Marion County

WMA and State Forest and the 859-acre Buck Creek WMA in Pulaski County. Kentucky Fish and Wildlife, the Kentucky Division of Forestry and Marion County jointly own the Marion County Wildlife Management Area (WMA), which was purchased with money from the Kentucky Heritage Land Conservation Fund and the federal Wildlife Restoration program. Buck Creek WMA was acquired through the Kentucky Wetland and Stream Mitigation Fund to protect this unique area and offer public access. This program uses the Fee-

In-Lieu Mitigation Fund to compensate for stream losses in each river basin across Kentucky as authorized by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Buck Creek WMA also offers access to anglers for wading, and fishing from kayaks and other small, cartop boats. In October, a land trade involving 1,530 acres in Ohio County on Peabody WMA was announced which gives anglers access to 10 lakes and forested land that offers excellent deer and turkey hunting opportunities. The acre-for-acre land trade gives hunters and anglers

Continued from p1 frontage along the Green River, and encompasses all of Ken Lake and the Boy Scout Lakes, some 190 acres of water. In early November, Kentucky Fish and Wildlife announced a series of nine town hall meetings to be held across the state. Commissioner Jon Gassett and managers of Kentucky Fish and Wildlife's fish and wildlife programs were on hand to answer questions, provide updates and discuss issues of interest to hunters, anglers, trappers, boaters and other wildlife/outdoor enthusiasts. The goal of the meetings was a more informed and involved public.

Celebrate

practices, two-a-days and the like, and we'll be headed out the door for work once again. We should embrace this golden opportunity to get to know our family and friends once more. Spend a little couch time reading with the wide-eyed children while we have a chance. We're blessed to have them in our lives, so let's take advantage of it, and then, while we still can. Not everyone has that blessing today. Let's show our thankfulness by giving them the gift of our time. We have nothing greater to bless them with. Next time we get that opportunity, they'll be a little older and sadder, they it's possible they'll have moved on to something else. Let's take advantage of the opportunities we have in front of us. For many of us, among the things to be thankful for this Christmas is the opportu-

nity to turn the lights on and enjoy the heat. Last year, we were in the midst of a major power outage, the result of which seems to have only been an improbable opportunity for our provider to jack our rates up. Again. But we have electricity, the water is running and the heat is on. Thankfully. Chances like this don't come around very often. Winter's chill is here, forcing us to stay inside a little more. Let's make it a positive. Let's get to know our family and loved ones a little better. Let's not focus on the game on the television as much and turn our attention to each other. Then, I believe, we'll really see what this season is all about. Let's take advantage of the time and those we're blessed to be with this season by doing something to make someone else feel special.

Hold the child in your arms. Cuddle with the special someone. Embrace the opportunity to be with your parents, your brother or sister. Take a walk down memory lane. There's no better way to make next year's memories, or the ones for the year after that. It's a very special time right now. We've reached halfway. We aren't finished by any stretch. We have some work to do before the game ends, and there'll be plenty of time for that. But for now, a breather. For now, a chance to collect our thoughts, to recharge our batteries. To go over the game plan, to see what's working and what isn't. Today, we have a break. Let's make the most of it, shall we? Merry Christmas, everybody. God bless each one of you.

Bear

on the Harlan County mine property where he works. He was already familiar with bear activity on the property. Like Smith, he took advantage of the fresh snowfall to track the bear. He found a track crossing the road as he was climbing the mountain, followed the track, and then caught a glimpse of the bear heading down the mountain. He hurried down the mountain, set up in an area where he suspected the bear might show up, and soon made a 50-yard shot with his .308 rifle. Then he tied the present with the past. He called upon his 84-year-old grandfather, Bill Dixon, to help him skin his trophy. That's when he learned that his grandfather, while a young boy, was also present when another bear was taken on Pine Mountain, long before the days of regulated bear hunting in Kentucky. "Bears are good opportunity for Kentucky," said Dixon. "For those who don't

work in the mines, there's not a lot to do. With our elk, deer and now bear, we have some real tourism opportunities." "Some people are simply not comfortable walking the mountains in snow-covered conditions to hunt bears," said Steven Dobby, bear program coordinator for the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources. "For those willing to get out, however, the snow played a positive role in their ability to go into the record books." Kentucky's initial bear seasons have been held in December in order to gauge hunter participation and success rates, while concentrating the harvest on male bears. Most female bears in Kentucky enter dens by mid-November. "This year's hunt shows that mature bears can be harvested late in the season," said Dobby. "Likewise, beginning with a late-season hunt allows us the maneuverability to move the season earlier in future years."

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## MOVIES FROM THE BLACK LAGOON

### 'Runaway'

by TOM DOTY  
TIMES COLUMNIST

Two cops take on a psychotic arms dealer in this sci-fi/thriller from filmmaker/novelist Michael Crichton.

The setting is L.A. in the near future (probably about now, considering this was shot over 20 years ago).

The story follows a technical division of the department tasked with bringing down rogue robots, or "runaways." These are not your

George Lucas-style 'bots. They are compact machines that perform menial labor, though they are beginning to take jobs away from humans.

This isn't so farfetched, as most of us now use ATMs and ring up our own groceries, but it was radical enough for the early-1980s.

The plot has Sgt. Ramsay and his new partner, Thompson, falling into the orbit of a super-criminal named Luther. This bad guy is like a James Bond villain, as he has plenty of gadgets and ominous plans to sell new weapons technology to the highest bidder. The only problem is that he has double-crossed his partners and alienated his gal pal, Jackie, who walks right into the arms of the law.

The stage is now set for some action scenes and they do not disappoint. There are several scenes of the cops subduing rogue

(See LAGOON, page 6)

## 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.*

It's that time again when the old year winds down and the season of joy and good cheer seizes upon each of us and, we hope, makes us just a little more decent people...a time when we do a little stock-taking and tincture the merry holiday with a bit of sadness when we think of all the friends we remember but neglect. These kind remembrances from others in the form of Christmas greetings are appreciated but they do little for our self-esteem. Which is to say, we have sent not one.

If we were to let every individual know of our regard in this way, we would be sending many thousands of cards. And when we were through, there would be some whom we missed. And again we would be sorry about that.

So at this Christmas season we simply send sincere best wishes, laboriously pecked out in our own patented two-finger style, to every one who reads this.

**THE GREATEST MAIL-CARRIER**  
I think of again of a friend whom I have neglected...A man named Cal Robinson is a patient at the Golden Years Rest Home at Lackey. He is another, whom I failed to see this year, although I failed to see this year, although my intentions were good.

(See ALLEN, page 4)

## HANDS-ON LESSON



Roger Owens, BSCTC professor of the automotive technology program on the Mayo Campus, works with student Seth Elkins.

# UNDER THE HOOD

## BSCTC auto program keeps up with advances

by DAPHNE KIRK GOBLE

The Mayo Campus of Big Sandy CTC offers degrees, diplomas and certificates in a variety of automotive technology areas and specialties. Students learn on modern diagnostic and mechanical equipment. Apprentices studying at Big Sandy become innovative specialists with cutting-edge skills—permitting them to inspect, maintain and repair vehicles that run on gasoline, ethanol and other alternative fuels, such as electricity.

With the increased sophistication of vehicles today, the Automotive Technology Program at Big Sandy CTC trains students in computerized equipment and electronic components—all of which are required in today's demanding job market.

Remember the things we grew up believing about vehicles? These adages are not necessarily true today because manufacturers construct vehicles differently than yesterday.

Cars today have fuel-injected engines rather than carburetors and require the expertise of technicians with the knowhow to repair and maintain them. Graduates of Big Sandy CTC are proficient in all areas of automotive technology and flourish in the workplace due to the comprehensive education they receive at BSCTC.

"Our students enjoy the challenge that comes with maintenance and renovation of vehicles," said Roger Owens, BSCTC professor of the Automotive Technology Program on the Mayo Campus. "It is very rewarding to see our students enjoy the program and gain comfortable employment upon graduation."

The Automotive Technology Program at BSCTC is certified by the National Automotive Technician Education Foundation (NATEF).

Admission to the Program requires the following:

- Application for admission
- ACT scores or equivalent
- Copy of high school transcript or GED certificate

■ Verification of completion of pre-required courses

■ Official transcripts of all post-secondary course work or copy of midterm grades

For more information about the Automotive Technology Program on the BSCTC Mayo Campus, contact Roger Owens at (606) 789-5321, ext. 82829 or email roger.owens@kctcs.edu.

Big Sandy Community and Technical College offers academic and educational programs that advance excellence and innovation in teaching, learning and community service.

Additional information about the many academic and technical programs offered at BSCTC is available by visiting <http://www.bigsandy.kctcs.edu/> or by calling (606) 886-3863.

### DINNER DIVA

## Planning for success



You know that old saying "Failure to plan is planning to fail?" This old adage holds true in our businesses, our homes, and every aspect of our lives. Flying by the seat of your pants only leads to stress, mistakes, and often costs you more time and money than you want.

By doing things willy-nilly, it's easy to become out of control which in turn feels like you never have any time for yourself, your kids, or your life. Having a plan also makes it easier to say no to things that needlessly suck up our time. We're all looking for more hours in the day and a plan can help you do just that.

We plan our days, we plan our

menus, we plan for special events, and this time of year especially we plan for the future. Did you see how I sneaked menus in there? Having control on the food department of life is a huge part of making your life easier.

When making a menu plan, it's best to start from the end and work your way backwards. Here's how I do it:

1) List several of your family favorites—make sure it's easy-to-do stuff that can be done on a weeknight.

2) Take a look at the recipes so you can see all of the ingredients you'll need and begin making the list. Be sure and think of your

whole meal including side dishes, beverages, bread, and condiments.

3) Go through your pantry, cross off what you don't need and now you have your final grocery list.

Planning meals is easy; getting them done is quite something else. Remember to enlist your family members to help with the grocery shopping, meal preparation and clean up. Meal planning for the family is a family affair, not a one woman show—don't be a martyr, ask for help!

And if you need extra help with the planning, I know a Dinner Diva who would love to help you—come see her at SavingDinner.com!

### CAR TALK

Tire-changing safety with passengers

— page B8



Horoscope .....B4  
Classifieds .....B5  
Rental Central.....B6

### Fun & Games

page B8





# Family Medicine

**Martha A. Simpson, D.O., M.B.A.**  
Associate Professor  
of Family Medicine

**Q** My husband shoveled snow in the bitter cold, and even though he was dressed warmly, his ears got pretty cold. After he came in, one was very red and painful. Eventually it warmed up, but I was worried that it had frostbite. The doctor said it was "frostnip." Can you please tell me what the difference is?

**A** Frostnip is an early stage of frostbite that occurs when just the surface layer of the skin is frozen. This is usual-

ly treated at home by rewarming the area in slightly warm, but not hot, water.

Frostbite develops when the skin and underlying tissues are exposed to extreme cold to the point that these tissues become frozen. Generally, exposed areas most prone to frostbite are the hands, ears, nose and feet.

True frostbite is a medical emergency that requires treatment at the nearest hospital emergency room.

Frostbitten skin appears white and waxy and feels

harder than normal. In the early stages of frostbite, the area feels prickly to the frostbite sufferer. As frostbite continues, the affected area becomes numb as well as throbbing and achy. In the later stages of frostbite, as all of the deep structures become frozen, the victim will lose all sensation in the affected area.

If the freezing is not too severe, blisters can appear over the damaged area in a couple of days. However, blistering may also occur during rewarming with severe frostbite that has caused enough damage to require amputation or excision of the injured area.

Children are more likely to get frostbite than young adults. Also,

people who have vascular problems and those taking certain medications have an increased risk of becoming frostbitten.

Prevention is the best treatment for frostbite and frostnip. It is important for anyone going out into the cold — especially if they will be outside for a prolonged period of time — to dress appropriately.

Wear several light layers of moisture-wicking clothing, and avoid extended exposure to the cold if possible. Wearing insulated boots over two layers of socks — a thin cotton pair covered by a wool pair — will help keep your feet warm. Hats should cover the ears completely and be worn over a face mask to keep your nose and

cheeks warm. And wear mittens rather than gloves because they will keep your hands warmer.

Avoid alcohol and tobacco to help the body retain heat more effectively.

Remember to take the wind chill factor into account when you're preparing to be outside in cold weather for an extended time because wind lowers the temperature. For example, on a 20 degree day, with winds at 20 mph, it only takes a few minutes for frostbite to occur.

Finally, if you are outside in the cold and you start getting numb or tingly in an extremity or on your face or ears, get to a warm area as soon as possible.

## Allen

This man may have been the greatest mail-carrier this country has ever had. Certainly, he was the greatest I have ever known. I at one time roughly added up the thousands of miles he had ridden horseback over rough, muddy hill roads between Elm Rock on Quicksand Creek in Knott county and down our creek in this county to Hueysville, in every imaginable weather, 20 miles or more six days a

week, and never stopped by anything except food.

I think of all the extra services he rendered the people along his route. A carrier, these days, might lose his job, if he attempted to do for an ordinary citizen what he did. His memory for names and amounts of money still amazes me. In those days many of us ran out of stamps. But that was no problem. No need to go to the postoffice, miles away.

You simply put your letters in the mailbox with a quarter or a dollar or any amount available, and Cal Robinson took those letters to the postoffice, bought the stamps, stamped the envelopes and mailed them. And, an hour or so later, your change — your change to the penny — was in your mailbox.

Zip codes and distribution centers and computers and all the other gadgetry

put together aren't worth one steady cheerful, faithful, helpful carrier such as this man who now lies, sick and confined to the walls of his room by age.

When the U.S. Postal Service, or whoever is in charge, these days, goes looking about for somebody to honor, it might consider Cal Robinson.

I know perhaps a few hundred others who deserve an accolade, but I have a feeling that after 50 years it's time I remember this particular individual, who might sometimes feel he is forgotten.

Perhaps the New Year will find me making my resolution to visit him and stronger than it has been in the past.

## Salome's Stars Weekly Horoscope

**ARIES** (March 21 to April 19) A hectic period begins wind down. Take time to draw some deep breaths and relax before getting into your next project. A long-absent family member makes contact.

**TAURUS** (April 20 to May 20) You're eager to move forward with a new challenge that suddenly dropped in your lap. But you'd be wise to take this one step at a time to allow new developments to come through.

**GEMINI** (May 21 to June 20) You're almost ready to make a commitment. A lingering doubt or two, however, should be resolved before you move ahead. An associate could provide important answers.

**CANCER** (June 21 to July 22) Caution is still the watchword as you move closer toward a decision about a new situation. If you act too fast, you might miss some vital warning signs. Go slowly and stay alert.

**LEO** (July 23 to August 22) Your new goal looks promising, and your golden touch does much to enhance its prospects for success. In your private life, Cupid does his best to make your new relationship special.

**VIRGO** (August 23 to September 22) That impatient side of yours is looking to goad you into moving before you're ready to take that big step. Stay calm and cool. Let things fall into place before you act.

**LIBRA** (September 23 to October 22) A legal matter you hoped could finally be

settled could be a pesky problem for a while, until all the parties agree to stop disagreeing with each other. Be patient.

**SCORPIO** (October 23 to November 21) Partnerships -- personal or professional -- which began before the new year take on new importance. They also reveal some previously hidden risks. So be warned.

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 22 to December 21) Your associates are firmly on your side, and that persistent problem that has caused you to delay some activities should soon be resolved to your satisfaction.

**CAPRICORN** (December 22 to January 19) Favorable changes continue to dominate, and you should be responding positively as they emerge. Someone wants to become more involved in what you're doing.

**AQUARIUS** (January 20 to February 18) A friend wants to share a secret that could answer some questions you've wondered about for a long time. Meanwhile, travel aspects continue to be strong.

**PISCES** (February 19 to March 20) Stay on your new course despite so-called well-meaning efforts to discourage you. Rely on your deep sense of self-awareness to guide you to do what's right for you.

**YOU BORN THIS WEEK:** You have the capacity to meet challenges that others might find overwhelming, and turn them into successful ventures.

Continued from p3

Lenna Moore is back in circulation and he declares the report that folk ventured out in their cars while he was in the hospital with an unusual sense of security and that insurance rates were about to drop is not only untrue but a base canard aimed at his driving ability.

Asked what kept him longer in the hospital than expected, he explained that "they're finding it hard to find parts for some of these old models, these days.

As we said some paragraphs earlier: A good Christmas for you all.

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# Take some precautions before changing tire with passengers

by TOM and RAY MAGLIOZZI

Dear Tom and Ray: I am a Peace Corps volunteer in eastern Madagascar, and somehow I've been able to download you guys in my small bamboo hut in the middle of the rainforest. You two would love the way they keep these ancient old Fords running! But here's my question: How safe is it to jack up and change a tire while keeping the vehicle running and all passengers on board? — Kelly

TOM: Well, we apologize that the Internet has made us virtually inescapable anywhere on the planet. You have our condolences.

RAY: I'm guessing that the reason you'd want to keep passengers in the car with the engine running while changing a tire is for their comfort and/or safety, right?

TOM: Since it's a rainforest, they stay dry in the car, and possibly air-conditioned, too. And inside the



car, there are no ring-tailed lemurs swinging down out of the trees to steal their Papa Gino's.

RAY: In any case, the primary danger during a tire change is that the vehicle will slip off the jack and injure the tire changer. So the most important thing you can do before changing a tire is secure the car and make sure it doesn't move. Anything that increases the chances of the car moving should be avoided.

TOM: So if the vehicle has an automatic transmission, there's no reason you can't leave it running while

you change the tire. You'd put it in park, apply the parking brake and chock the wheels (you'd wedge a large rock or a piece of wood in front of a front tire and behind a rear tire) to secure the vehicle.

RAY: If, on the other hand, the vehicle has a manual transmission, running the engine eliminates your ability to park it in gear. So all you've got is the parking brake and the wheel chocks.

TOM: So if it's a manual transmission, here's what I'd do: You can leave the engine running while the tire changer prepares the spare tire and gets the jack in place. You can even leave it running while he breaks loose the lug nuts and gets them started.

RAY: But once he's ready to jack the car off the ground, then you should turn off the ignition, put the transmission in first gear or reverse, and inconvenience your passengers for a few minutes while the wheel is actually removed and replaced. They'll survive. Once the car is back down

on the ground, then you can take it out of gear and start the engine again.

TOM: And needless to say, whether the engine is running or not, you want your passengers to sit relatively still. You don't want them rocking back and forth to a rousing rendition of "99 Bottles of Beer on the Wall" while the car is off the ground. Good luck, Kelly!

Is this guy the idiot, or are Tom and Ray?

Dear Tom and Ray: You recently answered a question about whether it's harmful to let your gas tank run down to empty. You said it's not harmful to the car, and it won't cause any damage.

Eric Peters, a Washington, D.C.-based automotive columnist, recently stated in the periodical Bottom Line/Personal that, and I quote here: "Most gas tanks are made out of metal, and a partially empty fuel tank is prone to rust. Rust particles flake off and can clog fuel filters, fuel lines and fuel injectors, leading to costly repairs. In

addition rust can eat through the tank causing leaks ..."

So what gives? Are you two right and still my heroes and this guy is an idiot, or is he right and you two are idiots? A curious reader wants to know. — Fred

RAY: Well, you already know we're idiots, Fred. But in this case, Mr. Peters' information is badly out of date.

TOM: In the old days, when tanks were metal and were vented to the outside air, rust and other particles were a problem. That's why cars had fuel filters — to keep that stuff out of the fuel lines and injectors.

RAY: But for more than a decade now, most fuel tanks have been made of plastic. Even the fuel lines that carry the gasoline from the tank to the engine are now plastic.

TOM: Rust is such a non-issue now that most cars don't even HAVE fuel filters anymore. There's a "sock" filter on the fuel-pump intake in the tank — in case an irate neighbor

pours a plate of stuffed clams into your tank — but that's it.

RAY: Plastic fuel tanks have a number of advantages: They weigh less, they're cheaper to produce and they don't rust.

TOM: And they may be better in accidents, too.

RAY: For a while, running the car out of fuel concerned us, because the fuel serves as the coolant for the fuel pump — which sits at the bottom of the tank. But we really haven't seen any problems with fuel pumps to justify that concern.

TOM: So our opinion is, it's fine to run the car down to empty. If that makes you happy, go for it. Just don't call us to pick you up when you run out of gas, Fred.

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## Lagoon

machines before Luther gets into it, but everything gets kicked up a notch now. You get a couple of good shootouts as an appetizer for a high-speed chase scene that features radio controlled cars which pack high explosives.

If that's not enough, then you also get an intense

"scene of hostages" exchange at an outdoor sushi joint and a nail-biting climax that pits Ramsay against an army of mechanized spiders that can inject acid into their victims.

All of these cool elements are stirred together by master storyteller Michael Crichton. Though

he is mostly remembered for the blockbuster sci-fi thrillers he wrote ("Jurassic Park" and "The Andromeda Strain," to name a couple) he was also a fine filmmaker or who delivered plausible scenarios in semi-futuristic settings.

My favorite film of his was "West World." It

focused on a theme park where patrons could interact with robot actors in historical settings. It also featured his trademark theme of how technological advances carry equal potential for good and evil.

Crichton wrote and directed this fine effort which boasted the first big screen lead role for TV actor James Brolin (father of Josh and husband of Barbra Streisand). In this film Crichton repeats that tradition by giving the part of Ramsay to Tom Selleck (who was starring in "Magnum P.I." at the time).

Continued from p3

The script is also lame, despite the fact that our economic situation was ripe for a Stone satire on greed.

"Devil" — The director of "Quarantine" returns with this claustrophobic horror flick that strands five people in an elevator and soon reveals that one of them is the devil himself. It helps that there are some good performers along for the ride, and they include Bokeem Woodbine ("Saving Grace") and character actress extraordinaire Jenny O'Hara. Good stuff and at least it's more interesting than watching Ryan Reynolds sweat it out in a coffin for 90 minutes.

Next week brings some Christmas zombies with Milla Jovovich returning for another "Resident Evil" movie.

## Rental Central

by TOM DOTY TIMES COLUMNIST

If Santa brings you a new release this week, then odds are you're going to like what he leaves under the tree, as three-quarters of this week's movies were top notch.

"Salt" — Angelina Jolie stars here as a secret agent who suddenly finds herself on the run when a Russian spy outs her as a traitor. This sets into motion a series of betrayals and action sequences that should keep you on the edge of your seat. The final reveal is a little odd, as it totally makes a hash out of everyone's motivations, but it is fun while it lasts.

"Easy A" — A high-schooler finds herself in a wealth of trouble when she

does a favor for a friend in this sharp comedy that benefits from a solid performance by lead actress Emma Stone ("Zombieland"). The plot feels like a British comedy of manners, as Stone agrees to let a gay friend tell everyone he slept with her. Unfortunately, she quickly develops two reps. One as a bad girl and a second as the best friend to have when you're in a desperate situation. Sharp and very funny.

"Wall Street: Money Never Sleeps" — Maybe money doesn't get any shut-eye but you will before this overlong and incredibly dull sequel to Oliver Stone's 1987 film is through. Michael Douglas is back as Gordon Gekko, but he is not in the movie enough to keep it interest-

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