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Volume 72, Issue 144 • 75 Cents

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Letters to Santa Coming SUNDAY

briefs

Clarification

An article in the December 9 edition of The Floyd County Times pertaining to a concluded investigation by the Kentucky State Police into a crime spree taking place in Knott and Floyd counties may have led our readers to believe that all three persons arrested in connection to that investigation were charged with burglary, theft and forgery. That was not case.

According to Knott County Circuit Court records, the three persons arrested — Richard Collins, Natasha Sammons and Tommy Thornberry — were not charged collectively with all three aspects of the investigation.

Richard Collins, 18, of Hollybush, was charged with two counts of theft by unlawful taking and one additional count of forgery.

Natasha Sammons, 18, of Pippa Passes, was charged with one count of theft by unlawful taking in connection to the investigation.

Tommy Thornberry, 21, of Garrett, was charged with one count of theft by unlawful taking.

The Times regrets any confusion this lack of clarity may have caused.

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2 DAY FORECAST

Today



Tomorrow



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

Couple found guilty of lesser abuse charges

by MARY MUSIC
STAFF WRITER

What began as an anonymous call to the Cabinet for Families and Children ended this week with a felony conviction for a Floyd County couple.

Abbott Creek residents Benjamin and Patricia Spurlock now face up to five years in prison after a circuit court jury returned a guilty verdict Tuesday for two counts each

of second-degree criminal abuse of a child under 12, a class D felony.

The couple was originally charged and indicted by a Floyd County grand jury in June for two counts each of first-degree criminal abuse of a child under 12, a charge that could have landed them 10-year sentences.

Allegedly, the two physically abused Patricia Spurlock's 6-year-old daughter and 5-year-old son in November 2000.

After receiving an anonymous call, social workers visited the home and transported the children to Highlands Regional Medical Center to be examined for evidence of abuse.

"The social workers and state police that responded observed numerous bruises on both the children, primarily on the legs and buttocks," said Pike Commonwealth's Attorney Rick Bartley, who sat in as special prosecutor. "They also observed unique S-

type marks on the little girl's face and hands and on the little boy's buttocks."

The S-shape marks came from a branding iron, an metal rod used often in branding cattle that was referred to as the "S-stick" by the young girl during her testimony.

"To quote her exactly," said Jerry Patton, who represented Benjamin and Patricia Spurlock, "she said that her step-

(See ABUSE, page two)



Members of the Southern Water and Sewer District's governing board gave the final OK on a new district tariff for customers during a special-called meeting on Tuesday.

Southern Water adopts unified rate structure

by MARY MUSIC
STAFF WRITER

Members of the Southern Water and Sewer District's governing board are moving along with plans to bring improved water services to various areas of Floyd and Knott counties.

During a special-called meeting on Tuesday, the members okayed the final draft of the district's tariff, a review of the rates, charges, rules and regulations associated with services provided by the district.

According to Bob Meyer, project manager for Southern Water, the tariff, which resulted upon the merger of both Beaver-Elkhorn and Mud Creek water districts, reflects no substantial changes in the area's policies or rates.

"The tariff hasn't radically

affected the policies and rates already in place," said Meyer Wednesday. "Basically, we've formalized those policies by putting it in writing."

The tariff was created from a model tariff provided by the Public Service Commission of Kentucky.

Customers of the Southern Water and Sewer District will pay a minimum monthly bill of \$14.80 for the first 2,000 gallons of water consumed. Additionally, consumers will also be charged \$4.30 per 1,000 gallons for any amount over the set 2,000 gallon minimum.

According to current rates in Beaver-Elkhorn and Mud Creek areas, customers in the Beaver-Elkhorn district will likely save money by tapping on to services

(See RATES, page two)

Wide-ranging bids to be eyed closely

by MARY MUSIC
STAFF WRITER

Members of the Southern Water and Sewer District say they will be closely examining recent bids submitted by engineering companies for water projects at John's Branch and Spurlock Creek near Maytown.

Because the money appropriated for the projects is funded through two different fiscal years of the Abandoned Mine Lands, the district accepted bids on the projects sepa-

(See BIDS, page three)

Two in office file to keep their jobs

Two more file for magistrate

by RALPH B. DAVIS
MANAGING EDITOR

After a noticeable dropoff over the previous two weeks, the number of people filing to run in next year's election has picked up considerably this week.

In addition to two candidates filing Monday, as reported in Wednesday's Floyd County Times, four more have added their names to the list, including two incumbents.

Property Valuation Administrator Connie Hancock will be seeking her first full term in office, after having been appointed to the post last year to fill out the remainder of her father's term.

Hancock's father, former PVA Lovel Hall, served in that position for 27 years before dying just three days before his planned retirement in August 2000. Gov. Paul Patton later appointed Hancock to fill out the remainder of Hall's term.

Now Hancock will face her first political race to keep her job. Two people have already filed to run for the office — Jerome Christopher Greathouse of Auxier and Glenn D. May II of Prestonsburg — and two more have passed qualifying exams which would enable them to seek the office as well.

Another incumbent seeking re-election is District 3 Constable Tandy B. Hamilton of McDowell. So far, he faces only one opponent in May's Democratic primary — Paul Younce of Melvin.

Two other filings this week made two of the more crowd-

(See ELECTION, page two)

Police capture Indiana fugitives in separate cases

by MARY MUSIC
STAFF WRITER

Police probes during the past two weeks landed two Indiana fugitives in the Floyd County Detention Center, where they now await to be extradited by Indiana officials.

This week, authorities arrested an Indiana fugitive who had managed to elude police authorities for nearly four months.

According to Sgt. Scott Hoffine of the Allen County

Sheriff's Department in Indiana, Glenn A. Phillips, 39, was arrested and charged with two counts of burglary in November 1998.

Subsequently, Phillips pleaded guilty to those charges, said Hoffine in an interview Wednesday, and was placed on probation. The Allen County parole and probation board petitioned the court to issue a bench warrant for Phillips' arrest in August, after he failed to adhere to the

(See FUGITIVES, page two)

FYI

For more information about donating to the food drive, call the Floyd County Attorney's Office at (606) 886-6863.

County attorney continues holiday food drive

by SHELDON COMPTON
STAFF WRITER

Floyd County Attorney Keith Bartley, in the wake of last year's success with a countywide food drive for local pantries, has decided to revisit that effort again this season.

Although Bartley has not yet started delivering donated food

items, the donations have already been numerous — taking over one full room of his office in the Floyd County Courthouse.

So far, Bartley and his office have gathered approximately 1,800 canned food items and nearly 300 boxed food items, a tremendous start in an effort to

(See FOOD, page two)



Keith Bartley counted cans and gathered boxed food items yesterday afternoon in a room set aside in his office for storing food drive donations. Bartley, who has already accepted nearly 1,800 canned food donations and some 300 boxed items, plans to start delivering to food pantries throughout the county sometime next week.

photo by Sheldon Compton

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Election

Continued from p1

ed races on the ballot even more so.

On Tuesday, Marty Keith Hamilton of Betsy Layne filed to run for District 4 magistrate. He faces four others who have already filed, Paul D. Tackett of Teaberry, incumbent District 3 Commissioner Ermal Tackett of Harold, Derek Kane Hale of

Betsy Layne and Paul Stilton of Betsy Layne.

On Wednesday, Glennis Ray Caudill filed his papers to run for District 3 magistrate, pitting him against five others so far — Clinis Hall of Drift, incumbent District 2 Commissioner Larry Foster Stumbo of McDowell, Roger Johnson of Bevinville,

Russell Hamilton Jr. of Hi Hat and Michael "Sam" Newsome of Weeksbury.

As has been the case throughout the filing period, all candidates to file for partisan races this week have been Democrats.

Candidates have until Jan. 29 to enter the 2002 campaign.

Fugitives

Continued from p1

stipulations of that parole, said Hoffine.

"We've had dealings with this man since 1994," said Hoffine. "He was born in Garden City, Mich., and we have a local address on him here in Fort Wayne. The warrant was issued on August 23. We've been looking for him since that time. We hadn't heard from him until authorities down there in your county notified us."

According to Floyd County Probation and Parole Officer Gary Tackett, who assisted in Phillip's arrest along with B.J. Caudill, officers discovered the fugitive warrant against Phillips after being called to the scene of a domestic disturbance in Hi Hat Monday afternoon at the home of John Osborne.

Allegedly, the argument began between neighbors and led to the arrest of both Phillips and Osborne, who was later charged with alcohol intoxication.

Tackett said Phillips was staying at the residence.

Upon running a search on his Social Security number, a routine police procedure, officers discovered the probation violation charges against him. The Floyd County Sheriff's Department contacted Indiana officials around 2 a.m. Monday morning.

Phillips, now lodged in the Floyd County Detention Center, is awaiting extradition with another Indiana fugitive, Austin E. Howard, 21, who was arrested by Prestonsburg Police officials last week on unrelated

charges.

Prestonsburg Police officer Ralph Frasure arrested Howard, 21, after he allegedly fled from La Grange County, Ind., on a parole violation concerning a theft charge against him in Indiana.

Reports from the Parole and Probation Board in La Grange indicate that a petition was filed against Howard on November 14 to revoke a suspended sentence he received from the theft charge.

Howard appeared before Floyd County District Judge Eric Hall on December 6, for his arraignment, at which time, he signed a waiver of extradition.

Repeated attempts to contact Frasure were unsuccessful.

Abuse

Continued from p1

dad touched her with the 'S-stick' on her face and it hurt."

Police also confiscated a leather belt from the Spurlock home.

The young boy denied any abuse from either parent. His testimony, coupled with the testimony of both Benjamin and Patricia Spurlock, may have affected the final outcome of the case.

The Spurlocks testified that the children had been playing either in a fireplace or a heater and that the "S-stick" was only used as a disciplinary measure to "teach the children about the dangers of playing in fire," said Bartley.

Both parents denied that the

branding iron was heated when it was used.

"I don't think that the jury believed that the parents used a hot branding iron on the children," said Patton. "Both the prosecution and defense presented photographs that I felt supported the defense. There wasn't any sign of any abuse with these children. Apparently, the jury did what they felt was appropriate. We're pleased they didn't find them guilty on the first-degree charges."

According to Bartley, another factor that may have contributed to the lesser verdict included the lack of evidence suggesting any prior history of abuse toward the children.

Bartley also noted that the physical injuries on the children had healed, and "no scarring was observed by the jury."

"The law does permit parents to use discipline on their children," said Bartley. "But the law also requires discipline to be appropriate, considering the welfare of the children."

Following the verdict, Bartley recommended a one-year sentence for each of the two counts against both individuals.

Benjamin and Patricia Spurlock will be sentenced on January 18 by Circuit Judge Danny Caudill. They are currently lodged at the Floyd County Detention Center.

Food

Continued from p1

beat last year's numbers.

During charity efforts last year, the county attorney's office delivered over 4,000 canned food items donated from various businesses and individuals across the county and over 500 boxed food items. The donations were taken to 15 different pantries throughout the county and afforded, according to Bartley, an estimated 1,500 families a consistent food source.

"The best estimate last year was that there was about 1,500 families being fed on a regular basis," said Bartley. "And this number becomes even more so during the holidays obviously."

The donations do not have a cut-off date, however, that runs parallel to any holiday, as Bartley stressed he would continue to take donations as long as people brought in food.

"As long as people keep bringing the food in, we'll keep taking it," said Bartley.

One incentive Bartley used during last season's donation efforts was an agreement for the county attorney's office to waive bad check fees and, perhaps in some instances, make arrangements in the case of tickets.

This incentive, although it will still stand as an offer and

hook for garnering more donations, may not be so often utilized this time around, said Bartley.

"Various individuals and businesses have brought in donations, the overwhelming of which haven't asked for anything in return," Bartley said. "Most of the people don't want anything in return. They find out there is a need and a location where they can give and they do so."

Bartley estimated that only 25 percent of the donations taken in so far have been accompanied with a request for a special service in return.

Another similarity from last year will be the amount taken in, said Bartley.

"At the rate we have food coming in, I would say we'll have the same delivery schedule as last year," said Bartley.

Bartley said his office delivered food to the various pantries at a rate of two deliveries a week, and expects this year to be the same, making sure to not let the size of a potential donation stand in the way of the food making its way to his office and then on to a pantry.

"If somebody wants to make a large donation, we'll make arrangements to come and pick it up," said Bartley. "Just call us

at the office and we'll see that it all gets divided as equally as is humanly possible and taken to food pantries."

The majority of the donations this year have been from local businesses, but have also included a sizable number of private donations.

Another important aspect that many people have asked about has been if there are any special needs that need to be met, said Bartley, adding that this is often the case and that his office frequently calls the pantries and inquires about certain items that could be more beneficial in certain circumstances.

"Some pantries have special needs," said Bartley. "Sometimes people call and ask us what we need and in that case we would encourage them to call us and we'll tell them what the pantry needs."

The "overflow" of food items already taking up space in Bartley's office is a welcome sight, he said.

"It's really nice to see because in today's world, since the Sept. 11 attacks, there are still a lot of people out there willing to give," said Bartley. "Maybe it just made some people realize how bad this world can really be."

Rates

Continued from p1

with the district, and Mud Creek residents may have to pay a little more.

Currently, Beaver-Elkhorn district rates are \$14.10 for the first 1,000 gallons, with an additional \$2.94 per 1,000 gallon over the set minimum. Mud Creek residents currently pay \$11.54 for the first 2,000 gallons of water used and an additional \$4.27 per 1,000 gallons for water consumption over 2,000 gallons.

Since the merger was initiated more than a year ago, Meyer said Southern Water has increased its customer base by more than 1,200, with growth from 3,800 initial customers to

nearly 5,000 customers currently. This trend, said Meyer, will only add to the improved services provided by the expansion in the future.

All other rates and regulations stipulated in the tariff are similar to those held previously by the companies.

Deposits required for all meters belonging to Southern are \$45 and connection turn-on charges, which will be assessed for new service turn-ons, seasonal temporary service or transfers, are \$25 per customer. Meter connection or tap-on charges begin at \$450 per home.

Southern will include a 10-percent penalty on any late pay-

ment, and stipulate a \$25 re-connection charge (\$35 after business hours) for services that have been terminated for non-payment of service or policy violations. That charge also stipulates an additional charge which will include the cost of the service trip both to the disconnection and the reconnection.

Bills and notices from Southern will be mailed during the first week and must be post-marked before the 20th of each month.

After finalization from board members on Tuesday, the tariff will be forwarded and filed with the Public Service Commission.

Regional arts and entertainment news

by RICHARD CROWE

Looking forward to Percy Sledge's performance at the SECO Company Store on Friday, Dec. 14. The former mine office in Letcher County only seats 200 people so the show will definitely be up close and personal.

The building also displays works by over 100 local artists, houses the Highland Winery, has seven looms for teaching weaving, and is used to teach dulcimer building and playing. Sandra and Jack Looney own the place and plan on adding goat cheese and grape seed oil products and a hickory bottom chair factory to the mix in the near future. They would also like to attract at least two more wineries to the area.

Why add more competition? They believe the grape growing potential there combines the best of nature on their reclaimed mine site. Their 26-acre vineyard is 1,800 feet above sea level which puts it above the frost line and it is protected on all sides by higher mountains which insures successful growing seasons. When an area has three to five wineries the tour buses start coming and the national figures show that the average bus brings in 15 couples three times a week (excluding winter) who spend \$2,000 per bus on wine to take home with them.

Call Sandra or Jack at (606) 855-7968 for more information.

Peoples Bank has just become a Regional Sponsor for the Kentucky Humanities Council. The council provides many benefits to the commonwealth including free speakers and Chautauquas, which are one person plays in costume about Kentuckians. New Chautauqua characters this year include Adolph Rupp, Daniel Boone and John C.C. Mayo. They also fund humanities projects such as Hazard Community College's Spring Writers Conference, new books for new readers program, and they publish Kentucky Humanities magazine which is received by over 10,000 Kentuckians.

Leon Hollon, president and CEO of Peoples Bank in Hazard, said of the announcement, "We are very interested in seeing more Kentucky

Humanities Council programs in our part of the state so our students and citizens can benefit from them. The Kentucky Humanities Council presents programs that Kentuckians want to know more about in very interesting formats. The bank looks at this partnership as one to enrich all of our lives especially our young people."

Virginia Smith, executive director of the council said, "We have been around for 30 years and its only with the support of Kentuckians like Leon Hollon and Peoples Bank that we can continue to serve more people in Hazard and the commonwealth."

Upcoming Kentucky Humanities Council events include:

■ "Adolph Rupp: The Coach" at Jenny Wiley State Park on Jan. 26 at 7 p.m. Call (606) 886-2711 at attending this free program.

■ "John C.C. Mayo: Coal Baron" another Chautauqua will be presented at Alice Lloyd College on Feb. 7 at 7:30 p.m. The Knott County Chamber of Commerce is arranging this event. Call (606) 785-4114 for information about this free program.

Spent some time at Renfro Valley where the new Kentucky Music Hall of Fame is ready to open next door. They just named Loretta Lynn, Tom T. Hall, Bill Monroe, the Osborne Brothers, Merle Travis, the Everly Brothers, Rosemary Clooney, Grandpa Jones, John Lair, Jean Ritchie and Red Foley as their first class of inductees.

Renfro Valley and the Kentucky Music Hall of Fame have been gifted to the board of directors of the Kentucky Music Hall of Fame by former owner, Warren Roenthal of Long John Silvers fame. Both organizations are now run by a public board which can only help them develop into a greater entertainment center.

Connie Hunt Peterson, who was born and raised near Renfro Valley and is now the park vice president, reflected on music as a healing power. She said, "We've had a patriotic close to our programs for the last seven years but you should have been here the night after the 9-11 attacks. No one knew what to expect since it was the

very next night after watching the twin towers fall, but we presented our show to a sold out crowd of 1,500. Before the show started, someone in the audience began singing God Bless America, a cappella, and the whole audience joined in. It was powerful and brought chill bumps to all of us. We really could feel the love for our country right here in this building."

If you haven't attended their "Christmas In the Valley" show yet you have until Dec. 15. It has been rated one of Kentucky's top ten entertainment values and is well worth the trip. Call 1-800-765-7464 for more information.



Meet Janette Rice "the rock lady." Janette has been finding rocks, gluing them together and painting them for over 20 years. The beautiful display items are colorful and lifelike people, animals, birds, and coal miners. She makes statute pieces and composite pieces. One beautiful composite piece depicted children and their teacher in a grade school scene. Janette and husband Wade live in Viper.

Met some wonderful people at the last Art of the Mountains Council Meeting. We met in Perry County Central High School's art department and enjoyed a display of student work that included painting, sculpture and film making.

Also got to meet Janette Rice "the rock lady." Janette has been finding rocks, gluing them together and painting them for over 20 years.

The treasures she creates are outstanding. They become

beautiful display items that are colorful and lifelike people, animals, birds, and coal miners. She makes statute pieces and composite pieces. One beautiful composite piece depicted children and their teacher in a grade school scene.

Janette and husband Wade live in Viper. Contact her about her art work at 436-3873.

Anyone interested in joining the newly formed Art of the Mountain Council can get more information by calling Glenna Wooten at 436-2044.

"Joy to the World" and many other Christmas songs were presented recently at Alice Lloyd College's annual Christmas Program at Pippa Passes. This year's program was expanded to include the new Hazard Community College Band led by Bobby and Wendy Saylor.

Between the 37 member chair (including daughter Candi) and the 18-piece band there was enough good Christmas music to make even Scrooge excited about the season. Throw in four excellent solos, including a guitar rendition of "The First Noel" by Dylanlike Mack Perkins, and the beautiful lights that decorated the Knott County campus and you can imagine the festive spirit enjoyed by the very large crowd.

Richard Kennedy (who knew he was a tuba player too?) led the choir as they sang a delightful selection of English pieces with piano before joining the band made up of members from four counties. The band was very musical and mixed well with the choral voices. Here's hoping this becomes an annual event.

Anyone interested in joining the HCC Band can contact Bobby Saylor at Knott County Central or just show up for practice. They meet on Tuesdays from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Knott County Central on Rt. 160.

If you have any submissions for this column, you can e mail me at Richard.Crowe@kctcs.net.

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LORD OF THE RINGS OPENING WED., DEC. 19.

Bids

By 1 p.m. on Tuesday, the district received eight bids for each of the projects, which are aimed at providing tanks and water extensions in both of the areas.

In reviewing the bid summaries during a special-called meeting Tuesday afternoon, members seemed concerned about the variations with the bid submittals, some of which almost doubled in price from lowest to highest bid received.

"When you go through this process, when you have that kind of a disparity in bids, you take a real serious look at the low bid and the high bid," responded Bob Meyer when questioned about the variations by board members. "That's why you go through the process, to determine the company's financial ability to do the job and their technical ability to do the job."

For the Johns Creek Branch project, the bids ranged in price from \$107,813 to a substantially larger bid of \$237,121.74, according to Meyer. The second lowest bid was \$135,959, nearly \$29,000 more than the lowest bid.

Of the bids submitted for the Spurlock Creek water extension project, the lowest was \$489,169.17, and the highest tipped the scale at almost double that amount, \$786,941.70.

Southern Water and Sewer District Members are now reviewing the bids and checking the backgrounds on the engineers who submitted them. Information about the reviews will be presented to board members at a future meeting.

According to Meyer, it will take at least three weeks to complete the finalizing process with AML.

Currently, no bids have been submitted for the tank project on John's Branch.

During the meeting, members

also discussed the pre-bid status report on the Rock Fork project in Knott County.

Several county tank contractors and one line contractor vis-

ited the area on Tuesday to examine the job site.

The bid for the Rock Fork project will open on December 20 at 1 p.m.

Continued from p1

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Viewpoint

Worth Repeating ...

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people, and astonish
the rest.*

—Mark Twain

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

Guest View

Limits needed to save state's Medicaid

Nearly four years ago, the state legislature — in part spurred by the powerful lobby of the pharmaceutical industry — made it easier for Medicaid patients to get brand-name drugs.

Before 1998, pre-authorization was needed to receive the more expensive prescription drugs, but pharmaceutical companies, along with some doctors and pharmacists, complained of the additional red tape caused by this process.

The new legislation created an open formulary, which means a patient can be prescribed any medication, regardless of cost.

As a result, prescription drug costs for the Medicaid program increased by \$85 million between 1998 and 1999. And the cost of these drugs is now considered the biggest drain on the state's Medicaid budget, which will face a \$163 million shortfall next year, according to the Legislative Research Commission.

Lawmakers had a chance to remedy the problem this year by restoring restrictions on brand-name drugs, but the Senate could not pass legislation earlier approved by the House of Representatives.

Last week, the state once again positioned itself to address the issue. The Pharmacy and Therapy Committee, a group of nine doctors and three pharmacists formed to advise the Cabinet for Health Services, voted to recommend that generic drugs be prescribed to treat gastric reflux. And more restrictions on medication for cholesterol and antidepressants are being considered — all three areas that have been identified as those driving up costs the most.

By no means do we advocate improper treatment for the low-income who rely on Medicaid. But, despite the claims of pharmaceutical manufacturers, most pharmacists and physicians agree that generic drugs are fine, according to Kathy Kustra, special Medicaid assistant to Gov. Paul Patton.

If these drugs effectively treat the health issues, while helping to get costs under control, then it's an option the state would be irresponsible not to pursue.

At the same time, the legislature must also correct the problem it created last year with a provision that was slipped into state law. That provision allows Kentucky's pharmacists to charge the highest Medicaid prescription drug dispensing fee in the nation.

Once again it seems a case of catering to lobbyists, as the provision was tucked into an unrelated health-insurance bill and went virtually unnoticed until last week. Estimates are the new law cost the Medicaid program \$20 million.

Already, about 20 percent of Kentuckians over the age of 60 are living in poverty. The 2000 census outlined the continued graying effect in the state, as the number of people 65 or older is expected to reach 17 percent by 2002, and the total number will double over the next half-century.

The state's Medicaid program is in serious trouble at a time when it will be needed most. Limiting brand-name drugs and lowering dispensing fees are a must to help reign in costs. It's no time for legislators to kowtow to the pharmaceutical manufacturers and pharmacists.

—Owensboro Messenger-Inquirer



BAD CITIZENS,



GOOD CITIZENS



BAD CITIZENS COMPLAIN ABOUT THE EROSION OF THEIR CIVIL RIGHTS.



GOOD CITIZENS GIVE A BIG THUMBS-UP TO RESTRICTIONS ON THEIR PERSONAL FREEDOMS.



BAD CITIZENS SAVE THEIR MONEY FOR A RAINY DAY.



GOOD CITIZENS STIMULATE THE ECONOMY BY SHOPPING, GOING INTO DEEP CREDIT CARD DEBT.



BAD CITIZENS USED TO BE CONSIDERED GOOD CITIZENS.



GOOD CITIZENS USED TO BE CONSIDERED BAD CITIZENS.

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BATEMAN

Think About it

How I killed Johnny Bench

This Christmas season my thoughts have only recently turned to gifts. You see, I'm a last-minute kind of person. I've tried to be otherwise. I've tried to buy gifts for Christmas during the off-season when there are better sales or whatever, but it's just strange buying with Christmas in mind during the middle of summer.

In any case, my thoughts have turned to gifts in the past few days and this has been unfortunate, because a memory of a gift given to me when I was 8 years old has now returned to haunt me.

I thought I had erased the incident from my mind, but this season I am reminded of a certain baseball that was given to me once by my grandmother's second husband, Silas.

The ball, which was caught in the stands during a Reds game from a Johnny Bench home run, was signed shortly after by the Cincinnati catcher and, much to my surprise, ended up in my 8-year-old hands as a Christmas gift from Silas.

I remember my mom, who has been

an avid baseball fan for many years, telling me what an important gift the baseball had been. And I remember telling her that I understood that, being a great fan of the game myself. I knew who Johnny Bench was.

Once home, I placed the ball in the custody of my mother after more than a little prodding, where it was "put up" to be kept safe.

Now, as I was saying, I was a baseball fan then and still am now, so I often spent many hours playing catch with a nearby block building close to my house. I rarely had the pleasure of others to play catch with and so the side of the block building made for a good stand-in.

However, I was constantly losing baseballs in a creek that ran just behind the building.

That was the case the day I decided to search for a substitute and ran across a certain baseball, snuggled neatly within a box in the top of my mom's closet, with the signature of perhaps one of the greatest catchers the game has ever produced.

It was practically brand new. The cover still pearly white, and the stitching tight and bright red with new dye. Across the bottom was Bench's scrawled signature, signed after the game. The handwriting was hurried and barely readable, clearly reflecting the task it must have been to get the autograph during the post-game rush.

I tossed the ball into my glove a couple of times. An authentic baseball — not the fake rubber kind from the dime store down the street. It was a treasure, and also bound to be tossed off that block wall a few times before bedtime, guaranteed.

It took nearly two weeks of fastballs and popflies before the ball — beaten and broken in spite of its quality craftsmanship — gave up the ghost and lost its cover.

It had started with a scuff here and a scuff there, nothing major. And then, after what I must say was a pretty good curveball, off went the signature. All that was left was chewed up white leather and smeared remnants of black ink.

It was pure destruction after that. I figured I had already defaced the most important part, so now I could just turn loose — no more holding back.

After about two weeks all that was left was a dirt-grimed, discarded leather cover, some loose stitches and the collection of tightly wound rubber bands found in the center.

I've regretted my mistreatment of Silas' Christmas gift over the years, but not because I lost a piece of sports history. I've regretted it mostly because I abused the kindness of another person to satisfy a fleeting desire. My desire to play a game overshadowed a gift given in the spirit of a holiday based on selflessness, and I chose to play baseball instead.

But, man ... you should see my curveball.



SHELDONCOMPTON

The Times

Published Sunday, Wednesday and Friday each week

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263 SOUTH CENTRAL AVENUE
PRESTONSBURG, KENTUCKY 41653

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www.floydcountytimes.com

USPS 202-700

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

SUBSCRIPTION RATES PER YEAR:
In Floyd County: \$48.00
Outside Floyd County: \$58.00

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

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Letter Guidelines

Letters to the Editor are welcomed by The Floyd County Times.

In accordance with our editorial page policy, all letters must include the signature, address and telephone number of the author.

The Times reserves the right to reject or edit any letter deemed slanderous, libelous or otherwise 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.

For the Record

MARRIAGES

Ginger Carol Shepherd, 20, of David, to David Paul Watkins, 19.
 Melissa Renee Burke, 26, of Melvin, to Stanley Jason Meyers, 21, of Bevinville.
 Tonya Renee Branham, 23, to Lenny Justin Little, 22, both of Martin.
 Judith Renee Spears, 30, to Ernest Richard Seagraves, 25, both of Prestonsburg.
 Melissa Susan Haywood, 28, to Tommy Junior Cooley, 31, both of Prestonsburg.
 Shirley M. Caudill, 45, to Vernon Hall, 46, both of Melvin.
 Janet Kathleen Blackburn, 22, to John Fuller Jenkins, 23, both of Prestonsburg.
 Barbara Jane Brown, 37, to Tracy Akers, 26, both of Galveston.
 Tracy Ellen Copley, 35, of East Point, to Johann Christian Walser, 40, of Apfeldorf, Germany.
 Melissa M. Miller, 28, to Merlin O. Conn, 55, both of Printer.

LAWSUITS

Citizen National Bank vs. Kathy Collins; complaint.
 Vada Sue Martin vs. Denzil Ray Martin; divorce.
 Annette Marie Wright vs. Caswell F. Wright, Jr.; divorce.
 Timmy Michael Mahan vs. Kathy Mahan; divorce.
 Timothy Chad Maynard vs. Ben Chapman; complaint.
 Anita Meece vs. Eddie Meece; divorce.

CHARGES FILED

Matthew Perkins, 26, Martin, criminal possession of a forged instrument, public intoxication, use/possession of drug paraphernalia.
 Juanita Owens, age unlisted, Martin, two counts of theft by unlawful taking, two counts of second-degree forgery, attempted theft by deception.
 Austin E. Howard, 21, Garrett, fugitive/governor's warrant.
 Justin G. Newman, 22, Hi Hat, operating a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol/drugs, operating a motor vehicle on a suspended license for driving under the influence, resisting arrest, failure to wear a seatbelt.
 Jennifer Bays, 23, Prestonsburg, falsely attempting to obtain a controlled substance.
 Brian K. Castle, 35, Langley, first-degree wanton endangerment.
 Glenn A. Phillips, 39, Hi Hat, fugitive/governor's warrant.
 Matthew Perkins, 26, Martin, four counts of first-degree forgery, four counts of theft by unlawful taking.
 Brian K. Castle, 35, Langley, fourth-degree assault.
 Sharon Harris, age unlisted, Ivel, terroristic threatening.
 John M. McKenzie, 29, West Prestonsburg, possession of marijuana, use/possession of drug paraphernalia.
 Glenn Phillips, 39, Hi Hat, alcohol intoxication.
 John David Osborne, 36, Hi Hat, alcohol intoxication.
 Jennifer L. Adams, 19, Hazelgreen, theft by unlawful taking.
 Kandy S. Gibson, 18, Salyersville, theft by unlawful taking.
 Danny Burchett, 41, Prestonsburg, alcohol intoxication.
 Linda Ross, 43, Salyersville, theft by unlawful taking.
 Ishmael G. Miller, 36, Jenkins, criminal trespassing.
 Morhanda G. Hamilton, 26, Teaberry, fourth-degree assault.

Reba Martin, 30, Allen, prescription in improper container, resisting arrest, menacing.
 Kristina D. Hayes, 25, Martin, fourth-degree assault.
 Paul C. Hayes, 32, Martin, fourth-degree assault.
 Irene Williams, 47, Hi Hat, fourth-degree assault.
 John T. Chaffins, 64, McDowell, alcohol intoxication.
 Bennett L. Blankenship, 39, Teaberry, alcohol intoxication.

INSPECTIONS

Justice Mobile Homes, Harold, regular inspection. Violations noted: This park has two mobile homes in place and is partly under construction, lots not systematically numbered, driveways not yet provided, garbage cans not provided, premises not free of debris, proper lighting not provided, most violations will be taken care of once construction of the park has been completed. Score: 90.

Big Sandy Properties Mobile Home Park, address not listed, regular inspection. Violations noted: Lots not numbered systematically, parking areas not paved or graveled, mobile home lot size not in compliance, no garbage cans provided for the park. Score: 92.

Action Express Mart, Ivel, follow-up inspection. Violations noted: Outdated medications have been removed, handwash sink in food preparation area not operational. Score: 96.

Hi Hat Happy Mart, Hi Hat, regular inspection. Violations noted: Not all cooling and heating units have easily seen thermometers, door on sandwich cooler is cracked, handle missing on refrigerator, produce slicer has some food accumulation, some soft drink nozzles have slight residue accumulation, inside of cabinet below coffee machines have debris buildup, ceiling tiles in disrepair in rear of store, wallpaper/paint peeling around mop sink, one wet mop head stored on floor under mop sink. Score: 94 restaurant, 93 retail.

Smith's Grocery, address not listed, regular inspection. Violations noted: Outdated over the counter medications on display shelf, upright refrigerator unit does not have an easily seen thermometer, restroom door not self-closing. Score: 92.

Smith's Grocery, address not listed, follow-up inspection. Violations noted: Outdated over the counter medications have been discarded, other violations have yet to be corrected. Score: 97.

IGA, Stanville, regular inspection. Violations noted: Boxes of meat store on the floor in meat cooler, foam meat trays stored on the floor, faucet at three compartment sink leaking and not turned out properly, no towels in the men's restroom, floors in slight disrepair in restrooms, walk-in freezer light has no shield, clothing items stored on food equipment in the back storage area, over the counter medications outdated. Score: 86.

Allen Happy Mart, Allen, regular inspection. Violations noted: One soft drink dispenser nozzle cracked, inside of oven has slight residue in bottom, meat slicer has minor amount of food particles on it, commercial can opener has food residue buildup near blade, gaskets on doors of coolers have some food buildup on them, some utensils appear to not be completely air dried before put up for storage, men's restroom door will not shut completely, lid is broken off of commode in women's restroom, outside garbage dumpster is not provided with lids, floors in the kitchen are noted to have slight amount of

debris around the edges under equipment, ceiling tiles in the men's restroom and also the kitchen have discoloration possibly due to water damage. Score: 89 restaurant, 92 retail.

Hi-Lite Pizza, Minnie, regular inspection. Violations noted: Some canned food items are severely dented, some food containers are not properly labeled, some food dispensing items do not have handles, no hair restraints being worn during food preparation, several freezers and coolers have gaskets which are loose and/or soiled, there is no waste receptacle available in the men's restroom. Score: 88.

Hi-Lite Pizza, Minnie, follow-up inspection. Violations noted: Some food items severely dented has been corrected. Score: 93.

Foodworld, McDowell, regular inspection. Violations noted: Some canned items are severely dented, outdated cold medications on shelf, some produce stored under condenser lines in walk-in cooler, personal beverage stored in machine with unbagged ice which is for sale, some shelves in reach-in coolers are constructed of wood, gaskets on freezers and coolers throughout the store are torn and in disrepair, tops of some canned items are dusty, some sliding door grooves on reach-in coolers are soiled, rubber hose being used as a faucet extends below the rim of the sink, no hand towels at the sink in the meat room, bathroom door has a hole in it, floor is wet beside of milk cooler, no light shields provided for lights in the meat cooler. Score: 76.

Foodworld, McDowell, follow-up inspection. Violations noted: Dented canned food items and outdated medications have been corrected, personal beverage stored with unbagged ice has been corrected, rubber hose no longer being used as a faucet. Score: 91.

Bingo Zone, Harold, regular inspection. Violations noted: Refrigeration and freezer units have no thermometers, no hand towels at mop sink and hand wash sink, no light in upright refrigerator, cleaning utensils not properly stored, mop head on floor. Score: 95.

Jet's Pizza, Martin, follow-up inspection. Violations noted: Critical item 1 (Food source, condition, no spoilage) has been corrected. Score: 89.

Dollar General Store, Glen View Plaza, Prestonsburg, regular inspection. Violations noted: Certain food items including pet food not stored at least six inches from floor, no hand towels in restroom. Score: 96.

Skeans Marathon, Prestonsburg, regular inspection. Violations noted: Thermometer not present or easily seen in ice cream freezer as well as cold cut display, also thermometer in condiment unit has been broken. Score: 99.

Slone's Grocery, Prestonsburg, regular inspection. Violations noted: Thermometers not present or easily seen in all units, deli unit has buildup of rust. Score: 97.

Jet's Pizza, Martin, regular inspection. Violations noted: Two canned products badly damaged, no hair restraints being worn during food preparation, reach-in freezer beside of pop cooler is in need of defrosting, gaskets on the doors of various reach-in coolers are soiled, restrooms have no self-closing doors, women's restroom doors do not have a properly covered waste can with a tight fitting lid, hold in the back exit door at the bottom is in excess of half an inch, hole in the floor in the back room where the three com-

partment sink is located. Score: 84.

Allen Central High School, regular inspection. Violations noted: Sink faucet appears to be leaking in room 404, commode seat loose in boy's restroom of the main building, lock or latches are absent in the boy's restroom on the stall doors, women's restroom in gym is not provided with a covered waste can, ceiling tiles damaged in room 404, bottom of wall has small hole in room 203 and room 201, boy's restroom in gym has a hole in the ceiling above the commode, various tables in the library are in disrepair, signs of rodent activity observed in room 203. Score: 83.

B & B Pit Stop, Langley, regular inspection. Violations noted: None. Score: 100.

Foodland, Martin, regular inspection. Violations noted: Food item out of package and laying on top of other food items to be sold, both walk-in coolers behind store have doors in disrepair, tops of some canned items are dusty, shelves in different areas of the store noted to have slight residue, hand dryers not working in both men and women's restrooms, no paper towels provided at the handwash sink in the meat room, door leading to the rear of store is in disrepair, ceilings in the back of the store in disrepair or discolored, no shields are provided on lights inside of meat display unit, various litter is noted to be behind establishment. Score: 93 restaurant, 93 retail.

Cardinal Mart, Wheelwright, regular inspection. Violations noted: No hand towels provided in the restroom, outside garbage dumpsters have no lids or drain plug, ceiling tiles missing and also in disrepair in the back storage room, light is out at entrance into the walk-in cooler, chemicals and cleaning supplies stored above animal food. Score: 95 restaurant, 89 retail.

Cardinal Mart, Wheelwright, follow-up inspection. Violations noted: Chemical and cleaning supplies stored above animal food has been corrected. Score: 94 (retail only).

Slone's Market, Bevinville, regular inspection. Violations noted: Some dented canned items noted to be on the shelf for sale, some outdated over the counter drugs on the shelf for sale, not all cooling units have easily seen thermometers, gaskets on the door of the frozen food freezer are in dispair, some debris accumulation found in the bottom of one cooler, tops of some canned items are dusty. Score: 90.

Slone's Market, Bevinville, follow-up inspection. Violations noted: Dented canned food items have been removed from the shelf. Score: 95.

Wayland Fountain, Wayland, regular inspection. Violations noted: Upright freezer in food preparation area in need of defrosting, freezer in hallway has gasket loose, meat slicer is noted to have some food residue buildup on parts other than blade, fan guard in the walk-in cooler has slight dust accumulation, floor in the storage room is noted to have some standing water, some lights in the food

preparation area do not have shields. Score: 92.

Castle's Grocery, Wayland, regular inspection. Violations noted: Some canned food items noted to be dented, over the counter drugs are outdated. Score: 95.

Castle's Grocery, Wayland, follow-up inspection. Violations noted: Dented canned food items have been removed from shelf, outdated medications removed from counter. Score: 100.

PROPERTY TRANSFERS

Rasser Salisbury and Jo Ann Salisbury to Wade Tackett and Neva Jo Tackett, property location not listed.

Benjamin Lloyd Weaver to Mark Boleyn, property located at Rock Fork of Beaver Creek, Knott County.

Belvia Stanley to Michael Stanley and Patricia Stanley, property located at Left Beaver Creek of Melvin.

Jimmie Rose to The Transportation Cabinet, Department of Highways, property located at Big Mud Creek.

Herma Lee Skeens and William C. Skeens to The Transportation Cabinet, Department of Highways, property located at Big Mud Creek.

Geneva Hamilton to Patricia H. Scaif, property located at Laynesville near Harold.

Curt Tackett and Ethel Tackett, Gladys Tackett and Bobby Tackett, Gladis Slone and Hershell Slone, Irene Lee and Johnnie Lee, Jerlydine Petty and William Petty, Donald Tackett and Sharon Tackett, Martha Hopson and Robert Hopson, Danny Tackett and Alma Tackett, Gail Gauthier, Berry James Tackett and Belva Tackett, Sheila Adkins and Dean Adkins, Beth Ann Tackett, Timothy Tackett, Alexandria Tackett, Ricky Tackett, Judy Hall and Jonathan Hall, Jamie Tackett to Ethel Johnson and Johnny Johnson, property location not listed.

Glenda Sue Thompson to Jennifer Thompson and Steven Thompson, property location not listed.

Geraldine Osborne to Karen Gynn Johnson and Harold Johnson, Jr., property located at Wheelwright.

Christmas clothing Give-Away for children

The Town Branch Church will hold its annual Christmas Give-Away on Friday, December 14 and Saturday, December 15.

New clothing and coats will be distributed to children attending the event.

The clothing will be available in sizes 4 through 7, with the coats being available in sizes 7 through 16.

The items will be distributed on both days from 10:00 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. at the Town Branch Church building on Town Branch Road, Prestonsburg.

The clothing has been made available to our area through TLC Ministries and the Rev. Carole Johnson. For more information, contact Tom Nelson at 886-3762, or 889-9286.



These area youngsters are pleased as punch with the new clothing they received from TLC Ministries and the Town Branch Church. Another clothing give-away will take place today and tomorrow at the church from 10 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. each day. This smiling bunch are from left to right: Malissa Walker, Beth Gilsprap, Ashley Crace and Morris Gilsprap.

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 "See You at the Shack" Week's Winner: Each caller who guesses correctly will have their name entered in a drawing for a weekly prize.
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 Gussed Correctly Ron Chaffins
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 Offer expires one month after win.

Hey, Kids!
 Santa Claus is coming to Downtown Prestonsburg, to Hat Boxes and Gift Baskets Etc.
 He's making his list and checking it twice, so come in Saturday, Dec. 15th, between 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m., and let Santa know what you want for Christmas. Tell your mom and dad to bring their camera and take a picture of you with Santa.
 Remember, on Saturday, Dec. 15th, between 1:00 and 3:00, Santa will be at
Hat Boxes and Gift Baskets Etc
 127 East Court St., Downtown Prestonsburg (across from the New Courthouse)
 606-886-9720

Community Calendar

Subscribe and Save, Call 886-8506

Calendar items will be printed as space permits

Editor's note: Due to rising costs and space limitations we will no longer be accepting items for our Community Calendar that contain a revenue-producing nature as of

Monday, October 8. If your organization is holding a fundraising event, please contact our classified or advertising departments to announce your event. *The Floyd County Times*

will continue its practice of posting meeting dates and public service announcements, up to seven lines of type. These submissions must be received in writing no later than 5 p.m. Monday for Wednesday's publication, and 5 p.m. Wednesday for Friday's publication. Items may not be taken over the telephone. *Community Calendar* items are subject to editing according to space limitations.

Obituaries

Jerry M. Hackworth

Jerry M. Hackworth, age 86, of Prestonsburg, Ky., passed away Thursday, December 13, 2001, at the Prestonsburg Health Care Center, Prestonsburg, Ky., after an extended illness.

He was born August 29, 1915 at Prestonsburg, Ky., the son of the late Harry and Della (Stephens) Hackworth. He was married to Mae (Johnson) Hackworth who precedes him in death.

A coal miner having worked at Princess Elkhorn Coal Co., at David, Ky. He is survived by two sons and one daughter, Mr. Joe Hackworth of High Point, N.C., Mr. Forrest Hackworth of Raceland, Ky., and Mrs. Dianna Hackworth of Prestonsburg, Ky.

Graveside service will be conducted Saturday, December 15, 2001 at 2 p.m. at the Johnson Family Cemetery at Blue River, Ky.

Burial will be in the Johnson Family Cemetery at Blue River, Ky. Officiating minister will be his son, Joe Hackworth.

Friends may call at Burke Funeral Home, Prestonsburg, Ky., after 6 p.m. Thursday evening. All arrangements by Burke Funeral Home, Prestonsburg, Ky.

(Paid obituary)

Enid Netherly Alexander

Enid Netherly Alexander, age 90, passed away on Thursday, December 13, 2001, at Riverview Health Care Center following an extended illness.

Born on May 25, 1911, in Glencian, Wolfe County, Ky., she was the daughter of Steve Netherly and Lula Potts Netherly. She was a homemaker. She was a Red Cross worker during World War II.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Willard Alexander and two great-grandchildren.

She is survived by two sons, Darrell "Bud" Alexander, Prestonsburg, Ky., and Kendall "Jeep" Alexander, Wooster, OH; two daughters, Mildred Horn, Paintsville, Ky., and Ruby Sammons, Prestonsburg, Ky.; nine grandchildren, and 11 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services for Enid Netherly Alexander will be held Saturday, December 15, 2001, at 12:00 p.m., at the Carter Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. George Love officiating. Burial will be at Walker Horn Cemetery, Paintsville, Ky., under the direction of Carter Funeral Home.

Visitation will be held on Friday from 5 p.m. until 9 p.m. at the funeral home.

In lieu of flowers, contributions suggested to the Floyd County Emergency and Rescue Squad.

(Paid obituary)

Roger Lee Ray

Roger Lee Ray, age 53, of Beaver, Ky., passed away Tuesday, December 11, 2001, at his residence. He was born May 12, 1948, in Beaver, Ky., the son of the late Edgar Ray and Pearl Reynolds Ray.

Mr. Ray was a coal miner. Survivors include four brothers, Gary Lee Ray, Danny Keith Ray, Jimmy Dean Ray, and Edgar Allen Ray, all of Beaver, Ky.; four sisters, Lucille Ray, Anna Gail Ray, Linda Kay Ray, and Dylene Ray, all of Beaver, Ky.; and two nephews, Joshua Dean Ray and Nathaniel D. Ray, both of Beaver, Ky.

Funeral services for Roger Lee Ray will be conducted today, December 14, 2001, at 11:00 a.m., at the Samaria Regular Baptist Church, Teaberry, Ky., with the Regular Baptist ministers officiating.

Burial will follow in the Joe Reynolds Cemetery, Beaver, Ky., under the professional care of the Hall Funeral Home, Martin, Kentucky.

Visitation was held at the church.

(Paid obituary)

Lincoln Creech

Lincoln Creech, age 83, of Emmalena, Ky., died Wednesday, December 12, 2001, following a brief illness. Born on November 3, 1918, at Talcum, Ky., he was the son of the late Sam and Lettie Fugate Creech. He was a retired farmer.

He is survived by his wife, Polly Combs Creech; two sons, Sammy Lincoln Creech, of Portage, Indiana and Ralph Creech, of Emmalena, Ky.; two daughters, Nannie Joyce Patrick, of Emmalena, Ky., and Cathiena Patrick, of Dahlgoega, Georgia; two brothers, Logan Creech and Bennett Creech, both of Portage, Indiana; five sisters, Bessie Browning and Edna Bratton, both of Lexington, Ky., Iva Everidge, of Fisty, Ky., Dixie Mae Caudill, of Indiana, and Edith Ritchie, of Floyd County, Ky.; 14 grandchildren and 19 great-grandchildren.

In addition to his parents; he was preceded in death by two sisters, One infant sister and Bertha Williams.

Funeral services will be conducted Saturday, December 15, 2001, at 1:00 p.m. at the Maggie Memorial Old Regular Baptist Church, Emmalena, Ky., with the clergyman Silas Williams officiating. Burial will be in the Combs Cemetery, Emmalena, Ky., under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, Martin, Ky.

Visitation will be at the Maggie Memorial Old Regular Baptist Church.

(Paid obituary)

Sedge Hicks Sr.

Sedge Hicks Sr., age 75, of Garrett, Ky., husband of Sarah Whitaker Hicks, passed away Tuesday, December 11, 2001, at the Kindred Hospital, Louisville, Ky., following an extended illness. He was born September 9, 1926, in Hippo, Ky., the son of the late Joseph Hicks and Maudie Bailey Hicks. Mr. Hicks was a retired transportation worker for the Indiana State Highway Department, and a member of the Salt Lick Community Church, Hueysville, Ky. Mr. Hicks was a firm believer and supporter of education and educational processes.

In addition to his wife, Sarah, he is survived by one son, Sedge Hicks Jr., Butler, IN; three daughters, Billie M. O'Quinn and Maudie Sexton, both of Garrett, Ky., and Betty Blomeke, Waterloo, IN; two brothers, Monroe Hicks, Plymouth, OH, Cecil Hicks, Lima, OH; two sisters, Cynthia Gillette, Fort Meyers, FL, Jeanette Bailey, Plymouth, OH; and ten grandchildren, Tim Blomeke, Nick Blomeke, Robby Sexton, Michael Sexton, Jason Hicks, Brian Hicks, Adam Hicks, Kevin O'Quinn, Kyle O'Quinn, and Morgan Sexton.

Mr. Hicks was preceded in death by one grandchild, Steve Blomeke.

Funeral services for Sedge Hicks Sr. will be conducted today, December 14, 2001, at 11:00 a.m., at the Hall Funeral Home Chapel, Martin, Ky., with Jeff Prater and Chester Varney, clergymen, officiating.

Burial will follow in the Hicks Cemetery, Hippo, Ky., under the professional care of the Hall Funeral Home, Martin, Kentucky.

Visitation was at the funeral home, with special singing.

Velma Mae Hall



Velma Mae Hall, 66, of Kite, Ky., formerly of Teaberry, Ky., died Tuesday, Dec. 4, at the Knott County Nursing Home, following an extended illness.

Born May 24, 1935, in Floyd County, she was a daughter of the (late) Frank Hall and the (late) Beatrice McPeck Hall.

Survivors include a daughter, and son-in-law, Thelma Lea and Earl Dana Thornsberry, of Kite, Ky.; two granddaughters, Kayla Thornsberry and Kelly Bryant; one great-grandchild, Isaiah, all of Kite; four brothers, Bill McPeck of Monroe, Mich., Buddy Hall of McDowell, Ky., Emmitt Hall of Xenia, OH., and Lloyd H. Hall of Teaberry, Ky.; five sisters, Magdeline Tackett of Riverview Mich., Ruby Mitchell of Beaver Creek, Ohio, Goldie Hamilton of Betsy Layne, Ky., Ruth Irene Little of Beaver, Ky., and Geraldine Born of Miamisburg, OH; and a host of nieces and nephews and friends who will mourn her passing.

Funeral services were conducted by Ralph Hall at the Church of God of Prophecy at Ligon, Ky., on Friday, December 7. Burial was in the Frank Hamilton cemetery at Teaberry, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

And I said, oh that I had wings like a dove! for then would I fly away, and be at rest. —Psalm 55:6

(paid obituary)

Senior Citizen Holiday

Covered dish dinner, live entertainment, games, gift exchange, and door prizes all at the Prestonsburg Senior Citizens Center, located at Archer Park, on December 21, beginning at 10:00 a.m. For more information, call Ruth Owens or Avanel Hicks at 886-6588.

Earn college credits before graduation

Don't let the lack of a high school diploma keep you from earning your college degree or diploma. Students who do not have a high school diploma or GED may still qualify for financial aid while attending college level courses. Contact Jennifer Leedy at Mayo Technical College for more information. 789-5321 extension 291.

Middle Creek Vol. Fire Dept. Annual Christmas project

When: December 12, 14, 17 and 19
Time: 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Where: Middle Creek Vol. Fire Dept.
Free used toys, household items and clothing.
Everyone Welcome
Merry Christmas
Call: 606-0017 or 886-3606

F.C. Conservation meeting

The Floyd County Conservation District will hold their regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, December 18th at 10 a.m. at the District Office located on Mayo Branch of Brandyke. The public is welcome to attend. For more information please call 889-9800 or email conserve@eastky.net

County Extension Meet

The Floyd County Extension Council and District Board will meet on Tuesday, Dec. 18, at 5:30 p.m. Council officers will meet at 5:00 p.m. Light refreshments will be served.

Toys for Tots drop-off center

The Carl D. Perkins Job Corps Center will be participating in the 2001 "Toys For Tots" program. The "Toys For Tots" program is sponsored by the U.S. Marine Corps and provides toys for needy children at Christmas. Anyone who would like to contribute may bring toys to the Job Corps Center during normal business hours, 8:00 a.m. through 4:30 p.m., Monday - Friday. Toys should be new and unwrapped. All toys must be received by December 11, 2001. For more information, please call Teresa Carroll at (606) 886-0077.

(See CALENDAR, page eight)

Card of Thanks

The family of Beulah Mathews would like to extend their appreciation to all their friends, neighbors, and loved ones who helped comfort them during their time of sorrow. Thanks to all that sent food, flowers, prayers, or spoke comforting words. A special thanks to members of the Jehovah's Witnesses Congregation and to Minister Heiko Giese for his kind words; to the Floyd County Sheriff's Department for traffic control; and for the kind caring professional service provided by the staff at Hall Funeral Home.

The Family of Beulah Mathews

COUPON

FREE HEARING TESTS

will be given in FLOYD COUNTY by

**Belton® HEARING AID CENTER
ARCHER CLINIC**

Archer Clinic
Room 204, Prestonsburg, KY

THURSDAY, December 20, 9 AM TO NOON

Call Toll Free 1-800-634-5265 for an appointment.

The tests will be given by a Licensed Hearing Aid Specialist. Anyone who has trouble hearing or understanding conversation is invited to have a FREE hearing test to see if this problem can be helped! Bring this coupon with you for your FREE HEARING TEST, a \$75.00 value. UMWA • UAW • ARMCO, AND ALL OTHER INSURANCE PROVIDERS WALK-INS WELCOME

Taylor Chapel Community Church

Formaly the Old Price Food Service Building, located 1 quarter mile alone Worldwide Equipment Rt 1428.

Sunday Bible Study 10 a.m.
Sunday Morning Service 11 a.m.
Sunday Evening 6:30 p.m.
Thursday Bible Study 6:30 p.m.

Special Singing December 16th
with Buddy Hubbard
During evening service
Everyone Welcome

Come Worship with Us
Pastor Kenny Vanderpool



Come Join Us 2001 PHS Blackcats Football

Community Recognition Service

Sunday, December 16
11:00 a.m.

at the
FIRST CHURCH OF GOD

202 UNIVERSITY DRIVE

(behind Dairy Queen)

Pastor

Steven V. Williams

Call 886-3165 for transportation



Card of Thanks

The family of Wade Frasure would like to extend their appreciation to all those friends, neighbors, and loved ones who helped comfort them during their time of sorrow. Thanks to all those who sent food, flowers, prayers, or spoke comforting words. A special thanks to the Old Little Rosa Church and McDowell First Baptist Church for their comforting words. Also, thanks to the ARH Hospital, and the Nelson Frazier Funeral Home for their kind and professional service.

The Family of Wade Frasure

Card of Thanks

Perhaps you sent a lovely care, of sat quietly in a chair,
Perhaps you sent a floral piece, if so we saw it there.
Perhaps you spoke the kindest words, as any friend could say,
Perhaps you were not there at all, just thought of us that day.
Whatever you did to console our hearts,
We thank you so much, whatever the part.

Many thanks to everyone, May God bless you.
Merry Christmas to all. We love you.

THE FAMILY OF VELMA MAE HALL

Come, go
back to the
night when
Jesus was
born in
Bethlehem.



Experience the
wonder of
that special
night from the
comfort of
your own car.

Live Drive-through Nativity

CHRIST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
PARKING LOT, 105 METHODIST LANE, ALLEN, KY.
DECEMBER 15th and 16th, 2001, from 6:00 p.m. till 9:00 p.m.
SEVEN SCENES

For additional information, call 874-2344 — Carol Jo May-Coordinator

This is Christ United Methodist Church's Christmas Gift To The Community and Floyd County Area. Come share with us!

Also special invitation to attend our
Choir's Christmas Cantata, Directed by Doug Smith
On Sunday, December 23, at 11 a.m.;

And Our Christmas Eve Candlelight Service on December 24th, 11 p.m.

Calendar

Continued from p7

Love Line Christmas donations

Bring toys or food to the following locations: John Gray Pontiac, Paintsville, 606-297-4066; Gloryland Church, Pastor Jim Riddle, 270-622-5266. Contact "LoveLine Outreach" at 606-889-9056 from 8 a.m. until 10 p.m., or fax to: 606-889-9092, or write to: 57 Hopson Street, Auxier, KY.

Dinners - Dec. 13, at 6 p.m. Pot luck. The Dec. 13 dinner will include caroling and a special message from Father Ralph Beiting.

Call 285-0539 for more information. Also, learning center facilities may be rented for holiday parties, receptions, etc. Call Dan or Beth for more information.

Mud Creek Clinic

A social security representative will be at the Mud Creek Clinic, Grethel, each Tuesday (except holidays) throughout

Nov., and Dec. This representative will assist in filing retirement and disability claims, and survivors benefits, in addition to SSI, Black Lung, and accepting applications for social security numbers.

Roadie's hosts Otter Creek Santa Donations

"Roadie's" will serve as the drop-off point for donations to the Otter Creek Correctional Center's 2001 "Santa's Sleigh" program. Old or broken toys may be dropped off at the Hi Hat restaurant from now until

December 15. The toys will be taken to the correctional facility where inmates will repair them. They will then be handed out to needy community children. For more information, call Gary or Loretta Tackett at 606-377-6700. All donations will be greatly appreciated.

PHS grads of 1992 plan reunion

The 1992 graduates of Prestonsburg High School are now planning their 10th reunion. Phone numbers and addresses of all graduates are

needed. Please contact Alan Derossett at (606) 874-9514.

Quilt Guild to meet

The Nimble Thimble Quilt Guild meets on the first Wednesday of each month at the Floyd County Co-op Extension office. New membership is encouraged. Hand quilting techniques taught and shared, new ideas welcomed. Bring: Two - 18" sq. muslin; batting, hoop, needle, thimble, thread, and scissors. More info. call 886-2668.

Auxier Lifetime Learning Center

G.E.D. classes - FREE - each Thursday, 1 to 4 p.m. For more information, call 886-0709.

FREE study hour available to all elementary and high school students. Hours 4:30 to 5:30 each Tuesday and Thursday. Gym time allowed after completion of homework. Tutors available.

Housing assistance in Wayland area

HOMES Inc. has opened an office in the Wayland Community Center to assist low income persons in the Right and Left Beaver areas with housing needs. Nelson Hopkins is in the office on Wednesdays from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. to help persons who need repairs on their existing homes or with securing new housing. Area persons may call 358-9473 on Wednesdays to speak with Hopkins or leave a message on other days. Or they may call the HOMES Inc. headquarters in Neon, toll-free, at 1-877-271-1791, ext. 10.

Attention Veterans!

The Kentucky Dept. of Veterans Affairs has moved their veterans field representative office from the Prestonsburg Courthouse to the Kentucky National Guard Armory on Rt. 321 North, just outside of Prestonsburg. Services remain free of charge and phone number remains the same—(606) 886-7920.

SHARE group meeting

A Highlands SHARE Pregnancy & Infant Loss support group meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 18, from 7:00pm until 9:00pm in the Floyd Room at Highlands Regional Medical Center. "Coping with the Holidays" will be the topic discussed. Refreshments will be served. For more info, contact Jeanie O'Bryan at 886-7468.

■ Laryngectomy Support Group — Meets every 3rd Thursday of each month at Highlands Regional Medical Center, Medical Office Building, meeting room B. Further info, call Connie Clifton, 886-2995.

■ Fibromyalgia Support Group—Meets 1st Tuesday of each month, at 6 p.m., at the Betsy Layne Senior Citizens Building on Pike-Floyd Hollow Road, just above the Betsy Layne Fire Dept. For more info, call Sharon at 478-5224, or Phyllis at 874-2769.

PUBLIC NOTICE ORDINANCE #01-008 Amendment #6

Second reading of a proposed ordinance amending The Floyd County Budget for Fiscal Year 2001-2002, to include unbudgeted receipts from FEMA reimbursement, and increasing expenditures in the area of road materials, will be held December 21, 2001, at the hour of 10:00 a.m., in the courtroom of the Floyd County Courthouse. A copy of the proposed ordinance with full text is available for public inspection at the office of the County Judge/Executive during normal business hours.

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that a petition has been filed with the Floyd County Fiscal Court requesting that Brandy Keg Church Road, located at Corn Fork, and the Davis Road, located at Prater Creek, be discontinued. The petition requesting discontinuance of these roadways are on file for review by any interested party, at the Office of the Floyd County Judge/Executive, located on the Second Floor of the old Floyd County Courthouse, 149 South Central Avenue, Suite 9, Prestonsburg, Kentucky. A hearing regarding discontinuance of these roadways in question will be conducted on December 21, 2001, immediately following the regular meeting of the Floyd County Fiscal Court, scheduled for December 21, 2001, at 10:00 a.m., in the Floyd County Fiscal Courtroom, located on the Second Floor of the old Floyd County Courthouse, 149 South Central Avenue, Prestonsburg, Kentucky.

Seasons Greetings From Fletcher & Halls

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0.0% Financing & \$1000 Cash Back!

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0.0% & \$1500 Financing & Cash Back On Any of These Models in Stock!

Special Financing subject to credit approval thru GMAC. Term affects rate. Not responsible for typographic errors.

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"Where Customer Satisfaction Makes Us The Market Leader!"

Mascots & Nicknames

by RICK BENTLEY
TIMES COLUMNIST

One of my favorite columns came a couple of years ago when we spent part of a Sunday talking about mascots.

All mascots aren't winners. Most, in fact, are terribly repetitive. I mean, how many schools can be the Tigers or Eagles? Some schools

have hit for extra bases, however.

Occasionally, someone will hit a home run. My favorite college nickname comes from California-Santa Cruz; they are the mighty, the proud, the Banana Slugs. Some go for the "nice ring" nickname. In Baltimore, Md., we find the Goucher Gofers. Then there's the Colorado School of Mines Orediggers.

Some nicknames are downright criminal. Please consider the University of Idaho Vandals.

Two good ones come from the nation's northeast, where we can find CUNY

(See BENTLEY, page two)

Commentary

A Hoosier in Texas; A Texan in Indiana?

by BILLY REED
TIMES COLUMNIST

A sports equipment sales representative recently claimed that Texas Tech gear is outselling Indiana University gear in the

Hoosier state, even in Bloomington. If true, that indicates that a lot of Hoosiers still are carrying the torch for

Coach-in-Exile Bob Knight, who's now the hottest thing to hit Lubbock, Tex., since Buddy Holly became a major rock-n-roll star in the mid-1950s.

During his 29-year reign in Bloomington, Knight became the most compelling

(See REED, page three)

57th District

Golden Eagles score OT win over Sheldon Clark

TIMES STAFF REPORT

Coach Les Trimble's Johnson Central Golden Eagles ventured into hostile territory on Tuesday night as they traveled to Martin County to take on the Sheldon Clark Cardinals.

The Golden Eagles led by six with a minute to go in regulation, but two turnovers by the Golden Eagles and a missed shot, enabled Sheldon Clark to tie the score, forcing the game to overtime. The end result would be a thrilling 58-57 Johnson Central win.

In the overtime period, the lead went back and forth. Sheldon Clark's Adam Brown hit a three-point goal to give the Cards a one-point lead with 13 seconds remaining in the OT period. Chris Hurt then helped counter for the Golden Eagles by inbounding the ball into Dock Johnson after a timeout. Johnson took two dribbles, split the defenders on the right side under pressure from Brown and Dave Stafford and banked the ball

(See EAGLES, page two)

FLOYD COUNTY Sports

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- ▶ Classifieds • B6

Friday

December 14, 2001

SECTION • B

Sports Editor: Steve LeMaster

Phone: (606) 688-8506
Email: sports@floydcountytimes.com

www.floydcountytimes.com

Raiders out of website polls

TIMES STAFF REPORT

After beginning the season with a 2-2 worksheet, the South Floyd Raiders have been dropped from the BluegrassPreps.com website Top 20 poll. The Raiders are also absent from the All 'A' poll. Both polls were released on Tuesday.

South Floyd started the season ranked No. 25, coming off a season

in which it captured a 15th Region title - the first in school history. The Raiders entered the season a favorite to repeat as champions.

North Hardin holds the No. 1 spot in the overall poll with Lexington Catholic, Ballard, Pleasure Ridge Park and Male rounding out the top-five. No area team, and no team from the 13th, 14th or 15th regions managed to

crack the poll. 13th Region power Clay County was previously ranked in the poll. Ashland, a 16th Region team, is ranked No. 9. The site lists Rose Hill, another 16th Region team, as a one-of others to watch.

The All 'A' Top 10 has Glasgow first, followed by Corbin.


(See POLLS, page two)



photo by Jamie Howell


P'burg's Heather White (40) put up a shot against a Knott County Central defender in action Monday night. The Ladycats fell, 70-61.

**Allen Central
REBELS**



NATURAL BORN RIVALS

**South Floyd
RAIDERS**



South Floyd teams hit road to face Allen Central squads

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

15th Region Champions. 15th Region Class 'A' Champions. For the South Floyd Raiders and Allen Central Runnin' Rebels, championships seem to come with the territory. Left Beaver and Right Beaver territories.

South Floyd's Raiders and Lady Raiders will travel to Allen Central tonight. Both schools met various times last season with all four teams claiming at least one victory over the other.

Familiar faces gone from last year's South Floyd boys team are point guard John Meade, and forward Josh Newman. More than South Floyd's departures are Allen Central's. Gone from Allen Central from last season are four starters. And those four starters

have left a hole in this year's Allen Central team. Point guard Larry Mullins is missed but freshman Nathan

"They (Allen Central) lost four starters and their point guard, Larry Mullins, who I considered the motor of their team," said Webb. "He really pushed the basketball and he's been hard for them to replace. I think his graduating is the biggest difference in their team. He really made them go."

Lafferty has stepped in to take over the big slack left. Rodney Scott, Travis Francis and Jeremy Hayers, a big scor-

er, are also gone from last year's Allen Central team that captured a 15th Region All 'A' championship.

The Runnin' Rebels are 1-2 on the season. Coach Henry Webb's Raiders are 2-2 after whipping up on Millard and Piarist. Both Raider wins came by way of huge margins.

Tyler Hall, Michael Hall and Rusty Tackett lead South Floyd in scoring, Charles Ray, Joe Skeans, and a host of others are also contributing for South Floyd early on.

Webb and his South Floyd team will look to get a win in the books when the two county rivals meet up. Allen Central took last year's first meeting between the two teams 77-67. The Raiders dropped the second meeting 63-61 before coming back to beat the

(See RIVALS, page two)

The Floyd County Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation will hold its next meeting in January. The meeting will be held Jan. 3, 2002, 7 p.m. at the Middlecreek Sportsman Club Fire Department. For more information on the upcoming meeting, call either Mark Wallace at 358-4908 or Johnny Lafferty at 874-9884.



Bobcat Basketball...

Betsy Layne drops close contest to Belfry

"The kids are working hard and if they keep doing that we can be a good team by the end of the year,"

- said Rose

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

Betsy Layne traveled to Belfry Tuesday night and came away with a 67-62 loss. Despite leading 36-33 at the half, the Bobcats couldn't hold on.

Visiting Betsy Layne trailed Belfry 17-16 at the end of one quarter but outscored its host 20-16 in the second quarter to score the win. Both teams played even (14-14) in the third quarter before the Pirates set their ship assail in the final period, outscoring the

Bobcats 20-12 en route to the five-point win.

Boo Hager led the way for Belfry with a game-high 28 points. Paul Howard added 11 points and Adam Reed scored 10 to help the Pirate effort. Daniel Wright tossed in six points for Belfry.

Jeremy Daniels shared game-high honors with Hager as he also netted 28 points. Daniels was 14-of-15 from the field. He also recorded seven blocks and pulled down nine rebounds. Senior point guard Wes Senters and Brent Hamilton each had 10 points in the defeat. Brian Roberts flipped in eight points for the Bobcats.

Betsy Layne Coach Brent Rose saw his team do a lot of good things in the Belfry game. "We had a much improved defensive effort, with the exception of Hager," said Rose.



Wes Senters

(See BELFRY, page two)

Roundball Spotlight

Whitney Lykens
School: Betsy Layne
Coach: Cassandra Akers
Position: G/F
Class: Sophomore



(See EAGLES, page two)

Pikeville College...

Inactive Bears move up in poll

TIMES STAFF REPORT

The Pikeville College Bears will enter the second half of the season ranked 21st in the NAIA Div. I poll.

The final poll of the calendar year was released Tuesday, with Pikeville College moving up four slots despite not playing since last week's ratings release. The athletics department took the week off as final exams were given. The next rating will be released on Tuesday, Jan. 8, 2002.

Pikeville is 9-2 after the win over Central State Tuesday night. The Marauders are currently ranked 35th in the poll. Lee (Tenn.) University held onto the top spot, getting six of the 12 first-place votes. Unbeaten Georgetown (11-0) is second again, having received one vote as the nation's top team.

The shakeups begin there. Oklahoma Baptist remained unbeaten at 10-0 yet relinquished its No. 3 rating to Biola (Calif.), another 10-0 squad that moved up three slots. OBU is fourth. Spring Hill (Ala.) is fifth.

Cumberland (Ky.) College moved up two spots to No. 12. Two other MSC teams - Cumberland (Tenn.) University and Lindsey Wilson College - got votes, but didn't make the Top 25.

Regular season...

Bears need OT to beat Central State

TIMES STAFF REPORT

Pikeville College placed four players in double figures in the scoring column en route to an 82-79 win over Central State (Ohio) University Tuesday night.

Pikeville (9-2), ranked 21st in NAIA Div. I, had several opportunities to win the game in regulation, but hit only 6-of-13 from the free-throw line in the second half.

Central State (8-6) led 69-67 as time wound down in regulation. Pikeville ran a play intended for All-American candidate Cedric Taylor, but when

the Marauders collapsed around him, sophomore Greg Davis drove the lane and flipped in a layup with five seconds remaining.

However, he missed the free-throw, sending the game to overtime.

But, junior Michael Thomas kicked his game into a higher gear, scoring four of the Bears first six points in overtime and getting the assist on the other basket to push Pikeville ahead. Despite hitting only 9-of-16 from the line in the extra frame, the Bears held on for the win.

Taylor, a senior from Houston, had 15 points, 11 rebounds and blocked four shots.

Thomas and Joey Mirus had 14 markers each. Thomas grabbed 10 rebounds while Mirus had seven.

Davis came off the bench to account for 11.

Junior Rodney Jones was the

(See BEARS, page two)



Greg Davis

Sports in Kentucky...

Prince barrage aside, Kentucky is not nearly ready for Dookies

by BOB WATKINS
TIMES COLUMNIST

Tayshaun Prince's Jack Givens and Rex Chapman-like fusillade against North Carolina aside, 10th ranked Kentucky still isn't



ready for prime time and No. 1 ranked Duke next week. For reasons that remain a mys-

tery, Kentucky teams continue to struggle early each season even while refitted Duke opened its season reeling off nine victories against solid opponents.

The two meet Dec. 18 in New Jersey and right now, with Kentucky State as a last prep, UK isn't ready for the Dookies. Givens was spectacular against Duke in the 1978 NCAA finals and freshman Chapman rained threes on Louisville in 1986 at Freedom Hall.

Blevins 'N Hawkins is PC

As it plays out, Tubby's point-guard platoon may be just the right mix.

Senior J.P. Blevins appears to get Tubby treatment reminiscent of son Saul while Cliff Hawkins is unhappy coming off the bench.

Net result?

Blevins provides a steady if unspectacular hand setting the offense and earns rewards for fighting through picks and diving after loose balls. Hawkins, determined to win the starting job, gives the team flash, dash, penetration and gets teammates moving. Competition creates PC. Perfect combination.



J.P. Blevins

Morriss' Christmas gift

With big-money skeptics at the door wanting something new, the University of

Kentucky football coach Guy Morriss is guaranteed continued

occupancy of his mahogany-walled office through 2002. A position that includes radio and television shows, endorsements, blue chip benefits and enough perks to make him the envy of everyone this side of the Smith boys. Tubby, John L. and Chuck. (just kidding).

(See SPORTS, page three)

Pikeville bowlers ranked nationally

TIMES STAFF REPORT

Just like Div. I basketball or football, the sport of collegiate bowling has two polls — one for coaches, the other for writers.

The media has chimed in for the final time this season, and again, it is good news for Pikeville College athletes. The first of three polls released by the Bowling Writers Association of America was released this week, with one Pikeville team in the Top 10 and the other in the Top 20.

The women's team is ranked seventh by the BWAA, while the men check in at No. 18.

"we're very proud of this ranking because the Writer's Poll is so prestigious," said Ron Damron, coach of the bowling team. "It's the older of the two polls and means a tremendous amount to be considered by them. This says a lot of good things about the men and women in our program."

Of the Top 20 teams, six are new to the poll from last year's final rating. Pikeville is the

highest of the debuting teams. Indiana State is atop the poll, followed closely by Morehead State University, Nebraska, Arizona State and Central Missouri State round out the top five.

Wichita State University is sixth, followed by Pikeville and Sacred Heart (Conn.) University, Florida State and Shippensburg (Penn.) University complete the top 10.

In the men's poll, Pikeville College checks in at No. 18. One of the five new teams to the poll, the Bears are behind Indiana University in the poll.

Western Illinois is No. 1 followed by Saginaw Valley State (Mich.), Lindenwood (Mo.), Purdue and Michigan State in the top five. Other well-known institutions ranked ahead of Pikeville includes St. John's (6), Arizona State (7), Morehead State (8), Nebraska (9), Florida State (11) and Penn State (13).

The next Writer's Poll will be released in February, with the final rating coming out in March.

Bears

Continued from p1

game's leading scorer, hitting 4-of-8 from the arc to finish with 26. Ron Driver had 16 and Malcolm Fields 12. Driver and Fields had seven rebounds each, as the Marauders edged out the rebounding advantage 51-50. Pikeville is now on

Christmas break and will return to action on Dec. 29 when it hosts World Harvest (Ohio) College at 4 p.m.

Officials for Tuesday night's game were Darrell Smith, Marvin Moore and John Darrow.

Eagles

Continued from p1

in with just two seconds remaining. Host Sheldon Clark called a timeout. Coming out of the timeout, Stafford received the inbound pass at midcourt, took one dribble, fired a long shot and missed. Brown gave the ball a tip-at the buzzer but it rimmed out, leaving Central with the win. For Central, Johnson, a senior, scored four of his team-high 22 points in the overtime. Brown led Sheldon Clark with 25 points. Justin Woods added eight

points for the Golden Eagles while Hurt added six.

Stafford finished with 11 points for Sheldon Clark. The win pushed Johnson Central's record to 3-4 on the season. The loss drops Sheldon Clark's record to 3-2.

Bentley

Continued from p1

Brooklyn Bridges, and travel to Henniker, N.H., to see the New England Pilgrims.

Apparently many troubled youths find their way to Amherst, Mass., where we have the Hampshire College Blacksheep.

Even at the college level, grammar is often not a point of emphasis. As an example, we offer Searcy, Ark., school Harding University Bisons.

Some institutions can't seem to make up their mind. One example is Haverford (Penn.) College, an NCAA Div. III school that goes by the Fords. And the Red Wave. And the Black Squirrels. Come on, at least stick to one color, please.

Some schools go from one extreme to the other. Consider Kaskaskia College, a community college in Centralia, Ill. The men's teams are the Blue Devils; the women are known as the Blue Angels.

Apparently John Carroll University of Ohio is not terribly popular among many in the coaching profession. I've heard many coaches cuss a Blue Streak.

Some mascots are true winners. In Williamstown, Mass., we have found the William College Purple Cows. Look out for that dung. Then there's the Mary Baldwin Fighting Squirrels of Staunton, Va.

If it's late October, you wouldn't be terribly thrilled to find the Ichabods of Washburn University in Topeka, Kan., on your schedule.

This has nothing to do with mascots, but what's up with Elizabeth City State University? Which is it, city or state?

There's something to be said for Evergreen State College in Olympia, Wash., although I'm not sure what it is. They are the Geoducks, which is apparently



photo by Jamie Howell

Megan Hyden (15) worked against a Knott County Central player.

Polls

Continued from p1

Frankfort, Jackson County and St. Henry as the first five. The second five lists teams in the following order — Covington Holy Cross, Mayfield, Hazard, seventh-grader O.J. Mayo-led Rose Hill and Danville.

BluegrassPreps Top 20 Rankings

1. North Hardin
2. Lexington Catholic
3. Ballard
4. Pleasure Ridge Park
5. Male
6. Scott County
7. Paducah Tilghman
8. Highlands
9. Ashland
10. East Jessamine
11. Butler
12. Covington Catholic
13. Glasgow
14. Russellville
15. Shelby County
16. Muhlenburg North
17. Apollo
18. Moore

19. Bullitt East
 20. Graves County
- Others to watch:
- Larue County, Hopkins County Central, Saint Xavier, Corbin, Jackson County, Mason County, Frankfort, Bullitt Central, Clay County, Bowling Green, Webster, County, Grayson County, Clark County, Montgomery County, Christian County, Louisville Christian Academy, West Jessamine, Rose Hill, Oldham County, Dixie, Fleming County.

BluegrassPreps All 'A' Rankings

1. Glasgow
2. Corbin
3. Frankfort
4. Jackson Co
5. St. Henry
6. Covington Holy Cross
7. Mayfield
8. Hazard
9. Rose Hill
10. Danville

Belfry

Continued from p1

"He is an outstanding player and he found ways to score against us."

Betsy Layne had 19 turnovers in the Belfry game. Six of the 19 turnovers came in the last two minutes of the game.

"The kids are working hard and if they keep doing that we can be a good team by the end of the year," said Rose. "I have

to be patient and keep teaching. It is early and we are nowhere near ready to throw in the towel."

The win evened Belfry's record at 1-1 on the season. The loss dropped Betsy Layne to 1-3.

Next up for Betsy Layne is a date tonight in Martin against Piarist. The Knights are winless on the season.

Athletes of the Week



Justin Allen, Prestonsburg, Junior,
19 points vs. Magoffin County



Megan Ousley, South Floyd, Sophomore
13 points, 11 steals, 10 assists vs. Piarist



Dairy Queen SPORTS FAN OF THE WEEK



If you are the sports fan circled here... it's your lucky day!

Bring this photo to The Floyd County Times office at 263 South Central Avenue (down the street from the courthouse) to claim your Gift Certificate, which will entitle you to a free 8-inch ice cream cake of your choice, redeemable at DAIRY QUEEN OF PRESTONSBURG, and a SPORTS FAN OF THE WEEK T-SHIRT.

Rivals

Continued from p1

Rebels twice in the postseason. The first win came in the 58th District championship game and the second came in the 15th Region finals.

"They (Allen Central) lost four starters and their point guard, Larry Mullins, who I considered the motor of their team," said Webb. "He really pushed the basketball and he's been hard for them to replace. I think his graduating is the biggest difference in their team. He really made them go."

South Floyd's first two games of the season included a sizable loss to Bates Creek and a one-point setback to Dunbar. The last two games have been significantly different for the Raiders. "We've picked our overall intensity up a lot," said Webb. And Michael (Hall) and Rusty (Tackett) are both getting back to where they need to be."

Tackett and Michael Hall have both put up nice numbers in the past two games.

Allen Central's only win of the season came in the season-opener against Feds Creek. The Rebels have since dropped back-to-back games to Pike County Central and Knott County Central.

Girls action

The South Floyd Raiders will continue defense of their 58th District title tonight when they visit Coach Cindy Halbert's Allen Central Lady Rebels. South Floyd recorded its first-ever district win last season.

Tonight's girls game will feature several new faces. Allen Central features sophomore point guard Terri Mullins and the talented freshmen duo of Megan Harris and Becky Thomas while Sophomores Ashley Johnson and Megan Ousley play key roles for South Floyd. The girls game gets underway at 6 p.m. The boys game will follow at 7:30.

Reed

Continued from p1

figure in college basketball. Fans across America either loved him or loathed him. The good Knight won championships, graduated his players, and quietly performed untold acts of generosity. The bad Knight regularly was involved in one controversy or another, most of which involved

his volcanic temper. But one headline you never saw during Knight's era was the one that appeared in last Sunday's Courier-Journal: "Three IU players are visited by NCAA." Apparently acting upon an anonymous tip (no, it didn't come out of Lubbock), an NCAA investigator made the short

trip from NCAA headquarters in Indianapolis to question Jared Jeffries, Jeff Newton, and George Leach about their apartments and cars. The players denied that a booster was providing them with the illegal benefits. "I was shocked," Leach told the

C-J. "But I wasn't nervous because I knew we didn't do anything wrong." But you can bet that a lot of IU fans were nervous. Jeffries, Leach, and Newton all are starters for a 6-2 Hoosiers team that's ranked No. 24 in the latest coaches' poll and appears poised to make a serious

run at the Big Ten championship. The Hoosiers appear good enough to give Kentucky all it can handle when they meet on Saturday, Dec. 22, in the RCA Dome. In last Saturday's 74-61 victory over a good Ball State team, the trio accounted for 32 points and 20 rebounds. In the absence of 6-foot-10 Kirk Haston, who bypassed his senior year for the NBA, the Hoosiers couldn't afford to lose any of the three.

When a scandal explodes, the buck always stops at the head coach's desk. In the late 1980s, Eddie Sutton claimed he didn't know anything about the rules violations in his program at Kentucky, yet he still was fired. And in the late '90s, Denny Crum made the same claim at Louisville. He kept his job, but was forced to make sweeping changes in his staff and compliance policy. Anytime a so-called "marquee" program is found guilty of violations, it hurts more than just the university. It hurts the entire sport. So it could only be hoped that nothing is amiss at Indiana, long one of college basketball's most successful and well-supported programs. You can bet there's only reason an NCAA investigator will show up in Lubbock during Knight's era there: A visit to the Buddy Holly museum.

Trimble County Basketball...

Raiders do the mauling in physical 80-54 blowout over Spencer County

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES
Note: Former Allen Central Coach Kevin Spurlock is the head coach of the Trimble County High School boys' basketball team.

Coming off Saturday's 84-43 loss to Garrard County, Trimble County wasn't in the best of spirits. After Tuesday's shellacking of Spencer County, the Raiders feel a little better. Trimble County played straight-up with the physical Bears, running-and-gunning to a lopsided 80-54 win in Bedford. The Raiders never trailed and after opening a double-digit lead in the second quarter, were never threatened. "I am just so proud of my boys," said first-year Trimble coach Kevin Spurlock. "After that tough loss on Saturday, we were a little down. But we had a great team meeting last night and when they came out in warm-ups I knew we had something." For the first time this season, the Raiders (2-2) got every element of their game up and going against Spencer. Defensively, Trimble's match-up zone was a nightmare for the

Bears while the Raiders, transition game produced point after point. Leading the charge were the two senior holdovers from last year's All 'A' Region championship team. Both guard Scott Simmons and forward Zak Ellis scored 23 points in the game while sophomore center Jeremy Goosey had 16 points and senior guard Jeremy Webster added 11. Playing back and forth for much of the first half, Trimble began playing the game Spencer County wanted and increased the tempo. That move led to scoring runs by the Raiders which eventually blew open the game. In the first, the Raiders ripped off a 10-0 run to take a 21-11 lead and increased that by as many 14 in the second quarter. The game remained tight until late in the fourth when Trimble pulled away. A 59-51 game with 5:07 left quickly turned into a 66-51 lead when Ellis hit his first 3-point shot of the game. A 14-0 run to close out the game made it a laugher. "It was a physical and intense game," Spurlock said. "I'm an offensive guy, I want to score points. And our defense played so well that we got points out of that. They took a lot of 3-pointers, but I had them hitting just 1-of-22. Every

time they took a shot, we were in their face." The physical play left several players on the floor dazed but suited the Raiders just fine. Ellis, a 6-foot-5 forward, took advantage of the play to showcase his talents. Along with scoring 23 points, Ellis was also there on several of his teammates shots and was a rebounding machine grabbing nine. "It was a very physical game," Ellis said. "Coach had a long talk with us after the loss on Saturday and told us we've got to pick it up. Tonight, we played like we're capable of playing and that's how we want to play all year. Our goal is to get back to Richmond (for the All 'A' Classic state finals) and this is how we need to play to get there." Ellis had two of the signature plays in the game, one good for the Raiders and one not so good. In the second quarter, Ellis was able to get ahead of the Bear defense and take a pass from Webster in front of the Spencer goal. After getting the Bear's Bruce James into the air, Ellis went strong to the goal to throw down a two-handed dunk. On the other end in the third quarter, Ellis found himself in the lane with the ball and exploded to

the basket, again going up for the slam. This time shot missed and Ellis was assessed a technical foul for hanging on the rim. "It was the first time I got one in front of the home crowd," said Ellis, a smile breaking out on his face. "I had been working on it all season. The second one, I just got a little too anxious. My legs weren't under me and didn't get much hang time." "I've been sending out fliers to colleges saying that Zak is a sleeper," Spurlock said. "Zak's problem is being mentally prepared. When he's in the game, he's one of the best players in our region. He is impossible to defend." Goosey pulled down 10 rebounds to complete to double-double for Trimble while Simmons had eight assists. Jeremy Hafer pulled down eight rebounds for the Raiders. The win evens Trimble's record at 2-2 with a tough game at home against South Oldham looming Friday (tonight). "This was a great team win. We got great leadership and the fan support was terrific," Spurlock said. "We'll need that Friday night against South Oldham. We need to have every bit of what we had tonight against them."

Sports

Chuck.) Rick Pitino is in a separate galaxy. Given its football track record, UK's commitment to Morris is cutting edge perfect. Facilities, staffing, pay bracket, even expectations. "Just compete in the SEC East without cheating." All Morris must do: See to it players, pass 12 semester hours a pop, keep their names off the police blotter, don't get caught cheating, and show progress enough toward competing in the SEC East to keep Commonwealth Stadium seats and suites filled. Considering Cam Cameron and Bob Davie teams won five games and the got the axe anyway, competing in the SEC East is reasonable. Almost charitable long as seats are full. It adds up to a one-year-deal with options. Option for Morris? A job. Option for the school - not having to buy out another coach's contract (Bill Curry) or buying him off (Hal Mumme).

ing...James Inman, Frankfort (E-mail): "I couldn't help but respond to what a Louisville reader (Jerry W. Dooley) had written in regards to Bob Watkins' comments (about) Rick Pitino. Mr. Dooley condemned Watkins for what he perceived as a bias with respect to comments (about) Pitino. Dooley's exact words: 'Your bias is showing...' Watkins made a practice to condemn and bash Pitino during his years as 'Da Coach' of the mighty Wildcats. It's funny, but I don't recall a UofL fan or (Dooley) condemning Watkins for his views during 'Da Coach's' UK years. Now that 'Eda Coach, is at UofL, Watkins' comments are, all of a sudden, an attempt to make him look bad. Truth be known, UofL fans agreed with Watkins, negative comments toward Pitino and probably participated in the bashing when he was at UK. The art of hypocrisy is amazing." ■ About (first?) female sited for football honors...Tom Major, Elizabethtown: "... Sarah Bell place-kicker for Webster County, was named all-state honorable mention in football. She also received first team all area honors in a listing I wonder if there has ever been another female athlete named to the all state football team? COMMENT: Contacted last week, a KHSAA spokesman could not confirm whether or not a female has ever received all-state honors in football. Bell may well be the first.

Thunderstruck by AC/DC or some other kick-butt tune. With the current music, I expect the Cats to come out in tights. The only way it could be worse is to play Dancing Queen by ABBA." Or, as another internet fan added, "Why not just introduce the

players, throw the ball up and play the game?" And so it goes. If you have a point-of-view you would like to share, write to bob Watkins, Sports In Ky., P.O. Box 124, Glendale, Ky. 42740. Or, e-mail Sptsinky@aol.com

South Floyd girls, girls dust Piarist

TIMES STAFF REPORT
The Piarist School's struggling ways in 58th District play continued Tuesday night as both the boys' and girls' basketball teams dropped games to South Floyd and by healthy margins. The South Floyd girls were the first to take the court in Martin Tuesday night. The Lady Raiders got out to a 19-4 first quarter lead and cruised to a 90-16 victory. The South Floyd boys followed up that performance by going out and beating the Knights 95-28. The Raiders led Piarist 37-4 at the end of the first quarter and 59-15 at the half. Ashley Johnson led the Lady Raiders in scoring with a game-high 10 points. Kandice Mitchell added 14 points and Megan Ousley tossed in 13 as the South Floyd girls rolled to the win. The Lady Raiders are now 3-0. The setback left the Lady Knights with an 0-4 mark. Kari Ross paced Piarist with nine points. Mary Bentley added four markers. Rusty Tackett, Charles Ray and Michael Hall each scored 16 points to lead the South Floyd boys. Josh Johnson had 15 points and Tyler Hall added nine in the win. South Floyd improved to 2-2 with the win while Piarist fell to 0-4.

Dis 'N Data

■ Speculation grows that UK defensive end Dennis Johnson will leave for the NFL. It would be a severe blow to what could be a South Carolina-like turn-around season for Kentucky. ■ If UK football is put on NCAA probation, school president Lee Todd should petition the NCAA infractions committee in the strongest possible terms to ban Hal Mumme taking a Div. 1 coaching position next season as rumored (Mississippi State) for a parallel length of time. ■ Oops Dept. Implied and wrong in this space last week - 140 counties in Kentucky. Of course there are 120. I'll try and do better.

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Parting Shot
An internet UK hoops fan from Henderson on Wildecat player introductions at Rupp Arena: "I wish UK would replace whoever is in charge of player intro music. This stuff is the corniest nonsense only outdone by the football intros. How about turning out the lights to

Readers (Right) Write

■ About Rick Pitino 'bashing

Fall Is a Grand Time on the Trail

Fall is one of the most wonderful times of the year in Alabama. So come celebrate the crisp days and postcard sunsets on the **ROBERT TRENT JONES GOLF TRAIL**. With eight sites and 378 championship holes across the state, there's one within driving range of wherever you are. And, now is a great time to plan a trip to Alabama to see the "new" **GRAND HOTEL**, part of the Resort Division of the Trail. Now undergoing a \$30 million renovation, The Grand Hotel is becoming even grander. Call today for tee times and hotel reservations. Fall is a Grand time on the Trail.



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by KATHY J. PRATER
FEATURES EDITOR



AND WHAT ABOUT THESE TEENS?

This past Tuesday, I had the opportunity to help out my good friends from the Co-op Extension Office with their "Reality Store". (Look to the right and you'll see a feature story.) It was a wonderful and fun start to my week and I'm grateful to have had the opportunity to be a part of something that I feel is such a valuable service to our young people.

Even more importantly I'm grateful to have had the chance to meet and talk with many of our county's high schoolers. I've heard much and read even more about today's teenagers and all their "nasty" habits. From tongue piercings to tattoos to violence, disrespect and drug usage, I have spent countless moments worrying about my own two middle-schoolers and their upcoming entry

(See EYES, page three)

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.

It is trite to say it. Nothing is more commonplace, it has been said so many times by so many people. Sometimes it's only so many words, nothing more. Really, we would say it in some other form—if we could—but we can't. So, we say, sincerely:
**MERRY CHRISTMAS,
HAPPY NEW YEAR.**

APOLOGIA

Just now I'm wondering which or how many, of my friends I'll miss with a Christmas card this year. It gets to be plumb disturbin'. Time was when I could duck quickly behind buildings before the neglected party spotted me, but I am not as fleet of foot as I once was. So I'm apologizing in advance, aware that those I miss will probably be those to whom I owe most.

UNFAIR DISTRIBUTION

Gordon Moore and I had a rather enlightening session, Tuesday afternoon, with Bernard Carter and Gene Whitney, director and biologist, respectively, of the Division of Fish. These fellows should be given an A for effort, and they're hopeful better days are ahead for our favorite fishing pond.

When I began mulling over the figures they gave me and multiplied the number of bass per acre by 800 acres in the lake, I elatedly announced, "Why, there are 40,000 bass in Dewey!" But Roy Ramey pointed out that they're unfairly distributed and that he and I should demand redistribution or, maybe, a redistricting job done on that lake. Says the acres he and I fish don't have any bass at all.

IN THE MAIL

Donald Daniel, Jr., Darrell Compton and Bill Hall—all staunch Wheelwright Trojan fans—

(See TOWN, page two)

Lifestyles

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- Postscript • C2
- Weddings • C2

Features Editor: Kathy J. Prater
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Email: features@floydcountytimes.com

- Delivering a good dose of reality -



"The Face of Reality." The look on this student's face says it all in regard to facing life's "little ups and downs." She had just drawn a slip from the "Crystal Gazer's" bowl of "Chance" at the student Reality Store held Tuesday at the Wilkinson-Stumbo Convention Center. The student shown is Heather Spriggs, a Prestonsburg High School sophomore.

Reality Store for teens

by KATHY J. PRATER
FEATURES EDITOR

We all need a "good dose of reality" from time to time, but more often than not our teenagers are in dire need of facing life's true realities. Emerging from the loving arms of their families and the carefully guided direction of their teachers, teenagers about to enter the job market for the first time can be more than a little amazed at how quickly that paycheck can leave behind nothing more than a fond memory.

Hoping to provide a buffer for these young adults before they enter into the "real world" of self-sufficiency, the Floyd County 4-H Council, Floyd County Schools, Floyd County Youth Service Centers, the Floyd County Chamber of Commerce, and the Floyd County Extension Service have coop-

erated in forming "The Reality Store," a program whose main objective is to teach students about the reality of day-to-day finances and the realities of living on their own.

Students from each Floyd County high school attended the Reality Store event held Tuesday morning and early afternoon at the Wilkinson-Stumbo Convention Center at Jenny Wiley State Park.

The program is geared toward current high school sophomores. It is generally during this year of high school that most students begin the process of making decisions regarding higher education and future career goals.

As the students enter the Reality Store, they are

(See REALITY page three)



photo by Kathy J. Prater

This student makes the necessary adjustments to his budget sheet after taking his "chance" with the Crystal Gazer Gypsy.

Things to Ponder...

Religious holiday practices and marriage satisfaction

Lo and behold, while waiting for a great idea for an article to hit me, I found this research paper having to do with "Finding Meaning in Religious Practices: The Relation Between Religious Holiday Rituals and Marital Satisfaction" (Fiese and Tomcho, "Journal of Family Psychology," December 2001, Vol. 15, No. 4, 597-609). I quickly decided that was the type of topic I was looking for. Since a major portion of my education and clinical experience is about children, adolescents, and their families, nothing could top an opportunity to talk about how parents' marital satisfaction is effected by religious practices during the holidays.

Throughout the 20th Century, much of the family therapy research has looked at the links between religious affiliations and marital happiness. Religious homogamy, the couple being similar in religious affiliation, has been proposed to affect marital satisfaction by their having a shared religious belief system. Religiousness is another factor that may affect the couples' relationship, such as participating in joint religious activities. The main contributing factor to marital satisfaction was identified

as how the couple organizes their activities that express their religiosity and includes formal joint religious activities, like attending church, and religious rituals

The meaning associated with holiday rituals were viewed as distinct from roles and routines. Overall, wives were acknowledged as the "kin keepers" of ritual practices with their being responsible for the ritual being carried out.

and celebrating religious holidays. Joint religious activities were viewed as linked to marital satisfaction due to their allowing opportunities for couples to participate in meaningful or enjoyable rituals together.

The rituals that the family continue to do are repetitive patterns of interactions practiced in a variety of settings, which might be routine activities, such as dinner-time, to more distinct practices connected with religious observances. This means to be that practicing our interactions gives predicability and stability to our relationships. The "routine" segment involves the assignment of roles and routine practices; i.e., it is "woman's work" to do the work for maintaining inside the home for the family and the "man" does the outside work, like mowing grass in the summertime. The "meaning" segment involves the expectations for attendance, how important the act is, the symbolic significance of the act, and a commitment to continue the practice into the future and to the next generation. Examples might be caroling at Christmas time and children performing Christmas plays.

In the past, research results pointed to the probability the shared routine practices and the creation of meaning in the context of family rituals helped to preserve the marital relationship during the early stages of parenthood, a period identified as hav-



by MABLE ROWE LINEBERGER, PH.D.

ing increased challenges to marital satisfaction. The outcome of the present research also supported that joint religious activities, such as those used in religious holiday rituals, related to marital satisfaction; i.e., couples were more satisfied in their marital relationship when there was more meaning associated with the religious holiday rituals. An additional indirect role in predicting current relationships was the continuing of the religious holiday rituals across generations. Therefore, even if the early adolescent pouts about going, take them along anyway. Then, give them a role in the ritual. They can read the

(See PONDER, page two)



Family Medicine

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

Too much washing, cold and dry air can cause "split" fingers

Question: After being in cold weather for only a couple of hours, my fingers and thumb tips split. Then, it takes days of wearing Band-aids and Neosporin before they heal. I have handled a good deal of petroleum-based oils over the years and wonder if this could be part of the problem. I'm 51 and otherwise in excellent health. What's causing this problem?

Answer: Our skin serves an important role in maintaining the body's internal environment and simultaneously protecting us from the external one. The nerve endings on the skin surface also allow us to sense temperature, moisture, texture and pressure and, thus, to keep "in-touch" with the external environment.

A "split" in the skin, what we doctors call a fissure, is a disruption in the continuity of the tough layer of dead skin cells that form the outer barrier of the skin. A fissure continues below the dead cells and into the living part of the skin without going all the way through as occurs in a cut. The "split" defeats most of the important barrier functions of skin while simultaneously sending a sensory signal that indicates the presence of that injury. Consequently, the "split" reminds you of its presence every time you use your hands.

Petroleum products can cause irritation to the skin—but at the time of exposure, not days or weeks later. Have you had repeated episodes of hand irritation from your years of exposure? Probably not, or you would have said

Postscript:

A few words about words

By Pam Shingler
COLUMNIST

Among my passions is the written word. I am an unabashed pusher of reading materials — books, magazines, newspapers, movie subtitles, letters, email messages, cereal boxes — well, you get the picture.

Reading, I am convinced, opens the world to us, no matter where we are, no matter how far up the holler we live, no matter how suppressed our life.



Several years ago, when I was teaching basic English classes at Prestonsburg Community College, some students in an evening class declared they hated to read. I'd heard students say this before, and it had always disturbed me greatly.

I was desperate to change the attitudes of these particular students, most of whom were older, non-traditional students, so I gave them some options for stories to read for assignments on critiquing literature. Going beyond the textbook's suggested readings, I included Gurney Norman's book of Wilgus stories, Kinfolks, and Chris Offutt's first collection of short fiction, Kentucky Straight.

When we came back a week later, I was elated to hear students say how much they enjoyed the Norman and Offutt stories. Without exception, those who avowed they hated reading had loved the stories of these two Appalachian writers.

"I know these people," a displaced coal miner said, referring to Offutt's characters. "Heck, they live right up the road from me." He had thought he was not a reader, but he had never read about people he knew or who were like him. He and many of the other students were eager to know what other works they might read by these writers, who seemed to speak directly to them.

I am as convinced as ever that we should all read and learn from those literary works that are widely acclaimed and are considered classics, certainly the writings of Shakespeare, Dickens, Hawthorne, Faulkner and the like. I know that most everyone would readily relate to the truths in these works if they had parents and teachers who encouraged them and took the time to discuss and explain.

But I also know that there is value in what touches our familiarity. And I have somewhat grudgingly come to recognize that it doesn't so much matter what a person reads as it does that he/she reads.

My mother was always, as were most of her siblings, an avid reader. She read to me as early as I can remember and, when she had any bit of free time, she had a book or magazine in her hands.

So, when I first came back to the hills after living away for many years, I was rather disappointed in some of her reading material. She and her friends at the senior citizens apartment building in Paintsville shared copies of the supermarket tabloids. Having worked most of my life as a writer and journalist, I was appalled. I would rail about the shameless sensationalism of those rags, of how they capitalized on prurient interests, and of how they were filled with half-truths and out-and-out lies.

After several weeks of harangues, I noted that the tabloids had disappeared from my mother's apartment. I felt rather smug.

Smug, that is, until the day I was cleaning for her. I decided to take the cushions off the couch and vacuum in that dark place that holds cracker crumbs, coins and dust bunnies. Lo, and behold, under the cushions was her stash of National Enquirers, the recent edition along with issues going back for a month or so.

I had to laugh at myself. I realized that she did not regard me as the arbiter of good taste and quality journalism and that she would do what she wanted to do. I should have known that, at her age, she had that right.

I finished the cleaning, put the papers back where I found them, and never mentioned it again. I decided that whatever she read was fine, just as long as she could continue to read, especially since her eyes were beginning to fail. When she had to give up her freedom and live with me, I gritted my teeth and, with some embarrassment, bought copies for her at the supermarket.

The point is to read. Read what interests you. Read what gives you something to relate to, to touch and to know you're not alone.

That's my holiday gift tip. Consider books and magazines as you're going down your gift list. That's particularly critical if you're buying for young people. The book you give a 5-year-old will last in the child's mind far longer than a plastic toy, or even a video game.

Think about what the people on your gift list like. Perhaps one loves to play bridge; there are dozens of books about bridge. Perhaps another loves mysteries; there are hundreds of mystery novels published every week. Perhaps a friend likes to read about home décor; the local bookstore has stacks of magazines and books with wondrous ideas.

Or, if you have a way with words, give someone a poem or an essay that you have written.

And don't forget to get yourself something readable.

As a postscript, I saw Gurney Norman during the recent on-air fund drive for WMMT public radio. He was coming back from North Carolina, I believe, and had picked up the station around Abingdon, Virginia. En route back to Lexington, where he teaches writing at the University of Kentucky, he stopped in Whitesburg to drop off his regular contribution to the station.

I told him about my assigning his Kinfolks book to my students and about their positive reaction.

"Thank you so much for sharing that with me," the author said. "I needed to hear that."

So much of the good things in life is about words.

School Happenings

Adams Middle School Youth Services Center
 ■ Homework Hotline - 886-9314 - Homework information available from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.
 ■ Center is open weekdays, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. or later by appointment. For more information about the center or any of the listed activities, call 886-9812.

Allen Central Middle School and Youth Service Center
 ■ School is currently collecting Food City receipts. Students may turn them in to their homeroom teachers.
 ■ Hours are 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., or later by appointment. Call 358-0134 for more information.

Allen Elementary Family Resource Youth Service Center
 ■ Service Center Hours: Mon.-Fri., 7:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
 Telephone: 874-0621
 ■ Call Allen Elementary Youth Service Center at 874-0621 to schedule your child's 6th grade entry physical, Hepatitis B vaccination, immunizations, and WIC appointment.
 ■ G.E.D. classes offered-FREE-each Friday, beginning 8:30 a.m. and lasting through 11:30 a.m. Instructor: Linda Bailey

Clark Elementary
 ■ Dairy Queen "buy one, get one free" cards still on sale through the Family Resource Center.
 ■ After School child care hours are 3:00 - 5:30 p.m., school days.
 ■ FCHD nurse in the center on Thursdays. Please call the center at 886-0815, to schedule an appointment. Appointments are currently being scheduled for Hep B immunizations and 6th grade physicals for the 2002 fall school term.
 ■ MCCC services are available at the center. Call for more information, or to schedule an appointment.
 ■ The Family Resource Center provides services for all families regardless of income. Center is located in the Clark Elem. school building. Hours are Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Office phone is 886-0815.

McDowell Family Resource Center.
 ■ Floyd County Health Department nurse, Joy Moore, is at the center each Monday. Services provided include: immunizations, T.B. skin tests, school physicals (Head Start, kindergarten, and sixth grade), WIC appointments, prenatal and postpartum care and others. If you are in need of an appointment, call 377-2678 to schedule.
 ■ GED classes each Monday and Wednesday - 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Instructor - Linda Bailey, of the David School.
 ■ McDowell Family Resource Center hours are 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. If you are in need of assistance, call the center at 377-2678.

Mud Creek Family Resource Center / John M. Stumbo Elem.
 ■ The Bridges Project will be at the center each Wednesday and Thursday, from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. and each Friday from 12:30 p.m. until 4:00 p.m.
 ■ Center is open weekdays 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Telephone: 587-2233.

Piarist School
 ■ The Piarist School is currently collecting Food City receipts to be used toward the purchase of school equipment and technical tools. You may send your receipts to school with any Piarist School student, or you may mail them in to the following address:
 The Piarist School, Highway 80, Box 870, Martin, KY 41649.
 Call 285-3950 for further information.

Prestonsburg Elementary and Family Resource Center
 ■ MCCC services available at the center. Call for additional information.
 ■ Center is open weekdays 8 a.m.-4 p.m.
 ■ After School Child Care, 3-6 p.m., school days.
 ■ Call 886-7088 for additional information regarding the Prestonsburg Elementary Family Resource Center or its programs.

(See SCHOOL, page three)

MEDICINE

Continued from p1

so in your letter. Therefore, I don't think that is the direct cause of your split fingertips.

I think it's likely that you have used a harsh cleanser to clean your hands that not only removed the dirt and petroleum products but also the moisture from the skin. The loss of moisture makes the outer layer of skin cells more brittle and prone to cracking or "splitting" when stressed by normal use.

Then, with your skin already somewhat dry, the cold and dry air causes two additional problems that bring on your fissured skin. The first of these is the low humidity that draws additional moisture from your exposed skin. The second is the cold temperature that "shuts off" perspiration in the hands that would help keep the skin more moist if you were in a warm but dry climate. Consequently, when you go outside in cold weather your fingertips succumb to this double threat and the tips split as you described.

There are many definitions of middle age and old age. Some of these are humorous, while others are more practical. Having your fingertips split in cold weather is a good example of a practical one. At 51, you have arrived!!

Dry and splitting skin is a common wintertime problem. The hands are often involved but the lower legs and arms are common areas of dryness, redness, itching and splitting as well. Moving to Hawaii

where it is warm and moist year round, or at least spending the winter there, could avoid this annoying condition. Impractical! A realistic solution is to avoid unnecessary bathing.

Though bathing and hand washing involve water, that water doesn't moisturize the skin. Instead, the protective oils of the skin are washed away. The water from bathing and some water from within the skin evaporate shortly afterwards. The end result is the skin is now dryer than it was before washing.

Skin drying associated with bathing can be reduced by several measures. It is better to bathe with warm instead of hot water. Use a mild moisturizing body wash or bar instead of a strong soap. Bathe only when you are dirty instead of when the clock says it is time. And the most successful approach is to apply a moisturizing product (creams are better for this than lotions) within five minutes of toweling off. And by the way, the main ingredient of the product you use to heal your split fingers is petroleum based.

"Family Medicine" is a weekly column. To submit questions, write to John C. Wolf, D.O., Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine, Post Office Box 110, Athens, Ohio 45701. Past columns are available online at www.fhradio.org/fm.

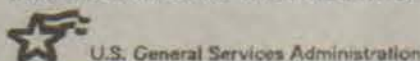


photo by Kathy J. Prater

Floyd County Judge-Executive Paul Hunt Thompson sponsored an All-County Senior Citizen Christmas party that was held December 10 at the Stumbo-Wilkinson Convention Center, Jenny Wiley State Park. Shown standing in front of the Christmas tree are Donna Thompson, Elmer Hall, Opal Bentley, and Judge Thompson.

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...free, federal information. You can download it right away by going into the Consumer Information Center web site, www.pueblo.gsa.gov.



Weddings



Branham-Little to wed

Tonya Renee Branham, the daughter of Jeffery Branham, of Road Creek, and Linda Branham, of Ferrell Creek, will be joined in marriage to Lenny Justin Little, the son of Marvin and Rita Little, of Prestonsburg, on Saturday, December 15, 2001. The wedding ceremony will take place at the First United Methodist Church, Prestonsburg, at 3:30 in the afternoon. Following the ceremony, the couple will reside in Martin.



Christmas Eve nuptials to be observed

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Justice, of Allen, are pleased to announce the engagement and forthcoming marriage of their daughter, Tonda Kaye Ousley to Harold Davis, Jr., the son of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Davis, of Harlan. The bride-to-be is an employee of North Star Telecommunications, of Houston, Texas. She is the granddaughter of Richard and Eliza Ousley, of Middle Creek. The groom is also employed by North Star Telecommunications of Houston. The couple will be joined in marriage on Monday, December 24, at the Lighthouse Baptist Church, Prestonsburg, at the afternoon hour of two o'clock. A reception held in the couple's honor will follow immediately after the ceremony. The gracious custom of an open church wedding will be observed.

Ponder

Continued from p1

scripture or light a candle. The authors' recent report addressed three aspects of rituals that may influence the relation between religion and marital satisfaction. #1 - Rituals are considered to affirm relationships. Husbands in particular relate the meaning with religious holiday practices more strongly to marital well-being than just the practice of the ritual itself. #2 - Connecting behavior and values. When a ritual includes a symbolic and religious aspect, then the behavior involved in making up the ritual becomes attached to values in the belief system. This may also be an opportunity for the original family to pass on values to other generations through the behaviors associated with ritual practices. The process of practicing rituals gives an opportunity for the family values to be internalized by the younger people. To me, this would be the families in the community gathering at the church for a candle light service of singing Christmas carols on Christmas Eve. #3 - The symbolic aspect of rituals. Although it has been recognized that husbands and wives do not experience marriage in the same manner, wives are typically more relationship focused and the more husbands are aware of relationships, the more satisfied wives are in their marriage. Wives seem to have a more distinctive understanding of religious family rituals. Wives revealed a clear link between routine practices from their family of origin with current family practices. The meaning associated with holiday rituals were viewed as distinct from roles and routines. Overall, wives were acknowledged as the "kin keepers" of ritual practices with their being responsible for the ritual being carried out. Another opinion was that, even though wives may be kin keepers and see that the family traditions are on-going, husbands' emotional investment in these family activities connects to the husbands' marital satisfaction, as does the wives'. As most of us would surmise, attempting to get husbands involved in the family's rituals would benefit several aspects of family life. The historical view was that husbands and fathers were the organizers for general and religious education of their children.

The authors also thought that their research results point out a broader picture of the role that religious holidays impact on contemporary American life, although we often complain about the marketing and materialism of the Christmas holiday, especially. A suggestion was that couples want to take part in the symbolic aspects of celebrations and value the chance to reaffirm their beliefs and relationship. It is so pleasant and nice to see the various families with their children take part in religious holiday events as lighting the Advent candles on the various Sundays before Christmas. Are you seeing that your family is practicing the religious rituals associated with your faith and specific holiday, whether it be Hanukkah or Christmas?

Some goofy ways to take a little stress out of the holiday season

- Put a smiley face in the dust of a co-worker's computer screen.
- While in your car, honk and give a friendly wave to a total stranger.
- Find a colorful leaf and place it randomly in your Bible. Make a note on next year's calendar to pull out that leaf on June 22 (the first full day of Summer). Then read the passages.
- Take your kids outside and find Santa in the clouds. Heck, do it on your own. We won't tell!
- Buy some of your friend or co-worker's favorite candy and secretly slip it into their coat pocket. Whatever you do, don't let on you did it until at least next June.
- Use your laser printer to print out holiday coupons to send to your spouse, kids, friends or co-workers.



- Here are some coupon ideas:
- This coupon entitles you to call me at home at any odd hour just to say hello!
 - This coupon good for one foot massage.
 - This coupon good for one free lunch on me!
 - This coupon good to allow yourself to purchase that favorite dress or silly electronic toy even if it is NOT on sale.
 - This coupon good for two days of not making your bed.
 - This coupon good for an extra 1/2 hour of play beyond bedtime.
 - This coupon good for one good ole' "American Pig Out" lunch. No diets allowed.
 - This coupon good for one breakfast in bed.
 - This coupon good for one choice of any food item at the grocery store - no questions asked.
 - This coupon good for an extended (5 minute minimum hug) hug.
 - This coupon good for one night of not doing the dishes.
 - This coupon good for a pass on your turn to cook dinner.
 - This coupon good for a free pass on not taking out the garbage with no negative feedback.
 - 7. Wear two different colored socks and see how many people notice. When they do call attention to it, award them with a candy cane.
 - 8. Make a snowball. Put it in the freezer. Bring it out on July 4th. Take bets on how long it will take to melt or give it a good heave-ho at your favorite target.
 - 9. Make an angel in the snow.
 - 10. After a fresh snow fall, find an empty parking lot and see if you can make tracks in the snow and spell out the word SANTA.
- But most of all have yourself a "Merry Little Christmas"*



Phillip Ousley, forefront, a machine shop teacher from the Floyd County Area Technology Center, and Lowell Brock, a Prestonsburg High School junior, help a student attending the "Reality Store" "purchase" an automobile.

Reality

told that they are entering a simulated experience in which they are 25 years old and are the sole support for their families. They are given a booklet detailing their occupation and average monthly salary. They are then directed first to the "Uncle Sam" booth where volunteers "skim off the top" of their salaries and direct them to the neighborhood "bank" where they open checking accounts and are offered the option of either placing their remaining funds in savings or holding all their assets in checking.

After making these decisions, the students are then left to wander the booths at will and embark on life decisions. Each student must visit each booth before they leave the session, but the order in which they visit each booth is left up to them. The students must visit housing, where they make decisions regarding purchasing a home or opting to rent, and tally subsequent monthly payments in regard to this decision.

Next, they may visit either home supplies, where they can purchase furniture and household items such as cleaning supplies and personal toiletries, or the insurance booth, where they may purchase auto, life, and home insurance. Booths were also set up for medical and dental insurance purchases and information, city utilities, child care, supplemental income, communication and entertainment, property tax, charitable contributions, and transportation.

The transportation booth seemed to be a popular booth as the students were quite eager to "purchase" the automobile of their dreams. Lowell Brock, a Prestonsburg High School junior and member of the Floyd County 4-H Teen Council, helped students make decisions regarding the type of automobile they would buy as well as helping them to calculate their monthly payments, giving them a good indication of the type of automobile they could realistically afford. "One poor girl," he said, "was short .30 cents being able to buy a car." When asked if she couldn't opt to get a second job, he replied, "She already had one!"

In cases such as these, students were directed to the "S.O.S." (Save Our Skin) booth, where they were provided with options such as second mortgages, or personal loans. They were also directed to the supplemental income booth where they could sign up to take on a second job if they had not already done so. The students were also informed of the possible consequences of making such decisions.

"Our committee decided that the S.O.S. booth would focus highly on family budgeting and personal decisions. We also chose to emphasize supplemental income in the form of second jobs. The committee decided to not employ welfare as an option, that isn't the direction we want to steer these kids," said Chuck Stamper, Floyd County Extension Service 4-H and Youth Development Agent.

"Each student's occupation was based on their current GPA," said Stamper, "then we gave them a salary according to the current pay rate for that occupation. The fun begins when they start visiting the booths and seeing where that paycheck goes."

Another popular stop was the booth of the "Crystal

Gazer," played by Rita Brock. As students approached, Brock would entice, "Would you like to take a chance?". The Crystal Gazer's bowl was filled with slips detailing life situations such as "Your child fell out of a tree and broke their arm. You have not yet met your health insurance deductible, pay \$250." The slips could also, however, read something like, "Your Aunt Effie passed away, leaving you \$2,500. Add this to your bank account." True to life, there seemed to be more "payment due" slips in the bowl than



Area high school students were kept busy being directed to various "reality" booths in a quest to "acquire" adequate housing, transportation and life's necessities before the close of Tuesday's session.

"credit your account" slips, so the students soon learned to approach the Crystal Gazer with some trepidation. Backing out of drawing a slip from the gypsy's bowl, however, was not an option, as each student was required to stop once and "take a chance on life." As one student drew out a slip detailing a somewhat costly "life event" she was overheard to say in a rather exasperated tone, "All I've got left is my kids!"

The Reality Store program offers high school students a first hand glimpse into daily adult living as they open bank accounts, make consumer decisions, pay bills, and balance a checkbook. They learn much about the realities of "needs" weighed against "wants" and the realities of gaining future dreams on meager budgets, therefore, hopefully, encouraging them to concentrate on their academic studies and view higher education as an option for their future.

"The Reality Store is a wonderful program that brings the community and schools together," said Stamper. "Students get a chance to see what the 'real world' is like. It would not be a success without everyone working together and we appreciate all the community support that we received for this event."

Eyes

Continued from p1

into this "MTV" world. Like countless mothers before me, I have worried that all the years I have spent teaching respect, non-violence and tolerance, coupled with enthusiastic "preaching" in regard to drilling unnecessary holes in and applying permanent artwork to the precious bodies that formed in my very womb, would come to be all to no avail once my dear ones entered through the portals of that "other" world - high school.

What I discovered on Tuesday is that these kids are, essentially, the very same kids that I myself went to high school with. The very same kind of kid, that I myself, was.

Granted, no one in my high school class had a pierced tongue or a pierced eyebrow and no one, except maybe one or two "reform school" turnarounds, sported tattoos of any kind. But, you know what? All of us, in each our own way, touted our individuality. We wore tattered and battered blue jeans, overalls, and tie-dyed t-shirts. Clogs and athletic shoes were among our favored footwear and some boys had hair as long and wavy as any girl in the entire class. My own hair was worn long and straight as a stick, just as many young girls today are wearing theirs.

We sometimes skipped class, helped a classmate cheat, and held conversations in the parking lot about everything from rock 'n roll to drugs to sex. (Not that we actually really knew what we were talking about, mind you, we just wanted to be "cool," you know?) We listened to music that our parents hated and bemoaned our misfortune to be born in such a small and "backward" community. Why you had to travel all the way to Lexington or Charleston to see a good rock 'n roll concert and very few of us could hope to do that. So, we dreamed. We dreamed of "getting away," of going to college and prying loose those parental holds. We talked of "skipping graduation" and "partying." We vowed to exert our independence and reject the status quo.

We were shameful, said our grandparents. We had a lot to learn, said our parents. We would never make anything of ourselves with those attitudes, warned our teachers.

But, for the most part, we did make something of ourselves and, also for the most part, we managed to not bring too much shame upon our families, our communities, or ourselves. In short, we made it through those difficult and torturous teen years. And we seem to be doing okay. Today we stand with our families and our children and we teach respect and we support our country in its strifes and struggles. We have matured and the voices of our parents and grandparents echo in our ears. Voices that we heard all along and even if it seemed as though we were paying no mind to the words, we actually were.

This new generation of teens - the whole tattooed, pierced, and motley crew of them - are doing no more than what teens of my generation and teens of countless other generations have done, they are merely expressing their individuality. They are wavering on the edge of independence and they are looking for their own personal space under the sun.

Through all the piercings, the tattoos, the long hair, the "rock star" clothing and bravado, this generation is merely doing as countless others before them. They're just trying to figure it all out. And, as for us, rather than levying suspicion and criticism, let's exhibit some of that tolerance we preach about - show a little faith and lend a little guidance.

School

Continued from p2

South Floyd Youth Services Center

- Adult education classes available.
- The center is located on the South Floyd campus in room 232. For more information call 452-9600 or 9607 and ask for Mable Hall, ext. 243, or Keith Smallwood, ext. 242, or Donna Johnson, ext. 135.

Town

Continued from p2

write to remind us that we've neglected Jim Rose, stellar Trojan who has a 29-point-per-game average. We're glad they wrote. The boy deserves all the credit we all can muster.

By way of postscript, they ask, "How about letting us Wheelwright fans have a little publicity?"

And we reply: "Somebody from Wheelwright will have to get the news to us. We'll be glad to do our part, if they'll cooperate."

EARNs COMFORT THE HARD WAY

The family pooch lost his third encounter with a motor vehicle Sunday morning while giving chase to our car, and for a time it looked as if he had departed this vale of tears. But he quickly revived, did a disappearing act for a few hours, long enough for us to mourn him as dead, then showed up with a loud demand for entrance to the house.

As a consequence of all this, he hasn't been banished into the cold outside world once all week. Which, perhaps, makes life more of a mystery to him than ever.

Organizations

"Christmas in the Park"

The Prestonsburg Woman's Club will host "Christmas in the Park" on Thursday, December 20. The event will be held at the Archer Park skating rink and will begin at 6:00 p.m. "Christmas in the Park" is open to all area children ages 0-12 and their families. There is no admission and participation in all activities is free of charge. Activities will include face painting, ornament making, rides on the City Fire Department's miniature fire truck, and a visit with Santa Claus. Refreshments will also be served.

"Christmas in the Park" is an annual event co-sponsored each year by the Prestonsburg Woman's Club, the City of Prestonsburg, and Archer Park. Also contributing to this year's event are the Prestonsburg Fire Department, Christian Appalachian Project's "Operation Sharing," the Floyd County Chamber of Commerce, Prestonsburg Community College's Dental Hygiene Department, Wal-Mart, Dr. Marty Minix's dental office, and Dairy Queen.

The "Christmas in the Park" event complements Archer Park's beautiful display of holiday lights and decorations and other park activities.

For more information about the "Christmas in the Park" event, contact Ralph Little, Archer Park Manager, at 886-6390, or Pam Weiner Skeen, of the Prestonsburg Woman's Club, at 889-9639.



Betsy Layne seniors spread cheer

The Betsy Layne Senior Citizens group paid a visit to Mt. Manor Nursing Home, Prestonsburg, on Wednesday morning, December 12, to sing Christmas carols for the home's residents. Nannetta Yates, center director, accompanied Elizabeth, Lorraine, Josephine, Judy, Norma, Areala, Offie, Sharlene, Jessie, and Agnes to the nursing facility.

SERVICES

705-Construction

ALL TYPES: Remodeling & additions, garages, decks, etc. Also concrete work. Robie Johnson, Jr., call anytime, 886-8896.

765-Professionals

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NOTICES

812-Free

FREE PALLETS: Can be picked up behind The Floyd County Times.

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NOTICE OF INTENTION TO MINE

Pursuant to Application Number 836-5407

In accordance with the provisions of KRS 350.055, notice is hereby given that LWF Leasing, LLC, 16232 US Route 23, Catlettsburg, KY 41129 (606-739-8122), has applied for a permit for an underground coal mining operation, located 2.5 miles northeast of McDowell in Floyd County. The proposed operation will disturb 8.70 surface acres, and will underlie 528.00 acres, and the total area within the permit boundary will be 536.70 acres.

The proposed operation is approximately 0.5 mile southwest of the junction of the Upper Wolfpen Branch Road, and the Little Mud Creek Road, and is located 0.05 mile north and south of Upper Wolfpen Branch

Road. The proposed operation is located on the McDowell U.S.G.S. 7 1/2 minute quadrangle map. The surface area to be disturbed is owned by Emmitt Lawson. The mineral is owned by The Elk Horn Coal Corporation. The operation will underlie surface area owned by Emmitt Lawson, Lewis Bernet, and Grover Moore.

The surface mining application has been filed for public inspection at the Department for Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement's Prestonsburg Regional Office, 3140 South Lake Drive, Prestonsburg, Ky., 41653. Written comments, objections, or requests for a permit conference must be filed with the Director of the Division of Permits, #2 Hudson Hollow Complex, Frankfort, Ky., 40601.

This is the final advertisement of this application; all comments, objections or requests for a permit

conference, must be received within thirty days of today's date.

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

For the Project Titled: **ADDITION AND RENOVATION JOHN M. STUMBO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL** Floyd County Schools Grethel, Kentucky

Floyd County Schools will receive sealed bids for construction of the above named project until 2:00 p.m. local time, Thursday, December 27th, 2001, at Greg Adams Office located at 23 Martin Street, Allen, Kentucky. Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

The Project consists of the construction of a single-story addition of 20,647 square feet. The addition contains classrooms, art room, music room and a gymnasium. A media center addition comprises an alternate to the project.

The structure will be a combination steel frame and masonry bearing walls with concrete foundation and spread footings. The roof structure will be single-ply roofing and insulation over steel trusses and joists.

Exterior walls will be a combination of face brick and metal panels. Interior partitions will be concrete masonry units.

Windows will be color anodized extruded aluminum, projected, with insulating glass. Exterior doors will be hollow metal with tempered glazing. Interior doors will be factory-finished solid core wood in hollow metal frames.

Finishes include vinyl composition tile, ceramic tile, carpeting, paint over gypsum board and masonry, and suspended acoustic panel ceilings.

Specialties include toilet compartments and accessories, metal lockers, visual display boards, protective covers and signage.

Alternates include the construction of a single-story media center addition of 4,076 square feet, metal roofing over the gymnasium in lieu of membrane roofing, installation of telescoping bleachers, and installation of wood athletic flooring in lieu of sports carpeting.

Site work includes walks, curbs, drives, parking area, storm water lines, site structures, utility work, and seeding and sodding. Heating and cooling will be a geothermal heat pump system with floor mounted and above-ceiling heat pumps. The system includes hydronic loop piping, circulating pumps, and chemical treatment.

The addition and existing building will be fully sprinklered. Exterior lighting will be H.I.D. fixtures. Interior lighting will be primarily fluorescent lamps with incandescent fixtures for accent. Emergency lighting will be self-contained battery self-packs.

Other electrical work includes fire alarm and conduit and boxes for security cable television and telephone systems.

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Huntington District, by this Notice of Availability (NOA), advises the public that the Draft Environmental Assessment (DEA) for the Stratton Branch Boat Ramp

Project, is complete and available for public review. The project is located at Dewey Lake, Floyd County, Kentucky. A Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) is anticipated for the proposed project. A Draft FONSI is included with the DEA for public review.

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and 40 CFR 1501.4, the DEA and draft FONSI must be available to the public in the affected area for thirty (30) days for review and comment. Final determination regarding the need for additional NEPA documentation will be made after the public review period, which begins on or about December 5, 2001. Copies of the documents may be viewed at the following locations:

- Floyd County Chamber of Commerce, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653
- Floyd County Public Library, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653
- Jenny Wiley State Resort Park, ATTN: Mark McLemore, 75 Theater Court, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653
- Pike County Chamber of Commerce, Pikeville, Kentucky 41501
- Pike County Public Library, Pikeville, Kentucky 41501
- Resource Managers Office, Dewey Lake, Van Lear, Kentucky 41265-9601

Copies of the DEA and draft FONSI may be obtained by contacting the Huntington District Office of the Corps of Engineers at 304-529-5712. Comments pertaining to the documents should be directed by letter to: Ms. Lucile V. Mullins, Chief Environmental Analysis Section,

Planning Branch, Huntington District, Corps of Engineers, 502 Eighth Street, Huntington, West Virginia 25701-2070

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO MINE

Pursuant to Application Number 836-5428, Transfer

1) In accordance with 405 KAR 8:010, notice is hereby given that Maple Ridge Mining Corporation, P.O. Box 219, Harold, Ky 41635, intends to transfer permit number 836-5296 to FCDC Coal, Inc., 750 Town Mountain Road, Pikeville, KY 41501. The new Permit Number will be 836-5428. The operation disturbs 6.07 surface acres and underlies 1,110.81 acres. No new acreage is affected by the transfer.

2) The operation is located 1.00 mile southwest of Blue Moon, in Floyd County. The operation is approximately 1.1 mile southwest of Little Mud Creek Road's junction with the Morgan Fork Road and located adjacent to and 0.50 mile north of Morgan Fork of Little Mud Creek. The operation is located on the McDowell and Harold USGS 7 1/2 minute quadrangle maps. The Latitude is 37 degrees 29 minutes 28 seconds. The Longitude is 82 degrees, 42 minutes 33 seconds.

3) The application has been filed for public inspection at the Department for Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement's Prestonsburg Regional Office, 3140 South Lake Drive, Suite #6, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653. Written comment or objections must be filed with the Director of Division of Permits, Hudson Hollow Complex, U.S. 127 South, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601. All comments or objections must be received within fifteen (15) days of today's date.

Call Mike Haney for location, 606-886-2321.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that Elisha Branham, 3549 Ky Route 979, Harold, Kentucky 41635, has filed an application with the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Cabinet to construct a fill. The property is located approximately 1.5 miles north of the community of Grethel on Route 979 on Mud Creek in Floyd County. Any comments or objections concerning this application shall be directed to: Kentucky Division of Water, Water Resources Branch, 14 Reilly Road, Frankfort Office Park, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601. Phone: (502) 564-3410

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

The following item will be offered at public sale on December 28, 2001, at 11 a.m., to satisfy the unpaid balance of an installment contract signed 03/29/00.

2000 Honda TRX 400, S/N 4452. All items are sold "as is where is." Seller reserves the right to bid and to reject any or all bids. Items are to be paid following the sale, or satisfactory arrangements made with the seller. Announcements at the sale take priority over ad. Purchaser to pay all taxes and transfer fees. Call Mike Haney for location, 606-886-2321. First Commonwealth Bank, 311 N. Arnold Ave. Prestonsburg, KY 41653

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

The following item will be offered at public sale on December 28, 2001, at 11 a.m., to satisfy the unpaid balance of an installment contract signed 09/17/99.

1992 Chevy Camaro, S/N 6332. All items are sold "as is where is." Seller reserves the right to bid and to reject any or all bids. Items are to be paid following the sale, or

satisfactory arrangements made with the seller. Announcements at the sale take priority over ad. Purchaser to pay all taxes and transfer fees. Call Mike Haney for location, 606-886-2321.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

The following item will be offered at public sale on December 28, 2001, at 11 a.m., to satisfy the unpaid balance of an installment contract signed 02/10/00.

1997 Chevy Cavalier, S/N 1346 (salvage). All items are sold "as is where is." Seller reserves the right to bid and to reject any or all bids. Items are to be paid following the sale, or satisfactory arrangements made with the seller. Announcements at the sale take priority over ad. Purchaser to pay all taxes and transfer fees. Call Mike Haney for location, 606-886-2321. First Commonwealth Bank, 311 N. Arnold Ave. Prestonsburg, KY 41653

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

The following item will be offered at public sale on December 28, 2001, at 11 a.m., to satisfy the unpaid balance of an installment contract signed 11/03/98.

1999 Chevy Pickup, S/N 3344. All items are sold "as is where is." Seller reserves the right to bid and to reject any or all bids. Items are to be paid following the sale, or satisfactory arrangements made with the seller. Announcements at the sale take priority over ad. Purchaser to pay all taxes and transfer fees. Call Mike Haney for location, 606-886-2321. First Commonwealth Bank, 311 N. Arnold Ave. Prestonsburg, KY 41653



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STOP!

You've cleaned out your attic, your basement, your garage and now you're ready to host a garage sale. Before you proceed, follow these signs for placing the type of classified ad that will help turn your event into a best-seller.

Be sure to include in your Garage or Yard Sale ad...

1 WHAT.
Describe the type of sale you're hosting. Is it mostly household goods? Nursery furniture? Apparel?

2 WHEN.
Give dates and time of sale, and rain date information.

3 WHERE.
Where the sale will be held, with directions or phone number for directions.

4 WHY.
Reason for sale, especially if it is a "moving" sale, since these tend to attract more customers.

The Floyd County Times

Let one of our "ad-visors" help you with your ad.
Call **886-8506**

BANK MANDATED UNCLAIMED REPO SALE

YOU PAY JUST \$49.00...THEN JUST MAKE PAYMENTS!*



HUGE SELECTION!

Pay The \$49 Unclaimed Vehicle Fee then take delivery!

• Don't be concerned about your current payoff...

When we make a deal, we'll pay off your trade!

• We will give you the best possible price on your trade!

Special appraisers will be on hand!

This is a once in a lifetime offer! Don't miss out!

US 23 South, Beside The Smoke Shack II

\$49 Unclaimed Vehicle Sale For 5 DAYS ONLY!

Local banks and national lending institutes with government issued deposits will be required by law to extend credit to everyone who has ability & proven credit worthiness to repay a loan, regardless of marital status or race during our sale.



\$49 Vehicle Transport Fee

All credit applications accepted. Credit problem are no problem. We have \$3,000,000.00 in credit available.

PICK A VEHICLE DRIVE HOME TODAY!

Cars priced as Low as \$3,495

5 DAYS ONLY!

Thursday, December 139:30-7:00
 Friday, December 149:30-7:00
 Saturday, December 15.....9:30-6:00
 Sunday, December 161:00-6:00
 Monday, December 17.....9:30-7:00

ATTENTION

US 23, beside Smoke Shack II

FOR 5 DAYS ONLY

Thursday Dec. 13
9:30 a.m.-7:00 p.m.

Friday Dec. 14
9:30 a.m.-7:00 p.m.

Saturday Dec. 15
9:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

Sunday Dec. 16
1:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.

Monday Dec. 17
9:30 a.m.-7:00 p.m.

PAYMENTS MAY NOT BE DUE UNTIL MARCH 2002

OVER 50 TOYOTAS TO CHOOSE FROM!

You pay a \$49 Unclaimed Vehicle Fee, then just make payments!*

These vehicles have been purchased at incredible savings from Banks (repos). Auctions, Credit Unions, Lease Companies, Rental Companies, as well as other dealer's inventories!

OVER 150 VEHICLES ON HAND. OVER \$3 MILLION WORTH OF INVENTORIES WILL BE DISPOSED OF!

Choose from Fords, Chryslers, Plymouths, Jeeps, Chevrolets, Toyotas, Nissans, Dodges, Hondas, Geos, Buicks, Oldsmobile, Mercury's, and more! Payments start at \$79/Mo. All you pay is \$49 Unclaimed Vehicle Fee then just make payments! Bring your trade, title and/or payment book. Be prepared to take immediate delivery! **NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE!** No dealers allowed until Monday, Nov. 20. Bring in your old trade, it may be worth as much as \$1,500! Bankers will be on premises. Don't wait! Hurry for best selection!

5 DAYS ONLY

Thursday, Dec. 13
9:30-7:00
 Friday, Dec. 14
9:30-7:00
 Saturday, Dec. 15
9:30-6:00
 Sunday, Dec. 16
1:00-6:00
 Monday, Dec. 17
9:30-7:00

NICH. RD. AUTO SALES INC.

US 23, beside Smoke Shack II (Near intersection of Rt. 80 & US 23)
 Prestonsburg, Kentucky

(606) 874-6007 • (606) 874-6008
(859) 885-5645

