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January 21, 2001

The Times

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Section



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Look inside and check out the "Year in Review"

THE YEAR IN REVIEW

INSIDE

Briefs

McIntosh charged with spouse abuse

A Prestonsburg man has been arrested more than a month after a December 2 report of alleged domestic violence.

According to court records, Johnny S. McIntosh allegedly hit his wife, Johnnie A. McIntosh, several times in the face with his fist and struck her several times in the head with a liquor bottle, creating cuts to her head and face that resulted in the victim receiving over 100 stitches to the afflicted areas.

Trooper Byron Hansford, of the Kentucky State Police, Post 9, located McIntosh on Route 80, near Hindman. Trooper Hansford then arrested him on a charge of second-degree assault, spouse abuse.

At McIntosh's arraignment held on January 17, a \$20,000 cash bond was set and McIntosh was ordered to stay at least 1,000 feet away from his spouse.

A preliminary hearing on the matter is scheduled to be heard on January 24.

Two Day Forecast...

Today
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Tomorrow
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Board agrees to agree; Will commissioner?

by PAM SHINGLER
SENIOR EDITOR

Keeping the specifics still a mystery, the Floyd County Board of Education agreed Saturday morning, unanimously (at least in public), on an agreed order for continued management of the local school district by the Kentucky Department of Education.

For the second Saturday morning in a row, board members met in closed session

to hammer out the terms under which they will accept continued state supervision.

Education Commissioner Gene Wilhoit presented the board with his version of the agreement two weeks ago, after the state's management audit of the school system was completed. In a special meeting on January 8, board members decided they wanted to put their touch on the commissioner's order.

The board's options, at that time, were

to accept the agreement for continued state management or to face a hearing in Frankfort on the matter.

Because they were working on the agreed order, board members deemed it a "working" document to give it protection from the state's open records law. Saturday morning, the board said the document would continue to be private until the commissioner agrees to the terms, which will likely be Monday.

No details of the agreement were given at yesterday's meeting, but board member Johnny Ross (District 1) said there is a "lot of difference" between what Wilhoit originally presented to the board and what the board finally came up with.

The major differences between the two versions, Ross said after the meeting, were "basically in the areas of commending our

(See AGREEMENT, page two)

Tackett accused of arson

Times Staff Report

A 37-year-old Teaberry man was arrested earlier this month on charges stemming from an incident that took place in which a barn was left damaged from fire.

According to statements taken from the suspect's family members by Trooper Byron Hansford, of the Kentucky State Police, enough evidence against the Teaberry man was gleaned to warrant an arrest.

Tony Tackett had incriminating statements against him made by his sister, Irene Rose, his nephew, Tom Tackett, and his uncle, Edgar Tackett.

Edgar Tackett stated that Tony Tackett had spent the previous night on Toler Creek and had visited his residence. Later that same evening Edgar Tackett's barn caught fire and was destroyed.

Both Rose and Tom Tackett made statements to the investigating trooper to the effect that they had witnessed Tony Tackett walking away from the barn and that in the following moments, they began to see smoke issuing from the building.

Tony Tackett was arrested shortly after midnight on January 9 and charged with third-degree arson. He was placed under a \$10,000 cash bond.

At a preliminary hearing held on January 18, District Judge Eric D. Hall found cause to refer the matter to a grand jury for consideration.

Visitors become defendants

Times Staff Report

Several arrests of out-of-state residents have been made by local law enforcement officials in our area during the month of January.

On January 16, charges against Robin Campbell, of Franklin, Ohio, were filed in the Floyd County court system. Campbell has been charged with one count of theft by deception. Buddy W. Cornett is listed as the complaining witness in the matter.

An arraignment in connection with the matter has been scheduled for February 21 at 9:30.

On January 13, at the Happy Mart parking lot in Harold, two men from Brookneal, Va., were arrested by Kentucky State Police Trooper Clayton Stamper.

Tpr. Stamper charged the two with

(See CHARGES, page two)



A rain-induced slide in a construction zone at the northern entrance to Jenny Wiley State Resort Park left about 35 households without water.

photos by Ralph B. Davis

Wet weather leaves residents high and dry

by RALPH B. DAVIS
MANAGING EDITOR

Water service was returned to a group of residents at Jenny Wiley State Resort Park yesterday afternoon, after work crews rerouted a waterline which had been broken by a roadslide slip the day before.

Earth gave way alongside the northern entrance to the park, where construction crews have been working the past few months. The slip occurred at a spot where work crews had excavating near the road, taking about an eight-foot section of a six-inch water main with it.

The slide occurred between 5 and 6 p.m., after crews with Tabb Construction had left for the weekend in anticipation of bad weather.

Auxier Water owner Phil Ward said the broken line cut off water to about 35 households, most of which are located at Lakeview Village. The waterline also extended to residences at a Girl Scout camp



Work crews from Tabb Construction returned to the job to assist in the waterline replacement after being scheduled a weekend break due to winter weather.

and at the lake's campground. Shortly after noon, work to replace the line was completed. Ward said his company

(See SLIDE, page two)

Floyd County Shriner takes over leadership of 3,100-member club

by GRETA FIELDS
CONTRIBUTING WRITER
and KATHY J. PRATER
STAFF WRITER

Don Willis, a Floyd County resident who is "pushing 70," has kept his enthusiasm for being a Shriner for most of his life.

Shriners don't seem to get club "burnout." The older they get, the more fired-up they get about their mission — raising money to build and run their free children's hospitals.

"Once you tour the hospital in Lexington,

you'll want to be a Shriner, if you're a man," Willis said, explaining why he became a Shriner.

Willis joined the Shriners after seeing a Shrine Bowl on TV.

"I just wanted to do something for children," he said.

Willis, like many other Shriners, became committed for life to the club. First, he was required to serve many years as a Mason before he qualified to join the Shriners. After entering the Shrine in 1977, he worked his

(See SHRINER, page two)



Don Willis with one of the many children helped by Shriners, 6-year-old William Clay Lemaster.

Shriners

way up through various leadership ranks until now he has reached the top. He will be installed later this month as the Potentate of the Oleika Temple, the Lexington headquarters for a Shrine club with 3,100 members in eastern and central Kentucky.

Tuesday, Willis visited some Hazard Shriners, and they presented him with a four-foot gavel to conduct future meetings as the new leader of the Temple.

Willis said he plans to commit himself to the job. He has a history of commitment. He worked 36-and-one-half years for Kentucky Hydrocarbon Company. He also stayed for life with the Floyd County Rescue Squad, helping to charter the emergency organization in response to the 1958 school bus wreck.

Willis and his wife, Shelby, have two sons and three grandchildren. But those are not his only kids. Willis has other kids, who are Shriner patients. As a Shriner volunteer, he drives the kids to hospitals every month.

"I don't want to brag about it, but I've got something like 50,000 miles to my credit driving the van to Lexington or Cincinnati, and we've got some members who have more," he said.

John Wallen collected about 75,000 miles before he had to stop driving due to his age, for example.

"Everytime we take a child down there, we send two drivers. They visit the kids in the hospital," he said.

"Oh, yeah, they get to know the kids personally."

Knowing the kids is what keeps the Shriners going.

"Most of the time you start taking them when they are real young. You get really acquainted with them," he said.

Some kids have to be driven to the hospital two or three times a week, he said.

Shriners pay all the trip expenses, even the meals.

"You can't get past McDonald's!," said Willis.

The mountain Shriners assist about 800 kids a month.

William Clay Lemaster, the six year old son of Karen and Rickey Lee Lemaster of Abbott Creek, is one of these kids.

Clay's parents recently discovered that their son was suffering from a bone disease that would require several surgical procedures to correct. According to Clay's mother, Clay's family doctor referred the family to Dr. Tylkowski of the Lexington-based Shriner's Hospital unit, by way of Shriner Kelly Moore, who is Clay's sponsor.

Moore owns and operates Moore Brothers Barber Shop in Prestonsburg with his brother, Robert.

Both brothers are Shriner members. Kelly has been a member since 1972 and served as potentate in 1990.

Karen Lemaster says that she cannot say enough good things about the Shriners organization, nor can she adequately express how truly thankful she is for the assistance her son is receiving from the hospital in Lexington.

"I have never been treated so nicely by anyone ever before in my life," said Karen. "You go into that hospital and immediately you are treated like a member of the family. There are smiles everywhere, the staff and doctors can't do enough for you. Clay loves going there for his appointments. The hospital is decorated like a palace and the walls are brightly painted with scenes that children adore."

"The staff will play games with the kids. They will say, 'We have to go to the duck room, can you help me find the duck room? Can you find it before me?' and the kids will just take off, it's an adventure for them."

Clay is scheduled to have his first surgery in March. According to his mother he will be required to stay in the hospital for about four to five days and will return home in a "clam shell" cast that will cover his body from his waist down. He will be required to

remain in the cast for about six weeks, with one leg lying straight and the other at an angle.

Clay's mother says that Clay understands the details of his surgery and is "looking forward to it. He wants to get rid of the braces." Clay has been required to wear braces on his legs prior to his surgery.

"If it had not been for the Shriners, this situation would have been so much harder for my family," said Karen, "I feel truly, truly blessed that the Shriners have entered our lives. They are providing Clay with everything he needs. Clay loves them all, he says a prayer for them every night and tells me that he wants to grow up to be a doctor in a Shriners hospital."

"You know, as a parent, when you find out that your child has something like this, it crushes you. The Shriners have helped ease the burden and the pain," Karen said with heartfelt emotion in her eyes. "They are truly wonderful."

Nationally, the Shriner hospitals treated 600,000 kids in 1999 on a budget near \$600 million. In one year, the hospitals will admit about 15,000 kids and see 250,000 on an outpatient basis.

The system specializes in children with burns and orthopedic or spinal problems such as spina bifida, cleft palate and club foot.

"All the care is provided totally without cost," Willis said, adding that all of the money is raised by the Shriners. "The government doesn't put a dime in it."

"It's a fun organization. But when they have to, they get serious. If there weren't any Shriners, there wouldn't be any hospitals," he said.

Today there are 191 Shrine Temples in North America which

operate 22 hospitals, including one in Canada and one in Mexico.

Because they depend on the Shriner volunteers, the hospitals operate on a tight budget. This year the budget is \$567 million, which includes \$485 million for operating costs, \$25 million for research and \$82 million for capital projects.

Oleika Temple once owned its own hospital in Lexington and drew support from 6,000 members. But the hospital is now owned by the North American Shrine Club and local support has dropped to 3,100 members.

As the new Potentate, Willis wants to increase membership and increase fund-raising. He is already at work, visiting other Shrine clubs in the area to share enthusiasm for the 2001 fund, which includes a regional circus tour.

"We used to go everywhere," he said. "I'm trying to get it back the way it used to be."

The circus will tour this spring, but only to the communities where it will earn money, such as Prestonsburg, which fills a gym of 4,000 for each of the two shows.

The tour will open in Frankfort, then tour Russell Springs, Lexington, Middlesboro, Barbourville and close in Prestonsburg the weekend of May 5.

The Shriners charge for the circus because they have to pay the performers, and because they use the money to support the Oleika Temple. Money from the circus goes primarily to the temple, while other fundraisers send profits directly to the hospital.

Some Shriners raise funds by road blocks, selling Vidalia onions, and selling plaques.

The Hazard club, however, is planning a huge "Extravaganza" July 14-15 at the Perry County Park and will

invite some 800 Shriner kids to a reunion. Other Shrine clubs will be invited to bring their cars for a car show.

Hazard members are so excited they are building their own cars for the show. They are building a "Keystone Cops"-style cruiser which tows a paddy wagon made from a golf cart. Charles Kilgore is tuning up his hillbilly bicycle wagon.

John Chaney is "refurbishing" a celebrity truck named Spot. Spot is the national symbol to Shriners. This truck was used in parades everywhere before it was acquired by the Hazard Shriners.

The Floyd County club, which has 40 members, might organize a group of Jeep drivers for the show. The club usually sponsors a group of motorbike riders who call themselves the "Trail 70s." But members can't find Trail 70s bikes to ride anymore. Plus, they are too old to ride them, Willis remarked.

The Hazard, Prestonsburg and Whitesburg clubs are very active, Willis pointed out. Young members, like John Chaney, are really helping the club, he said. Chaney sold 66 \$100 plaques which are renewed annually, for example.

The Hazard club has also attracted many new members. Hazard inducted 35 new members last September. Another induction ceremony is planned for Sept. 15.

Although the clubs do not actively recruit members, they do welcome new members. From Willis' description, it's sort of like joining the longest-running fund-raising club in America. He says they've been doing this sort of thing since the turn of the century. Volunteers built one hospital in 1922. Since then, the hospitals have spent \$415 billion on operating costs to date.

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Slide

Continued from p1

had to lay about 900 feet of pipe to bypass the slide.

Following the slip, a portion of the roadway leading into the park now rests just inches from a 30 to 40 foot drop. But Ron Morrow, superintendent with Tabb Construction, which returned to assist the effort to replace the water-line, said he believes the road is still safe.

As a precaution, Morrow said construction barrels would be placed near the dropoff, diverting traffic to an adjacent lane.

Both Ward and Morrow blamed the slide on recent wet weather which had softened the ground.

Charges

Continued from p1

alcohol intoxication in a public place.

Bench warrants were issued by District Judge James R. Allen against the two men when they failed to appear at scheduled arraignments held on January 16.

Outstanding warrants are now in place for the arrests of Gilbert W. Cope, 41, and Kenneth Lee Jennings, 40.

James Walker, 29, of Jacksonville, Fla., was placed under arrest by Prestonsburg Police Officer William Petry on January 4 after Walker had been treated by staff at Highlands Regional Medical Center.

Upon release by an emergency room doctor, Walker refused to leave the facility. According to the police report, he allegedly became very belligerent, shouting and cursing at the hospital staff.

Officer Petry noted that he asked Walker if he would like to be transported back to his motel room in the area.

Petry reports that Walker then made threats to "kill everyone here" when he got out.

Petry then arrested Walker on charges of third-degree criminal trespass, disorderly conduct and terroristic threatening.

In a court appearance before District Judge James R. Allen on January 17, a restraining order was placed against Walker and all charges were dismissed upon the condition that he make arrangements to leave Floyd County and return to his residence in Jacksonville.

Board

Continued from p1

staff and the process by which we will move forward."

Ross has apparently been the board's chief negotiator with KDE officials. He indicated he made several trips to Frankfort to talk with state officials and to reach an accord.

Following the meeting, Supt. Dr. Paul Fanning was to send the board's version of the agreement, by fax, to Tom Willis, the local district's liaison with the state department. Fanning said he was sure state officials "will look at it right away ... and will respond as quickly as possible."

"I anticipate an answer by Monday morning," Ross said.

When board members came out of closed session yesterday, Ross asked that the vote on the agreed order be taken by roll call. Each member then had the chance to comment on his or her vote, and the comments indicated that the closed-door session had been heated at times.

Ross, who made the motion to approve the agreement, voted yes and then added, "The people out there don't know what happened in executive session, but the discussion troubles me greatly." He then made a plea for the public to "try to understand the position" the board and the system are in.

Carol Stumbo (District 4) made impassioned comments that left as much unsaid. "Across the country people are entitled to certain rights," she said, "... do employees lose these rights when the district becomes state managed?"

She referred to alleged instances of "verbal abuse" of school system employees and said she has received similar treatment. "I have suffered

more verbal abuse since serving on this board than ever in my life," she said. "I have had (verbal) attacks made on me ... and things said about me."

She added that, as a board member, she could have removed herself from the situation but that system employees do not have the same recourse. "Someone needs to examine carefully what is happening," she said.

Stumbo said she trusts Commissioner Wilhoit to hold KDE employees responsible for what happens in the local schools. "We must create an environment that is humane," she said, and one which also "sets high standards."

Jeff Stumbo (District 3) also voted in favor of the agreed order, basing his decision, he said, "on things that transpired this morning."

The newest board member, Glenna Stone (District 5), said that, although she is "new to this," she thought the system needs "all the help we can get."

Slone, in voting for the measure, said, "My number one concern is the children, not the adults and not jobs."

Chairman Terry Dotson (District 2) made the vote unanimous. Dotson said he thought the system had made progress under state management, and he commended Supt. Fanning, school principals and other system staff members.

"It takes a long time to change a culture," Dotson said. "It will take years to bring us where we want to be ... I think our job and the job of the commissioner is to help this district succeed."

The board is scheduled to meet in regular session Monday at 6:30 p.m. at South Floyd High School.



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Brown unveils plan to change Kentucky elections

John Y. Brown III, Kentucky's chief election official, has unveiled a 10-point plan which he says will improve Kentucky's election process.

"In response to public demand and following the guidelines set forth by the U.S. Supreme Court, Kentucky, like every other state, must rectify deficiencies in its election process," said Brown.

The recommendations include proposals to ensure statewide uniform ballot layout standards, upgrade voting equipment, improve reporting of election night results, upgrade training and increase compensation for poll workers, ensure the integrity of voter registration rolls, and clarify ambiguous or unclear election statutes.

Brown is also recommending that Kentucky identify voters who are members of third parties, improve campaign finance disclosure laws, upgrade voter outreach and education efforts, and reform absentee voting.

"Real election and voting

reform legislation finally have a realistic chance to be approved by lawmakers in the wake of problems publicly uncovered in the 2000 presidential election," said Brown. "If taxpayer dollars must be spent this legislative session, investing in the integrity of our state's system of elections to ensure 'every vote counts' is an investment we can't afford not to make. It's an investment in democracy."

Brown will approach the 2001 Kentucky General Assembly with some of the proposals. Others will be taken before the legislature during its 2002 session.

Election Reform Agenda

Uniform Ballot Standards - The State Board of Elections should set statewide ballot layout guidelines so that the ballot layout is clear and easily understood by all voters. In the 2000 election, 93

counties used ballots that pointed voters to the vice-presidential candidates rather than the presidential candidates. Centralized authority and accountability is required to avoid voter confusion and ensure against equal protection challenges in future elections. (See attachment)

Upgrade Voting Equipment - All lever machines (now out of production) need to be replaced by electronic machines by 2002. Electronic voting equipment should be re-examined and additional voting machines should be provided where needed to avoid interminably long lines on Election Day. Funding should come from the federal and state levels specifically earmarked for election equipment improvements. By investing \$3 to \$5 million dollars now, Kentucky will avoid falling behind other states that are planning to spend \$200 to \$500 million dollars on new equipment by 2002. Also, county boards of election shall be required to submit annually a written report to the State Board of Elections on each election precinct exceeding 700 votes cast in the last general election.

Election Night Reporting - Kentuckians deserve to have their votes accurately and reliably tabulated and reported. The current election night reporting system is outmoded and prone to glitches (for example, the annual sessions amendment was undercounted by 100,000 votes in our most recent election). Additionally, the legislature should require that all 120 counties report election results in a timely manner.

Voter Registration Integrity - Maintenance of accurate voter registration lists is critical to efficient and fraud-free elections. A national report recently showed 12 Kentucky counties with a higher number of registered voters than were eligible. The state board of elections should be allocated the necessary funding (approximately \$100,000 annually) to ensure that Kentucky's voter registration rolls do not become fraudulently bloated.

Poll Workers and Training - Elections in every state are heavily dependent upon recruiting adequate numbers of citizens to serve as poll workers and providing them with sufficient training in conducting elections. Kentucky repeatedly falls short of this necessary objective. To ensure professional and smoothly run elections, Kentucky should tie increased compensation to higher uniform training standards.

Clarify Unclear Election Statutes - The Secretary of State will assemble an Election

Standards Task Force to identify and recommend to the state legislature clarification of existing ambiguities in Kentucky's election law. As we learned from Florida, clarity of election statutes is as necessary as up-to-date voting equipment in ensuring fair and equitable elections. At a minimum, recommendations for clarifying Kentucky's recount and contest statutes should be addressed by the 2001 legislative session. Other recommendations will be made to the 2002 session.

Party Identification and Ballot Access - Kentucky currently has over 170,000 voters registered as "other." We must identify voters who are members of third parties. Other states have been successfully sued for neglecting this responsibility. Fundamental fairness and avoidance of federal legal sanctions require Kentucky to be proactive on this issue in 2001.

With the growth of third party candidates, Kentucky must also simply and clearly spell out requirements for third-party candidates to legally qualify for being placed on the ballot.

Campaign Finance Disclosure - All candidates who intend to raise or spend over \$100,000 in any statewide or legislative campaign should be required to electronically submit their reports in a manner that will be easily accessible over the Internet to voters. The public has a right to know how candidates' campaigns are being financed in order to make an informed decision of how candidates will likely vote or govern.

Additionally, the blackout period should be removed for such candidates and those candidates required to report all financial activity daily during the final two weeks before an election.

Voter Outreach and Education - Civic literacy and political involvement have recently fallen to record lows. This is especially true of young people who will be tomorrow's political leaders. Currently, an annual voter slogan and essay contest is all

that's being done to promote civic literacy and involvement in Kentucky.

To reverse this trend, an investment should be made in a more substantive project that helps better inform the public of government's role and gives special attention to Kentucky's youths. An example would be a civics education program on how government works similar to Junior Achievement, which heightens awareness of how the business world works.

Absentee Voting Reform - While ensuring every legitimate absentee vote can be cast as simply as possible, major protections against vote buying and selling using absentee ballots must be improved and enforced. Absentee vote fraud in Kentucky is as serious a threat to legitimate elections as outdated punch card machines are in Florida.

First, information on absentee ballot requests should be made "open record" only upon return receipt of the cast absentee ballot.

Currently, campaigns have access to every "absentee ballot request" which is often used to contact each of these voters and offer "assistance" in completing the ballot.

Second, once a threshold of absentee ballot requests have been made in a county, as established by the State Board of Elections, (for example, 5 percent of registered voters) or sufficient complaints of absentee fraud have been received, the State Board of Elections will be responsible for alerting law enforcement agencies and the Attorney General's Office of possible vote fraud before the election for the initiation of an investigation.

Finally, in response to the U.S. Supreme Court's recent ruling, Kentucky should adopt a uniform statewide method for determining the "intent of the voter" on imperfectly cast absentee votes.

Also, county boards of election shall notify the state board of elections in writing of the number of rejected absentee ballots and the reasons for those rejections.

Chandler reaches agreement on Level Propane complaints

Attorney General Ben Chandler has announced an agreement with Level Propane in which the Ohio company will provide restitution to Kentucky consumers to address alleged violations of the Consumer Protection Act, and will pay \$25,000 to the state treasury for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP).

The Office of Attorney General has received over 125 complaints from Level customers during the past year, including allegations of poor service, failure to honor quoted prices, unauthorized sales tax charges, and the charging of fees not properly disclosed to consumers.

"It is our opinion that the contracts that have been used by Level are potentially deceptive as they fail to properly inform customers of all charges that affect the actual cost of propane," said Chandler. "The company has agreed to rewrite their contracts with customers and will refund or credit fees that were not properly disclosed in these contracts. This action avoids the need for lengthy and costly litigation and will provide relief to Level customers during this winter when it is needed," Chandler noted.

General Chandler also expressed his appreciation to the Fire Marshall's Office, and the Revenue Cabinet, who "provided valuable assistance in reaching this agreement"

Among the terms of the agreement, which was filed Wednesday in Franklin Circuit Court, Level Propane has agreed to:

- Maintain staff sufficient to serve customers in Kentucky;
- Provide timely delivery of propane;
- Revise its customer contracts to clearly state the actual amount of all charges;
- Provide guaranteed price quotes to customers;
- Refund any sales taxes charged to customers (residential propane and related services are not subject to sales tax under Kentucky law);
- Credit or refund charges that were paid by a customer but not disclosed under the current contract, including: underutilization fees; tank pick up fees; and tank pump down fees;
- Waive termination fees for customers who cancel their current contract; and
- Pay \$25,000 to the state treasury for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP).

The agreement also provides for a fine of \$500 for each intentional violation of the agreement.

The Office of Attorney General will review complaints against Level and make a determination as to whether a refund or credit is due the customer. Level customers with a specific complaint may call the Consumer Protection Hotline at 1-888-432-9257, (Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.), to file a complaint and receive a determination as to whether they are eligible for a refund or credit under the agreement.

Level Propane is based in Westlake, Ohio and serves 150,000 customers in 18 states.

MSHA rules will control miners' exposure to diesel particulate

The Mine Safety and Health Administration has announced two final rules to protect all underground miners from diesel exhaust particulate matter, a serious health hazard created by diesel-powered equipment. The rules were scheduled for publication in the Federal Register on Friday, January 19.

Diesel particulate matter, or DPM, consists of tiny particles present in diesel engine exhaust that can readily penetrate into the deepest recesses of the lungs. Despite ventilation, the confined underground mine work environment may contribute to significant concentrations of particles produced by equipment used in the mine.

Underground miners are exposed to higher concentrations of DPM than any other occupational group. As a result, they face a significantly greater risk than other workers of developing such diseases as lung cancer, heart failure, serious allergic responses and other cardiopulmonary problems.

The new diesel regulations will affect 145 underground coal mines employing nearly 15,000 miners and 196 underground metal and nonmetal mines employing nearly 19,000 miners.

"Underground mines are unique workplaces where workers may be exposed to high concentrations of diesel emissions," said former Secretary of Labor Alexis M. Herman. "These rules will not eliminate all of the health risks to miners working around diesel-powered equipment, but they will significant-

ly reduce the level of risk."

The new rules will ensure that miner exposures do not exceed those of other groups of workers regularly exposed to diesel exhaust, such as truck and bus drivers.

"The use of diesel equipment is integral to mine production," said Herman. "We want to work with industry to encourage the use of newer, 'cleaner' engines currently on the market."

Since underground conditions vary between coal mines and metal and nonmetal mines, the regulations take different approaches to reduce DPM exposure to the same level. The final rule to protect underground metal and nonmetal miners will establish an "interim" DPM concentration limit of 400 micrograms of total carbon per cubic meter of air and, after five years, that level must be reduced to 160.

Following publication of the regulation, metal and nonmetal mines have up to 18 months to reach compliance with the interim concentration limit in their underground operations. These operators have the option of using engineering controls and best practices to reduce DPM to the proper limit.

In underground coal mines, the new rule sets a specific emission limit of 2.5 grams per hour of DPM for permissible and non-permissible equipment. These limits will be phased in for an operation's existing equipment. These limits will be phased in for an operation's existing equipment inventory over a 48-month period, but new equipment

must meet the emission limits sooner. Coal mine operators may use a combination of controls (cleaner engine, filter, etc.) to comply with the emission limit.

Annual training is required for all underground miners exposed to diesel emissions. Workers will be trained on the health risks associated with DPM exposure, control methods being used at the mine, identification of personnel responsible for maintaining those controls, and actions miners must take to ensure the controls operate as intended.

To assist mine operators in understanding the requirements of the rules, MSHA will offer compliance assistance and a series of informational workshops throughout the country (dates and locations to be announced). A compliance guide and tool-box also will be available on MSHA's web site at www.msha.gov.

MSHA estimates that at least 8.5 cases of lung cancer per year will be avoided as a result of the metal and nonmetal rule, and at least 1.8 cases per year will be avoided as a result of the coal rule.

MSHA first proposed regulations regarding diesel emissions in April 1998 for coal mines and October 1998 for metal and nonmetal mines. Public hearings were held in November and December for the coal rule and the following May for the metal and nonmetal rule. Public comments were accepted on the coal rule for 15 months and on the metal and nonmetal rule for nine months.

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Valentine's Day Greetings from Our Readers to Their Loved Ones.

Valentine's Day Special Edition Sunday, February 11

Who do you love?

Of course, Valentine's Day has to do with sweethearts. But, it's not limited to romantic duos.

Above all, it's about love, caring deeply about another creature.

- A spouse
- A girlfriend or boyfriend
- A parent
- A son or daughter
- A brother or sister
- An aunt, uncle, cousin or other relative
- A special friend who's been there through thick and thin, sickness and health, happy and sad
- A dog, cat, horse, gerbil or some other critter who has made you feel loved

Tell us about the one(s) you love.

Send a picture and a message and

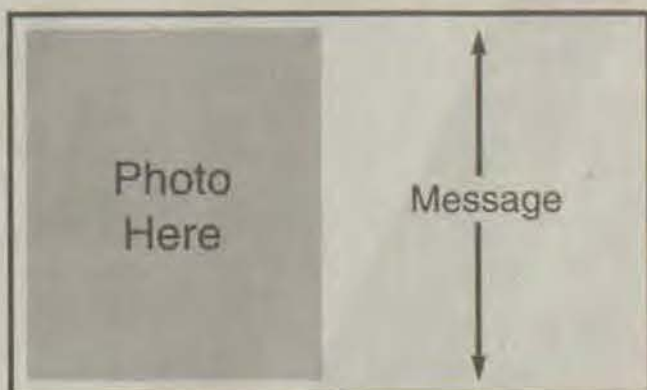
The Times will print it in a special Valentine's Day edition.

Let him or her (or it) know how much you care.

Cost: \$10 per picture.

Deadline: 4 p.m., Wednesday, February 7, 2001

- Honeybun
- Sugar Daddy
- Sweetie pie
- Mother Dear
- Sissy
- Bubba
- Baby Girl
- Boy-child
- Aunt Min
- Uncle Sam
- Fido
- Miss Kitty
- Mr. Ed
- My Buddy
- Pal o' mine
- Grandchild



Send photo and message to:
Valentine Special Edition
The Floyd County Times, P.O. Box 390
Prestonsburg, KY 41653
c/o Donna Jewell

or drop off at The Floyd County Times
263 S. Central Ave., Prestonsburg

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.

—First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution—

Viewpoint

Sunday, January 21, 2001 A4

QUOTE OF THE DAY...

"The most wasted of all days is that on which one has not laughed."

—Nicolas-Sebastien Chamfort

Editorial

Time for debate

There is a toll for the Information Super Highway. It may be inexpensive to you now but someone, somewhere does pay for it. Whether it's from fees or monthly charges or, as is evident everywhere on the Internet, from advertising, cyberspace costs.

In fact, cyberspace is becoming so commercialized that sorting through the advertising on a home page to find the information you came for can be a real chore.

Even government Web sites are carrying ads now. Click on the Web sites of the Kenton and Campbell county property valuation administrators and you'll see ads for United Dairy Farmers and Frisch's Big Boy at the top of the screen.

It's a good deal for government, say the local administrators. The ads make the site affordable by covering the cost of getting courthouse information onto the Internet.

Kenton County PVA Mark Vogt figures it would cost about \$500 a month if his office had to put up the site. That's a savings to a public agency of at least \$6,000 a year. By contracting with a private firm whose business is hosting Web sites, the PVA gets it for free in exchange for the firm being allowed to place advertising on the site.

These ads probably seem fine to most folks. What could be wrong with a double dip of chocolate chip or a Big Boy?

But does the same go for an ad for an attorney specializing in real estate law or a title company or real estate firm posted at the PVA's site? Remember, this is where the public is invited to seek official information.

Might the presence of ads on a government agency's Web site suggest an endorsement or at least some kind of sanctioning by the agency?

And if it's OK for the PVA, should other government agency Web sites be open to such commercialization? How about lawyers advertising on a page with court information or loan companies at bankruptcy court or a department store sponsoring a school district's home page when the kids head back to school?

Should anyone be able to link advertising with a public agency in cyberspace? Should whatever business that comes in first with the cash get its banner on a government Web site?

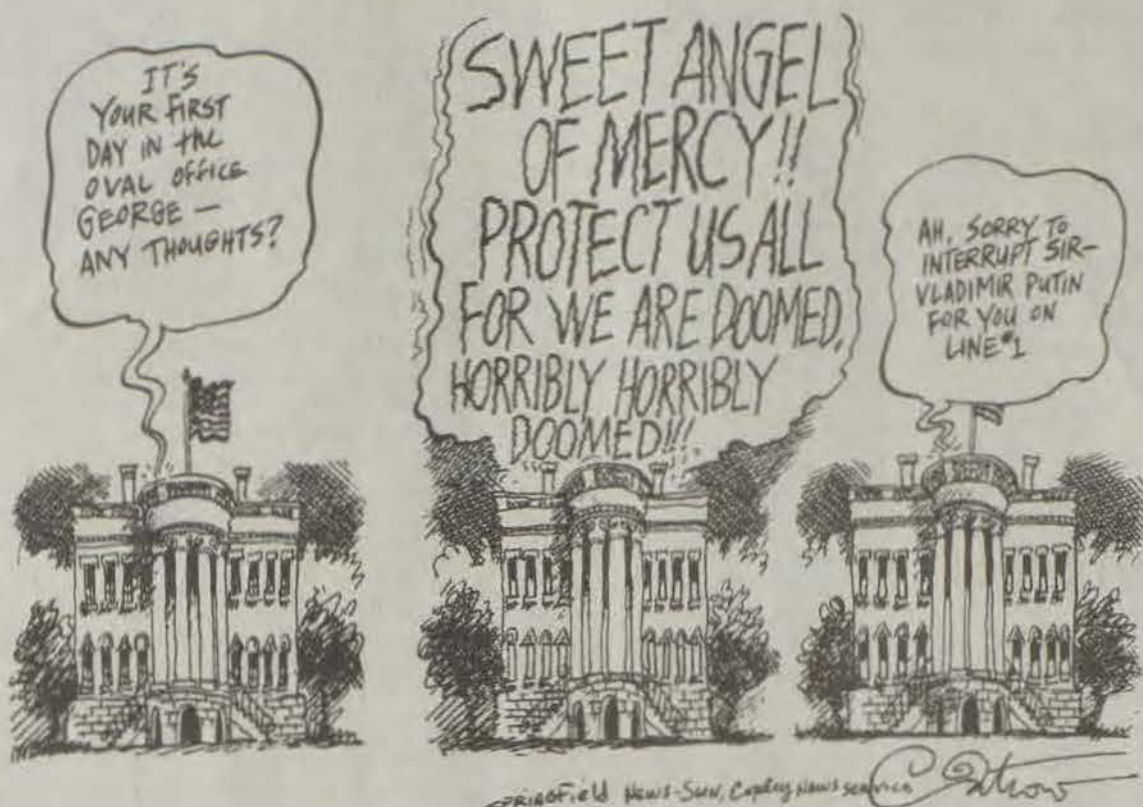
If a private business is used to host a government Web site, shouldn't there at least be guidelines and policies to create some distance between the public agency and the private enterprise?

Everywhere we look, advertising encroaches on our public places.

Billboards line our highways. Corporations underwrite events in our parks and on our streets. Public television and radio constantly plugs its corporate sponsors. Beer companies sponsor sporting events at our public universities. Schools receive free television sets and satellite dishes in exchange for a promise that students will watch 12 minutes of the company's programming a day that contains two minutes of commercials.

Before government concedes its corner of cyberspace to commercialization, let's have some public debate on it.

—The Kentucky Post



Letters to the Editor

Police thank supporters of 'Shop with a Cop'

Editor:

The Prestonsburg Police Department would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who contributed to our second annual "Shop with a Cop" program in December. Our program would not have been successful if it were not for your generous donations and gifts.

As a result of your generosity, 10 children throughout Floyd County, along with their families, enjoyed a Christmas they probably would not have had.

Donors included:

- Music-Carter-Hughes and Carter-Hughes Toyota
- Earl Castle's Jewelry
- Francis, Kendrick and Francis
- Hall & Clark Insurance
- Clyde Johnson
- Steve Pack
- Mountain Metal
- Layne's Hardware
- Dairy Cheer
- Rose's Citgo
- Cooley Medical
- Floyd Green
- Lad 'n' Lassie
- Slone's Garage
- Dr. Eddie Clark
- Judge Julie Paxton
- Dr. James Adams

- Hock Shop
- Cooley Apothecary
- Tim Parker
- Judge James Allen
- Hi-Tech Signs and Graphics
- Calhoun's Garage
- Dr. Alan Hyden
- Dance, Etc.
- Carter Funeral Home
- Douglas Hall
- State Wide Press
- Stumbo, Neeley and Moak
- Dr. Fred Meece
- Judge Eric D. Hall
- Stewart Osborne
- Wendell Mullins
- Ike Caudill
- Wendell Blair
- Small Town Dermographics
- Harry Adams
- John Dale
- First Commonwealth Bank
- Respond Ambulance
- Jim Webb
- Gary C. Johnson
- Prestonsburg Auto Mart
- William Bottoms
- Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home
- Commonwealth Chiropractic Center
- Penelope's Pets
- Yeary's Truck Sales
- Ken Derossett
- Keith Bartley
- Dr. Blake Burchett
- Dr. Marty Minix
- Dr. Bryan Griffith
- Inacom
- Roy Compton
- Carolyn Walters
- Frankie Crum
- Rebial Reynolds
- Little Bit of Country
- McDonald's
- Wendy's
- Dairy Queen
- Big Lots
- Pizza Hut
- Papa John's
- Little Caesar's
- Foodland
- Save-A-Lot
- Food City
- Janie Patton
- Ray Patton
- James Hager
- Floyd County Schools and Resource Centers
- CAP Office
- Wal-Mart
- Don Parker
- Linda James
- WYMT
- Floyd County Times
- Allen Rose
- Employees at city hall
- Again, we thank you. Prestonsburg Police Department

Bring back the deficit!

by Sheldon Richman

Should we cut taxes or should we pay off the national debt?

What's missing from this picture? Aside from the fact that paying off the debt need not be a priority (there is no connection between the debt and economic growth), the question is a classic case of the Fallacy of the False Alternative.

If we accept for argument's sake that the debt should be paid off right away, there's a way to do it and cut taxes! And I doesn't involve magic. It's really quite simple.

The way to do it is to (house)lights out, drum roll, spotlights wash the stage):

Cut government spending.

Duh. Aside from a congressman or two, apparently none of your brilliant, highly educated, extravagantly paid, and tenured representatives in Washington — Republican or Democrat — thought of this. Kind of makes you wonder what you're paying them to do, doesn't it?

The federal budget is closing in on \$2 trillion a year — nearly 20 percent of GDP. (Tax revenues are at a record 20.4 percent.) The government is so big, no one can possibly know all that it is doing. In the nation's capital every nook and cranny has an office with federal bureaucrats lading out money to some favored constituency.

And yet, every penny is being so wisely spent that we cannot even consider whether the budget can be reduced, even for something allegedly so important as paying off the debt. Not only that, the 106th Congress, controlled by Republicans, thought too little was being spent. So they increased spending by even more than President Clinton asked!

I find all this a bit too convenient. The taxpayers — remember them? The people who produce whatever the government has to spend? — can go without relief indefinitely. But do not ask the politicians, bureaucrats, and their dependents to forgo even a buck out of \$2 trillion. Forgo? Heck, don't even suggest they make do on what they had last year!

Please don't insult people's intelligence by saying that everyone is for tax cuts, but responsible ones would be "targeted to those who need them." Those aren't tax cuts; that's social engineering through the IRS.

There's always a reason for not cutting taxes. A few months ago the reason was that it would overstimulate the booming economy. Now that the economy isn't booming quite so much, it's that the tax cut will do nothing to stimulate the economy.

This is long-debunked Keynesian claptrap. The main reason to cut (or repeal) taxes isn't economic — it's moral. The money belongs to its producers. Period. Any conceivable second-party claim is derivative of the primary claim. The taxpayer should get first — not nth — consideration. That is true in good times or bad.

The big-government types who suddenly care about the debt are the biggest phonies around. They don't really care about it. It has value to them in only one respect: It can be used to stop tax cuts. Let me amend that. They have another reason to hate the debt. They drool at the social engineering they could be doing with the money that now goes to paying interest.

And that means there's a darned good reason to keep the debt. During the Reagan years, when the government was running up record deficits by outspending the revenue gusher, no one could seriously propose big new spending programs without being dismissed as out of touch with reality. Deficits had a blessed chilling effect on those who live by spending other people's money. Surpluses have the opposite effect. Clearly, we taxpayers cannot afford surpluses.

So I say bring back deficits and protect the debt. The economy can do just fine with them. Interest rates are higher now than when we had deficits in 1993.

But not all deficits are equal. It would be a mistake to create one by raising spending. Let's cut spending, but create deficits by cutting taxes — big time.

To that end, I proclaim the founding of the Committee to Restore the Deficit through Tax-cutting (CRDT, pronounced "credit"). All who value freedom, unite! You have nothing to lose but your chains.

Sheldon Richman is senior fellow at The Future of Freedom Foundation in Fairfax, Va. (www.fff.org), and editor of Ideas on Liberty magazine.

The Floyd County Times

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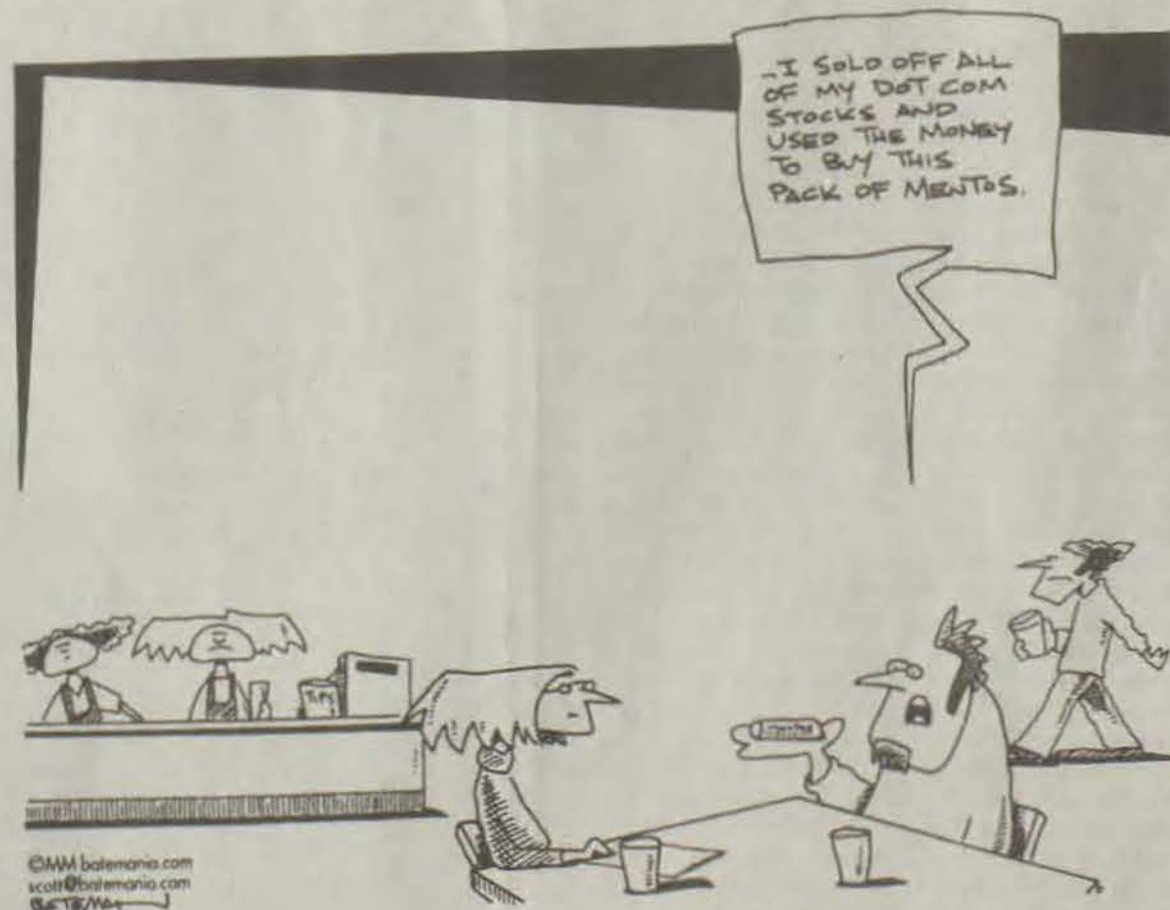
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Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor are welcomed by The Floyd County Times. In accordance with our editorial page policy, all letters must include the signature, address and telephone number of the author.

The Times reserves the right to reject or edit any letter deemed slanderous, libelous or otherwise objectionable. Letters should be no longer than two type-written pages, and may be edited for length or clarity.

Opinions expressed in letters and other voices are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the newspaper. Send letters to: The Editor, The Floyd County Times, P.O. Box 391, Prestonsburg, Ky. 41653.

Court News

MARRIAGES

Sandra Kidd, 33, to Earl James Lawson, 50, both of Harold.
Rita Farmer Campbell, 43, to Todd Stevens, 37, both of Harold.

CHARGES FILED

Sterling Hamilton Jr., 18, Prestonsburg, third-degree criminal trespass.

Judy Hall, 47, McDowell, third-degree criminal trespass.

Kimberly Greer, age unlisted, Allen, parent send child to school.

Karin Tuttle, age unlisted, McDowell, harassment, no physical contact.

Curtis Newsome, 38, Prestonsburg, fourth-degree assault.

Sandra J. Moss, 47, Teaberry, fourth-degree assault.

Donald Howard Davis, 27, Hager Hill, alcohol intoxication.

Jeremy R. Thacker, 23, Harold. Violation of EPO.

Steven M. Gibson, 31, Hueysville, alcohol intoxication.

Ronald E. Fogle, 21, Melvin, fourth-degree assault, alcohol intoxication.

Johnny L. Fogle, 33, Wheelwright, fourth-degree assault.

Troy L. Fields, 36, Pikeville, fourth-degree assault.

James Walker, 29, Jacksonville, Fla., third-degree criminal trespass, disorderly conduct, terroristic threatening.

Stanley K. Stephens, 40, Prestonsburg, alcohol intoxication.

Ricky A. Thomas, 23, Prestonsburg, alcohol intoxication, failure to surrender revoked license, possession of marijuana, theft by unlawful taking.

James A. Rederick, 30, Martin, operating on suspended license, two counts of fourth-degree assault, terroristic threatening.

Ashley Nelson, 19, Van Lear, public intoxication.

Kimberly Pennington, 19, Flat Gap, public intoxication.

Rodney N. Hicks, 26, Webbville, alcohol intoxication.

Robert Howell, 31, Craynor, fourth-degree assault.

Gilbert W. Cope, 41, Brookneal, Va., alcohol intoxication.

Kenneth Lee Jennings, 40, Brookneal, Va., alcohol intoxication.

Richard Chaffins, 46, Garrett, terroristic threatening.

John Hall, 80, Kite, terroristic threatening.

Robin Campbell, age unlisted, Franklin, Ohio, theft by deception.

Shauna Stone, 18, Melvin, alcohol intoxication, disorderly conduct.

Pamela Delamonte, age unlisted, Prestonsburg, harassment.

Anna Stone Hall, 42, Bypro, terroristic threatening.

Brandon Stone, 20, Bypro, fourth-degree assault.

Robert Howell, 51, Harold, parent send child to school.

Larry Tackett, 39, Beaver, parent send child to school.

Pamela Kay Wright, 34, Flat Gap, two counts of theft by deception.

Darlene Tackett, 33, Betsy Layne, parent send child to school.

Larry Tackett, 39, Beaver, parent send child to school.

Gilbert Wallen, 52, Martin, fourth-degree assault.

Dawn Chaney, age unlisted, Prestonsburg, theft by unlawful taking.

Jim Alvie Chaney, 38, Prestonsburg, theft by unlawful taking.

Charles D. Sexton, 43, Hueysville, theft by unlawful taking/shoplifting.

Eugene Jay Horner, 30, Prestonsburg, terroristic threatening.

Kristy Osborne, 23, Harold, harassment.

Pamela-Shayne Kidd, 37, Hager Hill, harassing communications.

Pamela Shayne Kidd, 37, Hager Hill, terroristic threatening.

Lois Ann Akers, age unlisted, Beaver, facilitation to criminal mischief.

Warren Meade, 31, Dayton, Ohio, non-resident hunting without

license/stamp, hunting with improper shotgun.

Stephen Todd Harris, 30, Prestonsburg, first-degree forgery.

Keith Tackett, 40, Weeksburg, alcohol intoxication, resisting arrest, disorderly conduct, third-degree assault.

Keith Tackett, 40, Weeksburg, tampering with physical evidence.

Adam R. Green, 19, Georgetown, first-degree burglary.

Chris Lawson, age unlisted, address unlisted, first-degree wanton endangerment, first-degree criminal mischief.

Nannie Manns, 29, Hueysville, first-degree criminal abuse.

Jessica L. Spradlin, 20, Prestonsburg, second-degree assault.

Thomas Perry, 39, Hager Hill, fraudulent use credit card.

Tammy Stone, age unlisted, Price, harassment, first-degree criminal mischief.

Ralph Justice, 39, Prestonsburg, second-degree trafficking in a controlled substance, possession of marijuana.

Tony Tackett, 37, Teaberry, third-degree arson.

James A. Rederick, 30, Martin, third-degree assault, disorderly conduct, resisting arrest, terroristic threatening.

James A. Rederick, 30, Martin, third-degree assault, disorderly conduct, resisting arrest, terroristic threatening.

David G. Hall, 31, Allen, operating motor vehicle under influence alcohol or drugs, driving on a suspended license, no insurance, prescription in improper container.

Terry Bellamy, 52, Eastern, flagrant non-support.

Scott Ward, 27, McDowell, theft by failure to make required disposition of property.

Johnny S. McIntosh, 34, Prestonsburg, second-degree assault.

Norman T. Blevins, 29, Drift, theft by unlawful taking, second-degree forgery.

Billy R. Hopkins, 26, McDowell, theft by unlawful taking, second-degree forgery.

Amos Staton Jr., 34, Lovely, first-degree unlawful imprisonment.

Michael Moss, 47, Auxier, theft by failure to make required disposition of property.

Keith White and Loretta White, Lost Creek.

Ada Carol Johnson, Harold.

Kennie R. Coleman, Jenkins.

Watah Inc., Whitesburg.

Charles S. Lewis, Vicco.

James V. Cornett and Jane K. Cornett, Whitesburg.

Virginia Ann Ray, Pikeville.

Lonnie Albert Keen, Shelbiana.

Christopher Gale Roberts and Joetta Roberts, Pikeville.

Teresa Lynn Thornsby and Timothy Thornsby, Canada.

Stacey Nicole Slusher, Sitka.

Ronnie Lee Blackburn, Inez.

John May and Tonya May, Hardy.

Madonna Wallen, Pikeville.

Chapter 11

Under Chapter 11 bankruptcy, a company or individual reorganizes under court supervision.

Holbrook Mining Company Inc., Whitesburg.

Chapter 13

Under Chapter 13 bankruptcy, the debtor arranges to repay debt.

Gene Edward Layne Jr. and Sandra Ann Layne, Pikeville.

INSPECTIONS

Duff Elementary, Eastern, follow-up inspection. Note: Item #23 has been partially corrected, but should be completely corrected within 10 days. (Item #23 refers to the control of rodents and insects.)

Wayside Market, Garrett, opening inspection. Violations noted: Bottom shelves in reach-in cooler are constructed of wood, sliding door grooves on reach-in coolers are lightly soiled, outside garbage dumpster not provided with lid, broken light bulb glass in the floor where heating unit is located, hole in the floor where heating unit is located. Score: 94.

McDonald's, Martin, regular inspection. Violations noted: Inside of microwave oven lightly soiled with food particles, urinal in men's restroom is out of order. Score: 97.

Save-a-Lot, Martin, complaint. Note: Received complaint in connection with sewage and waste disposal. Complaint found to be valid. A follow-up of problem will be conducted in five days.

Food World, Stanville, regular

inspection. Violations noted: Not all refrigeration and freezer units have conspicuous thermometers, eggs stored on the floor in walk-in cooler, meat trays stored on the floor of meat processing room, hand wash sink in meat processing room not operable, floors of restrooms in moderate disrepair (restrooms are otherwise clean), wall of men's restroom in disrepair, clothing articles stored on food items in back storage area, also soiled wiping cloth stored in walk-in freezer. Score: 89.

Adkins Quick Stop, Honaker, follow-up inspection. Note: Critical violation items #31 and #42 (in reference to restrooms and litter) have been corrected. Items #5 and #14 (in reference to thermometers and food contact surfaces) remain uncorrected. Score: 96.

Huddle House, Betsy Layne, regular inspection. Violations noted: Wiping cloths used to clean food contact surfaces should be stored in a sanitizing solution when not in use, a chlorine solution of 100 p.p.m., single service plastic utensils in storage area uncovered, buckets used to make orange juice and transport ice should be stored inverted on clean equipment rack, floor drain in storage and refrigeration/freezer area not properly covered. Score: 96.

Betsy Layne Elementary, Betsy Layne, regular inspection. Violations noted: Several classrooms in old building have lights burned out, ceiling tile missing in boys' restroom, also observed large hole in the wall upstairs next to the water fountain, new building upstairs janitor's closet was open and in its present condition cannot be locked. Score: 91, will follow-up on janitor's closet on Jan. 29.

Betsy Layne Elementary Cafeteria, Betsy Layne, regular inspection. Violations noted: Foam cup of what appeared to be coffee stored in upright refrigerator, proper test strips not provided at the three-compartment sink, facility needs to acquire test strips for ammonium chloride, Q.T. sanitizer, food contact surfaces inside of the ice machine needs more routine cleaning and sanitizing, hood unit has four lights not working, outside garbage dumpsters are located too close to the back entrance door of the food prep facility, the area around the dumpster is at present in need of cleaning, the dumpsters are not enclosed, recommend moving these dumpsters to another location. Score not shown.

Kentucky Technical and Alternative School, Hite, regular inspection. Violations noted: Boys restroom has toilet tissue dispenser(s) in disrepair, ceilings in janitor's shop has peeling paint and ceiling material, classroom divider for industrial maintenance room in disrepair. Score: 91.

Country Roads Cafe, Harold, follow-up inspection. Note:

Critical item #20 (sanitizing) corrected, facility is now using chlorine bleach as a sanitizing agent. Items #8 (food protection), 16 (dishwashing), 25 (single service articles), 32 (restrooms), and 42 (litter) have been corrected. Items #5 (thermometers) and 17 (test kits) remain uncorrected. Note: Facility did have chemical test strips, but for a different sanitizing agent. Facility appears much improved from previous inspection. Score: 97.

PROPERTY TRANSFERS

Johnny Pack to Gregory N. Kidd and Mary Kidd, land lying in Floyd County.

Howard Cecil and Callie Cecil to Lois Howell, land at Harold.

Steven Vanderpool, Martin Vanderpool, Jr., and Jennifer Vanderpool, Robert Vanderpool, Lisa Vanderpool Watkins and Edmond Watkins to Mallie Vanderpool Harmon, land in Floyd County.

Steven Vanderpool, Robert Vanderpool, Mallie Vanderpool Harmon and Paul Harmon, Lisa Vanderpool Watkins and Edmond Watkins to Steven Vanderpool, property in Floyd County.

Hazel Thacker to Ray Hill, property on Jack's Creek of Left Beaver Creek.

Frederick Dawson and Barbara Dawson to LaDonna A. Briggs, guardian for Leanna Briggs, land lying on the waters of the Levisa Fork of the Big Sandy River.

Dan Hall and Connie E. Hall to David Layne and Paula Layne, land at Banner.

Anthony Craig Davis and Gwendlyn A. Davis to Gene D. Davis and Norma Davis, property on Prater Creek.

Steven Vanderpool, Robert Vanderpool, Mallie Vanderpool Harmon and Paul Harmon, Lisa Vanderpool Watkins and Edmond Watkins to Martin Vanderpool Jr., land in Floyd County.

USDA unveils new interagency web site

Deputy Under Secretary for Food, Nutrition and Consumer Services, Julie Paradis, has unveiled a new federal interagency web site named END POVERTY.

The web site is designed to facilitate access to and information about federal programs and resources by grassroots groups fighting poverty.

"Despite our booming economy, we know that there are still many families struggling to make ends meet who need nutrition assistance and other services to be successful at school and work," stated Paradis.

"We're pleased to provide this web site designed to help local groups better serve these families."

The END POVERTY web site provides a central place for community-based organizations that work on hunger and poverty related issues to find the information they need on federal programs. The site provides a listing of federal resources and programs about nutrition assistance, job training, child care and housing.

Web site users can access information on model programs, funding, technical assistance and conferences.

"Providing a centralized place for information and resources for our partners at the local level puts us one step closer to our goal of ending hunger and poverty," stated Paradis. "This collaborative effort is an example of how each federal agency can be more effective by teaming up with other federal agencies serving the same population."

The web site is the result of work by the Department of Agriculture, Department of Commerce, Department of Education, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Health and Human Services, Department of Housing and Urban Development, Department of Labor, Small Business Administration and the Department of Transportation, as well as World Hunger Year (WHY) and D.C. Central Kitchen working together.

The federal partnership group was first convened at a conference titled "Innovative Solutions to Ending Hunger through Self-Reliance" in March 1999 by USDA Secretary Dan Glickman, Food, Nutrition and Consumer Services Under Secretary, Shirley R. Watkins and Bill Ayres, Executive Director of World Hunger Year.

The END POVERTY web site can be found at www.consumer.gov/endorpoverty.

Bogus caller claims he can get sweepstakes refunds for a fee

Attorney General Ben Chandler has received information regarding bogus telephone calls which are being made to consumers who will be receiving refunds from a former sweepstakes company.

The caller claims to be with U.S. Purchasing Exchange (USPE) and claims he will be able to get each consumer over \$200,000 in refunds from USPE for several thousand dollars in up front costs.

Attorney General Chandler said "These calls are not legitimate. The caller is not a representative from U.S. Purchasing Exchange or anyone connected with the company."

USPE has entered into an agreement with Kentucky as well as 48 other states, plus the District of Columbia, to make refunds to former customers. Early this month, the Attorney General's office mailed letters out to 836 Kentucky consumers regarding the processing of the refund claims.

"Under the terms of our agreement, USPE will send the refunds to a designated third party administrator, Gilardi & Company to distribute the refunds to consumers. There is no charge whatsoever to the consumers," said Chandler.

Anyone who has received a call is asked to contact the Attorney General's Consumer Protection Division at 1-888-432-9257 or 502-696-5389.

State's juvenile justice system complies with consent decree

United States Attorney General Janet Reno joined Governor Paul Patton Tuesday in a ceremony that ends the state's juvenile justice consent decree, which was established with the Department of Justice in December 1995 to improve juvenile confinement in state-operated treatment facilities.

"I am proud to be a part of this initiative here today and to pledge my continual support for juvenile services in this state," Governor Patton said. "Just because the consent decree ends today does not mean this administration's commitment to juvenile justice is finished. On the contrary, our departure from the consent decree today will help us move forward at a greater pace."

The consent decree was created after federal officials determined that conditions of juvenile confinement at Kentucky's state-operated residential treatment facilities violated the statutory and constitutional rights of juveniles. Kentucky voluntarily entered into the consent decree to improve conditions of juveniles.

"The beauty of our system is that it gives a departmental-level focus on one of the toughest issues that faces every county in this state and every state in this nation," Justice Cabinet Sec. Robert F. Stephens said. "And many people think the problem of

juvenile crime is literally unsolvable, but over the last several years, this focus has helped to measurably decrease juvenile crime in Kentucky by giving each juvenile the tools and the inspiration needed to turn his or her life in the right direction."

The consent decree called for Kentucky to establish a department that would work to improve conditions of juvenile confinement in state-operated residential treatment facilities. The state developed the Department of Juvenile Justice, and over the past five years, it, under the leadership of Commissioner Ralph E. Kelly, Ed.D., has worked diligently to implement provisions of the consent decree.

These provisions include creating a pre-service training academy for direct care juvenile justice staff; an internal investigations unit and a board-certified physician to guide the provision of medical services in facilities.

"The department's successes in transforming Kentucky's juvenile justice system from a system in need of massive reform to a system that now stands among the best in the nation would have been impossible if not for the vision of Governor Patton, the support of the General Assembly, and the dedication of our staff," Kelly said.

Verizon donates \$10,000 to Christian Appalachian Project

The Verizon Foundation has donated \$10,000 to the Christian Appalachian Project (CAP) to support Camp Andrew Jackson in McKee.

More than 600 economically disadvantaged children, from a dozen eastern Kentucky counties, annually attend the summer camp. The youngsters, who range in age from six to 15, participate in a host of activities, including fishing, swimming, canoeing, hiking and crafts.

"The Christian Appalachian Project does an extraordinary job in helping to build self-esteem and leadership skills in these underprivileged children," said Mike Reed, director of customer operations in Kentucky. "We're proud to continue supporting this worthwhile program."

Together, Verizon and Camp Jackson are working to fulfill our mission to serve the youth of eastern Kentucky," said Teresa McAnly, who manages CAP's corporate giving program. "With Verizon's help, we're able to broaden their worlds by teaching them acceptance and tolerance of individual differences and strengths."

Verizon Foundation supports programs that create innovative e-solutions, help bridge the digital divide, foster basic and computer literacy, and help enrich communities, people with disabilities, and the economically and socially disadvantaged.

For more information on the foundation, visit www.verizon.com/foundation.

Verizon Communications Inc. (NYSE:VZ), formed by the merger of Bell Atlantic and GTE, is one of the world's leading providers of communications services. Verizon companies are the largest providers of wireline and wireless communications in the United States, with more than 101 million access line equivalents and more than 26 million wireless customers.

A Fortune 10 company with more than 260,000 employees and about \$60 billion in 1999 revenues, Verizon's global presence extends to 40 countries in the Americas, Europe, Asia and the Pacific. For more information on Verizon, visit HYPERLINK www.verizon.com.

Smoking tobacco should be avoided during pregnancy. Limiting tobacco use reduces the chance of miscarriage. Dr. Rice Leach, the commissioner of public health, says mothers-to-be can reduce the number of low birth weight babies by 25 percent by avoiding tobacco during pregnancy.

Alcohol and street drugs should also be avoided during pregnancy. Fetal Alcohol Syndrome, one of the leading causes of mental retardation, is 100 percent preventable.

Kentucky's local health departments and regional comprehensive care centers have information on smoking cessation. The centers also have information on substance abuse treatment programs if needed during prenatal care.

To help track and study birth defects, the Department for Public Health oversees the Kentucky Birth Surveillance Registry. This statewide system identifies children with birth defects to assist in prevention and providing services.

"By calling attention to these preventive measures we hope to reduce the number of birth defects in Kentucky," Davis said.

January is Birth Defects Prevention Month

There are many ways to help prevent birth defects, and public health officials in Kentucky want to get that message out during January, Birth Defects Prevention Month.

Local communities are encouraged to use the occasion to educate people about preventing birth defects. In one year, the estimated lifetime cost to care for the number of U.S. children born with 18 common birth defects exceeds \$8 billion.

In a proclamation, Gov. Paul Patton noted there are more than 2,000 babies affected by birth defects each year in Kentucky. "The good health and well-being of the people of Kentucky are enhanced by our local support of a national effort to increase communication, education and prevention strategies to reduce the number of birth defects," Patton's proclamation said.

Dr. Steve Davis, director of the Division of Adult and Child Health, makes these following suggestions to help prevent birth defects:

All women of childbearing age should be taking a daily multivitamin that includes folic acid, which reduces the risk of spina bifida. Adequate amounts of folic acid (400 micrograms daily) can prevent up to 70 percent of some kinds of serious birth defects.

Community Calendar

Calendar items will be printed as space permits

Editor's note: As a service to the many clubs and committees that meet in our community, The Floyd County Times' Community Calendar will post meeting and public service announcements. Articles for the Community Calendar must be submitted in writing to The Times no later than 5 p.m. Monday for Wednesday's publication, 5 p.m. Wednesday for Friday's publication, or 5 p.m. Thursday for Sunday's publication. These cannot be taken over the telephone.

Gospel singing set for Maytown

A gospel concert and chili dinner is planned for Friday, February 2, at the Maytown Lifetime Learning Center (old Maytown School). The event begins at 6 p.m. in the "Gathering Place" (elementary school lunch-

room). Featured groups will be Mountain Harmony and Bluegrass Gospel Boys. The cost is \$5 per person or \$20 per family, with proceeds going toward restoration of the school building. For information, call 606/285-0539.

Auditions rescheduled

Floyd County Community Theatre has rescheduled auditions for the play "Two to Go," by Molly Bass. Auditions, for persons 13 to 18 years old, will be from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Mountain Arts Center. Adult volunteers are also needed. For information, call 606/886-2668.

C.P.R. class

There will be a C.P.R. class Thursday, January 25, at 3:30 p.m. in the Family Resource Center. This class is free. Anyone interested may call the center at 587-2233.

Pikeville Methodist activities

January 25: US TOO! Prostate Support Group, 6 p.m., Leonard Lawson Cancer Center conference room. 606/218-3513.

January 29: Diabetes Supprt Group, 6 p.m., PMH Education Center. 606/281-3513.

February 1: Lung Cancer Support Group, 6 p.m. Leonard Lawson Cancer Center conference room; re-organizational meeting for any lung cancer patient, support persons and family. 606/218-4992.

February 7: Look Good—Feel Better program, 9:30 a.m. at the Leonard Lawson Cancer Center. Women undergoing cancer treatments to help them apply cosmetics effectively and to teach them to fashion wigs and turbans, co-sponsored by American Cancer Society. 606/218-4992.

February 8: Community CPR, 9 a.m.-noon, PMH Education Center. To register, 606/218-3525.

February 12: ABC (After Breast Cancer) Support Group, 6 p.m., Leonard Lawson Cancer Center conference room. 606/218-4992.

February 16: Dr. Mary Fox, AIDS Update, 6-8 p.m., Education Center. 606/218-3525.

February 19: CCS (Colorectal Cancer Survivors) Support Group, 6 p.m. Leonard Lawson Cancer Center. 606/218-4992.

February 21: Look Good—Feel Better program, 9:30 a.m., Leonard Lawson Cancer Center for women undergoing cancer treatments to help them apply cosmetics effectively and to teach them to fashion wigs and turbans, co-sponsored by the American Cancer Society. 606/218-4992.

February 22: US TOO! Prostate Support Group and US TOO! Partners, 6:30 p.m., Leonard Lawson Cancer Center conference room. 606/218-4992.

February 26: Diabetes Support Group, 6 p.m., Education Center. 606/218-3513.

AARP Tax-aid service begins February 7

Volunteers from Jenny Wiley Chapter No. 3528, AARP, will begin their tax-aid program of assisting elderly and low-income taxpayers with their income tax forms on Wednesday, February 7, at the Prestonsburg library.

The Tax-Aide service will continue every Wednesday, from 8:30-3, until April 11. This is a free service, provided by Jenny Wiley, AARP.

Extension group to meet

The Floyd County Extension

Council and District Board will meet January 25, at 5:30 p.m., at the extension office at 921 S. Lake Drive, Prestonsburg. Light refreshments will be served.

Leadership KY enrolling

Leadership Kentucky is accepting applications for its 2001 class. Each year, 50 participants are selected to attend seven monthly sessions dealing with such topics as health and human services, law and justice, the economy, politics, environment, leadership, history and education. Panel discussions, workshops, lectures, field trips and other activities are scheduled.

For information on applying, call 502/695-1102 or e-mail leaderky@mis.net. Deadline for applications is March 1.

ACT prep class at PCC

Prestonsburg Community College's Community Center for Lifelong Learning has scheduled preparatory workshops for the National ACT exam. The focus will be the four topics of the ACT test: English, mathematics, reading and science reasoning.

The workshops are scheduled for Saturday, January 27 and February 3, from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. in Room 148 of the Johnson Administration Building on the Prestonsburg campus. The January 27 sessions will feature Reading from 10 a.m. to noon and English from 1-3 p.m. On February 3, the sessions will be sci-

ence reasoning from 10 a.m. to noon and math from 1-3 p.m. Students will have an hour's break for lunch during each workshop.

For more information, or to register for the class, call the center at 606/886-3863, ext. 258. The office is open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Vaccines available for Veterans

All veterans enrolled for VA health care are encouraged to get flu and pneumonia shots. The vaccines are available at the Huntington VA Medical Center on Spring Valley Drive and at VA Outpatient Clinics located at 104 Alex Lane in Charleston and on KY 321 in Prestonsburg. Appointments at the Prestonsburg Clinic may be scheduled by calling 606/886-1970.

Rules change for transportation

Sandy Valley Transportation Service hours for scheduling rides have changed. In accordance with a new state law and effective immediately, all Medicaid and Kentucky Works recipients must contact Sandy Valley at least three days before their scheduled appointment times and between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday, and 8 a.m.-1 p.m. on Saturday, to schedule transportation. Urgent care trips may be scheduled at any time.

To schedule transportation or for information, call 1-800-444-RIDE (7433).

Vet rep available

A Veterans Benefit Field Representative for the Kentucky Department for Veterans Affairs has an office on the third floor of the Floyd County Courthouse. He is there to assist veterans and their dependents in filing for state and federal benefits. This service is free and is provided by the commonwealth. Contact him at 606/886-7920. If there is no answer, leave a message and he will return your call.

Help for addiction

Are drugs affecting your family or a friend? For more information, log onto www.stopaddiction.com or call 1-800-468-6933. Narconon provides answers to drug addiction, and free assessment, evaluation and referral services to internationally recognized alternative and traditional treatment facilities. When continuing relapse is occurring, call Narconon 1-800-468-6933. Don't give up, drug addiction can be overcome. Call Narconon at 1-800-468-6933, or visit the Website at www.stopaddiction.com.

Fibromyalgia support group meetings

The monthly meetings of Fibromyalgia Support Group are being held in the Betsy Layne Senior Citizens Building. These meetings are scheduled on the first Tuesday of every month. Contact Sharon, 478-5224, or Phyllis, 874-2769.



At the December meeting of the board of commissioners of the Prestonsburg Housing Authority, Mayor Jerry Fannin presented an appreciation plaque to Commissioner Jimmy Joe Derossett, who has served as a commissioner of the Housing Authority since 1984. Derossett was recently elected to the Prestonsburg City Council and can no longer serve on the Authority. Fannin said Derossett has been a dedicated member of the board and "his loyal service has been greatly appreciated."

Regional Obituaries

Pike County

Maxine Justice Adkins Kangas, 74, of Orange Park, Florida, formerly of Millard, died Thursday, January 18, at Orange Park Medical Center. Funeral services will be conducted Monday, January 22, 11 a.m., at the J.W. Call & Son Funeral Home, Pikeville.

Bervin Wendell Cool, 82, of Kimper, died Tuesday, January 16, at his home. He is survived by his wife, Bobbie Mae Deskins Cool. Funeral services were conducted Friday, January 19, under the direction of J.W. Call & Son Funeral Home, Pikeville.

Grace Blackburn Lowe, 88, of Lowes Branch, died Thursday, January 18, at Pikeville Methodist Hospital. Funeral services will be conducted Sunday, January 21, 1 p.m., under the direction of Lucas & Hall Funeral Home, Pikeville.

Pete Franklin Spano, 78, of Chattaroy, West Virginia, died Tuesday, January 16, at the Williamson Memorial Hospital. He is survived by his wife, Youla Spinosi Spano. Funeral services

were conducted Friday, January 19, at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Williamson, and burial was in Mountain View Memory Gardens.

Wheeler Slone, 73, of Raccoon, died Tuesday, January 16, at Pikeville Methodist Hospital. Funeral services were conducted Friday, January 19, under the direction of Community Funeral Home.

Victor Tackett, 76, of Indian Creek, died Tuesday, January 16, He is survived by his wife, Nova Newsome Tackett. Funeral services were conducted Friday, January 19, under the direction of R.S. Jones & Son Funeral Home.

Ellis Thacker, 73, of Elkhorn City, died Wednesday, January 17. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, January 20, under the direction of Justice Funeral Services.

Leo Slone, 55, of Millard, died Wednesday, January 17, at Caney Creek. Funeral services were conducted Friday, January 19, under the direction of Bailey Funeral Home.

The "Word" for the Week

Childlike faith

by DR. DENNIS J. PRUTOW
STERLING, KANSAS

"Dad, can you help me?" Here are simple words expressing implicit faith and wholehearted trust. "Sure, sweetheart." This answer is unquestionably proper. Jesus said, "Permit the children to come to Me; do not hinder them; for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these" (Mark 10:14).

God's kingdom is not one of earthly boasting, political spin, and public relations. It is not the domain of power hungry politicians, plant managers, and chief executive officers. Nor is it the realm of end zone dances and adrenaline filled slam-dunks. It is not the sphere of actions performed for the purpose of self-exaltation.

God's kingdom is a place filled with people who have the faith of children. They recognize their need. They may be physically powerful but they are not proud. They may have political clout but they are not arrogant. They may have huge financial resources but they are not egotistical. Jesus again reminds us, "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven" (Matthew 5:3).

With references to God, these folks understand their emptiness. Next to God's goodness, mercy, power, and love, they know all earthly power pales in insignificance. Their faith in the living God is an expression of their emptiness. God says, "To this one I will look, to him who is humble and contrite of spirit" (Isaiah 66:2).



State Sen. Johnny Ray Turner (right), D-Drift, reviews legislation with Senator Daniel Mongiardo (center), D-Hazard and Sen. Ray Jones, D-Pikeville, in the Senate chamber. Turner represents the 29th Senate District, which includes Breathitt, Floyd, Knott and Johnson counties. Photo courtesy of LRC Public Information

Workforce development entities promote assessment system

Six Kentucky communities and a youth program are piloting a job profiling and employee assessment system intended to develop workplace skills in demand by employers.

The pilots are sponsored by the Kentucky Community and Technical College System and the Cabinet for Workforce Development through funding from Gov. Paul Patton's EMPOWER Kentucky initiative.

The pilots are using the Work Keys system, widely employed in the private sector to analyze jobs and assess employee skill levels. Work Keys is a product of ACT Inc., a nonprofit organization best known for the ACT college entrance exam.

"As employers assess what they need from employees, skill sets are becoming increasingly important. Businesses need employees who can function well in a high-performance organization, and our partnership with state government in the Work Keys project will help develop those types of employees," said Dr. Michael B. McCall, KCTCS president.

"The Cabinet for Workforce Development provides a connection between Kentuckians looking for jobs and employers who need qualified applicants," said cabinet Secretary Allen D. Rose. "Work Keys gives us an excellent tool for making these connections. It also identifies areas in which individuals need to upgrade their skills for jobs they aspire to."

The pilots are underway in Covington, Hazard, Henderson, Lexington, Richmond and Somerset and in the Kentucky

Youth Challenge program. The system works like this:

■ An assessment scores people's skills in one or more of eight areas (applied math and technology, listening, locating information, observation, reading, teamwork and writing).

■ Jobs are analyzed for the skill levels necessary to perform the work in the same eight areas. In addition to profiles of specific

jobs, Work Keys provides a database of levels needed for hundreds of different types of jobs.

■ The employee or applicant then has targeted instruction to improve skills in particular areas.

EMPOWER Kentucky has provided \$400,000 to cover the costs of assessment and instructional materials, an evaluation of the pilots and training on using the Work Keys system. The instruc-

tional materials, developed specifically to align with the Work Keys system, are being supplied by Worldwide Interactive Network (WIN) from Kingston, Tennessee.

For more information about the Work Keys system, employers can contact Donna Davis of KCTCS at 859/246-3100 or Nancy Laprade of the Cabinet for Workforce Development at 502/564-6606.

KEMI bucks trend

Kentucky Employers' Mutual Insurance, the largest carrier of workers' compensation insurance in the Commonwealth of Kentucky, has announced the Department of Insurance has approved a rate change which features an overall decline in premium rate levels.

The significance of this move is underscored by an increased volatility in the workers' compensation insurance market nationally. National workers' comp data show insurance premiums on the rise, and an increased reluctance on the part of some carriers to cover some employers.

This is the third rate reduction in KEMI's history. Rates were reduced in May 1997 by an average 15 percent. Then, in July 1999, average rate levels were reduced an additional 10 percent. The latest reduction continues the downward trend through an overall rate level decrease of 2.5 percent.

About 290 business classifications in each of KEMI's rate tiers (preferred and standard) will have rates reduced by as much as 25 percent in 2001. About 15 percent of business classifications will see no change. Selected business classes will see an increase where data clearly show that loss experience in those categories warrant pricing changes.

In addition to its tiered rate program, KEMI will continue to use its Schedule Rating flexibility in tailoring individual policyholder costs to reflect loss experience. The Schedule Rating program can increase or

decrease premium, by 40 percent.

In recommending the new rate structure to the KEMI Board of Directors, President and CEO Roger Fries said the five-year-old company is in a position to lower rates while others are raising theirs, because of three factors.

• When the market softened in the mid-to late '90s, KEMI refused to chase business by offering unrealistically low rates. KEMI sought to price its coverage based on a rigorous and objective analysis of the risk.

• Through its aggressive loss education program, KEMI improved the overall loss ratio of its book of business. The theme for this philosophy, "controlling your destiny," allows policyholders to be rewarded for good performance.

• KEMI decided early on to become a center of excellence in the administration of workers' comp insurance in Kentucky. Accordingly, company business practices put a high priority on cost effectiveness and dealing efficiently and promptly with all its customers. Becoming a leader in e-business opportunities is one expression of KEMI's drive for customer satisfaction.

Said Fries, "we have made these strategic pricing changes with the confidence that our leading status in the Kentucky marketplace will be preserved and that our financial condition will be enhanced. At the very time we see a significant upheaval in the comp marketplace across the country, KEMI continues to make workers' comp work in Kentucky."



STACIA STANLEY (42) of South Floyd took the ball in against the Paintsville defense in the fourth quarter

page 2B



A Look at Sports

Notes!
 Notes!
 Notes!



by ED TAYLOR
 SPORTS EDITOR

► We are a week away from Super Bowl Sunday and it all happens at Tampa, Florida, with game time slated for 6:30 p.m. over CBS. All I can say is "Go, Ravens!"

► What a college career J.R. VanHoose has had at Marshall. Wednesday night he scored 12 points and pulled in 12 rebounds in a win for the Thundering Herd. But it was the 10th double-double of the season for VanHoose.

► Scandal of the UK football program does not seem to be hindering the recruiting of Hal Mumme. The UK coach got five more commitments for next season.

► The folks at Betsy Layne High School are busy getting things ready for the 58th District tournament. I stepped into the gymnasium the other day, and it looks great. The back wall near the scoreboard has been repainted with the basketball image removed. It just looks like a different place.

If they would now concentrate on the ceiling, and we have been told they are, the place would really brighten up. It is good that our board of education is doing a great job of giving our kids good facilities to play in.

If everything goes well, both South Floyd and Prestonsburg will have better football facilities.

Things are looking up in high school athletics here in the county.

► Yes, there will be football at Betsy Layne High School!

► Congratulations to Allen Central basketball coach Johnny Martin after winning his 400th career game. Johnny picked up the covenant win with a victory over Feds Creek Wednesday night.

Here is a trivia question for you. Who was the coach at Sheldon Clark who finished runner-up in the regional tournament in 1979-80 season, losing to Virgie? I'll make it easy for you: he coaches at Allen Central now.

► Kentucky continues on the road at Alabama Tuesday night with ESPN beaming into the living rooms.

► Remember the days when the 58th District dominated the 15th Region. In the '60s, our district won seven

(See **SPORTS**, page three)

PRESTONSBURG BETSY LAYNE

BETSY LAYNE LADYCATS DOWN PRESTONSBURG IN OVERTIME

BETSY LAYNE SWEEPS...AGAIN!

Parsons fires in 28 for Betsy Layne; Conley paces Prestonsburg with 21

by STEVE LeMASTER
 SPORTS WRITER

It's a county rivalry, so did you expect anything less than an overtime game?

The Prestonsburg Lady Blackcats traveled to Betsy Layne this past Friday night to do battle with Betsy Layne in what would be a boys-girls double-dip.

GAME NOTES:

► Prestonsburg senior Amelia Conley played an outstanding game before fouling out in the overtime period. Conley recently scored a near-career high 30 points against 15th Regional favorite Johnson Central.

► Stephanie Adams saw playing time in the Betsy Layne game. The addition of Adams to the Prestonsburg squad should help the entire team.

The two teams had met once earlier this season, with Betsy Layne claiming a victory over Prestonsburg on the Blackcat hardwood. Betsy Layne would also claim an 82-77 victory on their won hardwood Friday night, but it wouldn't be easy as Prestonsburg overcame a 12-point fourth quarter deficit and put the game into overtime. The Lady Blackcats of Prestonsburg actually had a two-point lead with five seconds left in the game before Betsy Layne managed to tie it

back up and send it into overtime.

To let you know how intense it was, Betsy Layne Coach Cassandra Akers was given a pair of technical fouls and ejected midway through the third quarter. Her Betsy Layne squad seemed to turn their collective play up a notch with their coach out of the game.

"I would like to apologize to Prestonsburg High School," confessed an apologetic Coach Cassandra Akers after the

(See **OVERTIME**, page four)



RAMANDA MUSIC (33) of Prestonsburg goes up for a shot in the second quarter as Amber Roberts (20) and Kim Tackett (42) of Betsy Layne defend.

photo by Steve LeMaster



photo by Steve LeMaster

MICHAEL MORRISON (24) of Prestonsburg defends an Allen Central Middle School player as he dribbles down the baseline. The Floyd County Grade School Basketball Tournament begins on Monday, January 22.

In overtime...

Allen Central overcomes Paintsville to advance

Scott gives Rebs win in overtime

by ED TAYLOR
 SPORTS EDITOR

For the Allen Central Rebels, getting a lead over the Paintsville Tigers was not frequent nor was it an easy task.

However, when they gained only their

fourth lead of the game it was a big one as coach Johnny Martin's ballclub stayed alive in the Boys All "A" Regional Classic by whipping Paintsville 60-57 in overtime.

The two regional powerhouses, who have been rivals for years, mixed it up but it was Paintsville who had their way for most of the game. But, as anyone will tell you, it is not how the game begins but how the outcome is when the final horn sounds.

This time it was Allen Central coming from

(See **ALLEN CENTRAL**, page three)

Chase Gibson

Gibson breaks Pikeville rebound record

Senior center leads state in rebounding

by ED TAYLOR
 SPORTS EDITOR

It is a pleasure to watch Pikeville's Chase Gibson play the game of basketball — or football for that matter. He is so fluid on the basketball court and very aggressive on the football field.

Hard work has always been part of his sports life, as I remember him from his grade school days at Betsy Layne Elementary.

As an eighth-grader, he helped lead the Bobcats to a Floyd County championship but elected not to play football as an eighth-grad-

er, but later did return to the team.

Today, Chase Gibson, in the estimate of this writer and others, stands as the best basketball player in the 15th Region, and he is deserving of all accolades he receives in his final season.

As a tight end on the Panther football team, Gibson made an oral commitment Thursday to play football in the fall for the Thundering Herd of Marshall.

But that same night, late in the fourth quarter, Gibson pulled down his 13th rebound against the South Floyd Raiders and that broke Dickie Prater's

(See **GIBSON**, page three)



South Floyd downs host Paintsville

Lady Raiders put All "A" behind them with 64-51 win

by STEVE LeMASTER
 SPORTS WRITER

The South Floyd Lady Raiders went into Paintsville this past Thursday night, the site of the Lady Raiders' heartbreaking 67-65 15th Region All "A" loss to Pikeville. That loss came last Saturday night.

South Floyd came back out strong Thursday night in their first contest since the loss. The Lady Raiders didn't avenge their loss to Pikeville, but they did get back on the winning track with a 64-51 victory over Paintsville.

"They came back after the short layoff and played good against Paintsville," said South Floyd Coach Melinda Osborne. "We played without Sara

(See **SOUTH FLOYD**, page four)

2000-01 Betsy Layne Varsity Cheerleaders

April McKinney
Jamie Osborne
Monica Robinette
Margarita Boyd
Nina Boyette
Nikki Keathley
Amanda Robinette
Tara Mullins
Trish Robinson
Kristian Goble
Brittney Hall
Amanda Allen



Sponsor: Rebecca Hicks

Betsy Layne Varsity Cheerleaders excelling

This year the Betsy Layne High School varsity cheerleaders squad has grown to new heights with a new coach. They are coached by first-year sponsor Rebecca Hicks. As a former high school cheerleader herself, she knows what it takes to be a great squad. She is an amazing coach who understands the girls and has already helped the girls bring home the Pike County Central Coca-Cola Classic first-place cheerleading trophy.

■ April McKinney is a 17 year-old senior, and one of two captains for the squad. She has been a varsity cheerleader for four years at BLHS.

■ Jamie Osborne is a 17 year-old senior and is also a squad captain. She has also been a varsity cheerleader four years.

■ Monica Robinette is an 18 year-old senior. Robinette has been on the varsity cheer squad for three years.

■ Margarita Boyd is an 18 year-old senior. Boyd has been on the varsity unit for two years.

■ Nina Boyette is a 16 year-old junior and has been a part of the squad for three years.

■ Nikki Keathley is a 16 year-old junior and has been a part of the squad for two years.

■ Amanda Robinette is a 15 year-old sophomore. She has been on the varsity squad for two years.

■ Tara Mullins is a 15 year old sophomore. Mullins has been a member of the boys varsity squad for the past two seasons.

■ Trish Robinson is a 16-year old sophomore. She has also been a member of the squad for two years.

■ Kristian Goble, a 15 year-old sophomore, has also been a member of the squad for two years.

■ Amanda Allen, a 15 year-old freshman, one of two freshmen, has been on the squad one year.

■ Brittney Hall, a 14-year old freshman, and the youngest cheerleader on the squad, is a one-year member of the cheering unit.

The Betsy Layne varsity cheerleading squad is made up of 12 girls who are hard-working and enthusiastic.

Congratulations go out to the BLHS squad for their accomplishments and good luck with future events, competitions and endeavors.

Millard rains treys in win over Elkhorn

Adkins nets 26 in 86-70 win

by ED TAYLOR
SPORTS EDITOR

Jarrod Adkins led four Millard Mustangs in double figures with 26 points as Millard posted an 86-70 win over the Elkhorn City Cougars Thursday night.

The two teams squared off in a first round All "A" game at Pikeville High School.

Adam Coleman (16), Chris Coleman (15) and Robert May (10) hit double digits in the scoring column as Millard had little trouble with the Cougars after the opening quarter. Nathaniel Kilgore just missed double figures with nine points.

The Mustangs buried 10 three-point baskets en route to a tournament win. Adkins and Adam Coleman drilled three each. Chris Coleman and Robert Stewart had two treys each.

Justin Ratliff topped the Cougar scoring with 25 points. John Ryan Allman and Jonathan Ratliff each finished with 13. Brandon Ratliff tossed in 11 points.

There was one tie and four lead changes in the opening quarter before Millard went in front 10-9 on consecutive baskets by Allman. The Mustangs were never headed, leading 18-10 at the first stop.

The first five baskets scored between the two teams at the onset of the second period were three-point baskets. Adkins hit two straight at the start of the period followed by one from Adam Coleman.

Millard held high-scoring Cougar Justin Ratliff to just a free throw in the first quarter, but the Cougar guard was more involved in the offense in the second period. However, it was not enough as Millard rolled out to a 44-29 half-time lead.

A three-point play the old-fashioned way by Ratliff to start the quarter, followed by a Ratliff lay-up, pulled the Cougars to within 10 points of Millard.

Elkhorn City would make it a nine-point game later in the quarter, trailing 53-44. But the shooting of the Coleman boys kept the Mustangs at a safe distance, leading 68-48 after three quarters.

Elkhorn made a mild run at the Cougars in the fourth quarter with a 9-2 spurt, but Millard put together a run of their own, outscoring Elkhorn 9-3 to lead by the final score of 86-70.

Stewart finished with six points for Millard. Randall McPeck netted four points.

Cody Sturgill added six points for the Cougars and B.J. Rowe scored two.



photo by Steve LaMaster

STACIA STANLEY (42) of South Floyd took the ball in against the Paintsville defense in the fourth quarter. Stanley pulled down 12 rebounds in the Paintsville game.

SportsBoard

CINCINNATI REDS

Spring Schedule

FEBRUARY

Mon. 26: INTRASQUAD GAME, SARASOTA, 11:30 a.m.
Wed. 28: Rollins College, Orlando, TBA

MARCH

Thu. 1: Cleveland Indians, Winter Haven, 1:05 p.m.
Fri. 2: CLEVELAND INDIANS (SS), SARASOTA, 1:05 p.m.
Fri. 2: Minnesota Twins (SS), Ft. Myers, 1:05 p.m.
Sat. 3: PITTSBURGH PIRATES, SARASOTA, 1:05 p.m.
Sun. 4: Texas Rangers, Port Charlotte, 1:05 p.m.
Mon. 5: MINNESOTA TWINS, SARASOTA, 1:05 p.m.
Tue. 6: NEW YORK YANKEES, SARASOTA, 1:05 p.m.
Wed. 7: Pittsburgh Pirates (SS) Bradenton, 1:05 p.m.
Wed. 7: PITTSBURGH PIRATES (SS), SARASOTA, 7:05 p.m.
Thu. 8: PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES, SARASOTA, 1:05 p.m.
Fri. 9: Boston Red Sox, Ft. Myers, 1:05 p.m.
Sat. 10: TAMPA BAY DEVIL RAYS (SS), SARASOTA, 1:05 p.m.
Sat. 10: Kansas City Royals (SS), Baseball City, 1:05 p.m.
Sun. 11: TEXAS RANGERS, SARASOTA, 1:05 p.m.
Mon. 12: Tampa Bay Devil Rays, St. Petersburg, 1:05 p.m.
Tue. 13: Toronto Blue Jays, Dunedin, 1:05 p.m.
Wed. 14: KANSAS CITY ROYALS, SARASOTA, 7:05 p.m.
Thu. 15: Texas Rangers, Port Charlotte, 1:05 p.m.
Fri. 16: DETROIT TIGERS, SARASOTA, 1:05 p.m.
Sat. 17: Boston Red Sox, Ft. Myers, 1:05 p.m.
Sun. 18: Minnesota Twins, Ft. Myers, 1:05 p.m.
Mon. 19: Philadelphia Phillies, Clearwater, 1:05 p.m.

NBA Standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

Philadelphia	30
New York	25
Miami	23
Orlando	17
Boston	15
New Jersey	13
Washington	7

Central Division

Milwaukee	24
Charlotte	23
Toronto	21
Cleveland	18
Indiana	19
Detroit	15
Atlanta	14
Chicago	6

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest Division

Utah	24
San Antonio	23
Dallas	26
Denver	23
Minnesota	22
Houston	20
Vancouver	11

Pacific Division

Portland	30
Sacramento	26
L.A. Lakers	25
Phoenix	23
Seattle	21
L.A. Clippers	13
Golden State	11

STEVE'S SIDELINESHOTS

College football recruiting and more...

OK, the University of Kentucky football team and Coach Hal Mumme have a starting quarterback in Jared Lorenzen. The redshirt freshman stepped into the starting role last season. Lorenzen is the starting signal-caller, but the Cats are still recruiting some high school quarterbacks. Here's a look at some of the top quarterbacks on UK Coach Hal Mumme's wish list:

Gino Guidugli, Ft. Thomas Highlands, KY

The Cats appear to be in the front running for the strong-armed Guidugli. At 6-5, 195, he jacks somewhat in the 40 with a mediocre 4.8 time. However, he is strong and is receiving scholarship offers from Purdue, Notre Dame, Cincinnati, Purdue and Harvard, as well as Kentucky. Guidugli also stars on the Ft. Thomas Highlands basketball team.

Andrew Pickett, Montevallo, AL

Pickett is receiving offers from Kentucky, Southern Mississippi, Duke, Vanderbilt, Alabama and Auburn. At 6-4 190, Pickett has good size. Many, including me, figure Pickett to end up at either Alabama, Southern Miss., or Auburn.

Cornel Taylor, Jackson, MI

Cornel Taylor is somewhat of a dark horse recruit coming out of Jackson. The 6-1, 195 signal-caller turns in a 4-5 40 time. Taylor lists Kentucky as his main college preference. UK could take a chance on Taylor and then use him as a versatile-type of offensive back at a number of many different positions.

Doug Keller, Mobile, AL

ACC, SEC, C-USA. Doug Keller is receiving offers from several different schools in the aforementioned conferences. Kentucky is lobbying hard to get a commitment from Keller, along with schools like Clemson, Duke, South Carolina and Southern Mississippi.

Bo Bradberry, Madison, MS

Bo Bradberry is being recruited heavily by several SEC schools. Kentucky, Georgia, Alabama, Louisiana State and Ole Miss are all in the running for Bradberry. The 6-1 210 Bradberry comes in at 6-1, 210.

Joe Fleming, West Palm Beach, FL

Joe Fleming committing to the Cats is a strong possibility. Fleming, 6-5, 185, is being recruited heavily by both Kentucky and Clemson.

Jason Bratten, Mentor, OH

Mentor, Ohio, native Jason Bratten lists Syracuse and Ohio State ahead of Kentucky on his recruiting list. He is also being recruited by Notre Dame. The recent coaching vacancy at Ohio State could have an effect on the 6-3, 175 Bratten's decision.

There you have it. That's just a brief look at some of the quarterbacks at the top of UK's wish list.

Could an incoming freshman quarterback come in and play at UK next season? Well, if Lorenzen does falter, redshirt freshman Shane Boyd still waits in the wings. But, who knows, a hotshot true freshman quarterback could come into fall practice and take the job. I definitely think the right recruit could, especially if Lorenzen's shaky performance this past season is any indication of what is yet to come.

Now, let's switch gears a little bit. Here, in particular order, are the nation's top senior running backs. Some UK is after, some UK is not after. Some are committed to a school, some are not committed to a school. Well, you get the point.

Anyway, here they are, in no particular order:

Eric Shelton, Lexington-Bryan Station

Where will this prized recruit go? Florida State and Ohio State are still very high on Eric Shelton's list. Coach Hal Mumme could have probably marked Shelton off his wish list quite some time ago. The Bryan Station star has shown little to no interest in playing for Kentucky. The 6-3, 235 Shelton can run, as he posts a 40 time of 4.4, and he is strong. Hey, he can do it all and will be a viable recruit for whatever school that manages to finally corral him.

Kevin Jones, Springfield-O'Hara, PA

(See SIDELINE, page three)

Sports Briefs...

Football

LOUISVILLE'S AHRENS TRANSFERS

Louisville backup quarterback Gerry Ahrens is transferring to Arkansas. Ahrens, a Male graduate, was recruited by Arkansas two years ago but picked Louisville. At Louisville, Ahrens was playing behind sophomore Dave Ragone, who led Conference USA in passing and was named the league's Offensive Player of the Year. The 6-foot-3, 200-pound Ahrens will have to sit out the 2001 season and then will have two years of eligibility at Arkansas. Louisville Coach John L. Smith has given Ahrens his release.

GEORGETOWN FOOTBALL TEAM HONORED

Georgetown's NAIA championship football team was honored last Thursday. A pep rally and special ceremonies were held in Hill Chapel. The team was also recognized at half-time of the Georgetown men's basketball game.

MSC PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

Jerry Williams, Cumberland College (6-5, Sr., F, Jacksonville, Fl.), has been named the Mid-South Conference Player-of-the-Week. Williams led the Indians in their win of No. 7 Georgetown (82-69), and their loss to Pikeville (76-83). Williams put in 25 points and pulled down seven rebounds against the Tigers, and added 27 points and eight rebounds against Pikeville. Williams averaged 26 points, and 7.5 rebounds on the week. He shot 75% from the foul line and 55% from the field.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Jessie Holt, Cumberland College (5-5, Jr., G, Tollesboro, Ky.), has been named the Mid-South Conference Player-of-the-Week. Holt led the Indians in their two wins this week against conference opponents Georgetown (80-71) and Pikeville (88-80 in double overtime). Holt tossed in 20 points and dished out five assists in the win over Georgetown. In the win over Pikeville, Holt tossed in 16 points. She shot 80% from the free throw line for the week and hit on 54% of her three-point attempts.

HAZARD NATIVE SIZEMORE OVC PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Eastern Kentucky University junior forward Charlotte Sizemore of Hazard was named Ohio Valley Conference Player of the Week. EKV Freshman guard Katie Kelly was named OVC Rookie of the Week.

MSU'S MINARD ROOKIE OF THE WEEK

Morehead State University freshman Ricky Minard was named Ohio Valley Conference Rookie of the Week.

PAINTSVILLE LADY TIGERS TOP MORGAN COUNTY

The Paintsville Lady Tigers scored their fourth win of the 2000-01 this past Monday with a 44-34 win over Morgan County. Seven Lady Tigers broke into the scoring column with Heather Staniford leading the way with a game-high 18 points.

JOHNSON CENTRAL TOPS SHELBY VALLEY

Coach Phillip Wireman's Johnson Central Lady Eagles scored an all-important 15th Region win over Shelby Valley last Monday. The Lady Eagles handed Shelby Valley a 69-60 loss. Junior Ashley Wireman led Johnson Central with a team-best 19 points. Summer Jones tossed in a game-high 20 points Shelby Valley.

SHELDON CLARK BATTLES BACK, BEATS JC BOYS

Adam Brown led the way with 20 points as the Sheldon Clark Cardinals downed the Johnson Central Golden Eagles in a 57th District contest. David Stafford and Chad Howell clipped in 12 and 9 points, respectively, for Sheldon Clark. Kyle Jennings paced Johnson Central with a team-best 14 points. Johnson Central junior Dock Johnson finished with 13.

MEMPHIS SIGNEE SCORES 100

Dejuan Wagner, son of former Louisville star Milt Wagner and a University of Memphis signee, scored 100 points in Camden High School's 157-67 win over Gloucester Township Technical School. Wagner had 46 points at half-time and 72 after three quarters. Wagner is the 13th high school player to score 100 or more points in a game. The feat broke the state high school scoring record.

Baseball

LSU PICKED TOPS IN SEC BASEBALL

Louisiana State, the defending national champion, is the favorite to win the Southeastern Conference baseball championship, according to the league's coaches. LSU is picked first in the Western Division and Florida is first in the East. UK is picked fifth in the six-team East.

REDS NAME GRAVES MVP, SIGN RODRIGUEZ

Danny Graves has been voted the Reds' most valuable player and their pitcher of the year by the Cincinnati chapter of the Baseball Writers Association of America. The writers also voted the Good Guy award to Steve Parris.

The Reds also agreed to terms with RHP Frankie Rodriguez on a minor league contract.

WINFIELD, PUCKETT ON DECK FOR HALL

Dave Winfield and Kirby Puckett were elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame Tuesday on their first try, becoming the seventh pair of teammates voted in by baseball writers in the same year.

Boxing

TYSON'S MICHIGAN LICENSE SUSPENDED

Mike Tyson's boxing license in Michigan was suspended for three months and he must pay \$205,000 for refusing to submit to a urine test before his Oct. 20 fight against Andrew Golota.

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Sports

of the 10 regional championships that decade.

We won four regional championships the following decade but in the last 20 years, we have a grand total of only three regional titles (Betsy Layne, Prestonsburg and Allen Central).

In the last 20 seasons Paintsville has won seven championships under current coach Bill Mike Runyon. The Tigers holds the regional record for the seven titles but also for winning four consecutive battles.

Belfry won three straight under Raymond Justice, and Virgie captured three straight crowns, two under Eugene Lyons and one under Bobby

Osborne.

Isn't it a lot of fun to just remember the good old days?

I understand high school baseball and softball will get the first pitch late in March. Betsy Layne's Ladycats will have a new home this season with the finishing of the new facility behind the school.

Allen Central will be strong on the boys side of the book. Jeremy Hayes will be the ace of the Rebel cause. Betsy Layne and Prestonsburg are always competitive and South Floyd, last year's district champions, will return a veteran squad.

Coach Bridget Clay and her Lady Blackcats at Prestonsburg have to be

considered the favorite not only in our district but the region, as well. This is going to be a solid club; however, they will have to play without one Megan Hyden.

Allen Central always fields a good team, and look for South Floyd to be in contention this season. Should be a great year!

Allen Central

a one-time 17 point deficit, led by a third quarter defense that changed everything and took the Tigers out of what they wanted to do in the second half.

Paintsville was moving the basketball and taking advantage of a slow moving zone defense of the Rebels. The Tigers were hot from the arc burying seven three point baskets in the first two quarters that netted them a 15-10 first quarter lead and a 32-17 half time lead.

However, when the two teams emerged from the locker room for seconds half play, it was all Allen Central as they became more active on defense and stopped the Tigers with an aggressive defense.

It was a gamble for Coach Martin as his team went to the more aggressive play. His two guards, Shawn Newsome and Larry Mullins, were saddled on the bench mid way of the second quarter in foul trouble. It did not take long for the two leading scorer's to pick up the troublesome fouls. Newsome was whistled for two charging fouls under the protest of the large Allen Central contingent that filled the gym.

Mullins was whistled for two "picky" calls and Coach Martin reluctantly went to his bench.

Something the Rebels did in the final two and half quarters was take better care of the basketball. Allen Central, who turned the ball over eight times in the first 16 minutes had only three in the final two quarters.

Paintsville has some costly mistakes as time was winding down in regulation play. Leading 52-45 with less than three minutes to play, the Tigers wanted to take some air out of the basketball and take only the open shots.

While working the ball, Newsome and Mullins picked off some long passes as the Rebels climbed back in. On a drive up the



photo by Ed Taylor

ELKHORN CITY'S Justin Ratliff (24) scored on this drive over Millard's Chris Coleman in All "A" play. Ratliff scored 25 points in a 86-70 loss to the Mustangs.

Continued from p1

Sideline

Continued from p2

Elusive! That one simple yet powerful word describes Kevin Jones. Jones a standout at Springfield-O'Hara High School runs the 40 in 4.2. Yes, 4.2 seconds!

Jabari Davis, Tucker, GA

Jabari Davis is a 5-11, 225 rock of a running back who runs a 4.48 40. The big, burly, running back is getting looks from virtually very big-time college. He remains undecided.

Carnell Williams, Attalla-Etowah, AL

The University of Tennessee Volunteers got a commitment from standout Carnell Williams last weekend. He is a 6-0, 195 versatile back who runs the 40 in 4.5.

Kelly Baraka, Portage-Northern, MI

Kelly Baraka has committed to play his college football at the University of Michigan. The 6-1, 185 Baraka turns in a speedy 40 time of 4.39.

Willie Reid, Warner Robins, GA

Willie Reid came on strong late in his high school career and is now receiving substantial attention from several SEC schools, including the University of Georgia. The 6-0, 180 Warner Robins quarterback runs the 40 in 4.4 seconds.

Any and all of the aforementioned running backs are invited to come play football in Lexington. I speak for all UK football fans when I say that we would be honored to have you carrying the football on Saturdays in Commonwealth Stadium.

A couple of closing notes and rumors

Rumors out of Johnson County have Sheldon Clark football coach Jim Matney interested in the Johnson Central job. True or false, Johnson Central does have one thing Sheldon Clark doesn't, and that's top-notch facilities! Matney at Johnson Central? I don't know about that one. If JCHS could somehow lure Matney from Martin County, it would definitely be a big win for the Golden Eagle program and a big loss for the Cards.

Billy Johnson is a likely candidate for the Johnson Central job. Johnson is a former JCHS quarterback. He is currently the principal at Central Elementary School. Outgoing coach Bill Musick thinks real highly of Johnson.

Oh, spring football practice is not that far off!

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South Floyd

Continued from p1

Johnson, our big girl in the middle. She broke her finger in the All 'A' and we were without her.
 "Stacia Stanley who is normally the first player in off the bench came in and played real well stepping in for Sara. Right now, our whole bench is playing real well."
 The Paintsville win was something the Lady Raiders needed. The Paintsville win wasn't the best game the Lady Raiders have played this season, but it was an all-important win nevertheless.
 Ashley Johnson put South Floyd ahead with the first basket of the game on a put-back of a teammate's miss. Johnson's teammate Kandice

Mitchell was fouled on a shot attempt and made good on two-of-two free throw attempts. The Lady Raiders held a 4-0 lead when Paintsville sophomore Stacy Music hit a three-pointer at the 5:43 point of the opening period to make it a 4-3 game.
 Coach Melinda Osborne's team led 8-3 when Heather Staniford brought Paintsville to within three points, thanks to a short jumper. Paintsville made the most of a South Floyd turnover one possession later when eighth grader Ashley Hall connected on a three-point dial up. After tying the game up at 8, Paintsville managed to tie the game up once more with a 10. South Floyd combat-

ed the Paintsville attack by going on a 16-4 run to end the quarter.
 Stacia Stanley put the first two points in the books to start the second quarter for South Floyd. The second period would play out as a low-scoring affair. South Floyd put up 10 points while Paintsville as a collective team tossed in 12 to make it a 36-22 game at the half.
 Paintsville was three points better in the third period, outscoring South Floyd 17-14. The Lady Raiders found themselves in foul trouble throughout the quarter, thus forcing some starters to sit.
 "Some of our freshman got in foul trouble early and had to sit out more

than we would have liked them to," said Coach Osborne. "But, our bench was able to go in and give the good minutes that we needed."
 Stanley put South Floyd up 44-25 with a field goal at the 5:41 mark of the third quarter. Coach Mark Baldwin's Lady Tigers battled back and, following the Stanley score, outscored South Floyd 14-6.
 One of the highlights of the third period came with 1:40 left in the quarter when Minnie Tackett made her first appearance in a South Floyd game since being injured in early-December. Tackett is a player who can really contribute to the Lady Raiders' scheme of things this season,

especially now that she's back healthy.
 "Minnie (Tackett) just got released this past Monday and has practiced with us three days now," said Coach Osborne. "She can really help us. When she gets some more practices under her belt, she'll hopefully be back to where she was before she went out with the injury."
 South Floyd, playing several players, was a basket better than Paintsville in the final quarter.
 Mitchell led South Floyd with 17 points. Ashley Johnson netted 16 and fellow guard Valerie King tossed in 11.
 Staniford paced Paintsville with a

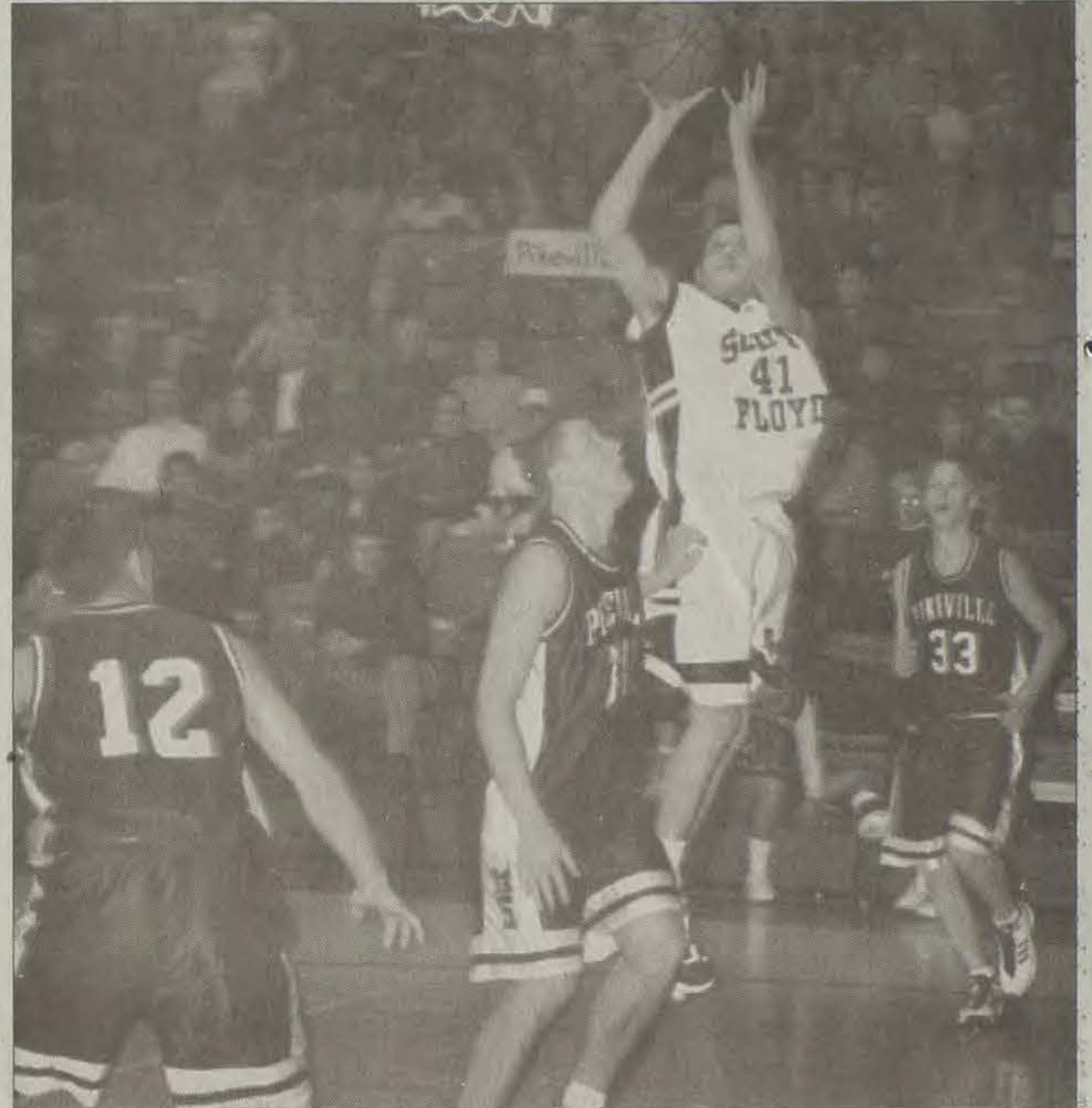
game-high 19 points. Hall and Music each finished the game with eight points.
 South Floyd will be back in action Monday, January 22, as they travel to Elkhorn City to do battle with the Lady Cougars. The Lady Raiders play host to Magoffin County later in the week.
SOUTH FLOYD (64) - Mitchell 17, Johnson 16, King 11, Ousley 8, Stanley 8, Williams 2, Tackett 2.
PAINTSVILLE (51) - Staniford 19, Hall 8, Music 8, Taylor 6, Preston 3, Reynolds 2, Haney 2, Brown 2, Shaffer 1.

Overtime

game. "I shouldn't have handled the situation the way I did."
 With the ejection, Akers will be forced to sit out the next game, a contest with The Piarist School.
 Amelia Conley put the first points on the scoreboard for Prestonsburg on a short shot as Coach Harold Tackett's Prestonsburg team jumped out to a 6-0 lead to start the game. Jenny Parsons scored her first two points of a team-high 28 to put the host Ladycats on the scoreboard at the 4:45 mark of the first quarter. Conley pushed it out to a 8-2 lead with a field goal the next Prestonsburg trip down the court. Betsy Layne outscored Prestonsburg the final four minutes of the quarter but still trailed the visiting Lady Blackcats 13-11 at the conclusion of the quarter.
 Junior Ramanda Music began the second quarter going one-for-two from the free throw line to make it a 14-11 lead. Parsons answered for Betsy Layne on consecutive trips giving them a slight 15-14 lead with 6:54 left to play in the first half. The two teams went into the locker rooms at the half deadlocked at 26 points each.
 Betsy Layne led for most of the third period and took a 40-37 advantage into what many thought would be the fourth and final quarter.
 Betsy Layne led 52-40 at the 5:04 mark of the fourth period with Prestonsburg having trouble with the Betsy Layne press.
 Conley converted on one-of-two

free throw attempts to make it a 58-48 game at the 3:24 mark of the final period. A Brooke Coleman put-back cut the Betsy Layne lead to just eight at 58-50. Music went one-for-two from the charity stripe and then made a layup to make it a 58-53 game.
 Following a Betsy Layne time-out, Music made another layup to cut the Betsy Layne lead to just three points. Senior Chrissie Nelson, came off the Prestonsburg bench to tie the game 59-59 with 1:57 left to go in regulation.
 Angela Howell hit Conley with a pass that she then tossed in to make it a 64-63 Prestonsburg lead. Natasha Stratton tossed in two of her own at the Betsy Layne end, giving Betsy Layne a 65-64 lead. Music went one-of-two from the free throw line in the closing seconds to tie the game up at 65-65. The second miss came down in Coleman's hands and she was fouled. Coleman went to the foul line and hit on both free throws to give Prestonsburg a 67-65 lead with just 7.3 seconds remaining in the game and Betsy Layne facing the challenge of taking the basketball the full length of the court and then scoring, or somewhere in between.
 It was not in Betsy Layne's favor to tie this game, what with just seven seconds left, but nobody told Jenny Parsons that. Parsons had been on for Betsy Layne all night, and she was once again, as she nailed a jumper at the buzzer to tie the game up and send it into overtime.

Betsy Layne outscored Prestonsburg 15-10 in the extra four minute overtime period. Prestonsburg was held scoreless for the first two minutes of the overtime.
 "We just continue to make some of the same mental mistakes that we've been making all season long," said Prestonsburg Coach Harold Tackett at the end of the Betsy Layne game. "This is the second part of the season and I told and we still haven't had anyone who has really stepped up. We need to find that leadership. The girls played real hard the last five minutes of the game, besides that Betsy Layne out-hustled us the entire game. You have to give credit to Betsy Layne, they're a good team."
 Parsons' game-high 28 tallies was complimented by a 13-point effort from Whitney Lykens. Devon Reynolds and Amber Roberts finished the game with 12 points each.
 Conley led the way for Prestonsburg with 21 points. Music turned in a fine performance with 20 points and Coleman ended the game with 13 points. Freshman Heather White added eight points to the Lady Blackcats cause.
BETSY LAYNE (82) - Parsons 28, Lykens 13, Roberts 12, Reynolds 12, Stratton 9, Mitchell 6, Whitt 2.
PRESTONSBURG (77) - Conley 21, Music 20, Coleman 13, White 9, Nelson 8, Howell 4, Webb 2.



CHARLES RAY (41) of South Floyd put up a jumper over the Pikeville defense in the boys All "A" regional at Pikeville Thursday night. photo by Ed Taylor

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Legends introduce managers, coaches

Team signs player development deal with Astros

The Lexington Legends Professional Baseball Club, in conjunction with the Houston Astros, has introduced J.J. Cannon as the manager of the Astros' new Class A affiliate in the South Atlantic League.

Also introduced was pitching coach Charley Taylor and hitting coach Jayhawk Owens. Keven Eichorn will be the athletic trainer.

Cannon, 47, spent the last two seasons managing the Danville Braves in the Appalachian Rookie Advanced League in Virginia. His team won the East Division Championship in 2000 after finishing second the previous year.

Before joining Danville in 1999, Cannon spent 20 years in the Toronto Blue Jays organization as a player, coach and manager. He has managed

or coached in some of the most competitive minor leagues in the country, including the South Atlantic, Southern, Carolina and New York-Penn League, where he was named Manager of the Year in 1993.

"I am very excited about being a part of this new franchise and honored to be its first manager," said Cannon. "I am anxious to begin working on bringing a championship to Lexington."

Legends President/CEO Alan Stein called the field staff outstanding, noting their experience and a proven track record of success. "J.J. Cannon's depth of experience and knowledge at this level is just the kind of steady influence we need in our inaugural season," Stein said. "One thing this organization doesn't need is disarray on the field and J.J. brings discipline, knowledge and experience, so that's one area that neither the Astros nor the Legends will have to worry about."

Cannon described his managing style as aggressive. "My teams play an aggressive style of baseball that is exciting for both the players and the fans," Cannon said.

Cannon appeared in 148 Major

League games with the Astros (1977-78) and Blue Jays (1979-81) over a 10-year professional career. He was Houston's first round pick (16th overall) in the 1974 January draft out of Pensacola (FL) Junior College. Cannon and his wife, Jan, reside in Pensacola with their two daughters, Jessica and Jennifer.

Taylor, 53, is a former minor league pitcher who begins his 20th season as a coach in the Astros system. He comes to Lexington from the Astros Class-A Michigan club where he was pitching coach for the Midwest League champion Battle Cats.

Taylor's coaching career began at Asheville in 1982 and includes stops in the Houston minor league organization at Osceola (1985), Columbus (1986, 1990) and again at Asheville (1987-89). He had two stints with Double-A Jackson of the Texas League from 1991-95 and 1998-99. Taylor also served as pitching coach at Tucson (1996) and Quad City (1997).

He has been the pitching coach for three championship teams: 1984 South Atlantic League champ Asheville, Southern League champion Columbus in 1986 and Jackson of the Texas League in 1993.

Taylor retired as a player after the 1975 season. He worked in the Cincinnati Reds' front office from 1977-81. He and his wife, Pam, reside in Erlanger, Kentucky. They have three grown daughters and one grandson.

Owens, 31, joins the Legends' staff after serving as hitting coach last season in Michigan with the Midwest League champion Battle Cats, the Astros' other Single-A affiliate.

It's a homecoming of sorts for Owens; he was born in Cincinnati, just 80 miles north of Lexington. He played professionally from 1990-98, including parts of four seasons in the

Majors with the Colorado Rockies.

Owens and his wife, Jennifer, reside in Cincinnati. They have a 3-year-old son and 15-month-old daughter.

Eichorn spent the last two seasons as the trainer for the Astros rookie advanced team in Martinsville, Virginia. Before joining the Astros, Eichorn was a certified athletic trainer at the Louisiana Sports Medicine Center.

He was previously a graduate assistant at his alma mater, Southern Mississippi. Eichorn has also worked with teams in the Texas-Louisiana Baseball League and the Western Professional Hockey League. Also, Houston Astros assistant general manager Tim Purpura and Legends

President/CEO Alan Stein signed a four-year Player Development Contract officially making the Legends the new Single-A affiliate of the Astros in the South Atlantic League.

"The Houston Astros are very proud and happy to welcome the Legends to our affiliate family," Purpura said. "From the first time we met with Alan Stein and his fine staff, we have been extremely impressed with the quality of the organization and the plans they have for baseball in Lexington. We are excited that we will have the opportunity to bring Houston Astros Baseball to Lexington and we look forward to a long and mutually beneficial relationship."

Stein called the signing personally

and professionally gratifying. "This is a day I have looked forward to and worked for on behalf of this community since 1984," he said. "I am humbled by the relationship that we have with the Astros, who we believe to be the classiest and most professional Major League organization from top-to-bottom anywhere to be found."

The Legends also announced the official approval from Major League and Minor League Baseball to take over control of the club from the South Atlantic League. The lengthy legal document known as the Control Interest Transfer, or CIT, allows the Legends to play as an official Minor League Baseball Team and be affiliated with a Major League franchise.

Bobcats hold on to beat Blackcats

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS WRITER

The Betsy Layne and Prestonsburg boys' teams took to the Betsy Layne Dome hardwood in the second game of the boys-girls double-header. The first Betsy Layne-Prestonsburg encounter this season saw the host Blackcats get bombarded before fighting back to make it a respectable final.

This game Prestonsburg gave Betsy Layne a good game for most of four quarters until the Bobcats pulled away late and posted a 10-point, 86-76 win.

Betsy Layne led 6-3 when Dustin Music hit on a jumper to make it a 6-5 game. Senior Bobcat Brock Keathley then hit on a field goal and Betsy Layne led 8-5. Two consecutive Adam Collins field goals in the next two Bobcat possessions made it a 12-5 contest. The Prestonsburg coaching staff then called for a timeout, but were outscored 4-0 before a field goal each from Branham and Music made it a 16-9 contest. Brad Daugherty hit for the last two points of the quarter and the host Bobcats took a 22-14 lead into the second quarter.

The Betsy Layne lead was as large as nine points and as small as four points in the second period. A three-pointer from the hands of senior Ricky Powers brought Prestonsburg to within four points if the Betsy Layne lead at 33-29 with

just :30 left in the first half. Betsy Layne's Jeremy Daniels went 2-2 from the free throw line with 12 ticks left in the half to make it a 35-39 game through the first half.

The first half had to be a big confidence builder for the Blackcats as they were hanging close with a very good Betsy Layne team.

Music opened up the third quarter with a short jumper. Betsy Layne then reeled off two straight scores to make it a 39-31 game at the 6:25 mark of the period. The Blackcats cut the lead down to just four points with a Music turnaround jumper. Betsy Layne entered the final quarter with a 51-44 lead.

Music began the fourth quarter with a pair of free throws. However, the Bobcats played steady throughout the final eight minutes and by the 2:51 mark of the quarter had built up a 14-point, 66-52 lead.

Prestonsburg Blackcat Josh Justice knocked down a three-pointer for the final Blackcat score. Betsy Layne's Keathley hit one-of-two from the charity stripe in the game's final seconds to make it a 76-66 final.

Keathley led Betsy Layne in scoring with a game-high 24 points. Daugherty and Collins finished with 17 and 16 points respectively. Daniels ended the Prestonsburg game with 10 tallies.

Music paced Prestonsburg with 23 points. Branham netted 18 and Powers finished with 12. Martin finished with five points.

Betsy Layne wins three as county tournament nears

by ED TAYLOR
SPORTS EDITOR

Coach Jim Roberts and his Betsy Layne Elementary Ladycats are fine-tuning their game for next week's grade school basketball tournament that gets underway Monday evening.

The tournament will be played on the Ladycats' home turf, and Betsy Layne is the defending county champion.

Tuesday night, in a makeup game, the Ladycats posted a 41-22 win over visiting South Floyd. Wednesday evening Betsy Layne rolled past Allen Central Middle School, 46-24, and recorded a 29-27 win over, again, Allen Central at Allen Central Thursday night.

Kim Clark and Lindsey Frasure scored 10 points each against South Floyd in their 41-22 win. Kristal Daniels added eight and Breann Akers netted six points. Rachel Hunt finished with four and Jessica Blackburn totaled three while Bethany Tackett finished with two.

Hall and Trammel scored seven each to lead South Floyd.

Betsy Layne took a 12-8 first quarter lead over the Lady Raiders with Clark scoring six of her points in the first period.

The Ladycats led 20-10 at the half. Akers and Daniels scored four points each in the second stanza.

Frasure had 12 points to lead Betsy Layne to the 46-24 win over Allen Central in the first meeting of the two teams. Clark finished with nine points while Candice Meade scored seven. Akers totaled six with Lindsey Cross and Amanda Hunter scoring two each.

Samantha Nelson led Allen Central with seven points. Amanda Mills tossed in five. Becky Thomas, Natasha Blanton and Kelli Allen scored four points each.

The two teams were tied at 4-4 after the first quarter with Betsy Layne taking a 13-9 lead to the locker area at the half.

The Ladycats outscored Allen Central 17-9 in the final quarter.

In game two with Allen Central, Thursday night, both Clark and Meade finished with 10 points in a 29-27 edging of the Lady Rebels on their home floor. Clark scored four, while Daniels finished with three and Tackett two.

Becky Thomas led all scorers with 17 points, and Mills added four. Blanton netted three with Meade and Hunter netting two apiece.

Betsy Layne outscored Allen Central 8-4 in the third. It was a tied game at 6-6 in the first and Allen Central led 13-10 at the half.



AUSTIN WOODS bagged his first deer in Lawrence County in the first week-end of deer season in 2000. Austn was accompanied by his dad, Steve Woods and his grandfather Buddy Woods.

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TOP TEN

■ NASCAR This Week writer Monte Dutton ranks the top 10 off-season highlights.

1. **Fords slightly faster than GM cars in Daytona testing**
2. **Ricky Craven replaces Scott Pruett in PPI Ford**
3. **Jason Leffler the apparent choice for No. 01 Dodge**
4. **ESPN2's "RPM 2Nite" and TNN's "Raceday" denied credentials for Daytona Speedweeks**
5. **Dale Earnhardt and Dale Earnhardt Jr. test Corvette for Rolex 24 endurance race**
6. **Chuck Hossfeld and Nathan Haseleu prepare for Roush Ford truck rides**
7. **Rick Mast replaces Craven in Midwest Transit No. 50**
8. **Tony Stewart wins Turkey Night midget race in California**
9. **Jeff Gordon to drive two '01 races with Pepsi sponsorship**
10. **Jerry Nadeau announces he will drive dirt-modified car in Charlotte race**

2001 WINSTON CUP SCHEDULE

Date	Track	Location
Feb. 11	Daytona International Speedway (Bud Shootout)	Daytona Beach, Fla.
Feb. 15	Daytona International Speedway (Gatorade 125s)	Daytona Beach, Fla.
Feb. 18	Daytona International Speedway	Daytona Beach, Fla.
Feb. 25	North Carolina Speedway	Rockingham
March 4	Las Vegas Motor Speedway	Las Vegas
March 11	Atlanta Motor Speedway	Hampton, Ga.
March 18	Darlington Raceway	Darlington, S.C.
March 25	Bristol Motor Speedway	Bristol, Tenn.
April 1	Texas Motor Speedway	Fort Worth, Texas
April 8	Martinsville Speedway	Martinsville, Va.
April 22	Talladega Superspeedway	Talladega, Ala.
April 29	California Speedway	Fontana, Calif.
May 5	Richmond International Raceway	Richmond, Va.
May 19	Lowe's Motor Speedway (The Winston)	Concord, N.C.
May 27	Lowe's Motor Speedway	Concord, N.C.
June 3	Dover Downs International Speedway	Dover, Del.
June 10	Michigan International Speedway	Brooklyn, Mich.
June 17	Pocono Raceway	Long Pond, Pa.
June 24	Sears Point Raceway	Sonoma, Calif.
July 7	Daytona International Speedway	Daytona Beach, Fla.
July 15	Chicagoland Speedway	Joliet, Ill.
July 22	New Hampshire International Speedway	Loudon, N.H.
July 29	Pocono Raceway	Long Pond, Pa.
Aug. 5	Indianapolis Motor Speedway	Indianapolis
Aug. 12	Watkins Glen International	Watkins Glen, N.Y.
Aug. 19	Michigan International Speedway	Brooklyn, Mich.
Aug. 25	Bristol Motor Speedway	Bristol, Tenn.
Sept. 2	Darlington Raceway	Darlington, S.C.
Sept. 8	Richmond International Raceway	Richmond, Va.
Sept. 16	New Hampshire International Speedway	Loudon, N.H.
Sept. 23	Dover Downs International Speedway	Dover, Del.
Sept. 30	Kansas Speedway	Kansas City, Kan.
Oct. 7	Lowe's Motor Speedway	Concord, N.C.
Oct. 14	Martinsville Speedway	Martinsville, Va.
Oct. 21	Talladega Superspeedway	Talladega, Ala.
Oct. 28	Phoenix International Raceway	Avondale, Ariz.
Nov. 4	North Carolina Speedway	Rockingham
Nov. 11	Homestead-Miami Speedway	Homestead, Fla.
Nov. 18	Atlanta Motor Speedway	Hampton, Ga.

FEUD OF THE WEEK

Jimmy Spencer vs. Dale Earnhardt: Part 2

Earnhardt said that when he agreed to drive a Corvette in the Rolex 24 endurance race, he promised Chevrolet officials to do whatever they asked to prepare for the assignment. That, he said, meant that he traded off with his son so Dale Jr. could attend the Winston Cup Preview. An Earnhardt spokesman also said that Earnhardt had informed RJR officials in November that he would not attend.

NASCAR This Week's Monte Dutton gives his opinion: "So there you have it: both sides. Spencer said Earnhardt should have been there; Earnhardt said he had a prior commitment. Winston officials said Earnhardt had told them he couldn't make it in past years and had shown up, so they kept trying to work out the problem right up to the day of the show. Earnhardt also said he didn't care what Spencer said and that he could say whatever he wanted."

FROM THE ARCHIVES

■ **Junie Donlavey has seldom had lavish financial backing for his Fords, but he gave some of NASCAR's greatest drivers their start. Over the years, the No. 90 has been driven by, among others, Ernie Ivan, Ken Schrader, Ricky Rudd, three-time Indianapolis 500 winner Johnny Rutherford, Joe Weatherly, Tiny Lund, Lee Roy Yarbrough, Dick Brooks, Fred Lorenzen and David Pearson. But it was Jody Ridley who gave Donlavey his only victory, at Dover Downs in 1981.**

Stewart says he might not be ready for Winston Cup title run just yet

By Monte Dutton
NASCAR This Week

During the UAW-GM Media Tour's visit to Joe Gibbs Racing, Tony Stewart assessed his 2001 championship hopes cautiously.

"I don't think so," Stewart said when asked if he considered himself a prime contender. "The possibility is there, but there are a lot of variables I can't control. Right now, my goal is to try to make it better than last year. I try to keep my goals fairly realistic. I have to try to get that consistency it takes to be a champion."

"I think when you look at our team, you have to say that the weak point is probably still the driver. I think I know how to win races, but I'm not sure I

know yet how to win championships. I know we have the resources it takes to be a contender."

Stewart made reference to the slow start that eventually consigned him to a sixth-place finish in the 2000 points races, despite the fact that he won more races, six, than any other driver.

"My rookie season (1999) went that way, too," Stewart said. "I think maybe we placed too much emphasis on the first half of last season. I think we were trying hard to be fast, but maybe we were trying too hard. We let things fall through our fingers, and we probably failed to win some races we should have won. I don't know what the proper way is to describe it. Later on in the season,

we kind of found a comfort level that we lacked because, maybe, we were too frantic; maybe we were trying too hard when the season began."

IT'S HOW YOU SAY IT: Stewart made reference to his problems dealing with the media when he mentioned a conversation he'd had with another driver, Jeff Burton, during the off-season.

"I think he probably helped me a lot," Stewart said. "He told me that I can say anything I want, but I needed to think about the words I use in saying them. It's not as much what you say as how you say it, and I finally think I understand what Jeff meant by that."

The controversy of the season's first 12 races, Stewart said, "cost me a lot of sleep."

TAKE THAT, DAD: As usual, the visit to Dale Earnhardt Inc. was characterized by mischievous digs at each other from Earnhardt's senior and junior.

Asked what his dad thought of his dream that he would win the Daytona 500 next month, Dale Earnhardt Jr. said, "He probably thinks I'm an idiot, but we'll see who the idiot is in February."

Later, his father replied indirectly. "No, it doesn't surprise me a bit that he (Earnhardt Jr.) had a dream," he said. "He sleeps a lot. He should have

Countdown to Daytona:

34

... days to the Feb. 18
Daytona 500

Your Turn

Letters From Our Readers

Dear NASCAR This Week,
A few weeks ago, a reader wrote to you asking why you haven't profiled all the Winston Cup drivers. How about profiling Dave Blaney? Donald Depofi Burghill, Ohio

Sorry you missed it, but we did profile Dave Blaney during 2000. Hang in there. We'll get back to him soon.

Dear NASCAR This Week,
What engine will the new Dodge teams use in their Winston Cup cars?

Jim Hayman
Pawtucket, R.I.

The Dodge Winston Cup engine is a new power plant, but it is not based on a production engine. None of the manufacturers use engines based on production cars, one of the reasons being that fuel injection is not allowed by NASCAR. The Dodge engine is similar in many respects to engines used by Ford and General Motors.

Dear NASCAR This Week,
We have been NASCAR fans for many years. We were very pleased to hear of Mikey's (Michael Waltrip) change. Can you tell us what car and number he will be driving this year?
Chad and Cindy Kennedy
Huntsville, Ala.

Michael Waltrip will drive the No. 15 NAPA Chevrolet Monte Carlo, fielded by Dale Earnhardt. The car will carry a blue-and-yellow paint scheme.

Attention, readers:
Please do not send stamped, self-addressed envelopes. Due to the large volume of mail, we are unable to answer letters individually. We will consider all letters for publication, but space limits our ability to respond.

Fan Tips

■ Max Helton is president and founder of Motor Racing Outreach, an interdenominational ministry that serves racing communities throughout North America. In the words of "Beyond the Checkered Flag," Helton's 1996 book of daily devotions, MRO "takes church to the track" as its chaplains conduct on-site chapel services, Bible studies, personalized counseling and a children's program. Motor Racing Outreach may be reached at 5555 Concord Parkway S., Smith Tower, Suite 405, Concord, N.C. 28027, by calling (704) 455-3828, or by visiting the MRO Web site at www.go2mro.com.

Who's Hot... Who's Not

■ **HOT:** Jason Leffler, apparently the new driver of Chip Ganassi's No. 01 Dodge.

■ **NOT:** Veteran Rick Mast, who tested the No. 50 Chevrolet at Daytona.

Trackside Trivia

1. What driver drove No. 44 to his first championship?
2. What ARCA driver once used an all-female pit crew?
3. What Winston Cup driver won the 1989 24 Hours of Daytona endurance race?
4. When Ernie Ivan made his Winston Cup debut, who was the primary sponsor?

ANSWERS:
1. Terry Labonte in 1984; 2. Bill Venturi; 3. John Andretti; 4. Dale Earnhardt Chevrolet.

AROUND THE GARAGE

a lot of dreams."

THAT LAST STEP'S A DOOZY: Michael Waltrip, the newest driver in what is now a three-car DEI contingent, said Earnhardt laid down four rules when he hired Waltrip to drive his new No. 15 Monte Carlo.

"Number one," said Waltrip, wearing a not-quite-filled-in Fu Manchu, "he said I had to grow some form of facial hair, so I already complied with that. Two, he said I've got to look more 'outdoorsy.' Three, he said I had to eat here (on the DEI grounds) 'cause it's a good value."

"And four? Uh... oh, yeah, he said, 'I better win some races.'"



Angie Waugh's sixth grade science classes at Allen Elementary School recently studied a unit on the solar system



B e f o r e w e f o r g e t

Stairway to heaven

by Pam Shingler
 LIFESTYLES EDITOR

A picture in Wednesday's Lifestyles section has generated a number of memories, particularly along Left Beaver.

In the picture, a set of concrete steps seem to disappear into the hillside on KY 122, near Bevinsville.

Several readers called to let us know the steps, though now abandoned, once led to Buckingham Cemetery, in the old community of Buckingham.

Brenda Johnson Collins of Bellevue, Ohio, said the cemetery that spreads out above the old steps "used to be my quiet spot."

Collins, who was visiting her family this week, said she has "climbed those steps many a time."

Like many other callers, she has family buried there. "It's where my mother and dad will be buried and probably where I'll be buried," she said.

Maxine Osborne of Bevinsville says it's a big cemetery at more than four acres. She estimates the steps were built in the 1940s when the road was still in or near the creek bed — before cars sped by along the now-busy state route.

"It was hard to carry a casket up those steps," says her husband Joseph Osborne. He ought to know, he's done it a time or two.

He remembers that the steps once had hand railings, but since the steps ceased to be used, the railings fell into disrepair.

A paved road, just around the curve, now takes hearses and other vehicles to the cemetery. A parking lot allows for about 50 cars.

Joseph Osborne estimates the cemetery has been there for more than 100 years. It was originally the burial place for the Newsome family, he said, but it was added onto and became a cemetery for the community.

Familiar Left Beaver names on tombstones — such as Hall, Johnson and Osborne — provide a record of the area.

Joseph Osborne remembers when a shed stood on a level spot on the cemetery. "We had church services there during the summer, for meetings and for funerals," he said.

Still, families gather to remember loved ones. "They really decorate



(See STAIRWAY, page three)



PostScript

by Pam Shingler
 Editor



Go crazy

It's the middle of winter. Christmas and New Year's are behind us. Spring is still too far away to be tangible. This is the time of year we dream about doing something silly, a time when we understand the old TV show "Northern Exposure" much better. We realize that, like the people in the fictitious Sicily, Alaska, we have to do something to stir ourselves or we'll succumb to the bleary cold.

Friend Willie Elliott e-mailed some ideas he found on the Internet. Go ahead. Try some. Save yourself.

■ Glue some quarters to the floor and watch people try to pick them up.

■ Page yourself over the office intercom, and don't disguise your voice.

■ Every time someone asks you to do something, ask if they want fries with that.

■ Decorate with bouquets of

(See POSTSCRIPT, page two)

Country Ham Biscuits alive and well



■ Country Ham and Biscuit Bites

Ask any savvy host in the South what the most popular special occasion menu item is and you'll likely get one answer—the country ham biscuit.

"Country ham biscuits have maintained an extraordinary importance on the southern table, simply because they taste great and they're easy to make. No matter what the occasion, casual or elegant, they fit right in and folks just don't get tired of them," said Linda Carman, the Martha White baking expert and editor of "Southern Traditions: 100 Years of Recipes from the Martha White Kitchens" (CPI 1999).

Historically, the ham biscuit was probably the South's first sandwich, rising in popularity with the increasing availability of wheat flour just before the turn of the 20th century, and even more so with the advent of self-rising flour by the early 20th century.

"Rural families were curing their own hams and enjoying a new prosperity represented by wheat flour. It just stands to reason that the two would find themselves together as country ham biscuits," explained Carman.

"They were a convenient lunch pail take-along for field workers and school children and a frequent light supper. Genteel hostesses elevated them to the status of a sophisticated appetizer that's still going strong today."

In the late 1970s, the fast food industry latched on to the country ham biscuit's popularity, convenience and great taste, creating the "biscuit breakfast sandwich." Restaurants began offering a variety of biscuits filled with combinations of breakfast meats and eggs, bringing what began as the humble country ham biscuit a new popularity beyond the South.

There are rules for making truly exceptional country ham biscuits. In fact, the folks in the Martha White Kitchen have spent a good amount of time researching and debating the issue. They suggest that the finest country ham biscuits come in two distinct styles.

One is a flaky, thin, crisp biscuit that splits easily, but doesn't crumble as you bite into the chewy cured ham. The ingredients are the same, but the proportions are varied slightly. To make a thin, crisp biscuit, the shortening that is cut into the self-rising flour must be left in larger pea-sized pieces and the dough rolled out thinner.

The second popular biscuit for country ham is what some call "bride's" or "angel" biscuits. These biscuits have a softer crumb and crust. And this time, the self-rising flour is combined with a little yeast for flavoring and to lighten the dough.

The origin of the yeast biscuit is unknown, but seems to have surfaced in southern cookbooks and in newspaper food sections during the 1950s. Alice Jarman, the founder of the Martha White Kitchen, developed a version for the company that was publicized across the South, called "Riz" Biscuits. These biscuits became preferred carriers for country ham, because of their light texture and good keeping qualities.

The 21st century brings a third variation to the evolution of the Country Ham Biscuit. Country Ham Biscuit Bites are all-in-one drop biscuits made with the same traditional ingredients. Bits of country ham are stirred right into the soft dough. These crisp bite-size snacks are as versatile as any traditional ham biscuit, but offer added convenience. Just stir up the batter, dollop the dough onto a baking sheet and bake. You can even add a cup of Cheddar cheese for a rich tangy variation. They taste great served warm from the oven or made ahead and served at room temperature.

Martha White, the famous southern flour, corn meal and baking mix company, wants to help preserve and document the South's rich food heritage. If you've got a special family recipe or taste memory, jot it down along with your name and complete address, and send it to the following address:

Martha White Century of Change c/o DVL
 208 7th Avenue North
 Nashville, TN 37219

Entrants will receive a free Martha White recipe booklet. For more great Martha White recipes, visit the web site at www.marthawhite.com.

Perfect Biscuits for Country Ham

2 cups Martha White® Self-Rising Flour
 3/4 cup plus 2 tablespoons buttermilk
 1/3 cup shortening
 2 tablespoon butter, melted

(See COUNTRY, page two)

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. The following column was written in 1961.

Twenty years from now, listen for those who were youngsters in 1961 to swear the winters are not as severe as they were in the old days—If you're not too busy making the same sort of declaration to hear them.

The beautiful, beautiful snow has lain for two weeks now and it may last several days longer...

PREDICTIONS

The Prestonsburg Kiwanis Club has dubbed Woodrow Burchett its Old Man Mose. He is official Club prognosticator and is said to have batted .999 last year with his predictions of things to come. So we list some of his forecasts for 1961, as reported by the Kiwanis Bulletin:

The United States will be on the brink of war several times but the times will not come in '61 when we make swords out of plowshares.

There will be some new faces in the courthouse.

There will be new city government officials.

The East-West highway will be started.

The Browns and Dodgers will have a better season.

Prestonsburg High School will have a new football stadium.

The groundhog will see his shadow. There will be more defeated candidates in '61.

(See WORLD, page two)

Things to Ponder

Palliative — Comfort — Care

by MABLE ROWE LINEBERGER, PH.D.

In reviewing last week's information about osteoporosis, I thought maybe the amount of ongoing pain for its victim was not really described accurately. Whether or not there is an active fracture, the individual in the advanced stage of this degenerative process experiences intense pain. In fact, the pain seems to highlight the location of the acute deterioration of the bone and the involvement of the nerves traveling through the area.

Within the past six months or more, Granny Grace has complained frequently of severe pain in her hands, especially her right hand, and the pain is so great that she is unable to feed herself. It seems to be related to her cervical vertebrae becoming involved with the process. She and all about her are reminded almost constantly of the degenerative process that is taking place.

Even though the center of her care is a desire for quality of life, questions come up: How should pain medication be managed? Should the possibility of the potential for addictions be considered or is just the relief of pain the focus? Do you worry about weight gain when she has such a desire for special treats by limiting or withholding chocolate ice cream? What do you want for your loved one with a terminal disease? What would be your preference if you were in that situation?

Similar to the areas of health care, much research and refinement of care has been done focusing on the needs of individuals with a known terminal condition. Palliative, or "comfort," care seems to be the latest approach for specialty care for a loved one with a chronically deteriorating disease. An impression is that palliative care pertains to the patient having a "good death" by being able to die wherever he/she wants, such as at home. This form of care recognizes that death is a normal part of life and tries to prepare patients and families to meet the concept of the person dying on his own terms.

Another concern is that no one should have to suffer through an illness or die alone or in pain. When the individual is recognized as having a serious or terminal illness, health care providers attempt to reduce the burden on family caregivers by identifying and providing for patient and family needs, whether the needs are physical, emotional, practical or spiritual.

A recent issue of the Journal of the American Medical Association discussed how palliative care challenged physicians and the national medical-care system to accept other ways of thinking about delivering services for patients and their families. Of course, the need of having a better way of payment also was brought up. Reportedly, in 1998, only one of every five Medicare patients applied for hospice benefits to cover palliative care. There is also a significant difference between the services provided by hospice and palliative care. According to Medicare guidelines, hospice provisions are extremely strict; i.e., they are effective only when a patient is certified as having only six months to live and all benefits for treatments aimed at curing a life-threatening condition are stopped.

In addition, Medicare does not pay for prescription drugs for patients who want to spend their last days at home rather than in a hospital setting. In contrast, patients desiring palliative care receive all of the benefits of comfort care while continuing treatment pertaining to the "cure" of their condition.

A national survey done by a VA health scientist of 256 seriously ill patients about a "good death" revealed several interesting results. About one-half of the patients wanted to die at home. The other half disagreed or chose to say that it depended upon the circumstances. Their concern was about handling symptoms, fears about having a body at home, having a death in the house, and having someone who was physically able to care for them. The most important consideration was being free of pain. "But being at peace with God was nearly as important. Emotional and spiritual lessons were on an equal footing with medical care."

Many of the 256 seriously ill patients agreed on several topics as being important, i.e., freedom from pain, clear communications about treatment choices, spending time with family, being treated as a whole person, and having a sense of closure or completion.

In contrast, there were some significant differences noted between doctors and patients. Generally, patients wanted doctors to try all treatments, no matter how small the chance they would work; doctors disagreed. Patients were more interested in not being a burden to their families or society and of being able to help others in the same situation, than MDs were.

Although there has been a lot of media attention to physician-assisted suicide and euthanasia, there has been a movement away from the debate. Nonetheless, assisted suicide is still a highly controversial and much publicized issue. There has been a proposal in Congress for a Pain Relief Promotion Act that would set limits on medication in the last days of life to prevent assisted suicide. Reportedly, in another journal article, 60 percent of terminally ill patients favored euthanasia or physician-assisted suicide in theory, while in practice only about 10 percent inquired about those options in their last days. Ultimately, only one of the 256 patients apparently went through with an assisted death.

Needless to say, the terminally ill patient would not be able to receive palliative care without family caregivers, who account for 80 percent of all at-home care services in the U.S. The results of a 1999 survey showed that their "free" daily duties were valued at about \$196 billion per year. As expected the caregiver's actual role depends upon the needs of the terminally ill patient.

Whatever the specific tasks, hopefully, it is a time of love and compassion, a time of resolving outstanding issues and remembering good times. Then, too, family caregivers need to accept the situation if they are unable to "do all things" for their loved ones.

Dr. Lineberger is a Licensed Psychologist with a private practice in Prestonsburg. She provides a variety of psychological services.

Another century on the river



The city of Prestonsburg looks vastly different, and so does the Levisa Fork of the Big Sandy, rolling alongside, in this vintage photo, from about 1900. Can you note any similarities to today's version of the county seat? The picture is among those found by Johnny Ross, when he and his wife moved into the old Layne House on Arnold Avenue.

Nutritional deficiencies—more common and combatable than you might think

by STEPHANIE P. HAMILL
RADFORD UNIVERSITY

We all have days we don't quite feel ourselves—tired, a little achy, a pain here or there. But if you're feeling these symptoms more often than not, your body may be telling you it is running low on certain nutrients.

These borderline deficiencies, usually the result of a less than perfect diet, can weaken the immune system, and sometimes lead to chronic diseases, depending on the nutrient that is lacking.

"Sub-clinical deficiencies are insidious," says Michele Lewis, a registered dietitian and instructor at Radford University in Virginia. "When the immune system is affected we suffer more frequent colds in the winter, we experience muscle aches and pains of no known origin and we are chronically tired."

Lewis says that these deficiencies affect a fair number of people in the United States and can be combated with diet and lifestyle modification.

Nutrients enter our body in the form of vitamins, minerals, carbohydrates, protein, and fats. Many vitamins and minerals regulate metabolism and assist the processes that release

(See NUTRITION, page three)

Postscript

Continued from p1

dead flowers.

■ Encourage your colleagues to join you in a little synchronized chair dancing.

■ Put your garbage can on your desk and label it "IN."

■ Develop an unnatural fear of staplers.

■ Put decal in the coffee maker for three weeks. Once everyone has gotten over their caffeine addictions, switch to espresso.

■ Put mosquito netting around your cubicle.

■ Reply to everything someone says with, "That's what you think."

■ Adjust the tint on your computer monitor so that the brightness level lights up your entire work area. Insist to others that you like it that way.

■ Don't use any punctuation

■ As often as possible, skip rather than walk.

■ Five days in advance, tell your friends you can't attend their party because you're not in the mood.

■ Specify that your drive-through order is "to go."

■ Go to a poetry recital and ask why the poems don't rhyme.

■ Send e-mail to the rest of the company to tell them what you're doing. For example: "If anyone needs me, I'll be in the bathroom."

■ When the money comes out of the ATM, scream, "I won! I won! Third time this week!"

And the final thing...

■ E-mail this to everyone in your address book, even if they sent it to you.

In the same vein, I saw an article in the Daily Independent of Ashland, by Jackie Cutler and John Crook, listing ways you can tell that you watch too much TV. Some of them hit home.

■ You tried to write in President Josiah Bartlet's name on your ballot last

November.

■ Your only friends are Rachel, Phoebe and Monica.

■ Your children really think dinosaurs were purple, fuzzy and sang.

■ You consider joining Oprah's Book Club, then decide you'd rather just wait for the TV movie.

■ You've been out of sorts since it dawned on you that 60 Minutes is really more like 42 minutes after commercials.

■ You've become frustrated that life doesn't have fast-forward and rewind functions.

■ You're sitting in a house with leaky pipes and holes in the roof while watching the installation of indoor swimming pools and skylights on HGTV.

■ You took a vacation day from work to stay home and attend Bo and Hope's wedding.

■ You find out about the blizzard blanketing your entire area only by watching The Weather Channel.

Indulge me for one more TV tale.

If you haven't been watching Ken Burns' documentary series on "Jazz" on KET, you've been missing a vital and entertaining cultural history lesson. It's a lesson not only in music, but also in the country's racial history during the 20th century.

In last Wednesday night's segment, the story is told of an interviewer asking Duke Ellington, "What did you do when you were not allowed to spend the night in a hotel where you were performing?"

The wonderfully talented, creative, sophisticated black musician replied, "I took the energy it takes to pout and wrote some blues."

Greetings to subscriber Ruby Shepherd of Prestonsburg. Thanks for reading the Times.

World

Continued from p1

(To which we might add: There will be more candidates period.)

THE THING

(I swiped the following story from my No. 2 son.)

It came walking slowly in the early morning through the cold, drifting fog, out of a dark wood, among its dripping trees. Paddling softly through the rotted leaves, its eyes were gleaming slits.

The thing carried one leg rather awkwardly as if it had perhaps been injured, but still it moved with agility and speed. Suddenly it stopped at the top of the hill, threw back its head and gave a blood-curdling howl, an unearthly sort of sound that seemed to tear from the creature's throat... There was a flash of lightning, the sky flared brightly, and the shards of mist were almost golden as they rose from around its paws.

Suddenly the thing dropped to the ground. The eyes fixed on an automobile. A human-

being-type organism had just entered the automobile. Now the car had started and was moving slowly down the hill... The creature crept nearer, its muscles taut and quivering... ready. Then the auto flashed past, and the creature sprang, moving up swiftly behind it.

Then the car stopped. The driver got out, waited for the charging beast. But as the pursuing thing drew nearer it slowed up, then stopped, paused uncertainly and walked up to the man, wagging its tail. Its white body with black spots twitched, and it licked its whiskers nervously.

"So help me!" the man said as his temper boiled. "I'll kick you clear into the next county!" And, true to his word, he walked back to the creature, which was a Jake-legged Dalmatian, and kicked at him with such abandon that, missing, he lost his balance and came a cropper in the snow. Then he put the dog in the car and took him back home, as usual.

Thus ends another episode of tail-tling terror.

Country

Continued from p1

Thinly sliced cooked country ham
Heat oven to 450°F. Grease large cookie sheet. Place flour in large bowl. With pastry blender or fork, cut in shortening until small pea-sized shortening pieces form. Add milk; stir with fork until soft, moist dough forms.

On well-floured surface, knead dough gently until smooth. Roll out dough to 1/3-inch thickness. Cut with floured 2-inch round cutter. Place on greased cookie sheet.

Bake at 450°F. for 10 to 12 minutes or until light golden brown. Brush hot biscuits with melted butter. Fill split biscuits with ham slices. 32 appetizers

TIP: For biscuits that will pull apart easily, roll dough to form 1/4-inch thick rectangle. Fold dough in half crosswise; roll to 1/3-inch thickness. Cut and bake as directed above.

Riz Biscuits

1 pkg. active dry yeast
1/4 cup warm water (105 to 115°F.)
2 1/2 cups Martha White® Self-Rising Flour
3 tablespoons sugar
1/3 cup shortening
3/4 cup plus 2 tablespoons buttermilk
2 tablespoon butter, melted

Grease large cookie sheet. In small bowl, dissolve yeast in warm water (105 to 115°F.).

In large bowl, combine flour and sugar; mix well. With pastry blender or fork, cut in shortening until mixture resembles coarse crumbs. Add yeast mixture and buttermilk; stir until soft dough forms.

On well-floured surface, knead dough gently for 30 to 45 seconds. Roll out dough to 1/2-inch thickness. Cut with floured 2-inch round cutter. Place on greased cookie sheet. Cover; let rise in warm place (80 to 85°F.) until almost doubled in size, about 1 hour.

Heat oven to 375°F. Uncover dough; bake 12 to 15 minutes or until biscuits are golden brown. Brush hot biscuits with melted butter. 32 biscuits.

Country Ham Biscuit Bites

2 cups Martha White® Self-Rising Flour
1/4 teaspoon ground red pepper (cayenne)
1/4 cup shortening
1 cup finely chopped cooked country ham
1/4 cup plus 2 tablespoons milk
2 tablespoons butter, melted

Heat oven to 450°F. Grease large cookie sheet. In large bowl, combine flour and ground red pepper; mix well. With pastry blender or fork, cut in shortening until mixture resembles coarse crumbs. Stir in ham. Add milk; stir with fork until soft, moist dough forms. Drop dough by heaping teaspoonfuls onto greased cookie sheet.

Bake at 450°F. for 12 to 15 minutes or until light golden brown. Brush hot biscuits bites with melted butter. 40 biscuit bites.

VARIATION:

Cheesy Country Ham Biscuit Bites: Prepare biscuits as directed above, except stir in 4 oz. (1 cup) shredded sharp Cheddar cheese with the ham.

School Happenings...

Adams Middle School Youth Services Center

■ Center is open weekdays, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. or later by appointment. 886-9812.

Allen Central High School

■ ACHS Band is collecting Pepsi Musical Points, which enable the purchase of instruments. Points are on 12-pack cubes, 20 oz. and liter bottles of Pepsi, Diet Pepsi, Mountain Dew and Diet Mountain Dew. Give to any ACHS band member or mail to Eastern Band Boosters, PO Box 156, Eastern, KY 41622.

Clark Elementary

■ 1-25: SBDM Council regular meeting, 6 p.m., library.

Clark FRC

■ After school child care, 3-5:30 p.m., school days, openings available.
■ Nurse in the center on Thursdays.
Appointments for sixth grade physicals now being scheduled. 886-0815.

McDowell FRC

■ Floyd County Health Department nurse is at the Center each Monday to see patients. Call to schedule physical appointment for your 5th grader. Call 377-2678.

■ A counselor from Mountain Comprehensive Care is at the center one day a week to see students in need of counseling. Parents are encouraged to stop by the center if they think their child can benefit.

■ GED classes, free, Mondays, 8 a.m. -11:30 a.m. Instructor, Linda Bailey of The David School.

■ Child Care, from school dismissal -5 p.m., \$20 per week/per child. For possible fee assistance, call East Kentucky Child Care Coalition, 886-1280.

Osborne FRC

■ 1-23: Ronald McDonald Amazing Thinking Machine, Pre-K-4th grade.
■ 1-24: Wolfe Brothers.
■ 1-26: Safety program, K-3.
■ 1-29 & 30: Recycling program.
Lending Library is available to school and community.

Prestonsburg FRC

■ Center is open weekdays, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. After School Child Care, 3-6 p.m., school days.
■ Counselor from Mountain Comprehensive Care at center one day a week to see students in need of counseling. Call 886-7088 or stop by.

South Floyd YSC

■ 1-23: Making Your College Search Count.
■ 1-24: AIDS awareness presentations.
■ 1-29: Eating disorders awareness presentations.
Walking track open to public, except during special event. Adult education available. Contact Mable Hall, Keith Smallwood or Misty Dawson, 452-9600 or 9607, ext. 243 or 242.

Wildlife conservation grows needs.
Help at <http://www.safariclub.org>.

Safari Club International Foundation
886.377.5399 • www.SafariClubFoundation.org

Never Forget

Birthdays

Turns one

Gavin Dwayne Stone turned one year old on Friday, January 12, 2001. He celebrated with a Blues Clues theme party on Saturday, January 13, at Goodloe Pentecostal Church. He is the son of Dwayne and Kimberly Stone of David. He is the grandson of Janis Prater of David and the late Don Prater, and of Joan and Malcolm Stone of Prestonsburg. His maternal great-grandparents are Bernice and Arnold Prater of David, and the late Henry and Sally Arnett. Paternal great-grandparents are Elmer Stone of Salyersville and the late Irene Stone, and Ernest and Margalene Mitchell of McDowell.

NEW ARRIVALS

Highlands Regional Medical Center

- November 10: A son, Dillon Charles Wayne Miller, to Melinda McGhee of Allen.
- December 26: A daughter, Madelyn Renee, to Heather and Thomas Edward Preston of Staffordsville; a daughter, Rita Marie, to Sandra Kay and Robert Jason Webb of Allen.
- December 27: A daughter, Jacklyn Breann, to Melissa Faye and Jack Bradley Combs of Salyersville.
- December 28: A son, Jesse Lee, to Crystaline and Ricky Dorton of Blaine.
- December 29: A son, Alexander, to Charles and Baxter L. Murphy of Lovely; a son, Kevin Ray Hamilton Jr., to April L. and Kevin R. Hamilton of Harold; a son, Bradeley Ray, to Crystal and Ray Saylor of Oil Springs; a son, Corey Dylan, to Mary Jean and Kermit Murphy of Hi Hat.
- December 31: A son, Nathan Tyler Shane, to Retta and John McKenzie of Prestonsburg.

ANNIVERSARIES



Golden anniversary

Chester P. and Helen J. Castle Higgins of Columbus, Ohio, recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. They were married in Wayland on December 23, 1950. The bride, who is originally from Wayland, is retired from St. Rita's Home for the Aged, and the groom, who is from Garrett, is retired from TWA. They are the parents of Paula J. Higgins McPeck of Columbus.

Organizations

Drift women meet

The KFWC Drift Woman's Club met at the Viola Bailey Community Center on December 19, 2000.

President Ruby Akers welcomed guests and members. Alice Osborne, hostess, and other members planned a buffet Christmas dinner. The hostess asked the blessing on the food, and fellowship was enjoyed. The program focused on "Christmas, the meaning of the Christ Child," which was led by Donna Allen. Presentations included Roney Clark, The Bible, Anna Lou Wright, Church; Geraldine Ward, Gifts, Celia Little, Joy to the World; Mary Case, Santa Claus; Gloria Salisbury, 'Tis Christmas Day; Alice Osborne, Special Gifts. Special singing was provided by Nora Scarberry, who sang "O, Beautiful Star of Bethlehem," "Ring the Bells," and "O, Lamb of God." Gifts were exchanged, and carols were sung. In attendance were Donna Allen, Ruby Akers, Roney Clark, Ruby Dameron, Brooksie Geathart, Alma Mosley, Gloria Salisbury, Anna Lou Wright, Alice Osborne, Geraldine Ward, Kathryn Youmans, Nora Scarberry, Mary Case, Sherry Hall, Charlotte Sparks, Betty Hargis and Celia Little. The group was scheduled to meet January 19, when the program was to be on women's health.

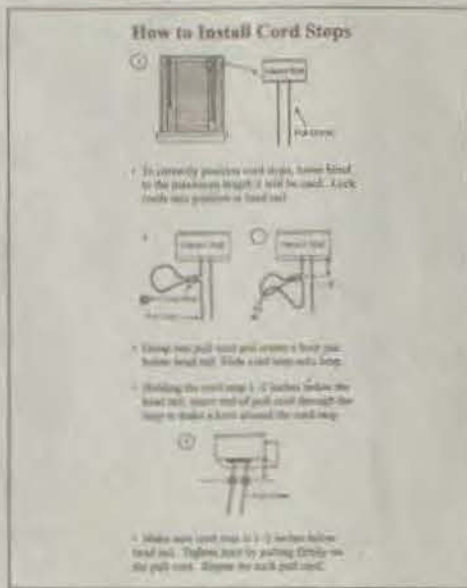
WEDDINGS/ENGAGEMENTS

Stewart-May

Mr. and Mrs. Revella Dean Stewart of Jacksonville, Florida, announce the forthcoming marriage of their daughter, Jodi-Marie, and Derek Lamar May, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lamar May Jr., of Dallas, Georgia, a suburb of Atlanta. The couple plan to be married on February 24, 2001, at the Fort Caroline Methodist Church in Jacksonville. After a honeymoon in the Great Smoky Mountains, they will reside in Mableton, an Atlanta suburb. The bride-elect is the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Revella Stewart of Minnie, and Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Frazier of Live Oak, Florida, formerly of Floyd County.



Safety officials are urging parents to use cord stops on window blinds



Window cord hazards are back in the news, with the Window Covering Safety Council urging parents to check and child-proof corded window blinds to protect infants from accidental strangulation. The Council's latest safety warning involves the inner cords or "lift cords" of blinds. The problem occurs when the win-

dow covering is lowered but not locked into position, leaving some slack in the inner cord.

If a crib or bed has been placed within reach of the window, infants have reportedly been able to grasp the slackened inner cord, pull it into the crib and around their necks. It is believed that 16 children have died since 1991 due to inner-cord strangulation.

To address this problem, the Council offers consumers free cord safety items through its toll free telephone hotline at 1-800-506-4636.

Available safety items include cord stops to correct inner-cord hazards, safety tassels for childproofing older blinds and shades with looped pull cords, and tie-downs for securing the pull cords on vertical blinds and continuous-draw drapes.

In addition to encouraging the use of these safety devices, Council officials say the best safety precaution is to move cribs, beds and other furniture away from windows, then secure pull cords up and out of reach.

For additional information on window cord safety, visit the Council's website at www.windowcoverings.org.

Nutrition

energy from digested food. They work with enzymes which act as catalysts in these continuous chemical reactions—the vitamins and minerals make the reactions move quickly and accurately. So, when you are lacking in certain essential vitamins and minerals, this system is broken down.

Because this synergistic relationship is required to keep the body running, more than 50 years ago the U.S. Food and Nutrition Board determined the daily amount of each vitamin and mineral needed by the body to prevent disease. These guidelines became known as the Recommended Daily Allowance (RDA).

Vitamin and mineral requirements as put forth in the RDA can be met by following the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Food Guide Pyramid—six to 11 servings from the grains group, five fruits and vegetables, two to three servings of milk or dairy products, two to three servings from the meat and meat alternate group (which includes soy products, nuts, lentils and beans) and a dash of fat.

But in this day and age, with fast foods, sweet tooth and limited time, not everyone follows a well-balanced diet and many are faced with that not-quite-myself feeling, or worse—chronic disease.

There are a number of deficiencies Americans should be concerned with. For example, vitamin A and C, found in fruits and vegetables, are key players in keeping the immune system healthy, according to Lewis. And folate is essential in heading off neural tube defects in unborn babies.

"The birth defects spina bifida and anencephaly are related to inadequate folate in the diet of the pregnant woman," says Lewis. "The neural tube closes by 28 days after conception. Many women don't realize they are pregnant until after this occurs. That is why it is imperative that all premenopausal women consume this essential vitamin."

Folate is found in oranges and orange juice, green leafy vegetables, lentils and beans and many cereal grains are now fortified with this B vitamin.

Some chronic diseases arise from sub-clinical deficiencies as well, says Lewis. "Heart disease, high blood pressure and cancer are all more prevalent in people who consume low amounts of fruits, vegetables and high fiber grains."

In addition to helping boost the immune system, Vitamins A and C also are key to helping prevent the onset of lesions in the arterial walls, which are the beginning stages of heart disease, says Lewis.

She also cites the lack of consumption of soluble fiber, which is obtained through the flesh of fruits and vegetables and beans, as one way cholesterol levels remain high and contribute to heart disease. Soluble fiber helps reduce cholesterol in the body by binding up the cholesterol-containing bile salts and allowing the body to excrete them before they are absorbed.

Insoluble fiber, found in whole grain cereals and breads and the skins of fruits and vegetables, ward off colorectal cancer by carrying wastes, toxins and sloughed off intestinal cells from the body.

Calcium deficiencies are another frequent problem in the United States. "Often a deficiency in calcium, common among adolescent boys and girls, promotes sub-optimal bone formation," says Lewis.

"Later in life, when calcium is leaving the bones more rapidly than it is being laid down, the calcium deficient child has now become the osteoporotic senior. Therefore, it is critical throughout life to consume at least two to three servings of low fat dairy products per day."

If you are a smoker or eat more protein than the body needs, the need for calcium increases.

When it comes to deficiencies, there are groups of people who are more susceptible than others. Women trying to conceive should be consuming adequate amounts of folate through folate-rich foods well before becoming pregnant, says Lewis.

Continued from p2

Also, vegetarians who do not consume any animal products are at risk of becoming deficient in iron, calcium, zinc and vitamin B12. This deficiency can be averted with the use of multivitamin/mineral supplement. Vegetarians who consume milk and egg products (lactoovo-vegetarians) have very few deficiency issues.

Children under five years old and adolescents are also at risk for deficiencies of iron and calcium, because their needs are so high for growth. Lewis does not recommend the use of a supplement for these kids because certain vitamins and minerals can be quite toxic in high amounts. Rather, parents should make sure they are eating iron- and calcium-rich foods at meals and snacks, and consuming at least three servings of dairy per day.

To combat nutritional deficiencies, Lewis recommends a balanced diet first and foremost. "Deficiencies in the U.S. arise from a lack of variety in our diets. Low on the priority list of the average American are fruits, vegetables and high fiber grain products," says Lewis. "When we consume low amounts of these foods we have a difficult time gaining the nutrients naturally found in them."

Following the food pyramid as a starting place helps, she says, and keep in mind that serving sizes are relatively small. For example, a spinach salad at a restaurant easily contains two servings of spinach (one serving is one cup of raw spinach).

Lewis discourages the use of supplements and says that the majority of them fail to dissolve rapidly enough for the body to utilize them, thus we end up excreting them. However, for people who insist the dietary change is not possible or that they want to take a supplement, "just in case," she recommends they:

- look for 100 percent of the RDA for all essential vitamins and minerals, but not more than 100 percent of any of them.

- only take a multivitamin, never individual nutrients.

- look for the United States Pharmacopoeia (USP) symbol on the front label, which means that the supplement has been tested for dissolving time and will dissolve in your stomach acid.

- don't waste money on the most expensive supplement; the generic is chemically identical to national brands.

The bottom line, according to Lewis, is that supplements are not a cure-all if your diet is in demand of nutrients or excessive in saturated fat, cholesterol and sodium. A dietitian has the educational training to help you make the lifestyle changes you need to feel your best.

Contact your area hospital to determine the availability of the dietitian for outpatient services or see the American Dietetic Association (ADA) web site at www.eatright.org for more information. To learn more about vitamin and mineral deficiencies, obtain a chart of the RDA or check out the food pyramid, visit the USDA web site at www.usda.gov.

Stairway

Still, families gather to remember loved ones. "They really decorate on Memorial Day," he added.

He is caretaker for the cemetery, using a fund to which families make donations. For the past several years, inmates from the Floyd County Detention Center have helped to maintain the burial ground, preventing nature from wresting the land from its heirs.

Among other callers about the steps, whose names were recorded, were Bill Stancil of Wheelwright, Ruby Milem of Weeksbury, Rex Wilson of Melvin, Linda Couch of Bypro, and Larry Fields of the Right Beaver area.

Anyone else who has memories to share of Buckingham Cemetery is welcome to call. We'll include them at a later time. Call Pam Shingler, 606/886-8506.



Family Medicine

John C. Wolf, D.O., Associate Professor of Family Medicine



Restless leg syndrome uncomfortable for victim — and spouse

Question: My husband has a difficult time falling asleep because his legs bother him. Our doctor says he has restless legs syndrome. He has given him some medicine for this, but it hasn't helped very much. What causes this condition, and is there anything besides the Sinemet that could help him?

Answer: As I've reminded the readers of this column before, any time you see the label "syndrome," you should automatically know that your doctor is practicing the "art" of medicine instead of the "science" of medicine. I say this because a syndrome is a grouping of symptoms that are commonly observed together, rather than a specific disease condition for which we understand the underlying causes.

Consequently, treatment decisions are based less on lab tests than upon the more subjective — or "artful" — careful observations of those with the syndrome.

Individuals with restless legs syndrome move their legs, just as the name suggests, but they do this in response to discomfort rather than in an effort to get someplace. Typically, the legs become uncomfortable late in the day or after going to bed but before falling asleep. Most describe the leg discomfort as a burning, aching, itching or pins-and-needles sensation, rather than as a severe pain.

Leg movement briefly relieves this discomfort, but it returns in a few moments after the legs come to rest. As a result, those with this syndrome have trouble falling asleep. In addition to troubling the individual with the disorder, it also frequently disturbs his or her spouse.

Most who suffer with restless legs syndrome also experience periods of fidgeting during the day, usually without pain. In addition to the daytime fidgets and nighttime pain, up to 80 percent have twitches, kicks or other leg movements at 20 to 30 second intervals during sleep.

Not surprisingly, this often contributes to feelings of fatigue in the morning. It also invariably disturbs the sleep of the bed partner.

Restless leg syndrome strikes men and women with equal frequency. About five percent of the total adult population suffers from its symptoms, but 45 percent of those over 65 complain of these symptoms frequently or occasionally.

The Sinemet your husband has taken is a common treatment choice, but there are a number of other medicines that can help or totally relieve the symptoms of this syndrome. There are no simple tests that help your doctor determine which medicine is going to give relief in a specific case.

Consequently, treatment often involves some educated guesses on your doctor's part and some switching of medicines until relief is provided — once again, the "art" of medical practice.

I'd recommend that you and your husband return to his doctor to discuss other treatment choices. Be patient with both of them — art often takes some time.

"Family Medicine" is a weekly column. To submit questions, write to John C. Wolf, D.O., Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine, Grosvenor Hall, Athens, Ohio 45701. Past columns are available online at www.fhradio.org/fm.

Miracle machines may not aid in the battle of the bulge

by JEFF CROOKE
RADFORD UNIVERSITY

You have a half-acre yard, a riding lawnmower, and now "the Dunlop effect," a condition in which that fleshy spare tire appears around your mid-section and obscures your belt buckle. Your belly, in other words, has "done lopped over" your belt. You keep making payments on the order, which even has a convenient "cold beverage" holder—nothing like cold drink on a hot day, eh?

Being at least mope conscious, you begin sizing up those home exercise machines and workout tapes. An amazing parade of very simple to very complex devices promises to transform your mushrooming posterior into shapely metal, your birdlike chest into that of a cloak-wearing comic book hero, your Dunlop-afflicted abs into washboards.

Some devices look like great alien spiders stooped atop muscle-bound men; others look like spring-loaded plastic pipes squished repeatedly between the thighs of aging former sitcom stars.

You especially like a nifty rolling contraption that makes you flex your arms and abs repeatedly. Could the claims made by advertisements for these machines be true?

"A lot of them promise to do spot reduction," says Gib Darden, a physical and health education professor at Radford University in Virginia. "Machines are efficient at what they're supposed to do, but they won't do anything to trim fat. They're very limited in scope."

Darden says that while you may actually build muscle as the result of working with these machines, your overall health will undergo little change. The

Aviation art contest underway

The International Aviation Art Contest is underway once again, and every Kentucky school-aged child from 6 to 17 is encouraged to participate.

This year's challenge is to create artwork to the theme, "My Dream to Fly."

Coordinated in Kentucky by the state Transportation Cabinet's Division of Aeronautics, the purpose of the contest is to motivate young people toward careers in aviation, the primary mode of transportation for the 21st century.

According to Transportation Secretary James Codell, "If this art contest can encourage one child toward aeronautics and the other sciences, then it's an effort that's truly not wasted."

Brochures detailing the contest are available at each of Kentucky's airports or by contacting Dana A. Dawkins, State Contest Coordinator, at 502/564-4480 or at ddawkins@mail.kytc.state.ky.us.

Entries must be postmarked by February 2. Once received, participants will be placed into three (3) categories: Category I (ages 6-9); Category II (ages 10-13) and Category III (ages 14-17). State winners in each category go on to the national portion of the contest and then the winning national entries will be forwarded to the Federation Aeronautique Internationale, for the international judging. Medals of gold, silver and bronze are rewarded to the international finalists.

Davis wins MCA Bee



Elizabeth Davis, a fourth grade student at Mountain Christian Academy in Martin, won the school-level competition of the National Geographic Bee on January 10.

Samantha Farthing, an eighth grader, was runner-up.

Davis has a chance at a \$25,000 college scholarship. The school-level Bee, at which students answered oral questions on geography, was the first round in the 13th annual National Geographic Bee.

The kickoff for this year's Bee was the week of November 27, with thousands of schools around the country and in the five U.S. territories participating. The school winners, including Davis, will now take a written test. Up to 100 of the top scores in each state and territory will be eligible to compete in their state Bee on April 6.

The National Geographic Society will provide an all-expense paid trip to Washington D.C., for state champions and their teacher-escorts to participate in the National Geographic Bee national championship on May 22 and 23. The first-place national winner will receive a \$25,000 college scholarship.

ACT prep class at PCC

Prestonsburg Community College's Community Center for Lifelong Learning has scheduled preparatory workshops for the National ACT exam. The focus will be the four topics of the ACT test: English, mathematics, reading and science reasoning.

The workshops are scheduled for Saturday, January 27 and February 3, from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. in Room 148 of the Johnson Administration Building on the Prestonsburg campus. The January 27 sessions will feature Reading from 10 a.m. to noon and English from 1-3 p.m. On February 3, the sessions will be science reasoning from 10 a.m. to noon and math from 1-3 p.m. Students will have an hour's break for lunch during each workshop.

For more information, or to register for the class, call the center at 606/886-3863, ext. 258. The office is open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Bulge

Continued from p3

"Dunlop effect" may not disappear at all, even if you do have a rock-hard abdominal foundation, because nothing is being done to burn extra calories.

Here are a few ideas to help you evaluate your need for an exercise machine:

■ Make it part of a larger program. If you see yourself using only the machine and hoping for a lifestyle change, it's probably going to be a waste of money and time.

■ Utilize more than one large muscle group—stay away from machines that focus exclusively on abs, thighs, butts—since most changes come from a whole-body approach. The rate at which your body burns calories, the metabolic rate, is seldom increased by focusing on one specific muscle.

"Metabolic rates are not affected except by increasing lean muscle mass," says Darden, and that can only be accomplished by firming and toning the entire body.

■ Make sure the machine is safe for you. As the commercials often advise, consult your physician before embarking upon any new exercise program.

■ Make an inventory of your personality. Do you have traits that are going to work against success with a machine? "I don't see that these machines provide enough variety," Darden advises. "They'll probably outlive the motivation of the performer."

A gym remains the best bet for improving overall fitness. Not only can a workout at a gym have a competitive component, but a gym also has a sense of community that may not be available through the solitude of home exercise.

"The newest clubs provide some social connection," says Darden, "like providing day care, or special activities that can be shared by a group, like aerobics."

If a gym is not your idea of fun, it may still be unnecessary to spend the money on an exercise machine.

"A lot of this stuff could be replaced by something else, some daily activity," says Darden. "Gardening is an excellent source of exercise. You could use tires or sandbags for exercise."

After all, if you simply replaced the brand name for a sleek machine with a brand name for a large rock, many of the claims would still be true—

"Rock, rock, rock your way to absolute abdominals with the new Rock-Teck Abdominator. Rock-hard abdominals can be yours with only minutes of exertion each day. Rock-Teck's unique design makes it impossible to lift without using the abdominals, creating a pleasant burn in those muscles after only minutes of hard labor, which means snacking abs for you! Now you can rock, rock your way to the abs of your dreams..."

If you stop to think about it, the push mower in the garage has exactly the same repetitive motion as that nifty rolling contraption, with the added benefit of walking. So what are you waiting for—it's time to mow, mow, MOW that fat away.

Youth News



Angie Waugh's sixth grade science classes at Allen Elementary School recently studied a unit on the solar system. Students had a "cool" time cooking up their comets, made from dry ice. Primary students at the school walked through the sixth grade solar system models.



MCA lists honor roll

Mountain Christian Academy has announced its second quarter Honor Roll. To achieve Honor Roll status a student must have a 3.0 GPA. To obtain High Honor Roll, a student must have all A's with an average of 94 percent or above.

Third Grade High Honor Roll

Michael Burchett, son of Blake and Becky Burchett; Tyler Hall, son of Reggie and Sandy Hall; Warren Vierheller, son of Tom and Chenzaho Vierheller.

Honor Roll

Jessica Burford, daughter of Jeffrey and Terri Burford; Steven Hughes, son of Forrest and Cindi Hughes; Terence Marshall, son of Terry and Peggy Marshall; Katy Petry, daughter of Randy and Tina Petry; Kimberly Skeens, daughter of Bill and Marie Skeens.

Fourth Grade High Honor Roll

Elizabeth Davis, daughter of Brett and Virginia Davis; Taylor Moak, daughter of Tom Moak and Joann Harvey; Rebecca Rose, daughter of Doug and Vicki Rose.

Honor Roll

Yarkin Arihan, son of Giray and Nurten Arihan; Julia Burchett, daughter of Chuck and Kaye Burchett; Staci Carriere, daughter of Ken and Angie Carriere; Braden Coleman, son of Ralph and Melissa Coleman; Liz Kilburn, daughter of Solomon and Matilda Kilburn; Maegan Leslie, daughter of Larry and Teresa Leslie; Kandice Scalf, daughter of Dwayne and Lisa Scalf.

Fifth Grade High Honor Roll

Taylor Clark, son of Eddy and Robin Clark; Vincent Ganzon, son of Rodolfo and Jacqueline Ganzon; Shilpa Sachdeva, daughter of Rakesh and Seema Sachdeva.

Honor Roll

Lynsey Caudill, daughter of Ronald and Jeanne Caudill;

Sixth Grade High Honor Roll

Nicholas deGuzman, son of Anthony and Fredilly deGuzman; Myranda Elliott, daughter of Andy and Myra Elliott; Jacob Moak, son of Tom Moak and Joann Harvey; Joshua Ousley, son of Phillip and Debbie Ousley; Mikka Riley, daughter of Jeff and Libby Riley; Lincoln Slone, son of Benita Riley and Ronnie Slone;

Honor Roll

Kellie Farthing, daughter of Stephen and Emma Farthing; Burke Garner, son of Jennifer and Jerry Patton and Jerry Garner; Matthew Hicks, son of Teresa Renee Moore; Katie Lemaster, daughter of Pete and Janie Lemaster; Dustin Rowe, son of Bobby and Beth Rowe; Kendra Sammons, daughter of Dewey and Pam Sammons;

Seventh Grade High Honor Roll

Sean Leslie, son of Keith and Teresa Leslie; Stephanie Williams, daughter of Steven Williams;

Honor Roll

Jennifer Adams, daughter of Tim and Sharon Adams; Daniel Prater, son of Cindy Prater and Jeff Prater; Ryann Thornsberry, daughter of Gary and Lisa Thornsberry; Ella Wilburn, daughter of Morlyn and Essie Wilburn;

Eighth Grade High Honor Roll

Molly Burchett, daughter of Blake and Becky Burchett; Caitlin Clark, daughter of Eddy and Robin Clark;

Honor Roll

Evan Farmer, son of Blake and Tammy Farmer; Samantha Farthing, daughter of Steve and Emma Farthing; Jessica Pate, daughter of Mary Bailey and Terry Pate.



The Andy Griffith Club, a fifth and sixth grade character club at Betsy Layne Elementary School, recently completed a service learning project, Operation Christmas Child. Members of the club collected items that would fit into a shoe box for children ages 2-14, and then wrapped the shoe boxes. The boxes were sent to a drop-off point with the help of Quality Kids. Among members who wrapped boxes and wrote letters to the children who would be receiving them were, top, from left, Tori Meade, Corby Hall, Alyssa Reed, Tasha Kidd, and, bottom, from left, Colby Nunemaker, Cody Rogers and Trai Witt. The sponsor is Stephanie Stamper.

The Floyd County Times Classifieds

DEADLINES: WEDNESDAY PAPER, NOON MONDAY - FRIDAY PAPER, WEDNESDAY 5 P.M. - SHOPPER and SUNDAY, WEDNESDAY 5 P.M.



RATES: (4 lines minimum)
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Contact Sandra at extension #15 at:
(606) 886-8506



FAX US YOUR AD: (606) 886-3603 **24 HOURS**

It Out!
Read your own Ad the first time it appears. The Floyd County Times is only responsible for one incorrect insertion!

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

FOR SALE

Autos

1988 FORD BRONCO: 4 wd, cass. player. Runs good. \$2,000 firm. 886-1237.

'88 OLDSMOBILE CUTLASS SUPREME: For Sale or Trade. Very good condition. 889-0003.

VANS: Sandy Valley Transportation Services, Inc. has some old high mileage vans for sale. Bids will be accepted until 2 pm, February 5, 2001. The vehicles may be seen at Sandy Valley Transportation Services, 81 Resource Court, Prestonsburg, KY 41653.*

'89 4 WD TEMPO: Auto, all power. \$1,000. Turkeys for sale, \$10 each. 606-587-2598.*

1998 JEEP CHEROKEE: 4 wheel drive. 34,000 miles \$13,500. (606) 886-7828.

'95 PLYMOUTH NEON: 886-9412.

1987 FORD 1 TON DUMP TRUCK: 6.9 Diesel. Asking \$6,000. 874-8931.*

'82 MACK: With a Thermo King ref. box. 886-6186 or 886-8286.*

Sale / Misc.

5X10 TRAILER FOR SALE: 874-2818.

I LOST 20 LBS & 12" in 1 month. I have the products & training to help you. Call Beth 1-888-647-7441.

STEEL BUILDINGS, never put up. 40x48 was \$8,080, now \$5212. 50x90 was \$16,670 will sell \$9,980. 800-292-0111.

Furniture

RAY'S BARGAIN CENTER
Start the New Year Right! Shop at Ray's Bargain Center today & save like never before. Great deals on new & used furniture. Shop At The Little Furniture Store & Save!! RT. #122, McDowell. Call 606-377-0143.

Pets & Supplies

FOR SALE: Boston Terrier Puppies. 606-789-3346.*

FREE TO A GOOD HOME: Sm Collie mixed female. About 1 yr old. Very friendly. 285-0250.

PROPERTY FOR SALE

Lots

243 X 90 LOT: Already cleared and leveled, perk test done. In area with new homes and doublewides. Only 3.8 miles off of Rt.23 (606)889-9839.

Mobile Homes

FHA PROGRAM: Little or no credit required. Call now to get pre-qualified. Call 1-800-492-8259.

FLEETWOOD HOMES. First Time Buyers. No credit needed. 47 Banks Available. Must have income. Call 437-5006 or 1-888-258-0292.

2 BR FURNISHED TRAILER: Next to football field at Morehead Univeristy. Lot #4 \$10,000. 886-3547.

1995 PIONEER singlewide in excellent condition, only \$12,900 delivered and set-up. Call 606-353-6444 or 1-877-353-6444.

INCOME TAX RETURN: Cash in today, apply to a new, used, or repo. Home programs available. The Home Show Louisa. 1-888-999-7410.

WANT LAND? HAVE LAND? We do land/home packages. Water, septic, electric, everything. EZ Financing. Call for details: 437-5006 or 1-888-258-0292.

SELLING ALL 2000 lot model single and doublewides at huge discounted savings, to make room for all the new 2001's. Call 1-606-353-6444 or 1-877-353-6444.

Real Estate

FOR ALL YOUR BUILDING NEEDS! New homes, remodeling, roofing, patios, block, concrete or siding. Have 30 years experience. Call Spears Construction, Romey Spears (606) 874-2688.

Want To Advertise Your Business?

Studies Show... We Reach Over 30,000 People Call **886-8506**

TREE CUTTING AND TRIMMING

Topping, Land Clearing, etc. Free estimates. References furnished. Call **874-5333**

Tree Trimming of Any Kind

Hillside, yard work and light hauling. Firewood for sale **886-3951 or 874-2566**

****FACTORY GOOF****

Save \$7,000 after rebate on a 28x60. 2000 Lot model. 1-888-999-7410.

NEW 28X64 DOUBLEWIDE, loaded with furniture, 9.9% fixed interest rate. Hurry only 1 left! 606-478-1600.

4 BR, 2 BA DOUBLEWIDE. \$39,900. Must have deposit by February 15th. Call 437-5006 or 1-888-258-0292.

2000, 28X60 CLAYTON: 4 BR doublewide with glamour bath and dream kitchen only \$39,900, delivered and set-up. Call 606-353-6444 or 1-877-353-6444.

LATE MODEL DOUBLEWIDE REPO'S: 4 to choose from. Easy financing. Call 606-478-1579.

Real Estate

HOUSE & MOBILE HOME: Located .7 mile off Rt. 80, on Rt. 122 at Martin. 285-0650.

COMMERCIAL OFFICE BUILDING for sale by owner. 1800 sq. ft., single story, located on North Lake Drive. Call 886-3929 (days) for information and/or floor plan.

50 ACRE FARM: 1/2 mile from Paintsville Lake. \$25,000 OBO. Good standing timber (not cut in 30 yrs.). 606-522-4049.*

FOR SALE:

2-1/2 acres commercial property 400ft MT. PWY, 400sq ft. building 3 Mobile Homes. 3 additional spaces. Owner will finance. (859)745-1556.

LEASING / BUYING Property with mineral rights; Coal, gas, timber, etc. Contact S&J Land Buyers P.O. box 141, Kimper, KY 41539.*

PROPERTY FOR SALE: At McDowell. 377-6417.*

HOUSE FOR SALE: 3 BR. split level, full basement. Deck. Maytown (606)285-9439.

HOUSE FOR SALE: 3br. w/fireplace central /heat air. 20 acers. Call 886-9452.

For Sale or Rent

LARGE HOUSE FOR SALE: Plenty of storage. Large garage. At Bucks Br. 285-4847.

FOR SALE OR RENT:

Doublewide 3 BR 2 BA free gas. halfway between Adams Middle & Allen Elem. 1428 South. Excellent condition \$425mo \$300 dep. 886-2670, leave message. reference required.

HOUSE AT MARTIN: 3 BR. Call 606-285-9483 after 5pm.*

PROPERTY FOR RENT

For Rent

60X100 WAREHOUSE: 886-6186 or 886-8286.

Apartments

Apartments for Rent: 1 & 2 BR. Executive suite also available. Call 349-5135 or 349-7285, leave message.

FURNISHED 1 BR APT.: 8 mi. from P'burg, 5 mi. from Martin on Rt. 1210. \$400, utilities included. 285-3641.*

1 BR APT.: Stove & ref. furnished. Briarwood Apts. 886-8991.*

FURNISHED ROOMS: \$150 weekly. Located near hospital at Martin. 285-0650.

HOLIDAY SPECIAL FROM R & L APTS. TO YOU: We are running a 50% off on deposit. Call for more information, 886-2797. Happy Holidays!!

Houses

HOUSES & APTS: On University Dr. Newly remodeled, AC. Lease, refer. & dep. req. 886-3565.*

HOUSE FOR RENT:

At HiHat. Gas & water furnished. \$495 month. HUD accepted. 285-3504.*

2 BR HOUSE: In P'burg, lge. fenced yd., central H/A, \$425 mo. + util. 886-9406.*

3 BR, 2 BA HOME: On Cow Cr. References & deposit required. 874-2050.*

2 BR HOUSE:

All electric. wall-to-wall carpet. Next to Dizzy Tire, Rt. 80, Garrett. For more info call 358-2000.*

2 BR HOUSE: Garrett area. Central air & heat, city utilities. Not HUD approved. \$300 + utilities. 358-2876.*

HOUSE FOR RENT: 2Br. \$350.mo Plus \$200.security Dep. Call 874-9132.

Caney Creek Rehabilitation Complex, a progressive mental health residential program in southeastern Kentucky, offering competitive salaries and excellent fringe benefits, has the following openings:
Rehabilitation Assistants: Requires HS/GED. Experience working with chronically mentally ill population preferred.
Send letter of interest and resume to CCRC, Human Resources Department, 115 Rockwood Lane, Hazard, KY 41701. EOE/AA

Desktop Publishing
The Floyd County Times is now accepting applications for a full-time position in the composing department. Must have experience in Quark Xpress and Adobe Photoshop. Extensive use of Macintosh hardware a plus. Excellent benefits.
Send resumé or apply at:
The Floyd County Times
P.O. Box 390
Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41563

Big Sandy Health Care, Inc.
is seeking candidates for **LABORATORY TECHNICIAN**
The position requires at least an associate's degree in a field related to laboratory. Desired qualifications include a Medical Laboratory Technician or Medical Technologist with ASCP certification and ability to demonstrate knowledge of CLIA regulations. The primary work site will be the Hope Family Medical Center in Salyersville. The position is classified as full-time, permanent. Big Sandy Health Care, Inc., offers a competitive salary and an excellent benefits package. Send resume or completed application by the close of business on February 2, 2001, to:
Human Resources
Big Sandy Health Care, Inc.
1709 KY Route 321, Suite 3
Prestonsburg, KY 41653
A proud tradition of providing access to quality health care

Brown's West Liberty
Ford • Lincoln • Mercury
We have an immediate opening for sales persons
* Great Facilities
* Great Inventory
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Contact Mike Brown or Larry Burchett
(606) 743-3101

Compton's Market
6 miles west of Prestonsburg on Rt. 114, Mtn. Parkway
Is now a wholesaler and retailer in silk flowers, and all your floral supplies.
Also ceramic, resin, & much more.
Phone 886-6041
Evening Hrs. by Appointment
SPRING FLORAL NOW AVAILABLE!

STEVENS CONSTRUCTION
• Certified Septic Installation
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Free Estimates!
Call **Scottie Stevens 478-4422**

G's Web Design
Get your own Web Domain @ very affordable prices.
We can design your web site and take photos locally.
Contact
Webdesign@gsworld.net or phone (606) 432-6857 or 886-1237

KENTUCKY MOBILE HOME DEALER
Selling New & Repo Trailers with Financing Available and
CRUM'S MOBILE HOME MOVING SERVICE
Insured with permits.
886-6665 • Fax: 889-9662
5 miles west of Prestonsburg on Rt. 114, Mtn. Parkway
Also: Backhoe & Dozer For Hire

Service IS OUR BUSINESS

FAITH BUILDERS
All types of Carpentry at affordable rates! Small jobs welcome.
Jackie Conley 358-4426

SEASONED FIREWOOD FOR SALE (Oak)
886-1048

COOK WANTED
DAY OR NIGHT SHIFT
Sundays Off
\$5.25-\$6.00 (depending on experience)
Apply in person at
Giovanni's at Martin, Ky.
No Phone Calls, Please!

Mobile Home Cots

LOT AVAILABLE: Between P'burg & Paintsville, at Airport Trailer Court. 1992 models and up only. 886-9007.

MOBILE HOME SPACE FOR LEASE: Will accommodate Double wide - Private Drive - Farm Setting - City Water - Van Lear area - \$135 to \$155 monthly plus \$135 to \$155 deposit. (606)789-5296 or collect; 1(803)957-5931.*

Mobile Homes

3 BR TRAILER: Located on Mud Cr., Teaberry. \$300 month + dep. + ref. HUD approved. 606-587-1111.*

2 BR MOBILE HOME: Unfurnished, Grethel, Big Mud. \$200 mo. 285-3825.*

2 BR TRAILER: All electric, new carpet & tile. Betsy Layne Bottom. \$250 month & \$100. dep. 478-9772.

FOR RENT MOBILE HOME: Large 3BR, 2BA, Private Lot. 886-8366.

2 BR TRAILER: In Auxier. Furnished w/ TV. \$300 month + util. & \$125 dep. 886-8961.*

LARGE 2 BR : Central heat & air, partial utilities paid. 886-3628.*

FOR RENT: 2 BR mobile home at Town Branch. Call 886-6857.

2 BR MOBILE HOME: 1 BA. Between P'burg & Paintsville. No Pets! 886-9007.

2 BR MOBILE HOME: Real nice! All electric, fireplace, appliances. Private lot with garage. Arkansas Cr. \$375 mo. + dep. No Pets! 886-8665.

2 BR, 1 BA TRAILER: 1/2 mile north of P'burg. 889-0363.*

EMPLOYMENT

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

Business Opportunity

HALLMARK Style Greeting Card Rte. 25 Hi-Traffic loc's all local, est.\$: 1-800-277-9424.

AT&T- MCI Payphone Routes. 75 Est. Locations. Proven income. 800-800-3470.

Job Listings

POSTAL JOBS to \$18.45/hr. **Wildlife Jobs** to \$21.80/hr. Full Benefits. For application & Exam info. 1-800-545-0633 ext. KY116 or www.federaljobservice.com.

WANTED: Contract Miners, deep mine, 32" to 39" coal. 606-452-2818.

POSITION AVAILABLE for Dietary Manager. Great salary & benefits. If interested apply at Mountain Manor of Paintsville 1025 Euclid Avenue, Paintsville, Ky 41240. Monday Thur Friday 8am-4:30pm.*

PT LPN needed at Martin Co. Health Care Facility. Please call Missy or Diane for more information. (606)298-0091.*

FAST GROWING RENTALCOMPANY is seeking aggressive, hard working individuals to fill account manager positions and grow with us. If you have a drive to succeed, apply in person at: A-Plus-Rent-to-Own, Paintsville, KY (beside Kmart).*

ROUTE SALES: Working out of The Martin Warehouse. Guarantees \$50 day + 5% commission. 1-800-848-2036.*

PRESTONSBURG HEALTH CARE CENTER is seeking Accounts Receivable Clerk. Experience preferred in Medicare & Medicaid billing. We offer many benefits & competitive wages. If you are seeking a rewarding career, call Elaine Hunter at 886-2378.*

INTERNATIONAL TRUCK dealership looking for a Diesel mechanic. Apply in person or send resume to: Yearly Truck Sales and Service, 5037 Hwy 1428, Allen, KY 41601.*

ASSISTANT MANAGER NEEDED: Background in collections and sales beneficial, but willing to train if management skills are present. Benefits available, salary negotiable. Apply in person at: A Plus Rent-to-Own, Paintsville (beside Kmart).*

Advance-Fee Loans or Credit Offers Companies that do business by phone can't ask you to pay for credit before you get it. For more information, call toll-free 1-877-FTC-HELP. A public service message from The Floyd County Times and the Federal Trade Commission. PSA

AVON: From now until end of Jan., no \$25 fee for sign-up. Call 1-800-796-7070 or 839-4294.*

ENGINEERING TECHNICIAN: Surface & Deep Mining Permit Technician wanted. Position involves development of mining & environmental control plans for surface & deep mining permit applications, as mandated by State & Federal mining regulations. Auto Cad use required. Apply with resume to: Alchemy Engineering Associates, 2339 West Old Middlecreek Rd., Prestonsburg, KY 41653. EOE.

HELP WANTED: Mechanic Needed. Some experience is required. 358-5658 or 358-3010.

POSITIONS AVAILABLE for Licensed Practical Nurses. Great salary & benefits. Apply at Mountain Manor of Paintsville 1025 Euclid Avenue, Paintsville, Ky 41240.*

Help Wanted

DRIVER: Full time, to deliver small excavation Equipment at TEM Rentals. Must have CDL, be drug free, and experienced. Shop and lot work involved. Mechanical skills helpful. Apply at TEM Equipment Company, US RT 23 at Ivel, Ky. Days 8 am to 4 pm. No phone calls please.*

ATTENTION: Work from home. Our children come to the office everyday. Earn an extra \$1500 to \$4500 P/T, F/T. 1-800-336-5615 www.hanghat.com.

WILDLIFE JOBS \$8-19/HR + Federal Benefits Park Rangers, Security, and Maintenance. No Experience for some. For info Call 1-800-391-5856 X2823 8am-9pm, Local not guar.

HELP WANTED: Computer/Internet People! \$1,500-\$2,500/mo PT \$3,000-\$7,000/mo FT. Work from home. Free information. (262)808-7848 www.cre8lifestyle.com

WANTED: Computer/Internet People! \$1,500-\$2,500/mo PT \$3,000-\$7,000/mo FT. Work from home. Free information. (262)808-7848 www.cre8lifestyle.com

POSTAL JOBS \$9-14.27/HR + Federal Benefits. No Experience, exam info. Call 1-800-391-5856 X2822, 8am-9pm Local not guar.

HOMEWORKERS NEEDED: \$635 weekly processing mail. Easy! No experience needed. Call 1-800-440-1570 Ext 5095. 24 Hrs.

\$1500 month PT; \$4,500-\$7,200 FT. WORK FROM HOME. International company needs Supervisors and Assistants. Training. Free Booklet: 1-800-546-7289 www.AimToSucceed.com.

HELP NEEDED IMMEDIATELY... Work from home. Explosive Industries! \$1,500-\$7,200+/mo. Part/Full Time. (414)290-9595 www.aspire4U.com.

WORK YOUR COMPUTER! \$14-\$45/hr. PT/FT. 888-360-9148 www.cash-street.com.

ATTENTION: Work From Home! \$500-\$2,500/mo. PT. \$3,000-\$7,000/mo FT. Free Booklet. www.luvlivinglife.com 800-311-6799.

UNEMPLOYED VETERANS We can give you a free hand-up to help get you back on your feet. Please call Volunteers of America, (606)432-3111, or toll-free, 1(866)314-4860.

Wanted

PERSON NEEDED for in-home care for elderly lady, P'burg. Must furnish references. 789-1306, leave message.*

SERVICES

Insurance

MAJOR MEDICAL, MEDICARE SUPPLEMENT, any age. Life or Burial. Call for a quote. 8am-8pm, Lynda Spurlock 285-9650.

MISC.

Free

BECOME DEBT FREE! Cut payments without new loans. It's easy! 1 hr. approval. Call 1-800-517-3406.

FREE PALLETS: Can be picked up behind The Floyd County Times.

Down With Taxes
Free estimate!
Use your tax refund to buy a home and we will double it up to \$2,000.

FLEETWOOD
437-5006 or 1-888-258-0292.

ATTORNEY NEEDED: Law firm looking for Attorney with 3+ years personal injury litigation.
Send resumé to:
P.O. Box 1704
Inez, KY 41224

Business Space For Lease
Single Room Office — Staff and waiting room available — Most suitable for accountant or Health Care related professional.
Call Audiology Associates
between Dairy Cheer and Jerry's.
886-3773

Transit Drivers Needed
Sandy Valley Transportation Services (SVTS) is seeking qualified applicants for Transit Drivers. Basic qualifications include, but are not limited to: pass drug test; physical exam, clean driving and conviction records. Health, dental, life insurance, retirement, holidays, sick and vacation days. Contact Johnny Hall, 1-800-444-Ride (7433) for job application or further information.
SVTS is an equal opportunity employer M/F/D/V

TV/Multimedia Tech
2 years experience in TV shoots. Knowledge of PC a must. Experience in lighting setup and video editing. Good pay and benefits.
Submit resumé, school transcript and references to:
P.O. Box 2688
Pikeville, KY 41502

NOW HIRING! ... U.G. COAL PERSONNEL
POSITIONS CURRENTLY AVAILABLE
>Certified Electricians
>Section Foremen
>Equipment Operators

Eastern Kentucky Coal Operation is seeking individuals who are qualified as underground Certified Electricians, Foremen and Equipment Operators. Applicants are required to have current certification as issued by the Kentucky Department of Mines and Minerals

Benefits Package includes: Hourly pay scale ranging from \$15.00 thru \$18.46 per hour relative to shift work; 90/10% health insurance. (6) paid holidays, 12 paid vacation days, Christmas bonus, life insurance and 401(k) retirement plan. (Eligible for 401(k) after first (6) months of employment.) All shifts are currently available.

Inquire by forwarding a resumé or data sheet, including experience and certifications to:
Mr. Les Combs, Mine Superintendent
Phone (606) 298-5958 or Fax (606) 298-0491
COAL; P.O. Box 190 ; Lovely, Ky 41231



For Sale: 2.5 Acres
320 ft. Road Frontage
On U.S. 23 South of Pikeville, KY
Phone (606) 923-7088

A progressive community mental health center located in southeastern Kentucky, offering competitive salaries and excellent benefits needs the following:

Substance Abuse Services: Positions available requiring MA/MS in Human Service field or BA/BS with 5 years of substance abuse or prevention experience. Must have administrative/management experience. Member of Executive team reporting directly to CEO. Ability to work with community board and knowledge of budget a must. Relocation expenses reimbursement available.

Adult Mental Health Case Manager: Requires BA/BS in a Human Service field. 1 year experience in case management or working with chronically mentally ill a must. MA/MS may be substituted for years experience. Must be flexible and able to work with minimal supervision. Competitive compensation and benefits package.

Early Intervention Prevention Specialist: Position available working with teenage population in an outpatient setting. Providing treatment to a diverse population in southeastern, KY. Excellent fringe benefits package. Requires MA/MS in human service field or CADC certification with experience in working with targeted population, substance abuse and/or community mobilization.

Send letter of interest and resume to Kentucky River Community Care, Inc., Human Resources Department, 115 Rockwood Lane, Hazard, KY 41701. EOE/AA



START YOUR DAY OFF RIGHT WITH THE CLASSIFIEDS

CLASSIFIED LINE AD RATES:
(4 line minimum)
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\$1.75 per line for Wednesday and Friday + Shopper.
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(\$1.50 per line for single insertion)

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Reverse Ads: \$4.00 extra per week
Shaded Ads with a Border: \$4.00 extra week
Attention Lines,
Centered/Bold Ads, 12 Pt. Type, 14 Pt. Type, etc:
NO EXTRA CHARGE

CLASSIFIED DISPLAY RATES
\$5.50 Per Column Inch.
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Real Estate Section is available on Wednesday's Paper only.

Visa or MasterCard are accepted over the telephone or walk-in.

OUR DEADLINES INCLUDE:
Wednesday's Paper: Line Ads, Mon. at 12 noon;
Display Ads, Fri. at 2 p.m.
Friday's Paper and Shopper: Line/Display Ads, Wed. at 5 p.m.
Sunday's Paper: Line/Display, Thursday at 5 p.m.

*The Floyd County Times Reserves the right to change or modify these rates and/or deadlines without prior notice, at their discretion.

- Automobiles
- Appliances
- Electronics
- Books
- Apparel
- Computers
- Sporting Goods
- Furniture
- Tools
- Kitchenware
- Collectibles
- Musical
- Instruments and More!!!

Contact Sandra Bunting, Classified Manager at:
(606) 886-8506 **The Times** FLOYD COUNTY

FLOYD COUNTY TIMES

THE YEAR IN

The collage features several newspaper clippings from 'The Times' with various headlines and photos:

- BOE accepts continued state oversight ... with reservation** (Wednesday Edition, March 16, 2000)
- BOE members resign; one comes back** (Wednesday Edition, March 29, 2000)
- play musical chairs in Martin** (Wednesday Edition, March 29, 2000)
- School board considers** (Friday Edition, October 13, 2000)
- Judge ready to reinstate 911 tax** (Sunday Edition, May 14, 2000)
- mine operators charged with criminal violations** (Friday Edition, October 13, 2000)
- changing stereotypes is video aim** (Friday Edition, October 13, 2000)
- Bush girls returned to mother** (Friday Edition, October 13, 2000)
- Candidates for prosecutor both say they want job to be full time** (Friday Edition, October 13, 2000)
- Five cases resolved with plea agreements** (Friday Edition, October 13, 2000)
- Student takes board to task over d** (Friday Edition, October 13, 2000)
- General Assembly breaks down over Senate budget** (Friday Edition, October 13, 2000)
- Sheriff's office raids three homes, seizes drugs, guns** (Friday Edition, October 13, 2000)
- urg council ease for ing quarters** (Friday Edition, October 13, 2000)
- What's Inside** (Friday Edition, October 13, 2000)
- Leisure** (Friday Edition, October 13, 2000)
- Let's go golfin'...** (Friday Edition, October 13, 2000)
- 180 National news, sports and feature stories updated around the clock** (Friday Edition, October 13, 2000)
- Smoke Shack** (Friday Edition, October 13, 2000)
- Visit Muggers** (Friday Edition, October 13, 2000)
- Section A** (Friday Edition, October 13, 2000)
- Section A** (Sunday Edition, May 14, 2000)

The Year In REVIEW

January

County Judge-Executive Paul Hunt Thompson placed top on his list of things to accomplish in the year 2000, extending water lines into 90-95 percent of Floyd County households and continuing with creekside cleanups covering a span of 26 miles.

Prestonsburg Mayor Jerry Fannin looked ahead to the year 2000 with a focus on growth. He noted that with the existence of a championship golf course in the city, opportunities for the expansion of hotels, restaurants and other businesses was great.

Floyd County Superintendent of Schools Paul Fanning noted that great progress had been made toward solving many of the school systems problems in 1999 and said that focus in the upcoming year would be on improving student success and tackling the \$600,000 debt owed to Cogenex.

Roger Rectenwald, executive director of the Big Sandy Area Development District, noted that perseverance and resilience were key factors in the growth and improvements of small Floyd county cities such as Allen, Martin, Wayland and Wheelwright.

John D. Clark, 22, of Corn Fork Road, was arrested by Prestonsburg police officers and charged with third degree alcohol intoxication and second degree unlawful transaction with a minor after verification that two intoxicated juvenile females had been staying in a room rented by Clark.

Local banks, hospitals, schools and area businesses experienced no computer "glitches" as the year 2000 rolled over. All were Y2K A-OK.

Area fire departments were kept busy as the new year began with calls being answered by the Southeast Fire Department, the Wheelwright Fire Department, the Garrett Fire Department, the Betsy Layne Fire Department, the David Fire Department, the Maytown Fire Department, the Martin Fire Department and the Prestonsburg Fire Department. All incidents occurred within a five day period.

A Galveston man, Danny R. Harris, was arrested on charges of possession of marijuana, attempted escape and three counts of possession of drug paraphernalia after fleeing police and being captured on a nearby hillside. Harris had other outstanding arrest warrants against him for wanton endangerment, first-degree trespassing and terroristic threatening. He was placed under a \$100,000 cash bond.

The city of Allen reported that water and sewer projects were approximately 90% complete. A full completion date was slated for April.

A one-vehicle accident that occurred in Wheelwright as a result of the use of alcohol left a telephone pole cut in two and a passenger of the vehicle with a ruptured spleen. Barbara Butler, 23, underwent a surgical procedure at Hazard Appalachian Regional Hospital while the driver of the vehicle, Jason Brown, 18, was arrested on a DUI charge and for driving without an operator's license.

Credit was given to the area's new 911 service when statistics showed that crime rates and fatalities for the area were lower in 1999.

A Melvin man, Charles Jason Critten, 21, was charged with first-degree sexual abuse of an eight-year old child and placed under a \$200,000 cash bond after the child's grandmother reported the alleged abuse to Kentucky State Police. Critten pleaded not guilty to the crime.

Laymond and Florine Bragg, of Eastern, filed suit against BellSouth Mobility for negligence on the part of the corporation to take responsibility for damage caused to a hillside leased to them by the Braggs.

Floyd County Deputy Bobby Hackworth received the Governor's Award for Impaired Driving Enforcement for the sixth year in a row.

A single vehicle accident left an Arkansas man with severe injuries. Randy Conn, 26, lost control of the vehicle he was driving and collided into a tree on Route 1428.

The City of Prestonsburg allo-

cated \$300,000 to the Floyd County Board of Education to be used to purchase land adjacent to the then existing Prestonsburg High School football field. The purchased land was to be used for the expansion and construction of a new football field.

The Floyd County Fiscal Court voted to include the observance of Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday as an approved fully paid holiday for county workers.

Big Sandy Regional Airport was approved for a 1,500 foot expansion due to the construction of a new high-security federal prison in Martin County.

The 2000 Kentucky General Assembly convened with the Republican Party holding the Senate majority for the first time in Kentucky history.

An apparent murder/suicide took place in Johnson County at the home of Henry Sites, 65, of Boons Camp. Sites' son-in-law, Greg Frisk, 32, had apparently murdered Sites and then turned the gun on himself.

A former Floyd County resident

Prestonsburg City Council voted to give the school board to help complete the project. The value of the properties totaled \$328,000. County Attorney Keith Bartley requested that a special prosecutor be assigned by the Attorney General's Office in a case involving Floyd County attorney Sheridan Martin. Because Martin had worked as an attorney in the Floyd courts, District Judges James R. Allen and Eric Hall recused themselves from the case. Martin was charged with one count of first degree sexual abuse toward a female employee.

The Floyd County Board of Education met in special session to deal with issues concerning the construction of newly proposed athletic facilities at Prestonsburg and South Floyd High Schools. Changes were made in the proposed facility plans that more accurately reflected the amount of money available for use on the projects.

A Prestonsburg man, James A. Cooley, 48, was charged with sexual abuse and harassment offenses

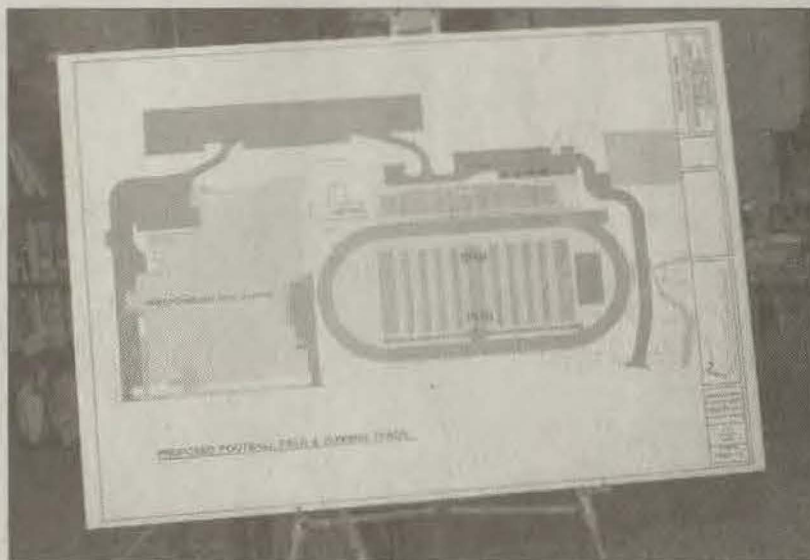


photo by Willie Elliott

Plans for a new athletic complex at Prestonsburg High School call for the football field to be rotated 90 degrees to make room for a running track. The expansion will require the board to purchase houses, commercial buildings and a trailer park adjacent to the current facility.

was found shot to death at her home in Johnson County, near Thealka. Beverly VanHoose, 53, and her husband, James R. VanHoose, 60, were found dead from wounds inflicted by a small caliber weapon. The couple's son Chad VanHoose, 19, was arrested as the prime suspect in the case.

Elizabeth Lynne Frazier, music director at Prestonsburg High School, died after a long bout with cancer. She was the daughter of the late Chalmer and Katherine Frazier, both of whom had been prominent community leaders.

A burglary was committed at the Dollar General Store in Stanville and approximately \$500 was stolen.

A McDowell couple were victims of apparent racist vandalism. Vivian Ong and Andy Que, both natives of the Philippines, reported that swastikas and messages of "White Power" were painted on utility poles and the driveway of their rented home. Other acts of violence included rocks being thrown on the roof of their home, the breaking of a security light by gunshot, and the smashing of a rear window of a car owned by the couple. Along with investigations by local authorities, the Federal Bureau of Investigation was also contacted.

John Kevin Shannon was named as the new executive director of the Mountain Arts Center. Interim director Keith Caudill was retained as assistant director with his salary remaining the same.

Residents of a trailer park located in Black Bottom were upset and angry over a decision made by the Prestonsburg City Council and the Floyd County Board of Education that necessitated the removal of their homes. Plans were made to remove the trailer park and existing homes in order to make way for a new high school football field.

Records held at the Floyd County Property Valuation Administrator's Office showed that the current assessed value of properties located near the site of a proposed football field for Prestonsburg High School totaled slightly more than the \$300,000 the

that occurred at the Lancer Cardinal Mart.

A Floyd County native, Ellis Martin, by surviving into the year 2000, was able to take claim to the feat of living in three different centuries. Martin was born in 1898.

Governor Paul Patton unveiled his proposal for the allocation of Kentucky's share of the national tobacco settlement. His proposal called for 50 percent of the year's Phase I Tobacco Settlement to go to his farm economy initiative, "CommonWealth Grows".

A pedestrian was struck and killed attempting to cross the highway on KY Rt. 122 near Minnie. Bonnie Stone, 48, was struck by a vehicle driven by Prestonsburg resident Sharon Moore. Stone was pronounced dead at the scene by deputy coroner Glen Frazier.

A state amended statute allowed for the approval of the office of the commonwealth attorney to become a full-time position.

Three Floyd County homes were lost to fire during the third weekend of January. The home of Sandy Crisp, located on Arkansas Creek; the home of Dewey Moore, located on Turkey Creek; and an upstairs apartment within a two-story complex located directly behind P&B Liquors located at Betsy Layne.

A host of education-related bills were submitted for consideration to the General Assembly. The bills covered a wide range of subjects some being: A bill calling for the integration of an arts and foreign language program in elementary schools; a bill allowing for the posting of the Ten Commandments inside the classroom; a bill calling for "character education" programs with emphasis on moral value issues; and a bill calling for statewide participation in school uniform codes.

A Prestonsburg High School youth accidentally fired a fatal gunshot wound to his head while playing the deadly game of "Russian Roulette". Chad Goodman, 17, believed he was effectively manipulating the bullet in the gun's chamber so that he was safe from injury as he and another teen attempted to frighten a younger boy by playing

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<p>Meal For Two \$5.99 plus tax</p> <p>• 4 Pieces of Original Recipe® or Extra Crispy™ Chicken • 2 Mashed Potatoes & Gravy • 2 Cole Slaws • 2 Biscuits</p> <p>Limit 4 Per Person. Expires 3-31-01</p>	<p>Breast Combo Deal \$3.49 plus tax</p> <p>• 1 Breast (Original Recipe® or Extra Crispy™ Only) • Individual Mashed Potatoes & Gravy • Individual Cole Slaw • 1 Buttermilk Biscuit • 1 Small Soft Drink</p> <p>Limit 4 Per Person. Expires 3-31-01</p>	<p>Strip Meal For Two \$5.99 plus tax</p> <p>• 6 Crispy Strips (Choice of Crispy or Honey BBQ Flavored) • 2 Mashed Potatoes & Gravy • 2 Cole Slaws • 2 Buttermilk Biscuits</p> <p>Limit 4 Per Person. Expires 3-31-01</p>	<p>Liver Dinner \$1.99 plus tax</p> <p>• 1 Mashed Potatoes and Gravy • 1 Cole Slaw • 1 Buttermilk Biscuit</p> <p>Limit 4 Per Person. Expires 3-31-01</p>

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the game. The incident occurred at the home of Prestonsburg attorney David Neeley, who was not at home at the time of the incident. No charges were filed in connection with the tragedy.

Floyd County Sheriff John K. Blackburn traveled to Warsaw, Indiana, to extradite a man wanted in Floyd County on a charge of flagrant non-support. William T. Flannery owed his child \$30,000 in back payments.

Wheelwright City Commissioner Donald G. "Booty" Hall was served with an Emergency Protective Order by Family Court Judge Julie Paxton as requested by Hall's former wife, Shannon Cordial. Hall is disallowed the use of any type of firearm for any purpose, including hunting, for the entire time the EPO is in effect.

The City of Prestonsburg filed suit against a local sign company, Unisign, for what the city termed "doing poor business." The focus of the suit was upon a marquee-type sign that Unisign erected at the front entrance to the Mountain Arts Center. The city claims that the sign has never worked properly and that Unisign has failed to remedy the situation.

A benefit sing was held at the Allen Fire Department by a group of citizens organized by Susanne Gullett who banded together to raise funds to help the family of Brian Hughes, of Price, to pay for medical expenses incurred from the treatment of Hughes' leukemia.

The Floyd County Fiscal Court allowed local minister Bobby Isaac, of Wheelwright, to hang a copy of the Ten Commandments on a wall in the fiscal courtroom. County Judge-Executive Paul Hunt Thompson was quoted as saying, "We will put them up until the federal government does something about it."

Two Floyd County officials in the House of Representatives co-sponsored a bill which would bring \$331,000 into the Floyd County school system if passed. House majority floor leader Greg Stumbo and Representative Ira Branham were sponsors of the bill.

The Wheelwright City Commission held a reading pertaining to an ordinance that would grant city commissioners the right to remove city utility commissioners at will. The ordinance would also give city commissioners the power to request drug screenings and criminal background checks, as well.

Floyd County Times Senior Editor Pam Shingler received five awards from the Kentucky Press Association's winter awards ceremony. She won two first-place prizes, two second-place awards and one third-place prize. Other Times staff members winning honors were Willie Elliot, Ed Taylor, Heath Wiley and Ralph B. Davis.

Former Commonwealth Attorney John Earl Hunt issued a statement concerning his decision to not seek re-election for the office. Prestonsburg attorney Jerry Patton and assistant commonwealth attorney Arnold Brent Turner both filed to be elected to the office.

Two adults and a juvenile were arrested by Prestonsburg Police Department officers in conjunction with their involvement in a car theft ring. One suspect was pursued on foot by Officer Gerald Clark and apprehended and placed under arrest while standing in the creek behind Archer Park.

Members of the Prestonsburg City Council met to discuss issues surrounding the city's recycling trailer and to open discussion as to setting in place a plan for more efficient use of the trailer.

The mayor of Martin, Alan Whicker, declined to attend a meeting of the city's council after receiving several phone calls threatening his life if he did decide to do so. Whicker was quoted as saying, "There will be a lot of innocent people there and I don't want anyone to get hurt."

A meeting of the Martin City Council was held with council member Joe Howard filling in as acting mayor. The focus of the meeting pertained to continuing problems with the city's water and sewage facilities and monetary budget. City Attorney Timothy Parker told those present that there was "no way to balance the budget." Darnel Barber, a representative from Senator Jim Bunnings' office, told council members that they needed to set in place a plan to "set something aside" on a regular basis.

The Floyd County Board of Education chose Terry Dotson to act as chairperson with Johnnie Ross as vice-chairperson.

In results of the Commonwealth's Accountability Testing System, Floyd County schools ranked 21st from the bottom. Floyd County schools ranked 56th out of 177 school districts. Clark Elementary made the best showing of the county schools, tal-

lying a 61.8 score, well above the school's state mandated goal of 57.5 within two years.

Governor Paul Patton unveiled his "Roads for the 21st Century" initiative. Under this proposal, one cent of the state's gas tax would be divided among 76 of Kentucky's counties which have more than 20 percent of their roads unpaved. With the incorporation of this plan, more than a quarter of a million dollars would be earmarked for Floyd County to be used for the paving of county roads.

A Floyd County man, Terry L. Hall, 46, was sentenced to five years in jail by Circuit Judge Danny P. Caudill for a charge resulting from the mistreatment of his ex-wife. Hall, was found guilty of second degree assault for hitting Rhoda Hall in the face, breaking her jaw.

A downtown post office was installed in the old Sears building on Court Street in Prestonsburg. Many area residents had been unhappy with the location of the newly built city post office, near the Wal-Mart shopping center, the opening of the new mini-post office was an added convenience for many.

A Floyd County man and his wife were arrested and placed under separate \$500,000 cash bonds on charges stemming from the beating of an 80 year-old woman. Bill Sammons, 60, and his wife, Brenda, 49, were charged with the beating of Sammons' elderly mother, Alma Sammons. The woman suffered a broken eye socket, a broken arm, multiple bruises and abrasions, and possibly, a broken foot.

A budget proposal brought forth by Gov. Paul Patton contained an additional \$1 million to be used on the East Kentucky Center of Science being built on PCC's campus. In addition, the proposal also included a request from Sen. Benny Ray Bailey to spend \$1 million on waterline extensions throughout Floyd County.

A Martin man pleaded guilty to a single charge of sexual abuse against a minor, under 12 years old. Steve R. Carrol, 34, was sentenced to two and one-half years in jail, followed by an 18 month probation period upon his release from jail. Carrol will also be required to complete a sexual offenders treatment program.

"The Sporting Times" made its debut on January 31. It is a monthly tabloid that deals with sports events and personalities from around the 15th region and beyond.

February

A former resident of Teaberry, Ricky Newsome, was injured in a shooting that took place in the community of Jonancy in Pike County. Troy Hamilton, 38, of Jonancy, was arrested and charged with first-degree assault. A search of Hamilton's residence resulted in the discovery of a large quantity of illegal drugs, alcohol and several weapons, among them a Russian AK-47 assault rifle.

Prestonsburg, the May Lodge located within the Jenny Wiley State Resort Park, the Prestonsburg and Allen Central high schools, Adams Middle School, Allen Elementary School, the Mountain Christian Academy, and the Pike Building at Prestonsburg Community College.

Lt. Ricky Thornberry and sheriff's deputy Bobby Hackworth were involved in a domestic violence situation in which the victim, Melinda Short, was arrested for alcohol intoxication and disorderly conduct, and the perpetrator's dog, a Rottweiler, was repeatedly pepper-sprayed and eventually shot in the shoulder. A few days later, the perpetrator, Michael Keens, 30, was arrested by Deputy Hackworth and charged with two counts of terroristic threatening, alcohol intoxication, disorderly conduct, fourth degree assault, fleeing and evading a police officer, and third degree assault.

The Floyd County Division of Child Support got a new home near the The Market Place on South Lake Drive. County Attorney Keith Bartley said that his office is posting success numbers that are in the top five percent of the counties in Kentucky.

Floyd County E-911 service coordinator Bill Dotson urged local officials to give jail time to individuals guilty of stealing E-911 road signs. Dotson said that the theft of these locator signs could "place a person's life in jeopardy."

During blasting associated with the widening of KY 114, a rock penetrated the metal roof of the nearby Mountain Arts Center.

The Floyd County Board of Education approved contracts to provide bleachers for Allen Central and Betsy Layne high school gyms. The total contract price was \$285,945.

Mandy May, daughter of Lon May, director of Floyd County's Office of Disaster & Emergency Services, traveled to Frankfort to hear a speech given by actor Christopher Reeve to the state House of Representatives. Both Mandy and Reeve have suffered spine injuries that have left them unable to walk. Reeve is known for his movie theatre role as "Superman."

Steven Riley, 37, of Floyd County, filed a complaint against Household Retail Services for a television ad that he claims is a fraudulent representation of the services offered.

The Kentucky House of Representatives tackled many controversial bills in early February. Among some of the more notable bills presented were bills concerning teen smoking, the posting of the Ten Commandments, the "bottle bill", confiscated firearms, civil rights legislation, and the use of cell phones by drivers.

The Otter Creek Correctional Center changed over from being a minimum-security facility to a medium-security facility that will now accept inmates from other states. The change came about in

charges connected with the assault of his ex-wife, Heather Case.

Trooper Ernest Langley, of the Pikeville State Police Post 9, was arrested and charged with first degree burglary, first degree wanton endangerment, second degree assault, and fourth degree assault in connection with a break-in he committed upon the Jefferson County residence of his girlfriend. Langley had been employed upon active duty with the police force for only six months.

The Prestonsburg Golf Course Advisory Board met to announce the naming of the golf course and the naming of board officials. Paul Phillip Hughes was named chairman of the board, with Richard Clark to serve as vice-chairman, and Brenda Hughes to serve as secretary. "Stone Crest" was announced as the official name of the course.

A Melvin man was handed down a grand jury indictment on charges of theft against a local woman, Debbie Goble. Goble claimed that Ty Blakenship, 20, stole \$1,100 from a suitcase held in a closet in her home.

A Betsy Layne man, James Dean Sellards, was charged with burglary and theft for acts committed in the home of another Floyd County man, Charles Parsons. Sellards allegedly entered Parsons' home and stole a variety of medications.

The first Mountain Arts Center Commission meeting held since the incorporation of Kevin Shannon as the new director became an informational meeting as the result of not having enough members show for a quorum.

Freddie Goble, transportation planner for the Big Sandy Area Development District (ADD) conducted a meeting in which area residents were presented the opportunity to voice their opinion about what roads should be considered for our area in near-future plans.

The Floyd County E-911 Executive Council decided to place a temporary hold on reinstating the E-911 surcharge on county telephone bills.

A fight ensued at the Floyd County Detention Center when two people who had been placed under

and bottlers in the form of "scare tactic" advertisements geared for the elderly. The advertisements mislead the elderly community to believe that the bill would create higher prices at local grocery stores and supermarkets.

Jack Sykes, of Summit Engineering, Inc. announced that Ranger Construction Industries expects completion of the Stone Crest Golf Course by May.

The Prestonsburg Golf Course Advisory Board met to discuss options concerning golf carts. Decisions on whether to buy or lease golf carts in addition to whether or not to invest in gasoline or electrically powered carts were postponed as Paul Phillip Hughes, chairman, divided the board into research groups of two.

The Mountain Arts Center finished up the year 1999 showing a financial loss of \$257,868.22.

The McDowell Appalachian Regional Hospital sponsored a "Have a Heart Day" for leukemia patient Brian Hughes.

The Columbia Gas Transmission Plant at Langley was slated to be torn down ending 73 years of service to the company and to the com-

munity.

James David Howell, 31, of Harold, appeared in Floyd Circuit Court to ask to be granted an early release for sexual crimes committed through a relationship he had established with a 16 year-old girl.

The Floyd County Fiscal Court had not suffered repercussions by the American Civil Liberties Union for allowing a display of the Ten Commandments on the courtroom walls as of mid-February.

Fred James, executive director, and Sam Blakenship asked the tourism commission to map out a 20 year vision of future objectives for the local tourism area.

Gov. Paul Patton presented a speech concerning his budget proposal and tax plan at Prestonsburg Community College on February 18.

The Wheelwright City Commission attempted to enact an ordinance that would give them the power to oust Utilities Commission Board members at will. The motion to immediately enact the ordinance after the conclusion of its second reading by Mayor Marlee Sammons was struck down on the condition that the ordinance had not yet been



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■ Christopher Reeve



MANDY MAY, lower left, and friend Palmer Hurston, lower right, were given the VIP treatment when they went to Frankfort Thursday for Christopher Reeve's (inset) appearance before the General Assembly. In addition to getting to sit on the House floor during Reeve's speech, May got the chance to meet state legislators, such as Rep. Greg Stumbo, above right.

Koree L. Thompson, 25, of Volga, was handed down a grand jury indictment on three counts of attempted murder. Thompson allegedly attempted to run over Officers Bryan S. Hall, John S. Little and Trooper John Hunt in November 1999.

Ervin Akers, 76, owner of Akers & Akers, Inc. died on January 31 at Highlands Regional Medical Center. Some area buildings that he was responsible for the construction of include The First Commonwealth Bank building in

order to prevent the facility from shutting down. As a result, 48 new jobs were created within the facility.

House bill 532 proposed that the speed limit on Route 80 be changed from 55 to 65 m.p.h. Local law enforcement officials were in disagreement with the change, saying that increased speed would only result in increased accidents.

Larry Michael Shepherd, 24, of Hunter pleaded guilty to second degree assault, first degree wanton endangerment, first degree stalking, and terroristic threatening in

arrest for misdemeanor charges decided to resist incarceration. Jessica Rice, 25, of Spurlock, and Joseph Patton, Jr, 40, also of Spurlock, became engaged in a scuffle with police officers Bryan Hall and Steve Little and Floyd County Sheriff's Deputy Lt. Herman Morris. All received injuries and were transported to Highlands Regional Medical Center.

House majority floor leader Greg Stumbo's "bottle bill" faced opposition from the state's grocers

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Mayor Jerry Fannin and City Council Members

published.
Gov. Paul Patton proposed a six-year road improvement plan for Floyd County at an estimated cost of \$133 million.

The complaining witness against Prestonsburg attorney Sheridan Martin did not appear at a preliminary hearing held in conjunction with charges brought against Martin for alleged sexual misconduct. Nonetheless, special judge Darrel Mullins of Pike County District Court, saw cause to refer the case to the grand jury.

Gary McCoy, 52, of Prestonsburg, the owner of Mountain Metal Company, was arrested on charges of unlawful imprisonment after allegedly holding Wendell D. Burke at gunpoint for a period of 45 to 60 minutes.

Traci Hedrick, 29, of Lancer, formerly of Maryland, was arrested on theft and forgery charges after allegedly stealing prescription pads from the office of Dr. Ray deGuzman, a Martin physician. Hedrick had been employed by deGuzman about three to four days before the theft occurred.

Local organizations such as

LINKS, of the Appalachian Research and Defense Fund, and the Mountain Comprehensive Care Corporation, voiced their support for House Bill 392, which would continue to provide funding grants for housing for low-income families.

Gov. Paul Patton announced that he is scrapping his tax-and-spend proposal because of a lack of legislative support. This announcement raised concerns in Floyd County because Patton had previously acknowledged his intention to use the proposed tax monies to improve roads and support local projects in the area.

Rep. Greg Stumbo announced that he did not consider his "bottle bill" to be dead, as the Associated Press had previously reported. He vowed, "As long as I am down here (referring to the Kentucky house of legislature), it will not die."

Proposed changes concerning Kentucky's elections included House Bill 507 which provided a provision that would entitle pregnant women in their last trimester the right to cast their votes as early as 12 days prior to the official election date.

Roberto P. Rivas, 33, Michocan, Mexico was arrested in the CSX railroad yard at Martin. He apparently was "hitchhiking" rides on the train system and was discovered rifling through dumpsters and trash cans looking for something to eat. He was charged with third-degree trespassing.

House Joint Resolution 39 was passed to Kentucky's Senate in mid-February. It proposed that two highways and three bridges located in Floyd County be given names commemorating the Civil War battles fought that were fought within the county.

The Floyd County Board of Education met in special session in late February to discuss staffing ratios for the 2000-2001 school year. The ratios in question pertained to student-teacher numbers.

Posters designed by staff of the Big Sandy Family Abuse Center in conjunction with the Floyd County Community Council on Domestic Violence's "Bathroom Project" were hung in the women's bathrooms of Reno's Roadhouse. Reno's was the first local business to allow the hanging of the posters in their facility.

Floyd County Girl Scout troops assisted the Floyd County Health Department's "HANDS" program by collecting baby products to be distributed to new mothers. The Girl Scout project was named the "Wee Care" project.

House Bill 814 which calls for a reworking of the myriad of efforts to get the Ten Commandments posted in schools, was backed by House Majority Floor Leader Greg Stumbo.

March

Melissa A. Lawson, 23, of Ivel was arrested and charged with first degree assault and tampering with evidence in connection with an attack upon Brad Adkins in which the left side of his face was cut through the use of a large meat cleaver.

Christopher Hall, 18, of Wayland was arrested in connection with the burglary of the Wayland Kwik-Mart. He was also charged with arson in connection with another incident that occurred in 1999 involving the burning of a school bus stop.

An ordinance proposing a hike on sewer rates for Martin residents was struck down by the Martin City Council in early March.

The new dress code policy at Adams Middle School continued to irritate some parents and students into the 2000 spring semester.

The Floyd County Disaster and Emergency Services office led a county-wide mock tornado drill in area schools. As a result, the office was able to pinpoint problems and begin to correct them.

Gov. Paul Patton unveiled a revised budget to replace his original tax-and-spend plan that was scrapped for lack of legislative support. The new package shaved off approximately \$129.3 million from the original proposal.

On the same day he was indicted for first degree sexual abuse, Prestonsburg attorney Sheridan Martin was escorted away from the presence of his alleged victim. The incident occurred at the Department for Employment Services in Prestonsburg.

Lack of rain contributed to a continuing increase in forest fires in the five-county area of Floyd, Pike, Johnson, Magoffin and Lawrence counties. County Judge-Executive Paul Hunt Thompson issued a burn ban for Floyd County in an attempt to gain control of the fires.

Thanks to a 911 phone call and quick action of the David Area Fire Department, the home of Keith and Donna Bentley was saved from being totally destroyed by fire.

Sue Webb, Prestonsburg's longest serving city clerk, retired from service after 22 years with the city.

Training for county officials involved in the "Families in Transition" program began in mid-March. Conducted by Dr. Joe H. Brown, the training focused on the children involved in divorce proceedings.

Rep. Ira Branham included Floyd County projects in the state's spending bill. Among them, funding for water lines, parks for the communities of David and Auxier, and the installation of a traffic signal along Route 80 at Garrett.

Rep. Greg Stumbo's "bottle bill" was voted down by the House of Representatives by a 54-41 vote after a nearly two hour debate in mid-March.

The murder trial of David B. Hall, 30, of Garrett, got underway in mid-March, but suffered postponement when Hall's attorney, Ned Pillerdorf became ill. Hall was charged with the murder of Steven Wicker which occurred at the scene of a party in January, 1999.

Prestonsburg Fire Chief Thomas Andrew "Tom Bo" Blackburn retired after 33 years of service to the Prestonsburg Fire Department.

Charles Edward, director of the Site Based Decision Making (SBDM) Council from the

presentation by Dr. Don Frazier, director of the Outreach Center for Science and Health Careers at the University of Kentucky Chandler Medical Center. The students were presented the opportunity to see real examples of human body organs not normally found in typical health or science class.

House Bill 366 was passed by a vote of 91-5. One of the key provisions of the bill was the lowering of the blood-alcohol content level for a DUI charge to .08, changing it from the previous .10.

Members of the Middle Creek Development Club gathered together signatures for a petition protesting the lack of fire hydrants being installed in their area.

A special meeting of the Wheelwright City Commission and Utilities Commission was called in order to clear up concerns and misconceptions.

Utilities Superintendent Gary McCoy was quoted as saying, "It takes more

tax bill that would have helped pay for some of the items in it. Over 400 community development projects and a number of other initiatives were slashed from the original budget.

Carma Miller, also known as Tammy Slusher, 38, of Royalton was arrested and charged with first degree robbery, theft, unlawful imprisonment and terroristic threatening in connection with a robbery that occurred at the home of Lanie Terry, 87, of Lackey.

Lynn Luallen, CEO of the Kentucky Housing Corporation, presented several area organizations with grant checks to be used in the interests of low-income housing. Among them, \$20,000 was given to the LINKS program of the Appalachian Research and Defense Fund.

Kentucky got a fourth area code. The surrounding Lexington area and Northern Kentucky got a new 859 area code.

April

A Prestonsburg lay-pastor was arrested and charged with second degree rape, bribery and custodial interference. Rev. Russell Hayes, Jr., 46, of Lancer, was allegedly caught in the act of sexual intercourse with a 12 year old female by Martin County Deputy Richard Sansom.

Welfare reform continued statewide with local welfare offices saying that they were busy at work trying to make the transition from welfare to work as smooth as possible for those involved.

A \$10,000 deposit was accepted from the Kentucky Housing Corporation by the Floyd County Fiscal Court to hold lot A of the Davidson Memorial Park located at Ivel. Tentative plans have been made to use the site as the location of a potential Samson Homes factory.

David L. Hurst, 34, of Ivel, pleaded guilty to the possession of cocaine and the selling of the prescription drug, Lorcet.

Steven Wright, 39, of Martin, was arrested on assault charges after allegedly beating his girlfriend and leaving her with a broken rib, a broken finger, cuts on both ears, bruises on the back of each ear and a possibility of a permanent loss of vision.

Kevin C. Webb, 29, of Drift, was arrested on multiple charges of forgery and theft in connection with acts that took place as Webb served as chairperson for the Floyd County Local Emergency Planning Committee during the time period of September 1998 to September 1999.

The trial of Terry Lynn Jarrell was postponed because she appeared in court nine months pregnant and experiencing labor contractions. Jarrell was accused of stealing over \$8,000 in attorney fees from attorney Eric C. Conn.

Cheryl L. Lafferty, 21, of Prestonsburg, pleaded guilty to first degree criminal trespassing and falsely reporting an incident in Floyd District Court in early April. Lafferty was sentenced to thirty days in jail, fined \$100 and ordered to pay court costs of \$103.50.

Candy Robinson, of Prestonsburg, vowed to fight court orders demanding her to return her three nieces, ages 13, 10, and 8, to their mother, Gail Bush, 35, of Pomeroy, Ohio. The children related tales of having to "eat grass" in order to fill their empty stomachs while under the care of their parents.

Dorothy Arnett, 59, of Royalton, was arrested for her involvement in connection with a robbery committed against an 87 year old Langley woman, Lanie Terry.

The Floyd County Health Department announced that beginning April 25, a new service will be offered to local families, the Extended Wellness Child Preventive Health Screenings program.

Gregory Scott Crace was arrested at his residence on a charge of trafficking in marijuana after an undercover officer allegedly made a purchase there.

Rosemary Sammons, 52, of Martin, led Sheriff's Deputy Bobby Hackworth on a high speed chase through Prater Creek of Banner. Sammons allegedly collided with another vehicle, hitting a juvenile and barely missing pedestrians during the chase but still refused to stop. Hackworth was ultimately successful in bringing Sammons under arrest. Sammons had outstanding warrants on robbery and theft charges.

Floyd County and several of its cities trailed the nation in a slow return of census forms. The low participation rate was a concern to county officials and local government who worried that state and federal funding to the area would be cut if the local population remained undercounted.



photo by Randall Reno
JAILHOUSE CONVERSION — John Allen, inmate at the Floyd County Detention Center, joined fellow inmate Ricky Jones in a display of faith by being baptized Friday. The two men took the plunge in the recreational area of the detention center.

than you think to run this department...come to me if you have a question or concern."

A state auditor's report showed that County Judge-Executive Paul Hunt Thompson owed the county \$2,683 and suggested that he clear the deficit with personal funds.

Former County Judge-Executive Benjamin Hale was appointed as assistant director for commission operations with the Kentucky Appalachian Commission in Hazard.

Burj Wells Spurlock, president and chief executive officer of First Commonwealth Bank of Prestonsburg, retired. Greg A. Wilson, senior vice president and senior lending officer was named as his successor.

The United States Census count got underway in the county. Superintendent of Schools Paul Fanning stressed the importance of the count in obtaining funds for area schools.

Floyd County received nearly \$40,000 in PRIDE grant monies for area clean-up projects.

Martin city attorney Timothy Parker read a letter of resignation from Mayor Alan Whicker, who had not attended council meetings for the previous two months since receiving death threats. Council member Thomasine Robinson was elected to serve as acting mayor for the remainder of Whicker's term. Council members Eugene Hutchinson and Hazel Robinson resigned their seats this same evening, with Robinson retrieving her letter of resignation the following morning. Charles Justice was appointed to fill Hutchinson's seat.

The Prestonsburg City Council granted a lease to the Jenny Wiley Drama Association for a property located on Spradlin Branch. The lease agreement was for three 25-year consecutive terms. The Drama Association told the council that they had plans to use in excess of \$200,000 toward the construction of a building that will house actors during the theatre season.

The Floyd County Sheriff's office netted multiple weapons, drugs and cash in a raid that resulted in the arrests of Jeffrey Todd Crace, 33, of Allen, Gregory Scott Crace, 36, also of Allen and Charles E. Diskey, Jr., 43, of Prestonsburg.

Brittany Mitchell, an eighth grade student from John M. Stumbo Elementary, addressed the Floyd County Board of Education and implored them to make needed changes and improvements at the school. She cited many examples of the school being in disrepair such as leaking roofs, inadequate size classrooms, old and shoddy desks and textbooks and problems associated with a combined lunchroom/gymnasium. Later in the meeting, the Board approved \$280,000 for the use of the construction of a softball field at Betsy Layne.

The state Senate passed a two-year budget for Kentucky, but not a

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Students find 'hands-on' anatomy a good approach

■ David Kilburn ■ Justin Moore ■ Regina Castle
■ Ryan Hammonds ■ Stacey Howard

Schools across Floyd county celebrated the birthday of "Dr. Suess" (Theodor Geisel) by wearing the signature red and white felt "Cat in the Hat" hats and holding special readings of Dr. Suess classics.

Delbert L. Snodgrass, 41, of Ivel was arrested and charged with fourth degree assault in connection with the alleged beating of his wife, Wanda Snodgrass.

Gov. Paul Patton declared March as Severe Storms Preparedness Month. Jim Keeny, of the National Weather Service met with school principals from across the county to emphasize the need for emergency preparedness in the schools.

House Bill 398 was presented to the General Assembly in early March. The bill called for all houseboats, cruisers, yachts, and runabouts to be prohibited from entering Kentucky's waterways unless equipped with a marine sanitation bathroom device.

Disaster and Emergency Services director Lon May informed the Floyd County School System that they are in need of emergency connection services. May said that without emergency connections available, it could take up to 45 minutes to alert some area schools of impending disasters.

A bill allowing the posting of the Ten Commandments in public school buildings was passed in the Kentucky House of Representatives.

Kentucky Department of Education, urged local school officials to use the SBDM "tool" correctly to solve problems.

David B. Hall, of Garrett, entered a guilty plea in return for reduced charges in connection with the stabbing death of Steven Wicker.

Robert M. Clay, 43, of Middle Creek, was allowed to go free after a motion to dismiss charges was granted. Clay had been convicted on a charge of cruelty to animals after evidence was presented that he had castrated a pit bull dog and then had sexual intercourse with it.

Jack Branham, 80, of Betsy Layne died at his home after a long illness. He was a founder of the Sandy Valley Water District and the Betsy Layne Volunteer Fire Department.

The first meeting of the Southern Water and Sewer District was held March 15. The new entity elected officers for the combined board of commissioners from the Beaver-Elkhorn and Mud Creek water districts and established an organizational agenda.

Judge-Executive Paul Hunt Thompson discovered over \$1 million in hidden fiscal court assets. He announced at a fiscal court meeting that the money would be used for improvement projects in the county.

Students at Allen Central Middle School were made audience to a

Three men were handed down grand jury indictments on charges that they had allegedly made several trips onto the property of former Wayland mayor, Eugene Mullins, by way of ATV's and then allegedly stole several items from Mullins' property. Michael Jackson, Joseph A. Collett, and Byron Keith Rister faced charges in connection with the matter.

Police Department. The suit was filed against the state's secretary of the Justice Cabinet, Robert Stephens and Gov. Paul Patton.

The Wheelwright City Commission voted to pay half of the utilities bills for a group of agencies bringing county services to Wheelwright and Left Beaver, provided they receive promised monies from the Otter Creek

Gen. James Bickford, Secretary of the Kentucky Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Cabinet visited Floyd county to commemorate the clean-up of the mile-long Auxier dump. Bickford was quoted as saying, "The largest dump in Kentucky is cleaned up."

Jailer Roger Webb signed a tentative agreement to house Knott County prisoners after that county's

attempted rape of a Prestonsburg High School student. He had also been charged with theft in connection with an incident that occurred at the home of Delmar Johnson.

Two McDowell High School graduates vied in the state Senate race for the 29th District. Incumbent Benny Ray Bailey and challenger Johnny Ray Turner.

A Prestonsburg man, Denver B. Collins, 44, died in his home of an apparent heart attack according to Floyd County Coroner Roger Nelson. The incident occurred in early May when the county was experiencing unseasonably high temperatures, 90 degrees and above. Collins' body was found close to two days after his death. His 13-month old daughter had been alone in the home since Collins' death.

Billy Sammons pleaded guilty to amended charges and was granted probation in connection with the assault of his 81 year old mother, his sister, and Kenneth Sharp. Assistant Commonwealth Attorney Jeff Damron said that Sammons' mother did not want to see her son go to jail.

Seven Floyd County students were selected to attend the 2000 Governor's Scholars Program. The students were: Tyler Green, Breanna Harris, Daphne McCoy, Kyra Osborne, John Slone, Iris Stumbo, and Amanda Tackett.

A groundbreaking ceremony was held for the upcoming construction of a new Senior Citizens Center to be located at Lancer near the entrance to Jenny Wiley State Park. The center will double as a information center for persons entering the state park.

Two Piarist School students were chosen as private school representatives in the Governor's Scholars program. The students were Thommy Greene and Nora Traum.

Jimmy D. Tackett, 30, of Teaberry, was recaptured nearly one week after his escape from the Floyd County Detention Center.

Willis Spears, Jr., 34, of Auxier pleaded guilty to having sex with a pre-teen girl in April, 1999.

The Middle Creek Volunteer Fire Department received a \$100,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The money will be used to purchase a new truck with mounted firefighting equipment.

Floyd County Family Court Judge Julie Paxton ruled that she had "no jurisdiction" over an Ohio case involving the custody of

three children, ages 13, 10, and 8. The children had been in the care of an aunt, Candy Robinson, for well over a year when she was forced to return them to their mother, Gail Bush, a resident of Ohio. Bush is Robinson's sister and had previously been charged with severe neglect and abuse of the children.

Attorneys Jerry Patton and Arnold Brent Turner, both running for election as Commonwealth Attorney, stated each that they would turn the position into a full-time job.

Thirteen Prestonsburg High School students got the opportunity

to fly a small plane after scoring sufficiently high grades on an aviation exam given in Larry Short's physics class.

David T. Cecil, 16, of Pikeville, failed to make a successful negotiation of a curve along Main Street in Allen and subsequently lost control of the 1995 Chevy Blazer he was driving. The vehicle hit three pedestrians, Brandi Lynn Mosely, 14, Leanna Briggs, 16, and William Sosebee, 20. Mosely died within the following hours at the University of Kentucky Chandler Medical Center from internal injuries sustained in the accident.

'Takeover' provides learning opportunity for officers, students



photo by Willie Elliott

Playing the part of a law officer, law enforcement instructor Mike Dixon trades fire with terrorists during an exercise at Prestonsburg Community College.

All seven members of the Kentucky Supreme Court were scheduled to hear arguments that took place at the Mountain Arts Center on May 10 and May 11. The hearings were open to the public.

The Kentucky State Senate passed a bill that imposed a tax on long distance telephone calls in an effort to generate more money for the General Fund.

Dorothy Arnette, 59, of Royalton, an alleged accomplice to a robbery committed at the residence of Lanie Terry, 87, of Langley, appeared at a preliminary hearing at which her attorney, Ed Spencer, successfully had charges against her reduced to one first degree robbery charge.

A "spring clean" project got underway in Floyd County in mid-April with county officials urging residents to dispose of trash and large items properly and to refrain from illegal trash disposal practices.

A search council was named in connection with the hiring of a new president for Prestonsburg Community College. The Prestonsburg Community College Board of Directors met at the Gearheart Communications Building in Harold on April 13.

Floyd County Judge-Executive Paul Hunt Thompson announced in April that the county's E-911 service was now 90 to 95 percent complete and enhanced.

Floyd County local leaders were successful in bringing in nearly \$57 million in state spending into the Floyd County area to be spent on various projects within the next two years.

Convicted murderer Michael Lee Crisp, 36, of Dwayne, was denied a motion for relief by Circuit Judge Danny P. Caudill. Crisp's attorney, Robert Ganstein, argued that Crisp's jury was given the option to sentence Crisp to 20 to 50 years in prison for the crime but instead gave a recommendation for life imprisonment which was sustained by former Circuit Judge Hollie Conley. Crisp was convicted of the 1988 murder of Ricky Hall. Hall suffered 34 stab wounds and his throat was cut from ear to ear.

Michael Keens, 30, of Langley, suffered a death from accidental drowning after he escaped from police custody while being arrested at the scene of a domestic violence call. Keens slid down a muddy creek embankment into the Right Beaver Creek sometime after 9 p.m. and his body was later discovered by rescue workers at approximately 1:50 a.m. Keens had not been handcuffed.

A Prestonsburg woman, Candy Robinson, was informed through her attorney, Paul Deaton, that Meigs County, Ohio, juvenile court Judge Robert Buck said that if she did not return her three nieces into the custody of their mother, Gail Bush, he would recommend that a warrant for kidnapping be issued for Robinson's arrest. Robinson had said earlier that the children, ages 13, 10, and 8 had suffered physical and sexual abuse and neglect while in the care of their mother.

Former state police commissioner and Floyd County resident, Gary Rose filed a lawsuit in Floyd Circuit Court alleging that he had been wrongfully terminated from his position within the Kentucky State

Correctional Center. The vote raised some controversy between city attorney, Timothy Parker and Mayor Marlee Sammons.

Law enforcement students participated in a mock "takeover" on the Prestonsburg Community College campus under the direction of their instructor, Mike Dixon. Charles Stebbins, then president of the college, was taken "hostage" during the event.

Roger Recktenwald, executive director of the Big Sandy Area Development District, resigned to accept a position as executive director of the Kentucky Infrastructure Authority.

The Kentucky legislature voted to override Gov. Paul Patton's vetoes on two bills. The veto on House Bill 70, which exempts religious organizations from some of the state's civil rights laws, was overridden by a vote of 82-16. A veto on a bill that requires that guns seized from criminals be sold at auction to licensed gun dealers was also overridden.

A "shoot-out" in the parking lot of the Cardinal Mart at Lancer left one man dead at the scene. Henry Clifton, 49, of Prestonsburg died from wounds inflicted by Ernest E. "Bucky" Collins, 46, of Prestonsburg.

U.S. Rep. Hal Rogers appeared at McDowell Elementary to inform students and staff of a \$1.5 million grant to be awarded for the clean-up of the Left Beaver area from its headwaters in the Wheelwright area to Martin.

The Beaver-Elkhorn and Mud Creek water districts combined to form the Southern Water District, with U.S. Filter taking over the reins of management.

Marcus Henry Samland, 18, of Westland, Mich., and Matthew Joseph Brown, 18, of Flat Rock, MI were arrested by Floyd County Sheriff's Department Lt. Herman Morris and charged with first degree violating a grave and first degree trespassing in connection with incidents that took place on Meade Branch at the home of John Bush, who was killed in 1982 by his wife on the front porch of the home. The home had been vandalized and Bush's grave desecrated.

The Prestonsburg Winn-Dixie grocery store closed its doors on May 27, leaving 40 without jobs.

Roger Henderson, 51, of Hi Hat, entered a plea of guilty to two counts of sexual abuse against a female under twelve years old. Henderson received a sentence of ten years plus a mandatory requirement to complete the sexual offender program.

Donna Williams, a former Prestonsburg Dance Cat, was chosen to become a member of the 2000 Tennessee Titans cheerleading squad.

May

Former Floyd County Court Clerk Carla Robinson Boyd made full restitution to the county office in the amount of \$26,821.95. She was also sentenced to serving five hours of community service per week for a period of one year in addition to making monetary restitution. Boyd had testified in court that she had set up a personal account with county funds and had used the money for personal items, one being college tuition.

jail was closed due to a failure to meet fire codes.

The Carl D. Perkins Job Corp Center observed its 20th anniversary with an open house and groundbreaking ceremony for a new male dormitory.

Members of the E-911 advisory council met to ask the E-911 Executive Board to consider reestablishing a surcharge to bolster rapidly depleting funds.

Rick Estep, 41, of David, was charged with attempted murder and eight counts of wanton endangerment after allegedly firing multiple gunshots into the home of Julie

Candidates for prosecutor both say they want job to be full time



Jerry Patton



Arnold Brent Turner

Shepherd in the Open Fork area of David. Estep himself was wounded in the incident after a juvenile in the home returned fire.

The third "Battle of Bull Creek" was held at the Bull Creek Trade Center sponsored by Floyd and Edith Skeans. The event provides a forum for politicians and musicians, alike.

Jimmy D. Tackett, of Mud Creek, escaped from the Floyd County Detention Center in early May.

Richard E. Martin, 19, of Abbott Creek was discovered as a fugitive from justice hiding in California. Floyd County Sheriff John K. Blackburn made plans to travel to California to extradite Martin back to Floyd County. Martin had previously been charged with the

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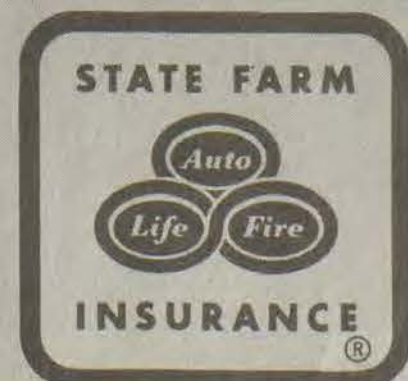


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U.S. Rep. Hal Rogers obtained a \$92,500 grant for the Mountain Arts Center. The funds were to be used in part to acquire equipment for music education programs and to expand resources for music lessons and other educational outreach programs.

Daniel Ray Taylor, of Harold, was killed following a fall that he suffered while working at a job site in Hamilton, Ohio.

The Prestonsburg Finance and Revenue Committee approved a 9.79 percent increase for city health insurance programs. The increase brought the city's allotment for employee health insurance to \$30,235 a month, or \$362,820 annually.

The Floyd County Fiscal Court passed tax rates for the new fiscal year. Real property tax was set at 14.7 percent, personal property was set at 19.68 percent, and motor vehicle and watercraft tax was set at 19.7 percent.

The Big Sandy Area Development District announced that they had received a grant that would enable them to purchase fire hydrants for the county.

Johnny Ray Turner won over Benny Ray Bailey by a 54 percent margin and Arnold Brent Turner won over Jerry Patton with a 68 percent margin in the Democratic primaries.

Chairman of the Floyd County School Board, Terry Dotson, filed a \$110,000 defamation suit against Prestonsburg attorney Jerry Patton.

Betsy Layne Elementary began sending students home for the third time in the last two years in conjunction with the discovery of a neisseria meningitis case among the primary grades in late May.

Jason Wallen, 23, was found not guilty by a Floyd County jury in a case involving the alleged sodomy of a 7-year-old boy.

Goggins Construction Company of Paintsville entered the winning bid for construction of the mountaintop golf course clubhouse. They entered a bid of \$678,000.

June

Local leaders met with members of the Appalachian Regional Commission for a roundtable discussion on the needs of the Floyd County area.

A group of protestors formed of Betsy Layne Elementary School parents and other concerned citizens rallied together on US 23 to urge the school board to shut down

the school for the rest of the year, and to also urge the federal Centers for Disease Control to investigate the cause of the illness.

The Floyd County Board of Education voted down the first attempt at reorganization of the central office.

sioner government on the November 2000 ballot for a public vote.

Geoffrey Todd Crace, 33, of Allen, was killed in a motorcycle accident that occurred along Route 1428 at Allen. Crace reportedly lost control of his motorcycle and struck

Prestonsburg. His vehicle subsequently began to veer into oncoming traffic, crossing the road into the grass and shrubbery at Hardee's Restaurant, colliding into three parked vehicles and coming to rest atop a fire hydrant. Bakay was transported to Highlands Regional Medical Center where he was pronounced dead.

Two Prestonsburg Elementary School students were suspended from school after two separate incidents of threatening to kill a teacher.

The Prestonsburg High School was the centered object of vandalism during the early part of June. Feathers and sardines had been smeared on school windows.

The Land O' Lakes margarine company issued a recall on one of its products with a report that the product could contain pieces of metal.

Dwight D. Newsome, 35, of Harold, was arrested and charged with second degree wanton endangerment and second degree criminal mischief after firing into a vehicle driven by Mike Conn. Newsome was a teacher at Betsy Layne Elementary.

Bookbags were banned from Prestonsburg Elementary for the 2000-2001 school year due to a threat made by a fifth-grade student that he would bring a gun to school on the last day of school and "kill" his teacher. The ban on bookbags was intended as a preventive safety measure in that it would eliminate the possibility of hidden weapons.

The Floyd County E-911 Advisory Council urged the general public to be alert to a growing problem of vandalism and theft of the newly erected E-911 road signs.

John L. Craft, 49, of Prestonsburg was arrested on charges of first degree sexual abuse of a minor child for a period of over 10 years. Craft pleaded not guilty at his arraignment. He was ordered by the court to remain lodged at the Floyd County Detention Center under a \$20,000 bond.

The Floyd County Chamber of Commerce held a banquet at the Wilkinson-Stumbo Convention Center at Jenny Wiley State Park in order to present achievement awards to area locals. Roger Recktenwald, former executive director of the Big Sandy Area Development District was awarded the Floyd County of the Year Award. Linda James, of LJ Productions, was given the Excellence Award, Paul Phillip Hughes, civic leader and business owner, was designated Business Person of the Year, and finally, Jenny Wiley State Resort Park was elected Business of the Year.

The family of a Floyd county man who was killed in an automobile accident in 1995 met the woman who was given a second chance at life due to the donation of the deceased man's heart. The family of Danny Justice, Jr. met Barbara Kelly, from Springfield in Washington County, at the County Cafe on Mud Creek. The meeting was termed an "emotional" one by all who were there.

The Board of Education filed a lawsuit in Floyd Circuit Court against Prestonsburg attorney, Jerry Patton. The suit claimed that he committed legal malpractice and acted negligently in a matter concerning the board and Cogenex, a computer networking system who had been hired to do work for the county education system.

Robin Hatfield, 37, of Wheelwright, was arrested on charges of endangering the welfare of a minor after leaving her 15 year old son alone for several days at a time. The boy had been diagnosed with attention deficit disorder and told law enforcement officials that he had not eaten in days.

A Langley man, Timothy M. Hagens, 24, was killed in an automobile accident in mid-June. The vehicle Hagens was driving along Route 550 struck an abutment on a concrete bridge in Eastern. Hagens was transported to Our Lady of the Way Hospital in Martin and then transferred via helicopter to Cabell-Huntington Hospital in Huntington, W. Va. where he later died.

Barry Hunt, 34, of Prestonsburg, was arrested and charged with driving on a suspended license, operating a motor vehicle while under the influence, operating an ATV on the roadway, operating an ATV without headgear, and receiving stolen property. The red 1996 that Hunt was driving was allegedly stolen from a Pike County resident. Hunt was placed under a \$25,000 cash bond.

An original charge of murder was reduced to reckless homicide per plea agreement in a case involving an alcohol related traffic accident in which Randall Elkins, a passenger in the vehicle, died. Hardy Kilburn, 38, of Martin, the driver of the vehicle was sentenced to two and one-half years imprisonment and two and one-half years supervised probation in addition to a mandatory requirement to complete

an alcohol rehabilitation program.

The Floyd County Times unveiled their "Gold" account. A new premium service available online to those who purchase a special online subscription.

Branham and Baker Coal, a Prestonsburg based coal company, filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection on June 16.

Prestonsburg business and civic leader Edward C. "Ed" Music died at his home in Prestonsburg after an extended illness. He was 76.

Wheelwright City Commission members blamed their attorney, Timothy Parker, for a number of woes and grievances brought up in a mid-June meeting. Among them, a problem existing in connection with the sale of City Hall. Two different people, David Hall and Elvie Wenk, both claimed to have deeds to a garage that was included in the sale. According to Hall and commission members, Parker had prepared the deed.

Mike Vance, Darvine Hamilton, Donna Samons, Roy Harlow, and Joe Howard were named as board members for the newly approved Floyd County Community Center which is planned for construction in the city of Martin. The center will address drug and alcohol problems in the area by offering area youth a place to congregate.

The pastor and congregation of The Cow Creek Freewill Baptist Church were dismayed by events that took place toward the end of June. Just one day after the congregation celebrated the final paying off of a bank note that had been used for the remodeling of the church sanctuary, a Slick Rock resident drove into the parking lot of the church and committed suicide. Helen Maria Jarrell, 34, shot herself in the head shortly before 5 p.m. Later that evening, sometime between 9:30 p.m. and 4 a.m. the following morning, a fire broke out engulfing the entire structure and leaving the building a total loss.

Paul Aiken, John Burke, David May, and Frank May, founding members of Recycling Solutions Technology, made an appearance before the Floyd County Solid Waste Commission to discuss the possibility of bringing an incinerator-type of garbage disposal plant to the area. The members told the commission that the plant would work in much the same way as a self-cleaning oven leaving behind ash, metal and glass that can then be separated and recycled. The proposed plant would be built on Route 80, near Water Gap.

Employees of the Floyd County Health Department and a local man whose son died from infection created by neisseria meningitis vowed to lead a campaign to bring a vaccine for the disease into the local area.

The Bicentennial Celebration Committee planned an event that would honor local native and former Kentucky Governor Bert T. Combs. Plans to construct a life-size bronze statue of Combs to be housed in the courthouse square were begun. Combs' legal career began in the old Floyd County Courthouse.

Close to 800 people met at the Mountain Arts Center to celebrate "the gifts of life and education." Drs. Chandra and Mahendra Varia pledged \$1.6 million in scholarships to Dr. Chandra's "surrogate children," the 3,400 children she has delivered into the world through her work as an obstetrician.

A mudslide occurred on the property of state Rep. Greg Stumbo covering a vehicle and a doghouse.

A Harold man was arrested after assaulting a woman and then attempting to persuade her to tell law enforcement officials that she had been raped. Gregory O. Thacker, 24, was charged with second degree assault, violation of an emergency protective order, falsely reporting an incident, terroristic threatening, first degree wanton endangerment and second degree wanton endangerment, and speeding.

Summer gasoline prices were as high as \$1.67 per gallon for regular unleaded toward the end of June in the local area. In other parts of the country, prices were as high as \$2.13 per gallon.

Edgar Hederick, 26, of Tomahawk, pleaded guilty to three counts of theft by unlawful taking and fleeing or evading a police officer in connection with a multiple car theft incident that occurred in January.

Paul Gregory Coleman, of Goble Roberts, filed a lawsuit against the Prestonsburg Utilities for alleged property damage to his home. The suit claims that while city utility crews were working on sewer lines near his residence they caused a backup of raw sewage into his home leaving the home uninhabitable and forcing him to close his home-based business. It was the second such suit in the year to be

filed against the utilities company.

Floyd County Commonwealth Attorney John Earl Hunt was selected by Gov. Paul Patton to serve as administrative law judge in the Department of Workers Claims. The appointment officially took place on July 15.

A Weeksbury man was arrested and charged with terroristic threatening, fourth degree assault, and unlawful imprisonment in connection with an assault that occurred on a 14 year old Paintsville girl. Robert Darrell Bryant, 39, allegedly aided his own 13 year old daughter in an attack on the Paintsville teen.

Heather French, Miss America 2000, spoke at a banquet in Pike County about the importance of taking care of the nation's veterans.

French said that memorial stones and statues sent "powerful messages, but memorials in the heart are most powerful."

A 7 year old Clark Elementary student overdosed on prescription sleeping pills and after being stabilized at Highlands Regional Medical Center he was transferred via helicopter to Cabell-Huntington Hospital in Huntington, W. Va.

Floyd County Board of Education district 3 representative Don Roberts signed a letter of resignation after missing three regular board meetings without providing an excuse.

An announcement came from Architect Joe Jones that the football fields at Prestonsburg and South Floyd high schools would not be completed until the 2001 football season.

Ernest "Bucky" Collins agreed to drop charges of wanton endangerment that he had earlier filed against Henry Clifton, Jr. in return for an agreement to a 2,500-foot restraining order against Clifton. Collins had been charged with the murder of Clifton's father, Henry Clifton. Clifton died after a shoot-out between the two men that occurred on Easter Sunday at the Cardinal Mart in Lancer.

July

The Floyd County Fiscal Court took its first step toward reinstating the 911 tax on local phones bills by adopting an ordinance raising the fee to 99 cents for residential phones and \$1.99 for businesses.

Greg "Bo" Garrett, guitarist with country group Montgomery Gentry, did his part to help the congregation of Cow Creek Freewill Baptist Church, which was destroyed in a fire in June. Garrett, who is originally from the area and attended the church in his youth, donated Montgomery Gentry merchandise and memorabilia to be used in a raffle to help the church raise money for a new building.

Paul and Ruby Preston, former employees of the Wheelwright Utility Commission, filed suit against the commission and the city, claiming they were improperly terminated from their jobs.

Big Sandy Health Care stepped forward to bail out a student health clinic at Prestonsburg Community College which had been in danger of closing because of a lack of funds.

Steve Johnson, 18, of Melvin was killed in a pool drowning. Johnson had been swimming with friends when he went to the deep end of the pool and failed to resurface.

Prestonsburg Tourism Director Fred James and his counterpart in Paintsville, Jim Williams, joined together to promote tourism in the two cities under the common heading "Kentucky Highlands."

Despite several rainstorms over a period of three weeks, Floyd County still remained in drought conditions.

Floyd County celebrated its bicentennial on July 4. Activities included a parade, a re-enactment and proclamations from east Kentucky leaders wishing the county a happy birthday.

More storms passed through Floyd County July 5, taking several area homes out of drought conditions and straight into floodwaters.

Officials at Big Sandy Regional Airport said the facility is being threatened by the failure of local governments to honor a "gentleman's agreement" to provide funding and by favoritism showed to Pike County Regional Airport by the state.

Three Floyd Countians were appointed by Gov. Paul Patton to a six-member board governing the East Kentucky Exposition Center being built in Pikeville. They include Terry Dotson of Prestonsburg, Rex G. Fought of Toler and Jean R. Hale of Harold.

Floyd County emergency officials unveiled a "reverse 911" system which can automatically call residents of an affected area to warn them of emergency conditions, such as floods, tornadoes or chemical spills. The system was provided to the county by the state free of



Floyd County Constable Homer Neeley retrieved more than 50 marijuana plants during a recent raid on Abbott Creek near Prestonsburg. He was aided on the scene by Floyd Lt. Deputy Ricky Thornberry.

The Floyd County Board of Education voted in early June to close Betsy Layne Elementary for the remainder of the school year due to a recent outbreak of meningitis. Karen Allen, principal of the school, informed the board that she had been informed that the Centers for Disease Control, along with representatives from the state health department, would be in Floyd County as soon as June 12 or 13 to begin an inquiry into the situation.

A petition was circulated around the county seeking the signatures of those who would agree to placing the issue of magisterial vs. commis-

a guardrail, as a result, Crace was ejected from the vehicle and thrown over the rail. He later died at the University of Kentucky Medical Center from injuries sustained in the accident.

The Floyd Fiscal Court met to officially sign a master lease-purchase agreement, effectively giving the Southern Water and Sewer District powers that will enable them to finance construction projects while leaving the court standing as official liaison.

Timothy Andrew Bakay suffered an apparent heart attack while traveling north on KY Route 321 in

Valentine's Day Greetings

from Our Readers to Their Loved Ones.

Valentine's Day Special Edition

Sunday, February 11

Who do you love?

Of course, Valentine's Day has to do with sweethearts. But, it's not limited to romantic duos. Above all, it's about love, caring deeply about another creature.

- A spouse
- A girlfriend or boyfriend
- A parent
- A son or daughter
- A brother or sister
- An aunt, uncle, cousin or other relative
- A special friend who's been there through thick and thin, sickness and health, happy and sad
- A dog, cat, horse, gerbil or some other critter who has made you feel loved

Tell us about the one(s) you love.
Send a picture and a message and
The Times will print it in a special Valentine's Day edition.
Let him or her (or it) know how much you care.
Cost: \$10 per picture.
Deadline: 4 p.m., Wednesday, February 7, 2001

• Honeybun	• Sugar Daddy	• Sweetie pie	• Mother Dear
• Sissy	• Bubba	• Baby Girl	• Boy-child
• Aunt Min	• Uncle Sam	• Fido	• Miss Kitty
• Mr. Ed	• My Buddy	• Pal o' mine	• Grandchild

Photo Here

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Message

↓

Send photo and message to:
Valentine Special Edition
The Floyd County Times, P.O. Box 390
Prestonsburg, KY 41653
c/o Donna Jewell
or drop off at The Floyd County Times
263 S. Central Ave., Prestonsburg

charge. Acting PCC president Charles Stebbins was tapped to serve as interim chief operating officer of Northern Kentucky Technical College. However, he said he would remain at PCC until a successor to former president Dr. Deborah Floyd was named.

Records released in July showed Arnold Brent Turner, who was elected commonwealth's attorney by a 2-1 margin in May, outspent his opponent Jerry Patton in the race by a 5-1 margin. During the primary race, Turner spent \$203,498.19, of which he contributed \$195,000 of his own money. Patton, on the other hand, spent just \$40,990.17, having contributed \$37,250 himself.

The Prestonsburg City Council violated the state's Open Meetings Law by voting on a resolution outside of a public meeting. Instead of calling the council together, Mayor Jerry Fannin sent the resolution around town to each of the members of the council, asking them to vote yes or no on the paper. Police Chief Darrell Conley acted as courier. Days later, however, several city officials took umbrage at a Floyd County Times report of the violation, with councilman Estill Lee Carter declaring, "If the resolution was passed through the town the same way, I would sign it again."

The Martin Police Department and Martin Housing Authority tried to make their community safer by offering to purchase guns during a buyback July 16. Those participating were given \$50 for each gun turned in.

A Pilgrim man was arrested after allegedly firing a gun into a vehicle occupied by Dale Cottingham and hitting him in the shoulder. Brian Dale Lowe was charged with attempted murder following the shooting. He also faced two charges of wanton endangerment because his estranged wife and 3-year-old daughter were in the vehicle with Cottingham at the time.

The Floyd County Fiscal Court received a \$239,040 grant from the Kentucky Housing Corporation July 20. The money was to be used to build septic systems and remodel 15 homes to bring them into code compliance.

Three Floyd County men were indicted by a federal grand jury in Ashland on charges they allowed safety violations which may have led to the death of 35-year-old James Sturgill in a roof fall in March 1999. Charged were Jody Sammons, 39, of Minnie, president of J&A Coal; Matthew Hall, 44, of Grethel, day shift section foreman at the Knott County mine where the accident occurred; and Randy Carroll, 42, of Grethel, second-shift section foreman at the same mine.

More heavy rains in Floyd County caused \$400,000 in damages to county roads, mostly in washouts in and around Martin. The damages prompted County Judge-Executive Paul Hunt Thompson to declare an emergency.

A steady decline in donations and increased demand during the Fourth of July holiday weekend led the Central Kentucky Blood Center to issue an emergency appeal for blood donors.

Charges against a Pikeville man were referred to a Floyd County grand jury. Jeremy Thacker, 23, was charged with receiving stolen property after officers recovered furniture, stereo equipment, computer equipment, DVD players, a television, a coat rack, two suitcases, a picture and \$16,000 worth of jewelry from his residence and that of his parents.

Demolition crews tore down the old Floyd County Board of Education building July 14. The board located its new offices in the former Bank Josephine building on Front Street in downtown Prestonsburg.

John Earl Hunt stepped down from his post of commonwealth's attorney to accept an appointment from Gov. Paul Patton to serve as administrative law judge.

The Floyd County Board of Education filed a third lawsuit against a property owner in an attempt to secure land for new football fields at Prestonsburg and South Floyd high schools. Carlos Neeley and Charles R. Wright faced condemnation suits for the Prestonsburg project, while Harold Newman was sued for his land for the field at SFHS.

Floyd and Pike counties came to an agreement over how to split funds gathered from wireless tele-

phone customers from 911 fees. Police in Wheelwright searched for a person who vandalized that town's city hall. Police Chief Charles Johnson said someone used a knife to punch holes in a sheetrock wall and wrote vulgar comments about a city employee on the wall. Trash was also strewn around the building and two employees' vehicles were damaged.

Following a year of complaints from students and parents alike, Adams Middle School loosened dress code restrictions. The new guidelines limited students to clothing which was not distracting.

The Floyd County Fiscal Court received a \$30,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and

Department, Floyd County Fiscal Court, the Department for Employment Services, Social Security, Mental Health, Christian Appalachian Project, Big Sandy Community Action Program, Sandy Valley Transportation and Social Services were some of the agencies expected to take part.

After seven weeks of quietly performing volunteer work throughout Floyd County, a group of 66 volunteers prepared to depart at the end of the summer. The volunteers, from throughout the United

Raceway. A local judge with the Kentucky Racing Commission said Jason Brewer trained the horse "in an unconventional manner" shortly before it died, including whipping it in an "excessive and brutal manner."

Jimmy and Janet Jarrell filed suit against Wal-Mart after they said they were humiliated by being accused of trying to pass a counterfeit \$100 bill at the store. The Jarrells said workers at the Prestonsburg store loudly exclaimed that the bill was fake, causing them embarrassment and defamation. After police were called, the bill was discovered to be genuine.

Thomas Blake, president of Kentucky West Virginia Gas Company released a statement July 28 saying that the natural gas supplier faced an uncertain future in the face of deregulation and that could have an "impact" on the company's workforce.

August

A meeting with parents concerned about recent outbreaks of the disease meningitis was held at the Mountain Arts Center on August 2. At the meeting, parents were told that local schools are safe and they should not fear continued instances of the disease.

The meeting followed two others with teachers and members of the local medical community the day before.

A release of CTBS scores showed most Floyd County schools continue to lag behind their counterparts across the state and nation. While results showed third-graders even or ahead of the national average, sixth-graders remained at a

States, worked on homes for elderly and poor residents. They were organized as part of the Appalachian Service Project.

An Ohio jockey and horse trainer was suspended from working at Kentucky race tracks after the horse "Dark Skies" died at Thunder Ridge



"Angelica" is still weak from the ordeal that left her with three legs. Penelope Roberts and Dr. Debra Hall are endeavoring to bring the fawn back to health.

photo by Randall Reno

Urban Development to convert a portion of the old Wheelwright Gymnasium into an emergency shelter.

Carol Holbrook stepped down as head of the Floyd County Health Department. She was replaced by Thursa Slone.

Police began a search for a Magoffin County man who ran away while being escorted from the Justice Center to the Floyd County Detention Center. Chester Dwayne Risner, 21, of Gunlock was returning from a hearing over his single charge of obtaining a controlled substance by fraud when he made a break for it.

Jenny Wiley Theatre held groundbreaking ceremonies for new housing units to be used by members of the theatre's acting troupe.

When taking office, County Judge-Executive Paul Hunt Thompson said his administration would pursue every grant possible. That promise came true in 2000, when the number of grants received by the fiscal court effectively doubled the county's budget. Over \$12 million was awarded to Floyd County for the 2000-2001 fiscal year.

A Wayland man kept Pikeville Police busy for several hours July 16 after he was allegedly involved in a hit-and-run accident. Police tracked 36-year-old Thomas Robinson to the Landmark Inn but were still unable to find him as he travelled from room to room, hiding from police. He was ultimately found hiding behind a filing cabinet and was charge with alcohol intoxication, fleeing police and leaving the scene of an accident two hours later.

A conference held at Prestonsburg Community College July 21 stressed the message "All Children Can Learn." The meeting was organized by service centers in regions 7 and 8.

School board members were told July 24 that they risked delaying the construction of football fields at Prestonsburg and South Floyd high schools for another year unless they acted quickly.

Three Floyd County men were indicted as suspects in a Johnson County theft ring. Jeff Stanley and Mark Stanley, both of David, and Travis Hall of Prestonsburg were all charged with first-degree robbery, while Hall faced an additional charge of first-degree burglary. The trio was accused of breaking into a home occupied by Arnold Mollett and his sister Mildred five times over eight months.

Residents of David received local access to health care as the Floyd County Health Department announced plans to open a branch office in that community.

Residents of Wheelwright were to be the beneficiaries of local access to a host of services as 15 agencies announced plans to join together to open a satellite office in that community. Agencies planning to open offices in the old Wheelwright Gymnasium included the Floyd County Health

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"excessive and brutal matter."
A Pike County man died at the Jenny Wiley Boat Dock, apparently a victim of drowning. The body of Jason Taylor, 23, of Elkhorn City was recovered from between two houseboats. Investigators said Taylor apparently had a seizure and fell into the water.

Comedian Carl Hurley paid a visit to Floyd County to give local teachers a lift heading into the new school year.

The first week of school in Floyd County showed that enrollment continues to decline. At the end of the second day of school, 6,914 students were enrolled, compared to 7,075 the year before.

In a rare Saturday meeting, members of the school board put off a decision concerning guidelines for parents who wish to place their children in schools outside of their service area after members disagreed over what the guidelines should be.

Commissioners on the fiscal court were successful in an attempt to place a question on the fall ballot seeking to return the county to a magistrate form of government. Shortly after the news became public, county Republican Chairman Bobby Stumbo argued that the measure should be taken off the ballot, calling into question the wording of a petition used to put the question before voters, as well as several of the signatures on the petition. Despite the objections, however, the county Board of Elections took no action on the matter and allowed the question to remain.

After being on the lam for 19 days, Chester Dwayne Risner, 22, of Gunlock was arrested in Lexington. Risner escaped from custody after being led back to the Floyd County Detention Center following a court hearing on a drug charge.

The Prestonsburg City Council gave Mayor Jerry Fannin approval to obtain a design for a proposed US 23 Country Music Theater and IMAX theater.

Brent Turner was officially sworn into the office of commonwealth's attorney. Turner, who had been elected to the position in May, took the job early following the resignation of former prosecutor John Earl Hunt.

Even though newly-approved state subsidies had not begun arriving, Mountain Arts Center Director Kevin Shannon reported August 14 that the facility was operating in the black.

After filing for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection, furniture retailer Heilig Meyers announced that it would close its Prestonsburg store.

A Prestonsburg man who had been accused of custodial interference was exonerated after District Judge Eric Hall ruled there was not enough evidence to prosecute him. Dante Robert Del Monte had been accused of failing to return his children to his ex-wife in Dallas, Texas, but was cleared after producing a letter from her attorney saying he had custody two weeks after he was charged.

The Floyd County Fiscal Court passed an ordinance to raise most legal fees. Charges for filing cases and court costs were all raised.

County commissioners voted to reinstate the county's 911 tax on phone bills after reports that the system was nearly ready. Fees rose to 99 cents for residential numbers and \$1.99 for business lines.

The Sandy Valley Water District received \$85,000 in loans and a \$15,000 grant to provide additional funding to a \$1.5 million project to add three miles of water lines, construct new storage tanks and a pump station, and build a new office building.

A Prestonsburg man was swept up in an effort by Paintsville Police to crack down on alleged "doctor shoppers." Ronald Shortridge, 46, of Corn Fork, was one of 17 people facing 147 charges for allegedly going to multiple doctors in an attempt to obtain multiple prescriptions.

An 8-year-old Banner girl died after a porch collapsed on top of her. Stephanie L. Osborne, a third-grade student at Osborne Elementary, was killed when porch fell while her father was working on it.

A Prestonsburg man walking along the Route 114 Mountain Parkway extension was killed after being hit by a car. Michael Lynn Shepherd, 24, had experienced car trouble and was standing "partially in the roadway" when he was struck by a vehicle driven by a Salyersville man.

Gov. Paul Patton was on hand August 21 to dedicate the new Pikeville campus of Prestonsburg Community College and Mayo Technical College.

Richard A. Watts, 73, of Wheelwright, a former Negro League baseball player and retired supervisor with the Department of Mines and Minerals, died August 22.

Rodney Thornberry, 45, of Bypro was charged with attempted arson after allegedly attempting to burn down the home of Michael Spears.

The Prestonsburg City Council began the process of annexing 1,200 acres including the Big Branch of Abbott area into city limits.

Lovel Hall, 53, Floyd County's longtime Property Valuation Administrator, died August 28, four days before his announced retirement.

The city of Prestonsburg began a low-key effort to sell its portion of lots within a subdivision adjacent to the city Stonecrest golf course development project.

Federal, state and local officials announced their intention to see whether methane gas created by rotting garbage in the old Garth Landfill could be harvested profitably.

Members of the Floyd County Board of Education held a heated discussion with state Department of Education Associate Commissioner Tom Willis concerning the future of state manager Woody Carter.

September

Thanks to nearly \$400,000 in state funding, members of the Floyd County Fiscal Court approved a plan to blacktop a number of county roads. Many of the roads in the plan were located in Allen, New Allen and Dwale, where a sewer line extension project left roads torn apart.

The Carl D. Perkins Job Corps Center gave a tour of their facilities to Lt. Gov. Steve Henry on September 5.

The Floyd County school system announced that health aides would be working in all county schools in an effort to keep children healthy and boost attendance.

Two people were killed in a one-vehicle wreck along Route 122 at Printer. Vickie L. Holland of Manchester was pronounced dead at the scene, while Eric Saunders died the following day at the University of Kentucky Chandler Medical Center.

A Beaver man was arrested after the body of his estranged wife was discovered at an abandoned strip mine. Dwayne Bishop was charged with murder after authorities searching for Carolyn Bishop found her body lying over a hillside at the strip job. Carolyn Bishop, who had apparently been beaten and stabbed numerous times, was last seen alive riding a motorcycle with Dwayne Bishop in an area near the strip mine, but Dwayne Bishop was later seen riding alone. Dwayne Bishop was held in the Floyd County Detention Center on a \$1 million bond and later in the month saw his case referred to a grand jury for consideration.

A McDowell woman and her 10-year-old cousin were killed in an accident in Fawn River Township, Mich., over the Labor Day weekend. Diana Moore, 23, was reported merging into traffic when she failed to yield the right-of-way to another vehicle, which proceeded to strike

in September, after a fifth candidate dropped out of the running. Dr. Ted Spring of Alabama withdrew his name from consideration, leaving Dr. George D. Edwards of Middletown, Va., Dr. G. Devin Stephenson of Sumiton, Ala., Dr. Paul Brown from Owens Community College, and Barry A. Vann of Miami, Okla. By the end of the month, the field narrowed to three after the PCC board of directors named Edwards, Brown and Stephenson as their top choices. On September 29, Edwards was confirmed as the school's new president.

Karen Johnson was named interim director of transportation for the Floyd County school system.

Police asked for help in locating Merlin Isaac, a fugitive from the state of Indiana who was wanted for attempted murder charges and was believed to be hiding in eastern Kentucky. Isaac's brothers, Verlin and Sterlin were also charged in the case and were being held by Indiana officials.

The Mountain Arts Center played host to a special performance of "In Performance at the Governor's Mansion: On the Road" when Gov. Paul Patton attended a concert given by the Kentucky Opry, the River City Drum Corps, the Lexington Singers and the Hoedown Island Cloggers.

County Judge-Executive Paul Hunt Thompson announced a plan worked out by himself, Jailer Roger Webb and District Judges Eric Hall and James Allen to put convicts to work. Under the plan, persons convicted of lesser crimes who would normally receive just a few days in jail would have the option of working for the county during those days instead.

Quick thinking by a Prestonsburg pharmacist led to the arrest of a Lookout man on drug charges. Benny Newcomb, 42, was arrested at the Highland Plaza Rite-Aid after pharmacist Marshall Edwards, suspicious of Newcomb's Lorcet prescription, first checked with Newcomb's doctor, who said he had not written a prescription, then contacted police, who arrested Newcomb for allegedly obtaining a prescription by deception and possessing a controlled substance.

A Wheelwright woman and her son faced drug charges after police raided her home and found cocaine. Osalene Triplett, 52, was charged with first-degree drug trafficking. Her son, Darrell Triplett, 31, was arrested a week later and charged with drug trafficking, cultivating marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Prestonsburg Community College and the PRIDE program teamed up for PROJECT: Clean Streams, an educational initiative intended to encourage teachers to include water testing and analysis in their curriculum.

Kentucky West Virginia Gas Company announced that since it had lost its largest customer, Equitable Production, it would be forced to layoff the bulk of its union workforce in order to remain competitive. However, in reacting to the news, leaders of the Paper, Allied-

Industries, Chemical and Energy Workers Industrial Union (PACE) Local 5-512 pointed out that both Kentucky West and Equitable Production are arms of the same company, Equitable Resources. Union officials also noted that the company had reported record profits in the two previous fiscal quarters and questioned the need for the layoffs. The dispute was the beginning of a long conflict which would

ultimately result in a strike.

Residents of the Big Branch area of Abbott Creek submitted a petition opposing the city of Prestonsburg's plans to annex their neighborhood into city limits. County Clerk Chris Waugh, however, later ruled that the petition did not contain enough signatures to place the measure on the ballot.

Opposition to placing a question on the fall ballot seeking to return Floyd County to a magisterial form of government ended after critics of the plan said they simply did not have enough money to contest the proposal in court and would focus their resources on defeating it at the ballot instead.

Groundwater contamination isn't often considered good news, especially in areas dependant on wells to provide water to homes. However, that finding in the Turkey Creek area proved beneficial to area residents, after Floyd County received a \$420,000 grant to provide city water to that area.

Eight people passed a qualifying examination, making them finalists to replace former Property Valuation Administrator Lovel Hall, who died three days before leaving office. The eight were Janice B. Allen, Connie J. Hancock, Paula S. Layne, Debra K. McKinney, Glen D. May II, Russell Shepherd, Barry K. Spurlock and Michael D. Vance. Hancock, who is Hall's daughter, was later appointed to the position by Gov. Paul Patton.

Aaron D. Tackett appeared in court to answer a charge of first-degree assault stemming from a drive-by shooting at Branham's Creek on September 9, pleading not guilty. Tackett was accused of firing a shot at a vehicle occupied by three women.

Jo Jo (Pack) Hall was the state winner in the True Value Country Showdown held at the Mountain Arts Center. As the state winner, Hall went on to compete on the national level in Branson, Mo., in October.

Police responding to a one-vehicle accident at Ivel involving Gary T. Conley, 22, of Wayland found several household items in his car and connected him with the burglary of nearby Southern Energy Homes. Conley had allegedly burglarized one of the mobile homes at the lot and, in trying to get away, backed into a 40-foot ditch. After being arrested, Conley was taken to Highlands Regional Medical Center, but allegedly walked away from the hospital during treatment. He was later found at Jenny Wiley State Resort Park wearing jeans, a hospital gown and no shoes. He was charged with third-degree burglary and third-degree escape.

A school bus traveling a muddy road at Jack's Creek lost control on the slippery surface and hit a tree, sending 11 students to the hospital.

Two months after being suspended from training or racing horses in Kentucky for one year following the death of a horse at Thunder Ridge, Jason Brewer dropped his appeal of the suspension and agreed to a one-year suspension.

Bonnie Shepherd, who had reported her husband missing in August, was arrested in September for allegedly forging the initials of District Judge James R. Allen and County Attorney Keith Bartley on court documents related to a DUI charge against her husband. Shepherd allegedly wrote on the document that the case had been "rescinded" and amended to reckless driving, signing Allen's and Bartley's initials next to the "orders." She was charged with second-degree forgery and second-degree possession of a forged instrument.

A host of state and local leaders gathered at Jenny Wiley State Resort Park September 23 to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Dewey Lake's construction.

Newly-appointed school board member Jeff Stumbo focused the board's attention on the state of school textbooks in the district, holding up tattered and coverless book used at Stumbo Elementary. Stumbo was told that responsibility for replacing textbooks rested with the school's site-based council.

Dr. Chandra Varia told school board members during a meeting September 25 that she and her husband, Dr. Mahendra Varia, would widen their philanthropic works by funding college textbook courses for girls who participate in an abstinence program and finish high school without getting pregnant.

Another batch of school test scores was released by the state and, once again, Floyd County schools performed poorly. This time, however, many schools performed even worse than in the past and students countywide scored near the bottom of a list of schools statewide in just about every category.

After noticing a \$40 million blunder by the state in assessing the value of property in Floyd County,

Judge-Executive Paul Hunt Thompson was able to get the mistake fixed, saving county residents about \$400,000 in tax increases.

Two years after it was first announced, local leaders signed an agreement with federal officials allowing work on a project to clean and rehabilitate Left Beaver Creek and its tributaries to begin.

Apparently frustrated by a rash of defendants failing to show for their court dates, District Judge James R. Allen put his foot down. The judge said he would not dismiss any future bench warrants for failing to appear in court and would levy stiffer sentences to those who didn't keep their court dates.

A program to provide free smoke detectors to Floyd County households began in October. The program gave away top-of-the-line smoke detectors with five-year lithium batteries to anyone who asked for them. The detectors themselves were professionally installed by members of Floyd County's various fire departments.

An argument between cousins renovating a house left one dead and one in jail. George "Andy"

Adas Dean Burchett of Prestonsburg, Edith Burchett of Prestonsburg, Stephen Wright of Martin and Bruce Hall of Beaver. In all, 20 people were arrested in the raid.

October

Pike County Judge-Executive Karen Gibson entered the fray between Kentucky West Virginia Gas Company and its union employees, siding with the workers and accusing the company of union busting. Two weeks later, members of PACE Local 5-512 walked off their jobs and to the picket lines. After the strike began, County Judge-Executive Paul Hunt Thompson said he was disappointed in Kentucky West's decision to cut jobs and said he would be unlikely to entertain any requests from the company.

It was an absolutely beautiful day for golf thursdays as the Floyd County Chamber of Commerce hosted a golf tournament at the picturesque Jenny Wiley State Park Golf Course.



photos by STEVE LaMASTER

photos by STEVE LaMASTER

The city of Martin and the Housing Authority of Martin teamed up to provide unwanted refrigerators to families who had none.

A freak accident claimed the life of an 8-year-old Prestonsburg boy. Max Cornett was playing near a free-standing metal slide at a neighbor's house, when the slide toppled over onto him. He died of injuries from the accident.

Bonnie Shepherd reached a plea agreement with prosecutors, ending a forgery case in which she was accused of altering court records to amend her husband's DUI charge to reckless driving. Shepherd pleaded guilty to a single charge of third-degree possession of a forged instrument. She had been charged with two counts of second-degree forgery and second-degree possession of a forged instrument. As part of the deal, she received a sentence of 30 days in jail.

Floyd County Times Publisher Rod Collins was given the additional responsibility of serving as publisher of The Hazard Herald. Collins replaced former Herald Publisher Mike Rindahl, who resigned to pursue other interests.

Computers at the Floyd County Justice Center were upgraded. Court records previously stored on DOS dumb terminals were moved to Windows-based machines.

A drug sting in Pike and Floyd counties caught five Floyd County residents in its swath. Arrested were Orris "Cotton" Smith of Garrett,

Jarrell, 36, of Stone Coal Creek in Garrett was arrested and charged with murder for allegedly shooting and killing Bill J. "Buck" Jarrell, 28, of Abbott Road in Prestonsburg.

Despite opposition from several residents, members of the Prestonsburg City Council approved an ordinance to annex the Big Branch area of Abbott Creek into city limits.

Brittany Morgan Patton was crowned Miss Jenny Wiley during the Jenny Wiley Pioneer Festival in Prestonsburg. Patton, 16, of McDowell, is the daughter of Kern and Linda Patton and a junior at South Floyd High School.

The Floyd County Board of Education gave the go-ahead for advertising and letting bids for new roofs at Stumbo and Osborne elementary schools during a special-called meeting October 10.

A meeting conducted by the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Cabinet at Jenny Wiley State Resort Park revealed widespread support for a bottle bill to help clean Kentucky's roadways and hillsides of illegal dumps and litter.

Two PRIDE grants totaling more than \$70,000 were sent Floyd County's way to aid cleanup efforts. The fiscal court received a grant of \$34,195 to cover tipping fees to dispose of garbage, brush and debris from roads and streams, while Prestonsburg Community College and Appalachian Clean Water Partners received a \$36,500 grant to



photo by Kathy J. Prater

Shown above are Seldon Horne and CKBC phlebotomist Nikeah Campbell. Horne, a frequent blood donor, was preparing to give his 104th pint of blood — enough for 13 gallons — during the "Operation Cooperation" blood drive Thursday at the First Baptist Church in Prestonsburg.

her car.

A total of 4,100 pills with a street value of \$50,000 were recovered following a burglary of Med-Zone Pharmacy in Auxier which netted over 8,000 pills. Brian Wesley Burke, 27, was arrested and charged with two counts of burglary following the find.

The search for Prestonsburg Community College's new president narrowed to four people early

Industries, Chemical and Energy Workers Industrial Union (PACE) Local 5-512 pointed out that both Kentucky West and Equitable Production are arms of the same company, Equitable Resources. Union officials also noted that the company had reported record profits in the two previous fiscal quarters and questioned the need for the layoffs. The dispute was the beginning of a long conflict which would



photo by Kathy J. Prater

The merchants of Martin held "Safe trick-or-treat" for children who attend Jamie Stone's Head Start class at May Valley on Thursday morning. After collecting their treats, the students visited the Martin Senior Citizen's Center where they sang Halloween songs and took a "cookies and milk" break.

pinpoint waterways in need of intensified cleanup efforts.

The first of three audits for schools who performed poorly on the latest round of CATS testing got underway as auditors paid a visit to Stumbo Elementary.

The Prestonsburg City Council continued to move forward with the annexation of the Big Branch area of Abbott Creek by approving an ordinance officially bringing the area into the city.

A group of contractors working for the Southern Water District added the duty of "hero" to their job descriptions by coming to the aid of a Galveston man whose house was on fire. Keith Coleman, Larry Wood, Jamie Banks, Steve Kinder and Joel Blackburn attempted to extinguish a blaze at the home of Carlos Rogers by carrying buckets of water to the fire.

The Cliffside, Highland Heights and Highland Terrace Neighborhood Centers were honored during National Neighborhood Networks Week for their efforts to provide computer centers to their residents.

County Judge-Executive Paul Hunt Thompson put those shirking the county's mandatory trash collection law on notice, saying they bear the burden of avoiding a tax increase. Thompson hinted at stronger enforcement efforts against the 30 percent of households in Floyd County which are not paying a garbage bill.

James Mitchell Howell, 45, of Prestonsburg, pleaded guilty to raping his 6-year-old daughter in 1997. Howell pleaded guilty to two counts of first-degree rape and one count of first-degree sex abuse without reaching any agreement with prosecutors.

The family of a Floyd County native living in Panama City, Fla., made an appeal in October to area residents to help them find him. Dennis Anthony "Tony" Buckley disappeared September 11. He was later found.

For the third time in 2000, a major Prestonsburg retailer announced that it would be closing its doors. Martin's Department Store said it would close its Prestonsburg store along with stores in Salyersville and Jackson due to the retirement of its owners.

Textbooks, building repairs and taxes were the main topic of discussion during October's meeting of the Floyd County Board of Education.

The Floyd County Fiscal Court unveiled a plan which would, according to Judge-Executive Paul Hunt Thompson, bring city water to 95 percent of the county's homes within five years. The total cost of the plan is \$20 million.

A man suspected in a string of robberies in Florida and Kentucky allegedly struck again, this time robbing Lee's Famous Recipe restaurant in Prestonsburg. Joe Lee Wells eluded authorities following the robbery, but was later arrested at a bar in Kermit, W.Va. Tarah McCann, 20, of Spring Hill, Fla., was arrested shortly after the Lee's robbery, and was charged with complicity for allegedly driving a getaway car for Wells.

October proved to be a time for false reports. One man was arrested for falsely reporting that his car had been stolen. Another man faced charges after he allegedly called 911 and told dispatchers that he was dead.

A feud erupted between Prestonsburg officials and that city's fire department after a union representing firefighters placed an advertisement in The Floyd County Times endorsing candidates for city council elections. None of the endorsed candidates were incumbents, and the ad claimed that then-current members of the council were more interested in "pet projects" than in providing adequate funding to the fire department.

A grand jury indicted Dwayne Earl Bishop on a charge of capital murder. Bishop is accused of killing his estranged wife at an abandoned strip mine and tossing her body over an embankment.

Members the Floyd County Fiscal Court, saying the county had simply received too many grants during the past year to keep track of them all, signed an agreement with the Big Sandy Area Development District in which that agency would provide help in administering the grants.

November

An effort to raise property tax revenues by 4 percent was defeated by the Floyd County Board of Education.

District Judge Eric Hall sent the case of Tarah McCann, accused of being an accomplice in the October robbery of Lee's Famous Recipe restaurant in Prestonsburg, to a grand jury for consideration.

The city of Prestonsburg settled a lawsuit with a Harold woman who

said a city police officer had lied to her when he told her that her daughter was dead. Under the settlement, Kathy Spradlin of Harold dropped her case against the city in exchange for \$40,000.

Two school bus wrecks were recorded during the month of

off, to a eight-hour day, 40-hour week schedule. Later in the month, the city sold its ambulance to Respond Ambulance Service for \$35,000 and gave the private service the right to answer all calls in the city for \$1,000 a month. All of the changes and proposals were

County was one of only 14 counties to go for Gore. Bush won Kentucky by a 15-point margin. Statewide, voters also approved constitutional amendments — one requiring annual legislative sessions and another abolishing the state's antiquated railroad commission.

Bentley Hall, Cindy Bentley Parsons, Raymond Parsons and Deanna Stone. In Wayland, no one ran for city commission, forcing the race to be decided by write-in votes. In the end, Betty Mulkey, Carl Rady Martin, Mike Gibson and Carl Tuft were elected. Voters also approved

Appalachian Commission, in which they proposed developing an academy for country musicians to be housed at the MAC.

C & C Liquor in Wayland was robbed at gunpoint November 9.

Veterans Day was marked locally by a flag raising at Gearheart Communications, presented by members of the Kentucky Marine Corps League and the Betsy Layne Disabled American Veterans, Chapter 169.

A lawsuit filed in U.S. District Court in Pikeville sought the return of Abandoned Mine Lands money to Kentucky. The complaint, filed by Coal Operators and Associates of Pikeville, contends that \$1.3 billion collected from mining companies since 1977 has been allowed to sit in Washington collecting rather than being used for its original purpose, cleaning up abandoned mines.

Sandy Valley Water District held a groundbreaking November 13 for a new home office.

Sheriff John K. Blackburn had the 2000 property tax bills in the mail in time to reach local residents by November 15, which would give them 30 days to take advantage of a 10 percent discount for paying early.

Police captured Donald Ray Hall, 41, of Neon, who had escaped from the Letcher County Jail, after Hall allegedly burglarized a Wayland residence. When officers responded to a report of the burglary, Hall was found hiding in an outbuilding adjacent to the residence. In addition to third-degree burglary, Hall was also charged with second-degree escape.

A train carrying soy meal derailed just north of Prestonsburg, causing the contents of two of the cars to dump their cargo. Cleanup crews spent the next couple of weeks getting rid of the mess.

The Floyd County Health Department urged parents of fifth-graders to comply with a new immunization law. Under the new law, students are required to be vaccinated against hepatitis B prior to being admitted into sixth grade.

The Prestonsburg Blackcats defeated Breathitt County 22-6 November 17 to earn the Region 4 championship crown, the school's first since 1993.

Kentucky West Virginia Gas Company filed suit against PACE Local 5-512 in U.S. District Court in Pikeville, alleging striking union workers had been sabotaging company equipment. U.S. District Judge Joseph Hood, however, refused to grant the company's request for an injunction against the union.

A pair of Floyd County teens worked together to stop a forest fire they discovered November 4. Jeremy Daniels and Michael Reed discovered a flaming strip of fire about 30 feet in length and spent the next half-hour putting it out.

County Attorney Keith Bartley decided to take action against hunger during the holidays by establishing dropoff points for canned food items at each of his offices. In addition, the barrister waived certain fees and fines in exchange for donations of food.

Seven Mountain Manor nursing aides walked off their jobs in the middle of their shifts, protesting what they considered to be unfair working conditions. Aides at the facility are not unionized, however, so instead of winning concessions from management, they instead lost their jobs.

The Auxier Autobahn was robbed by an armed marauder

Seven sent to hospital following bus crash involving five vehicles



photo by Ralph B. Davis

While the fact that a school bus was involved in the wreck caused the most concern, passengers in the Ford Ranger at left were the most seriously injured in Thursday's wreck at the entrance to Duff Elementary. In all, five vehicles were involved in the accident which sent seven people to the hospital.

November. In the first, a school bus traveling Dodson Branch was struck by a hit-and-run driver and forced into a ditch. In the second, a five-vehicle, chain-reaction accident at the entrance to Duff Elementary sent seven people to the emergency room. No students riding the buses were seriously injured.

The city of Prestonsburg made several decisions to radically alter its emergency services, particularly its fire department. Prestonsburg Mayor Jerry Fannin advanced a proposal to merge the city's police and fire departments into one public safety department in which members would be trained as both police officers and firefighters. Fannin said such a merger would save money and ensure that more police officers and firefighters would be available to respond to emergencies. Meanwhile, the city's personnel committee voted to shut down the city's ambulance service and lay off three firefighters, and also approved a plan to change the fire department's schedule for workers from 24 hours on duty and 48 hours

attacked; however, by the Kentucky Professional Fire Fighters Union, which said they were an effort to retaliate against firefighters for endorsing non-incumbent candidates for city council.

Residents of the Big Branch area of Abbott Creek filed a lawsuit seeking to reverse the city of Prestonsburg's annexation of their neighborhood. The city's response, however, was heavy-handed. The city filed a countersuit against five of the residents, saying they had signed documents forfeiting their rights to challenge the annexation when they signed up for sewer service from Prestonsburg Utilities. As punishment for breach of contract, the city sought a return of \$318,000 spent to run sewer lines to their homes and to cut the five off from the sewer service. Perhaps not surprisingly, all five later asked to drop out of the lawsuit.

Floyd County waited with the rest of the world to find out who would be the nation's next president. Locally, voters chose Democratic Vice President Al Gore by a 2-to-1 margin, but Floyd

In races of local interest, two of the six incumbents seeking re-election were voted off of the city council, Gorman Collins and Trent Naim were given the ax by voters. The new Prestonsburg council included Thomas Hereford as the leading vote-getter, followed in order by Harry Adams, Jimmy J. Derossett, Billy Ray Collins, Hansel Cooley, Estill Lee Carter, Roy L. Compton and Danny Hamilton. In the city of Martin, Thomasine Robinson was elected mayor over Eugene Rodney Hutchinson, while Dr. Mahendra Varia, Eulene Hamilton Ratliff, Bruce Salisbury, Joe E. Howard Jr., Charles Edward Justice and Michael Robinson. Samuel Howell, who finished just behind Michael Robinson in the vote count, challenged the results, asking for a canvass, but did not pick up any votes. In Wheelwright, Andy Wayne Akers, Bruce Johnson, Bon "Booty" Hall and Ruby J. Johnson were elected to the city commission. Only four people ran for the four seats on the Allen City Commission. They were Phyllis

a reversal of their 1996 decision to change county government to the commission system, voting in 2000 to switch back to the magisterial form of government. On the school board, incumbent Jody Mullins, who had been mulling dropping out of the race prior to the election, remained a candidate and was defeated instead by Glenna H. Stone in district 5. In district 3, Jeff Stumbo defeated Jimmy Osborne for the board's only open seat. Meanwhile, Carol Stumbo was returned to office in district 4 after running unopposed.

A grand jury indicted George Andrew "Andy" Jarrell on a charge of murder for the shotgun slaying of his cousin, Bill J. "Buck" Jarrell. Andy Jarrell was one of 44 people indicted in the first set of true bills returned by the grand jury since Brent Turner assumed the office of commonwealth's attorney.

The management commission of the Mountain Arts Center was given a presentation from state Tourism Secretary and former Prestonsburg Mayor Ann Latta and Ewell Balltrip, executive director of the

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November 19.

Law enforcement students at Prestonsburg Community College teamed up with local police to stage a "raid" of a mock methamphetamine laboratory.

One month after chastising defendants about being lax in their attendance at court hearings and threatening to throw the book at them in the future, District Judge James R. Allen was confronted with the absence of not only the defendant, but also his attorney for the defendant's trial. Days later, appearing before Judge Allen, the attorney, Robert Wright of Pikeville, offered as an excuse the fact that he had a court date in Pikeville the same day. The defendant, John Friend of Pikeville, was tried on a DUI charge in his absence and given the maximum sentence of 180 days in jail.

Family members of the late Sydney Mullins, a 3-year-old girl who died while waiting for a heart transplant in August, said they would use money donated by area residents for the purpose of funding the operation to instead fund a scholarship in her honor.

Ronald C. Stewart, 24, of Hi Hat died of injuries sustained in a November 24 all-terrain vehicle wreck.

The Floyd County Board of Education heard reports from area schools throughout the month of November. The reports outlined what the schools were doing right to raise test scores, as well as what still needed to be done and how the board could help.

A Prestonsburg teenager was charged in connection with a rash of summertime auto burglaries. Chad Jervis, 18, faced seven counts of theft by unlawful taking for allegedly taking items from as many cars at Goble-Roberts.

Betsy Layne, fourth-graders, prompted by a story in The Floyd County Times about the Floyd County Animal Shelter, began pooling their snack money to pay adoption fees for a dog identified in the story as Pearl.

Yvonne Looney, 45, of Bull Creek was killed November 30 in a one-vehicle wreck along Route 2030 at Printer.

December

A man flying himself and his family home to western Kentucky from a trip to Virginia passed out at the controls over eastern Kentucky. After attempts to talk the man's wife through landing procedures at Hazard and

Pikeville failed, the plane made a bumpy but safe landing at Big Sandy Regional Airport.

A man accused of burglarizing three Floyd County homes failed to appear in Floyd District Court to

Following a stint at a Zimbabwe mission, Sister Patricia Cataldi joined the staff of McDowell Appalachian Regional Hospital as a general surgeon.

After helping 200 needy families

reached an agreement which would guarantee jobs for 90 of the union's 148 employees, after the company initially say it wanted to lay off 110.

Two downtown landmarks were destroyed by fire in Martin. June's

governance and complicity to commit first-degree robbery for her alleged role in the armed robbery of Lee's Famous Recipe restaurant in Prestonsburg. McCann maintained that she was an unwitting accomplice in the



photos by Ralph B. Davis

Neither man nor machine were hurt when a county dump truck broke through a bridge at Granny Fitz Branch along Middle Creek Friday morning. The incident left 15 homes cut off from the outside world, but county workers were busy Friday constructing a low-water bridge to bring temporary relief to the situation.

answer the charges. Phillip D. Sword, 38, of Fishtrap didn't show up for a preliminary hearing and a bench warrant for his arrest was issued by District Judge James R. Allen.

John D. Clark, 23, of Corn Fork was arrested on charges of receiving stolen property after police found \$11,000 in items stolen from East Equipment Company. Clark's case was referred to a grand jury for consideration.

A groundbreaking was held December 1 at a site at South Floyd High School slated for the construction of a greenhouse to be used for the study of aquaponics.

Shawna Johnson, 22, of Price was killed when the car she was riding in lost control on roads covered by the first snow of the season and struck a tree.

George Andrew "Andy" Jarrell, accused of killing his cousin following an argument while the two were renovating a house, was released from jail on bond and went back to work as a housing contractor.

The Floyd County Board of Education made final offers on two pieces of property needed to construct a new football field for South Floyd High School. The board offered \$170,000 for one of the tracts and \$49,000 plus back taxes for the other.

Wayne Taylor was officially sworn in as assistant commonwealth's attorney. Taylor's appointment gave Floyd County two full-time prosecuting attorneys for the first time in history.

through the yuletide in 1999, Praise Assembly Church's "Operation Christmas Blessing" set a goal of 1,000 families for the 2000 holiday season.

Despite a posted weight limit of three tons, a 10-wheel county road department dump truck carrying 11 tons of blacktop attempted to cross a bridge at Granny Fitz Branch. The truck made it across the first time, but collapsed the bridge on its return trip, temporarily stranding the occupants of 15 homes on the other side of Middle Creek who rely on the bridge as their only egress. No one was hurt in the accident, and work crews were able to construct a temporary low-water bridge to give residents a way to and from their homes.

The on-again, off-again trial of Dan Jack Combs II was scheduled for trial December 11. It was later postponed.

Just a few weeks after beginning his own personal food drive for needy families at Christmas, County Attorney Keith Bartley began distributing the 2,904 food items his office collected.

An audit of Stumbo Elementary revealed numerous problems at the school, including poor communication, uneven evaluation, low expectations, little collaboration among teachers, and an inadequately maintained building.

Following a nearly two-month-long strike, union employees of Kentucky West Virginia Gas Company voted to return to their jobs after reaching an agreement with company management. The union and company

Dress Shop and the Martin Pawn Shop were destroyed in the blaze, which was later determined to be the work of an arsonist. In a related matter, 22-year-old Norman E. Lewis was arrested on a charge of disorderly conduct after he allegedly impersonated a fireman and interfered with firefighters' efforts to extinguish the flames.

What began as one family's realization that they didn't really need anything for Christmas became a company-wide effort by Sykes employees to create gift baskets for 200 needy families at six area schools and two nursing homes.

Ethel Branham Hamilton, 95, of Greshel died of exposure after she left her home December 10.

Donald Ray Bailey, 50, pleaded guilty to a federal charge of conspiracy to traffic marijuana. His sentencing is scheduled for March 12 at the U.S. District Courthouse in Pikeville.

The Prestonsburg City Council considered a host of restrictions to apply to the city's subdivision at its mountaintop development project.

Local rescue workers practiced their skills during a mock chemical leak at the Prestonsburg water treatment plant December 12.

The feud between the city of Prestonsburg and its firefighters reached a fever pitch in December, as the Kentucky Professional Fire Fighters Union led a campaign to gain public support by passing out leaflets accusing the city of threatening public safety with recent decisions to layoff three firefighters, change the fire department's work schedule, sell off its ambulance service and merge the fire and police departments into one public safety department. That was followed by a federal lawsuit against the city by the three laidoff firefighters and nine others still on the force. The lawsuit accused the city of violating the firefighters' rights of free expression and free association. Despite the protests, however, the city moved forward with its merger plans by approving an ordinance to do just that.

A local trucker won a big prize as part of a national contest. Tom Marsillett was the winner of the futuristic \$300,000 big rig truck featured in the TNN program "18 Wheels of Justice."

Danny Ray Akers, 19, of Branham's Creek pleaded guilty to two counts of first-degree sex abuse shortly before he was to stand trial on charges of rape and sodomy. Akers had been accused for luring a 15-year-old girl into the woods on a four-wheeler, then forcing her to have sex with him. As part of a deal reached with prosecutors, he was to receive a 30-month prison sentence.

Paul Phillip Hughes, chairman of the city of Prestonsburg's Golf Course Management Committee, became the first person to purchase a membership to the new Stonecrest Golf Course.

Just days before Christmas, a grand jury decided not to indict Ernest "Bucky" Collins of Prestonsburg for murder in the Easter Sunday shooting death of Henry Clifton. Members of the grand jury issued a report on their findings, saying Clifton fired at Collins first and that Collins shot back in self-defense when he killed Clifton.

Workers at three area alcohol retailers were charged with selling alcohol to minors following an undercover operation by the state Alcoholic Beverage Control.

Tarah McCann, 21, of Spring Hill, Fla., was indicted by a grand jury on a charge of first-degree wanton endan-

der and didn't know about it until afterwards.

The city of Prestonsburg completed its second annexation of the year by voting to accept Mutton Fork into city limits. Unlike the controversy which arose when the city annexed the Big Branch area of Abbott Creek, however, property owners at Mutton Fork requested to be brought into city limits.

A commissioner with the Southern Water District faced criminal charges for an incident during the Kentucky West Virginia Gas strike. Hubert Halbert, 56, of Langley was charged with wanton endangerment for allegedly pointing a gun a security guard during the strike. Halbert said he was defending himself after the guard continued approaching the picket line after being ordered away.

Readers of The Floyd County Times responded to one man's plea that local residents send Christmas cards to his elderly aunt, who was sick in a hospital in Chicago. Readers sent 37 cards and letters to 80-year-old Ethel Tipton, a former resident of Floyd County, prompting her to begin speaking again.

For the second year, Prestonsburg police conducted the "Shop with a Cop" program. The program matches children from Floyd County schools with police officers, who give the children money for Christmas shopping and help them purchase items at Wal-Mart.

Newly-elected state Sen. Johnny Ray Turner was sworn into office December 30.

A Mountain Christian Academy bus driver was arrested on drug charges. Martin police arrested Larry Greer after finding a large cache of pills and guns at his residence. Greer was charged with trafficking a controlled substance within 1,000 yards of a school. His live-in girlfriend, Diana L. Syacina, was also arrested on a facilitation charge.

House Majority Floor Leader Greg Stumbo of Prestonsburg showed no signs of aversion to hot-button issues when he prefiled several bills in advance of the state's first annual legislative session. Stumbo filed bills raising the dropout age for high school students to 18, repealing the state's portion of the property tax on automobiles, allowing limited teaching of religious subjects in schools, limiting lobbyists to a maximum salary of \$1,000 for lobbying members of the General Assembly, and requiring can and bottle deposits and mandatory garbage collection.

A Floyd County sheriff's deputy was hailed a hero for pulling a man out of a burning car. Sheriff John K. Blackburn commended Deputy Bob Hackworth Jr. for his actions.

In a last-minute move before leaving office, members of the Wheelwright City Commission approved an ordinance giving city employees with five or more years' service merit system status.

The Floyd County Times named its selections for the top five stories of 2000. In order, they were water-related issues involving the extension of waterlines, cleanup of Left Beaver Creek and merger creating the Southern Water District; the allocation of \$57 million in Floyd County projects during the 2000 General Assembly; the year's wild finishes at the ballot box; the ongoing feud between the city of Prestonsburg and members of its fire department; and the Kentucky West Virginia Gas Strike.

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